

# NOTTINGHAM ANARCHIST NEWS

No 4

OCT/NOV 85

ANARCHIST NEWS BANNED FROM WIMPEY'S.:

This, the fourth Nottingham Anarchist News, is longer and bulkier than any before it: surely showing that we must be a force to be reckoned with! It has been produced by the anarchist group and contributions have arrived from a variety of different sources. We don't all agree on everything that's printed here, but Anarchism has no party line - we can still work together whilst disagreeing either "violently" or "peacefully". We must stress that the views and opinions in these pages are those of the authors of the particular pieces, if of anyone at all.

We've had some anonymous contributions from people who have done Direct Actions - spray painting, Smash South African Business, Raid Aid, etc. - sorry, piggies, but we don't know who did these actions. Please keep on sending in reports of active resist-

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INSIDE;



AND  
WOMEN IN PRISON  
NICARAGUA  
SOUTH AFRICAN ACTIONS  
REVIEWS  
AND MORE



# LOCAL BITS

7th September.

## TARMAC.

Early Saturday morning a team of Anarcha-vandals visited Tarmac in the city's Market square, in support of the days anti tarmac demonstration. Tarmac's involvement in the building of nuclear silos, especially for cruise, has singled them out for some special treatment. Their poxy counter sabotage precautions (tall barbed wire fences, grills over the windows etc.) were easily foiled with the help of a conveniently placed fence pole. Most of the windows were smashed to the cheers of by-standers, and white paint was thrown down the front of the porta-cabins. The peace group later decorated the fence with ribbons, and put stickers on the fence.

## CARS.

A Rolls had two deep scratches added to its paint job and a Mercedes was also customised by incorporating a couple of @s and a redesigned windscreen wiper to its specification.

## August

Nottingham filth tried to persuade a defenceless citizen to spy and snitch for them, with promises of cash rewards and anonymity. No chance piggy - back to the sty!

August 1st - 23rd

## DHSS ACTIONS

'Better class of Servant' anti-DHSS public meeting at the International community centre. Speakers included a man from the County council welfare rights team, and a genuine claimant. Actions were discussed and another meeting planned. Although the turnout didn't exactly reflect the amount of work put into the publicity, we felt like we had some potential as a group. The next meeting, 5th August, proved to be less of a success. Many of those who were enthusiastic in the first meeting failed to turn up. Still we decided to organise a 'Rally and party' against the Social security reviews (cuts). We did mass leaflets in DHSS offices and UBOs and it was widely flyposted. Still the turnout was pathetic. Radio Trent gave it airspace as an illegal demo. The police also warned us off. About 15 of us assembled in the steady rain and opted for the warm and dry if not over stimulating environment of the Centre for the Unemployed, where the workers were dumbstruck that anyone should actually want to go in there that they let us stay. We played football, drank some homebrew, blew whistles (till we were informed about the employees trying to work - not all so lucky are we ?) and wished the food we had brought was vegan.

5th September

Some claimants met with the DHSS worker's main union, the CPSA (Civil and Public Servants Association). Conversation involved the CPSA representatives apologising for having an unmilitant membership and making excuses for not opposing the new rulings any further than in their heads. All suggestions were turned down. Still, a strike was promised for Friday 13th, how poetic.

13th September

NO strike!! Disillusioned claimants spray painted DHSS offices with slogans: 'DHSS sncoopers fuck off', 'CPSA and claimants unite', 'Strike now'. Although a DHSS strike wouldn't have been wholly beneficial to claimants, we felt that we should support it as a positive sign of support from the other side of the glass screen. Its failure clearly leaves the ball in our court. Four million claimants DO have some collective power, we must get together and fight back. It won't be easy, but we won't take this shit lying down.

## August-

Anarchists spray paint DHSS offices and unemployment benefit offices with slogans - 'Gang up and fight back', 'Conspiracy for poverty' etc.

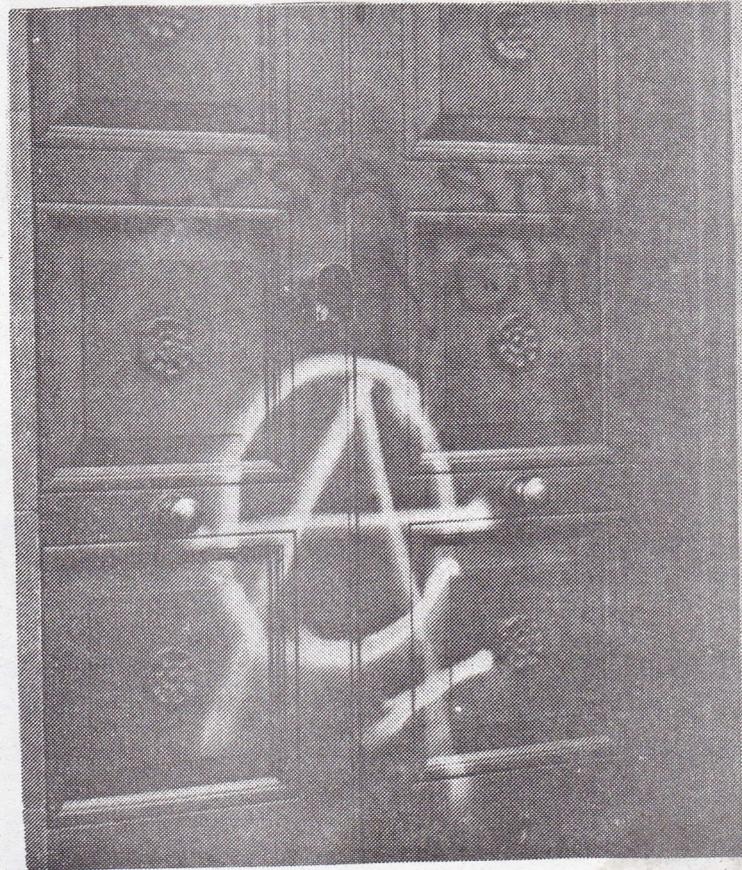
Porn shop in Carrington Street redecorated; - 'Porn is the theory, Rape is the practice' and @'s etc.

Court buildings vandalised.

Station Street police station visited by car body-work team who set to work on parked police cars. Somewhere there must be a filth mobile driving round with a massive @ on its bonnet. Any sightings?

12th September

Shire hall attacked. Messages of dissatisfaction were left. 'British injustice, No thanks.'



## BRITAIN A POLICE STATE - SHOCK HORROR REVELATIONS

Good god! What's this country coming to? Nowadays it isn't even safe to take kids and dogs to the local park on a Sunday, without being hassled by our self-styled "protectors"!

Let me explain: one sunny Sunday early in the mushroom season Fiona and Christine took a dog and a child to Woodthorpe Park, hoping for a pleasant afternoon. They sat down near the playground and were quite surprised, a few minutes later, to see a police car cruising slowly through the park. They were even more surprised when it stopped and a cop got out and walked towards them. He accused them of attempting to steal a sign - "Photo-electric burglar alarm installed" - on the way to the park. In broad daylight, accompanied by a child and a dog - he must have thought they were stupid! Needless to say, Fiona and Christine were puzzled by this - until they twigged that he must have been referring to when they lost their ball and had to look for it.

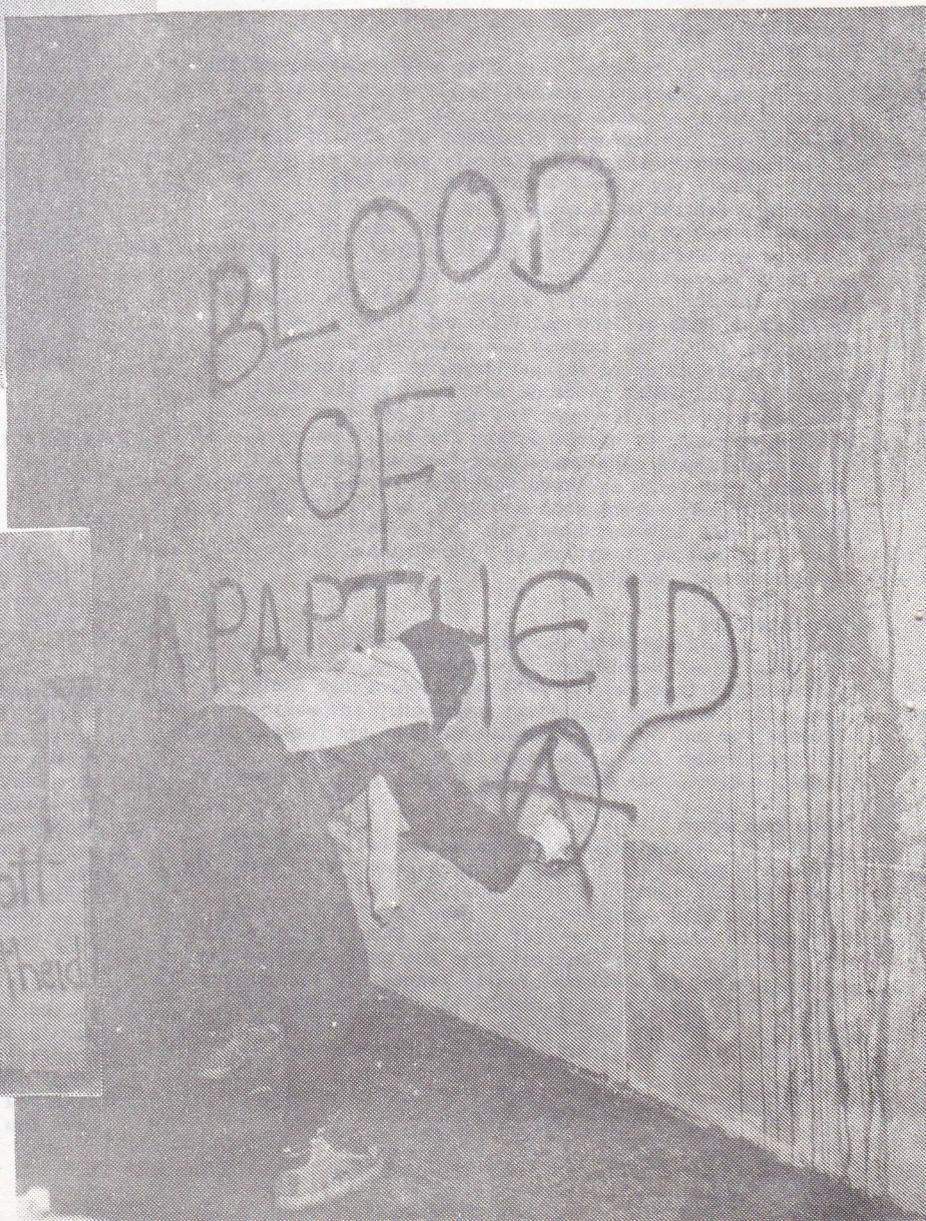
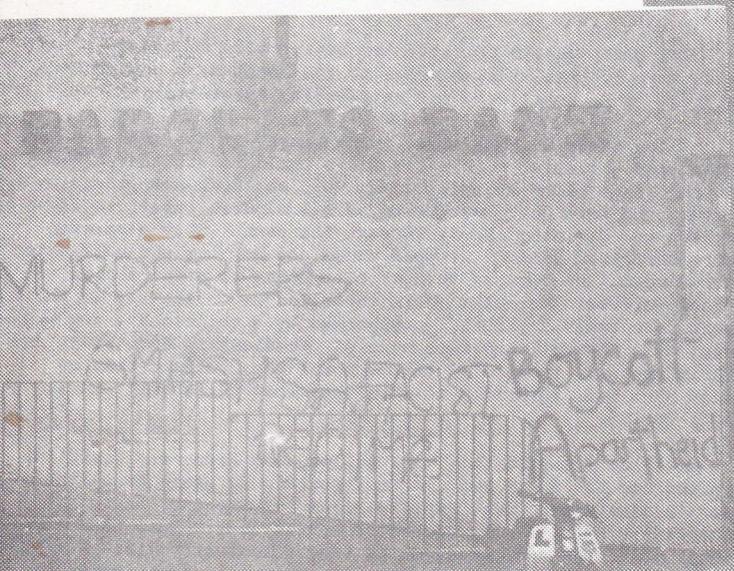
Mr. Plod accepted this explanation, and Fiona and Christine waited for him to go away so they could once again enjoy the park's amenities. But, despite being convinced of their innocence, he still threatened to arrest them unless they gave their names and addresses, which they reluctantly did. Next time you see a policeman, revenge these two innocent women and kick him in the goolies. Thank you for your attention.

# 'ANARCHISTS HELP BIG BUSINESSES' SCANDAL

Recent activity by various Nottingham people has led to a demand for the services of sand blasters, exterior painters and glaziers. For instance the Barclays bank on Chapel Bar has had its walls spray-painted for the last 3 weekends running with anti-apartheid slogans, and the Barclays in the Market Square and on the High Street will have to redecorate for the second time in 2 weeks

Co-op house and the co-op in the Broad Marsh have both been spray-painted, again with anti-apartheid slogans. While the Private porn shop is sporting a brand new "Beware, women are angry" on their boarded-up window.

City shoppers will also have seen "God is Dead" on the Listergate wall of St Peters church, and how long has that Anarcho-feminist symbol been on the lion in the Market Square? The sand blasters are probably just too busy to attend to that one just yet!



# SMASH SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESS DAY

## special offer!

- DELMONTE AND
- LIBBY'S 1lt CARTONS
- OF FRUIT JUICE!

30p  
off next  
purchase

COUPON LIMITED TO ONE PURCHASE  
PER CUSTOMER. REDEEMABLE ONLY  
FOR LIBBY'S AND DELMONTE FRUIT-  
JUICES. OFFER EXPIRES 31st DEC 1985.

-conditions  
are overleaf



SMASH SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESS DAY- 30 sept '85

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY VARIOUS GROUPS CONCERNED ABOUT THE RACIST REPRESSION IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE CONTINUING TRADE BETWEEN BRITAIN AND SOUTH AFRICA HAVE TAKEN ACTION AGAINST BUSINESSES AND INSTITUTIONS WHICH CARRY ON THIS TRADE OF DEATH

IN NOTTINGHAM LEAFLETS ASKING SHOPWORKERS AND SHOPOWNERS TO STOP SELLING AND HANDLING SOUTH AFRICAN PRODUCE WERE DISTRIBUTED DURING THE WEEKS BEFORE S.S.A.B. DAY.

5,000 LEAFLETS WERE DISTRIBUTED ON BEHALF OF THE CO-OP

ENCLOSED IS A LEAFLET DISTRIBUTED ON BEHALF OF THE COOP. FIVE THOUSAND OF THESE WERE HANDED OUT AROUND NOTTINGHAM. AS A RESULT OF THE EMBARRASSMENT CAUSED BY THESE LEAFLETS, THE G.N.C.S. WILL SERIOUSLY HAVE TO RECONSIDER THEIR POSITION ON STOCKING PRODUCTS OF APARTHEID. VOUCHERS ADVERTISING 30p OFF DELMONTE (SOUTH AFRICAN) FRUIT JUICE, AND LIBBY'S, WERE ALSO DISTRIBUTED

ON THE NIGHT OF 29th SEPT. WINDOWS WERE BROKEN AT BARCLAYS HOUSE AND THE ABC CINEMA (OWNED BY THORN EMI, SUPPLIERS OF WEAPONS TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME).

BARCLAYS AND MIDLAND BANKS IN THE CITY CENTRE WERE SPRAYED WITH ANTI-APARTHEID SLOGANS, HAD THEIR CASH POINTS AND LOCKS GLUED UP AND 'BLOOD' THROWN OVER THEM

THE TOWN WAS SATURATED WITH FLYPOSTERS TO PUBLICISE THE ACTION AND THE ATROCITIES OF APARTHEID. THEY NAMED COMPANIES AND PRODUCTS THAT THE PUBLIC ARE ASKED TO BOYCOTT.

LEAFLETS WERE HANDED OUT ASKING PEOPLE NOT TO BUY SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE THEN VISITED 2 COOPS (NEAR VICTORIA CENTRE AND COOP HOUSE) SAINSBURIES, TESCO'S AND MARKETS. THEIR WERE STICKERS PLASTERED ON SOUTH AFRICAN PRODUCTS AND TROLLEYS WERE FILLED WITH S.A. GOODS AND LEFT WITH EXPLANATORY POSTERS.

FINALLY ONE WOMAN WAS HELD BY POLICE AFTER TWO ACTIVISTS RECONDITIONED BROADMARSH COOP'S AIR WITH 'FART SPRAY' AND PERSUED THROUGH THE CITY CENTRE BY TWO STORE DETECTIVES.

WE HOPE THESE ACTIONS WILL HELP TO HIGHLIGHT THE ISSUE OF APARTHEID AND DRAW ATTENTION TO THE ATROCITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA. PEOPLE IN ENGLAND DO FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT THE MASSACRES AND REPRESSION OVER THERE AND ARE PREPARED TO ACT WHERE GOVERNMENTS HAVE FAILED TO. WE WON'T TAKE 'NO' FOR AN ANSWER. ALTHOUGH THIS WAS PART OF A DAY OF ACTIONS THE REPRISALS WILL CARRY ON. WE WON'T BETRAY OUR SOLIDARITY WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE. WE WILL CONTINUE AND INCREASE OUR ATTACKS UNTIL POSITIVE STEPS ARE TAKEN TO LIBERATE THE BLACK MAJORITY FROM THE BONDS OF APARTHEID.

NOTTINGHAM SMASH SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESS FEDERATION.

←  
PRESS RELEASE  
FOLLOWING THE  
DAY.  
THE COOP HAVE  
SINCE ANNOUNCED  
THAT THEY ARE TO  
CEASE BUYING  
SOUTH AFRICAN  
STOCK (SEE 2  
PAGES ON) THE  
IMPLICATION  
BEING THAT IT  
RESULTS FROM  
PUBLIC PRESSURE.



PRODUCT OF APARTHEID

## DANGER

DON'T BUY SOUTH AFRICAN  
IT'S STAINED WITH BLOOD

SMASH  
S.A.  
DEATH  
REGIME



MORE S.S.A.B. DAY

Evening Post Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>

## Protest daubed in red

ANTI-APARTHEID slogans were daubed on banks and other buildings in various parts of Nottingham last night — for the second week running. Red paint slogans were sprayed on Barclay and Midland banks in the city and at Mapperley, as they were last Sunday night. Monday morning, "We are concerned about it and inquiries are continuing," said police.

## Tambo's plea to public

By Peter Hetherington

The President of the African National Congress, Mr Oliver Tambo, yesterday, urged the British people to give a lead to their government by imposing voluntary sanctions against South Africa.

In an emotional speech to the Labour Party Conference in Bournemouth, he said that Mrs Thatcher and her ministers were clearly out of touch with the mood of the British people.

In his speech Mr Tambo said: "The masses of the British people can and must impose sanctions themselves. You have the power to stop all trade with apartheid South Africa. We plead with you that you do not worry that we will, as a result, have to do without an evening meal. The stomachs of those who are shot down every day are empty already. The bellies of those who pull the trigger are bulging to the point of obscenity. Stop even more lives of our feeding them. Stop giving them the strength to take people."

Guardian  
Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Oct.



People who care



# special offer!!

## PRICES SLASHED

ONCE AGAIN, THE CO-OP LEADS THE FIELD

- In line with the latest EEC (Common Market) initiative that decided to place trade sanctions against South Africa, our NEW policy as of Monday September 30 1985, will be: A total boycott of all "products of apartheid!"
- Already, all new purchases from South Africa by the Co-op have been halted. Our buyers are now looking elsewhere for the top quality goods that you come to expect on our shelves.
- But, we need you (our customers) to help us in this exciting new move. We want to implement our policy without delay, so ALL the remaining South African goods on our shelves, and in our warehouses MUST GO!!!
- You, our customers, will benefit from this historic decision. We ask you to help clear our shelves of South African products, and in so doing support the international campaign against the system of apartheid.
- As from 2pm on September 30th 1985, all South African goods in Co-op stores will be half-price! Simply check the labels for the "country of origin", and claim your reduction at the check-outs.
- REMEMBER: All South African goods must go from our shelves. The Co-op: we act where others talk.

# Shops, banks suffer in anti- SA blitz

The group also plastered the city centre with anti-apartheid posters and put hundreds of "half-price" stickers on South African goods in supermarkets.

One of the worst hit was the Co-op, who were the victims of thousands of hoax leaflets advertising cut-price goods.

In a statement, the group said: "We hope these actions will help to highlight the issue of apartheid and draw attention to the atrocities in South Africa."

But Barclay's bank, who have major interests in South Africa, condemned the action.

"We regard this as further evidence of extremist militant groups who believe they can intimidate society, to support their views by such acts of violence," said a spokesman.

BUSINESSES in Nottingham were this week counting the cost of a citywide wave of anti-apartheid vandalism.

In a midnight blitz, a group calling itself the Smash South African Business Federation, SHATTERED windows in a bank and a cinema, poured SUPERGLUE into cash points and locks, SPRAYED slogans and threw BLOOD over offices.

