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INTERNATIONAL ANARCHIST NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No 0

The zero-issue of Alive is compiled by a small group of (mainly) dutch anarchists. Anarchists of different currents who nevertheless all find it one's interest to have a good international information exchange.

It is our experience that it is difficult (and sometimes even hard) to find out what is happening elsewhere in the world inside the anarchist movement. Only by reading many different foreign magazines one can keep oneself slightly posted up. International contacts are mainly existing on an individual level, international co-operation is mostly just incidental. That's why we think that Alive could be a useful medium for improving international communications.

Why is Alive in English? Of course, it could be in Dutch, or in some Siberian language, but then no common earthdweller could read it. And it would be a national magazine, not an international one. We choose English, because many of us don't master another foreign language, and it is always appreciable if you can read your own work.

In the ideal situation Alive is filled with timely, historical and theoretical articles, addresses, announcements, reviews, reports, opinions, etc.

However, this is only possible if there's a international network of individuals and groups who, on a regular basis, will write articles and send material to the collective of Alive.

This zero-issue is just an indication of how Alive could be. Criticism, remarks, suggestions and contributors are greatly appreciated.

You can contribute to Alive by, among other things, sending us articles, announcements, addresses, reports, bookreviews, pamphlets, brochures, magazines, etc.

We need your help to succeed!

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SAC

SAC is a syndicalist trade union built upon autonomous local branches (LS) that organize workers of all categories. Since the start in 1910 SAC has been independent of all political parties. SAC is opposing the big Trade Union Confederation, 'LO', which has close connections with the Social Democratic Party, 'SAP', which forms the government. SAC held its 24th congress in June. 100 members of SAC took part of this congress which lasted for 8 days. The opening speech was held by Jacques Wallner, member of the executive committee, who among other issues, talked about the situation for syndicalists in the post-war period in Sweden; "The post-war period has been a hard time for the syndicalists. Pressure from every side, from the LO with support from the various communist shades and the social democratic government, who had created union laws for the sake of its own organization, the SAC has lost ground and members. We have now reached a new time that focuses on the individual." He also spoke of the future and the importance of syndicalism, as big changes are taking place in Europe: "The respect for individuals, the right of the individual person to act up on one's convictions, has been strengthened by the decline of communism. This ideological change in climate makes it easier for us syndicalists, to work for our ideas, and it makes it easier for us to show that socialism built upon freedom exists." Among other subjects the congress dealt with the economic situation for the SAC. One decision reached was that the International solidarity fund is now reactivated, having been inactive for a couple of years. The international solidarity fund is to get a contribution to restart their activities this year.

An international program was adopted by the congress, pointing out the importance of international cooperation, now when power of the transnational corporations increases all over the world. There is an enormous flow of capital from the poor world to the rich. One example is the foreign debts which strikes hard - especially in the third world, who always ends up in an unjust position in the international trade. The SAC wants to establish contacts with genuine and militant trade unions. According to the development in the EC, the SAC is ready to take part in a number of European campaigns, such as better working conditions, wages to unemployed, asylum to refugees, against increased power of the police force, a shortened workingday and so on. The SAC also wants to establish contacts with alternative movements in single, important issues such as antiracism and questions concerning the environment. The SAC decided to support libertarian socialist movements in the Soviet Union and the eastern parts of Europe.

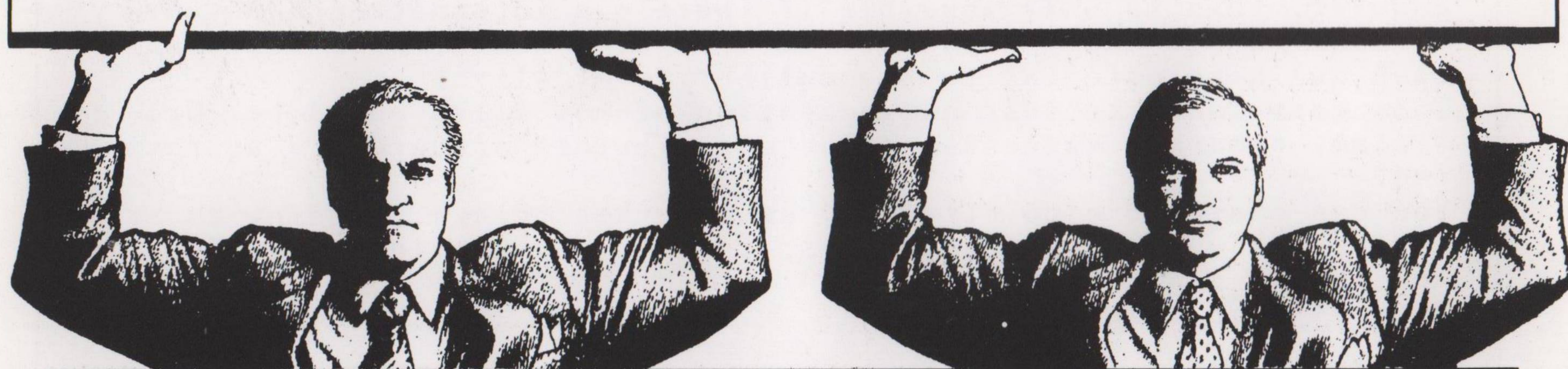
ern parts of Europe. The international statement ends: "For a world with justice and no borders - long live the international solidarity!" The congress also made statements about strikes and protests in other countries. Among these statements they also send declarations of support to the workers at the Michelin factory in the Basque town Vitoria. For ten months the workers have been making disruptions as a protest deteriorating working conditions such as the introduction of a 24 hour shift. SAC's declaration of support was as follows: "It is you who are doing the work, so it should also be you who decides the conditions you should work under." Other foreign unions that got the congress fully support for being in conflicts was the Italian COBAS, the East German Initiative für Unabhängige Gewerkschaften, the Soviet KAS (the death of Piotr Siuda) and the American IWW (Bary and Cherney who got injured in a bomb-attack because of their acting against the devastation of the Redwood forests in California). The SAC congress was visited by representatives from eleven organisations in several countries. The congress also received a number of greetings from all over the world.

International Syndicalist Conference
Stockholm 1st - 4th November
Revolutionary syndicalist activists from all over the world will meet in an exchange of information, ideas and strategies.
From a syndicalist perspective we will discuss:
- The internationalization of capitalism
- Repression
- Our natural environment and working conditions
- The future of revolutionary syndicalism.
If you want to be invited, contact:
SAC, Central Organization of Swedish Workers
Sveavägen 98
11350 Stockholm
Sweden

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In 1991 Alive will be published every three months. To lower the costs of postage we've decided that the magazine will be sent by the cheapest way possible, which, unfortunately is also the slowest way. This means that in some parts of the world Alive will be received three to six weeks after mailing. This delay won't effect the value of most articles, short news, etc. Nevertheless, in case of news with a more urgent character we will send all our subscribers a short word by airmail. The cost of postage is different for European and for overseas countries. However, we want to be a real international magazine and we think it's only fair that there's just one average price for all subscribers. The subscription price for one year will be: f 26,-/£ 8,25/\$ 13,-. Payable by post or to A. Snaar, giro number 3949674, Amsterdam, NL. The price for institutions is: f 52,-/£ 16,50/\$ 26,-. But feel free to pay more to keep us Alive.

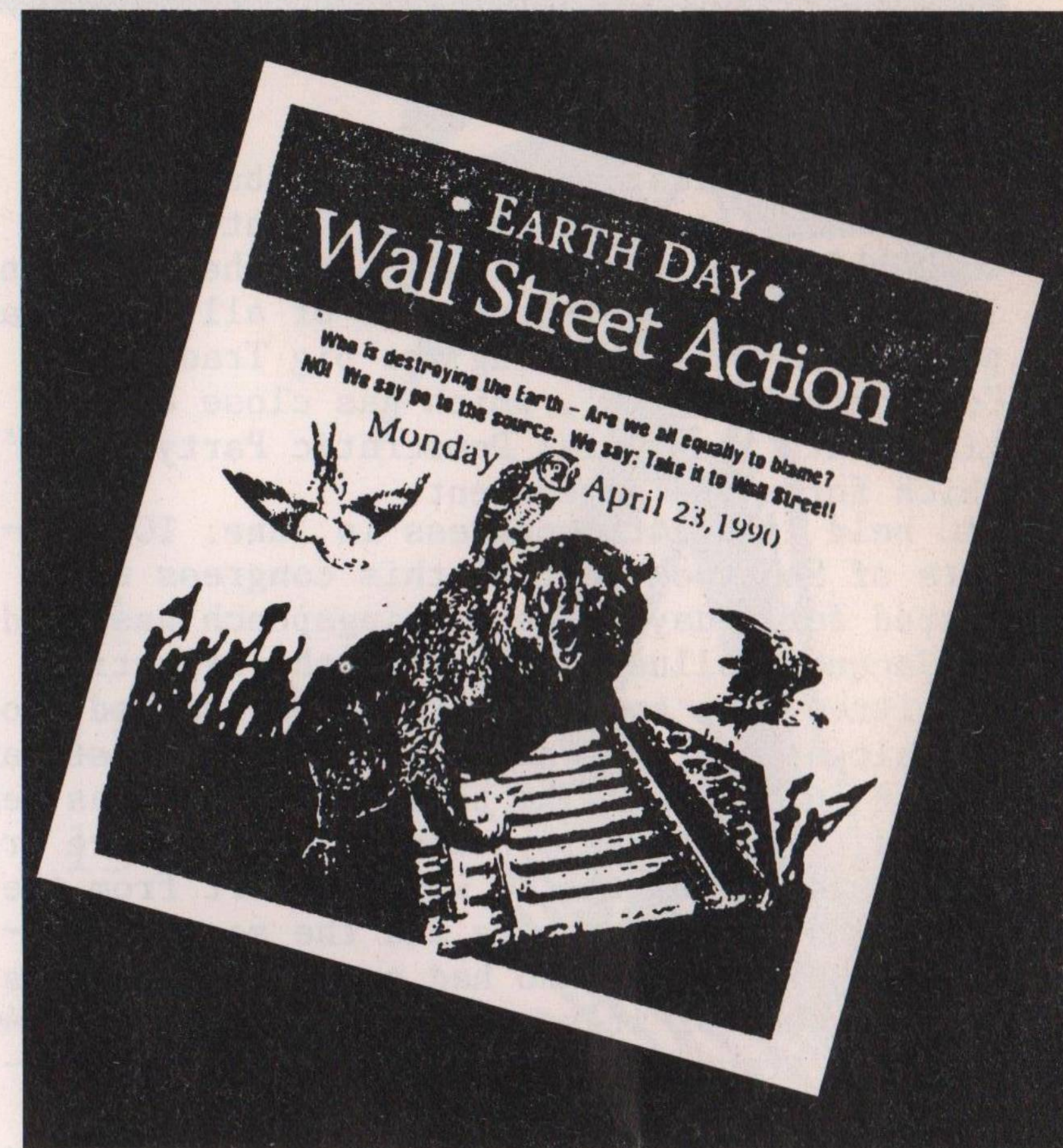
The recipients of this issue are asked to do more with it than just reading it and wait for the next issue to arrive. Please, pass it on to others who might be interested, review it in your local/regional magazine, react to it by sending us your critique, information, etc. Due to lack of money, we aren't able to exchange Alive with other magazines, since there are so many of them which could be of interest for us to use for Alive. But don't let that keep you from sending them to us. We know Alive is far from superb, but we need your help to make it so.



