

# ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS BULLETIN

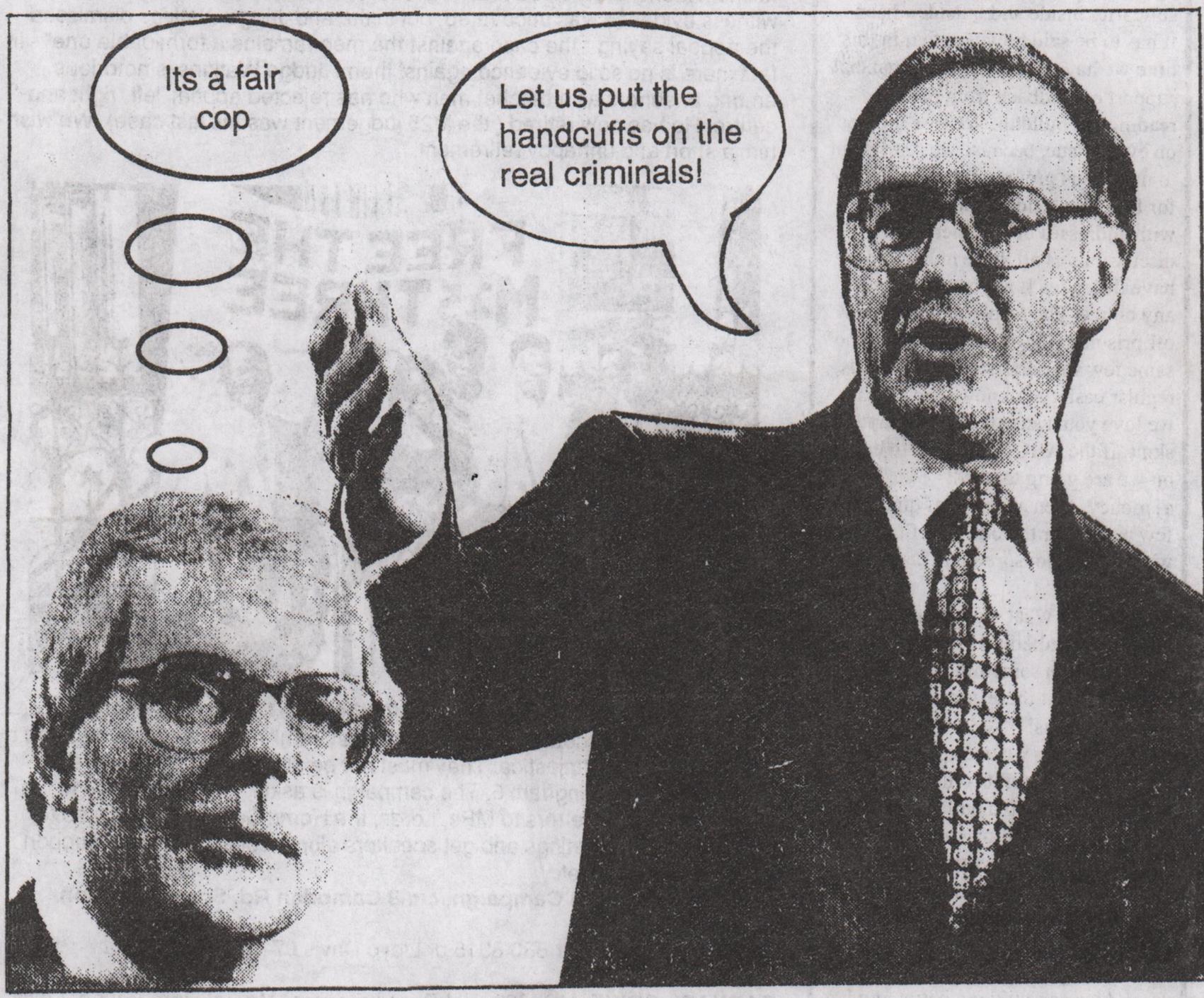
No 9

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25p

Free to prisoners

## WHO ARE THE REAL CRIMINALS?



**HOME SECRETARY LAYS DOWN THE LAW**  
**SEE ARTICLE PAGES 10 & 11**

**SUPPORTING CLASS STRUGGLE PRISONERS**

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to *ABC Bulletin no. 9*. No. 9? Can we count? Well no 7 came out in July this year, and no. 8 came out in August. No 8 was a free 4-page newsheet with some urgent news that we wanted to get out without waiting till we could put a full-size issue out. It was only really distributed in the London area as we didn't have the money to send it out all round the country and abroad. London ABC has been putting the bulletin out on and off for two and a half years now and we hope the news, views and comment on prisoners and prisons we have been able to put out (together with our sister paper *Taking Liberties*), has been effective in raising the profile of prisoners and contributed to solidarity inside and outside prisons. It has to be said however that in this time we have had very little financial support or feedback from people reading the bulletin. We lose money on every issue, because we send it out to numerous groups and individuals for free. We send out all this info, with addresses of prisoners and discussions of all these ideas, and we have little idea if anyone is taking any notice. The response we've had off prisoners has been good, and the same few supporters outside send us regular cash (you know who you are, we love you!) and we are constantly skint. If the *ABC Bulletin* is to carry on we are going to need:

a) money, even a couple of quid off a few people, or the odd benefit gig/whipround/sponsored pub crawl or whatever.

b) feedback - what's good and what's crap in the bulletin. If you think we've written something really out of order don't sit there and whinge about it, tell us!

c) distribution - we need people to distribute! Even if its only a few leaflets or passing a bulletin on to a friend, we need to reach people and get them reading/discussing/acting or we are wasting our time.

We aren't producing all this material for charity, we believe in mutual aid, and creating a better world for all of us, and we can only get better at what we do by working with other people and learning off each other.

## PRISONER UPDATES

### M25 APPEAL REFUSED

The appeals of **Raphael Rowe**, **Randolph Johnson** and **Michael Davis** against their 1990 convictions for murder and robbery were rejected on the 29th of July after a week long hearing by 3 judges in June. The "M25 3" have always maintained their innocence of the charges, which arise from a night of attacks near the M25 Motorway in Surrey in December 1988. Despite alibis for Raphael and Michael, despite no forensic evidence against them, and despite initial witnesses identifying 2 white men and one black man (the three prisoners are all black). Despite initial white suspects who admitted some part in the attacks being used as prosecution witnesses and not charged, the three were convicted in March 1990. (For more info on the case see *ABC Bulletin No 7*)

Their appeal was dogged by controversy as the prosecution tried to conceal evidence, most notably whether or not some witnesses were paid from a £25,000 reward. Finally after being put off several times, the appeal was heard in June - and once again, after hearings in camera (meaning the court is cleared and only the legal eagles get to hear what's going on) no names of anyone paid to send these 3 men down were revealed. The defence barrister Michael Mansfield discredited the prosecution witnesses one by one, hidden witness evidence was uncovered, but in the end Judge Watkins dismissed the appeal saying "the case against the men remains a formidable one" - in fact there is no solid evidence against them! Judge Watkins is notorious among prisoners as a hatchet man who has rejected appeal left, right and centre. He has now retired (the M25 judgement was his last case). We wish him a short and unhappy retirement.



Meanwhile the M25 3 have applied for the case to go to the House of Lords, which has been accepted, and they and their families refuse to be daunted by blatant racist class injustice. They must not be allowed to spend 16 years inside like the Birmingham 6. The campaign is asking people to write to the men, write protest letters to MPs, Lords, the Home Secretary, and also to organise public meetings and get speakers along, collect money to support the campaign work etc.

Contact the **M25 3 Campaign**, c/o 8 Campden Rd, South Croydon, Surrey, CR3 7RN.