Nottingham  
Trader  
Oct 1st

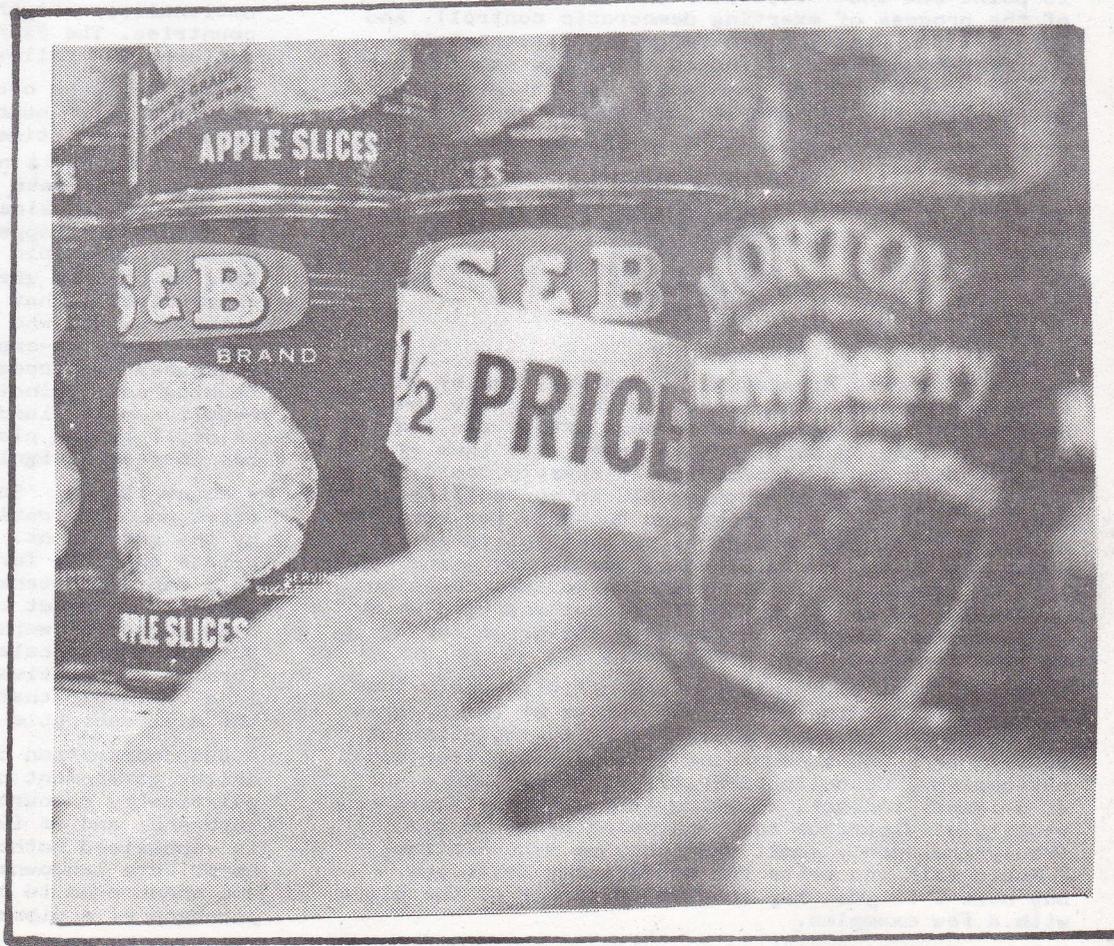
## Co-op cuts all trade with SA

By Martyn Halsall, Northern Industrial Correspondent

The Co-op yesterday became the first big British retailer to sever all trade links with South Africa. The move will eventually ban the republic's products from more than 1,200 stores and marks the retail trade's most forceful condemnation of apartheid.

The South African embassy described the move as "a foolish step . . . contributing to a worsening of the situation and not improving it. It is probably an attempt to salve certain moral anxieties that certain people have when looking at a complex situation from afar."

The deputy secretary of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, Miss Kate Clarke, said that she hoped the move would be the first of many by stores groups. Sainsbury's and Tesco had recently indicated a policy change of instructing their buyers to seek alternatives to South African goods, she said.



# NICARAGUA

A COUNTRY WHERE A BANK HAS A HOARDING OUTSIDE SAYING  
"WE AIM TO SERVE YOU WITH ALL HUMAN WARMTH" AND  
"YOUR COMRADE IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT"

AND THE POLICE HEADQUARTERS HAS WRITTEN ABOVE IT IN  
LARGE LETTERING -

"THE GUARDIAN OF THE JOY OF THE PEOPLE"

ARE THESE MACABRE EXAMPLES OF ORWELLIAN NEWSPEAK -  
OR ARE WE IN REVOLUTIONARY NICARAGUA ?

## THE BACKGROUND

In July 1979, after 16 years of mounting popular resistance and guerilla warfare, the dictatorship of Anastasia Somoza was overthrown by an armed insurrection of the Nicaraguan people led by the FSLN (the Sandinista Front for National Liberation)

For Nicaragua it was far more than the replacement of one government with another. Effectively it was the birth of an independent and authentic Nicaragua - a Nicaragua ruled not by Spain or later the USA and its local henchmen but rather by and for the workers and peasants of the country. It was also the birth of a most unusual experiment in "socialism" and so far a remarkably successful one.

Despite the poverty stricken and war ruined state of the country in 1979, despite 6 years of continuous war against the Contras (ex National Guardsmen from Somoza's days and mercenaries backed by the USA), despite an economic blockade by the USA and the problems common to all Latin America of crippling debt burdens and deteriorating terms of trade with the developed world. Despite all this the 3 million Nicaraguans have made headway in the economic and cultural development of their country, there is a more equal sharing out of what little wealth there is, and the FSLN government remains very popular.

In the 1984 elections, the first unrigged elections in Nicaragua's history, the FSLN took 75% of the vote on a 75% turnout (though the FSLN would be at pains to point out that 'elections' are only one small part of the process of exerting democratic control). And whilst I was visiting Nicaragua in July the Rally on Independence day attracted 4/500,000 people which is 15% of the country. Imagine a demonstration in London of 8 million people, for that's the equivalent.



I came back from Nicaragua feeling inspired by what is happening there and immensely impressed by the Sandinistas as a political force. I think the 'left' in Britain has an awful lot to learn from them - about what a democratic socialist society could be like, about how to involve people in controlling that society, and about strategy and tactics. For when you are trying to take on poverty, a local dictator, US imperialism, the world economy, patriarchy - and there is 3 million of you; then you have to take decisions about what to do first, who to combat and with whom to make temporary alliances, with the price for getting it wrong often being death

It was also so refreshing to see a 'left' party that is not stuck in the rights and wrongs of the Russian revolution, that feels confident in taking bits out of Marx and Lenin, combining it with Latin American nationalism, Catholic Liberation Theology and a lot of original thought, applying it to the particular reality of Nicaragua now, and being prepared to freely and openly admit when they've made mistakes. I could talk and write for hours about Nicaragua - but here I'll just try to give a flavour of the place with a few examples.



## 1) THE STATE, PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND COOPERATIVES - LAND REFORM

In 1979 all land was privately owned, with most of it including all the best land, in the hands of a small number of large landowners. A story common to much of the world. 6 years on 16% is state owned and nearly 40% in cooperatives, and whilst the rest is still in private hands there has been some redistribution of that from large to small peasant farmers. Progress certainly but far from the conventional nationalise everything approach of many 'socialist' countries. The FSLN strategy for land reform has followed the following principles;-

- To have taken over all private property would have turned a large number of peasant farmers against the revolution at a time when, under attack from outside, the last thing it needed was an internal war. It would also have turned into opponents a lot of people with considerable agricultural expertise and, as has often happened in 'Socialist' countries, productivity would have initially fallen drastically leading to even greater poverty. Much land has been expropriated, that of Somoza and his cronies, of private owners who weren't farming it properly or deliberately de-capitalising it; and some has been purchased by agreement or compulsorily. BUT private farming as a principle hasn't been attacked. As a result a major land redistribution has taken place, is still taking place, but at the same time productivity has increased significantly.

- Meanwhile the 'Social Sector' of farming - state farms and cooperatives - have been backed heavily by the government. In situations where it is appropriate that the farming is done on a large scale or in a capital intensive way, then the farm is state owned and subject to national planning but with a high degree of worker control of the job process. But all small scale farming developments are in the form of cooperatives and this has been the form of land ownership that has been pushed most heavily as the most desirable form.

- But cooperation can't be imposed from above. So whilst government policy is to financially and politically encourage cooperatives, nobody is forced into one; and it is the principle of cooperation that is emphasised rather than a precise form of ownership. So private landowners who want to retain that ownership are encouraged to cooperate on a lesser level eg joint purchase of equipment, joint irrigation schemes etc.

## 2) GUNS AND POEMS - THE POLICE AND THE ARMY

"I think that Nicaragua must be the only country in the world where the police publish their poems"

Ernesto Cardenal - Minister of Culture/Catholic Priest

The visitor to Nicaragua can't help but be struck by how militarised the place is. Not in terms of heavy armour, but in terms of how many young people there are in military uniforms and how many people have guns. It is the mark of a country that had to fight to oust a brutal dictatorship, has been under attack ever since, and is preparing for the realistic possibility of a direct US invasion. Yet it is also, out of the war zones, the most relaxed, friendly and safest country I have ever been in. A 13 year old Nicaraguan child carrying a rifle, as some do, may not have had the advanced weapons training of a Brixton policeman but his/her awareness of what guns are for, when to use them and when not to use them, is considerably higher.

And when the police stop you in the street and ask for identification you don't feel the normal threats associated with 'authority'. Rather one feels one is talking to a comrade and equal, part of whose role is to remorselessly hunt the efforts of the CIA (and they are numerous) to commit economic sabotage and political assassination. The police and the army are trained to fight and kill but they are also 'educated' in its deepest sense to be humble and to be servants of the people. This is where artistic sensitivity comes in. Abuses of power and authority occur, the Nicaraguans have not become saints overnight, but these are treated as serious crimes in terms of punishment.

Of Nicaragua's 3 million people half are under 15. 200,000 adults (and some children) have arms and have been trained in their use. The majority are not in the armed forces or the police but rather form voluntary militias to fight off Contra guerilla attacks or the Americans if they come. Not an army but a people armed, and an indication of the confidence the Sandinistas have in the relationship between themselves and the people. Imagine Thatcher or Reagan freely handing out arms to workers?

## 3) LEARNING FROM MISTAKES - THE MISKITO PROBLEM

Nicaragua is 95% Mestizo - mixed Spanish/Indian blood. But on the remote Atlantic coast region there are about 100,000 indigenous Indians, mainly Miskitos, and 100,000 Creoles who are English speaking Blacks brought there originally as slaves to work the sugar plantations. These ethnic groups, particularly the Indians, have been subject as everywhere else in the American continent, to centuries of systematic racism and exploitation. The Sandinistas of 1979 consciously espoused a non-racist policy. Yet in their early practice out of ignorance and conditioning much of what they did could be labelled as institutional racism. The Miskitos and Creoles were taught to read and write Spanish like it or not, and generally no account was taken of specific cultural needs, Army abuses did occur and conflicts quickly arose with Contra propaganda encouraging many Miskitos to leave the country; some to take up arms but many to end up in far worse conditions in Honduras. This issue has perhaps been the revolution's biggest test of its honesty and ability to be self-critical.

In a few years there has been a major turn-around. Education now in the Atlantic coast is bi-lingual; economic resources are being put into the area to compensate for its traditional under-development; and a mass consultative process is under way to devise a constitution for a regional government with considerable powers of economic self government and autonomous cultural development. Devising such a constitution is not easy for whilst the Miskitos rightly wish for less domination by the rest of Nicaragua, the smaller Indian tribes are just as worried about cultural domination by the Miskitos. And whilst the indigenous Indians have a right to greater autonomy one needs to avoid over-romanticising them as a people for some have been happy to throw in their lot with Reagan and the CIA.

When the Minister of the Interior announced the Autonomy proposals to a mass rally of Miskitos he delivered his entire speech in Miskito using not just the words but the cultural idioms too... Margaret Thatcher in Welsh or Punjabi?



## 4) THE NEW NATION...THE NEW MAN (SIC)

An independent but pro-Sandinista daily newspaper that began in 1980 carries the logo - 'the new paper for the new man'. The concept of the new man has been central to the Sandinistas political project from their beginnings in 1963. The new man is selfless rather than egotistic, collective rather than individualistic, intensely patriotic yet with a strong internationalist consciousness, in particular an awareness of the need for unity amongst the Latin American peoples.

In its origins the concept owes nothing to Western feminism, but in its practice it is clearly questioning many of the manifestations of machismo. Selflessness and collectivity forged in a long guerilla war where most of the young men and women who formed the guerilla army in the early years died in the process whilst others suffered imprisonment and torture.

Nicaragua is full of reminders of dead heroes, some of them 'leaders', most lesser known fighters. Pictures on the walls; memorials in the neighbourhoods; bus stations, shopping centres and estates named after them. The dead leaders are given more emphasis than the living ones. A new nation creates its historical identity.

### AND THE NEW WOMAN

It may not be called feminism but the development of the power of women has been considerable. By their involvement in the guerilla struggle young women pushed themselves onto the political scene and they haven't renounced it since. The armed forces retain large numbers of women (though they have tended to be kept out of the front line), the neighbourhood defence committees which are also the effective community based organisations, are predominantly women, and progress is being made in terms of women entering traditional male jobs. Women have a number of places in the 2nd tier of government posts, though not yet at the top, and AMNLAE, the Nicaraguan Womens Association, whilst not an autonomous movement in the Western sense since it is part of the Sandinista party is not backward in raising womens issues within the party, government and trade unions.

The government attitude is supportive, instituting changes on the economic level to do with equal pay, job discrimination, rights within the family; and very effectively banning the use of womens bodies for advertising purposes. But also cautious, avoiding too direct a confrontation with male power. Perhaps too cautious but aware, as in all its policies of the need to maintain national unity against the all too real threat from imperialism.

Women are on the move in Nicaragua, and way in advance of developments anywhere else in Latin America. A long way still to go, but as elsewhere in the world women are changing roles faster than men

Time to end another piece of just before the deadline late night typing. There's so much more to be said, so many questions to be answered. I've got a lot of slides of the country and am happy to show them to meetings.

John Waller - c/o Nottingham Community Arts Cent



POLICE

POLICE

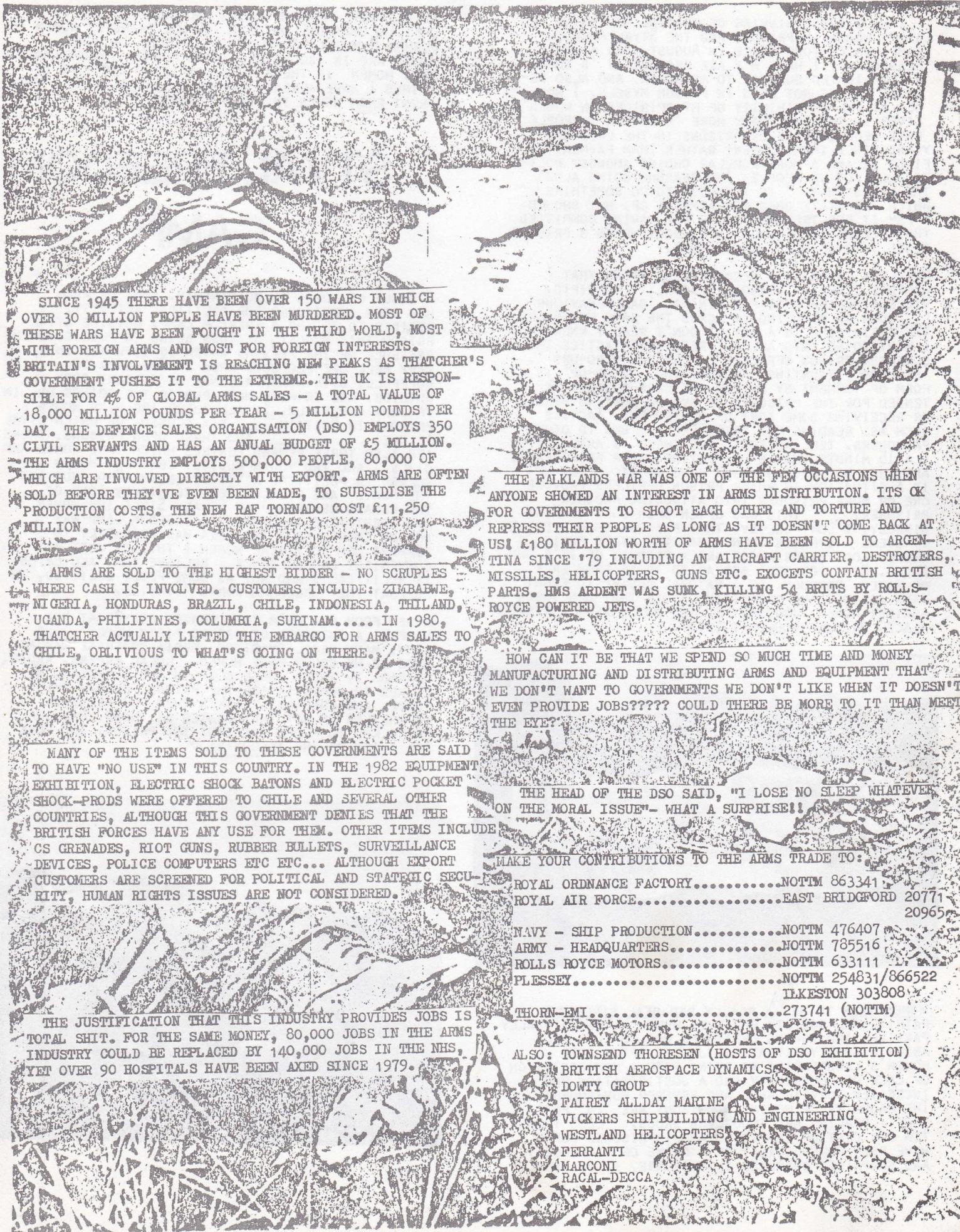
WHEN PLACED IN COMMAND OF A HUNDRED MEN,  
WE'VE FOUND PHILOSOPHERS PERFORM EVERY BIT AS WELL  
AS EXPERTS ON KING EGBERT.

**GUN LAW POLICE**

# UK ARMS TRADE « »

DSO'S surprise

Confession



SINCE 1945 THERE HAVE BEEN OVER 150 WARS IN WHICH OVER 30 MILLION PEOPLE HAVE BEEN MURDERED. MOST OF THESE WARS HAVE BEEN FOUGHT IN THE THIRD WORLD, MOST WITH FOREIGN ARMS AND MOST FOR FOREIGN INTERESTS. BRITAIN'S INVOLVEMENT IS REACHING NEW PEAKS AS THATCHER'S GOVERNMENT PUSHES IT TO THE EXTREME. THE UK IS RESPONSIBLE FOR 4% OF GLOBAL ARMS SALES - A TOTAL VALUE OF 18,000 MILLION POUNDS PER YEAR - 5 MILLION POUNDS PER DAY. THE DEFENCE SALES ORGANISATION (DSO) EMPLOYS 350 CIVIL SERVANTS AND HAS AN ANNUAL BUDGET OF £5 MILLION. THE ARMS INDUSTRY EMPLOYS 500,000 PEOPLE, 80,000 OF WHICH ARE INVOLVED DIRECTLY WITH EXPORT. ARMS ARE OFTEN SOLD BEFORE THEY'VE EVEN BEEN MADE, TO SUBSIDISE THE PRODUCTION COSTS. THE NEW RAF TORNADO COST £11,250 MILLION.

ARMS ARE SOLD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER - NO SCRUPLES WHERE CASH IS INVOLVED. CUSTOMERS INCLUDE: ZIMBAWE, NIGERIA, HONDURAS, BRAZIL, CHILE, INDONESIA, THAILAND, UGANDA, PHILIPINES, COLUMBIA, SURINAM..... IN 1980, THATCHER ACTUALLY LIFTED THE EMBARGO FOR ARMS SALES TO CHILE, OBLIVIOUS TO WHAT'S GOING ON THERE.

MANY OF THE ITEMS SOLD TO THESE GOVERNMENTS ARE SAID TO HAVE "NO USE" IN THIS COUNTRY. IN THE 1982 EQUIPMENT EXHIBITION, ELECTRIC SHOCK BATONS AND ELECTRIC POCKET SHOCK-PRODS WERE OFFERED TO CHILE AND SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES, ALTHOUGH THIS GOVERNMENT DENIES THAT THE BRITISH FORCES HAVE ANY USE FOR THEM. OTHER ITEMS INCLUDE CS GRENADES, RIOT GUNS, RUBBER BULLETS, SURVEILLANCE DEVICES, POLICE COMPUTERS ETC ETC... ALTHOUGH EXPORT CUSTOMERS ARE SCREENED FOR POLITICAL AND STATETIC SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES ARE NOT CONSIDERED.

THE FALKLANDS WAR WAS ONE OF THE FEW OCCASIONS WHEN ANYONE SHOWED AN INTEREST IN ARMS DISTRIBUTION. ITS OK FOR GOVERNMENTS TO SHOOT EACH OTHER AND TORTURE AND REPRESS THEIR PEOPLE AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T COME BACK AT US! £180 MILLION WORTH OF ARMS HAVE BEEN SOLD TO ARGENTINA SINCE '79 INCLUDING AN AIRCRAFT CARRIER, DESTROYERS, MISSILES, HELICOPTERS, GUNS ETC. EXOCETS CONTAIN BRITISH PARTS. HMS ARDENT WAS SUNK, KILLING 54 BRITS BY ROLLS-ROYCE POWERED JETS.