A New York experience

This spring and summer, en route to Europe from Tucson Arizona, where I live and publish the anarchist zine **No Longer Silent!**, I had the opportunity to spend a few months in New York City visiting friends and becoming reacquainted with the anarchist scene in the City I once called home. Like everyone else, of course, I knew about the escalating state of police violence and overall oppression in NYC. But I had also heard impressive things about how the NY anarchists, fed up with increasing gentrification and state sponsored brutality in the Lower East Side (LES) of New York, had joined forces in protest and resistance, as well as in creating viable alternatives for themselves. A number of new anarchist periodicals began, squatters were organizing more effectively and successfully holding buildings, an anarchist bookstore, Sabotage, opened on St. Marks Place, and Thompkins Sq. Park, once a skinhead stronghold, became a viable networking point as well as a symbol of resistance for NYC's LES. Through riots, demonstrations, festivals, tentcity (a veritable "city" of homeless persons who set a living community in the park), meetings, anarchist publications, and speakouts, it seemed that there was a growing network of people working together to create a thriving alternative community. Or so I had heard.

In short, I was disappointed to find that many things in NYC were not going so well after all. And while this is not to speak against some of the very substantial accomplishments of the NY anarchists, unfortunately NYC has its fair share of serious problems, that both typify and epitomize some of the more persistent weak-



nesses of the North American Anarchist Movement. The most malignant of these problems appear to be: lack of organization, an over-representation of young white men at meetings and actions, in fighting amongst various anarchist sects, in experience in circumventing infiltration and arrest, and quite possibly most pernicious of all, the decidedly vanguardist, coercive, and somewhat macho heroics that seemed inherent to a number of the actions that I attended.

These shortcomings became most poignantly clear to me at the planning and implementation of the Shut Down Wall Street action on April 23rd, the day after Earth Day. The intent of the action, as it was explained to me, was to blockade the entrances to the NY stock exchange, and in so doing, present a more radical protest against the degradation and exploitation of the natural environment (as juxtaposed to the basically liberal reformist Earth Day). Wall Street, in the heart of NYC's financial district, was chosen as the site for the demonstration because it is the home of hundreds of multinational, earth-raping conglomerates, and was therefore the ideal spot to stage a radical protest.

There were serious problems from the start. Planning meetings were inefficiently organized and failed to prepare people for the nature of the upcoming action. The goals, strategy, and 'raison d'être' of the actions were not properly explained to newcomers; this caused communication problems at the planning meetings and led to extreme confusion, unnecessary arrests, and other problems at the action itself. Also, the differences in people's experience with participating in Direct Action were not all adequately dealt with. As I later discovered, many of the participants had never been to any kind of

demonstration before, much less one where they were to be blockading streets, confronting some 2,000 cops in riot gear, and attempting to shut down the New York stockexchange! The organizers' oversight in confronting these differences by neglecting to practice such important techniques as 'unarresting' was not only inconsiderate, but left many people at the action open prey to infiltrators and undercover cops.

The action, therefore, was far from a success. The tactical teams were dispersed quickly, due to the work of undercover cops, and many action participants seemed unsure of exactly what they were supposed to be doing without the presence of their group 'leaders'. Scores of people were arrested and some brutally beaten by the cops.. I saw a number of people bleeding from head wounds, and others being pulled away on stretchers. While some streets were successfully blockaded - at least temporarily - the action soon disintegrated into a game of chase between the cops and the activists. By the time that people began coming to work - the strategy at this point was to, through human chains, physically block the traders from entering the Stock Exchange - our numbers had been sufficiently dwindled and morale sufficiently broken, and the intent and spirit of the action seemed lost. What then ensued was mutual verbal attacks between the activists attempting to block the exchange and the suit-and-ties attempting to go to work. Anger on both 'sides' was high, frustration cascaded, and insults and even a few punches flew.

It was at this point that I left. Never at all convinced that the action was either the most ethical or the most effective way of protesting environmental degradation, I was even more convinced of this after seeing ostensible 'comrades' spitting at, insulting, and harassing the suit-and-ties. (Do we want to attack the system, or those who are its pawns?) These tactics not only fail to educate people, but they are violent, coercive, and fail to treat other human beings - even if they be stockbrokers - with a modicum of respect. And in my book, violence, coercion, and disrespect is the work of governments, not of anarchists.

There is no question that environmental and human exploitation has far surpassed the point for us to feel sufficient grounds for revolutionary action. However, we are never going to create a society free of coercion and exploitation by setting ourselves up as a violent, coercive vanguard. Through our actions and propaganda we must offer to society a truly radical alternative: one that offers individuals a vision of equality and mutual respect, free from authority or coercion. Unfortunately, from much of what I saw in NYC and at the Shut Down Wall Street demo, many of our comrades have yet to grasp this crucial fact. We have a long way to go yet.

Eliza Blackweb, Sept. 1990, Amsterdam.

No Longer Silent!
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KAS

The Confederation of Anarcho-Syndicalists (KAS) in the USSR is an independent political organization of non-party type. It was founded on May 1, 1989 in Moscow by 12 anarchistic groups from different parts of the USSR (mainly Central Russia, Ukraine, Siberia). Now the KAS consists of more than 35 organizations, the number of anarchistic groups increases maintainly. Today KAS is the heir of the Russian Confederation of Anarcho-Syndicalists which existed in our country in 1918-1926 and was repressed by the NKVD (now the KGB). We fight for a libertarian society (stateless socialism) based on collective ownership over the products of labour, self-management, federalism, demilitarization and without political parties.

We stand for:

- non-party Soviets where deputies will vote according to the decisions of their voters (imperative mandate), but not according to party decisions;
- direct legislation, making all important decisions through referendums;
- workers overtake the means of production and the products of their labour;
- establishing of independent trade-unions and popular movements, which are not controlled by state or party bureaucracy;
- liquidation of ministries and establishing of voluntary associated enterprises in regions and in different branches of industry;
- federative society where every collective, city, region, etc, will run its own affairs without state or party interference. Where the competence of higher-level bodies will be defined by lower-level bodies;
- real guarantees of individual and collective freedoms and rights, which can't be violated by any bodies of state power;
- abolition of any state property on human life;
- abolition of death penalty, passport regime, all the forms of compulsory labour, etc.;
- equalisation of rights of all organisations.

We don't fight for political power, but we try to reach our aims by propagating our views, by establishing and supporting independent popular movements, by participation of KAS members in mass activities. KAS had no central bodies and bureaucratic apparatus, we reject the principle of centralisation. The only central body is the KAS congress. Local groups are fully autonomous and act according to KAS programme and local needs. The minority can't be violated to execute majority's decisions, but the minority shouldn't oppose the majority to execute its decisions.

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ANARCHIST MEETING



From July 27 to 29, 1990 in West-Berlin at the A-Laden, an anarchist meeting place and info-shop, there was a meeting about how to improve communication and information exchange within the international anarchist movement. This Berlin meeting was one of the outcomes of the East European Anarchist Conference held in Trieste, Italy (April 90)- It was an initiative of two people, from West Germany and the United States, and was not a project of any particular anarchist group in Berlin or elsewhere. In attendance were people of nineteen groups from nine countries (European and the USA).

The idea for the meeting was that 'a group of around thirty, all people now engaged in organizing communication, a small working group, meet for three days to discuss and consider ways to improve the flow of anarchist information...In a sense, this Berlin meeting is about networking amongst networks. While it is inevitable that things like computer/modem or fax links are necessary, the intention is not to solely focus on this, but to think about communication in a broader way and try to help develop an exchange that operates on many levels.'

Some of the proposed objectives for the meeting were the following: To begin to connect anarchists in Europe and North America who want to focus on improving communication on an international level; to compile contact addresses of groups and individuals currently using the available advanced communication technologies; to establish an intermediate means of exchange such as an correspondence circle or small newsletter; to initiate within the anarchist press ongoing discussions about the need to improve communication; to discuss putting the issue on the agenda of future international gatherings and meetings; to consider as a longterm project the publication of an Anarchist Communication Handbook, something more comprehensive than a list of addresses; to try to figure out how to work together with other international initiatives.

What happened? Computers and computer networks were definitely a large part of the meeting. There was a range of knowledge of computers from a teacher of informatics, programmers, a BBS sysop (Bulletin Board System. System Operator) to people using computers for writing texts or layout of papers to people who have never used a computer at all. Computers were however not seen as 'the answer' and quite a bit of scepticism was expressed even from those working in the field. Some people came with the

specific intention of exploring all the practical detailed considerations necessary for creating some sort of anarchist computer network. While others raised many other questions concerning the implications of this technology. How much does it cost? will the people with knowledge and expertise be in a position of power? How to make a computer network non-authoritarian?

Concerning networks specifically, it was pointed out several times by different people that in order for a 'network' to function well, the local groups must be in a strong position. It was said that the communication problems within local groups and between local groups and the surrounding neighborhood or city (ghettiozation) were fundamental and perhaps solving them should be a priority over establishing 'international' communication. Also any kind of larger network or network of networks must be built upon what exists now and not try to be the result of some ideal imagination. The sense amongst people was that it not develop too quickly, that it be step by step, an organic and gradual process. Friday was devoted to learning a little about what exists now. Each person or group gave lengthy introductions and told what they were involved with, what media technologies they had available and how they were being used. This continued more deeply into part of the next day and gave people a better feeling for what the others were doing. In fact, this was very important to many of the participants.