Tel: Valerie Davis 081 680 8315 or Lloyd Davis 071 635 5204.

Write to:

**RAPHAEL ROWE**, MP3660, HM Prison Gartree, Market Harborough, Leics., LE16 7RP.

**MICHAEL DAVIS**, MP3661, HM Prison Wormwood Scrubs, Du Cane Rd, London, W12.

**RANDOLPH JOHNSON**, MP3903, HM Prison Long Lartin, S. Littleton, Evesham, Worcs. WR11 5TZ.

# Emma Humphries

**Emma Humphries** has been 'detained at Her Majesty's Pleasure' since she was 17 years old, after being convicted for murder mainly on the strength of a statement she made to the police while in a state of severe emotional and physical trauma.

Convicted in December 1985, Emma has now served a total of eight years in custody for killing Trevor Armitage, who she met when she was 16 after coming to Britain alone from Canada. Like many homeless young women she was surviving by involvement in prostitution. Armitage, a client, who at 32 was twice her age, offered her some semblance of affection and a place to live. After she moved in with him he subjected her to six months of physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

Shortly before Armitage's death, Emma was raped by three men, after which Armitage continued to abuse her. On the night she killed Armitage, Emma had cut her wrists in response to his violence, and still had the knife next to her when he came into the room and approached her. Fearing that he was going to rape or beat her, she picked up the knife and stabbed him.

Emma subsequently gave a statement to the police without a solicitor or anyone else being present to act on her behalf. She had received no support or counselling about any of the assaults she had experienced during the previous six months. Whilst making her statement, she is likely to have been severely traumatised by the cumulative impact of those six months, as well as by events immediately preceding her arrest. She now says that at the time of her arrest she was unable to talk about Armitage's abuse of her in any detail either to the police or to the duty solicitor who was eventually appointed, and so her statement does not explain the background of events which led to the stabbing.

Many girls and women who are survivors of sexual assault experience difficulties in describing their experiences to women counsellors, even in a sympathetic environment where it is made clear that they will not be held responsible for the

assaults which have been committed against them. How much more difficult is it for a severely traumatised 17 year-old to describe such experiences to male police officers or a male duty solicitor while being held in a police station?

When Emma came to trial after 11 months spent on remand at Risley Remand Centre, she had still not received appropriate counselling. Never having been in a situation where she felt able to talk about her experiences one to one, Emma felt unable to talk about them in a public court room and consequently did not give evidence on her own behalf.



Neither the full extent of the violence she had been subjected to by Armitage nor a detailed account of the immediate events which led to the stabbing were presented at the trial. Emma seems to have been convicted of murder without adequate examination of either of the defences to that charge which might have been open to her: 'diminished responsibility' or 'provocation'.

Either of these defences, if accepted by the jury, result in a conviction for manslaughter which are at the trial judge's discretion. For murder, the penalties are fixed at life for convicted adults and indeterminate sentences for convicted minors. Harriet Wistrich of the organisation *Justice for Women*, who are campaigning to have Emma's case reopened, suggests that in many ways Emma's position is worse than it might have been had she been convicted and sentenced as an adult. She says, "The uncertainty of an indeterminate sentence is a huge

strain for Emma, particularly as she has made two applications for parole which seem to have been turned down without any reasons being given. Since she has no idea why she's been refused parole so far, it's impossible to predict what her future changes of parole might be. While she's been in prison Emma hasn't been given the kind of support she needs to cope with her feelings about what happened and in the past she's cut her wrists more than a dozen times. She's stopped doing that now but she's still under enormous psychological pressure".

It was the publicity around the cases of **Kiranjit Ahluwalia** and **Sara Thornton** and other women convicted of murder for killing violent men which gave Emma hope that she might be able to appeal against her conviction. *Justice for Women* are campaigning around Emma's case along with other organisations like *Southall Black Sisters*. After the release of **Kiranjit Ahluwalia** earlier this year and the publicity around her case they have achieved a great deal and raised the profile of issues surrounding women who kill violent partners.

**Sara Thornton** received a setback earlier this year when her appeal was refused despite there being new and decisive evidence.

Write letters of support to **Emma** at H.M.P Holloway, Parkhurst Rd, London N7 ONU, and **Sara Thornton** in HMP Bullward Hall, High Rd, Hockley, Essex SSS 4TE.

(Info taken from Spare Rib No 94)

Further information from *Justice for Women* c/o 55 Rathcoule Gardens, London N8 9NE

## BENEFIT

There will be a benefit for Emma and Sara on Saturday October 23rd at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, WC1 (nearest tube Holborn) It starts at 7.30 and is women only. Admission is £4 unwaged, £7 waged and £15 for a supporters price.

# TOWER HAMLETS NINE

On Friday 10th September a vigil outside the Royal London Hospital was held for **Quddus Ali**, a 17 year old student who lay in a coma after an attack by a group of eight nazis. After demonstrators made attempts to stop the police arresting some of their number the police attacked the crowd and what was officially declared a riot followed.

After initial hearings on Monday 13th, 9 people including two youngsters face committal hearings in October on charges of 'riot', which can carry hefty (max 10 years) prison sentences.

The '**Tower Hamlets Nine**', who have a campaign organising their defence consider that the youth outside the hospital were defending their community against police

aggression. Typically, over the following weekend, 300 police officers let the BNP rampage through the area unimpeded in a traditional display of even-handedness.

There is to be a picket of the court hearings on **Oct 26th** at Thames magistrates courts in Bow Rd (nearest tube Bow Rd)

Numbers are important to show our defiance at the victimisation of people who's only crime is to defend themselves against police aggression.

Updates and further info from **Tower Hamlets Nine, BM Box 273, London WC1 3XX. Tel: 081 548 0099.**

## A NEW RECRUIT?

John Samuels, a careers officer from Whittington, Manchester, was wrongly arrested and beaten up near a betting office during a raid on the shop in Moss Side by police two years ago. At the time of arrest he was handing out leaflets which encouraged youngsters to join the Greater Manchester Police!

Mr Samuels took up the grievance with the Police Complaints Authority, who announced this July that there is insufficient evidence to take disciplinary action against the officers involved (surprise!).

Mr Samuels is now planning to bring a civil action case against G.M.P for assault and wrongful arrest. We wish him the best of luck.

## WINSTON - How much longer?

**Winston Silcott** is still serving life for the killing in self-defence of Anthony Smith in 1984 (see previous *Bulletins*). Smith had attacked Winston with a knife in a nightclub after threatening him previously. Because the Blakelock case came up before the Smith trial Winston was already labelled a murderer in the press and in the eyes of the court. He is fighting to have the conviction overturned. Earlier this year Winston was moved from Gartree Prison to Swaleside in Kent. Winston and his family are asking for people to :

- write to the Home Secretary and demand that he reopen the case;
- organise meetings and events to keep the case in the news-they can provide speakers;

- send money to help the campaign;
  - write to Winston and let him know you're supporting his fight for freedom.
- Its only our pressure that brought about the freeing of the Birmingham 6, the Guildford 4 etc, let's keep pushing.

**Winston Silcott, B74053, HM Prison Swaleside, Brabazon Rd., Eastchurch, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 4DZ.**

Contact the *Winston Silcott Defence Campaign*, c/o the Selby Centre, Selby Rd, Tottenham, London, N17. Tel: 081 365 0448.

## UPSERGE!

**Serge Mandeller**, a Belgian political prisoner recently went on hunger strike, after being refused parole yet again.

Serge is serving a 15 year sentence, of which he has served 12 years and been eligible for parole for years but this has been continually denied. He is due for release in 17 months time, but still the justice minster refused him parole or even a "one day off" (a sort of day release). In response to this, Serge decided to go on hunger strike to highlight his case and the way the Belgian parole board almost systematically denies all requests for parole or "one day off's". This situation happened because in the summer of 92, two men, (one on parole, after being out of prison a few months, the other on day release), savagely murdered a young man and his girlfriend —after raping her— and also committed several other attacks. This was hyped up in the media, leading to public outcry, and a lot of pressure being put on the government, hence the unofficial parole board policy.

