

A PINCH OF SALT

Christians Interested in Anarchism
Number eleven/third birthday issue
Autumn/Winter '88

.....
"You are the salt of the earth" Matthew 5:13
"All who are led by the spirit of God are daughters
and sons of God. You did not receive a spirit of
slavery leading you back into fear." Rom.8:14-15
.....

one pence
or more
free to prisoners

IF NOT NOW,



WHEN?

The below is my account of a meeting with the mothers of the heroes and martyrs of Matagalpa in the northern area of Nicaragua. I was with ten others on a labour movement study tour of Nicaragua, November 1987. What I have written below is almost entirely in the words of the mothers themselves. I was taking notes at the meeting.

George Wood.

500 mothers in Matagalpa had organised themselves because so many young people have died trying to get a better life for the community. The meeting started with about 6 mothers present.

When they heard we were in town many mothers came over to give us their testimonies.

It was a very warm afternoon. The temperature was near the nineties.

They said that they must have peace but peace with justice. They were not going to give up. They said the contras destroy health centres, crops etc. A lot of hard work seems for nothing as so much gets destroyed but there is no turning back because they owe everything that they have gained to the people who have been killed.

They said a few days ago (October) the contra took advantage of the ceasefire and destroyed buildings and crops and killed many. The situation is very tense for these people.

I will now quote two testimonies from the many that we listened to.

Testimony My daughter fell January eith 5 others and 10 children in ambush. Aged 23 left 3 orphan children for grandmother (who is talking) to bring up, aged 6 months, 3 years and 6 years.

They cut my daughter's head off, cut legs off. Hard to tell the children when they ask when will they see mother again. This happening every day, many mothers in state of shock. All determined to fight on because of what they have gained. They have equal rights for all to school, study etc.

Poor have a right to everything, not like it was before the revolution.

The USA doesn't want this. Gives money to the contra to come and kill us. To lose a child this way is to lose part of your life. Reagan will be punished for his crimes when he dies. Slogan is now "HERE NO ONE GIVES UP".

Testimony Mother told us of son aged 14 who when killed was a lieutenant in the Sandinista army. She said: he went to investigate a house which they thought was deserted and he was captured. Contra cut him to shreds. Body returned to mother in pieces. Not recognisable when buried. Tried to find his clothes. Mother still cannot believe he is dead. She prays to God that these people who do these things will not survive because of what they are doing.

Her son had compassion for the people and she couldn't stop him going to defend the revolution at such a young age. She said Ortega has gone all over the world for peace but all that Reagan offers is death and destruction.

At this point the meeting became very traumatic. Mothers were breaking down and begging us to tell the world what is happening in their country.

It would be fair to say that everyone on the study tour found this meeting very emotional.

Mothers were asking us to remember them on Christmas eve. For them the meaning of Christmas is very acute. Many, many mothers in Nicaragua will be grieving for lost ones at this time. They ask us to pray for them and to think of them at this time.

These mothers in Matagalpa are trying to build houses for those whose houses have been destroyed.

Due to inflation the money is never enough. Also, of course, there are no materials (due to USA economic blockade) such as zinc, wiring, light sockets etc. They only had enough for 4 houses many more were needed. They have a sowing co-op but only 10 old sowing machines. They have hardly any tools to work a bit of land.

Final word from mothers - too many dead people for revolution to fail.

Struggle will continue until victory.

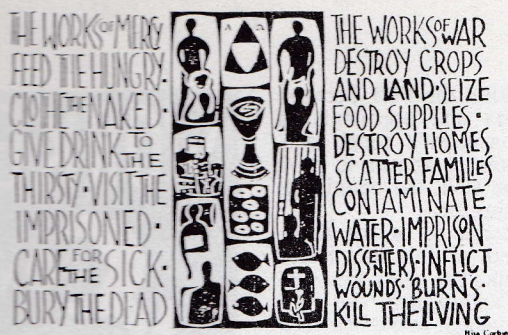
Reagan should give contra money to the

outcasts in USA society. God will

be the judge for these men who have

brought so much destruction.

They will have to answer to Him.



THE SEEDS OF WAR

The way of carrying on wars common in the world is so far distinguishable from the purity of Christ's religion that many scruple to join in them. Those who are so redeemed from the love of the world as to possess nothing in a selfish spirit have their "life hid with Christ in God," and he preserves them in resignedness, even in times of commotion.

As they possess nothing but what pertains to his family, anxious thoughts about wealth or dominion have little or nothing in them on which to work; and they learn contentment in being disposed of according to His will who, being omnipotent and always mindful of his children, causeth all things to work for their good; but when that spirit works which loves riches, and in its working gathers wealth and cleaves to customs which have their root in self-pleasing, what-

ever name it hath it still desires to defend the treasures thus gotten. This is like a chain in which the end of one link encloseth the end of another. The rising up of a desire to obtain wealth is the beginning; this desire being cherished, moves to action; and riches thus gotten please self; and while self has a life in them it desires to have them defended. Wealth is attended with power, by which bargains and proceedings contrary to universal righteousness are supported; and hence oppression, carried on with worldly policy and order, clothes itself with the name of justice and becomes like a seed of discord in the soul. And as a spirit which wanders from the pure habitation prevails, so the seeds of war swell and sprout and grow and become strong until much fruit is ripened. Then cometh the harvest spoken of by the prophet, which "is a heap in the day of grief and desperate sorrows." O that we who declare against wars, and acknowledge our trust to be in God only, may walk in the light, and therein examine our foundation and motives in holding great estates! May we look upon our treasures, the furniture of our houses, and our garments, and try whether the seeds of war have nourishment in these our possessions. Holding treasures in the self-pleasing spirit is a strong plant, the fruit whereof ripens fast. A day of outward distress is coming, and Divine love calls to prepare against it.

by John Woollman - A Plea For The Poor

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY THUGS

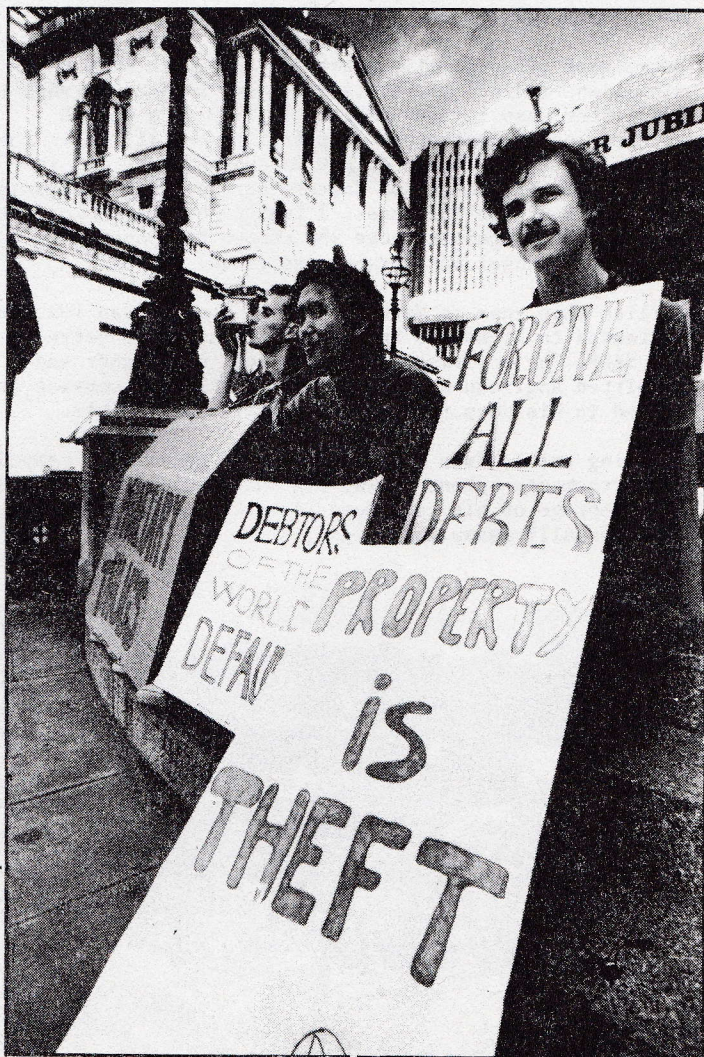
In the last week of September the IMF (International Monetary Fund) and World Bank had a series of meetings in West Berlin. Protests in response ranged from vigils to near-insurrection.

Speakers at the joint annual meeting tried pacifying speeches, aware of media attention and popular sentiment: a certain Mr Conable, president of the World Bank, said: "Poverty on today's scale prevents a billion people from having even minimally acceptable standards of living. To allow every fifth human being on our planet to suffer such an existence is a moral outrage." He added: "It is more: it is bad economics, a terrible waste of precious development resources. Poverty destroys lives, human dignity and economic potential." If all the people starve then you can't exploit them.

Basically, the World Bank and IMF pave the way for commercial banks and other assorted capitalists to rip off poorer countries. They set conditions on loans, such as public spending cuts and the abolition of subsidies. The countries in turn fall into vicious circles of loan repayment (or, rather, interest repayment), cash crops and internal "austerity". When all calculations are done, taking into account aid and loans, debt service payments, investment and returns, the bottom line is that in the last five years poor countries have sent \$85 billion to the rich countries.

Protests in Berlin ranged from a big demo (estimates vary: 10000 - 50000), stink bombs, paint bombs and street theatre to bomb-threats, car-burning, looting and running battles. There were also demos in East Berlin, discussions in Churches and several successful escapes. On the whole the more violent protests caught the news, peace, church and ecological groups being keen to distance themselves from them. An alternative congress with radical third world economists was well attended.

In London a small two hour vigil was held by the Royal Exchange. See picture right for details.