Other points of discussion during the three days included: Should we be thinking about an exclusive anarchist communication/information exchange network or be open to others within the 'non-parliamentarian left spectrum'?; What kind of information and what about security considerations? (There was also the fear, if the network was open to all, that it could be sabotaged by neonazi's or secret service for example, like it happened to Chaos Computer Club in Hamburg several times). There is indeed the danger that viruses could be set in our computers to destroy data and even the hardware (possibly the hard discs). How to protect against that? Also the data could be read from far away if transmitted.) If a computer network is public should there be databases or addresses?; How could the organization of a computer network be structured in an anarchist way?; From where is it possible to get equipment cheaply?

One thing that nerved some people was the point of view that first it is very important to have a long political discussion and agree upon the

purpose of any sort of anarchist computer or communication network and than discuss the practical aspects of doing this, while the other thought was that first we need to have a good way to communicate with each other so that we can have a political discussion or any other ongoing exchange. Another debate was whether or not to use existing networks such as GreenNet or create a completely independent anarchist network.

At one point the International Blacklist, a global directory, produced in San Francisco, of anarchist and antiauthoritarian groups was critiqued. While people thought it to be a good work, they also spoke about its inaccuracy, outdated addresses, or even the validity of including some of the groups. Corrections were later made in some of the country sections. The proposal was made that one person for each country be in the future responsible for collecting addresses within that country, so that this work would not have to be done only in San Francisco and it would become more accurate, up to date, and therefore more useful. We didn't talk much about other media like video, film, theater or music. But for a little while someone explained what was possible with connecting computers to short wave radio and transmitting data in this way and not telephone.

The meeting was successful in that some of the objectives were attained. It was a starting point. People who want to focus on communication within the anarchist movement met each other. People did make contacts. A funny example is that before this meeting anarchists in Brussel and in Gent, both in Belgium, had no idea of the others existence. It was talked about meeting again during the IFA congress in November and a small group of computer 'experts' were willing to get together in Amsterdam in October. (NOTE: from a telephone call with someone of the APS (Alternative Press-Service) in Amsterdam, we learned that they have cancelled this computer meeting.)

A handful of people said that they would be willing to work on an Anarchist Communication Handbook. However, what was not accomplished was setting up a way to continue being in contact with each other after this meeting. No decision about a correspondence circle or small newsletter.

Of course there was not enough time to talk about everything that had been proposed as topics of discussion. It was asked that the first three: 'Social and Psychological Aspects of Communication' (seeing the problem as not just a technical one and also a local one), 'Critique of Mass Media and Anarchist Media', and 'Purpose of an Anarchist Communication Network', be subjects or themes for people to think about more carefully and write about when they return home and send what they have written back to Berlin so that it can be put together with other writings, photocopied, and sent back out. 'Economics' was slightly considered and only in terms of where and how it is possible to obtain or use equipment less expensively, not in terms of how to raise funds.

Apart from the meeting, there have been two interesting letters which are worth mentioning. One is from Black Chip in Wales and the other from Comunidad del Sur in Uruguay. The editor

of Black Chip has written and said that he 'would be happy to publish a special issue of Black Chip dedicated to anarchist communication and computers. All I need is the articles...' and that 'Black Chaip can indeed become a forum for theoretical discussion and practical ideas about and for anarchist computer networks. Indeed that was one of the original aims.' However, he said also that at the moment the publication rate is about once a year and that this is due primarily to not having enough material to put in it. So it would not be much use as a newsletter or means of regular exchange, unless it comes out more frequently, which means more people writing for it. He encourages articles to be sent camera ready or on PC disks (3.5/5.25).

Someone from Comunidad wrote and said that with others from Brasil and Chile they are working to create a network for Latin America. 'There is an intention to connect the distinct groups in Uruguay, and between Uruguay and Argentina some meetings have been realized. There are visits and contacts with Chile, Brasil, Columbia, and Venezuela. An initiative of Chilean companeros has started us thinking about making a network of communication by computer for the southern cone.'

Now the important question is, what happens next? What would be ideal is for a small collective to keep the discussions, started in Berlin, alive en ongoing by taking on the task of collection, reproduction, and distribution of correspondence, texts and other related materials. The reality is that there have been two people who made this meeting happen and who, to some extent, until others emerge, have the responsibility to try to keep it going. These two could be the beginnings of such a small group. But one is returning to the States. In Berlin the other half of this very small collective of two people hopes to purchase a modem within the coming weeks and someone here in from Libertad, a small anarchist publisher, already has one. So it is possible for them to continue something through electronic mail. But how can it develop into something more than only two people working together? Well here are a few suggestions:

- If we only have your postal address and not telephone for fax or computer (if you have this), then send this information. In addition notes about computer compatibility and which networks or BBS you may already have access to. Eventually everyone connected with this project will have this data, then anyone in the 'network' can contact anyone else, thus reducing dependency on the 'organizers' as a central collection and distribution point.
- It is very probable that you know others who are quite capable in the field of computers or communication and who would be very interested to be in an anarchist network. Perhaps you can send them a photocopy of this report and send us their addresses and telephone numbers.
- At the meeting some people had strong criticisms about computers and other aspects. It could be useful to write these thoughts and in addition how to imagine international communication could working better. Could be an article for Black Chip or Alive.

Anarchism in Hungary

In Hungary's political life anarchism has not been present for about 70 years. There were though some anarchist philosophers and activists back in the turn of the century, but this idea could never grow up to be a real movement in Hungary. One of the main thinkers of that time was Jenő Henrik Schmidt. Mostly he wrote his philosophical works in German, but also he published a periodical in Hungarian, under the title, *Without State* in the 1910's. His concept was influenced by Tolstói's philosophy. Another name to be mentioned is Ervin Batthany. He was a landowner and on his estate he founded an experimental settlement, where he tried to involve people in a communal way of production, with no hierarchy in the work organization. There are some historians who interpret some features of the 1919 commune in Budapest to be anarchistic. Actually, the role of anarchist activists within the communist movement has not been clearly discovered yet.

From the 1920's on there were hardly any anarchist activities or organized groups. (Of course we have to remember the self-organized workers councils in 1956 during the revolution, but they never called themselves anarchist.) After World War 2, in the frozen political atmosphere none of the independent initials of altering political views was tolerated. As a result of the totalitarian control those social movements could not develop which were present in the western countries from the 1960's on, like for example anti-nuclear power movements, feminist or ecological ones.

The end of the 1980's brought some changes, and by the year 1988, by the weakening of the central power of the Party, the moment arrived to form an anarchist group. The founding members of the group called *Autonomia* were basically university students. For a short period they had their weekly meetings in private apartments. In the winter 1988 they decided to make the foundation of the group public and published leaflets to inform others and also invite people to join. From that time on, all through *Autonomia's* short history of two years existence, they had open meetings every week in a student club in the centre of Budapest. The meetings became frequented by a large group of supporters, mainly young people. That was the time, when topics like anarchism and feminism, anarchist ideas on education, the problem of using violence, and also syndicalism, workers and anarchism were discussed in a self-organized group for the first time in Hungary.

Among *Autonomia's* activities there were demonstrations and street-theatre-like actions. (In the years 1989 and 1990 they demonstrated among other things in these issues: anti-nuclear power and weapons, support action for the struggle of the Innu people -natives in North Canada- to prevent a construction of a military base near their villages, in August 1989 there was a demo against the Berlin wall and against all

state borders in general. There was also a public burning of identity cards and army papers.) *Autonomia* published only one issue of a magazine under the same name, in 1989, and also some newsletters (*Anarcho-Info*) about their activities.

The group drew the attention of several anarchist organizations from Europe and other parts of the world, e.g. Canada, USA, Japan, Australia and started to be integrated into these international connections. The group participated in different meetings, like the East-West Anarchist congress in Trieste, April 1990. That was the first time when East-European anarchists contributed to an international meeting after 1945. By the summer of 1990 *Autonomia* grew quite large and it turned out that it had too generally defined issues. Besides, there were some oppositional views about the way the group is to be organized, and also some disagreements on certain political questions, like feminism, for example. So a decision was made to split and form smaller affinity groups, according to the altering fields of interest. So recently there are three groups in Budapest working on anarchist issues.

One of them is called *A NAP*. Their special field is to support alternative culture, punk groups, writers or other artists. They also try to start a squat movement in Budapest by organizing groups of homeless people. Squatting has not been a practice so far in Hungary. There were a few initials but the squatters could never keep the places for a long time.

The second group is called *GEO*, and they are orientated towards ecological problems. In the long run they intend to found a settlement in the western part of Hungary, near the Austrian and Yugoslavian border. In this anarchist community people would have common property and would grow their food themselves. So far some lands have already been bought and the planning has started.

The third group has just been formed and most probably will have the name, *Budapest Anarchista Csoport*. In a way they carry on the things *Autonomia* started, having a very wide range of issues to work on. They also want to construct a very conscious organizational form, that is to have a permanent self-reflection, in which way they want to avoid the development of latent dominance or hierarchy within the group. There are also some activists who used to belong to *Autonomia* but are not members of any of these groups. They still support the movement in various ways. Some of them want to found an archive collecting material they receive from abroad and things published by Hungarian groups. Some of the women once members of the anarchist group are now active in a very new organization called *Feminista Halozat* (Feminist Network).

As far as the recent political atmosphere is

- By either using parts of this article or, if you were in Berlin, your own writings, a short article for a regional or national anarchist publication would be good to begin spreading these ideas outside of this small circle.
- In Berlin we talked about meeting again during the November IFA congress in Valencia, Spain. However, it is not likely that the two of us will be able to attend. Are there any volunteers to organize this second meeting?
- An idea for Video is that for each country a video be made using short sections from a variety of videos. The point of this would be to give people in other countries a general image or overview by 'visual communication'. Some may have the equipment for that. An easy way to give more feeling to what happens without many words.
- There is a need to standardize hardware and software in order for compatibility and easier communication. Propose the IBM standard for hardware and propose PC formatted 3.5 discs (720KB, 40 tracks), because they are better for mailing because not so breakable and have twice as much memory as 5.25. But we don't know what would be the best standard for the text processor, database, or communication (modem) software. Any suggestions?
- There has been the proposal that people experiment with making local networks and begin to become familiar with the process of using computers connected to telephones.
- It is probable that in the coming months it will be able to continue working together by electronic mail. Tell us if you would like to participate in an ongoing discussion using one of the available nets, such as for example GreenNet.
- It would be better (more decentralized), if there were a number of 'regional coordina-

tors' (for lack of better words), people who are doing sort of what we are doing now but on a regional basis.