Serge started his hungerstrike on the 22nd July and was moved to hospital on the 23rd where he remained on hungerstrike. He is now off hungerstrike and back in prison. There was international protest against the parole board's decision and support for Serge.

He stills needs letters of support preferably in French, Spanish or short ones in English, as his English is not too good. Also letters of protest to the Belgian justice minster about Serge's parole being refused.

Contact **Serge Mandeller**: Prison de Verviers, Verviers, Belgium.

Write to Minister of Justice: **M.Melchoir Wathelet**, Mr. de la Justice, Palais de Justice, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgium



# LETTER FROM WHITEMOOR

Tony Bush was sentenced to 9 extra years inside for his part in the 1990 Strangeways Prison Uprising. During the second Strangeways Trial he and 5 other prisoners escaped from the court but have now all been recaptured. Below we reprint a letter from Tony:

"Hello, Tony here, well at the moment things are not so good, myself and Matthew Wainright are in segregation for a protest which resulted in us locked in the Centre office on C wing where the riot bell was pressed and 50 plus prison officers surrounded it. Fearing for our safety we barricaded ourselves in and whilst building the barricade most of the office was destroyed. We are awaiting police investigation since being down here we have had a lot of tit for tat tactics with the screws. The first 2 days we were refused access to wash or brush our teeth, we were given no toilet rolls to complete a bodily function. When we put down to see a governor we were refused or ignored, we were refused all our property, which has since been destroyed. We now have to make a claim, typical POA tactic. We were informed by inmates also in segregation that we were being held in 'dirty protest' conditions. In the end we went on a dirty protest which resulted in numerous minor nicks and a trumped up assault charge. It was only after the confrontation that we received normal location cells even then they tried to break us by giving me a cell with a toilet and sink and offering Wainright another cell without washing facilities. After making it quite plain that we would continue the protest, a vacant cell SUDDENLY appeared! Matthew is another man who has been framed by Greater Manchester Police; he is serving 15 years for attempted murder of a police officer. The case was another show trial for the local media.

Whitemoor is a jail to be avoided. It is built on the same terms as Hull Special Unit: Control & Restraint And OBSERVATION. The Seg is run on psychological warfare; ie you are ignored until you bite. When an inmate is passive then they seem to delight in denying him his rights. A typical game they play is :jean

change is on Monday but there are no showers on Monday. How can you change your jeans when you are not allowed to shower? All Rule 43B G.O.A.D.\* prisoners are refused permission to wear their own clothes, jeans only. You are denied to keep your flask but you can have all the other tea-making facilities; but you can not have hot water. Cells are searched every day, when you go out on exercise there are always things missing if you do not keep tabs on all your belongings. From 11/7/93 until 25/7/93 we were told by staff our kit and personal belongings would be brought down. On the 25/7 after nearly 10 days tempers became flared and we were eventually informed that it was missing. There are numerous inmates on G.O.A.D. who are refusing to return to normal location in this gaol, that alone speaks volumes. To all inmates: stay away from Whitemoor.

Oh over the 13-14/7/93 the wings were locked down and all the buckets of local breweries were taken. Normal procedure is to ask the inmate caught to flush it down the toilet. On these 2 days they were nicked and received a £10 fine - for some inmate that was a months wages. It is rumoured that they collected some £200, this was a tactic to bring the inmates on the Wing against us - and also some £200 towards the rebuilding of the office. I will write again and let you know how our police interview went, till then keep up the good work.

**TONY BUSH**  
**HM Prison Whitemoor**  
**Longhill Rd**  
**March**  
**Cambs.**  
**PE15 0PR.**

P.S.  
 THE FIGHT GOES ON, WE ARE TO APPEAR IN COURT FOR THE STRANGEWAYS TRIAL ESCAPE IN AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR."

\* Editors Note: G.O.A.D. - Good Order And Discipline, a catch all prison rule designed for nicking any prisoner when even the usual set of rules cover an alleged "offence". Can result in segregation.

\*\*\*\*\*LATEST NEWS\*\*\*\*\*

Tony & 5 other prisoners are on dirty protest in Segregation over conditions. They're being refused exercise, food is being doctored & they have been held in wet cells that has damaged their health, as well as some being held in strip cells. Satpal Ram, a prisoner doing life for killing a racist attacker in self defence, has attempted suicide 3 times. All of this has been totally hushed up. Send Tony letters of support or protest to the Governor about conditions in Whitemoor. (See address below).

## STRANGEWAYS - THE FIGHT GOES ON

Below are the names and addresses of the Strangeways prisoners we know the whereabouts of. Other addresses would be welcome if anyone is in the know.

The 3rd Strangeways trial is now over with 22 people having charges dropped, 4 pleading guilty & 5 had 11-30 months.

**BARRY MORTON, CU0221, HMP FRANKLAND, PO BOX 40, FINCHALE AVE., BRASSIDE, DURHAM, DH1 5YD. Serving 8 years for the second trial.**

**KEVIN GEE, HMP FRANKLAND (see above). Doing 10 years from the second trial.**

**ALAN LORD, K80382, HMP WAKEFIELD, LOVE LANE, WAKEFIELD, WF2 9AG. 10 years from the second trial.**

**MARK AZZOPARDI, HMP FULL SUTTON, MOOR LANE, YORK, Y04 1PS. 8 years.**

**TONY BUSH (see letter above)**  
**DAVID BOWEN, HMP GARTH, ULNES WALTON LANE, PRESTON. 9 years from the second trial.**

**IAN ALLEN, HMP FRANKLAND, 30 months from 3rd trial**

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# HANGING BY A THREAD

The government of Jamaica is all set to start killing death row prisoners in November after a five year gap. The hangings were originally to have started earlier this year but were delayed due to a constitutional motion, which comes up in the Jamaican courts this September. If all goes smoothly for the government, the hanging will resume in November.

At the beginning of the year, 200 men were on death row. This number has been reduced recently due to a change in the law, redefining or recategorising some murders to non-capital punishment crimes, no doubt in part to avoid an international outcry at the number being executed.

Prisoners on death row spend 23 hours a day in a cell that is 9ft by 6ft. The conditions are appalling even by prison standards. Some men have been on death row for up to 10 years.

We have been receiving letters from some Jamaican death row prisoners, who are claiming to have been framed. The police have used torture, beatings and

electric shocks to obtain confessions. They have forged evidence and used false witnesses in court to secure convictions.

The prisoners are all very poor, so have to rely on legal aid lawyers to defend them. Due to the way the legal aid system in Jamaica operates, you can only get £300 maximum legal aid. Because of this, usually very young and inexperienced lawyers are assigned to undertake such cases and little or no pre-trial investigation is done. So unsurprisingly they are found guilty.

Britain has left Jamaica with a colonial legacy; a judicial system that mirrors our own in it's prejudice against the poor, and the corruption of it's courts and police.

Below is a list of prisoners, they are in dire need of support and assistance. They need letters of support, they need financial aid so they can hire lawyers to fight appeals and they need letters of protest to the Jamaican government.