HOW CAN IT BE THAT WE SPEND SO MUCH TIME AND MONEY MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTING ARMS AND EQUIPMENT THAT WE DON'T WANT TO GOVERNMENTS WE DON'T LIKE WHEN IT DOESN'T EVEN PROVIDE JOBS????? COULD THERE BE MORE TO IT THAN MEET THE EYE?

THE HEAD OF THE DSO SAID, "I LOSE NO SLEEP WHATSOEVER ON THE MORAL ISSUE" - WHAT A SURPRISE!!

MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ARMS TRADE TO:

ROYAL ORDNANCE FACTORY.....	NOTTM 863341
ROYAL AIR FORCE.....	EAST BRIDGFORD 20771 20965
NAVY - SHIP PRODUCTION.....	NOTTM 476407
ARMY - HEADQUARTERS.....	NOTTM 785516
ROLLS ROYCE MOTORS.....	NOTTM 633111
PLESSEY.....	NOTTM 254831/866522 ILKESTON 303808
THORN-EMI.....	273741 (NOTTM)

ALSO: TOWNSEND THORESEN (HOSTS OF DSO EXHIBITION)  
BRITISH AEROSPACE DYNAMICS  
DOWTY GROUP  
FAIREY ALLDAY MARINE  
VICKERS SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEERING  
WESTLAND HELICOPTERS  
FERRANTI  
MARCOMI  
RACAL-DECCA

THE JUSTIFICATION THAT THIS INDUSTRY PROVIDES JOBS IS TOTAL SHIT. FOR THE SAME MONEY, 80,000 JOBS IN THE ARMS INDUSTRY COULD BE REPLACED BY 140,000 JOBS IN THE NHS, YET OVER 90 HOSPITALS HAVE BEEN AXED SINCE 1979.

# WOMEN IN PRISONS

I HAVE BEEN THINKING OF WRITING SOMETHING ABOUT WOMEN IN PRISONS AND THE STYAL FREEDOM CAMP, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN AUGUST, FOR A WHILE. REASONS WHY I HAVE N'T ARE BECAUSE IT'S SUCH A COMPLICATED SUBJECT TO APPROACH, AND ALSO BECAUSE HAVING NOT BEEN IN PRISON MYSELF, I WONDER AT THE CREDIBILITY OF MY OPINIONS ON WOMEN'S LIVES IN PRISONS. MANY MORE 'RIGHT ON' PEOPLE HAVE BECOME AWARE OF PRISONS IN THE LAST FEW YEARS SINCE IMPRISONMENT RATHER THAN PAYMENT OF FINES BECAME A MORE POPULAR CHOICE AMONGST POLITICALLY ACTIVE PEOPLE. THE REASONS GOING ALONG THE LINES THAT, 'IF I CHOOSE TO DO SOMETHING WHICH THE STATE DOES N'T APPROVE OF, WHY SHOULD I PAY IT FOR TELLING ME OFF FOR HAVING COMMITTED THAT 'CRIME'. I'LL TALK ONLY ABOUT WOMEN'S PRISONS SINCE THIS IS ALL I KNOW ABOUT.

NEEDLESS TO SAY, IT BECAME CLEAR TO ME THAT WOMEN'S LIVES IN PRISONS ARE PRETTY HORRIFIC. VIOLENT PUNISHMENTS FOR MINIMAL 'BAD BEHAVIOUR', SUCH AS REFUSING TO SCRUB THE SAME FLOOR FOR THE FIFTH TIME IN A DAY. I DON'T REALLY KNOW THAT I WANT TO GO INTO ALL THE REPULSIVE TACTICS THE SCREWS (PRISON OFFICERS) PLAY OF 'WIND-UPS', 'SET-UPS', TAUNTING, AND BAITING. 'WIND-UP' IS A FORM OF TORMENT BY PRISON OFFICERS USUALLY INTENDED FOR THE PRISONER TO END UP HURTING HERSELF OR RECEIVING SOME SORT OF PUNISHMENT. TACTICS SUCH AS, READING OUT PRISONERS LETTERS TO OTHER PRISONERS, TELLING PRISONERS THERE IS ASSOCIATION (A 15 MINUTE CHANCE OF MEETING OTHER PRISONERS), AND THEN NOT LETTING THEM HAVE IT ETC. 'SET-UP' IS A SITUATION IN WHICH PRISON OFFICERS PROVOKE ONE OR MORE PRISONER INTO ATTACKING ANOTHER PRISONER. THIS HAS OFTEN BEEN DONE TO MYRA HINDLEY. I DON'T BELIEVE THAT PRISONS SHOULD EXIST. IT SEEMS A STRANGE IRONY THAT THE STATE PUNISHES PEOPLE FOR THINGS WHICH ARE A PRODUCT OF IT'S OWN DOING. MOST 'CRIMES' APPEAR TO ARISE FROM LACK OF MONEY, BOREDOM, OR A NATURAL DESIRE TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST THE OPPRESSIVE ABUSE THAT MEN THROW AGAINST WOMEN. OBVIOUSLY IF THE WORLD WERE A PERFECT PLACE, PRISONS WOULDN'T EXIST.

IN RESPONSE TO MALE ATTACK OR ABUSE, TO TOP UP OFFICIAL NUMBERS THE HOME OFFICE TRANSFER WOMEN TO DURHAM H-BLOCK TOP SECURITY PRISON. IN HERE WOMEN ARE IN ISOLATION, UNDER HOURLY SURVEILLANCE. MOST WOMEN IN THERE HAVE COMMITTED THE TYPE OF CRIMES I HAVE ALREADY REFERRED TO I.E. NO DIFFERENT FROM WOMEN IN OTHER PRISONS.

## STYAL FREEDOM CAMP

A GROUP OF WOMEN IN NOTTINGHAM, SOME OF WHOM HAD BEEN IMPRISONED FOR POLITICAL ACTIVITY, DECIDED TO SET UP A FREEDOM CAMP, OUTSIDE STYAL PRISON THIS AUGUST. REASONS BEING TO PUBLICISE THE PRESENCE OF THE PRISON, WHICH IS SITUATED IN A VERY WELL OFF SECLUDED AREA OF CHESHIRE; TO HOPEFULLY GIVE WOMEN A SENSE OF SUPPORT FROM OUTSIDE, AND TO MAKE MORE PUBLIC THE GOINGS ON, IN PRISONS GENERALLY. IN ALL THERE ARE NINE WOMEN'S PRISONS IN BRITAIN SIX CLOSED, OF WHICH STYAL IS ONE AND THREE OPEN PRISONS. THERE ARE ALSO THREE REMAND CENTRES WHICH TAKE WOMEN AND GIRLS, AND TWO YOUTH CUSTODY CENTRES. WOMEN INVOLVED IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN THE MIDLANDS AND THE NORTH ARE USUALLY SENT TO RISLEY (ONE OF THE REMAND CENTRES) OR STYAL. SINCE THE WOMEN HAD SPENT TIME IN STYAL THE FREEDOM CAMP WAS SET UP THERE, BUT THE IDEA WAS PRIMARILY TO SUPPORT NON-POLITICAL WOMEN (THIS IS JUST A CONVENIENT LABEL, SINCE I BELIEVE THAT ALL CRIME IS POLITICAL,) AND NOT AS SOME PEOPLE BELIEVED, TO SUPPORT THE 'GREENHAM WOMEN' INSIDE.

WOMEN FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY STAYED AT THE CAMP A TURNOVER OF AROUND FIFTY WOMEN, AND MANY, MANY PEOPLE VISITED. MEDIA COVERAGE WAS AS GOOD AS WE COULD HAVE HOPED LOCAL PAPERS, RADIO, GRANADA TV AND A SMALL CLIP IN THE GUARDIAN. WE TALKED TO WOMEN INSIDE THE PRISON THROUGH THE FENCE, AND CONSTANTLY ASKED THEM FOR FEEDBACK ON WHETHER OR NOT THEY WANTED US THERE. MANY OF US TALKED TO PEOPLE VISITING THE PRISON, AND HERE ARE A FEW OF THE ACCOUNTS:



WOMEN SEEM TO GET A REALLY BAD DEAL SINCE OUR PATRIARCHAL SOCIETY BELIEVES WOMEN TO BE NATURALLY PASSIVE AND BORING CREATURES WHO DO FUCK ALL ABOUT A GROTTY SITUATION. JUDGES OFTEN SEE WOMEN'S LAWBREAKING AS BEING BOTH A MANIFESTATION OF LACK OF FEMININITY AND A JUSTIFICATION FOR 'INCREASED SURVEILLANCE AND SEVERER PUNISHMENT'. THE MAJORITY OF WOMEN IN PRISONS ARE 'IN' FOR THEFT, DEALING AND SMUGGLING DRUGS, LESS THAN TEN PER CENT OF CONVICTED AND IMPRISONED WOMEN HAVE BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF A CRIME OF VIOLENCE, AND SURPRISE, SURPRISE IF THEY ARE, IT IS USUALLY



### FIRST WOMAN:

HAD A LITTLE CHILD OF ABOUT 3 YEARS, AND IS IN HER MID FIFTIES. SHE WAS VISITING HER DAUGHTER-IN-LAW. ONE NIGHT THE WOMAN AND HER BOYFRIEND WERE IN A CLUB, AND A BLOKE STARTS CALLING HER 'SLAG', 'WHORE', 'WHORE' ETC. A FIGHT BROKE OUT AND SHE GOT 18 MONTHS, HE GETS 2 YEARS. SHE'S PREGNANT AND WILL HAVE THE BABY IN THERE END OF DECEMBER. OUT IN JAN. IF SHE GETS PAROLE.  
(BEING PREGNANT IN STYAL MUST BE HORRIFIC, BECAUSE WOMEN ARE NOT ALLOWED TO LIE DOWN OR SLEEP DURING THE DAY. \_\_\_IF THEY DO THEY GET PUNISHED \_\_\_SOME HIDE AWAY WITH A LOOKOUT).

### FIRST MAN:

HIS SISTER IS IN FOR LIFE \_\_\_MURDER. SHE KNIFED A BLOKE IN A CLUB BECAUSE HE STARTED HASSLING HER \_\_\_SHE'S BEEN IN TWO YEARS. SHE GETS VISITS EVERY TWO WEEKS (THE MAXIMUM ALLOWANCE) AND THEY THINK SHE MIGHT BE MOVED BECAUSE OF IT. \_\_\_ALTHOUGH IT'S HER RIGHT.  
(WHILST WE WERE OUTSIDE STYAL WE BECAME AWARE THAT MANY WOMEN FROM THE SOUTH HAD BEEN MOVED UP TO STYAL AND VICE VERSA \_\_\_WE WONDER WHETHER THIS WAS ANOTHER LITTLE PLOY TO KEEP PRISONERS ISOLATED, AS MANY PEOPLE COULDN'T AFFORD THE FARES.)

### SECOND MAN:

HIS WIFE WAS VISITING A FRIEND, BUT THEY WOULDN'T LET HIM IN. THE SCREWS CHUCKED HIM OUT OF THE PRISON GROUNDS FOR SITTING ON A BENCH WAITING \_\_\_PARANOID IDIOTS.

THE WOMAN WAS IN BECAUSE OF HEROINE, THE POLICE RAIDED ONE NIGHT AND SHE HAD A BLOW'S WORTH ON HER. THEY DID HER FOR SUPPLYING TOO, SO SHE GOT 2 YEARS.

### THIRD MAN:

GIRLFRIEND'S IN 3 MONTHS FOR CHEQUES FIDDLES. SHE'S AN ADDICT, AND HE SAYS THEY GIVE NO HELP AND IT SOUNDS REALLY HARD. HE SAYS THEY STRIP SEARCH THE WOMEN AFTER EVERY VISIT.

HE SAID THAT A FRIEND OF HIS IS ALSO IN THERE, AND KNOWS SOMEONE WHO GOT HEPATITIS. SHE KEPT TELLING THE SCREWS SHE WAS ILL AND THEY WOULDN'T BELIEVE HER. THEY SAID THAT IF SHE HASSLED THEM ANYMORE, THEY'D PUT HER IN SOLITARY. FINALLY, WOMEN FROM HER HOUSE COMPLAINED, SO THEY PUT HER IN A PRISON HOSPITAL.

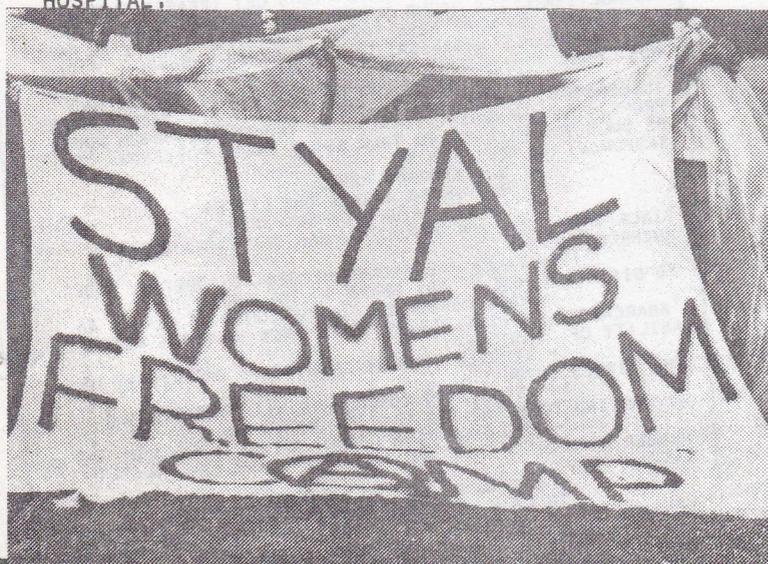


## OUTCOME

WE GOT MUCH SUPPORT FOR THE CAMP; VISITS, FIRE WOOD, MONEY. TO BEGIN WITH IT SEEMED THAT THE PRISONERS WANTED US THERE. AFTER ABOUT THE SECOND WEEK HOWEVER, WE LEARNED THAT WOMEN WERE LOSING PRIVILEGES (SUCH AS BEING ALLOWED TO SIT OUTSIDE TO EAT IN THE SUMMER, HAVING EXERCISE AT WEEKENDS) AND SOME WOMEN WANTED US TO LEAVE COMPLETELY. WHILST I WAS AWAY THE DECISION WAS MADE TO DISBAND THE CAMP. IT WAS A VERY DIFFICULT DECISION TO MAKE \_\_\_ WE COULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT THE AUTHORITIES WERE SAYING (OBVIOUSLY THEY DIDN'T WANT US THERE) BUT THERE WAS NO WAY OF TALKING TO WOMEN DIRECTLY. CORRESPONDENCE WITH AN EX-CON AND A WOMAN STILL IN THERE REVEALED THAT THE FORMER DIDN'T LIKE WHAT WE WERE DOING AT ALL, AND THE LATTER BELIEVED THEY WERE THE MINORITY INSIDE WANTING US THERE. BUT EVEN INSIDE THE PRISON, COMMUNICATION BETWEEN WOMEN IS DIFFICULT. WE ALL STILL FEEL PRETTY CONFUSED ABOUT WHAT TO DO. THE IDEA OF THE CAMP WAS TO TRY AND SUPPORT WOMEN INSIDE, AND IF THEY WERE GETTING AN EVEN WORSE DEAL BECAUSE OF US, THEN WE HAD TO LEAVE. SOME OF US HAVE DECIDED TO WRITE TO WOMEN IN PRISONS, AND TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE 'WOMEN IN PRISONS' GROUP - AN ORGANISATION BASED IN LONDON, CONSISTING OF A GROUP OF WOMEN SOME OF WHOM HAVE BEEN IN PRISON. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO DO SOME MORE DIRECT ACTIONS BUT WANT TO THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT THE POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS THIS MAY HAVE FOR WOMEN INSIDE.

Information on women in prisons was obtained FROM THE BOOK 'CRIMINAL WOMEN' WRITTEN BY PAT CARLEN, JENNY HICKS, JOSIE O'DWYER, DIANA CHRISTINA, CHRIS TCHAIKOVSKY.

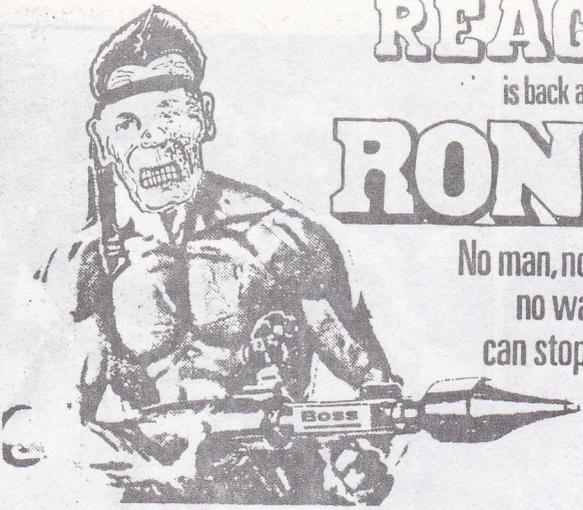
WOMEN IN PRISONS ADDRESS: -W.I.P., UNIT 5  
COCKPIT YARD  
NORTHINGTON STREET  
LONDON  
WC1N 2NP  
TEL...01-430-0767/8



We are a bunch of women who have been meeting for about a year now. Numbers are dwindling, but we hope to have a regular meeting place in the new Women's Centre (eventually).  
Usual meetings; Sunday 8pm. Reclaim the Night meeting 8pm  
Sunday Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact: Box F, Mushroom bookshop, Heathcote

# REAGAN is back as... RONBO

No man, no law,  
no war  
can stop him.



WHEN RAMBO CAME TO NOTTINGHAM THE FREE MASINS (MEN AGAINST SEXISM IN NOTTINGHAM) WERE READY AND WAITING. LEAFLETS WERE PRINTED AND GIVEN OUT MOST NIGHTS TO THE WAITING CROWDS BEFORE THE LAST PERFORMANCE. WE WERE ALL A LITTLE BIT APPREHENSIVE, WONDERING WHAT RESPONSE WE WERE GOING TO RECEIVE. AS IT TURNED OUT, THE PICTURE OF RONBO (SEE BELOW) AMUSED MOST OF THE MEN WE HANDED THE LEAFLET TO, SO INSTEAD OF GETTING MACHO AND BEATING US UP, THEY TENDED TO LAUGH - AS, APPARENTLY, THE AUDIENCE DID WHEN RAMBO FIRST APPEARED ON THE SCREEN

WE GAVE THE LEAFLETS OUT MOST EVENINGS UNTIL WE RAN OUT, THEN ENDED UP IN THE 'DRAGON' SELLING LOADS OF ANARCHIST NEWSSES.

"Rambo triggered long-suppressed emotions that have been out of vogue. Suddenly, people are finding it an important thing on the menu."

the U.S. Army has started hanging Rambo posters outside its recruitment offices hoping his image will encourage people to sign up.

"Rambo is a warrior that can be turned off. All he wants in life is to serve a purpose."

Even President Reagan has joined the Rambo-mania bandwagon.

While fellow Americans were dying in the war the actor was teaching in a girls' school in Switzerland.

YOU ARE ABOUT TO SEE SOME OF THE SLICKEST MIND-KILLING PROPAGANDA EVER PRODUCED. IN FULL TECHNI-COLOUR, AND IN QUADROPHONIC SOUND. ALL YOU MEN ARE GOING TO BE SEDUCED. YOU WILL BE BECKONED TO BE TOUGH AND UNCARING, VIOLENT AND UNTHINKING, PATRIOTIC AND WARMONGERING. YOUR PROMISED REWARD WILL BE THE ADORATION OF A WOMAN AND PUBLIC APP-LAUSE. CRAP!

YOUR REAL REWARD WILL BE TEARS. WAR AND VIOLENCE BY AND ON BEHALF OF THE STATE CAN ONLY CAUSE SUFFERING AND MISERY.

RAMBO FIGHTS IN VIETNAM AND IS A HERO FOR IT. HOW QUICKLY WE HAVE FORGOTTEN THE BLOOD, TEARS AND ABUSE OF HUMANITY THAT OCCURED THERE BECAUSE OF THE AMERICAN FLAG AND AMERICAN PATRIOTISM.

WAR IN THE CINEMA	WAR IN THE BEDROOM
WAR IN NORTHERN IRELAND	BODIES IN THE FRIDGE
WAR IN YOUR HOME	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
WAR IN YOUR HEAD	TOMBS YOU DIG

HOW SOON TOO, DO WE FORGET WARS HAPPENING NOW, SUPPORTED AND NURTURED BY LOVE OF ONE'S COUNTRY, THE CULT OF MALE VIOLENCE.

THERE IS STATE MURDER HAPPENING NOW IN NORTHERN IRELAND, SOUTH AFRICA, AFGHANISTAN, NICARAGUA, EL SALVADOR AND IN THE FALKLANDS - IT IS NO GAME AND THERE IS NO GLORY.

RAMBO WOULD BE FUNNY AND PATHETIC IF IT WERE NOT FOR THE FACT THAT REAGAN ACTUALLY EMBRACES AND PRAISES THE VALUES OF THE FILM. HOW FRIGHTENING THAT A WORLD LEADER WITH THE ABILITY TO DESTROY HUMANITY PREFERS PATRIOTISM, MINDLESS VIOLENCE AND HATE TO PEACE, LOVE AND CARING.