- We suggest that the threat of war in the Gulf be considered an 'event' for which to focus our attention, to experiment with our communication structures by beginning to send analysis and news of any active resistance.
- For those of you who were not at the Berlin meeting or have never written to us we need to know how you want to be involved with this project and what interests you.
- In future correspondence we ask you to send typed letters for photocopying and to write in English. It would be good if copies of articles for Black Chip also be sent us. We will assume that we can circulate amongst others in the 'network' what you send us unless you make it clear not to. Of course, contributions and money to help cover costs of photocopying and postage is urgently necessary and most welcome.
- We thank someone from Monetary Freedom Network for actualizing and putting into right order the address list of the Berlin meeting, which is an important tool of communication and a concrete outcome of the meeting here. He made a useful database, discussing with us what will be needed to make it fit for our purposes. Of course this database is also available on disc. There will be a program module on the disc that makes the database usable and expandable for each who has an IBM/DOS computer. The 3.5 disc is available from Ralf for 10 DM including mailing. After receiving it, be careful and check or let it be checked for viruses (virus scanner program). The database is on it also on ASCII file to print out on any printer.
- One place from which to get equipment inexpensively is the MicroWarehouse, 1690 Oak Street, PO Box 1590, Lakewood NJ 08701-1590 USA. Write for a free catalog. For example there is a Hayes compatible modem card with 2400 baud which costs \$99 or another example is a Hayes compatible modem/fax card with 9600 baud for \$600.
- Something else is that there is a machine which will put new ink onto printer ribbons. In the long run it saves money and wastes less plastic. Write to Computer Friends, 14250 NW Science Park Drive, Portland, Oregon 97229 USA.

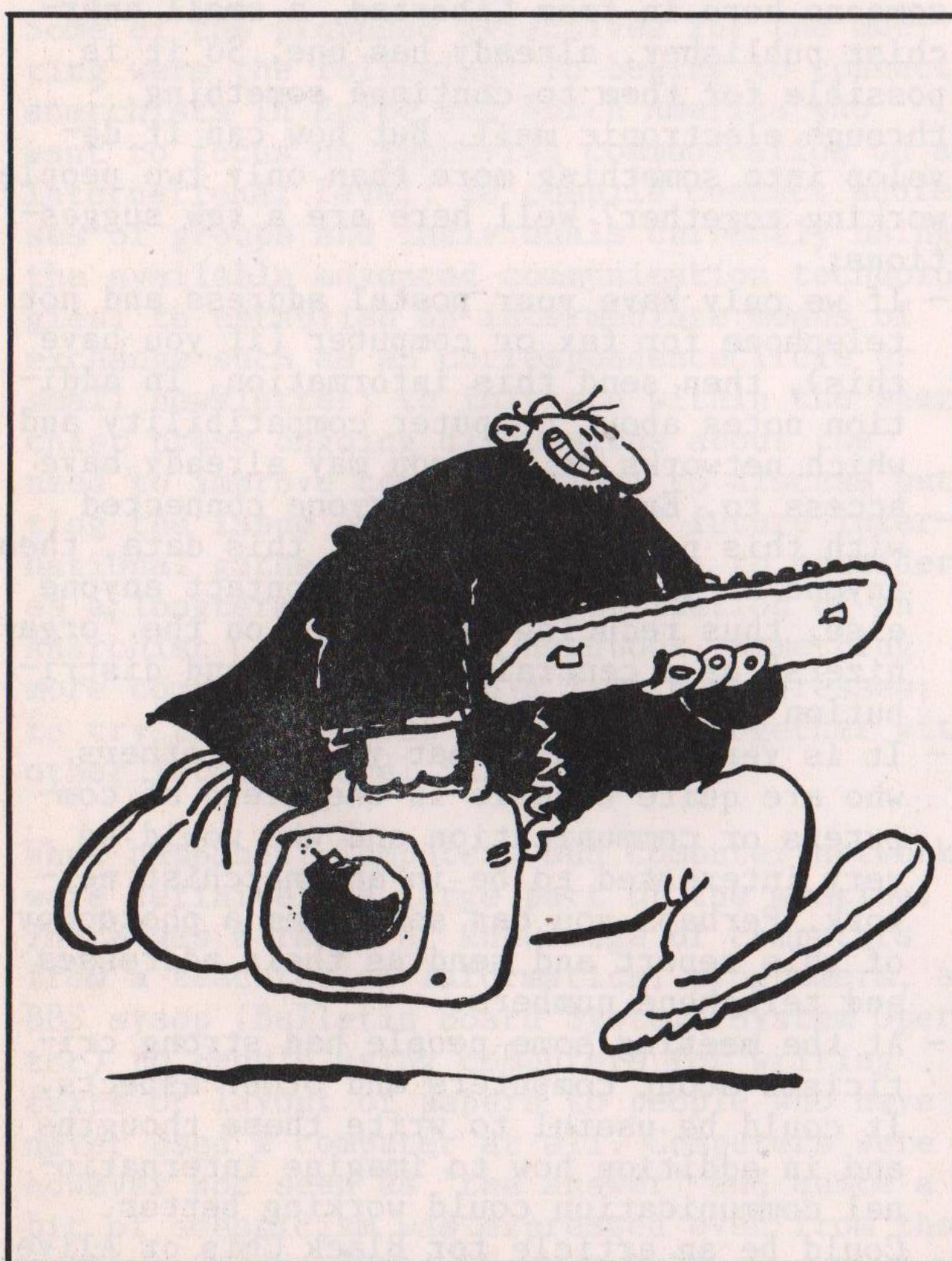
Stefan Wray.

If you would like to contact Stefan or Ralf you can address your letters to:

Stefan and Ralf
c/o Alive
J.v.Lennepkade 122
1053 MT Amsterdam
NL

The address of Black Chip is:

Black Chip
C.G.H. Services
Cwm Gwen Hall
Pencader, Dyfed
Cymru SA39 9HA
UK



concerned in which these groups appeared, one can not be very optimistic about it. The changes now, following a short liberalizing period are quite controversial. There is a very strong pressure now from a nationalistic, christian line in everyday political life. One can also doubt about the tolerancy of the new-coming leadership. The government's economy policy is to turn Hungary into a free market economy country and it is ready to take everything without criticism from the capitalist states. Also there are an increasing number of foreign investments. The problem with them is that as the Hungarian workers still do not have their strong independent trade unions and organizations, they are not able to defend their interests in this new sphere of competition. Recently Hungary has to face the increasing unemployment as well. There is another large social group, women, which do not necessarily benefit from the new system. They are now challenged by all means of the media to give up their jobs, go back home and fulfill the 'real women's role' by running the household and educating children. Also there is a group in the parliament (mainly Christian Democrats) which wants to pass a law to make abortion illegal. The strengthening nationalistic trend threatens some minority groups, both religious or ethnic ones. Nowadays it is not very easy to express any criticism against all these things without being called the agents of the previous system. One can say that there is not a leftist opposition now though some of the po-

liticians of the "Communist" regime are still present and are active but strangely enough they are loyal to the system. There are only a few organizations that the anarchists could have similar concerns with. These are: the Greens, some independent environmental groups, feminists, and also some radical workers councils.

Contacts in Hungary:

GEO
Budapest 1399
Pf. 701/546

A NAP
Budapest 1139
Hajdú u.17. 4/29

BACS (Budapest Anarchista Csoport)
Budapest 1399
Pf. 701/800

Feminista Hálózat
Budapest 1056
Szerb u.8.

Mester Bela
Nyiregyháza 4400
Sóstói út 31/b

Németh Tibor
Eger 3300
Rózsás dűlő út 8.

Hunt saboteurs international

Hunt Saboteurs International is a newly formed group which is attempting to encourage cross border activity amongst anti-hunting groups with the prospect of eventually setting up a network/federation of independent bodies who are involved in this issue. Such a network would exchange information on tactics, events, boycotts etc, the HSI would act as a channel for this, printing a newsheet where groups can express their views.

The HSI believes that the time for paternalistic, bureaucratic animal organizations is over and that the initiative should come purely from within the grassroots activist circle, and total independence given to their actions, but at the same time a broad movement is formed so giving us more clout on the international circuit. As we have seen many occasions have arisen where diplomacy has proved fruitless, and signed contracts have meant nothing. The Whaling Commission is a case in point, where the main whaling nations have now threatened to continue their vile practice. The HSI sees that direct actions can now provide the only real alternative to making these countries take notice and to keep their promises. Such action can be targeted at where we know it really hurts, at their pockets and their reputation within the world community.

If the anti-hunting groups can now unify, and



apart from concentrating a 100% of their time on their own national hunting problem (which is still important) they occasionally come together either in cross-border actions, (i.e. such as in France or Italy where birdnetting is performed so stopping the migration and drastically lowering numbers of birds to the rest of Europe) or to focus on issues independently but at a co-ordinated time in way of blockades, boycotts, occupations, etc. The Whaling issue may fall into this latter category where embassies, economic ventures, vessels of those nations involved could be an area of concentration.

Unlike Greenpeace or other such organizations, we don't really give a damn what initiatives are undertaken as long as they don't incur the loss of human life. The only thing it does ask, is when the HSI decides to flex its claws against the hunting fraternity, it has solidarity from its supporters and friends, so giving weight and strength to its words and respect from the general public.

Continued on page 12

EKOTOPIA

This year the Ekotopia-camp took place in Bugacpusztahaza in Hungary during the first three weeks of August. This ecological Utopia is a yearly event of the European Youth Forest Action, a network of environmental groups and individuals all over Europe. Except for Albania, all European nationalities were present. There were also people from Canada, the USA, Chili, Tasmania, Japan and India. The goal of Ekotopia is the creation of an ecological camp with an own way of living as an alternative for the world outside. However reality showed that a lot can be improved.

The camp itself was situated on a puszta: hot, dry and sandy, in the middle of nowhere. Five miles away you could find Bugac, the most nearby village. On the terrain a Hungarian environmental group was building a centre, so there buildings could be used for camp provisions as a bar, office and hospital. Further on there was a baking group who built their own oven, thus taking care for the bread supply. Kitchen group 'Rampenplan' prepared the meals and did the cooking (biological and vegetarian) with home-made equipment. Both groups come from the Netherlands, where they are doing these things on a permanent base. There was also a building group who made toilets, showers and waterworks, beside a technical group. They arranged electricity and let the water pumps work. During the camp other groups were busy with making a radioprogram and a newspaper called the Daily Ecotopian.