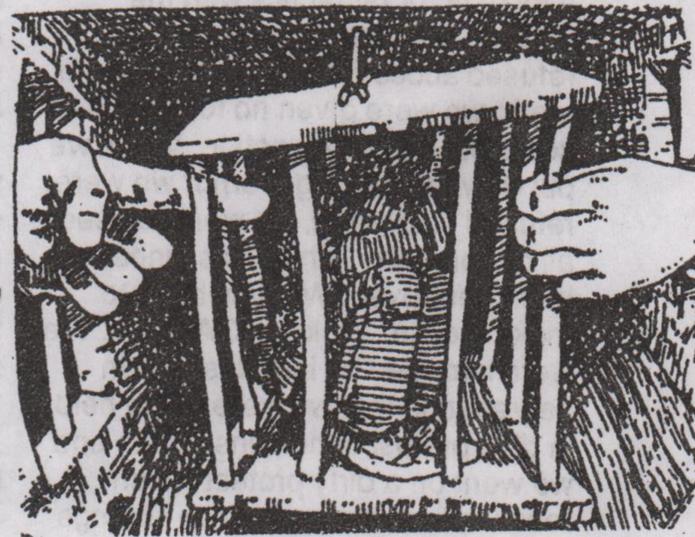
For more details contact *London ABC*.

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## FAMILIES FIGHT FRAME-UPS

Families and friends of prisoners fitted up by Greater Manchester Police have set up a campaign to fight to clear their names and bring the cops to book. The campaign, launched in June this year, comes out of the systematic use of frame-ups by the GMP. As with the infamous West Midlands Serious Crimes Squad, the names of some framing officers and dodgy solicitors/crap barristers just come up again and

again in many of these cases. As yet the campaign is just getting started so it needs financial support and other help from anyone in the area willing to lend a hand. They also want to hear from anyone with experience of support work or who has been fitted up themselves by Manchester police or knows some one who has. They can be contacted via **Conviction, PO Box 522, Sheffield, S1 3FF.**



## STRANGWAYS - Continued from Page 5

**MARK WILLIAMS, ASHWORTH SPECIAL HOSPITAL, MAGHILL, LIVERPOOL, L31 1HW.**

**PAUL TAYLOR, HMP WOODHILL, TATTENHOE ST., MILTON KEYNES, MK4 4DA.** 10 years from the first trial.

Barry Morton, Alan Lord, Tony Bush, John Murray and Mark Azzopardi are all pleading guilty to escaping during the second Strangeways trial, this will come to court in November. But David Bowen, who escaped seperately from

Hull Prison is pleading not guilty, as he absconded following threats and harassment from Hull screws. David is now serving 9 years for Strangeways: at the time of the riot he was on remand there for **STEALING A PAIR OF CURTAINS.** Class justice or what?

Please write to these men and show them they are not forgotten by their class.

## APPEAL FOR INFO.

Prison solidarity activist **Nicki Jameson** is writing a book about the Strangeways Uprising and would like to hear from any prisoners with inside information on Strangeways before and during the rebellion or on the aftermath and the trials. Write to: **Nicki Jameson, BCM 3657, London, WC1N 3XX.**

## KENNY CAIN

**Kenny Cain**, a 39 year old deaf anarchist (his case was featured in *Bulletin no. 7*) was released from Camphill prison on the 1st of September after having some days of remission given back to him. All of us here at the ABC wish him the best of luck.

# A Year in the life....

The following article is an account of the brutal treatment experienced by Andrzy Jakubczyk, a prisoner doing a 17 year sentence. We haven't printed this account to try and make some kind of hero or martyr out of Jacko, he's not. The point is that the brutality set down here is widespread in British prisons, especially for some one like Jacko who stands up, protests about conditions, resists the prison authorities or expose the reality of life inside.

In 1992, while in the Special Unit at Hull Prison, Andy Jakubczyk and fellow prisoner Paul Ross wrote the book *One Off*, exposing the abuse rife in prisons and focussing on the large number of suicides that result. They took advantage of the educational facilities at the Unit to produce it and to print up t-shirts and posters promoting prisoner solidarity and to send out papers to prison support activists and reformers on what was going on inside. These activities obviously didn't endear them to the prison authorities, who like publicity about their crimes least of all. The governor took advantage of a fight between Andy and another prisoner to move both him and Paul (who tried to stop the fight but was charged with being involved) out of the Unit, on the 9th October 1992. What followed for Andy was a whirlwind tour of many of Britain's Category A nicks, under Circular Instruction 37/90, the rule used to ship prisoners from one prison to another in rapid succession - usually used to harass and disorientate "troublesome" prisoners. and a catalogue of abuse and violence.

## LIVERPOOL PRISON: OCTOBER 9TH-NOVEMBER 4TH 1992.

Andy was transferred to Liverpool for a 28-day "lay down" period. On arrival he was stripped and searched in a special cell, routine at Liverpool though in itself unlawful (for what it worth). In Liverpool he was subjected to constant psychological abuse and threats from screws in the segregation block. Officers spread the rumour that he was a sex offender, which is untrue, leading to threats from other prisoners.

## HULL: 4-6TH NOVEMBER

After the "laydown" and as a result of protests by Andy and supporters outside, he was moved back to Hull, where he was held on Rule 43B, in isolation, without explanation. He was charged and found guilty of assault for the fight, deselected from the Special Unit and lost 25 days remission. This case is to go judicial review.

## GARTH PRISON: 6TH NOVEMBER-3RD DECEMBER

On the 6th November Andy was moved to Garth Prison from Preston and immediately put in segregation, without explanation. Here too he was threatened by screws, but this time other prisoners signed statements to Andy's solicitors after witnessing these threats. This and phone calls from the prison led to Prison Reform Trust and Prisoners Advice Service investigating conditions at Garth.

## FULL SUTTON PRISON: 3RD DECEMBER 1992 - 4TH JANUARY 1993

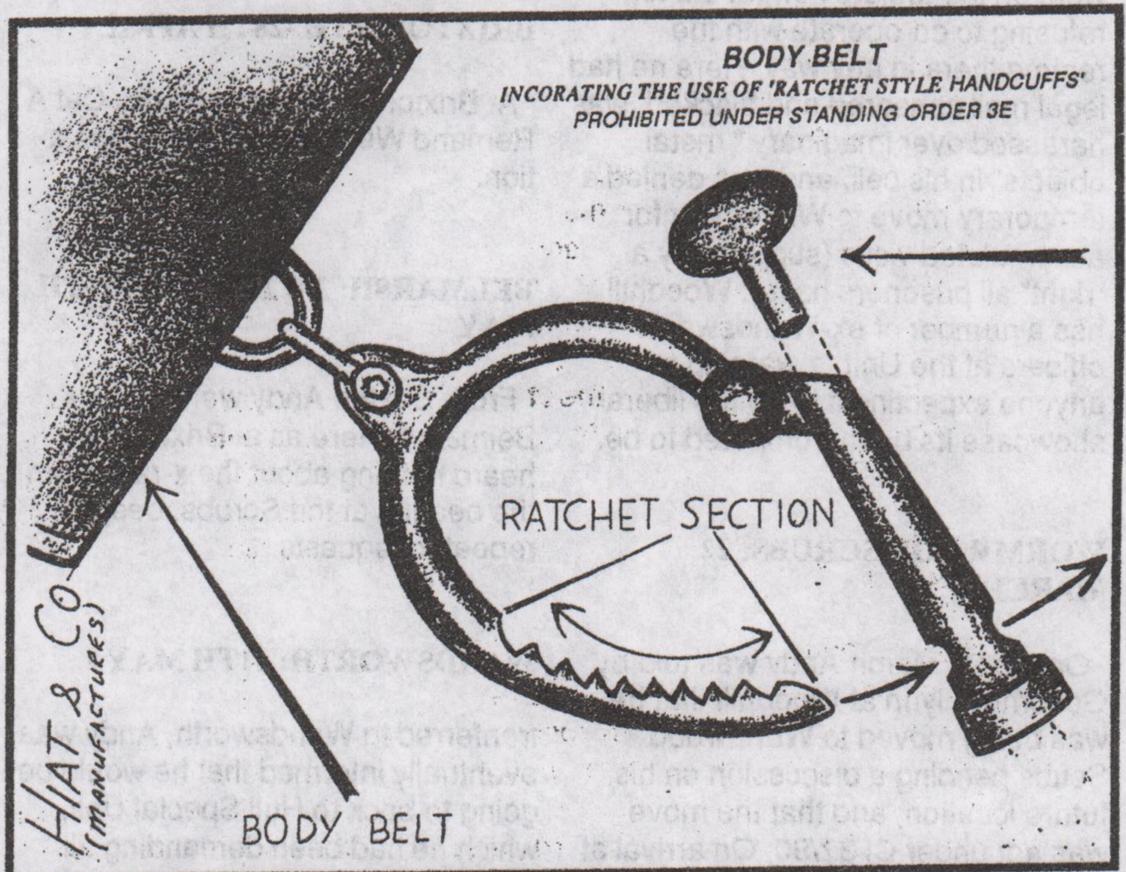
Arriving at Full Sutton after 28 days at Garth, Andy was again put in segregation and threatened constantly. On the 16th December he was