RAMBO IS A REAL MAN. HE CARRIES A CRUISE MISSILE LIKE A PENIS. HE HATES STINKING PINKO COMMIE VIET-NAMESE RATS. HE IS A REAL MAN. HE DOESN'T WEAR A SHIRT.

When he wanted to address the nation on TV following the release of the Beirut hostages, he quipped: "After seeing Rambo last night, I know what to do next time this happens."

In cinemas across the nation, fans clap and cheer every time Rambo kills another communist, and jump to their feet to chant his name.

But I was twice rejected because of a hearing loss. It really irritated me that the U.S. Army would not make any exception!

# MUSHROOM - YAWN!

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS HAVE INCLUDED A COURT CASE INITIATED BY MUSHROOM IN WHICH THEY GAINED AN INTERIM PAYMENT OF £7500 FROM FROZEN FUNDS. THE NEXT STAGE OF THE CASE TOOK THE PARTNERS BY SURPRISE, SOME OF THEM CLAIMED NOT EVEN TO BE AWARE OF IT, LEGAL AID HAD NOT COME THROUGH FOR THE SACKED WORKER, BUT MUSHROOM TOLD PEOPLE NOT TO WORRY, AS THEY WERE IN NO HURRY AND WOULD NOT PRESS TO HAVE THE MATTER DEALT WITH QUICKLY. MUSHROOM'S SOLICITOR, HOWEVER, ARGUED AGAINST AN ADJOURNMENT, APPARENTLY THE HAVEN'T SEEN THEIR SOLICITOR FOR WEEKS, AND THEY LEAVE ALL THE LEGAL SIDE TO HIM. ARE WE SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THIS? AND STILL RECOGNIZE MUSHROOM AS RADICAL OR ALTERNATIVE?

A SMALL BREAKTHROUGH HAS BEEN MADE IN THAT TWO OF THE PARTNERS ARE NOW WILLING TO TALK TO THEIR DISMISSED COLLEAGUE, BEFORE THIS MEETING THE LATTER WAS HARANGUED BY A COURT REGISTRAR FOR FAILING TO GET ROUND A TABLE AND TALK TO THE OTHER PARTNERS. IRONY INDEED.

ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN THE APPEARANCE IN MUSHROOM FOR THE LAST THREE WEEKS OF A DIRTY, SCRUFFY HIPPIY WHO RANTS AT THE ASSEMBLED STAFF AND CUSTOMERS. SECTIONS OF PAPERS THAT MUSHROOM WONT STOCK ARE READ OUT, TOGETHER WITH MATERIAL THAT THEY DO STOCK. THE FICTIONAL WRITINGS OF ONE OF THE PARTNERS IN THE FORM OF A SWORN AFFIDAVIT ARE READ AND COMMENTED UPON. THE LEAFLET REPRODUCED BELOW IS HANDED OUT,

IT IS SAID BY MUSHROOM PARTNERS THAT LIES ARE WRITTEN ABOUT THEM IN NOTTINGHAM ANARCHIST NEWS. IN THAT CASE THEY OUGHT TO WRITE AND TELL US WHAT THEY ARE. WE WILL PUBLISH THEIR LETTER, OR, EVEN BETTER, THEY COULD TELL US ALL ABOUT IT AT A PUBLIC MEETING. THE ONLY LIES IN ALL THIS ARE THE ONES FROM MUSHROOM.

IN LATE MAY THE ANARCHIST GROUP WROTE MUSHROOM A LETTER SAYING WE WERE CONCERNED, WOULD LIKE TO MEET AND DISCUSS THREE MATTERS:

- 1) SINCE THEY HAD BANNED CERTAIN ANARCHIST PAPERS, WHAT WAS THEIR DECISION BASED ON, AND HOW DID IT AFFECT OTHER TITLES THEY STOCKED?
- 2) WHAT WAS THEIR POLICY ON PROFIT MARGIN? DO SMALL NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS GET TREATED THE SAME AS MULTI-MILLION POUND BUSINESSES LIKE PENGUIN?
- 3) WHAT WERE THEIR PRIORITIES ON GIVING MONEY TO 'CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER CAUSES? WHO/WHAT WERE THEY LIKELY TO GIVE MONEY TO, AND HOW MUCH? AS A BOOKSHOP CLAIMING TO BE 'RADICAL AND ALTERNATIVE', AND WITH THE MAJORITY OF THE SHOP WORKERS PROFESSING ANARCHIST IDEALS, WE THOUGHT MUSHROOM WOULD BE ONLY TOO WILLING TO TALK ABOUT THEIR POSITION. THEIR RESPONSE? A DECISION TO:
  - 1) BAN ANOTHER PAPER
  - 2) REFUSE TO ANSWER OUR LETTER
  - 3) SACK A MEMBER OF THE SHOP

SINCE THAT TIME THE SITUATION HAS DETERIORATED, MUSHROOM HAVE:

- TAKEN THE SACKED MEMBER TO COURT IN ORDER TO DISINVEST HER OF ANY SHARE OF THE SHOP.
- MADE REFERENCE TO THE COURT OF HER AS AN 'ANARCHIST', WHILE CLOAKING THEMSELVES WITH THE RESPECT-ABILITY OF 'PACIFISTS'.
- REFUSED TO MEET OR DISCUSS OPENLY ANY OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED
- REFUSED TO CO-OPERATE WITH INDIVIDUALS ATTEMPTING TO BRING THE PARTIES TOGETHER.
- EMPLOYED SCAB LABOUR TO DO THE JOB OF THE MEMBER WITH WHOM THEY ARE IN DISPUTE AND HAVE (LITERALLY) LOCKED OUT.
- SPREAD FALSE AND MALICIOUS RUMOURS.

IN LATE JULY THE ANARCHIST GROUP ORGANISED A MEETING TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION. MUSHROOM WERE INVITED BUT FAILED TO ATTEND, ALTHOUGH 30 OTHER PEOPLE DID, SOME OF THOSE PEOPLE VISITED MUSHROOM AND WERE TOLD THAT THE SHOP WOULD BE HAVING A USERS MEETING IN SEPTEMBER, THAT BEING A YEAR FROM THE LAST (AND ONLY) MEETING THEY HAD ARRANGED. SEPTEMBER HAS COME AND GONE. NO MEETING.

I INTEND TO TALK PUBLICLY ABOUT MUSHROOM. IN MUSHROOM EVERY WEEK UNTIL THE SHOPWORKERS AGREE TO A FULL PUBLIC DISCUSSION. I AM SORRY IF ANYONE IS INTIMIDATED OR OFFENDED BY MY ACTION. BUT I DO FEEL THE POINTS HAVE TO BE MADE. SOME THINGS ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN HASSLE-FREE CONSUMERISM.

I WELCOME ANY CONTRIBUTIONS.

LOVE AND ANGER  
COLIN HUGGINS. 1 OCT 85

# LETTERS

## WHAT OF UNADULTERATED A YARN OF TWADDLE

SO, ANARCHISTS ARE OPPOSED TO THE STATE AND CONTROL BY THE BOSSES, ACCORDING TO ONE PERSON'S VIEW, IN ANARCHIST NEWS NO. 5. YEAH, ME TOO. BUREAUCRACIES CORRIDORS OF POWER; BOARDS OF DIRECTORS; PIN-STRIPE SUITS; WHITE-COLLAR WORKERS; BLUE-COLLAR WORKERS - HORRIBLE. PRETTY ANONYMOUS TOO, LIKE ALL THOSE LARGE ORGANISATIONS WHO CONSTANTLY ROTATE THEIR PERSONNEL SO YOU'RE NEVER TALKING TO THE SAME PERSON - ANONYMOUS. LIKE THE STATE - THAT'S PRETTY ANONYMOUS TOO. IN FACT, COME TO THINK OF IT, LIKE ALL THOSE PEOPLE WHO WRITE ARTICLES FOR NOTTINGHAM ANARCHIST NEWS - PRETTY ANONYMOUS. A GOOD WHEEZE THAT - THE FREEDOM TO STIR SHIT, CREATE A BIT OF SCANDAL, SOW A FEW SEEDS OF CYNICISM, AND THEN RETREAT INTO YOUR ANONYMOUS BUNKER, MAYBE I'LL HAVE A GO, TAKE, FOR EXAMPLE, THE ARTICLE ON NOTTINGHAM VIDEO PROJECT IN ISSUE 5, ENTITLED 'NOT VERY POLITICAL'. A LOT OF BOLD RHETORICAL FLAG-WAVING STATEMENTS IN THERE, NOW SOMEWHERE, IN THAT STREAM OF GENERALISATIONS, RUMOUR AND FACTUAL INACCURACIES, MUST BE A NOTION OF WHAT IS POLITICAL, HANG ON A MINUTE, LOBBYING COUNCILS IS POLITICAL, BUT NOT VERY POLITICAL, 'COS IT'S LEGITIMATE. HMMM. AH. HERE WE GO: "RAISING AND ACTING ON THE QUESTION OF WHO SHOULD CONTROL AND OWN THE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION" - THIS IS VERY POLITICAL. WOW - THIS IS REALLY HOT STUFF! WAIT TILL NVP GET HOLD OF THIS. BUT HANG ON A MINUTE - NVP WAS INITIATED BY A CONSORTIA OF COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY GROUPS PLUS INDEPENDENT FILM AND VIDEO MAKERS OF VARIOUS HUES OF RED, SOME OF WHOM MAY WELL HAVE BEEN ANARCHISTS; WHO ALL WANTED ACCESS TO NEW TECHNOLOGY IN THE FORM OF VIDEO AND PARTICULARLY OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVER THIS MEANS OF COMMUNICATION. AH YES: "NVP HAD POTENTIAL FOR RADICAL GROUPS TO PRESENT THEIR VIEW OF THE WORLD." SO WHAT WENT WRONG? WELL, SO WE'RE TOLD, WE (THAT IS, THE INDEPENDENT FILM AND VIDEO SECTOR OF NOTTINGHAM) ARE ALL ON THE POINT OF STEPPING INTO A TOURIST BROCHURE, PRODUCING BLAND TELEVISION PROGRAMMES, AND, WORST OF ALL, NVP IS ABOUT TO INTRODUCE HIRE CHARGES FOR EQUIPMENT USE. HERE WE HAVE IT - THE APOCALYPTIC VISION OF SOMEONE WHO (WHILE WISHING TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS, OF COURSE) IS EITHER ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN DEBATES SURROUNDING THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF INDEPENDENT FILM AND VIDEO PRODUCTION IN THIS CITY (YOU REMEMBER, OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL?) OR IS AT LEAST PRIVY TO PUB GOSSIP, PEN BEHIND THE EAR, THE WILLIAM HICKEY OF THE ANARCHIST NEWS; GUESS WHAT? "NAH, REALLY?" IF THE LATTER IS THE CASE, AND THE INTENTION OF SUCH AN ARTICLE WAS MERELY TO BE PROVOCATIVE, THEN THIS IS THE RESPONSE. HOWEVER IF THE FORMER BE THE CASE AND THIS NAMELESS PERSON LAY OFF THE RHETORICAL FLAG-WAVING AND BEGAN TO DESCRIBE SOME OF THE PRACTICAL CAMPAIGNS INVOLVED IN RAISING QUESTIONS OF OWNERSHIP/CONTROL, THEN THOSE DESCRIPTIONS COULD BE AS FOLLOWS:

1. NVP - A CAMPAIGN FOR RECOGNITION WITHIN THE ASSOCIATION OF CINEMATOGRAFIC, TELEVISION AND ALLIED TECHNICIANS (ACTT) - TRADITIONALLY AN INDUSTRIAL BASED, CRAFT CENTRED UNION OPERATING AS MUCH AS A GUILD AS A TRADE UNION; RECOGNITION OF THE AREAS OF NON-BROADCAST VIDEO, COMMUNITY VIDEO TRAINING AS VALID AN ACTIVITY AS BROADCAST TELEVISION OR INDUSTRIAL FILM PRODUCTION; AND HENCE ADEQUATE PAY AND CONDITIONS FOR MEMBERS WORKING IN THOSE AREAS.

2. NVP - HAVING ACHIEVED UNION RECOGNITION, A CAMPAIGN FOR RECOGNITION OF THAT UNION'S RATES OF PAY FOR THAT SECTOR, WITH THE RELEVANT FUNDING BODIES.

3. NVP - HAVING BEEN TOLD THAT IT HAD NO FUNDING WHATSOEVER (TYPIST: SURPRISE, SURPRISE. YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL SHOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH TO SEE THAT ONE COMING), A FURTHER

CAMPAIGN FOR SURVIVAL, WHILE PRESERVING THE ORIGINAL MODUS OPERANDI IN TERMS OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY/VOLUNTARY SECTOR, WITH A STRUCTURED AND COHERENT APPROACH TO WAYS OF POSSIBLE INCOME GENERATION. (TYPIST: THEY NOW CHARGE PEOPLE TO USE THE EQUIPMENT: EVEN THE UNWAGED WHOSE INCOME IS INADEQUATE BY NUPE RATES, LET ALONE ACTT.)

4. MEDIA CENTRE - THIS PROPOSAL ORIGINATED, NOT FROM THE GRASS ROOTS ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN THE INDEPENDENT SECTOR IN THE CITY, BUT FROM THE BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE; ARGUMENTS ARE STILL TO BE HAD IN TERMS OF NVP AND THE NEW CINEMA WORKSHOP - THE PRODUCTION RESOURCES - PRESERVING THEIR INTEGRITY AND SEPERATE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES WHICH ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO THEIR MEMBERSHIPS (SIC) PRESERVING ACCESS, TRAINING WORK AND SO ON. AT THIS POINT NOTHING IS DEFINITELY DECIDED; THE CURRENT DEBATES ARE TO ENSURE THAT THE FUNDING BODIES DO NOT MAKE DECISIONS THAT IGNORE THE NEEDS AND DEMANDS OF THE GRASS ROOTS ORGANISATIONS.

5. MASS PRODUCTIONS - UNLIKE THE MEDIA CENTRE WITH WHICH IT IS CONFUSED AND CONFOUNDED, THIS PROPOSAL ORIGINATED FROM TWELVE MONTHS OF DISCUSSIONS BY THE GRASS ROOTS ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED; WORKING UNDER AN AGREEMENT WHICH STRESSES COLLECTIVE WORKING PRACTICES AND WORKERS CONTROL; IN NO WAY IS CHANNEL 4 WORKING TO IMPOSE A PRACTICE OR STRUCTURE FROM ABOVE; AS FOR "BLAND, LEGAL, AND BALANCED PROGRAMMES" THE MOST INNOVATIVE AND POLITICALLY CHALLENGING PROGRAMMES SCREENED ON CHANNEL 4 HAVE COME FROM THIS SECTOR (IT'S NOT SAYING A LOT IS IT) - IT WILL BE THE PRACTISING FILM AND VIDEO MAKERS AND THE CONSTITUENCIES THEY MAY BE WORKING WITH WHO WILL DETERMINE WHAT GETS PRODUCED, NOT CHANNEL 4. (COME OF IT: THOSE THAT PAY THE PIPER CALL THE TUNE)

I COULD GO ON, BUT THIS IS NOT THE STUFF FOR A WILLIAM HICKEY COLUMN. QUESTIONS OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL IN THE MEDIA CANNOT BE RAISED IN THE ABSTRACT BY FLAG-WAVING AND RHETORICAL POSTURING - THEY ARE QUESTIONS WHICH DEMAND AN ENGAGEMENT WITH TRADE UNIONS, WITH ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS THE CAMPAIGN FOR PRESS AND BROADCASTING FREEDOM, THE INDEPENDENT FILM AND VIDEO MAKERS ASSOCIATION, WITH CAMPAIGNS FOR A RIGHT OF REPLY, FOR ACCESS TO THE AIRWAVES, AND SO ON. (DOES THIS MEAN PIRATE RADIO AND TV STATIONS OF COURSE NOT. IT MEANS MORE WELL PAID TRENDY LIBERALS IN STATE RUN STATIONS THOSE OF US WHO HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THESE CAMPAIGNS MIGHT WELL FEEL LIKE RETURNING TO THE AUTHOR OF 'NOT VERY POLITICAL' THE QUOTE: "GET IN OR PISS OFF" (THE LAST TIME I SAW A QUOTE LIKE THAT, IT WAS ON REAGAN'S CAR BUMPER. IT SAID: AMERICA LOVE IT OR LEAVE IT.)

TONY BLOOR.

Dear Nottingham News

In the last issue there was a series of articles which all had a common link that is a serious problem to all of us.

The troubles with Mushroom, the problems of the Nottingham Video Project and the state of the Nottingham Unemployed Centre all have one thing in common. When your "alternative" becomes your sole means of survival in economic terms you fight like hell to protect it, whether it's doing what it set out to do or not.

Mushroom people feel threatened by legitimate criticism. The NVP are threatened because they took government money - and what the state giveth, the state taketh away. The unemployed Centre also has to jump through hoops to keep its workers pay packets secure.

This economic threat exists from day one of setting up anything like this and it is a real danger. People involved spend as much time securing their future livelihood as they do serving the needs they were set up to meet.

The situation with the NVP is a fine example. They must have spent more time and money lately trying to keep their own jobs than making films. As a founder member of a video

group that has been running for nine years now without any funding at all, apart from running training courses, I know we will still be going when NVP is finally gone. The community we serve will still have our skills and equipment available at the same price - free when NVP work workers are signing on again and blaming Thatcherite economic stringency for their fate.

Maybe in some super socialist state money would shower down on these good and worthy projects without a single string attached. But pigs will fly first. Anyone who takes state money for something that cannot exist without it should accept that it can go easier than it came. When it goes the network and structure should still be there so something can carry on. The trouble is that to justify the wages they receive the people involved have to show that "ordinary" people are incapable of organising or carrying out a task without their "expert" help. Look at the Unemployment Centre. All the paid masters and mistresses of that place only serve to reinforce the idea that the unemployed are inherently incapable of organising themselves. Unemployed Centres should be run for and by the unemployed, not staffed by self seeking wage slaves who have a totally different set of objectives, chief of which is that Friday Pay Day keeps coming and in defence of which they will compromise and keep in with the paymasters all the way down the line.

They live off the backs of the unemployed and then expect the unemployed to run and help when their jobs are threatened. Like asking a dog to welcome fleas really.

This may all seem harsh and cynical but that's only because it is. Nothing in my

experience has shown me that the people who expect to get a nice wage packet will work in a radical way because their interests are in the money not the thing they do.

C.T..

Dear Nottingham Anarchist News,

I have been hearing rumours recently about people taking direct action against Mushroom. Now, that's something I can't really go along with. Yes, I've heard all the complaints about them behaving in a high-handed way to their customers and their ex-colleague, but does that have anything to do with us? Surely they can sell what they like and sack who they (don't) like. They must be on our side really because they want peace, and they sell a lot of good books,.. And they stock Freak Brothers comics.

Let's face up to the truth, anyone who wants to get on in business (as Mushroom seem to have done) must be a bit nasty at times. But they've got to earn their livings so we shouldn't interfere.

Just as I support Rock City because, despite their alleged fascist connections, they put on good bands, and EMI because I like the records they make, so I shall continue to buy books at Mushroom. Let's not always concentrate on the bad in everything and see the positive side for a change. I like a lot of the books in Mushroom and that's what's important to me.

Love and Peace, Connie Suma.

# FASLANE BLOCKADE



4 people from Nottingham and one from Peterborou travelled up to the Faslane Peace Camp on Sat. 15th September, ready for the blockade of the Polaris submarine base, due to begin at 6:00am the following day.

The blockade achieved as much as it could do with the number of people there (150 at any one time - people came and went during the 12 hours of blockading) and the bases operations were severely disrupted.

The civilian workers (the ones that clean the sailors boots) had been given a days paid holiday in anticipation of the action. Only the most determined construction workers went through the blockade, as well as lots of sailors who looked like they'd rather drive over us instead of waiting for the police to clear a way.

The two most noticeable things about the 3 days we were there were what a wonderful Peace Camp Faslane is and what bastards the Strathclyde police are. I was determined not to get arreste

(it's a long way to go for a fine for sitting in the road) so I stood by and watched people from all over England and Scotland getting dragged by their hair, sexually assaulted and flung into vans. Apparently English police say, of dealing with football crowds, "we should do it like the Glasgow lads - they don't mess about".

It was a joy to return periodically to the camp - it's really organised, cosy and friendly, and there was hot food continually on the go. Right through the night people worked to find where the 70 arrested had been taken, and vans were sent to pick them up from all over the Strathclyde area. In cases where addresses given were not satisfactory, people were held over and appeared in court the next day. It looked like a few would get remanded to begin with, but the judge was appeased and after a lengthy "goodbye" session outside the court everyone got packed off home safely..

# bits of news from... MOLESWORTH.

Early in September, a group from Nottingham went down to Molesworth to help with the Brave Defender exercise. They took down road signs to the base and redecorated the roads with lots and lots of slogans. A well-known member of Forest Fields Peace Group and the Labour Party, who also happens to be a landlord with a passion for evicting his tenants, must be thanked for the brightly coloured paint he unwittingly supplied. Thank you, Mr. Aziz. The police were less helpful. They interrupted the road redecoration and arrested two people who had paint on their hands. These two women were strip-searched and held overnight for court the next morning. They were then released on bail on condition that they don't go within five miles of Molesworth or Alconbury. (Ha ha.) To make sure they don't go anywhere, the police kept their coats and wouldn't give them back - evidence, they claimed. Three weeks later, one of the women was in court. There, she was told that the amount of damage she'd caused was worth over £600. Meanwhile, the dog who'd come down with her non-violently resisted being dragged out of the building. The case was adjourned "so that justice could be seen to be done".