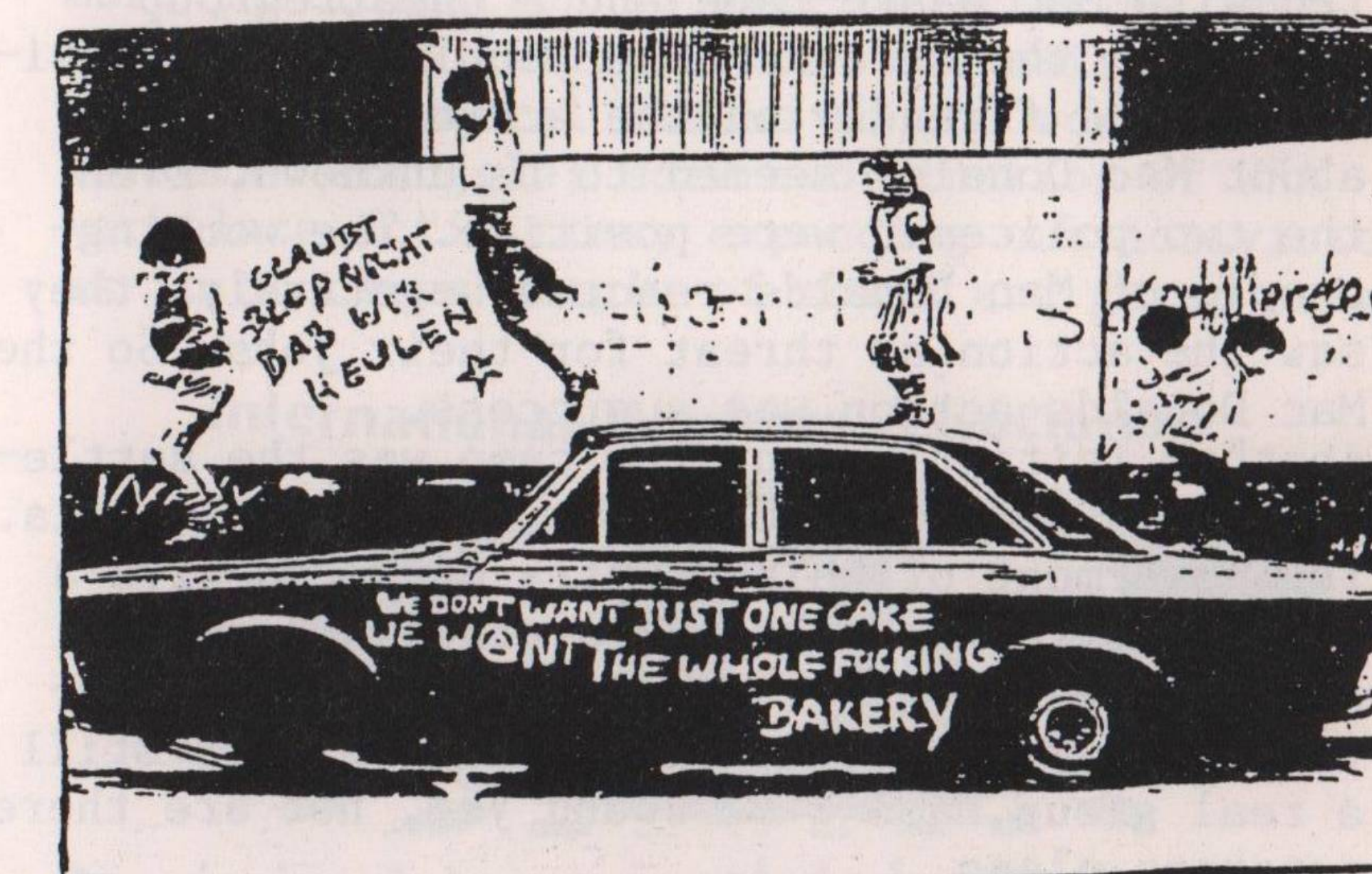
The daily program of the camp contained many workshops on different subjects. Typical environmental topics as soil pollution and car traffic beside something like 'spiritual ecology' were dealt with. At the same time groups were occupied with music, painting and juggling. There was also the opportunity to go on excursion to one of the National Parks of Hungary for a few days. Moreover many help was needed in the bakery and the kitchen. Two times a day a circle took place. There you could ask questions and discuss problems, announcements were made and so on. Controversial measures as the intake of passports to check if you payed enough, lead to one of the hottest discussions. Also hectic was the discussion on nudism. Many participants did not like that at all. They even accused the ones who didn't have any problem with that, of a lack of tolerance! In the evening there were more cultural activities. Several Hungarian bands, pop and classical, an operasinger and others made their appearance.

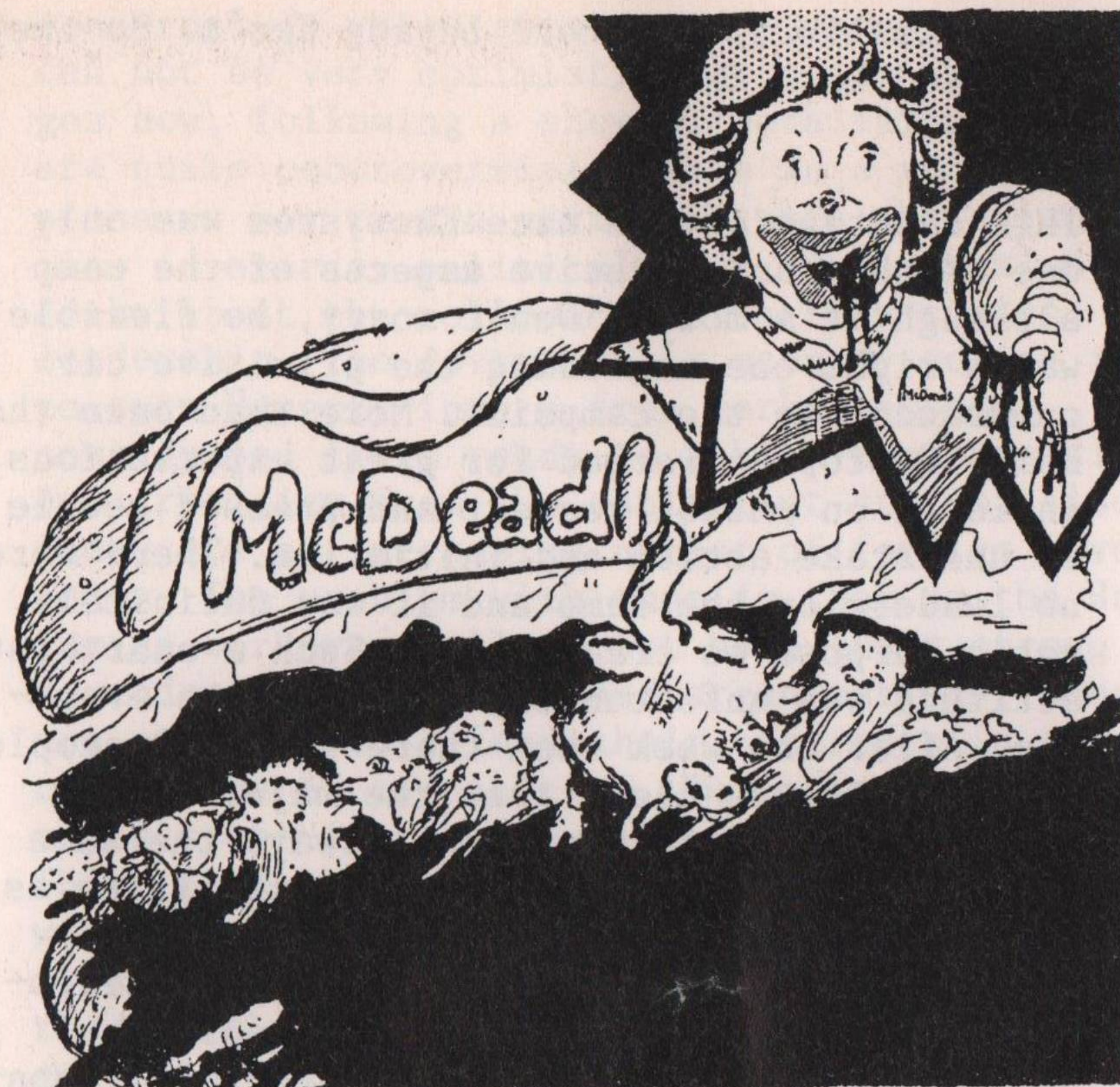
Ekotopia had its own moneysystem. When you arrived you had to exchange your own money into Eko's to ensure a honest division of costs between the west and the east-europeans. This system was unfortunately misused. The Eko's were nothing more than beads, so some people just bought them cheap in Budapest. Resulting in more Eko's come in than go out. Besides some west-europeans exchanged their money first in

Hungarian forints before buying Eko's. So they achieved more Eko's.

This sabotage of the nice Ekosystem was only one of the many negative aspects of the camp although its motto 'Don't worry, be flexible' was a right one regarding the primitive circumstances on the campside. More than once the Daily Ecotopian warned for great expectations, insisted on mutual respect and pressed people to undertake action and initiative. There were no leaders on the camp and it was definitely not a purpose to create them. Such an anarchist attitude was unfortunately not given to everyone. After one week when there were 500 people present, it was clear that the majority was hardly involved in anything. Always the same people were busy with the daily activities as the workshops and circles.

In fact the camp was runned by most west-europeans especially by Dutch and Germans, who worked very hard everyday in a tropical temperature (between 30 and 40 degrees Celsius). The attempts who more than once were made to solve the problem among active and passive persons, were not successful. Partly this was due to the problems of the east-europeans. In the first place there was a language problem. From a practical point of view the EYFA had chosen for English as the camp language. But hardly any east-European speaks another language than its own, and maybe Russian. The language-education in English is still badly developed although this situation is changing. There is a difference in experience. The west-europeans undertake more easily initiative, make choices and accept full responsibility than the east-europeans. A counter-movement and -culture in the East is hardly existing. There is also a difference in attitude and mentality. Many east-europeans are not used to a practice in which it is normal to arrange things. They give up in an early stage when they think it's not possible to get what is needed. Such an easy way of going led to many frictions. In the beginning there were no doctors and there was no research done on the groundwater which was served as drinking-water. Not only the Hungarian preparation group was to blame. Also the attitude of many participants made many angry. People were running to the foodtables, almost fighting for bread and did not have the decency to queue up to get a hot meal. Although the food supply in Hungary is limited, there was enough for everybody. The separation of garbage worked badly, everything was dumped in the same bags and on the campside it was now and then a real mess. On the





office they went mad as a result of the many stupid questions. The people in the Eko-bar were ordered and the doctors who volunteered afterwards were misused. They treated 200 people in ten days. They were there, they were for free, so...