"Pinch of Salt" Hall of Fame: from left to right - Stephen, Mil, Jean. Jamie claims he is almost in the picture

Anarchists top union poll

John Hooper in Madrid

SPAIN'S anarchists, whose forebears played a leading role in the strife of the 1930s, were yesterday celebrating their most important victory since the death of General Franco and the restoration of democracy more than 10 years ago.

Candidates representing the anarchist trades union movement, the National Workers' Confederation (CNT), topped the poll in elections to a committee representing more than 16,500 workers at one of Spain's

largest industrial complexes, the SEAT plant in Barcelona's Zona Franca.

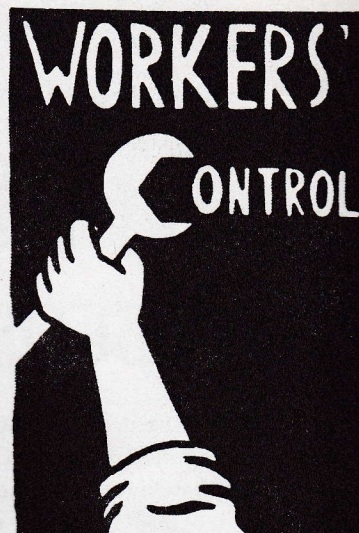
The surprise outcome, which was announced at the weekend, will give the anarchists 17 of the 53 seats on the committee — more than either the Socialist UGT or the Communist-led Workers' Commissions.

The CNT success in last Friday's vote was hailed by a spokesman as proof of "the resurgence of anarcho-syndicalism." Until now, the anarchists have appeared to have no place in the modern, moderate and materialistic society that has developed since the end of the dictatorship.

But the split among Spain's Communists — now divided into three separate political parties — and increasing ten-

sions within the UGT between supporters and opponents of the government's tough economic policies appear to have given the CNT the opening it was looking for.

Its emergence as the dominant force at this key SEAT plant is likely to cause some unease at Volkswagen, the West German vehicle manufacturer.



From THE GUARDIAN — that well-known revolutionary anarchist daily, 25/7/87. Watch this space.



STAND BY IVAN TOMS!

STOP APARTHEID WAR!

Over the last few months there have been concerted attempts by the South African authorities to curb nonviolent resistance.

On July 25th, 25-year-old David Bruce became the second South African Conscientious Objector (CO) to be imprisoned this year for refusing to serve in the South African Defence Force (SADF). He received the maximum sentence of six years imprisonment. Speaking in court before being sentenced he said, "It is my understanding that the state does not protect people, and is seen by many black people as an enemy and an active oppressor of black people."

Bruce sees clear parallels between the South African situation and the persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany — his mother came to South Africa in 1939 as a Jewish refugee, and 12 members of his family were killed in the Holocaust. "Being aware of how European Jews — and in fact the entire people of Eastern Europe — suffered during the period of the Holocaust, I feel I have no choice but to set myself against those who choose the path of increasing racial intolerance and racial hatred."

Earlier this year in March Cape Town doctor Ivan Toms was sentenced to 21 months in jail for refusing to serve in the SADF. Gay activist, anti-apartheid campaigner and a committed Anglican his objections to military service are rooted in his deep religious and political beliefs.

Awaiting trial, Ivan Toms suffered an unremitting campaign of harassment — phone calls, pig shit, paint on his house and sabotage of his car. More recently, in jail, he has been sexually assaulted.

'I thought maybe I could do some good in the situation. But even as a doctor, which is probably the most helping profession, I found myself in a very compromised position. I was a cog in a machine that goes on to murder people in Namibia, attack in Angola and now is actually fighting in the townships,' he said in March 1985.

Both David and Ivan are just two ordinary men who the South African authorities have seen fit to ridicule, harass and imprison. All this against a back-drop of further curtailing the paths of protest: on the morning of 22nd August of this year, the South African Government issued a restriction order against the End Conscription Campaign (ECC), effectively banning it.

Protests to: Adrain Vlok, Minister of Law and Order, Civitas Building, Pretoria, South Africa

Support for David Bruce: c/o Box 537, 2100 Kengray, Johannesburg, South Africa

Support for Ivan Toms: c/o Mallinck, Ress, Richmond and Cloenberg, PO Box 3667, Cape Town 8000, South Africa

For a good leaflet on Ivan Toms and further information: The Committee on South African War Resistance, BM Box 2190 London WC1

(info from COSAWR leaflet and WRI NEWSLETTER No 221 War Resisters International: 55 Dawes Street, London SE17)

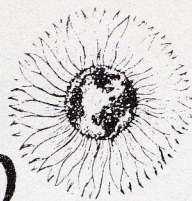
Crossroads June 1986: Troops lay down barbed wire to prevent squatters from returning to the site of their destroyed homes.



"Pinch" looks around the world (well, some of it)



ALL OVER THE WORLD



NOTES ON THE SURVIVAL GATHERING by Kenny the Digger from Peterborough, Canada. Reprinted from "DIGGER AND CHRISTIAN ANARCHIST" No. 26.

On July 1st Richard, myself and Sharon went down to Toronto to attend the International Anarchist Conference "A Survival Gathering" for a day. We stayed over and came back on Saturday afternoon. I think that on Friday there had to have been three hundred there and on Saturday at least five hundred. After calling myself an anarchist for twelve years I finally got to a gathering where there were more than a half dozen anarchists. I had a lot of strange feelings and emotions, rather I should say a kind of sensory overload, it was hard to tell what I was feeling. Firstly I missed the Christian Anarchist seminar I had gone for. It was on Friday morning. Still I did distribute some three hundred pamphlets and these were the only C/A papers I saw there. I also lost (distributed) a handful of Pinch of Salt mags. and a couple of Tolstoys. The Catholic Worker folks were not there, mostly due to an imminent birth at the house. I got rid of about a hundred back issues of Digger also.

here is a list of feelings and thoughts after a few days:

Christian anarchists are very much on the fringe of the anarchist movement, not much awareness of comprehension of us by the movement. A lot to do on this. Obviously we are on the very fringe of the "Christian movement" as well.

The anarchist movement is very alive, vibrant, imaginative and dedicated to change and social experimentation.

It was good to meet old friends some of whom I had not seen in years. But I felt that I could have walked into any of these people's homes from Vancouver to Melbourne and been totally at home and accepted.



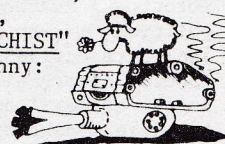
A naked man sitting at a table makes no impression on hundreds of anarchists (not discernably at least).

It's unimportant if your hair is purple and silver, it's just cosmetic.

The Anarchist Survival Gathering proved to me beyond a shadow of doubt that big, complicated things can be done without hierarchy or bosses. Some eight hundred people came together from a dozen countries, and for four days, ran a nursery, a food service for all, 57 seminars in dozens of rooms in two buildings, showed movies, taught skills, AND ALL WITHOUT ONE BOSS, WITH NO CHAIN OF COMMAND AND WITH NO PAY!! ANARCHY DOES WORK!!

The irrefragable, irremediable, irreplaceable, irrepressible, irrecusable, irrefutable, irredeemable "DIGGER AND CHRISTIAN ANARCHIST" is available from the aforementioned Kenny: 455 Park Street North, PETERBOROUGH, Ont. CANADA

(bung a few Canadian \$s in yerenvelope)



From Frits the indomitable revolutionary in the Netherlands:

did witness at a prison island. In the 17th century the island was used for slave trade. It became a prison in which after the war collaborators were confined.

Now the prison is only used to lock up foreigners before the military police kicks 'em out of the NL's, sometimes to death/prison in their home countries.

Economic or political refugee, who gives me the right to say to a fellow human person that s/he is not allowed to be on a certain piece of the earth, like the peace we call the NL's?

While there is an underclass.

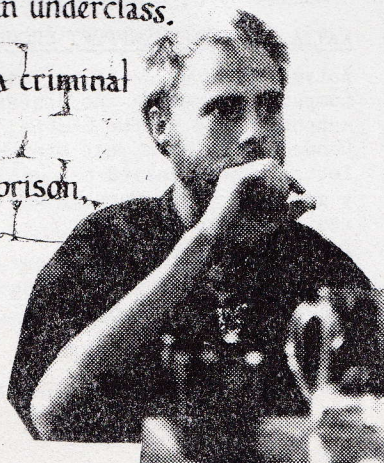
I am in it, while there is a criminal element.

I am of it;

while there is a soul in prison.

I am not free.

— Eugene Debs



FRITS writes

The ruling party in the NL's are the Christian Democrats. The secretary of the Dept. of "Justice" also is a Christian Democrat.

To make visible & known the injustice, and hoping to inspire the Secretary and her party to reflect contemplate on the meaning of the C in the CDA (name of the party), Co and me swam at night to the prison and painted:

"LOVE THE FOREIGNER AS YOURSELF - MOSES"
"...TO PROCLAIM FREEDOM TO THE CAPTIVES - JESUS"

The next morning we gave a declaration to the police, mailed an open letter to the secretary and the Christian Democratic Party and friends dropped press releases at the offices of the medis in the NL's. Like Auschwitz, many Dutch people say "Ich habe es nicht gewust" (I didn't know) when they hear about this prison for foreigners. So now we're working on making it known and the next phase is to shut the prison.

We are thinking about a campaign of constantly and repeatedly blockading the bridge going to the prison-island. It is very likely one is locked up because s/he is a foreigner, I have to be locked up because this is injustice.

To fill the prisons with Dutch people. By suffering make the injustice visible and inspire society to create a more humane solution. But....these are only plans! So I'd better shut up and start working on realising them!



LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE ANARCHO-SYNDICALISTS

The number of "Pinch of Salt" readers in Sweden is now three. If they're at all representative of Sweden, then by now all the banks should have been demolished, all armament productions hammered to pieces, and windmills built all over the place. I've been keeping my eyes out/open/peeled (what blood-curdling metaphors), but the Daily Mail never was too hot on overseas news....