told to "keep your fucking mouth shut or we'll shut it for you ... Next time we'll C&R (*Control & Restraint...Eds.*) you good and proper." He was also later told, "You won't be writing any more papers - We're gonna do you good and proper." On the 17th and 18th he was beaten up by Control & Restraint Squads while in a strip cell, in "body restraints" and ratchet handcuffs. The use of ratchet handcuffs breaches prison standing orders. As many prisoners will know, 'standing orders' mean bugger all for screws, they are in fact a standing joke.

## LINCOLN PRISON: 4TH JAN - 3 FEB 1993

After 28 days in Full Sutton, Andy was again shipped out. this time to Lincoln Prison, once again to be placed in segregation. Here he was threatened repeatedly from outside his cell by warders. Finally snapping, he threw his dinner on the floor on the 9th Jan and was moved as a result to a "special cell" for 3 days. In breach of prison rules the call bell in the cell wasn't working, which could obviously lead to a prisoner becoming seriously ill or dying without being able to call for help. On the 11th of Jan Andy was beaten up in this cell and put in a body belt and ratchet

*Continued Page*



# A YEAR IN THE LIFE Continued.

handcuffs for a whole day.

After complaining to the Board of Visitors about the lack of a call bell in the special cell, he was informed by the governor that "the cell will be fitted with a call bell in the near future".

## BULLINGDON: 3 FEB - 2 FEB

On the 3rd February Andy was told he was to be transferred to Bullingdon Prison, but resisted the move. As a result he was put into a body belt again and forcibly put into the van, receiving several injuries needing stitches in the process. Again at Bullingdon he was threatened by screws, isolated, put on the punishment landing. When he reacted he was again assaulted, put in a special cell for 3 days. At this point he was pissing blood as a result of the beatings he'd had, but was accused by a screw of swallowing a razor blade! Andy insisted on an X-ray which revealed....no razor blade.

## WOODHILL SPECIAL UNIT: 22 FEB - 22 MARCH

At this point Andy was selected to the new Special Unit at Woodhill Prison. He knew from other prisoners though that Woodhill screws had been overheard in Bullingdon, discussing him with the Bullingdon warders. On arrival at Woodhill Andy went on immediate hunger strike, refusing to co-operate with the regime there in any way. Here he had legal mail censored and blocked, was harassed over imaginary "metal objects" in his cell, and was denied a temporary move to Whitemoor for accumulated visits (supposedly a "right" all prisoners have). Woodhill has a number of ex-Wandsworth officers at the Unit, a warning to anyone expecting it to be the liberal showcase its been trumpeted to be.

## WORMWOOD SCRUBS: 22 MARCH -

On the 22 March Andy was told by Governor Flynn at Woodhill that he was being moved to Wormwood Scrubs pending a discussion on his future location, and that the move was not under CI 37/90. On arrival at

the Scrubs he was assaulted by 15-20 reception officers, stripped and told to "conform here or else", and put in arm locks. Shortly after this he was informed by a governor that he had been moved there under CI 37/90! There followed more threats, verbal abuse, false rumours spread again that led to some hassle from the prisoners as well. On the 25th March Andy was badly beaten by screws leading to him being unable to walk, and put in a strip cell and threatened with being put in a mental hospital. He was then put in a body belt. Andy suffered damage to his ribs and spine which still give him pain. He received no medication or treatment despite seeing prison doctors (surprise!).

The following day he was charged with assault on an officer! The charge could'n't hold water and was dropped - basically another intimidation tactic. While at the Scrubs Andy's mail and visiting orders went unposted.

Shepherds Bush police are now in fact investigating the assault on Andy at the Scrubs.

## WOODHILL AGAIN: 5th - 6TH APRIL

Transferred back to Woodhill Andy refused to go into the Special Unit and was put in seg, where he was x-rayed for injuries received at the Scrubs but denied the results!

## BRIXTON: 6TH -28TH APRIL

At Brixton he was put on the Cat A Remand Wing, but denied association.

## BELMARSH: 28TH APRIL - 11TH MAY

From Brixton Andy went to Belmarsh. Here as at Brixton he heard nothing about the x-rays from the beating at the Scrubs, despite repeated requests.

## WANDSWORTH: 11TH MAY -

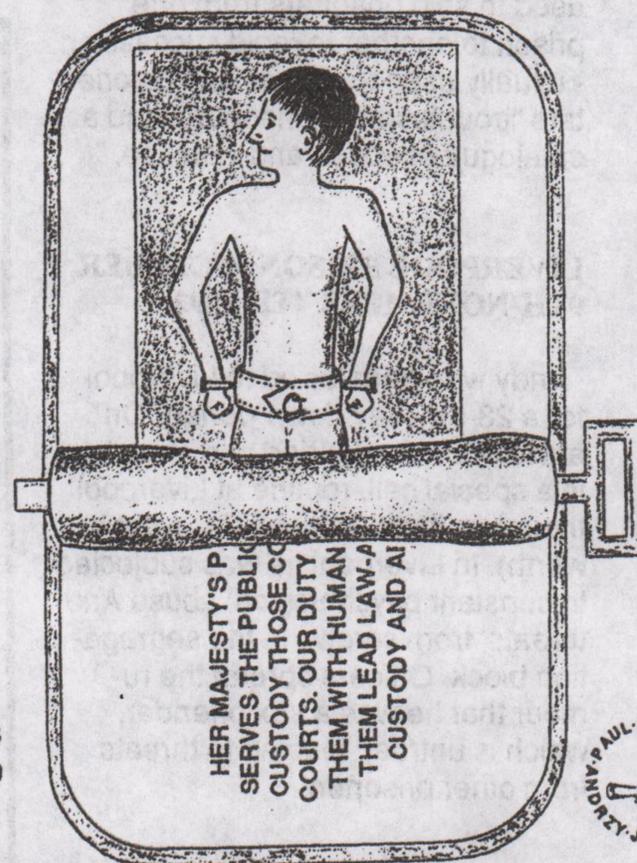
transferred to Wandsworth, Andy was eventually informed that he would be going to back to Hull Special Unit, which he had been demanding all

along. Initially here he was only moved inside the nick handcuffed, and had restricted exercise, but after protests and legal pressure these were lifted.

Andy is now back at the Special Unit in Hull Prison. which has since been cleared and had its regime tightened up. The consistent element in all the vicious attacks and threats in all the prisons Andy has been in is that in all of them he was known as the co-author of *One Off* and as a "troublemaker" for this reason. He was constantly told: there will be no more *One Offs*. There is an active grapevine by which screws pass information on prisoners from one nick to another, and the one thing they hate is a con who stands up to them or tells the world the shit they are up to. The response of the Home office and Prison Dept is that he is a "disruptive and violent prisoner", which isn't surprising given what he has been through. He has always stood up for himself. No doubt any investigations that do arise out of the beatings will be whitewashed. But despite all the shit that has been dealt him, Andy Jakubczyk is still determined as ever to expose the routine brutality that props up the prison system.