Most people who went to the doctors were bitten by wasps. There were thousands of these little animals. And then there was the virus-disease dysentery, a result of the bad hygienics in the camp. Many people got it, had to stay in bed and felt sick as hell. Unfortunately the camp was unexpectedly visited by a lady of the hungarian healthservice and a journalist who wrote a very critical article full with lies in one of the biggest hungarian newspapers. He wrote that the drinking-water was polluted with chemicals and that already 12 people had to go to a hospital. So, the authorities started an inquiry resulting in a lawsuit in which the hungarian EYFA-organisation was condemned to pay a considerable fine. As a result of this mediacampaign many neighbours visited the camp to see that bunch of savages with their own eyes. Ekotopia is not really an actioncamp. Only one action took place in Budapest against Mac Donalds. On the 11th of August 50 people went by bus to one of the shops of Mac Donalds where they distributed stencils to the people who were shopping. There were also two towers with beautiful large paintings which were put in front of the store. The shop itself was decorated with Mac Waste-tape and a theatregroup played on the street. Most people reacted positively and friendly on the action. The facts about Mac Donalds seemed to be unknown. Even the two policemen were positive. The working-people of Mac Donalds reacted negatively, they saw the action as threat for their jobs. So the Mac Donalds-action was a success. Another initiative on the camp was the settlement of a permanent Ekotopia in Czechoslovakia. The government of this country wants to give a former military village near the border with Austria to the EYFA, so a real ecological alternative can be developed. Fact is that still a real group hasn't be found yet, nor are there concrete plans.

Complete different were the daily spiritual ecologyworkshops in which many people participated. Dada Vedaprajnanda was the central figure, always totally dressed in orange. He came from the USA and he plead for a neo-humanism in which all living things have value and a right to live. Meditation and yoga are means to broader one's views and give strength in the struggle for a better society. Also interesting was the story of a russian who was directly involved in the atomindustry when the Tsjernobyldisaster happened in 1986. At that time there was a lack of everything: evacuationplans, medical specialists, assistance, medicines. The KGB was involved in keeping information back, because the Tsjernobylnuke was also used for military research. Today lots of scientific research is done to control the effects of radioactive radiation. Estimations point out that there are 17 million people living in contagious areas. An effective evacuation is impossible because the great socio-economic problems in the USSR. Some european countries gave money, but that is not enough. So he ended his sad story with the remark that the effects of the radiation will continue to occur in those areas. The same goes for illnesses like cancer.

Next year Ekotopia will take place in Estonia, one of the three baltic states (still) within the USSR.

Arie Hazekamp.



Continued from page 10

So now we desperately need news from groups, so that the network can start to materialize. We would like to get our first nwesletter out by christmas, but naturally need data etc, to put in it. Apart from just relying upon dialogue by post, one of our organisers (actually the one whos writing this article) is now in europe travelling and working about. In his spare time he would hope to meet groups so establishing a better contact and so mutual trust. So if you like him to pop in let us know. Anyway we hope to hear from you all soon,

In Solidarity,

Davey G.

Hunt Saboteurs International
c/o Dave
62 Dunraven Park
Belfast, BTS 6B5
N-Ireland

Workers solidarity alliance

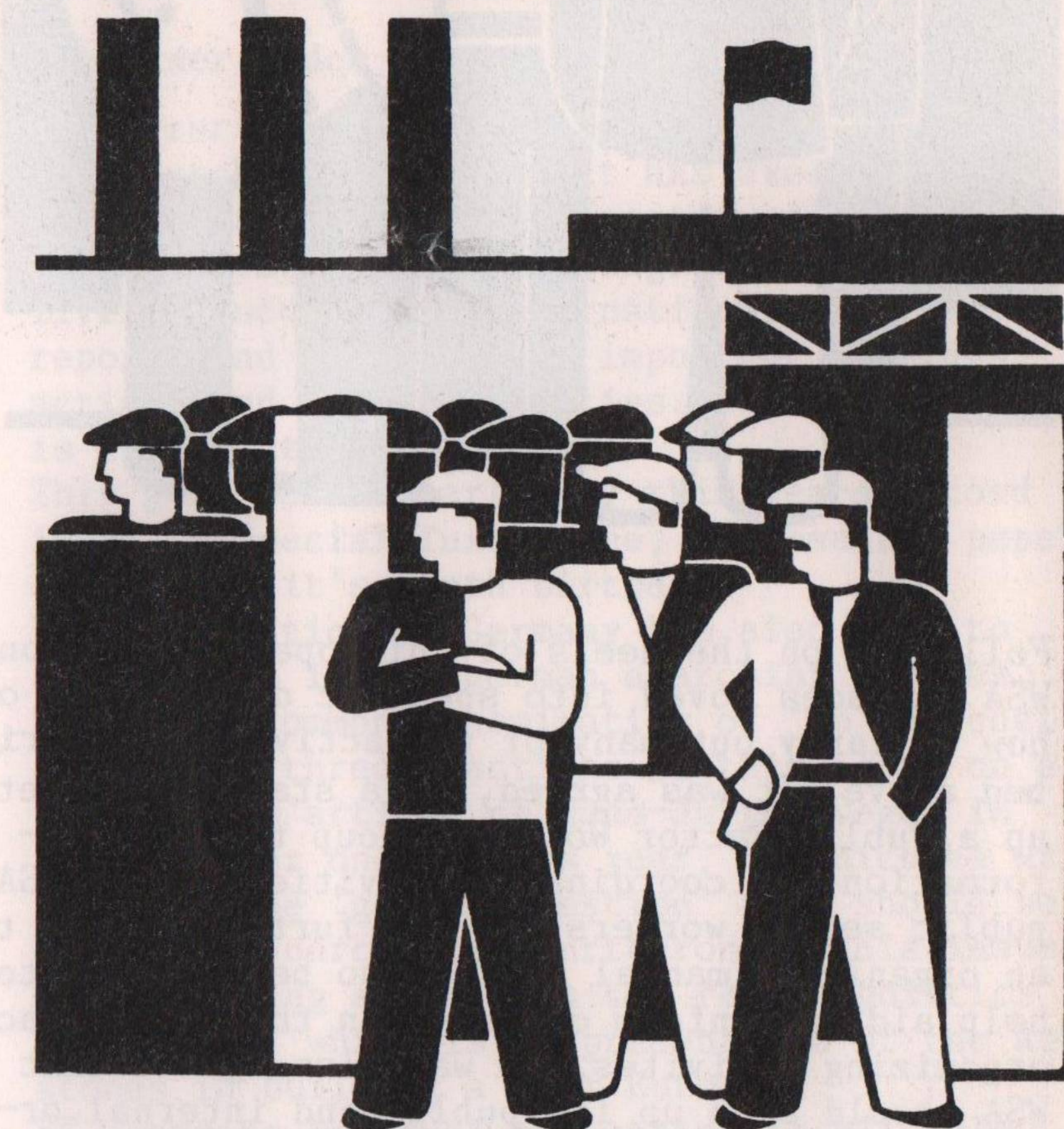
Workers solidarity alliance holds 7th national convention

Over the weekend of May 25-27, 1990 the Workers Solidarity Alliance, U.S. section of the anarcho-syndicalist International Workers Association, held its 7th National Convention in Knoxville, Tennessee. Represented at this convention were delegates from all regions of the Workers Solidarity Alliance-I.W.A. (WSA-IWA). The 7th national was also the largest since the formation of the WSA-IWA in November 1984. This convention also saw a good mix of women, men, young and old. Greetings to this convention were received by many Sections of the IWA. Greetings were received from the IWA Secretariat at who stated that the WSA's effort at promoting solidarity was 'second to none'. Greetings were also received from IWA Sections in Denmark, Norway, Italy, Argentina, France, Britain, Australia and Brazil. Greetings were also received from Bulgarian anarcho-syndicalist in exile and from a pro-IWA group in Switzerland.

Keeping with tradition, reports were submitted by the National Secretary, International Secretary and Treasurer. The National Secretary reported that the WSA-IWA has seen a growth in membership since our 1989 convention. The National Secretary stressed the need for greater growth and a more systematic development of workplace organization. Later in the convention it was agreed to form networks of WSA militants in similar workplace sectors. The WSA International Secretary reported on his activities during the past year which have included a trip to the Spanish National Confederation of Labor-IWA (CNT-AIT) VII National Congress, maintenance of contact with various IWA Sections and international anarchist groups. Following the Treasurer's report came reports from the National Committee. The National Committee is composed of representatives from the WSA's four geographical regions. Despite some selfcriticism concerning the functioning of the National Committee by some National Committee members, it was generally agreed that the current structure should be maintained.

Reports were then given by all local groups present. It was generally reported that each local group is active in such areas as the workplace, pro-abortion movement, strike support, anti-nuclear and anti-militarist activities, propaganda (leaflets, bulletins and 'Ideas & Action'), educationals, cooperative activities with other libertarian workers (including local IWW groups in San Fransisco, Baltimore and Boston). Further activities include Anarchist Black Cross prisoner support and continued international solidarity. Given the specific interest and activities in two specific areas, Latin America and Eastern Europe, the WSA established last year two Working Groups in these fields. The Latin American group reported on contacts with both IWA and non-IWA organizations and a trip made to Mexico. The East Euro-

pean group reported on the publication of its quarterly newsbulletin, 'East European News'. This group also reported on its contacts with anarchist and libertarian workers in Central and Eastern Europa as well. It was agreed to maintain the activities of these groups and to redouble their efforts.