Maybe a piece on "Action Against the Banks" in next issue. A Ploughshares action has been attempted, against arms exports destined for India, but it seems they spent too long praying and missed the train whose cargo they were meant to bash. Better luck next time. In the meantime, let's hear it for the anarcho-syndicalists (piece lifted from WRI Newsletter No 221):

Lars Falkenberg was ordered to drive a train with weapons from Sweden to India last November (1987). As an anarcho-syndicalist he refused and, instead, blockaded the train with his friends in order to prevent others from driving it.

As a total resister he thinks it is important to look at conscientious objection in a wider context. The railway company kicked him out but Lars said: "My conscious is more important than my job." Charges have been brought against him for the action and the trial will take place this autumn.


In a statement Lars said: "I did this action because all production and export of weapons contribute to the arms race. This is a threat against our world. Just as train-



drivers on way to Auschwitz with Jews should have refused to drive, I refuse to participate in this madness."

Letters of support can be sent to: Tanum LS, c/o Jürgen Johansen, Krossekärr 6822, 450 81 Grebbestad, Sweden

Letters of protest to: Statens Järnvägar (Swedish Rail), Huvudkontoret, Stockholm, Sweden

Watch this space → 

On the international scene, the following papers may be of interest to "Pinch of Salt" readers: KICK IT OVER from Toronto: "A quarterly magazine which examines personal and political issues from an anarchist, feminist and ecological perspective". SOCIAL ALTERNATIVES from Australia: "Social Alternatives provides a forum for the analysis of social cultural and economic oppression and focuses on the development of alternative proposals to effect social change towards greater freedom and democracy." THE NUCLEAR RESISTER from the US: "Information about and support for imprisoned anti-nuclear activists." THE PLOWSHARES NEWSLETTER: "A non-profit, independent newsletter dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of life, published quarterly to afford a voice to prisoners of conscience." (particularly covers the Plowshares movement).

"Pinch of Salt" does exchanges with SA, NR, PN, all very good sources of information, with SOCIAL ALTERNATIVES being a great source of articles (witness issues 6, 10 and the present of "Pinch"): NR and PN are newspaper form, SA is a sturdy 78 page magazine. Subscription details below:

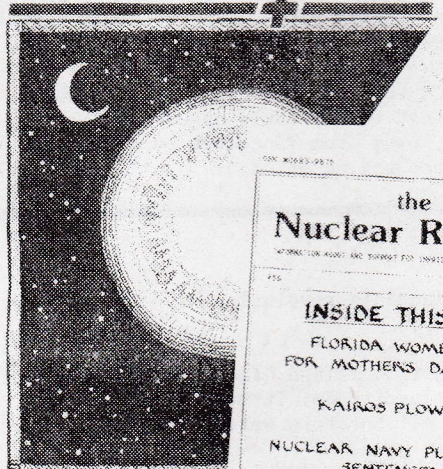
SOCIAL ALTERNATIVES: English distributors: Housmans Bookshop, 5 Caledonian Road, Kings Cross, LONDON N1
else: Social Alternatives, c/- Department of Government, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, AUSTRALIA 4067

THE PLOWSHARES NEWSLETTER: (relies on voluntary donations)
P.O.Box 585, Orlando, FL 32802, USA

THE NUCLEAR RESISTER: (\$15 regular, \$25 contributing, \$25 Foreign - for ten issues): cheques payable to:
Nuclear Resister, P.O.Box 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733, USA

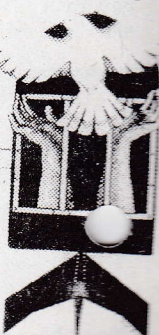
KICK IT OVER: (\$7.50 for 4 issues, £4 for Britain)
P.O.Box 5811, Station A, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M5W 1P2

KICK IT OVER



the
Nuclear Resister
INFORMATION ABOUT AND SUPPORT FOR CONSCIENTIOUS ANTI-NUCLEAR ACTIVISTS
INSIDE THIS ISSUE
FLORIDA WOMEN JAILED FOR MOTHERS DAY ACTION
KAHROS PLOWSHARES
NUCLEAR NAVY PLOWSHARES SENTENCED

the Plowshares
NEWSLETTER



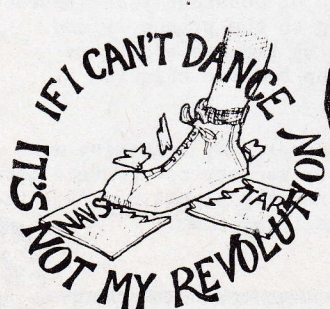
THE WHITE ROSE

KATYA KOMISARUK
— LONDON SUPPORT GROUP NEWSLETTER —

KATYA KOMISARUK SUPPORT GROUP, LONDON

Katya Komisaruk got five years for hammering a NAVSTAR computer system in the States. As well as a couple of support group in the States, there is now one based in London. They have just brought out their first newsletter. Katya called her action "The White Rose" after a group of young Germans who were executed for their resistance to Nazism.

For a copy of the newsletter, and how to join the support group send three second class stamps to: White Rose Support Group, c/o Milan Rai, YCND, 22/24 Underwood Street LONDON N1



Even the finest arms are an instrument of evil. An army's harvest is a waste of thorns. Lao-Tzu

KAIROS

KAIROS PLOWSHARES

In the early morning hours of June 26th, 1988, four peace activists approached the Trident submarine USS Pennsylvania on rubber rafts, intent on carrying out a symbolic act of disarmament. They were acting in the spirit of the Old Testament prophet Isaiah, "to beat swords into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks" when their rafts were discovered by security guards of the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation of Groton, Connecticut, where the USS Pennsylvanis is docked.

The four - Sr.Kathleen Maire, Jack Marth, Sr.Anne Montgomery, and Sr.Christine Mulready - called themselves The Kairos Plowshares, from the Greek word "kairos" meaning "the critical time", "the time when things might happen." Among the tools they had with them for the task were wooden mallets like those used in Nicaragua to tenderize meat, chosen now to demonstrate their opposition to US involvement there.

The four were turned over to Groton City Police, and held overnight. They were arraigned on charges of trespass, conspiracy to commit criminal mischief and criminal intent, and fined \$40 for failure to use a light on their raft. They were released on a promise to appear for their trial, which was subsequently dismissed.

Undaunted, Sr.Kathleen Maire and Sr.Anne Montgomery were arrested on August 1st inside the shipyard of General Dynamics/Electric Boat at Quonset Point, Rhode Island, after hammering and pouring their blood on components of a Trident II missile.

The women called their action Kairos Too and wrote in a statement: "We are two, but two who act in the spirit of the four Kairos Plowshares ... In that spirit we attempt to carry the "Plowshares Process" one step further: to continue to free ourselves from the paralyzing power of fear: fear of failure, fear of courts and prison, or, above all, fear of our own powerlessness in the face of the violence Trident represents..."

NUCLEAR NAVY PLOWSHARES SENTENCED

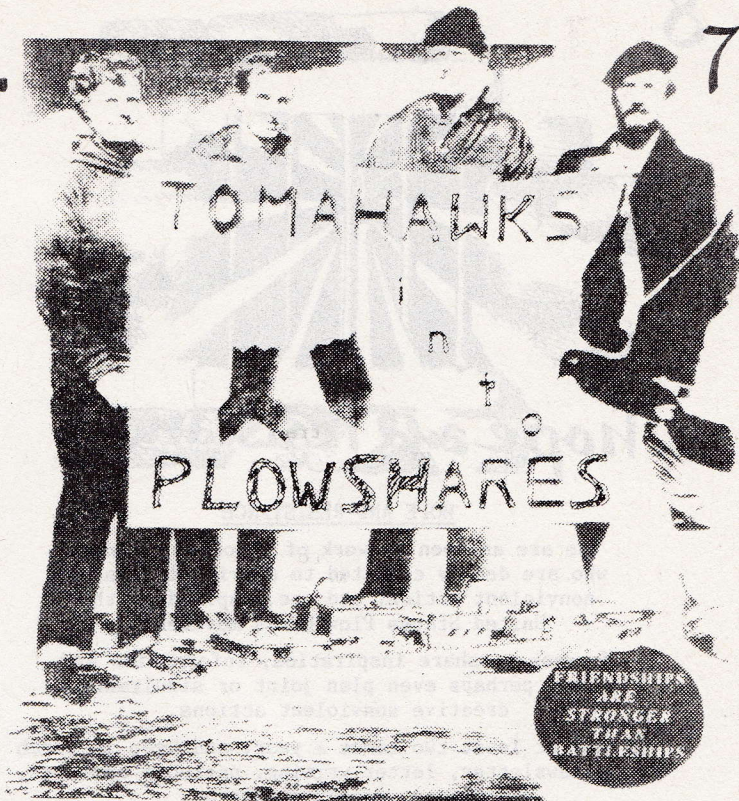
The Easter Sunday "Nuclear Navy Plowshares" (see "Pinch" no.10) were eventually sentenced after a variety of court appearances. On May 19th Magistrate Tommy Miller denied the four their international law defence and refused to allow any expert testimony. In response the defendants turned their backs on the court and remained silent for the rest of the proceedings. Phil Berrigan, described by the prosecutor as a "career criminal" maintained his silence through sentencing. Court-room support throughout the appearances took various forms, from vigils to song; 40 supporters were ejected from Phil's sentencing when they tried to read out a statement.

When Greg Boertje was brought before court on July 22nd, he explained that he would remain silent because of the "court's complicity with death". The prosecutor described him as a vandal, and the magistrate amplified this characterization to "juvenile vandal" before sentencing him to six months. The other sentences were supervised probation and community service for Sr.Margaret McKenna, and also for Andrew Lawrence, and six months for Phil Berrigan.

While the magistrate and prosecutor didn't ooze sympathy, the local community was reported as being "very warm and accepting". Even though Phil and Greg are now out, The Nuclear Navy Plowshares Support Group remains active and intends to do outreach work in the area.