WRITE TO :ANDRZY JAKUBCZYK,  
C59058, HM PRISON HULL,  
HEDON RD., HULL, HU5.

## HUMANE CONTAINMENT



# STOP THE DETENTIONS!

The **Campaign against Immigration Act Detentions (CAIAD)** has recently been formed. Central to its concerns is the situation in Pentonville prison, where up to 80 people are currently being held under the Immigration Act (1993 Asylum law).

The CAIAD makes disturbing allegations about the treatment of immigration prisoners. "In Pentonville", it says, "detainees are facing racist abuse, threats of violence and assaults from prison officers". One detainee had notes passed under his door with messages stating "The BNP are going to get you", and screws have boasted about their connections with fascist groups. "Detainees are also subjected to racist assaults by other prisoners while screws stand by and laugh, or turn on the victims. Recently an Algerian refugee was punched in the face by another prisoner to stop him using the phone. No action was taken by the authorities".

Three months ago in the case of **Omasasi Lumumba**, a Zairean refugee, it was finally admitted that he was "unlawfully killed" in Pentonville after being restrained by no less than six screws. Previously the jury at an inquest had not been given the choice of this verdict, but once they were it only took 4 and a half minutes to come to this conclusion.

Detainees have complained to CAIAD that the food they are given is inedible. Muslim prisoners say that they are regularly given bacon or pork sausages, and that when they complain they are told: "This is all you'll get, eat it or eat nothing."

Many detainees, some of whom are asylum-seekers, and already traumatised by torture and persecution, have been driven by the conditions to suicide attempts. Reliable sources within Pentonville claim that there have been 80 attempted suicides in D-wing where asylum and immigration detainees are held. While the Home Office claims that there have been only four attempts at 'self-harm' in the last year, groups working with detainees are hearing of attempted suicides on an almost daily basis.

Several detainees who have complained about conditions claim that they have been labelled as mentally ill, placed in the prison hospital, and prescribed debilitating drugs.

Similar abuses are said to be taking place in prisons and detention centres across the country. The creation of 300 more detention places announced by the Home Office to coincide with enforcement of the provisions of the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act will only facilitate those abuses. And with a new upsurge in immigration raids, targeting both refugee communities and Asian and African-Caribbean communities, the fight to end all Immigration Act detentions is a vital one.

(Info taken from *CARF*, Bm Box 8784, London WC1N 3XX)

**Campaign Against Immigration Act Detentions, c/o the Migrant Support Unit, 6-20 John's Mews, London WC1N 2XN. Phone 071 916 1646**

## AND WY MOTT?

In case you hadn't heard, prisoners at Wymott jail in Lancashire rioted on the 6th September, causing more than £40 million worth of damage. Wymott, a Category 'B' prison, was supposedly a 'liberal' nick with a measure of freedom inside. As usual, it had previously been condemned as having a gangland culture and riddled with drugs, etc. In fact drugs were blamed for the riot. About 700 prisoners were on the loose at one point - they smashed through brick walls, set fire to a fuel tank. 200 riot cops were called in, but the damage left the jail uninhabitable. Some of the prisoners made good use of workshop tools to attack screws. There was of course the usual catalogue of outrage; "cost to the taxpayer", "understaffing levels" (from the POA). The prisoners have all been shipped out to other jails. We hope that they will carry on their O Levels in Interior Design at other prisons.



# PRISONERS JUSTICE DAY

PRISONERS JUSTICE DAY is commemorated every 10th August to remember prisoners who have died in prison, whether as suicides, murdered by screws or from the routine brutality and isolation of being inside. The day of demos, hunger strikes and actions by prisoners and supporters began in Canada on 1975. London ABC held a demo in 1992 at Brixton Prison to remember all the prisoners who had killed themselves or died of neglect in this prison's notorious F Wing.

This year, the ABC network held demos at Armley, Winson Green Prison and Pentonville prisons. Over fifty people attended the picket of London's Pentonville prison including at least two ex-prisoners and Pam Donnelly, whose son Nicholas committed suicide in the prison in March 1992 after protesting about the brutal conditions he was being held under. The demonstrators held placards remembering the four prisoners who have killed themselves in Pentonville in the last 18 months and the murder

of **Omasase Lumumba**. A megaphone was also used to call attention to Pentonville's crimes. Seven people picketed Armley prison in Leeds, which also has a history of deaths. They were joined by a group of kids off the local housing estate. 40 people picketed Winson Green prison in Birmingham, including ex-prisoners and representatives from framed prisoners' campaigns. Anyone interested in helping to make next year's Prisoners Justice Day a big and angry event, get in touch with us.

# CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

CRIME IS on the rise - you must have noticed the media clamour. The press has always been fueled by tales of violence, robbery, crime - but in the last year the crimewave has risen to the top of the agenda.

Earlier this year it was the outrage at the 1992 Criminal Justice Act, which was said to let the 'offenders' off too lightly. Then it was youth crime - the young are apparently out

authority, routine harassment of them and their families, mindless jobs, hours of boredom - the complete lack of power over their daily existence.

## DON'T BELIEVE THE HYPE!

The result of all this media coverage? Huge amounts of tough talk by politicians of all colours. The climate

areas; making the streets safer late at night, or recover people's things after burglaries, (or even preventing them) has never been high priority. And the police are less and less prepared to deal with this "ordinary" crime. Even on their terms, our lives aren't worth protecting. They've got bigger things to do - like protect Top Tories. Hence vigilantes. Although the powers that be would like us to



of control and increasingly turning to lawlessness. In the summer the news was filled with courts that "favoured the guilty" and "police that can't do their job and catch the criminals" - the claim is that they are bogged down by tons of paperwork and there should be more cops on the beat, so people are turning to vigilantes and private security firms to protect against burglars etc.

Then we had the moral outrage after riots in so-called soft or 5 star prisons like Shotts in Scotland



of fear we are supposed to live in is heightened. Magistrates are issued new guidelines to allow them to send more people to prison. On the 6th October at the Tory Party Conference in a speech from Home Secretary Michael Howard we were treated to a list of proposed changes, including:

- Abolition of right to silence.
- Tougher restrictions on granting bail.
- Maximum 1 year sentence in young offender institutions to be doubled.
- Secure units for 12-14 year olds.



believe the propaganda and trust the cops, depending on the law to keep us safe. So we are encouraged even in working class areas to join Neighbourhood Watch, or be trained in "community patrols" - self policing under the watchful eye of the state.

## DOG EAT DOG

Law and order means votes because there is a problem. We can see it around us, the vulnerable being forced into isolation, afraid to go out,



(in July) or Wymott, Lancs (early September) - reviving the usual cry that our prisons are holiday camps. This was followed by 'drugs in prison' scares and reports that prisoners live a life of ease, sending screws out for sweets (!?). Holiday camps? Tell that to people who've been through Pentonville or Wormwood Scrubs; tell that to people whose children have killed themselves while on remand, or to the men who are beaten from prison to prison for exposing the brutality of life inside. As on the outside, people do get drugged out of their heads, to cope with the life of arbitrary punishments, 23 hour bang-ups, often violent and vindictive



- Two new terrorism offences.
- Powers to take DNA samples from all offenders.
- Faster court procedures for evicting squatters.
- Police powers to prevent protesters disrupting hunts.
- More (private) prisons that will supposedly crack down on crime, or as he put it "taking the handcuffs off the police and putting them back on the criminal".