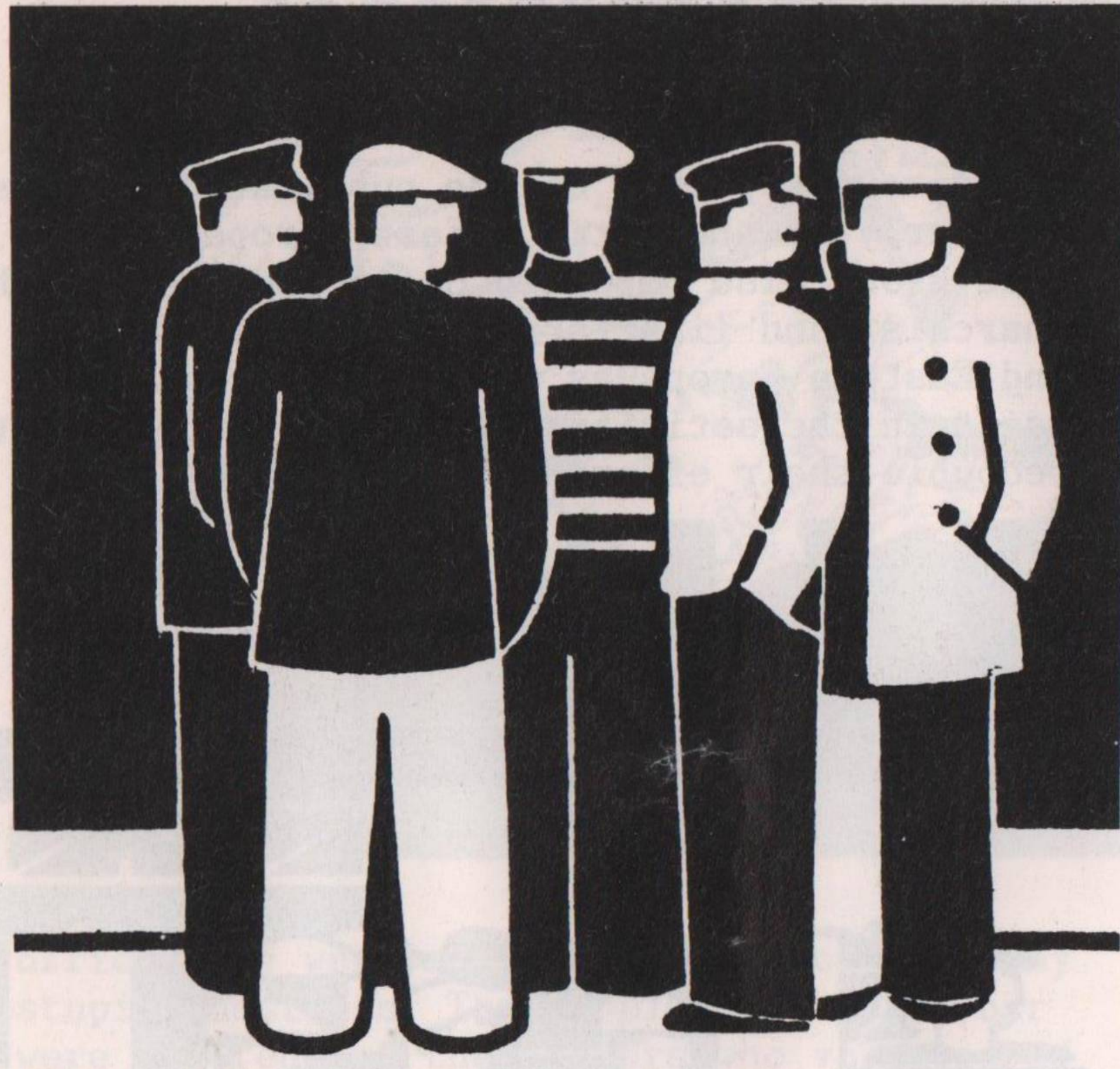
Given the fact that this was the first convention for many of the participants it was agreed to have a open discussion ('round robin') on what each member sees as the pluses and minuses of the WSA and what can be done to make the WSA a larger and more effective organization. It was generally agreed that the WSA needs to attract more women and to encourage the female members to take a more active role in the organizational life of the WSA. It was further stated that we need to make more community links to our activities, whitout separating such links from our overall activism. Further comments made concerned building an anti-bureaucratic unionist movement; educating people about the new society we would like to see and better educating ourselves as well; more participation in writing articles, etc. foor 'Ideas & Action'; more emphasis on linking environmental issues to the workplace/workers' struggle; more coordination of WSA workplace activities; expanding our activities as it concerns people of color and gays; criti-

International Workers Association



Asociacion Internacional de los Trabajadores

cism of being locked too much in the anarchist ghetto; using more effectively propaganda (both print and video); and further emphasis should be placed on our connections with the IWA.



Following on the heels of this open discussion WSA comrades moved into specific discussions on how to carry out many of the activities described above. It was agreed, as a starter, to set up a Public Sector Working Group to share information and coordinate activities of the WSA public sector workers. It was further agreed that an organizing manual would also be produced to help aid and inform comrades in their workplace organizing activities. It was also agreed that WSA should step up its public and internal organizing activities and there was agreement to produce more WSA literature, have a higher profile at public events, hold regional conferences (where practical) and to carry out concerted May Day events in 1991, to mention just a few items.

Probably one of the more interesting discussions, and certainly one of the highlights of the convention, was the discussion of 'Women, Anarcho-Syndicalism and the WSA'. This was a very positive and forward looking discussion, as well as being self-critical. In an effort to break out of the mold of being a basically male dominated organization, WSA women presented a five-point proposal which was adopted by the convention. The proposal includes the formation of a group that would promote women and anarcho-syndicalism, both within and outside of the WSA. It was further agreed that literature concerning women and the workplace would be produced. Further agreement was reached concerning the recruitment of more women into the WSA by the 1991 convention and that each group and region will be responsible for such recruitment. Another topic of significant discussion concerned the 'WSA and the Environment'. It was generally agreed that the environment and its current destruction is of great importance to workers. WSA members expressed this concern time and time again. Some were critical that the WSA has not paid enough attention to this important matter. In an effort to do so it was agreed to tie the environment into our workplace, educational and agitational activities. It was fur-

ther agreed to add an additional section to our statement of principles ('Where We Stand'). Included in this section will not only be a general analysis of why the environment is of great importance to workers, but also a call to 'engage in and encourage direct action to defend the environment'.

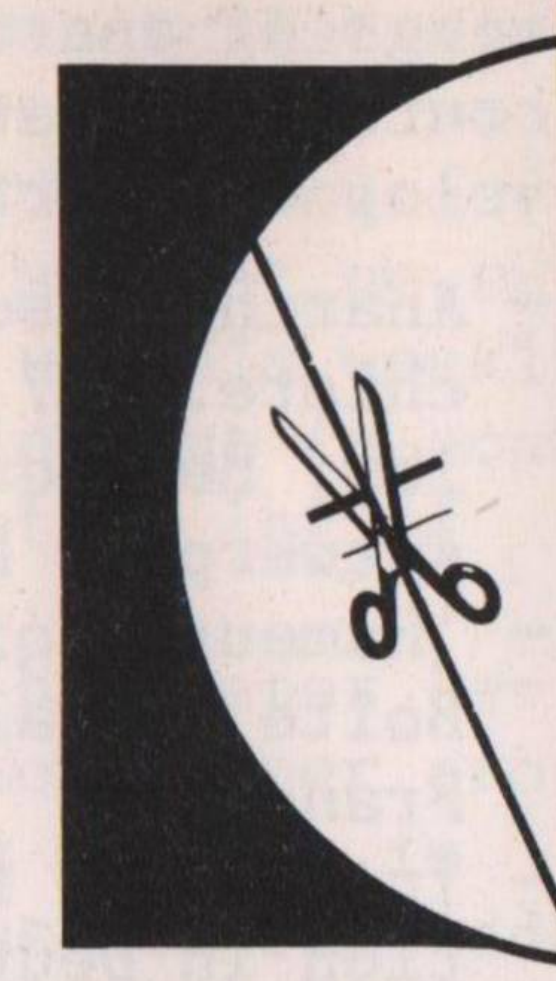
In other business the WSA 7th National Convention passed resolutions concerning its constitution, finances, WSA and the general anarchist movement (including the newspaper 'Love and Rage'), 'Ideas & Action', the 'Anarchist Labor Bulletin' and on relations with the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). In regards to relations with the IWW it was agreed that the WSA 'should go on record expressing our general sense of solidarity with the IWW as a revolutionary workers organization, and... our continued willingness to work with them on a local as well as national basis...' The convention reaffirmed a National Committee proposal concerning possible IWW affiliation to the International Workers Association. The proposal stated, and affirmed by the IWA Secretariat, that since the WSA is the U.S. affiliate of the IWA all negotiations concerning IWW affiliation to the IWA must be conducted between the US Section and the IWW. Lastly nominations for National Secretary, Treasurer, International Secretary and National Committee were placed. In the spirit of seeking greater participation of our female members, two women were nominated to the positions of National Secretary and National Committee representative for the Mid-West region. In closing it was agreed by all that this was the best convention to date. A high degree of comradeship was reinforced and any differences that occurred were worked out in the best traditions of comradeship.

The 8th National Convention will be held from May 24-26, 1991 in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Workers Solidarity Alliance
U.S. Section of the International
Workers Association
339 Lafayette St.
Room 202
New York, NY 10012
USA



SHORT NEWS



Antimilitarist demo in Budapest

The three recently formed anarchist groups in Budapest: GEO, A NAP and BACS called for a demonstration on the 29.09.90.

This day is usually 'celebrated' as the day of the military forces by the state. So, on this occasion the anarchists decided to have an action together to express their antimilitarist and anti-power views. Some 200-300 people joined the anarchists in a march from Budapest's main square, Vörösmarty tér, to the house of the Ministry of Defence. They were carrying banners and black flags. From the moment people started to gather the police was present. First they just tried to make obstacles by their cars to stop the march and also interrogated many of the participants asking for identity cards and trying to find out the names of the organizers.

On the arrival at the Ministry of Defence there were some speeches made. Someone from A NAP read out a declaration against the army, the state and military forces in general. Also he expressed his support for conscientious objectors and encouraged people to refuse joining the army and to burn their military identity cards. Another participant read out a pamphlet about the power and militarist institutions. Later on some of the demonstrators hoisted a mock flag on the flagpole of the Ministry, threw uniforms on the building and

there was a common burning of military identity cards. At this phase the police put up a front forming a human barricade, having their billysticks in their hands, and approached the demonstrators. They started to shout "Disperse in the name of the law" and as some people still remained, the police came closer and forced them to move from the place. The intervention of the police shows that the new political system in Hungary is not so tolerant and it is still a question to what extent it is more 'democratic' than the previous regime. Judit.