HELEN WOODSON TRANSFERRED

Following her open walk-out of FCI Alderson, Helen Woodson of the SILO PRUNING HOOKS action (Nov.12 1984), and currently serving a 12 year sentence, has been moved to



Margaret McKenna, Greg Boertje, Phil Berrigan, Andrew Lawrence

Pleasanton Federal Prison in California, 2000 miles away from her Wisconsin home. Money is needed to enable some of her children to visit. Donations, large and small, to the Greenhouse, 622 Water Street, Ashland, WI 54806, USA - letters to Helen should also be sent c/o that address.

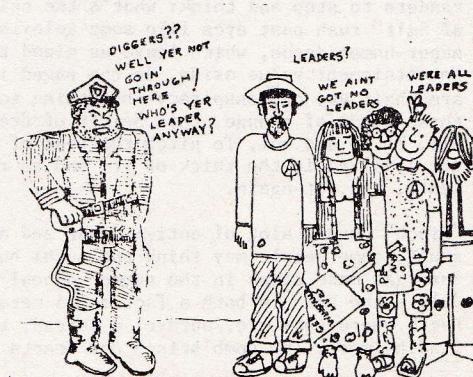


SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES: BRITISH GATHERING

A gathering is planned for Saturday 18th February 1988, with workshops, videos, information, discussions and, hopefully, input from someone who has participated in a Plowshares action. For further info, send SAE to: SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES, c/o 69c DeLaune Street, Kennington, LONDON SE17

BADGES, POSTERS, BOOKLETS

"Pinch of Salt" has the following:
posters, black and red, Larry Cloud Morgan hammering missile silo, with either "FOR SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES THE HAMMER HAS TO FALL" or "AND THEY SHALL BEAT THEIR SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES"@ 25p each
Booklet: PLOWSHARES DISARMAMENT ACTIONS 20pp....@ 30p each
Badges: Plowshares logo, plus various or no words ("Swords Into Plowshares", "Solidarity with Plowshares Prisoners", "War No More") - two colours, or hand painted.....@ 25p each
(cheques/postal orders to "Pinch of Salt", send to London address and include a couple of second class stamps)





HOPE AND RESISTANCE

We are an open network of European people who are deeply committed to spiritually based nonviolent action, and are inspired by the United States Plowshares movement.

We seek to share inspiration, information and ideas, perhaps even plan joint or simultaneous creative nonviolent actions.

We meet at least two times a year, and keep in touch via a newsletter, letter writing, national contacts, actions, visits and so on.

So ran the consensus after a four day gathering at Carl Kabat Haus in Mutlangen, home of Pershing missiles (Mutlangen that is, not Carl Kabat Haus), and scene of the two German Plowshares actions.

Having hitched down in the midst of US troop exercises, spent a night in a concrete pipe by the autobahn with tanks thundering by, I arrived feeling like some underground resister in an occupied country (which, in a manner of speaking, is what I was). Eighteen of us, including one very little one and one on the way, spent four days of talking, eating, walking, meditating, singing, vigiling at the base, befriending, reminiscing, planning, and generally conspiring. We were from England, Sweden, the Netherlands, West Germany and the States. Several had taken place in plowshares actions - in the US, Germany and Sweden, and everyone admitted to great inspiration from these and similar actions.

The upshot of it all: a good cross-fertilisation of ideas, and plans afoot for simultaneous actions; a newsletter out in a month or so; another gathering in April in Hamburg; and a very re-energised me.

If you want to be actively involved in the network (including an action planned for April) then send six second class stamps (to cover postage and photocopying) to: Stephen Hancock c/o "Pinch of Salt" 23D South Villas, LONDON NW1 (For people on the continent, I can furnish you with Swedish, Dutch, and West German contact addresses.

Neither Washington nor Moscow but 23D South Villas, LONDON NW1



Reading a book by a liberation theologian about a year or so ago, I came across the following quotation, I presume from some atheist comrades to their Christian sisters and brothers, sitting both on gospel dynamite and the political fence:

When you succeed in changing
all your abstract nouns
for a few concrete ones
whose meaning can be felt,
perhaps it will make sense again
for you to talk to us of Christ and God
When it is seen to be true,
in a way that can be genuinely proclaimed,
that Justice has "pitched its tent in our midst",
and that Love has "dwelt amongst us",
then perhaps what your Bible calls
the "name of God"
can make itself known.

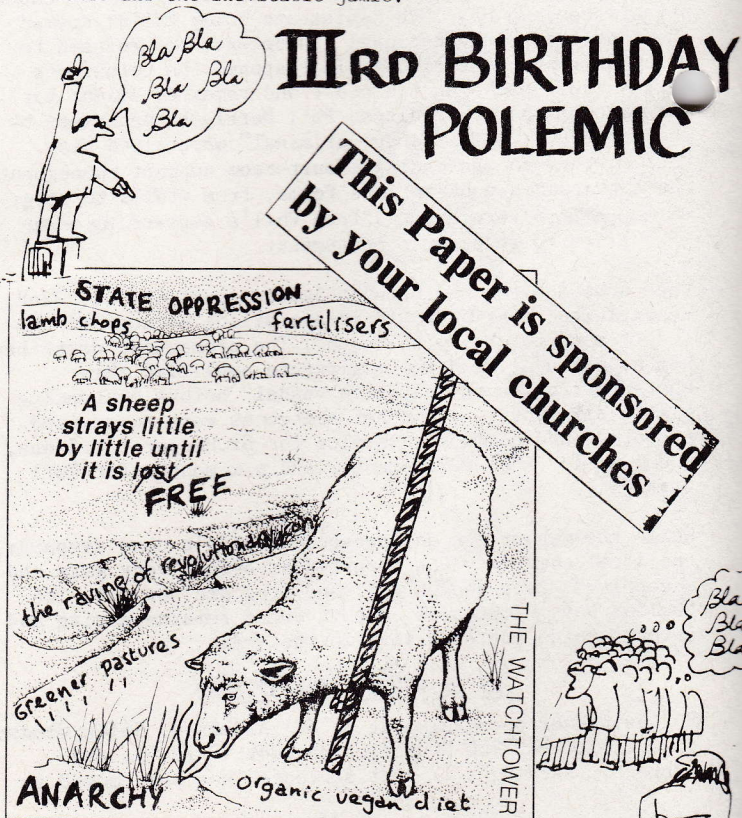
And so it is that "Pinch of Salt" reaches its third birthday, and it seems like a good time for "Pinch of Salt" readers to stop and think: what's the point? Does "Pinch of Salt" rush past eyes like some television clippings of super-human deeds, which leave us glued to our seats? Entertainment value aside, do the pages inspire us into arm-chair awe or conspiracy-breathing together? 'Cause these winds of change, this Spirit of Freedom, are for all. To up and act. To pitch the tent of Justice, to get involved in the thick of it, and to reflect, and learn, and act again.

"Pinch" covers a lot of anti-nuclear and anti-military stuff, some people may think too much: but, as Dan Berrigan made clear in the summer school I attended in July - the Bomb is both a fact and a metaphor. People begin where they are, unravel a thread, touching one, finding more. The Bomb brings our hearts and lives to

a crucial focus: as Thomas Merton suggested, the end of the world will be legal. "Pinch" tries to throw out material to aid our internal combustion engines of hope and action, in our struggles against the state and all forms of violence, and our visions and attempts at other ways. I sometimes get the feeling, though, that the glue sticking us to our armchairs in front of our television sets never quite vaporises into freedom. As Jesus might well say, were he a skateboard punk rocker: Go for it, as God does.....smash the T.V., extricate yourself from your comfortable chair.....then perhaps what your Bible calls the "name of God" can make itself known.

stephen, october '88

this issue brought to you by Stephen, with the back-up culinary skills of Mil, the audio-secretarial stamina of Leslie and the inevitable Jamie.





LETTER FROM WINSON GREEN

In response to my article about my week in Winson Green Prison (see "Pinch" no.9), a friend, Ann, wrote a letter of complaint. She didn't mention me by name in the letter, but mentioned:

my being hit for refusing to give my date of birth
 prisoner I met severely beaten up after getting a cup of tea at the wrong time
 my difficulty in getting a vegan diet (I didn't get anything to eat the whole six and a half days -plus was variously threatened with single cell, punishment block and even the psychiatric wing!)
 the sex-fantasy-murder-film ("Five minutes to midnight" I think) which was our weekly "treat"

The below letter is the response she got from a senior officer. Having experienced his prison, it is a truly amazing letter - on one level very funny, on another very chilling: things like "no violence to inmates takes place". Either he hasn't got a clue, or it's the official arrogance of what he might call a "professional liar." But the public image view, and, indeed, the public awareness of life in prison, means that letters like this can be smugly sent to members of the public, and that's that.

H.M. Prison
 Winson Green Road
 Birmingham B18 4 AS
 20.8.88

Dear Miss Adams,

Thankyou for your letter of August 17 to the Governer. As I am responsible for inmate film selection I am replying to your spurious comments and, indeed, allegations regarding inmates treatment in this establishment.

Firstly can I say I have checked our records here, and with the Independent Board of Visitors, and no complaints of assault or brutality have been lodged relating to the allegations you make.

I have no idea who your friend was who you suggest was in our custody but he has misled you completely, which is something which we are quite accustomed to here.

Had he required a special diet he has only to apply to his wing manager of which I'm one with 19 years here.

A vegan diet is different in as much as we don't accept inmates are vegans unless that fact is confirmed by the Vegan Society, George street, Oxford. Public letters are freely issued to men to write there. We have no bias here

relating to anything including diet, it is irrelevant to us. I myself am a vegetarian.

We are required by law to restrain violent and mentally ill patients that, unfortunately, courts burden us with repeatedly, no violence to inmates takes place, if it did and a complaint made, the police would be called in to investigate, as they normally would a section 20 or 47 assault taking place anywhere.