October 3rd was the date set for a High Court eviction attempt of the Peace Camp, which has been at Molesworth for years now. Campers there are worried that they too are being "zapped", like the women at Greenham. They have been experiencing headaches and general feelings of unwellness whilst near the base; these symptoms disappear when they walk away from the base and return as they approach the perimeter. (Maybe now that it's happening to men too, people might start to take the zapping seriously.) Nobody knows how zapping is done, but it's a very threatening new way the state is trying to control us, and needs investigation. Meanwhile, Rainbow Warriors are planning to return to Molesworth.

Well-informed sources tell us that construction work inside the base will begin in November. The Wing Headquarters with two storeys above ground and four storeys below ground is planned. It is thought that the Missile Command Post is to be moved from Greenham. Molesworth/Alconbury is more central and has no common land, which is notorious for harbouring peace protestors, surrounding it. The courts' treatment of protestors at Alconbury and Molesworth supports this line of thought - first we have the Alconbury Nine trial and the Rainbow Fields eviction, now we have people being charged with heavy amounts for criminal damage. They are the kinds of amounts which will entitle protestors to crown court trials - something that the police have always tried to avoid at Greenham, but at Molesworth they don't seem to give a shit. They very definitely want to scare people away.

Now that there is little doubt that the main construction work at Molesworth will begin in November, the Cruise Resistance Campaign have called for a blockade of the base 48 hours after work has begun. The details have not been finalised, but if you are interested in the action please contact Melissa, daytime 606302 or Pete, early evenings 704621.

## CND - learning slowly

A hard lesson in realpolitik for those liberal optimists in CND - who think that lemming like martyrdom in the courts will eventually change the hearts and minds (and thus the decisions) of the magistracy - has now been served. Documents from Lord Hailsham reveal that all those wishing to become magistrates, will from now on be asked whether or not they're members of CND. This will prevent the embarrassing situation of magistrates being nicked on demonstrations from recurring. Already two have had to leave the bench because of this. Kath Cripps, from Derby a magistrate for five years and Catherine Thackery, a magistrate in Huddersfield (nicked at Greenham), eleven years on the bench, were these two unfortunates. CND is a trifle put out, apparently, by what is regarded as "the politicization of the magistracy". Welcome to the real world CND!!

### NOTTINGHAM AND MOLESWORTH - OUTSIDE AGITATORS AT WORK.

OK fans, sit back and enjoy another blast of the action from Nottingham's Defend Molesworth campaign... Well actually not much to report on the wild life down there from these months, your correspondent spent most of September in bed and there's quite a few tales of tribulation from our brave defenders which could bring resistance to a halt, but of course that's not the sort of thing you want to hear now is it?! (the personal is political- geddit?) However...

\*August 23 the most truly wonderful 'Heat in August' benefit at the ICC raised an embarrassing amount of money, which only just covered the embarrassing print bills from the previous months. Another one in late November? Watch this space!

\*September 4 Late night visit to Molesworth to remove road signs marking the base - very successful, as was the slogan painting of roads until the arrest of two of those involved (who are apparently being done for £600 worth of criminal damage.) There could be a follow up to this action in Nottingham, so keep your eyes peeled as a sign reappears!

\*late September a less successful visit with wire cutters. Please note:

- 1- don't pick a full moon because it dazzles your map reading.
- 2- the lights at the base now point outwards so they can see you but you can't see them. Tricky, huh?!

\*late September Jane Withers sentenced to 16 days for non-payment of fine arising from Molesworth action. STOP PRESS- served nine days on hunger strike and looks incredibly healthy for it. but

### \*Big Time On Mansfield Road?

As we were saying in the last iss, a major action is planned at Molesworth next Feb 6 - the first anniversary of the state's invasion (not that it isn't everywhere anyway). Now confirmed that this is to be National CND supported (and funded), a mass blockade of all gates to stop construction work. In terms of bureaucracy, CND has set its Projects committee onto setting up a working camp, which has a range of non-CND people on it, after much pressure from 'regional activists'.

And after much wheeler - dealing this Working Camp is going to be based in Nottingham!! Because we're so fab!! And organised!! And wear balaclavas and para military uniforms!! Plan is to have an office in the rainbow centre on Mansfield Road from which it will all happen. Out of 16 on the working groups, Nottingham has three delegates who are Dave Dickenson, Barbara Coulson and Les Parsons (who mentioned Forest Fields imperialism?!) Fans of Pete Strauss will be relieved to know that he's got himself on National CND Projects committee, so he's still streets ahead! (geddit?)

However, the whole thing will give anarchists plenty of scope for slagging on two scores at least:

- 1 watch how national CND do a Kinnock and squash all zappy direct action.
  - 2 Spot the local dynamos fully fledge as lackeys and bureaucrats.
- Or maybe you could get constructively involved.

Meanwhile gossip?! Is that what you really want? Well who would guess is having a.....

NICKY.

Fran Spencer, the new General Secretary of the NCCL is reported as saying "If the intention is to exclude political activists, then it makes a nonsense of the Lord Chancellors assurance that magistrates are selected to reflect the whole community." Big deal!! The politics of power is the politics of power.

Of course double standards, like Hailshams, are rampant - drunk drivers, convicted of such, can remain on the bench for instance - but arn't CND themselves guilty of such hypocrisy? They advocate breaking the law in some instances, all highly selective and morally sound no doubt, but want their members free to enforce it elsewhere. It makes not an iota of difference to the 'culprit' whether the hawk-nosed magistrate is a peacenik in more tender moments or not. Even agents of the state occasionally have progressive views, but agents of the state they remain.



# Famine gang's SAS attack on food store

By LOZ HATTON

HOODED raiders have carried out an astonishing SAS-style assault — on a local food mountain!

The group — calling itself RAID AID — broke into a giant grain warehouse eight miles from Nottingham. They sprayed slogans protesting about the Ethiopian famine before escaping with a sackful of wheat. And following the attack on ... day night, a sample of the grain was delivered anonymously to the Trader — together with this exclusive picture.

Also enclosed was a press statement which read:

"Raid Aid is protesting to show how little the Government cares about the needs of people when they can stockpile grain to make money while pretending they are concerned about famine."

Police were this week investigating the break-in at the Midlands Storage depot in West Hallam where — as the Trader revealed only last month — 39,000 tonnes of grain is being hoarded.

Warehouse manager Terry Drummond said: "The whole thing is now in the hands of the police. It's a very emotive issue — so I don't really want to comment. I'm just a warehouse keeper."

## "Hypocrisy"

"But why these people should want to damage the building I don't know — it doesn't do any good."

A spokesman for Raid Aid said further samples of grain would be sent to MPs.

"We want to highlight the hypocrisy of these food mountains," he added.

Make The Links.



# RAID AID

There were ten of us involved in the action, some of whom had watched the place before hand and sussed it out as best we could.

We went over the plans at about 2.30am. and after the queue for the bog disappeared we went on our way.

When we got there all was quiet, so we jumped out of the van and ran towards our target. Going in over the stream, we split into two groups, one to spray the front of the building with slogans and the other to get the grain. The van went away about a mile and we kept in touch by C.B.. Though we went equipped for World War 3, we needed nothing since they left a door open and there was even a ladder running up to the grain.

So, after a few photos and bags of grain, group one made it's way back. At the front the spraying was going well, after a few more photos were taken they joined the others.

We called the driver and went our way home, back to the safety of our Radical Ghetto.

It went really smoothly and seemed too easy. We were expecting guards and dogs but saw no sign on the night. This was the first time most of the people on the raid had done anything like this before; and since it was a success, maybe there will be a few more actions like it.

CAPTAIN BLACK

CERTAINLY WE WANTED TO BRING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS PARTICULAR GRAIN STORE, TO THE ATTENTION OF THE WIDER PUBLIC. AND, YES WE WERE MAKING PROTEST AT GOVERNMENT INDOLENCE IN THE FACE OF MASS STARVATION. BUT, KNOWLEDGE OF 'FOOD MOUNTAINS' IS COMMON ENOUGH, AND THE LACK OF ANY REAL SUSTAINED GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE HAS ALREADY MET WITH WIDESPREAD OUTCRY AND CONDEMNATION. WE WANTED TO DO SOMETHING MORE THAN THIS. FOR THE QUESTION IS NOT SIMPLY ONE OF MORE GOVERNMENT ACTION. IT IS A FACT THAT ALL STATE AID IS A POLITICAL TOOL, AND THIS ISN'T MERELY IDLE LEFT-WING JARGON BUT IS ACCEPTED EVEN AMONGST THE RESPECTABLE CHARITIES. AID IS DIRECTED WHERE IT BEST SERVES THE INTERESTS OF THE DONOR - IT IS USED TO FURTHER POLITICAL, AND NOT HUMANITARIAN, ENDS. O.K., SO IT IS TRUE THAT GOVERNMENT HERE AND OTHERS ELSEWHERE IN THE INDUSTRIALISED WORLD, EAST AND WEST, HAVE DONE SHAMEFULLY LITTLE, AND WE SHOULDN'T CEASE IN GIVING THEM ALL THE FLAK AND SLAGGING THAT WE CAN. BUT THIS IS NO STRATEGY FOR CHANGE IN ITSELF, AND E SHOULD BE NAIVE IF WE EVER WE THOUGHT IT COULD BE. IF STATE AID IS DESIGNED AND USED TO FURTHER POLITICAL AND STATE INTERESTS, THEN ALTHOUGH POPULAR PRESSURE MAY INDEED SUCCEED IN ALTERING THE FRINGES OF AID POLICY, IT CANNOT EVER POSSIBLY ALTER IT'S ESSENCE. NO! ONLY WHEN ORDINARY PEOPLE ARE IN CONTROL OF THIS EARTH'S RESOURCES CAN WE HOPE FOR AN EGALITARIAN AND FAIR SHARE OUT, ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF MUTUAL AID AND SOLIDARITY.

ISN'T THAT SOMEWHAT OPTIMISTIC AND UTOPIAN? I DON'T THINK SO. TAKE LIVE AID. THERE IS ONE THING THAT CAN BE DEFINITELY SAID IN FAVOUR OF THAT PROJECT - IT SUCCEEDED LIKE NOTHING ELSE IN PUTTING THE QUESTION OF GOVERNMENT AID FIRMLY ON THE AGENDA. PEOPLE COULD NOT BUT BE MOVED BY THE FACTS, AND AWARE OF THE FACTS THEY HELPED (THO' IN THE ONLY WAY THEY KNEW HOW - BY GIVING CASH). AND OF COURSE THERE WAS THE ADDED BONUS OF BAD PRESS FOR THE GOVERNMENT IN THE PROCESS.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1985  
**MPs' WHEAT NOT SO NEAT**

NOTTINGHAM MP's were left fuming this week — after getting their oats! Bags of grain stolen from a local food mountain were posted to them by a group calling itself "Raid Aid."

But the Tory MP's angry reaction to the stunt was "I don't want oat to do with it!" "I have to condemn this kind of action even though I am in complete sympathy with their aims," said Nottingham East MP Michael Knowles. "We all want to see the EEC moving a lot faster to get grain to the starving people in Africa, but this kind of method doesn't help."

RAID RAIDERS LATER PAID A VISIT TO THE MIN OF AGRICULTURE AND LEFT A PRESENT - A PILE OF GRAIN.

Mr. Knowles said he would be pressing for more action over grain stores like the one burgled at West Hallam when he meets EEC chiefs in Brussels in November. Meanwhile Nottingham North MP Richard Ottaway told the Trader: "This was an unlawful act and has no support from me. Britain's overseas aid record is one of the best in the world. We are spending £1.1 billion — and only four other countries are putting in more."

GRAIN WAS PARCELLED OFF TO OUR REPRESENTATIVES.

NO GOVERNMENT CAN CLAIM TO OPERATE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF HUMANITY. AND THIS IS A TRUTH THAT THIS LATEST EPISODE ONLY CONFIRMS. YET HERE ARE STILL, LOOKING UP TO GOVERNMENTS, RELYING ON THEM, SUBORDINATING OURSELVES TO THEM. THEY THINK, DECIDE AND ACT FOR US - AND CONSEQUENTLY THEY DENY US OUR INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR FACING UP TO THE PROBLEMS WE ENCOUNTER IN THIS WORLD. LEAVING US OUT IN THE COLD, THEY PERSUE THEIR OWN NARROW, SELFISH INTERESTS. WE MUST TAKE DIRECT ACTION NOW TO CHANGE THIS ULTIMATELY DESTRUCTIVE STATE OF AFFAIRS. THIS RAID WAS A SYMBOLIC GESTURE DESIGNED TO DO JUST THAT - TO ILLUSTRATE HOW ORDINARY PEOPLE CAN ACT IN DEFIANCE OF THE LAW, AND OF PROPERTY RIGHTS SANCTIONED BY IT. IT IS US AS INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES WHO MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INJUSTICE IN THE WORLD. AND IT'S ONLY THRU' OUR OWN ACTION THAT WE CAN DEAL WITH THEM.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

# 'GRAIN FURY' RAIDERS INVADE STORE



SLOGAN POWER... protesters make their point.

## Food mountain picket

SCORES of angry demonstrators ringed a massive grain store at the weekend in protest at western policy towards famine relief.

They picketed the giant warehouse eight miles from Nottingham where 39,000 tonnes of grain is being hoarded.

Police kept a close eye on the demo and made six arrests as protesters scaled spike-topped fences around the store. All six were later released without charge.

The protest was organised by a group calling itself Need Not Greed who are furious that Britain stockpiles so much food when millions are starving in the third world.

"We are trying to make the link between the affluence in the West and famine in the East," said a spokesman for the group.

The warehouse at West Hallam has come under fire since its food mountain was revealed by the Trader in July.

The following month, hooded raiders calling themselves Raid Aid broke into the store to spray slogans about the Ethiopian famine.



CONFRONTATION... a demonstrator is led away

## WEST HALLAM GRAIN STORE DEMO.: SATURDAY 28th OCT.

As the coach rumbled through the Derbyshire countryside, the sun furiously beat down, and as we drove through the hills and dales clung with ground mist, a few of us realised how short of alcohol we were (we didn't have any).

So, after Anna sold loads of raffle tickets, we reached the store, got our direction and bearings in order, and asked the coach driver to drop us off at the pub we had passed earlier.

Our thirst for beer was almost as good as our thirst to get back to the grain store and settle into the demo. After a 10 minute walk back to the store, a few people sprayed a couple of banners to decorate the main gate, and others joined in with their own banners and placards. ABOUT 150 PRESENT AT THE MAIN GATE!!

There wasn't actually much to look at except a few buildings, and a handful of police sparsely spread along the road and store.

Ha Ha - this was going to be really easy!!.

After a very short and chaotic pow-wow, one climbed over the gate and one went under with a banner.

PEOPLE NOT PROFIT!! PEOPLE NOT PROFIT!!

We were making the links.

While the governments are spending millions on the arms race, thousands of tons of grain are sitting at West Hallam - ROTTING because it's too expensive to ship it to the third world.

LANDWORTER SEPT. 1985



"THEIR LIFE IN HIS HANDS"

The two themes - arms race and third world starvation seemed to mean exactly the same thing. Just as the police patrol at Molesworth, and the U.S. army Greenham, the police were there representing the state's force, the government's voice. FUCK YOU!!

Together, more slipped under the fence and ran - some undetected!!

Of course, the rest were all rugby tackled, of course the police ripped our clothing, pushed us about, detained us in a police van without a charge and molested us, - but it didn't stop us from having another go. This was OUR DAY, and we did it OUR WAY!!

Out of the van we leapt and legged it.

Two got away while the rest of us were thrown back in the van. The two 'escaped convicts' almost made it to the grain store. Not quite. Shame.

We were driven to the local station where the sexist bastards searched the wimmin with plastic gloves.

We were told by the police that for 'playing ball' and co-operating, we would all be released without charge!! (ANOTHER ONE TO US!!) Made us all feel really good and strong, and received quite good publicity on local radio stations.

Thanks again to Viv and everyone for waiting outside the cop shop and driving us all back - much appreciated. Perhaps the most amazing thought to come out of this little escapade is this question - HOW come we all pay tax on our dole to clothe the police and they repay us by tearing ours and don't buy us any new ones?;!!

PEACE AND FREEDOM

O.S.

Our Responsibility...  
Our Action...

# WILF WAGSTAFF'S LIFE and TIMES



## LABOUR TRY TO FOOL US AGAIN!

EXCITEMENT RIPPLES THRO' UNEMPLOYED NOTTINGHAM AS LOCAL CONSTITUENCY LABOUR PARTIES ANNOUNCE THE VENUE FOR A "JOBS FESTIVAL" (QUEEN'S WALK COMMUNITY CENTRE) AIMED, AS THEY SAY, AT GIVING YOU POOR DEPRIVED A "UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY" TO 'CONTRIBUTE', NO LESS, TO THE LABOUR PARTY'S NATIONAL POLICY ON JOBS AND INDUSTRY. YES YOU NOW HAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO INHALE THE PUNGENCY OF JOHN PRESCOTT'S SILKEN WORDS. AND THIS TIME THEY SAY, THE AIM IS TO ASSESS YOUR OPINIONS.

BE THERE ON OCTOBER 12th, FOR PETER TOTTERDILL IS "VERY CONCERNED TO MAKE SURE THAT PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO POLICY". MORE OF THE SAME, OF THAT I HAVE NO DOUBT, 40 HOUR WEEKS, INDUSTRIALISATION... BLOODY HELL, MY GRANDAD BERT WAS CAMPAIGNING FOR A 40 HOUR WEEK AT THE END OF THE LAST CENTURY.

YET AGAIN I HEAR THE LABOUR PARTY HACKS HAIL A NEW INNOVATION, DRAWING INNOCENT CLAIMANTS INTO THE PARTY TRAP OF "PARTICIPATION". THEY PAT THEM ON THEIR POVERTY-STRICKEN PARTICIPATORY HEADS, AND SEND THEM HOME, MURMURING "ERM, INTERESTING. NOW LET'S GET ON WITH THE BUSINESS OF GOVERNMENT." PARTICIPATION IS NO MORE THAN A PUBLICITY STUNT AIMED TO DUPE US.

NOT ALL THE WAGSTAFF'S ARE SO SOUND YOU KNOW. YOU MAY HAVE HEARD OF THE LEGENDARY JIM WAGSTAFF, ONE TIME GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE TIN BEATERS AND SHUTTLE TAPPERS AMALGAMATED UNION. A MAN BLINDED BY THE GLIB PROMISES OF THE FORKED TONGUED ORATORS OF THE LABOUR PARTY, HE SOLD OUT THE CAUSE, AND JOINED THE RANKS OF THE PARLIAMENTARIANS. YET, HIS WORDS ON HIS DEATH BED... "PARTICIPATION, HUH! FOOLED, I WAS FOOLED".

MINERS GO FREE....  
MCLACHLAN WELL  
PISSSED OFF!

LIKE SOME RECURRING GENITAL WART, OUR FREIND THE CHIEF CONSTABLE, CHARLES "TROUT FACE" MACLACHLAN HAS BEEN AIRING HIS SCABACIOUS VIEWS AGAIN.

CARPING THINGS HE HAS TO SAY CONCERNING THE RECENT AQUITTAL OF MINERS UP ON RIOT CHARGES. HE SAYS "I THINK THE FACT IS THAT THERE WAS A RIOT AND THIS IS VINDICATED BY THE FACT THAT THE TRIAL WENT THROUGH UNTIL THE DEFENCE HAD TO PRESENT IT'S CASE". AND HE ADDED "I THINK THAT PERHAPS WE HAVE GOT TO LOOK AT THE EXPENSE OF TRIALS GENERALLY IN THE COUNTRY BECAUSE THEY ARE VERY, VERY EXPENSIVE INDEED".

GUILTY UNTIL THE DEFENSE MAKES IT'S CASE... LET'S GET RID OF TRIALS THEN.

DAMN THE DEFENSE - ALL THE LAWYERS SHOULD WEAR PROSECUTORS GOWNS. TROUT FACE DOESN'T EVEN WANT THE THE PLAY ACTING THAT PASSES FOR LAW. WELL, SHORN OF THE MASK OF EQUITABLE JUSTICE THE WHOLE AFFAIR MIGHT BE MORE HONEST!

BUT THE FACT IS THAT THE POLICE COULDN'T PROVE THAT THOSE ARRESTED HAD THEMSELVES BEEN INVOLVED IN THE RIOTING... AND THAT DOESN'T SURPRISE ME! NEITHER DOES THE RUMOUR I HEARD OF LATE ABOUT TROUT FACE JUNIOR... NICKED FOR SHOP-LIFTING DADDY USES HIS RESPECTED POSITION TO KEEP IT ALL QUIET. ONE LAW FOR THEM... ONE FOR THE REST OF US.



FRIENDS OF PETER TOTTERBILE  
HAVING BEEN STRUCK BY AN  
INNOVATION!

Caption competition No. 2



Send your captions  
to us at  
NOTTINGHAM  
ANARCHIST NEWS...