Schwarzer Faden

Schwarzer Faden is the quality paper of the german anarchist movement. It has everything a good paper should have: fanatic editors, capable contributors, good background information, lively discussions, international news, reviews reports and coverages on important meetings, actions and other activities. And the lay-out is excellent.

This goes particularly for this year's second issue, a special luxury one, because the paper celebrates its tenth birthday.

The unification of Germany has also led to discussions in the german anarchist circles. Under the common denominator of 'no national anarchism' three reactions in this issue on a provocative article of Hans-Jürgen Degen in issue number one of this year, in which he writes that the 'german question' also should be solved by anarchists. Further on in this issue an interesting article on the refugee politics in the BRD, which is at present one of the key-stones in building a Fort Europe.

SF contains too much to mention it all. Although almost any contribution is interesting, not all of it is easy to read. SF seems to be written for a well educated public.

For those among us who read german:
Schwarzer Faden
Postfach 1159
7043 Grafenau-1
BRD, Europe



Free Women ■

From 12 to 15 April Free women groups of different countries met in Bilbao. They stressed the specificity of the Free women movement, independent of any political, syndicalist, philosophic or religious organization.

They want to crush the sexist caricature of the feminist militancy and break the moral chains in which the whole bourgeois society wants to keep women. Their goals:

1. the elaboration of an libertarian society, this obliges each woman to know exactly her aspirations and motives.
2. the struggle against ignorance, narrow-mindedness and dogmas coming from all kind of believes.
3. sexual instruction and freedom.
4. anarchism in all its aspects, individualistic, syndicalist or communist.

Their critical propaganda refers to the position of women as well of men, it attacks the foundations of authority and of exploitation of which men and women are victims.

They decided to found a bulletin published in 4 languages (spanish, french, english and esperanto) to spread the plans of the different groups. Minimal subscriptionfee is 5 FF a month. More information can be obtained at:

Femmes Libres
61, rue Pauly
33130 Bègles
France, Europe

Contributions can be transferred at postal cheque account no. 073822 H022/75 Bordeaux (France). International meetings will be held regularly.



International anarchist cooperation. ■

The German I-AFD, the Belgium ACCA and the French 'Humeurs Noires' publish together a monthly info-bulletin A-Infos, filled with short news. Meetings take place regularly. Other groups, also from other countries are welcome to join in and participate. The aim is to exchange information, news, views and to coordinate further cooperation. The meetings

are not ment to be big conventions, but gatherings of anarchists, who are interested in concrete international cooperation and want to develop a libertarian network in northwest Europe.

- Anarchistische Coordinatie Coordination Anarchiste. 137 Chaussée de Forest, 1060 Bruxelles, Belgique. Or: 14c Schermesstraat, 2000 Antwerpen, België.
- 'Humeurs Noires' - Fédération Anarchiste. Boîte Postale 79, 59370 Mons-en-Baroeul, France.
- Initiative für eine Anarchistische Föderation in Deutschland. c/o Der Laden, 157 Dreikönigenstrasse, 4150 Krefeld 1, BRD.

Perspektief ■

Perspektief is the threemonthly of the Libertarian Studygroup from Gent, Belgium. The group was formed in 1985 on the idea that anarchist ideals need rational research instead of meaningless slogans. In Perspektief they try to develop anarchist ideas. In issue 19 (April - June 1990) three main articles are published. The first is a anti-parlementary critic on the german Green party, based on the ideas of the Radical Left, a cooperation formed in 1989 among several left groups. They accuse the Rea-lo-Greens to have parlementarised the green movement. Furtheron the first in a series articles on early flemish anarchists. Jan Pel-ening (1817-1877) is the first central figure. The best article however is the one on technology and nature, according to the ideas of Bookchin. It's written by Roger Jacobs who has the gift to summarize clear and sound. Perspektief is one of the better anarchist papers in the language-area although it is mainly written for an academic public. The group is also involved in other anarchist activities. Perspektief
Tussen Bermen 16
9000 Gent
Belgium, Europe

Italian police assaults anarchists. ■

A few months before the anarchists of Carrara had received notice to leave their building. The municipal authorities had done their very best to find legal argumensts. The anarchists didn't move and entrenched in their centre. The 23th of March, at dawn, police forced the main door and occupied the building. At that moment no one was there. The news of the assault was rapidly spread throughout Italy. The following sunday 500 anarchists assembled in Carrara. They tried to force the new door, but didn't manage to enter the centre. Police appeared and attacked. The fighting went on the whole morning. Many inhabitants of Carrara proved their solidarity with the anarchists.

At the beginning of the afternoon the clashes stopped. The mayor of Carrara had negotiated the guarantee that no one would be detained. But then the hunt for anarchists started in whole Italy. Police used a video and many photos, made during the fights in Carrara. Fifty anarchist were identified, looked for and arrested. They were accused of disturbing the public order and of aggression to the police.

Urgent soviet anarchist press appeal ■

This northern summer the soviet anarchist monthly 'Obschina' is preparing to reach out to a substantially larger public by increasing its print-run and also going on sale at newspaper kiosks. A new independent union's weekly paper 'Golos Truda' will be coming out in conjunction with 'Obschina'. For both a lot of paper is required.

This is a big problem. Not only has paper become scarce and expensive, but some paper producers and traders are demanding payment in foreign currency. Soviet citizens are forbidden from having foreign currency and can only get small amounts on the expensive black market. It would be a great shame if the blossoming anarchist press in the USSR had to stop short of its plans or even start shutting down due to these material shortages.

This is an appeal to anarchists and sympathizers in the whole world. If you have money to spare, please help our soviet friends get over this difficult hurdle. Money can be sent in any currency to 'Editrice A''s postal current account no. 12552204 in Milan, Italy, with the specification added: "For Obschina".

CNT congress ■

In April 1990 the 7th congress of the CNT (Confederación Nacional del Trabajo, anarcho-syndicalist union) was held in Bilbao, Spain. On the whole, the most important resolutions concerning the syndicalist strategy were accepted. This means that the CNT policy will not change. New was the plea to found International Federations of Industry which could be used to oppose the multinationalization of the capitalist economy. Many resolutions were adopted. A new general secretary was elected, Vicente Villanueva Gardó 52 years old. He is electrician and since 1958 affiliated with the CNT.

CNT archives returned ■

The documents of the CNT (Confederación Nacional del Trabajo, anarcho syndicalist union) and of the FAI (Federación Anarquista Ibérica) were kept at the International Institute of Social History in the Netherlands since 1939. During the second world war the material was held in safety in England, at the Oxford University. After the war it came back to the in-



stitute in Amsterdam. Only this year has been agreed to return the 46 cases to Spain. These are packed not nly with unedited documents, but also with nearly fivethousand photo's and a never shown movie. All essential material to study for those who want to study the Spanish civil war. Of the 46 cases 21 contain the archives of the FAI.

Anarchists in Bulgaria ■

From 19 to 21 may 1990 150 persons joined a conference-congress in Kazanlak (south-east Bulgaria). Several goals were fixed; among others:

- a new structure for the movement: groups, organisations, federation (bulgarian anarchist revolutionary federation)
- to inform the bulgarians about the reality of the anarchist world movement.
- an administrative secretary.
- a newspaper.
- an cooperative publishinghouse aimed to spread anarchist literature.

The conference had been organized by the secretaries of the anarchist organisation of Kazanlak: H. Karaiyanov, Gantcho Damianov and Ivan Gougjev.

Turkey: Campaign against the military service. ■

A campaign has been launched in Turkey against compulsory military service and in favour of conscientious objection. Tayfun Gönul started the campaign at the beginning of this year. He published a manifesto in the Sokak and in the newspaper Gilres.

Both publications were seized by the state authorities and Tayfun will have to appear in court.

He considers himself an anarchist. He is a doctor, but doesn't practise as such. Since many years he participates in communes and self-governmental projects. More than a hundred people declaired their solidarity by signing a petition, demanding that if Tayfun is condemned for antimilitarist ideas, they also should be sentenced. Write to declare your solidarity to:
Klodfarer
Cad, Dostluk Yurdu
Sok. Hacibey Apt. 10/11
Çemberlistas - Istanbul
Turkey

Piotr Petrovich Sinda murdered! ■

Piotr Petrovich Sinda, an activist in the anarcho-syndicalist confederation KAS in the Soviet Union, was found dead on 5th May. Evidence of one of the two doctors who examined his body was ignored and it is generally supposed that Sinda has been murdered. He was engaged in investigations about the strikes in Novocherkask in 1962 (which were gunned down) and about links between the KGB and stalinist groups today. Demonstrations on 2nd Jund remembered the victims of the 1962 killings together with Piotr Sinda.

E.H.F.A. ■

The 3th of March this year, the Euskal Herriko Federakunde Anarkista (anarchist federation of Euskal Herria) was founded in Bilbao. The new organization unites several groups from Alava and Vizcaya (Basque regions). It is hoped that groups from other regions will join (from Euskal Herria as well from nearby regions). For information or other kind of contact: Euskal Herriko Federakunde Anarkista Apartado de Correos 235 48080 Bilba Spain, Europe

Free the NEPA 11 ■

Support Nigerian Anti-Stalinists
The Nigerian Axe/Association of Libertarian Socialists is asking for help in the release of NEPA 11 workers who went on strike for better working conditions against Nigeria's Electric Power Authority in 1988. Their life sentences have been reduced to ten years. They are: M.A. Odedina, S.F. Adekunmi, C.N. Olofor, D.A. Olatoke, J.N. Olotu, C.E. Dortie, B.B. Oye, K.E.G. Okoroafor, E. Eguakegbe, E.O. Kuye and J.K. Olatunde.
Please send protest letters to Ibrahim Babangida, Office of the President, Lagos, Nigeria.



CONTACTS

Here are just a number of the addresses we got, in every issue we'll try to publish more. So keep us informed of addresschanges, new addresses, etc.

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- Libertarian Workers
P.O.Box 20
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- 7002 Roussé
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- Ecomedia
P.O.Box 69601 Stn.K
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- Kick It Over
P.O.Box 5811, Stn.A
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Cuba

- Guangara Libertaria
P.O.Box 1516 Riverside Station
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P.O.Box 223
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