You have to accept that prisons are full of professional liars, some lie their way through life living, as Sigmund Freud describes, as "Parapraxes", imaginations to relieve an otherwise mundane life, which we all experience from time to time.

The record of films shown here of late records the following:

Beverley Hills Cop	(17/7)
Crocodile Dundee	(24/7)
Lethal Weapon	(30/7)
Missing in Action	(6/8)
The Godfather	(13/8)
Top Gun	(20/8)

Many of these films are suitable for children outside and your perception of how much effect films have on the audience does Mary Whitehouse credit. There is little evidence to support your views. These men receive little all week because we are bombarded by Courts and Mental Hospitals to accept 1200 men when we can only cater for 540 lawfully.

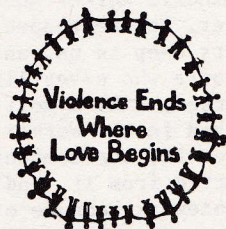
A good film to relieve boredom is all they get. Do you seriously suggest I put on "Mary Poppins" to hardened criminals, it has been tried and they all walked out, causing us problems we don't need.

They need entertaining and these films fill that criteria. Of course they like action and "non blue" sex scenes, they are normal men and are sexually attracted to women, what's unusual about that? None of these men are sex offenders.

Running a potentially dangerous prison is done with all co-operating and done with psychology. I don't suppose you've ever been to prison, let alone have any factual experience to support your theoretical comments. An old axiom in life goes - "there is no sadder sight in this world than to see a beautiful theory crushed by brutal fact" - unfortunately prisons are full of "brutal facts", if you had any experience of them you would realise.

I hope I have answered your queries to your satisfaction and extinguished your groundless fears about inmates' safety.

Michael Kelly (Senior Officer)
 H.M.Prison. Birmingham.



THE RAVEN'S DREAM

Give me a time when no-one was hurt
 Or frozen by a stare
 Give me a place where never was seen
 A soul belittled there
 Give me a heart which no-one could break
 Or even a peaceful mind
 Give me a life where ever was thought
 No troubles there to find
 Give me then a morning sun
 Which somehow lasts a day
 And last of all give me a love
 Which cannot fade away

Susan Roberts



INTERVIEW WITH DAN BERRIGAN

Dan Berrigan, incorrigible Jesuit priest peace and justice activist, was over in London in the last week of July for a Peace and Reconciliation Summer School put on by the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

A pioneering spark in the US Peace Movement, Dan has participated in such actions as the Catonsville Nine draft-card napalming in the late sixties and the Plowshares Eight missile-cone hammering in 1980. Such actions, stemming from much thought and preparation have caught the political imaginations of peace activists

and feds alike. Dan has written lots, and continues to combine work with the poor and outcast with peace activities. During the week, intrepid "Pinch of Salt" investigative journalists, Derek and Stephen, disguised as F.B.I. ornithologists, managed to entice him into a nearby resource room. Straight-away, with the political imagination and paranoia one would expect from a major threat to Western civilisation, Dan noticed that my ice-cream was in fact a standard issue CIA tape-recorder..

Dan Berrigan: So, what are we going to talk about. Where did you get this funny machine??

Stephen: I met some friends at the meeting last night. Well, I'd like to know if you've noticed any major differences between the U.S. and British Christian Peace Movement. I'm particularly thinking about when you talk about the need for community, which is something that comes very much from the Christian experience in the States. There's not so much of that here. It's like there's more maturity in the movement in the States. It's as if in Britain it's ten or fifteen years behind, in that sort of collective power. I don't know if you picked any of that up, or is that just romanticism?

Dan: Well, it's hard for me to make comparisons, you know, on such a brief visit. But I think that whatever we've been able to do by way of community has come out of the Catholic Worker and that tradition, which is now, oh, fifty years old: about the crucial business of living together in order to do this work, and of being together in favour of the poor in order to do peace work.

I think Dorothy drew those conclusions at a time when the Church was just ready for someone like her, even though for a number of years she felt very alone. She was immediately swamped with a tremendous response to her paper, and an immediate response to her call, you know, to community and peacemaking. That went up and down like a fever chart over the years, but it never stopped, and at the time of her death and since then there are more Catholic Worker houses than ever. So she tapped something very deep in us, and even people who never lived in the Worker, like myself - I never lived in the Worker - we learned from it, our communities benefited from it, and we got into peace work because of it. So it was a very powerful gift, the example that she gave us, and we never deserved that, and it wouldn't have happened without her.

So, what else?

Stephen: I'd like to ask about the Plowshares Actions: you talk alot about preparing - that's all tied in with a sense of community isn't it? The way people meet each other, is that just through friendships, connections.....

Dan: Yeah, these connections have really been going on for many years, and go back even to the Civil Rights days, you know, and certainly to the Vietnam War

days; and the fact that in this huge territory, just say up and down the East Coast where I live, people have known one another for years, and twice a year we gather for retreats, and then there are all sorts of local meetings going on all the time - local scripture study, local eucharists, local work with the poor, local work with A.I.D.S., local work with the homeless, anti-nuclear work... And so when we came together in 1980 to talk about Plowshares, I could look around that group and know everybody, and there was an immediate sense of trust of everybody. We began with a very powerful common basis of faith and in the way we live, and a certain openness towards this project, which was then very shocking and new. But, everybody didn't know everybody, most people knew most people, and it crossed around like that.

Derek: Can you say something about the abortion issue as regards direct action at abortion clinics? Do you see that as likened to direct action against nuclear weapons, or is that a separate issue?

Dan: Oh, it's all one. And we're friends with all these people who call themselves Pro-lifers for Survival: they're all anti-abortionist and anti-war and



Dan and Doreen at one of Dan's very successful drive-in workshops.

anti-capital punishment, and everyone is in that one aspect or another. And they've been holding these massive sit-ins at these abortion clinics lately, and, you know, anti-nuclear people are there - all sorts of people are there; and it's not this business about, you know, pro-life translated as anti-abortion and pro-war, which we've had in many of the groups - it's a better, integrated view of the whole range of life - a willingness to speak up for all of that.

Stephen: Christian activists tend to be people who are into symbols, which I think give a really strong identity and are a great source of strength: but do you get much feedback from symbols like blood and

hammers - what do they mean to people who aren't soaked in the Christian culture?

Dan: Oh sure, yeah...there's no end of debate about all that on secular and religious territory, you know; and people who are not particularly religious and people who are religious are really quite shocked by this. When, let's say, when we first went into draft-boards in '68, even '67, people like Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton and others were really quite shocked, because the nonviolence movement had never taken itself into these places before to do physical damage, you know. And Merton was very shaken, and there were all sorts of bad reports with us about that. He left, of course, for Thailand soon after and died in '68. But Dorothy put it this way in the papers: she said that it was not the Catholic Worker way, as she understood it, but she was supporting it because it was nonviolent. But she had qualms about it: it was very new, it hadn't been done before. The Catholic Worker had always done civil disobedience, but they hadn't gone to any of these places to do physical damage: we started that. And it's still a source of contention. Some people dropped out because of the hammers, saying, Oh God, that's a symbol of violence, and all that. Well, you know, sorry - it all has to be talked about

In one or two places they used mechanical hammers, like that group of Helen Woodson and Carl Kabat and all, and I had great difficulty with that, but I wasn't dictating to them, they were on their own. They used those jack-hammers, you know, oooh, we're getting a little bit close to damage at the expense of symbols. I wouldn't advocate that. So, there you are. The debate goes on.

Derek: With regards to national liberation movements: I read your letter to Ernesto Cardenal, and Cardenal's reply. I don't know if you can remember it: can you say a little bit more about that, as regards Nicaragua today.

Dan: Yeah. I don't know if there's anything more to say. I refuse to go on indefinitely in print, you know, as if this was becoming some sort of a personal vendetta or something like that. Strangely enough, I have a great deal more respect and rapport with Cardenal's brother, Fernando, who, as you know, is the Minister of Education and in charge of the Literacy Campaign down there, which is very successful. And then he was kicked out of the jesuits because he wouldn't leave his office. But I find him much more thoughtful on these questions.

Derek: I think Ernesto would claim that he had been proven correct in the light of events. He couldn't answer you at the time - I think he said that in his letter: but, the light of events would show that violence has a place in the struggle..?

Dan: It's interesting down there that the Foreign Minister, who is also a priest, has gotten very uneasy about armed struggle and about that as the way and the only way that we can do this, and so on. And, as you know, he's done these long pilgrimages and these long fasts, and these fasts on pilgrimages and all that, and I think, though I haven't been down there during those things, but it seems to me that he thinks that these nonviolent alternatives are extremely important, both for him personally and for the people: that they give people hope that they wouldn't get otherwise; and that they awaken a great deal of compassion and sense of the future, and all that - the armed struggle is just sort of killing, you know. So, I don't know, I find these directions more hopeful. And I think in those situations, as well as in ours, we have to keep seeking ways of bringing hope, you know. But I'm not sure that guns do that - at least over a long period.

Stephen: One of the things - the creativity and imagery and symbolism of nonviolent action - is something, I think, Christians have really got to offer.

Dan: Yeah, there's something about, you know, the political imagination that can awaken to these symbols when political imagination is absolutely dead at the time: you know, the use of the liturgical year, the use of the symbols of the earth, the bringing of the sacraments into these places, the use of exorcisms and prayer and street drama and all these things are very very powerful. And then this business of the text of Isaiah that led to a whole series of actions, and so on and so forth.

Stephen: Your position towards the state and your various acts of rebellion: obviously they're gone into with a lot of preparation. Do you find that spirit of protest and dissent something that comes easily, or do you have to swallow it with some reticence?