# FILM VIEWS

## SUBURBIA

YOU WILL HAVE MISSED THIS AT THE NEW CINEMA BY NOW, BUT IT'S ON COMMERCIAL VIDEO RELEASE IN VIDEO LIBRARIES LOCALLY. THE STORY AND SCRIPT IS ALL VERY B-MOVIE (REAL WEEPIE) ABOUT A GROUP OF PUNKS IN LOS ANGELES WHO ABANDON THEIR FAMILIES IN THE AMERICAN DREAM AND SQUAT AND STEAL TOGETHER. WHAT MAKES IT WORTH SEEING IS THE VISION OF PUNK IN AMERICA - IT ACTUALLY SEEMS TO MAKE MORE SENSE IN THAT ENVIRONMENT THAN IT DOES IN OURS. AND IT'S A FAR MORE ACCURATE VIEW OF THE BRITISH PUNK WORLD THAN ANYTHING I'VE SEEN MADE HERE.

## BRAZIL

ON AT THE FILM THEATRE IN OCTOBER.....A STAR OF THE ANARCHIST GROUP SAID 'IT'S THE BEST FILM I'VE SEEN SINCE YELLOW SUBMARINE', WHAT MORE CAN I SAY? (ESPECIALLY AS I HAVEN'T SEEN IT).

## PURPLE ROSE OF CAIRO

CATCH IT CHEAP AT THE ODEON. WRITTEN, DIRECTED BY WOODY ALLEN BUT WITHOUT HIM IN IT. IN A SUBTLE WAY ONE OF THE MOST RADICAL FILMS TO COME OUT OF STRAIGHT CINEMA. IN FACT THE QUESTIONS IT RAISES ABOUT CINEMA THREATEN TO DESTROY ITSELF (ITS ONLY A MOVIE, ITS ONLY ESCAPISM). A CHARACTER FROM A CHEAPO AMERICAN ESCAPISM, IN THE 30S DEPRESSION LEAVES THE SCREEN..... WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF EVERYONE SUDDENLY LEFT THEIR ROLES BEHIND? IF THE SCRIPT IS ABANDONED THEN WHO'S TO SAY WHAT DREAMS WE MIGHT LIVE? THE FAMILIAR COLLAPSES WHAT SOCIAL PROPS DO YOU RELY ON? SHORT AND SWEET, TECHNICALLY BRILLIANT. VERY FUNNY. (THOUGH THE ODIUM SEEMED TO NEED TO FILL THE TIME WITH A DREADFUL SHORT + HOURS OF ADVERTS AND TRAILERS, BE LATE IF ITS NOT A WEEKEND.)

## BREWSTERS MILLIONS

FORGET IT. SUITABLE ONLY FOR SATURDAY NIGHTS ON THE TELLY WHEN YOU'RE PISSED UP.

## WITNESS

MORE AMERICAN STUFF (DID YOU KNOW ITS BRITISH FILM YEAR?). O.K. IF THERE'S NOT MUCH ELSE. INTERESTING VIEW OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY WHO REMAIN WITH VALUES AND TECHNOLOGY OF 18TH CENTURY. REFUSE TO FIGHT FOR THE STATE AND KEEP WELL CLEAR OF THE POLICE (WELL FOR ONE THING THEY HAVN'T GOT PHONES).

\*\*\*\*\*

SEPTEMBER 14TH, SATURDAY AFTERNOON THE MEMBRANES PLAYED A FREE GIG ON TOP OF THE MUNICIPAL CAR PARK IN THE LACE MARKET, WITH ONE SMALL GENERATOR AND HAVING CALMLY CARRIED ALL THEIR EQUIPMENT UP THE STAIRS. ABOUT 80 WERE THERE AND GROOVING FOR A GOOD 20 MINUTES UNTIL WE WERE VISITED BY ONE POLICE CONSTABLE (WELL OVER SIX FEET BUT AGED ABOUT 12) AND SERVILLE CAR PARK ATTENDANT. SADLY, THIS COMBO PERSUADED THE MEMBRANES TO STOP WHILE THE AUDIENCE OFFERED ONLY JEERS (AND THE CRY OF 'CLASS WAR, CLASS WAR, ANARCHIST PAPER') IN RESPONSE. GIVEN THE NUMBERS THIS WAS A FEEBLE EFFORT AND SEEMS TO SHOW AN ENORMOUS GAP BETWEEN THE ACTIONS OF ROCK 'N' ROLL REBELS AND THOSE INVOLVED IN DIRECT ACTION ON ALL LEVELS WHERE ONE POLICEMAN WOULD HAVE BEEN TOTALLY IGNORED (OR POSSIBLY TOSSED OVER THE SIDE). HMMMMM.

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# RIOTS SPREAD TO NOTTINGHAM

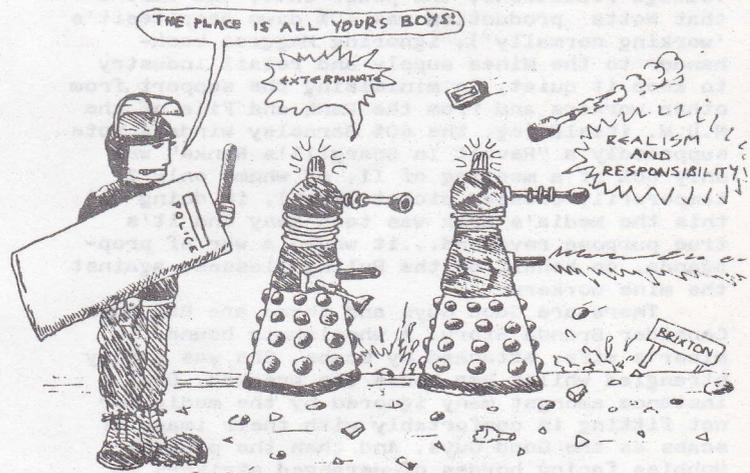
LATE ON SATURDAY NIGHT AFTER GOOSE FAIR HAD ENDED, ABOUT 100 YOUTHS BROKE 48 SHOP WINDOWS, LOOTED A HI FI SHOP AND SET A CAR ON FIRE IN THE AREA BETWEEN HYSON GREEN AND ILKESTON RD. THERE WERE NO ARRESTS DESPITE 700 POLICE BEING ON DUTY IN THE AREA FOR GOOSE FAIR.

THIS HAD FOLLOWED A PERIOD OF ABOUT A WEEK WHEN RUMOURS OF PLANS FOR A RIOT HAD BEEN CIRCULATING, AS WELL AS REPORTS OF LARGE NUMBERS OF POLICE BEING PREPARED AND READY FOR A RIOT. TWO WOMEN WHO WERE IN HYSON GREEN ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT WERE TOLD BY A GANG OF MEN TO GET OFF THE STREETS BECAUSE THERE WAS GOING TO BE A RIOT.

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THIS RAMPAGE WAS A RESPONSE TO THE LARGER RIOTS TEARING AT BRITAIN'S CITIES, AND ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO TRIGGERING INCIDENTS BETWEEN POLICE AND LOCAL PEOPLE WHICH WERE COMMON TO THE HANDSWORTH, BRIXTON AND TOTTENHAM RIOTS OF THE PAST WEEKS, AND NO SPECIFIC REASON FOR NOTTINGHAM'S YOUTH TO LET LOOSE, THE GENERAL GRIVANCES THAT SHOULD RELEASE THIS ANGER WERE OBVIOUS. WHATEVER YOU THINK ABOUT THE MERITS OF SUCH VIOLENCE AS HAS BEEN SEEN IN LONDON, LIVERPOOL, BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM AND PROBABLY ALL OVER BRITAIN, WE MUST ALL AGREE THAT THE FAULT AND BLAME LIES WITH THE PRESENT POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC REGIME.

RIOTS ARE NOT 'RIGHT ON' AFFAIRS. THEY CONTRADICT MANY ANARCHIST IDEAS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE AND REVOLUTION, ARE OBVIOUSLY MALE DOMINATED AFFAIRS AND OFTEN BACKFIRE, BECOMING THEMSELVES AN ATTACK ON THE COMMUNITY. IN HANDSWORTH, TWO ASIANS ~~BEING~~ WHEN THE BUILDING THEY WERE IN WAS SET ALIGHT. IN BRIXTON TWO WOMEN WERE RAPED DURING THE RIOTING THERE AND TERRIFIED RESIDENTS HAD TO RUN FOR PROTECTION BEHIND POLICE LINES OR BARRICADE THEMSELVES INSIDE THEIR OWN HOMES FOR FEAR OF THE RIOTERS (IN TOTTENHAM ON SUNDAY NIGHT, 6th OCT.)

WE ARE ALL HAPPY TO SEE A PHYSICAL REPRESENTATION OF OUR ANGER AGAINST AUTHORITY AND ENFORCED POVERTY, AND I WILL NOT CRY FOR A DEAD POLICEMAN OR AN INJURED JOURNALIST, BUT RIOTS ARE DANGEROUS THINGS, TOO UNCONTROLLABLE, TOO INDESCRIMINATE TO BE OF MUCH USE IN RIDDING THIS COUNTRY OF THE REAL TROUBLEMAKERS AND PRACTITIONERS OF VIOLENCE- THOSE RICH MEN, PROFESSIONAL POLITICIANS AND THEIR LACKIES, THE POLICEMEN WHO ATTACK US EVERY DAY OF OUR LIVES. BUT THEN AGAIN IS IT NOT SECRETLY PLEASING TO SEE THEM BEING ATTACKED IN RETURN JUST ONCE IN A WHILE?



CLICHE RIDDEN CARTOONS NO 2613

## ANGRY RANT

I HAVE NO RESPECT ??  
I HAVE NO MORALS ??

RESPECT FOR POWER MAD THUGS WHO WOULD BE CALLED PSYCHOTICS IF THEY ACTED WITHOUT THE MASK OF STATE ?

MORALS !! MAKE LIFE HELL FOR A WOMAN WHO LOVES ANOTHER WOMAN. IMPRISON A BOY WHO LOVES ANOTHER BOY. PRAISE HARD WORK NO MATTER WHAT IT'S FOR : "IF WE DIDN'T MAKE TORTURE INSTRUMENTS SOMEONE ELSE WOULD" (NORMAN TERBIT)

I HAVE RESPECT, OR RATHER LOVE, FOR EARTH AND LIFE AND PEOPLE, WHO STILL ASTONISH ME WITH THEIR BEAUTY, SOMEHOW SURVIVING THE CRUELTY AND STUPIDITY OF SOCIAL ORGANISATION

MORALS I CHOOSE AND WORK OUT WITH OTHERS. HOPEFULLY !

## TELL US LIES ABOUT THE MINERS -

DAVID DOUGLAS.

A favourite pastime amongst lefties in the Carlton - 'Name that Issue' - consisted of the naming of issues arising out of the miner's strike, it starts "well, what interested me most about the miner's strike was..." Well here is one of the more obvious - the role of the Media.

The pamphlet provides a glimpse of the monumental distortion by the media of the facts of our recent dispute'. In comparing these facts with the media coverage of them he opines that the media is a "manipulative tool of the ruling class", which of course directly contradicts its pretence to be independant and liberal.

Coverage during the dispute was shot thru' with half truth and distortion. T.V commentators acted, not as impartial observers, but as advocates encouraging the split. Witness the unbalanced emphasis given to the 'Back To Work' movement, where "five new faces" makes headline news and is hailed as an indication of imminent collapse.

The presentation and the language used played a vital part in marginalising the Miners. "Pickets are thugs, a picket line is a mob. Scabs brave picket lines", tho' pickets never brave the police lines." Language reflects political values. So, when T.V. reportage was perceived as the reality, the common understanding of the dispute incorporated just those values and attitudes.

The dispute presented was as a caricature. The N.U.M. wanted a meal ticket, but the N.C.B. preferred to have an efficient public service. Which side would you be on? From the start it was "Scargill's strike" and he became "a hate object - an identifiable enemy in an incomprehensible struggle. Everything becomes clear, there is not too much to think about, it is a dispute about personalities, not issues or causes or sides or classes. An individual popularity poll with the media as the social clapometer."

In altering fact, playing down the effects of the dispute (eg. the faltering pound, the voltage reductions, the power cuts, the fact that Notts production was 40% down despite it's 'working normally'), ignoring Maggie's back-hander to the Mines supply and retail industry to keep it quiet, in minimising the support from other workers and from the Rank and File of the N.U.M. itself (eg. the 60% Barnsley winders vote supposedly a "Revolt In Scargill's Ranks" was only 60% of a meeting of II, of whom only 2 temporarily crossed picket lines), in doing all this the media's mask was torn away and it's true purpose revealed...it waged a war of propaganda, on behalf of the Ruling Classes, against the mine workers.

There are Good Guys and there are Bad Guys. Consider Brenda Story. A wheelchair bound miner's wife, attacked by scabs. She was nearly strangled whilst her house was wrecked. One instance amongst many ignored by the media for not fitting in comfortably with their image of scabs as the Good Guys. And then the police. Bobbies facing hordes of deranged strikers in defense of all that we hold dear. Despite a Tribune dossier on police infiltration, despite the numerous reported cases of police violence and intimidation and despite the unprecedented rise in police powers: the independent liberal press raised few objections. Film of Gasgoine Wood (and more notably of Orgreave, shown during the recent riot trial) was purposefully altered to give the impression that it was the pickets who started the trouble and not the other way around. And yet the undeniably partisan and political police force remains in the public eye... 'Bobbies on the Beat'.

Too brief to really do the subject justice, it falls too easily into 'Conspiracy Theory'. The behaviour of the media then, and more recently the Real Lives case and the revelations of about the vetting that occurs within the B.B.C. could give a sound basis for that conclusion, the reality is, I fear, more complex.

Nevertheless he does succinctly illustrate that bias. And this, he says, is something less commonly accepted than many on the left tend to assume. It leaves then with that recurring problem, requiring a great deal of thought - how do we develop our own alternative means of communication with the wider public.

# RE-

DRUMS AND VOCALS - TEST PRESSING

# VIEWS

THE NEW D&V ALBUM IS OUT SOON ON EITHER CRASS RECORDS OR CORPUS CHRISTI, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE COVER WILL BE LIKE OR IF THE LYRICS WILL BE PRINTED, YOU CAN HEAR MOST OF THE WORDS ANYWAY. THE SINGLE, ON CRASS RECORDS, HAD JUST 'DRUMS' AND 'VOCALS', BUT WITH AN ALBUM OF ABOUT 35MINS THAT WOULD BE A BIT MONOTONOUS SO THEY'VE ADDED OTHER INSTRUMENTS AND SINGING IN THE BACKGROUND TO ENHANCE AN ALREADY POWERFUL BEAT. THE MUSIC IS QUITE CHEERFUL, UNUSUAL FOR THE CRASS LABEL, EVEN IF THE LYRICS CAN BE A BIT DIRECT AT TIMES THE ALBUM IS ONE OF THE BEST RELEASED ON THE CRASS LABEL FOR A LONG WHILE AND IT DESERVES ALOT MORE SUCCESS THAN THE SINGLE.

IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE HOW THEY PERFORM THEIR SET LIVE NOW THAT THE BACKGROUND NOISES HAVE BEEN ADDED FOR EFFECT. SOME PEOPLE HAVE COMPARED THEM TO THE PASSAGE, SO HOPEFULLY THEY WILL APPEAL TO ALL KINDS OF MUSICAL TASTE.

## CLASSIC'S CORNER

### ANNE BRONTE The Tenant Of Wildfell Hall.



Born a vicar's daughter in the 1830's, sent to an austere and reactionary school for the education of clergymen's children, it never ceases to amaze me that Anne Bronte could have produced what is to me the first feminist novel.

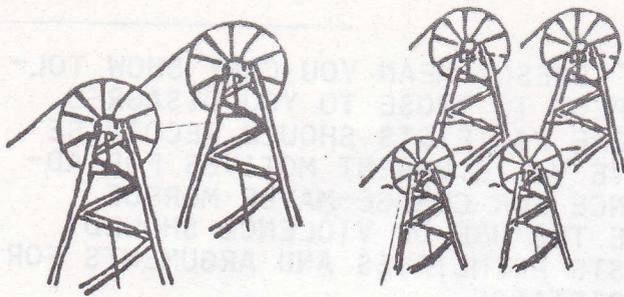
Her heroine, Helen Huntingdon, flees a drunken and violent husband and taking her child with her, causes curiosity when she takes up residence in a false name in a little known part of the country. She maintains her independence not only physically and financially, but also in thought, standing her ground against the opinions of her neighbours.

But yet again I hear the Anarchist whinings 'it's all about religion(yuk!)' And oh, horror of horror, she actually gets married in the end!

Well if we calm ourselves a little and look at the novel and the author in the context of the times, what we read is almost revolutionary. The very fact of a woman leaving her husband scandalised all social conventions, women and children were men's property under law and Helen Huntingdon's act was illegal. Society at the time was even more worried about a woman writing about such things.

Through Helen Huntingdon we hear the voice of Anne Bronte declaring to the world the equality of men and women, the fallibility of men and the strength of will and perseverance that women can possess. Her eventual marriage and acceptance by the community is a tool used by Bronte, an illustration of hope, that humanity can change, acceptance is given.

So give Marge Piercy and Emma Goldman a rest for a bit and read the ones who made it possible. Open your minds and hear a cry from a bleak northern village, maybe it'll touch your heart.



NOTTINGHAM WOMEN AGAINST PIT CLOSURES:  
CAMPAIGN FOR COAL PUBLIC MEETING, 14th SEPTEMBER

If only the presence of the ubiquitous paper sellers were some indication of public interest. Alas, no. For despite all the effort that must have gone into organising this meeting, the hall remained all but empty. An unfortunate pity, it would have been well worth anybody's attending. Chaired by Gwen MacLeod, the speakers included Peter Heathfield, N.U.M. President, who gave an impressive address, local hack Paddy Tipping, Ann Suddick, National Chairperson of W.A.P.C., Edmond Derby, Safe Energy Campaign and someone - whose name I forget - from N.U.P.E.

Three themes dominated - the effect on the local community of industrial closure, the future of coal and non-nuclear energy policy and unity within the National Union.

We heard of the decay and desolation that had been Corby's lot, despite Enterprise Zone Scheme investment of some 500 million pounds, since the Steel Plant closure in 1981. Worth bearing in mind; since Notts with it's "I'm alright Jack" attitude is less secure than some would think. Doubts were cast about the future of both Babbington and Bentinck. The N.C.B. employs 40,000 in this county, each mining job, so it was estimated, supports 3 others elsewhere. Job losses in the mining industry would not only have dire knock-on effects for: the other sectors of the local economy.' But the loss of rate value would inevitably mean massive cutbacks in service provision.

The expansion of our coal industry, not only providing security for local communities, but for the next 200 years could be the safe alternative to nuclear development, which at present accounts for less than 20% of our energy production. Furthermore, it would release resources and give time for research into and development of alternative forms of energy, at the moment woefully neglected. With Combined Heating Schemes (where hot water from power stations is piped to estates, factories and schools, etc) and

Community Heating Schemes (smaller with fewer ecological problems), energy conservation would be integral to a co-ordinated, efficient and cheaper system. But no! Government is hell-bent on nuclear energy, and the motives, argued Edmond Derby, are political.

But, of course the grand theme, predictably was unity. Unity in the National Union. As Spenceism had been dashed by the 30's recession, so this latter-day version would face a similar fate. Though backing fully this call for unity, doubts have to be cast upon the argument given. The situation has changed so drastically since the 30's, when over 1 million worked in the pits. Is it not within the realms of possibility, that given the next recessionary downturn, the National Union and not the breakaway, could fall? One hopes not, but let us remember which are the areas giving strongest support to the National Union.

At the end of the day, two big criticisms. Firstly there was the inevitable rally call for a new Labour Government. Kinnock, undeniably opportunistic, slick and calculating, whose behaviour during the Strike was deplorable, would probably welcome weakened and less militant unions, the likely upshot of Thatcherism. (And N.B. his attitude to the recent T.U.C vote on sequestration and sacked miners). For they would be less troublesome for his corporate strategy. Perhaps they'd even accept the 'Incomes Policy' Labour leaders aren't going to implement, in return for some breathing space and their old room in Whitehall. The fixation of Parliamentary office stays, their definition of what constitutes political action remains as poor as ever. Secondly, we must criticise the way in which the work ethic still dominates the outlook of the T.U.s. 'Real jobs', '40-hour weeks' do give greater security it's true, but let us not forget that this is security through exploitation. Unions have to recognise the potentialities that exist now for approaching the issue of work in new ways. Their horizon requires more breadth, their imagination is in need of a dust-down.

It would have been good to have seen a few more Anarchists there. Aren't they in possession of broad horizons and dusted imaginations? Perhaps an impossible demand. You see, Unions are still "patriarchal bastions of hierarchy and workerism" aren't they (a mouthful of cliché that). And we can forget the miners, now that their struggle has taken a less immediately rebellious turn, and now that the hippies, closer to our hearts, are being trashed instead. And would we, believers in the leisure society, campaign for work? Never. That those suckers ultimately pay for our dolcheques and arts centres is brushed aside as an irrelevancy.

Rob

THE TALISMAN - Stephen King and Peter Straub.