## MORE THAN MY JOB'S WORTH

The fact is, resources have never been concentrated on poorer



mistrustful, fearful for our kids. But the truth is that the rotten social system we live in encourages crime. The gap between the ever-glossier advertising and the reality of our lives is getting wider. An "I'm All Right Jack", get-what-you-can, competitive culture, breeds entrepreneurs of both legal and illegal varieties. The destruction of communities and collective provision now even threatening healthcare and transport, all encourages private solutions. Robbing someone is just another of those. The government undermines social fabric and then pretends they have nothing to do with the anti-social results. Is it possible Britain is heading for a situation

familiar to some US cities? The middle class living in suburban style protected by private security firms while we live in the inner cities, patrolled by paramilitary police and fighting each other for dwindling jobs and resources. Hard drugs filtering in to keep us from the possibilities of getting together and resisting. This isn't as far fetched as it seems - take a look around you. The advantage of

### CRIMINAL UPPERCLASS

But against all this is the hard and simple truth - only we in our communities (what's left of them) can put an end to crime because only us getting together and putting the real criminals out of business for good and freeing ourselves from the drive for profit that fucks our lives up can put an end to it all. Locking more people

working us to death, ruining our health, destroying the environment and then selling it back to us as some kind of special offer. The crime scares get our support or passive acquiescence for more repressive laws, more prisons, more hard labour - meanwhile the gap between wealth and poverty gets wider. So when and if we get together to fight back, the means will be there to beat us down



this development for the capitalists is that we will be taking all the shit out on each other, never uniting to take on the real enemy - the class that controls the system, that rarely has to face the violence, the hatred, the despair.

up, jailing 12 year olds and destroying more working class lives will never reduce crime. It will wreck and brutalise individuals, destroy communities, and produce scapegoats for capitalism's problems. All the hype about a criminal underclass - the real criminal class is in power. Dole fraud costs millions a year - big business fraud involves the looting of BILLIONS, and legal business is built on

and the prisons will be there to put us in. Its up to us - follow their agenda and cut our own throats or set our own agenda, and start working out ways of taking power from the state and changing our own lives. Taking back initiative and control in our neighbourhoods so that we can have places to live in rather than to hide in.

## LETTER FROM ZOLTAN LUGOSI

Instinctively or directly, many of us are becoming aware of the increased use of imprisonment as the solution to the problem of crime. Even while governments are slashing budgets for health and child care, education, affordable housing and other needed services and programs, new and more sophisticated prisons are being built to warehouse ever-increasing numbers of prisoners. In Canada, there has been a 25% increase in federal prison populations in four years, while US prison populations have quadrupled since 1975. In the words of a prison rights activist of the American Civil Liberties Union, "our nation's love affair with prisons

has become a fatal attraction, leading us to locking up our future".

With the high rates of imprisonment and recidivism, it is clear that our current methods of punishment do not work. Even penologists and prison administrators have realised this and as a result, there have been some major changes in corrections and prison systems. However, the draconian philosophy of warehousing offenders will remain in effect as long as fiscal resources go into building new prisons instead of funding programs that might truly address the causes of crime.

It has become necessary to embark on an ambitious initiative to explore and develop alternatives to punish-

ment and prisons. And who would be better to come up with ideas to the public safety problem than those who have been convicted of committing crime? Who would best address the ideas of alternatives to prisons than those inside them? To answer these questions and truly address the solutions to crime, this is a challenge to prisoners, ex-prisoners and members of their support organisations to inspire written works on alternatives to prison. A selection of works received will be compiled in an anthology with an appropriate title. Interested individuals and/or organisations, please contact:

**ZOLTAN LUGOSI PO Box 4510,  
Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7L  
5E5.**

# INTERVIEW WITH PAM DONNELLY

**Nicholas Donnelly** committed suicide in Pentonville prison in March 1992. After meeting his mother Pam at the Prisoners' Justice Day Demo at Pentonville we arranged to meet one evening to hear more of the story behind Nicky's death. Below we reprint extracts from the interview.

**ABC.** *Could you tell us a little about Nicky and how he ended up inside?*

**P.** Nicky was 25 when he was arrested, he was a very happy go lucky, humourous, energetic person, who was arrested for allegedly being in possession of a large quantity of cannabis and charged with that and intent to supply.

**ABC.** *So he was on remand?*

**P.** Yes, we had tried for bail, once at the Magistrates Court and we went a second time, my mother and I to Judge in Chambers with my mother willing to put her house on the line and the police still objected to bail.

**ABC.** *On what grounds?*

**P.** They thought he'd abscond, in which case they said they thought my mother would be homeless (I did point out that with what happened my mother would much rather have been homeless with Nicky alive).

**ABC.** *How long was he inside?*

**P.** He was in for six weeks and we were going to try again for a third time with my sister also putting her house on the line, so we would have had another go at the High Court, but of course we didn't get that chance.

**R.** *How did you find out about Nicky's death?*

he freaked out and went beserk, and while he was in this state he was actually asked to identify his brothers body! Well he was quite unable to do this and said he knew I'd understand. He further gathered that the prison themselves wanted to inform me but knowing how they had handled it with him he decided to tell me himself. So he rung me up and came and told me. I was angry, over Nicky's death and further over the way they treated his brother. Apparently the prison Chaplain had actually said "have a nice day" to him as he left the prison. So I grabbed a friend and dragged her down to the prison where I met the Deputy Governor and prison chaplain because I was very very angry. I also forced myself to return to the prison two days later to talk to Nicky's cell-mate just to try, try and make sense of it, just to see if there had been any sign at all as to what had happened.

**ABC.** *So had there been any warning before that this might be about to happen?*

**P.** No not at all. He had obviously complained strongly about being kept in a cell 22 and a half hours a day, I mean he had. Ever since he'd been there he'd tried to do education classes, all that sort of thing. At that time you had an hour and a half outside your cell from 9.30 to 11 where you had either association or gym or a class; whatever you did it was in that period of time. Plus if anybody came up on their social visits, these 15 minute visits, that would also be in that period. So he'd complained to us but I had absolutely no inkling whatsoever. I mean Nicky did leave a note and apart from personal things he did say he couldn't cope with the "loss of



London ABC & supporters picketing Pentonville Prison, London, for Prisoners Justice Day, August 10th.

**P.** I'd seen Nicky with his girlfriend on the day before his death when he was fine; laughing and joking, although he had said he didn't like it in there. My other son was due to visit on Thursday and went down there. The first I knew was when I had a phone-call that he was coming to see me and he broke the news to me as to what had happened. He himself had been told in a very callous way. He'd been there with a friend and they seemed to be there a while when he was called away from his friend to a room and told very badly and callously. He tells me

choice, privacy, freedom and dignity"; that stuck out, that's verbatim. And even the coroner at the Inquest did read this bit out to Mr Abbot (Governor) and say he was a bit disturbed about that, 'cause it's a hell of an indictment, because Nicky was an unconvicted person. And I'm not suggesting that convicted persons should not be treated with humanity, I'm not, but it seems to me that if someone is presumed innocent until you've had your trial and been found guilty, why should you be treated like a lump of shit.

**ABC.** Can you tell us some more about the regime.

**P.** At the Inquest Mr Abbot the governor was saying things like "sessions in the morning, sessions in the afternoon", but when he was pressed by the solicitor he did admit there was a rota system. So although on paper if you were to ask the Home Office what the regime was like it might appear that you've got morning and afternoon sessions that doesn't mean they're out every morning and afternoon.