Dan: Oh, it's very hard, oh sure. You know, it's easier to do these things where you realise that you're going to be out of jail in a few days, but this whole question of Plowshares is a very, very big item. One would be foolish to enter into it lightly. One has to go through rather a dark night in order to come out and say "yes" in a way that is not destructive of oneself. And that's why we always urge this long period of careful preparation. Even with that, you know, we've had people (we haven't, thank God, had anyone seriously injured, even psychically) - well, you get 85 people taking part or something and a few people are going to show a weakness somewhere later. Like, people will find that jail is a different reality than they thought. Sometimes it seems to come down to people who have never really lived in community, and they just have to get out from under this.

Stephen: Someone like Helen Woodson seems to go from strength to strength. It's like, you read her writings and there seems to be a real progression from within prison, a radicalisation, constantly throwing out new realisations and actions.

Dan: Yup. And then they just have to keep transferring her: they don't know what to do with that woman.

Derek: Have you had any luck in getting to see the Birmingham Six?

Dan: Oh yeah. Well, there will be just be two of them that I'll see in the morning. That's good news. I wish I could see all six of them. But they've scattered them, haven't they? I've been corresponding with them, but I haven't really met them yet. So, we'll see.

How was that. Alright?

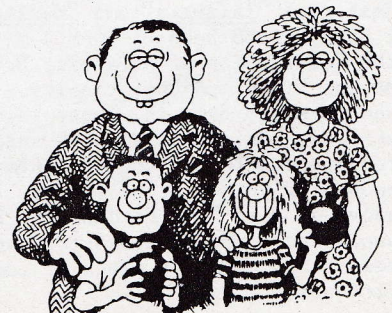
[exit stage left]

Next issue: transcripts from the DamascusGate tapes on class and voting. Watch this space.

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POPULAR MISCONCEPTION
OF TYPICAL ANARCHIST



ACTUAL ANARCHISTS
IN REAL LIFE.

12 SUPPORT THE PEACE CAMPS

FASLANE FOCUS

Monday morning, 10th October, putting the final touches to this issue, and a man comes on the radio...saying "last night four people got into the Polaris base..... ..three over the fence and one swam the Loch" and I think "bless 'em" and am reminded to give Faslane Peace Camp the mention it deserves: numbers have dwindled there a bit, but it seems things are picking up, and it's vital they get lots of support, what with Trident on its way and all that. Who knows, maybe you should go and live there. I mean, have you asked yourself if you've got a vocation to peace-camp-hood?

Faslane Peace Camp, Shandon, HELENSBURGH, Dunbartonshire, Scotland

and have just received the newsletter from Upper Heyford Peace Camp. Sure they'd welcome support as well. As with Faslane, there is caravan space, though write first: Upper Heyford Peace Camp, Portway: Camp Road, Upper Heyford, Oxon

John, who lives there, writes "You are welcome anytime".

WHERE THE LETTERS?

O.K. So there aren't any letters in this issue. I wonder why not. No, it's not some censorial conspiracy. Last issue's onslaught was too good to be true, and since then we've received lots of scribbles and enquiries but nothing coherent of interesting enough to grace the pages of this graceful magazine. Go on, put pen to paper, fingers to keyboard, vocal chords to dictaphone, chisel to slabs of rock, and reach the world with your views/hang-ups/irritations &c.

N.B. We now have a new address.

THE INEVITABLE JAMIE

"The assault on Culture- Utopian currents from Lettrisme to Class War", by Stewart Home. Aporia Press & Unpopular Books 1988

This is a fascinating work of cultural studies. The

various art/political movements examined are all angry young or otherwise angry people enraged at some aspect of being conventional. This emotional drive is converted into a sometimes vague intellectual response and then actions which many people find incomprehensible. For example: "The PROVO's became notorious with the Dutch medical community after Bart Huges- one of the PROVO leaders drilled a hole in his cranium (skull trepanation). Huges believed that the membranes in his head could expand as a result of the extra space he had created, thus increasing the volume of blood -and in turn oxygen- that his brain could contain at any given time. The result, Huges claimed, was similar to the expanded consciousness achieved during yoga exercises, or an LSD trip, but in this case the benefits were permanent."

All the groups included in this book have similar motives to those of Bart Huges, in the sense that they refuse to accept what conventional experts have to say. Perhaps this is what a true artist should be doing but I dunno. I'm not much of a practical romantic these days. But I like fantastic stories even better. Which is why I've just read "Taliesin" and "Merlin" by Stephen Lawhead. (Lion, 1988 both of them) a total of 958 pages of the destruction of Atlantis, Druids with strange powers, Manic Picts and Christianity. Set in late Roman Britain and Dark age Britain, these reworkings celtic myths and stories of king Arthur work surprisingly well and are recommended for anyone with similar taste (I can get enough of this sort of story. After the two chunky tomes above, I read "The Lord of the Rings") Very much the sword and sorcery novels for the 80's with carefully researched myths in place of, say, CS Lewis's free ranging fictions.

& PRISONERS

Participating in support work for prisoners is something anyone can get involved with, and it's really appreciated. There are various addresses scattered through this issue, but the following groups can be contacted for lists of prisoners to write to:

WAR RESISTERS INTERNATIONAL 55 Dawes Street, LONDON SE17 (co-ordinate "Peace Prisoners Day" on December 1st)

SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES c/o 23D South Villas, LONDON NW1 (for up-to-date list of Plowshares prisoners)

ANTI-MILITARIST ACTION BULLETIN c/o ACF, Freedom Bookshop, 84B Whitechapel High Street, LONDON E1

(report imprisoned anti-militarist news - brought out by Cambridge Area Anarchist-Communist Federation)

PEACE PRISONERS' SUPPORT NETWORK David Polden c/o CND, 22-24 Underwood Street, LONDON N1

(organises local support for peace prisoners at particular prison)

Two more campaigns well worth supporting are:

MARTIN FORAN SUPPORT GROUP BCM/FORAN, LONDON WC1N

(support for Martin Foran, fitted up twice, getting consistently appalling treatment from prison - see "Pinch" no.9)

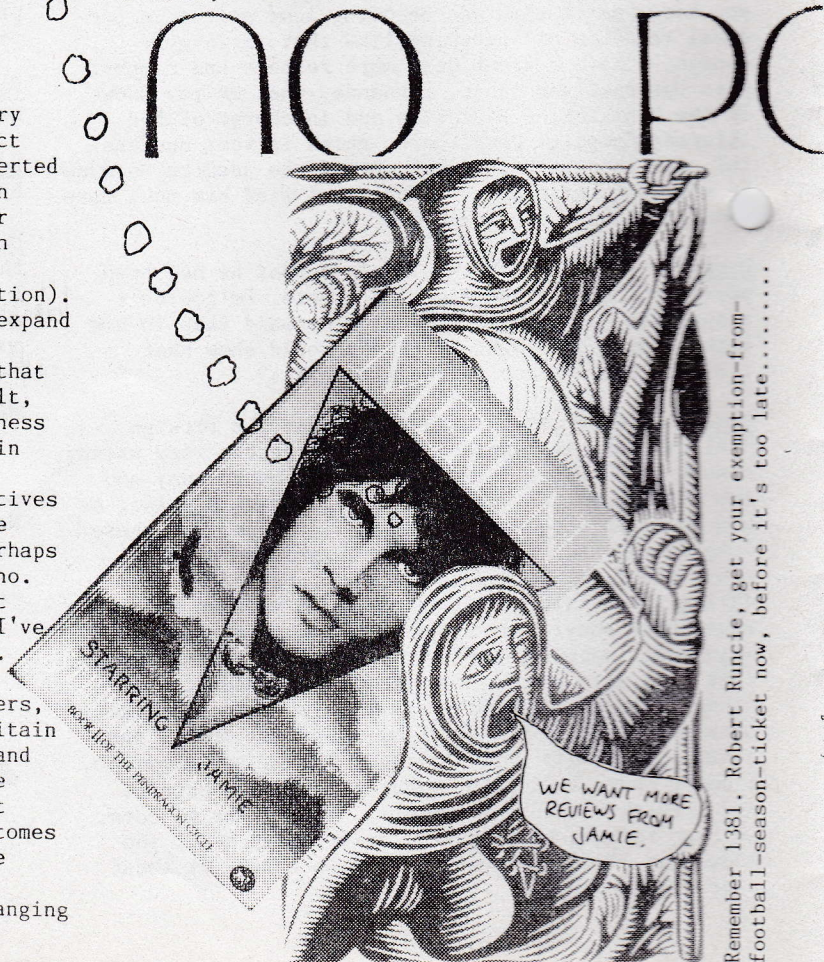
BIRMINGHAM SIX CAMPAIGN GROUP 23 Compton Terrace, Islington London N1 2UN (other groups in Birmingham, Bolton & Dublin, Belfast & New York and Boston, USA)

(Will send you info and addresses of the six - why not write to them?)

LONDON C.A. NETWORK

In case you hadn't noticed the reactionary tendencies to the south of England in this issue, "Pinch" has moved down to London (yawn, yawn). See new address on this page and that. To counteract this deviationism, why not send in news from your far-flung (it's all relative) nooks and crannies? But, for all you yuppies in the metropolis there does just happen to be the aforementioned network. Quite what we do....we've met a few times, might even meet again, and hopefully some of the rank and file will come round this Wednesday and help mail out and stick stamps. Oh yes, third birthday party..... Saturday December 10th at Peter's: 23D South Villas, LONDON NW1, 7.00pm onwards. Write to let Peter know you're coming. Be there or be somewhere else..... Write to self-same address if you want to know what's going on London-wise.