TELLS THE STORY OF A YOUNG BOY'S JOURNEY TO FIND THE TALISMAN, THE ONLY THING THAT WILL CURE HIS DYING MOTHER. THE JOURNEY TAKES HIM BOTH THRO' OUR WORLD AND THE MAGICAL, BUT OFTEN FRIGHTENING TERRITORIES; A PLACE WHOSE FATE, AND THE FATE OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE, IS CLOSELY LINKED WITH OUR OWN. BOTH KING AND STRAUB ARE GOOD AT DEPICTING NOT JUST SUPERNATURAL TERRORS (A MAN WHOSE HEAD LITERALLY IS FULL OF WORMS) BUT ALSO THE HORRORS THAT CAN EXIST IN REAL LIFE SITUATIONS.

THIS BOOK HAS BEEN A LONG TIME IN THE MAKING, FIRST PLANNED IN 1977, THE FINAL RESULT IS, I FEEL, SUPERB. HOWEVER AT £3.95 THE BOOK IS WAY OVERPRICED FOR A PAPERBACK.

INCARNATE - Ramsey Campbell

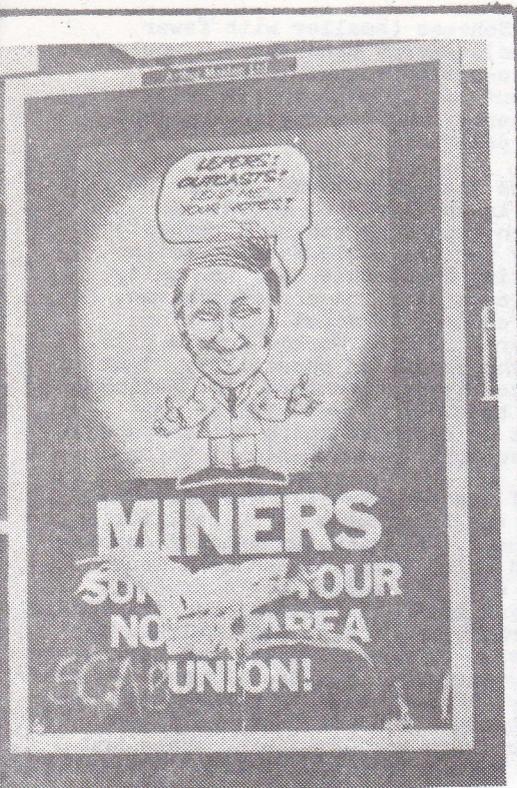
ELEVEN YEARS AGO A GROUP OF PEOPLE WERE INVOLVED IN A SIMILAR EXPERIMENT ABOUT DREAMING SHARED THE SAME NIGHTMARE, NOW THIS NIGHTMARE BEGINS TO PRESS ITSELF INTO REAL LIFE. ALTHOUGH THIS BOOK HAS SOME MEMORABLE MOMENTS - THE VERY LACK OF EMOTION WITH WHICH CAMPBELL DESCRIBES SCENES SERVING TO INCREASE THEIR HORROR - I FEEL CAMPBELL'S SHORT STORIES FAR SURPASS HIS NOVELS.

## MORE RE-VIEWS

VALENTINE PONTIFEX - Robert Silverberg.

THE LAST IN SILVERBERG'S MAJIPOOR TRILOGY. MAJIPOOR IS A LIBERALS IDEA OF UTOPIA; WITH THE STATE'S HEAD (THE CORONAL), BUREAUCRACY (THE LABRYNTH AND THE PONTIFEX), MEANS OF PUNISHMENT (THE KING OF DREAMS), AND REWARD (THE LADY OF THE ISLE) ALL IN BALANCED STABILITY. UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE ORIGINAL PEOPLES OF MAJIPOOR; THE METAMORPHS, THIS STABILITY BEGINS TO CRUMBLE. IN EACH BOOK OF THE SERIES SILVERBERG HAS BEEN WILLING TO EXPERIMENT WITH DIFFERENT FORMS OF WRITING, HE'S ALSO GOOD IN THAT HE DEPICTS STRONG FEMALE CHARACTERS (ALBET THAT THE CENTRAL CHARACTERS REMAIN MALE). THOUGH ALL RIGHT THE BOOK DOESN'T QUITE LIVE UP TO THE STANDARDS SET BY THE OTHER TWO.

'BEING RADICAL' DOESNT MEAN YOU CANT SHOW TOL-  
 ERANCE AND RESPECT TO THOSE TO YOU DISAGREE  
 WITH, PERHAPS MORE PACIFISTS SHOULD RECOGNISE  
 THAT OTHERS HAVE VALID, URGENT MOTIVES FOR AD-  
 VOCATING VIOLENCE FOR CHANGE-MAYBE MORE OF  
 THOSE WHO ARGUE THE USE OF VIOLENCE SHOULD  
 RESPECT PACIFISTS PRINCIPLES AND ARGUMENTS FOR  
 NON-VIOLENT RESISTANCE,  
 LETS HELP EACH OTHER-ARGUE WITH BUT NOT ABUSE  
 EACH OTHER, LOVE PEACE AND ANGER!!



FROM  
 NICK  
 (EAST  
 LEAKE)

CapTion  
 compETITION  
 No 1

Send your captions  
 to us at  
 NOTTINGHAM  
 ANARCHIST NEWS...

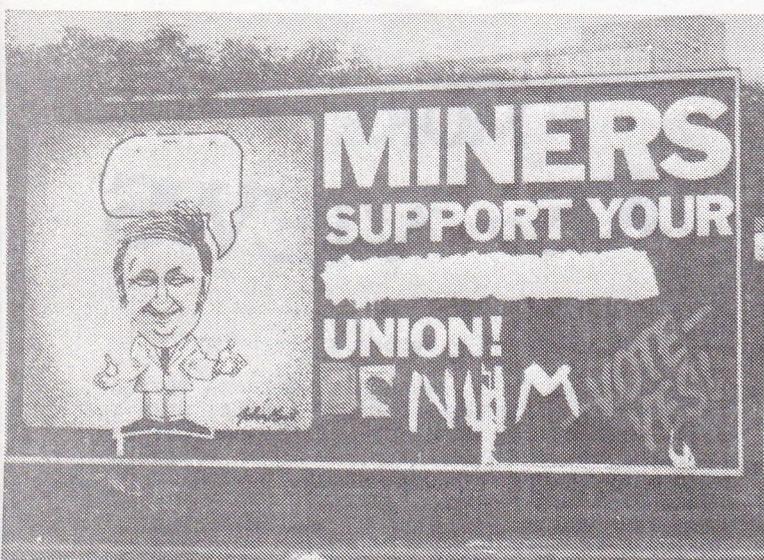


GIRL: DAD, WHERE'S MY  
 HAMSTERS CAGE?

DAD: I SHOVED IT  
 DOWN A YOUNG TORIES  
 EARHOLE

(AT A RECENT YOUNG TORIES  
 CONFERENCE AT LOUGHBOROUGH,  
 THEY WERE SINGING HILARIOUS  
 SONGS ABOUT SACKED  
 MINERS HAVING TO EAT  
 HAMSTERS FOR CHRISTMAS  
 DINNER)

THEY CAN LAUGH NOW BUT  
 WE'LL GET THE LAST LAUGH  
 ON THOSE BASTARDS

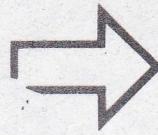


ALSO AT THIS YOUNG TORY CONFERENCE  
 THEY WRECKED THE DORMS AT NIGHT. BUT  
 THEY GOT AWAY WITH A TELLING OFF, THEIR  
 ELDERS PUTTING IT DOWN TO HIGH SPIRITS.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF HOW IT'S ALRIGHT FOR  
 THE 'ELITE' TO BE VANDALS, BUT NOT THE REST  
 OF US.

WELL DONE!!! Whoever  
 had a go at these posters for  
 the scab union

# SUPER-RON ??



ALL YOU  
EVER FEARED  
AND MORE \* \* \* \* \*  
MUCH MORE

## presidential low iq \*\*\*\*\* the chilling story ... by the man himself



“Now, the Soviets have 945 warheads aimed at targets in Europe in their medium-ranged missiles. And we have no deterrent whatsoever. . . .” (10/14/82)  
 “As for radiation, a coal-fired plant emits more radiation than a nuclear-powered plant. You even get more from watching TV or having your teeth X-raved.” (Radio, Nov. 1978)

### TALKING

“The truth is, all of the nuclear waste now on hand and yet to be accumulated between now and the year 2000, could be stacked on a single football field and the stack would only be six feet high.” (Radio, Nov. 1978)

“The waste from one nuclear power plant in a year would take less storage space than a dining room table.” (Radio, Apr. 1979)

“All the waste in a year from a nuclear power plant could be stored under a desk.” (Burlington [Vt.] Free Press, 2/15/80)

“We were told four years ago that 17 million people went to bed hungry every night. Well, that was probably true. They were all on a diet.” (TV speech, 10/27/64)

“Unemployment insurance is a pre-paid vacation for freeloaders.” (Sacramento Bee, 4/28/66)

### PROS & CONS:

**CIVIL RIGHTS ACT 10/19/65:**  
 “I favor the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and it must be enforced at the point of a bayonet, if necessary.” (L.A. Times, 10/20/65)

6/16/66:  
 “I would have voted against the Civil Rights Act of 1964.” (L.A. Times, 6/17/66)

### NEWS ITEM

Elizabeth Drew wrote in the June 21, 1982 *New Yorker* of a White House meeting in which the president lauded the inventor of Rubik's Cube as exemplifying the virtues of American free enterprise. Erno Rubik, the inventor of the cube, is a Hungarian professor living in Communist Budapest.

“Air pollution has been substantially controlled.” (Press release, 10/8/80)

“I don't think I've said anything of the kind.” (Oct. 9, *Time*, 10/20/80)

“Isn't it substantially under control? I think it is.” (*Time*, 10/20/80)

“We should declare war on North Vietnam . . . We could pave the whole country and put parking strips on it, and still be home by Christmas.” (Fresno Bee, 10/10/65)

### PROS & CONS:

**REDWOODS**  
 “A tree's a tree. How many more do you need to look at?” (Sacramento Bee, 3/12/66)

“... 115,000 acres of trees in the state park system is a lot to look at. How long can you look?” (Sacramento Bee, 4/28/66)

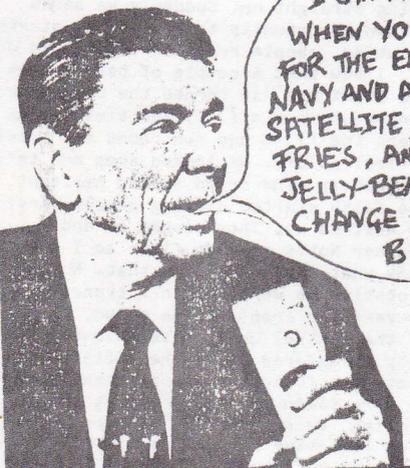
“I'm a fellow who bleeds every time a tree is cut down.” (Fresno Bee, 4/28/66)

“I don't believe a tree is a tree and if you've seen one you've seen them all.” (Sacramento Bee, 9/14/66)

“I just didn't say it.” (Associated Press, 10/5/66)

“Well, I learned a lot. . . . I went down [to Latin America] to find out from them and [learn] their views. You'd be surprised. They're all individual countries.” (Wash. Post, 12/6/82)

“I recently learned in playing those games something quite interesting about video. Many young people have developed incredible hand, eye, and brain coordination. The air force believes these kids will be our outstanding pilots should they fly our jets.” (3/8/83)



I CAN REMEMBER THE TIME WHEN YOU COULD BUY EQUIPMENT FOR THE ENTIRE US AIR FORCE, NAVY AND ARMY; LAUNCH A SPY SATELLITE; BUY A BIG MAC & FRIES, AND A POUND OF THOSE JELLY-BEANS; AND STILL HAVE CHANGE FROM A ONE DOLLAR BILL!!!

... and brutality • Riot leaders won wide support from across community • C  
 mmander • Anarchists and communists seen among protesters • Black PC kn

BRIXTON

There were several skin-heads sporting Union Jack tatoos, suggesting possible membership of groups on the far right and members of anarchist organisations, including Class War, which is run by former leading figures in the National Front.

There was also a large contingent from the Revolutionary Communist Party, which, like the other white extremist groups present, appeared to be doing its best to revive enthusiasm for attacking the police verbally or physically when the violence was in danger of flagging.

← A PACK OF LIES FROM THE GUARDIAN, BUT WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU EXPECT?

→ MOST RESTRAINED PIECE EVER WRITTEN BY CLASS WAR. WHAT HAPPENED TO SCUMBAG WANKERS

Sir,—We are outraged at the allegation (Guardian, September 30) that Class War is run by “former leading figures of the National Front.”

Members of Class War have a strong history of anti-fascist activity. We are affiliated to the newly formed Anti-Fascist Action organisation and have strong links with other anti-fascist

groups. Class War as a paper and collective totally opposes racism and fascism.

We openly invite any evidence which would show that any member of Class War is or has been a member of the National Front or any other fascist or neo-Nazi group or organisation.

If we said the Guardian was written by Tories, your readership would—or might—desert you overnight. Besides lost readership, your unfounded statement means we also face the prospect of physical violence from both the uninformed revolutionary Left and the fascist Right. Janet Thomas. Class War Collective. London E1.



I WENT TO THE BASH THE RICH MARCH ON HAMPSTEAD MAINLY OUT OF CURIOSITY. ALTHOUGH I HAVE MET CLASS WARRERS AND READ THEIR PAPERS REGULARLY, I WAS INTERESTED TO SEE WHAT ONE OF THEIR EVENTS WOULD BE LIKE. I ALSO THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO BASH THE RICH, THEY'VE BEEN BASHING US FOR LONG ENOUGH.

Arrived in Hampstead in time for a quick pint before setting off for Chalk Farm tube. There we were herded up to a paved area behind Primrose Hill station. After a quick frisking we were allowed to stand and wait. The one W.P.C. that was searching women could not keep up and I got the impression that they weren't expecting any women. We waited for more people to turn up; so far only about 200 had arrived and we felt and were outnumbered by filth. I was uneasy, worried, bored as well and pissed off that if no-one else turned up it would have been a waste of time turning up in the first place.

A couple of fags later the numbers had swollen, things looked better. It was 3 o'clock, a superint. came forwards and told us it was time to start, we told him to piss off. Someone said we'd leave at 3-30 and the pigs synchronised their watches. Being "Revolutionary Anarchists" we took off at 3-15. Some more joined up as we went up Haverstock Hill towards Hampstead and looking back at the crowd I guessed that there were about 1,000 people there. There still seemed to be far too many filth about.

We marched and chanted. Filth were spaced a few feet apart and exchanged verbal abuse with us. There were a few arrests - don't know what for, I was at the front and they were picked out from the back.

After more chanting and marching we came across the thin blue line that was going to keep us out of Hampstead.

They sealed off Haverstock Hill just past Belsize Avenue. We stopped, we started, we faltered. They wanted us to go down the Avenue; we didn't want to go. We tried going forwards, people got nicked, we retired. They couldn't force us round the corner and we couldn't force our way anywhere. There was stalemate. Not that the filth minded - they were happy to stand and watch. We started to get bored. No-one seemed sure what to do. By this time we were packed fairly close together and looked like about 500 people.

We tried half-hearted charges front and rear and at one point ended up charging in a circle. We moved to the back in the hope of breaking out of what was now a cordon around 3 sides of the crowd. No chance - the only way they'd let us go was left. People looked lost & unmotivated. At one point someone shouted 'All those who want to go left, shout "Left"'. Amazingly no-one shouted 'fuck off', lots of people shouted left. The filth wanted us to go left, round in a circle and back to Chalk Farm tube, they'd said so when we were talking to them at the front. 'All those people that don't want to go left shout "No"'. Came the next instruction. I shouted no, not wanting the Left 'vote' (left wing?) to win. No-one knew which shout was louder - still no decision. Suddenly a few people at the front shouted left and we moved off down Belsize Ave. We moaned and marched on. Round the corner was rows

of flats and houses, exactly where we didn't want to be. We were in the middle now and a lot of people were bemoaning the left turn.

If we could have done, we should have abandoned the march and dispersed while we were waiting up on Haverstock Hill. Someone had suggested this after the charges had failed but it didn't get much response. Personally I much prefer not even being able to see a cop than abusing, spitting at, kicking or formation rucking with them (pointless exercises in bravado) and once it was obvious that we were going to be contained we should have tried to lose them. Even if it achieves nothing else, at least then they don't know where 500 "Revolutionary Anarchists" are. If you can't march where you want what's the point in marching? Moreover, if you only march where THEY want you to, what's the point in marching? If you can't walk, run.

'Bash the Rich' had turned into ritual square bashing. Without realising it we walked into another diversion. People started turning left, a handful (perhaps 3) of filth prevented us from going straight on. Suddenly we saw a golden opportunity to leg it. We started shouting, people realised they could do it. I saw that a couple of people from the front who had turned the corner had managed to run off. By the time we got there the filth had run round and tried to seal it off. We linked arms and tried to push it. The crowd seemed hesitant. The filth started nicking people, trying to shit us up. They nicked me and another Notts comrade first so I don't know what happened after that. Not much, probably. We were sat in a transit about 30 yards in front of the crowd, in front of the control unit. After about 2 hour they transferred us to the Mobile Cells that were following the procession. Then we were taken to Albany Street police station. We were 2 or 3 to a cell, didn't look like many people got nicked.

We got out about 8 o'clock. They cautioned everyone except those nicked on more 'serious' charges (about 7 people, I think).



# CLASS WAR DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH!!!

Class War is exciting! I'd love the chance to take out my frustration on a lone copper or a 'Hooray Henry'! Rioting is daring and fun! And radical! They've even got a regular, national paper so you don't suffer from those 'all alone against the rest of the world' blues. It's a brash rebellion that doesn't take shit from anybody (least of all the other meely-mouthed reformists within the movement!)

I suppose the basic idea is that the more noise we make, the closer we are to revolution. Class War are certainly noisy, but seem to understand little about revolution.

Being ever critical of the amount of time the 'broad left' spends ripping itself to shreds, I'm not convinced of the constructive value of writing this piece. However Class War has the potential to drain the energy of very determined, thinking people involved with it, into angry but impotent and dangerous gestures, leaving them tired, disillusioned and probably in prison! It refuses to see how limited and short-sighted it is, and will rush around furiously before dropping down dead.

Class War remind me of an anarchist Boy Scouts. There is even a comparable hierarchy, with ample opportunity for the egos of the 'organisers' to be pushed dangerously to the fore (The state loves leaders)

To give them their due, they are organised and have a sense of purpose. The approach is to recognize the enemy and to go out and attack directly. They know the kind of world we live in is disgusting, but do they have any vision at all of how they would really like to live? Their approach is neither optimistic nor constructive. It is a cynical process that assumes that by destroying the rich and powerful you rid yourself of the problems of wealth and privilege, and every one not fighting on the same lines is the enemy.

This approach is also simplistic and naive, it aim itself at the symptoms of the established order. Hampstead? Henley? These are not the wheels of capitalism, they are simply how the rich show themselves off. To attack them is an important symbolic gesture, but Class War seem to believe that by frightening the rich at play they are somehow making their overthrow more imminent. Do they really believe the powerful are scared of them? The rich despise and patronise the discontented poor. They will, at their most peeved, simply have us locked up if we make ourselves obvious as individuals. It is important that they know how much we hate them, but we can't fight them openly, on their terms.

Class War also think that violence is fun. They are macho thugs. Violence is disgusting and the lowest form of communication. In many cases it is unavoidable, the state takes most other rights of change and protest away from us. But to glorify glorify or enjoy it is to be like generals and politicians. Class War's attitude to violence is laughable in any case. Sticks and stones against the state?? If they're serious why aren't they discussing workable strategies of armed conflict?

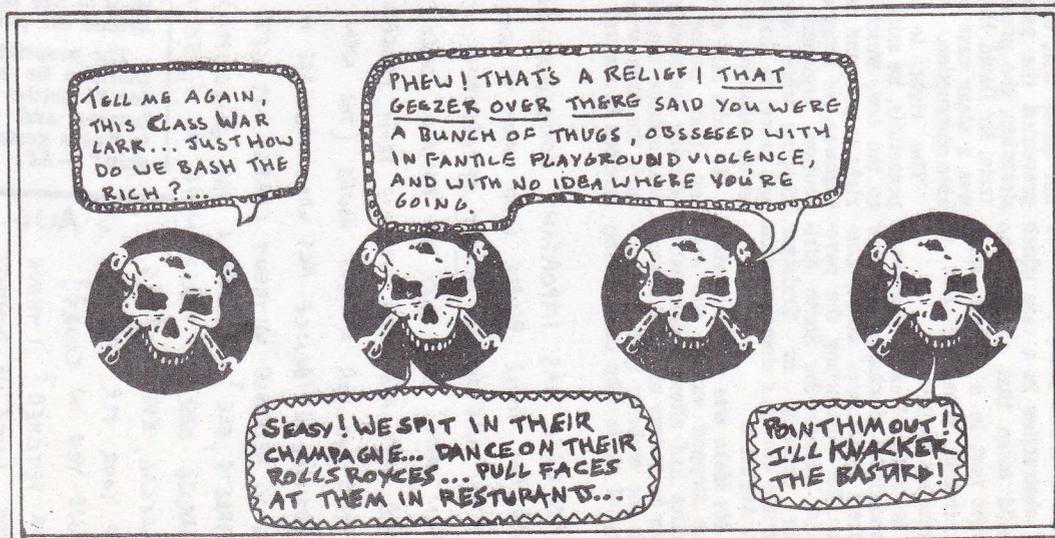
You can't beat the state by confronting it so blatantly, it will just crush you. To Class War the poor are baton fodder, as though rioting in Handsworth is going to change the system. Rioting killing police etc is a symbol of a desire to live differently to how you are being forced to. But if the state thought riots (in the form we know them here, with people destroying their own communities) could achieve this change, it'd clamp down harder on them instead of dismissing them. (See South Africa. That isn't haphazard rioting, it's a conscious attempt at insurrection, by people who really understand the structure of state oppression)

Class War operate in a way that assumes that it is the first truly radical method. They show no knowledge or respect for the history of their own movement, as though a historical context is simply intellectual bullshit. Class War didn't invent Anarchism and they're not the only organised anarchist resistance (even if they're trying to claim Stop The City as their brainchild). They talk about the poor, the working class, the down-trodden etc 'rising up' but arrogantly ignore a century of anarchist writing on the subject. Neither are they internationalist - not because they think struggles abroad are not important but because they seem to have a kind of fear of an 'intellectualization' they think goes hand in glove with writing about struggles outside their own field of experience. The kind of anti-Right wing confrontation they seek has and is being experienced world wide (like the Spanish Civil War, the Russian Revolution, Nicaragua etc. etc.) Class War appear to arrogantly ignore any lessons that can be learnt from what is our history just as much as it is the state's.