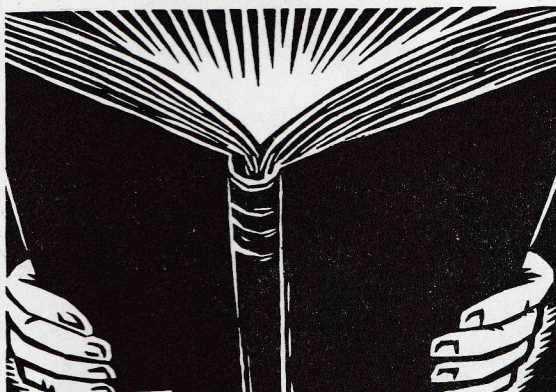
PEACE VIGIL AT MARBLE ARCH still goes on, 6pm-9pm every Friday, and welcomes support: Laura Fensterheim, 112 Norbury Crescent, LONDON SW16



Remember 1381. Robert Runcie, get your exemption-from-football-season-ticket now, before it's too late.....

BOOK REVIEW

13



Laffin, Arthur J. and Anne Montgomery. Swords Into Plowshares: Nonviolent Direct Action for Disarmament. San Francisco, CA: Harper & Row, Publishers, 1987. \$8.95

I am hard to please. "What!" you say. Well yes, or should I qualify: when it comes to the written word I am hard to please. After a few dreadful encounters, I ceased granting interviews, became considerably exercised at the proposal of a TV movie and once even threatened to sue Amnesty International if they didn't leave me alone.

All this stems from my fervent belief that if folks are going to address issues, they ought, at the minimum, recognize what those issues are. The issues are not the demeanor of judges, the nature or length of sentences, the recreational proclivities of prisoners, the sweet children at home or Juicy Fruit gum. The issues are the Bomb, personal responsibility and disarmament. We had better hope that these are the issues - publicly, because it's a matter of life and death; privately, because if not, a whole bunch of us have made some serious and costly mistakes.

And so it is that after 7 years of "Plowshares" disarmament actions, I have finally read something on the subject that pleases me. Anne Montgomery and Art Laffin have studiously avoided sensationalism, the cult of

personality and fluff, focusing instead on the truth in a resistance primer which manages, at the same time, to be the final word (my humble opinion).

Need concise information on U.S. first-strike policy? Wonder about the legal basis of resistance? Curious about the diverse spiritual underpinnings of "Plowshares" actions and serious campaigns of nonviolence? Desire a better understanding of the prison witness? Want a list of communities, organizations and resources to further your inquiry and involvement? It's all here, as are action statements, legal briefs, poetry, reflections and photographs beautifully blended by the skillful editing.

Oh yes, there is a chronology and profile of the 18 Plowshares actions and 66 participants (Sept., 1980 - March, 1986; more have occurred since). It's brief and accurate, and after you read it, you won't have the slightest idea what we eat for breakfast. Isn't that wonderful! Notice that I have not named the more than 25 contributors who run the gamut from famous to obscure. I would even omit reference to Laffin and Montgomery, who, depending upon the circles in which you travel, are famous or obscure, but you couldn't find the book if I did. My point is that if you're attracted chiefly by high visibility, you need to refocus, but if you're interested in a serious reflection on resistance by those living it, this is the book to buy.

I would be happy if no one ever again wrote a word about "Plowshares". Someone undoubtedly will, but I won't ask you to read it. I am asking that you spend a few hours with Swords Into Plowshares. Thanks, Anne and Art! You've pleased the toughest critic.

Helen Dery Woodson

(from Plowshares Newsletter, Fall 1987) (of the book)
If you're interested in getting your hands on a copy this side of the Atlantic, send a SAE to the "Pinch of Salt" address and we'll send you details.....

POLL TAX

Imagine a system of taxation which halves the tax burden of the richest, shifts resources from the recession-struck North to the affluent South East, costs at least twice as much to collect as the rates, requires an army of investigators to trace people, disenfranchises the poorest and introduces a rebate system so complicated that few can understand it.....the poll tax.

The more you really look into it the more sinister every twist and turn. This whole issue needs good, clear campaigning - the sort which depends on street committees, local action and local support. Many people are going to be confused, some frightened, many determined to do something.....if only they don't feel isolated. It's vital to learn from the Scottish experience (registration began there in April): despite widespread popular anti-Tory sentiment, information and local organisation came too late and sparsely to properly tap the potential that's there. As the powers that be kept a close eye on Scottish resistance (and made suitable adjustments) so should we who live in England and Wales. Obviously, the labour party isn't going to be the burning flame of resistance that we never thought it was going to be, so we'd better take things into our own hands.

"Pinch of Salt" readers take to the streets! Get in touch with your local anti-poll tax group, go leafleting, talk with your neighbours, display a poster in your window....

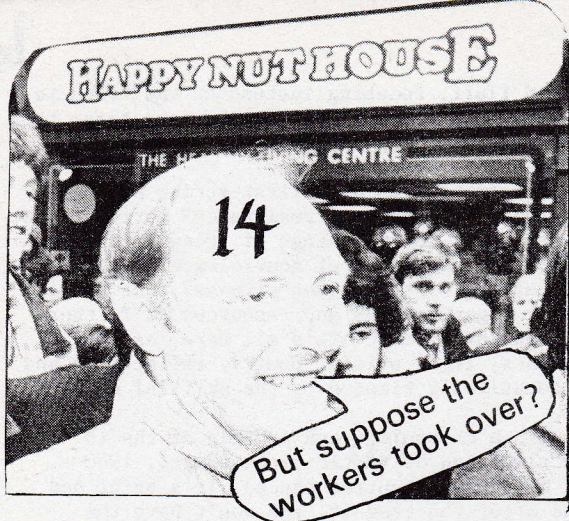
Centres of Resistance is a network of Christians into public witness against Tory policies. They're now putting alot into agitating for Christian Resistance to the poll tax, and are producing a poster for your window (Christians Say No To The Poll Tax). Contact: CoR 16 Lindore Road, LONDON SW11 1HJ

Blackcurrent Free School

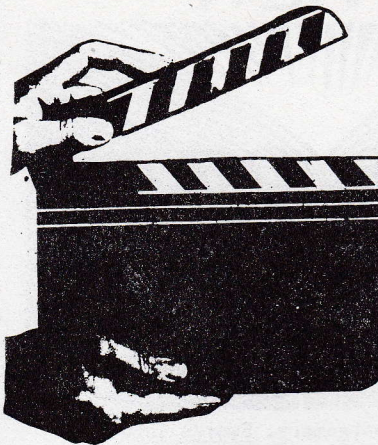


BLACK CURRENT HOUSING CO-OPERATIVE

Emma, Tony, Reuben, Mathew and Jo are looking for like-minded people to join, help set up a housing co-op in Northampton. We are aged from 33 to 5 and are looking for people interested in living communally, sharing responsibilities and lifestyles and supporting one another. We are also involved in a free school. Interested?
Tel:-Wellingborough 228 933



CHRIST: THE LAST TEMPTATION OF A movie



Well..wadda privilege..writin' Pinch's first movie review. Wadda good idea. Wadda racey topical mag. way ahead o' its time. Anyway, cut the crap, waddabout the movie?

Well...boy o' boy o' boy. Wadda film! Wadda great film! Makes me wanna write pages and pages, fulla graphic details and lotsa controversy (or as we say in the film biz, contreauversi). Well, waddaya say? More to the point, wadoo I say?

This classic Hitchcock remake, with all the original cast...

..oh, hold on, wrong film. Sorry there readers...thats better....Wadda racey film...racey..raunchy....raunchy.. Wadda plot! Gripping....racey. Gripping plot. What..... what castin'! Unbelievable. Meryl Streep...as Mary Mag... whadimagination...wadexpression....waddanactress. Burt Reynolds as J.C. himself....well wadayasay?...None of this wimpish Jesus of Nazareth starry-eyed drivel. No folks. A real man Jesus. Big muskles. Big ambitions....bash..smash crash...kick those stalls over....attaboy....waddaman!... Boy o' boy o' boy...the sex scenes, eh?, eh? What paradigms of erotic sensibility...hold on a minute... should read: What paradigms of erotic sensibility?..... just good ol' racey raunchy sex scenes...and then, J.C.'s old man barges in on the pair just...boy o' boy..... well, no, actually, I haven't seen it all the way through yet...well, no, but I did see this chat show...and no, .. none of them had seen it all the way through...but, boy o' boy you sure as hell can pick up the sense of it, carntcha?.....Well...wadayasay? OK OK, next issue, I'll do a good one:Mary Poppins: a vehicle for radical class consciousness.....no, seriously...waddayathink?

Cecil B.de Millions

Vegangelical Cookery

NEIL'S RECIPE PAGE

McDonalds employs over 1/2 million workers in over 9000 outlets serving 19 million people every day in 45 countries. It made \$1.32 million profit per day in 1986 and a new branch opens every 17 hours.

If you get "Pinch" in time, October 16th and 17th are "International Anti-McDonalds Day". London Greenpeace, who call the international protest, are also holding a "Anti-McDonalds Fayre" on Sat.29th October, 11am to 5pm in Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, LONDON WC1 - lots of stalls, videos, theatre,etc.(incl. creche). For more info about the day and the campaign: LONDON GREENPEACE, 5 Caledonian Road, LONDON N1

Go on, demolish a Big Mac.....

SPOT THE BISHOP STOP SPOT THE BISHOP STOP SPOT THE BI

"Pinch" enters the fantastically exciting world of competitions. OK, pen and papers ready, here's one I cooked in the studio beforehand:

The Bishop of London recently remarked that he wouldn't recognise a woman bishop (well she sure as hell wouldn't look like Robert Runcie): the mind boggles. Is the Anglican Church so hung up that its bishops aren't instructed in basic sex education? Or maybe he just needs some new theological glasses. Anyway, here's

DIVINE

American hard-line born-again Christians have quite a job keeping Satan from sullyng their children's minds. He exerts his wicked influence, they say, through such popular toys as Masters of the Universe, the Smurfs and the Fisher Price Junior Magic set. The problem is that by the time you've eliminated the evils of amorality, occultism or wizardry from the local toyshop, there isn't much left for the kids to play with.

But salvation is at hand. Wee Win Toys of Houston, Texas, have produced a range of ultra-Christian toys: there are the Canaanland Kids - Sindy-type dolls with Biblical clothes and hair you can really comb; Christian board games with blessings and penances; plastic Bible heroes and Prince of Peace Pets, a range of morally pure stuffed animals, with names like Born Again Bunny, Righteous Raccoon, Beatitude Beagle, Holy Cow and Sanctified Skunk.

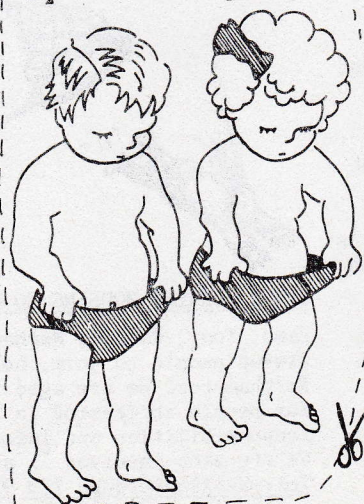
Ken Richter, managing director of Wee Win, has Jesus Christ as the chairman of his board, and the company's chief executive officer is registered as The Holy Spirit.

Under this exalted leadership, the company has grossed a million dollars' worth of business in its first year, so Richter must surely feel that the Lord is right behind those who help themselves.

INVENTIONS

the competition: below is a cut-out playing-card. With as many X's as you like place an X over the spot which you think most resembles an Anglican Bishops. Send all entries to: The Bishop of London, London, England. The winner will receive a set of high-anglican scented joss-sticks

Spot the Bishop



.....INTUITIVE VEGAN CAKE.....

Yes, little munchkins, deep down in your primal psyche lies a little-known archetype: the vegan cake. After years of neo-platonic bombardment we feel detached, alienated, cartesian even. This prehistoric symbol offers you a way to get in touch with your more earthy instinctsfor all you hovering ovo-lacto vegetarians out there, gazing out into the seemingly intrepid sea of veganism, imagine a scrummy vegan cake floating on the waves.....go on, take the plunge.....

Basically vegan cakes are: flour, vegetable fat/oil/marg, liquid, sweetner and various crunch, squashy bits, some sort of sweetner and if you're really naughty, lots of baking powder. *proof reader fell asleep*

e.g. Get some whole-wheat organic ground by the teeth of a cart horse flour.

Rub in some vegan marg.(most marg.

has whey in it, so watch out).

Add some soya flour and carob powder. Some raisins and

and chopped up apple. A dollop

of malt extract, some fruit

juice (and, if you're feeling

naughty, some baking powder).

Stir up. Bung in greased cake

tin, wang it in the oven,

medium heat for quite a while

(or until it burns).

Eat it (take it out of the

oven first). Dead good, eh?

You see, now deep down in your primal psyche lies a little-known archetype: a piece of vegan cake.

Corner



come and celebrate 'LIFE WITHOUT THE BIG MAC'

back into the

MACHINES

WAIT MY SON! DON'T DO IT!

SURELY THERE'S ANOTHER WAY

YEAH FAIR ENOUGH! HAND OVER YOUR CASH VICAR OR I'LL HIT YOU WITH THIS BRICK!

YEAH FAIR ENOUGH! HAND OVER YOUR CASH VICAR OR I'LL HIT YOU WITH THIS BRICK!

Smash
Capitalism
(and give it all to
'A Pinch of Salt')



SPEND! SPEND!

The Chancellor, just back from his summer holidays in Bermuda, writes a gripping account of finances: "Well, I'm afraid it'll have to be austerity measures, higher interest rates and more (nonviolent) bank robberies. Last issue cost £270 to print and, all in all, £39.90 on postage, plus a bit of repayment of loans. We've received £251.78 in donations, demos, and bookstalls. Before going to the printers we have £252.81 in the account. We still owe £287, and this printing bill could be £300 plus postage. So we'll be a few hundred in the red (which is the usual scheme of things). "Pinch" relies totally on donations. Here are some ways you can help:

DONATIONS: cheques/postal orders payable to "A Pinch of Salt". Loose money sent at your peril, our joy.

STAMPS: Why not send us some stamps, preferably of the second-class variety, but penny blacks &c. welcome.

DOLLARS: Any spare Canadian, U.S. or Australian \$'s in your pockets? Bung 'em in an envelope and sent them to us, therewith we can paass them on to mags and papers over there.

LOANS: If you've got a spare £hundred (or ffifty) knock-around, why not laan it to us? for a year or so. Guaranteed no interest.....write for details.

SEND THE BELOW SLIP TO "A PINCH OF SALT", C/O 23D South
Villas, LONDON NW1, England.....

My name is

I live at

.....

.....
Tick where applicable:

I subscribe already and enclose a donation of £...

I'd like to subscribe, and enclose £.....

Please send details about loaning money

Any other ways you'd like to help "A Pinch"? (use another sheet of paper if necessary)

Apologies to Emma Chapman from Cambridge - I've lost your address. Please get in touch again if you see this note. Also, last issue ran an interesting jumble on page two: "RESPECT THE ENVIRONMENT, END WAR, ABOLISH EVIL" should have read "abolish PRISONS", thereagain..... Oh, and I'm sure there are lots of spelling mistakes in this issue, now if one of you would like to come and do some proof reading...which brings me round to : next "Pinch", out mid-January. Send any stuff by the end of the year. We still have some books to review.....

CONTACTS (we're getting there. Anyone else want to
contact for their area/country?):
CANADA - Kenny, Digger C/A, 455 Park Street North,
Peterborough, Ontario, Canada K9H 4R1
LONDON - Peter/Stephen, 23D South Villas, London, NW1
England

sitting quietly
capitalism
destroys
itself



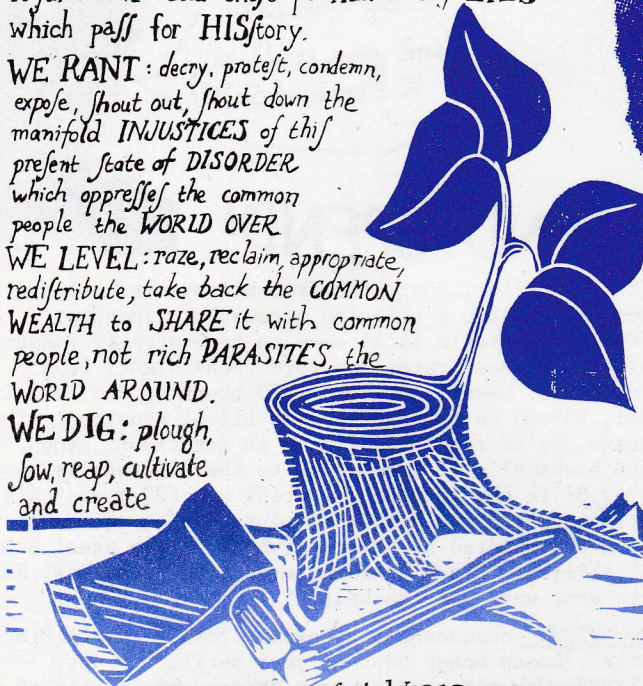
* Please

WE have caught glimpses of an English heritage far removed from, indeed in opposition to, that royal POMP and those parliamentary LIES which pass for HISstory.

WE RANT: decry, protest, condemn, expose, shout out, shout down the manifold INJUSTICES of this present state of DISORDER which oppresses the common people the WORLD OVER

WE LEVEL: raze, reclaim, appropriate, redistribute, take back the COMMON WEALTH to SHARE it with common people, not rich PARASITES, the WORLD AROUND.

WE DIG: plough, sow, reap, cultivate and create



A NEW ORDER ~ the present WORLD TURNED UPSIDE DOWN Amen

designed by STEPHEN HANCOCK & executed by the same. The second year of the third term of reign of a VERITABLE tyrant. To keep in touch: JOHN NICHOLSON, 11 Ashburnham Rd, BEDFORD.

If undelivered, please return to: 23D South Villas, LONDON N1



And now for the latest Papal Bull.....

SISTERS AND BROTHERS!
BEWARE THE I.N.F.
TREATY! STEP UP
THE RESISTANCE!
NO AIR LAUNCHED,
NO SEA LAUNCHED CRUISE!
NO TRIDENT!
GO FORTH! DESTROY
MILITARISM (IN A SPIRIT
OF PEACE AND RECONCILIATION)

It's not like the missileers at Missouri's Whiteman Air Force Base hadn't been warned. The likeness of Godzilla himself had appeared inside the fence of silo C-2 earlier in the summer, complete with a warning to the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

"You may wonder why I have chosen to visit your missile compound instead of spending my vacation time terrorizing the Japanese Islands. As you know, I would be lying dormant underneath the Pacific Ocean were it not for your A-bomb and H-bomb testing. As is characteristic of your species, you have shown an amazing lack of respect for the planet you live on And they call me a monster!

"And so, I have come to warn you that if you do not stop setting up these missiles that your mad scientists are creating, I will be forced to take drastic measures.

Early on the morning of August 15th, 14 people entered ten Minuteman nuclear missile silo sites in western Missouri. After cutting through locks and scaling fences, some of the activists sat silently and prayed. Some planted trees, and other left crosses bearing the names of Central Americans who have died in regional conflicts. All the participants left personal artefacts at the sites, including World War II medals, family photographs, and children's poetry.

The Air Force, in an apparent attempt to trivialize the scope of the coordinated, well publicized action, issued ban and bar letters rather than criminal citations. The following day six of the fourteen returned, and four (plus four new people) the next day.

This continued in ways too complicated to summarise, with some people eventually ending up in prison. Duane Bean said: "We take personal responsibility for these murderous weapons, and only by sustained, determined resistance and risk-taking will we be able to liberate ourselves from this oppression. As long as we have our freedom, we will have a responsibility to return to the silos."

Missouri Peace Planting and Silo Seeding Project '88
P.O.Box 22374, Kansas City, MO 64113, USA

(info lifted from Nuclear Resister No.57, September '88