They continually equate left wing with right wing politics, somewhat insultingly to the people of N. Ireland and, El Salvador etc. even if the left in this country is mainly a middle class powertrip. It is a popular joke amongst British lefts that left wing groups spend more time slugging each other off than they do attacking the right. So how is a Class War joke about killing pacifists a constructive alternative to this.

I am not a pacifist myself but to conclude I will say I am not part of an anarchist movement that glorifies violence above the ends it can achieve. Class War are a phenomena I would rather ignore, but if their narrow minded, divisive male attitude -s are influencing more and more people, I feel they should be made to consider and respect the Anarchist movement, past and present, as a whole.

Laura Biding



# Obstruction ruling puts demonstrators at risk

By Seumas Milne

An anti-apartheid demonstrator was found guilty yesterday of obstruction in a case which could mean that anyone who takes part in a peaceful demonstration runs the risk of breaking the law.

Ms Althea Ifeka was given a conditional discharge at Bow Street magistrates' court, London, for obstructing the pavement outside the South African embassy in Trafalgar square during a demonstration on August 9.

Ms Ifeka was arrested when she stepped outside the area police had allowed demonstrators to occupy and laid flowers on the embassy gate in memory of those who died during

the South African state of emergency. Although the prosecution did not claim that Ms Ifeka had prevented the passage of pedestrians, the presiding magistrate, Mr David Hopkin, said it was a clear case of unreasonable obstruction.

The right to demonstrate peacefully, he said, was subject to the law, which upheld the right to pass and repass on the highway. He accepted the prosecution argument that any stopping which was not part and parcel of that right constituted an unreasonable obstruction.

Ms Ifeka said after the hearing that police were now allowing the weekly demonstrations outside the embassy to occupy the area where she was arrested in August.

THIS CASE HAS IMPORTANT CONSEQUENCES FOR CND AND ALL THOSE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO STAY LEGAL. THIS WOMAN WAS FOUND GUILTY OF OBSTRUCTING NOBODY. EVEN THOSE WHO SEEK TO REMAIN INSIDE THE LAW WILL FIND THEY ARE NOT IMMUNE FROM PROSECUTION OR DETENTION FOR A FEW HOURS (THE NEW POLICE AND CRIMINAL EVIDENCE ACT WILL INCREASE IT TO DAYS) BEFORE BEING RELEASED WITHOUT CHARGE. IT GETS YOU OFF THE STREETS, SEE! MEANWHILE THE GOVERNMENT ARE INVESTIGATING MAKING OBSCENE, THREATENING OR PERSISTENT LETTER-WRITING ILLEGAL, EVEN WRITING TO YOUR M.P. COULD LAND YOU IN COURT! FAR FETCHED? I THINK NOT. WISE UP, DUMMIES, THE STATE IS AFTER CRIMINALISING ALL PROTEST, IN ALL FORMS. DON'T RESPECT THE LAW, IT DOESN'T RESPECT YOU! ALL POWER TO THE IMAGINATION!!

S. AUG. 85

# CALLING FOR NOTHING DIFFERENT

On Saturday 26th October the sheep will be out in force again. Yes, it's another CND demonstration. This one, surprise surprise, will be centred at Hyde Park, and is planned to be a circular march linking the US and USSR embassies. Some of the features of this no doubt enthralling demonstration will be a 4 minute die-in, a 4 minute sit-down, a 4 minute vigil... what tokenistic fun!

It is obvious that CND will not solve the problem of the world's nation-states possessing the power to destroy everything. It is tightly linked to a political party (the Labour Party) which is responsible for helping to arm this country, is only concerned with the symptoms of the disease rather than the disease itself (why are nuclear weapons stockpiled?), and is determined to maintain a 'respectable' image. Furthermore, CND does not oppose conventional, bacteriological or chemical weapons - they all kill people too, don't they? Added to this is CND's belief in parliament (real democracy: 12 ticks a lifetime) and its refusal to recognise the everyday war that millions are fighting each day (poverty, racism, exploitation etc).

CND is nothing more than a middle class organisation that allows people to vent their justifiable anger without that anger doing any damage whatsoever to the system. It is time that people's anger did have a genuine impact - let's make October 26th a day for anger! There are many things that can be done; such as heckling of speakers (why should we quietly accept some fool telling us to vote Labour/join CND when we all know that it won't do any good?) and direct action. Neither the US nor the USSR embassies should be left standing - passively saying "stop" will not worry them. And don't forget that all the cops will be concentrated at the CND demonstration, leaving the rest of London relatively unpoliced (eg the City of London?). We must actively demonstrate our anger. But we should not forget the importance of communicating with people (eg visual presence, leaflets, banners, papers etc).

Perhaps 26th October will be a bit more exciting than the typical CND demonstration... but it's up to all of us to ensure that this happens.

# Russians get tanked

FRANKFURT: The crew of a Soviet tank lost on manoeuvres in Czechoslovakia sold it to a pub owner for two cases of vodka, and were found sleeping it off in a forest two days later.

The tank could not be found. The authorities later learned that the pub owner had dismantled it and sold the pieces to a metal-recycling centre, the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung said in its weekend edition.

The incident was reported in an article by Ota Filip, a Czech emigré author at his home in Munich, he said the episode occurred during Warsaw Pact manoeuvres in the autumn of 1984.

Mr Filip's story, quoting a report by police in Bohemia, was that a four-man tank crew participating in manoeuvres got lost as darkness was falling in cold, rainy, foggy weather. The crew was running out of vodka, since rations had been cut as part of a government campaign against alcoholism.

At about nine in the evening the tank drove into a village where the only pub was still open. The crew parked it in a shed behind the building and walked into the pub as the proprietor was about to close.

The crew had money for only one bottle of vodka, but at 11.15 was spotted leaving the pub with two cases and more than 6.6lb of herring and pickles.

The crew was found slumbering in a forest two days later. The soldiers told local authorities and Soviet military police they did not know what had happened to the tank.

Ten days later the head of a metal-recycling centre said he had bought a large amount of high-quality, sawed-up steel from the publican. Investigators found the shell of the tank in the shed behind the pub.

The proprietor told the authorities he had acquired it for 24 bottles of vodka, with herring and pickles thrown in "as a gesture of comradeship." - AP.

# Flyposting

A recent decision in the Court of Appeal has reinforced advice which Head Office has given parties for many years.

Posters advertising the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection were flyposted on empty shops in Derby.

Derby Council prosecuted BUAV under the Town & Country Planning Act 1971 which allows a prosecution against the person or body benefiting from the advertisements, as well as the actual person sticking up the posters. Derby magistrates accepted BUAV's submission that they did not authorise the illegal bill sticking, had no knowledge of it, and did not agree with it.

Derby Council appealed, pointing out that they had written to BUAV's head office, ordering them to remove the posters. BUAV's failure to do so made them liable to conviction, because flyposting was a 'continuing' offence in law.

Mr Justice Mann said there were good policy reasons why the offence should be construed as 'continuing'. It gives the local planning

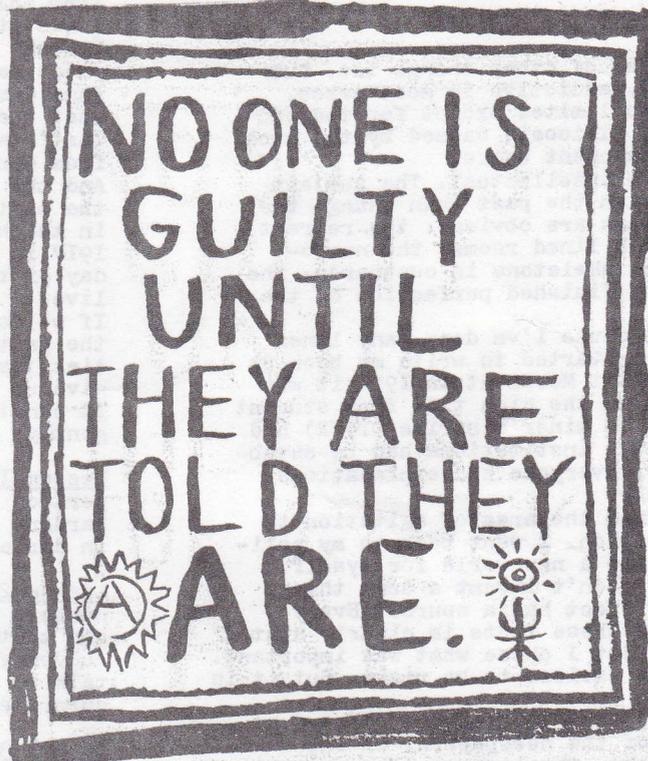
authority an opportunity to secure the removal of flyposted bills by those whose business is advertised rather than at the expense of the ratepayer. The Court of Appeal ordered Derby magistrates to reconsider the case.

## GRAFFITI CLEAN-UP

A "graffiti squad" to scrape off scribble and remove fly posters in Nottingham is being planned at a cost of £6,000.

9 APRIL 85

D. TELEGRAPH



He has none of the puritanism of the English Left. He and his wife Marlene, who teaches music, give splendid dinner parties at their spacious house in South Hampstead, where the guests are more likely to be European intellectuals than British politicians, the food and drink excellent, and Eric's anecdotes scandalous.



PROFESSOR ERIC HOBSBAUM, LEFT WING SOCIALITE, GURU TO NEIL KINNOCK, RADICAL INTELLECTUAL, C.P. MEMBER.....

# SHADOWS

THE LATEST ON THE SHADOWS PROJECT IS THAT EIGHT PEOPLE, WHO WERE ARRESTED ON AUGUST 6TH, HAVE NOW BEEN GIVEN SUMMONS TO APPEAR FOR A BIND-OVER. THE PEOPLE ARRESTED WERE PAINTING SHADOWS ON THE PAVEMENT TO POINT OUT THE REALITY OF HIROSHIMA AND STOCKPILED WEAPONS. IT WAS A GRIM REMINDER OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI, WHERE PEOPLE NEAR THE BLAST WERE VAPOURISED AND ALL THAT WAS LEFT WERE SHADOWS ON THE ROADS.

ELEVEN PEOPLE AND A DOG WERE HELD FOR UP TO FOURTEEN HOURS IN SHITTY CONDITIONS ON AUGUST 6TH. THE POLICE WERE PHYSICALLY AND VERBALLY ABUSIVE. TWO PEOPLE WERE CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL DAMAGE, EVEN THOUGH THE PAINT USED WAS NON-PERMANENT (THIS CHARGE HAS NOW BEEN DROPPED) AND "BREACH OF THE PEACE".

IN ALL, TEN PEOPLE ARE NOW APPEARING IN COURT. ONE PERSON HAS NOT BEEN SUMMONSED.

PEOPLE WERE SO PISSED OFF WITH WHAT HAPPENED AT THE POLICE STATION THAT A DOSSIER OF PEOPLES EXPERIENCES WAS GOT TOGETHER. THIS WAS SENT TO LOTS OF PEOPLE, INCLUDING THE MEDIA. AN OFFICIAL COMPLAINT ABOUT THE TREATMENT ONE WOMAN AND THE DOG RECEIVED WAS MADE.

THE POLICE TOOK THE DOSSIER SERIOUSLY, AS AN OFFICIAL COMPLAINT, AND SENT IT TO THE POLICE COMPLAINTS AUTHORITY IN LONDON. "MINOR" INCIDENTS ARE USUALLY DEALT WITH LOCALLY.

THIS ALL GOES TO PROVE THAT YOU CAN'T MAKE A COMPLAINT AGAINST THE POLICE AND NOT GET ANY HASSLE. (JACKIE BERKLEY'S COMPLAINT WAS A HORRIFIC EXAMPLE.) THE SUMMONS WERE ISSUED JUST OVER A WEEK AFTER THE DOSSIER WAS RELEASED TO THE MEDIA AND FIVE WEEKS AFTER THE ARRESTS.

# SPEAKERS

OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS WE'VE BEEN HOLDING PUBLIC MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY INVITED GUEST SPEAKERS. FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE WHO MISSED THEM WE'VE ASKED THE SPEAKERS TO SEND US A SHORT PIECE BASED ON THEIR TALK. TO BE PRINTED IN YOUR OWN NOTTINGHAM @ NEWS, YOU CAN ENJOY THEM AT YOUR LEISURE.  
THIS IS THE SECOND IN THE SERIES, AND IT'S BY JOHN QUAIL, AUTHOR OF "THE SLOW BURNING FUSE".

## HISTORY IS A DRUG.

History is a number of other things too, but history is a drug, addictive in most cases. Physical damage is limited except for the odd case of scholar's silicosis caused by too much blowing dust off ancient books.

The real damage is intellectual. The subject would rather live in the past than change the present. The symptoms are obvious; the retreat into womb-like book lined rooms; the necrophiliac delight in skeletons in cupboards; the preference for the finished perfection of the dead and gone.

I know all this because I've done many lines of history. When I started to write my book on the British Anarchist Movement in 1974 it was already obvious that the high tide from student revolution (1968) to miner's strike (1972) had slipped back and the institutions had re-established themselves. Everyone had explanations but nobody knew why.

So, I retreated from the area of agitation to the area of cogitation. I went back to my political roots and made a new world for myself. But understand: I didn't invent a damn thing. Every statement of fact has a source. Every opinion of mine of these facts is clearly stated to be an opinion. But I chose what was important. I still believe my choices to be right. But it is my version.

The "real" world of the time may be guessed at from any reading of the newspapers, of the magazines, the books, the letters, the accounts of trials that survive the period. On the same page as an anarchist trial are accounts of strikes, suicides and society divorces. Gold is discovered in one place, some missionary disappears in another.

The world I was looking for was a selection from this welter of stuff. The world the people I was studying lived in was this welter of people. Because they lived and died their lives are of a piece, assessable. While they lived they had the same damn business we have of trying to work out what the hell to do next.

That's why history is a drug, it is an escape from our reality into their past.

And the dirtier our reality the more attractive the past becomes. There are still people living in the horse and cart, steam train revolution in 1917 in Russia. Beats Thatcher's Nottingham any day of the week except on the streets where we live.

If we don't shake it, it won't fall. A sense of the past can give us ideas, examples, possibilities just as long as we don't get hooked. It can give us thought for food and a sense of scale. It can teach us lessons if we take them intelligently.

Lesson 1. Hard times are good academies. All periods of oppression have forced people to think harder. All periods of upsurge use ideas formed in darker times. Let us do some thinking.

Lesson 2. Change comes when ideas grip large numbers of people. Ideas are usually developed and tested by small numbers of people. The margin suddenly becomes part of the majority - therefore talk to everyone. As times change you'll be surprised.

Lesson 3. Radical communities, no matter how ghettoised, are a source of strength and creativity. Protect them as best you can.

Lesson 4. Whatever we take from history we owe it nothing.

JOHN QUAIL. August 1985.

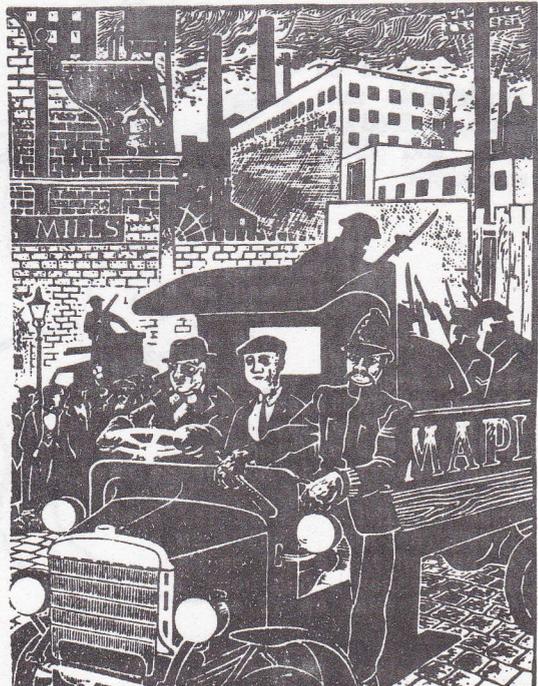
## ALF supporters column

VERY LITTLE HAS BEEN HAPPENING WITH THE NOTTM. A.L.F DUE TO POLICE INTEREST IN US. ALOT OF US WERE ARRESTED AND CHARGED (SEE ELSEWHERE) AND THOSE WHO WERE RELEASED WERE NERVOUS ABOUT DOING THINGS, BUT THIS IS CHANGING NOW. ACTIONS ARE NOW BEING PLANNED AND ARE HAPPENING.

BUTCHERS SHOP WINDOWS HAVE BEEN SMASHED, PORK FARMS GARAGE WAS BROKEN INTO AND ALOT OF DAMAGE DONE TO BRAND NEW VANS ETC. RECENTLY THE A.L.F RAIDED A FARM UNIT AND LIBERATED SOME CHICKS, WHICH WERE IN A REALLY BAD STATE MANY OF THEM WERE DEAD, THEY HAVE SINCE GONE TO A GOOD HOME, YOU PROBABLY HAVENT HEARD ABOUT MOST OF THESE BECAUSE WE DON'T TALK TO THE PRESS NOW FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS.

WE WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL FOR ANY INFORMATION YOU THINK COULD HELP US. ALSO IF YOU COULD HELP US FIND SAFE HOMES FOR ANIMALS WRITE TO US AT - A.L.F SUPPORTERS GROUP, BOX G, MUSHROOM, HEATHCOTE ST, NOTTM.

THE NOTTINGHAM A.L.F. SUPPORTERS MMG. IS NOW AVAILABLE. BOX 'G' MUSHROOM. SOP.



"HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF. THE FIRST TIME AS TRAGEDY... THE SECOND TIME A FART" \*

K. MARX

\* IS THIS SUPPOSED TO BE AMUSING



1985 will surely go down in the annals of history as the year Nottingham anarchists had a fun summer. Not content with merely trying to produce Nottingham Anarchist News and overthrow the state, we also followed an astoundingly successful July picnic with a weekend camp early in August.

At first things seemed to be going a bit awry. We all moped around in our meeting place wondering why no-one had thought to organise transport to Hoby, our original destination. But far be it for anarchists to be put off for long by such minor setbacks! Self-organisation and mutual solidarity leapt into the gap! The flexibility of libertarian thinking triumphed yet again! We changed our campsite at the eleventh hour, and soon found ourselves at Lambley, which was much easier to get to. The various phone calls and arrangements which enabled us to get there should be heralded as a Fine Example of group decision making and non-hierarchical initiative! (Thank you, Rob's dad, for the use of the car.)

Once at Lambley, we busied ourselves with setting up camp and making a fire. The area around our field was a bit like an SWP meeting - there was lots of dead wood around. It was already late and dark by the time we'd got ourselves cosy, so the younger @dventurers soon went to bed whilst the older ones set about the alcohol. Conversation around the campfire gradually became less relevant to the Glorious Peoples' Struggle and the first of the weekend's amazing vomits took place shortly thereafter.

The next day, Saturday, saw no anarchists lined up in patrols to have their shoes inspected. Some of us had a refreshing wash down in the exhilaratingly freezing stream, but most relied on the pub at lunchtime to wake them up properly. (It didn't seem to work too well for the people who'd been up all night, though.)

The afternoon was spent on the swing, (which we'd hung from a tree, and which didn't snap until next day), playing games which involved hurling ourselves at each other and rolling over each other, and, of course, vomiting.

The author of this report is not too clear as to what else happened on Saturday, due to the stupor induced at lunchtime, which soon turned into a blinding headache, but would like to

commend the collectively produced meal. This gastronomic delight was mutually created by everyone throwing whatever they had into the pot, from garlic to celery to homebrew. There was tons of it, and its splendour has been immortalised in a specially composed song: "Potato, Rice and Carrot Stew".

Sunday, it rained. We got wet. We packed up, cleared off, and caught a bus back to town, where one happy camper nearly knocked himself unconscious falling off the bus.

So, the moral of the story is - why not become an anarchist, and you, too, could drink yourself silly in congenial company in a wet countryside. It's good fun! (Non-alcoholics also welcome.)



# **GUY FAWKES**

**The only person  
to enter Parliament  
with honest intentions**