**ABC.** A convenient little twist of statistics.

**P.** Yes, he only admitted it when pushed.

**ABC.** And what about the actual Inquest, apparently the jury had recommended that the regime at Pentonville be completely overhauled? (We had heard this from the organisation Inquest who campaign around deaths in custody and were helping Pam with legal representation at the Inquest. See end for address)

**P.** Well, before the coroner asked the jury to go out he said they couldn't do things like that (at an Inquest the coroner has the power to direct the jury's choice of possible verdicts and so juries are often effectively 'gagged'), however when they came back in they did make that recommendation. But when we got the transcript of the Inquest that bit was totally left off. I think they'd said that because while I was giving my evidence I did deliberately say that someone else had done the same thing 3 weeks before because I felt the jury had to have it in context. I had been visiting the morning this other lad, Geoffrey Coe had done it. He'd done it overnight so when his cell-mate woke up he discovered it. I don't know if Nicky had thought of this when he did it 'cause he made sure that his cell-mate Bindi wasn't there, I don't know. But I felt the jury had the right to know and that may have contributed to them giving what they call it, a 'rider' to the verdict, and the coroner certainly didn't like it. Ironically enough a friend of mine was on a train with two of the jurors and they said that they wanted to say that because they felt for me and my family and friends, of course they did....but you never hear about that; the local paper wrote up the case and they didn't mention it either... it was out of the transcript and not mentioned in the papers....I feel Mr Abbot the governor was there not to do with Nicky's death but to justify his regime, talking of suicide prevention schemes, he couldn't see what it was all about, **The very first day when I went down there I tried to tell them that if Nicky did this anyone in there could do it.** It wasn't as if Nicky had a history, a psychiatric history or he'd threatened it before or whatever, he was just an ordinary lovely bloke.

They've got all these silly notices up every where saying how they treat prisoners with humanity and respect but of course they don't. Some about racism, showing they're not racist - in the waiting room, like bits from human rights instruments but it's just rhetoric. To lock someone up like this is just torture, and it would have been for Nicky because he liked being free, he was a free spirit.....Nicky had originally refused to make a statement as was his right, and I'm sure this had something to do with them refusing bail. He knew his rights and wouldn't do just what they wanted. I have confronted the policeman who did it so he knows how I hate him. I think our third attempt would have been useless, though of course we would have tried, we'd have done anything for Nicky and did. Even on those visits, only 15 minutes a day, of course people went every day and whatever he

wanted you took in, what you could, because they were a bit picky and it was very ad hoc, you could get a paper in one day and not the next - you'd never know where you were. I asked them if there was a sheet of paper saying what's what so I'd know what's going in but oh no....I thought it was inhuman. One thing stuck in my mind, I remember one day in the waiting room where it was so packed just like a tube train I actually thought if they treat us the visitors like this how do they treat the prisoners, cause we were treated dreadfully, you couldn't get a cup of tea in there, the toilets were disgusting.



**ABC.** All this bullshit about how 'soft' prisons are.

**P.** The people who say that should go and spend some time in Pentonville, Brixton, Wormwood Scrubs, they wouldn't like to be there.

**ABC.** It's hard for someone on the inside, coping themselves but also dealing with what they are putting family and friends through.

**P.** Oh the ripples are endless; you're going in and trying to cheer them up as they're perfectly well aware, and you've got 15 minutes, I mean you've hardly got your bum on the chair and that's it, I mean people say - remand prisoners, visits every day, they can be brought what they want - it's rubbish. It must have been torture living 3-4 miles from where his family was, though I'm not saying he should've been far away.

**ABC.** It seems people in general and the media in particular might be able to notice the plight of prisoners abroad but refuse to recognise what's going on on their doorstep.

**P.** It's true, though in a way I was glad; I couldn't watch T.V for months, I couldn't, I would have been upset if it had come over. I can see it suited Mr Abbot 'cause he did lie within days of Nicky dying. There was someone on the roof (Tim Sullivan) protesting about lack of dental treatment and they said words to the effect of people are dying in here and Mr Abbot issued a statement denying anyone had died. But I was in no state to pick up the phone and say hang on, because reporters would have wanted to come to me and I couldn't handle that. Nicky's friends wanted to firebomb the place.....

I did speak to a Radio 4 reporter that the Howard League put me in contact with; it was all very emotional, to do with remand.....and in the spring this year I talked to Derrick Lewis, the new director of prisons at some thing in speaker's house, to celebrate the fact that the Howard League had been in existence for 125 years. But my God he wasn't happy talking to me. His whole body language. He couldn't answer any of my questions, he just wanted to get away from this woman.

....and there is this pretence about being all objective, the reality is what we all went through. I mean I'm depressed,

*Continued Page 15*

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# GREEK TRAGEDY

# GEORGE BALAFAS ARRESTED

**Kiriakos Mazokopos** was arrested on 7th November 1990 at a hospital where he had gone after an explosive mechanism had accidentally gone off in his hands causing the loss of his left eye and his left hand. The next day, the cops discovered guns and ammo in the warehouse where the above incident had taken place. Mazokopos was charged with theft and possession of explosives plus causing an explosion by negligence and participating in the execution of a Korydallos Prison psychiatrist, this on the sole evidence of a pamphlet found at the warehouse for which Revolutionary Solidarity had claimed responsibility for the killing. Mazokopos at the time was the correspondence secretary for the Union Of Anarchists Of Athens to which the pamphlet had been sent. As a result of his arrest, activists Koyannis, Bouketsidis and Bergner were all arrested and imprisoned for being part of the MAZOKOPOS GROUP!! They were reprieved after a long hunger strike. The arrests was followed by the enactment of an Anti-Terrorist law, the State's refuge when their force of social control and repression is challenged or questioned.

The security forces charged Mazokopos in as many ways as could be squeezed out of the warehouse incident. In the trial, Mazokopos admitted to having rented the warehouse using a false I.D in 1983 for storage of an anarchist archive. In 88-89, two other persons (whom he refused to name) took it over, the explosion occurring during Mazokopos's last withdrawal of his archive.

The Court sentenced him to 17 years in prison despite being discharged of the murder of the prison psychiatrist.

Comrades and friends of Mazokopos are continuing in their financial, political and moral support for him and wish to make his campaign an International one and for actions to peak during his second trial. They say "Greek consulates and embassies are some of the sites where international anarchist solidarity can be demonstrated".

We hope that we can highlight Kiriakos Mazokopos's plight and encourage actions for his release in the U.K.

Contact:

**Anarchist Initiative, PO Box 11251,  
59110 Thessaloniki, Greece.**

On the 2nd of December police in Athens arrested **George Balafas**, who they had been after for seven years and identified as "the most wanted Greek terrorist". Balafas is accused of founding and being a member of Anti-State Struggle, an anarchist armed guerilla group which has carried out such actions as the execution of a state prosecutor, gunfights with the cops, robberies for the cause etc. Balafas has been wanted since 1985 when, at "Gizi's Battle", three cops and armed militant Cristos Tsutsuvis were killed. George Balafas denies being a member of Anti-State Struggle, the evidence connecting him to the group is minimal, ie that he was a friend and cousin of Cristos Tsutsuvis and that his fingerprints were found on a pack of biscuits at Tsutsuvis's safe house! Police files on Balafas have mysteriously been burned, possibly to cover up intended further arrests. Balafas made a statement to the press, denying all the charges and claiming that he'd been arrested because of his anarchist activity and linking the "anti-terror campaign" to pressure on Greece from international capitalist interests.

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# BLOODY NOSE CONES

**Chris Cole**, a peace activist, is appearing at Luton Crown Court on the 4th October charged with causing approximately £475,000 worth of damage to a British Aerospace factory in Stevenage.

On the 6th January Chris entered the plant and hammered on nose cones of Tornado, Hawk, Eurofighter 2000 military aircraft due to be shipped to Indonesia (a regime notorious for it's genocide in neighbouring East Timor). After serving five and a half months in Bedford prison on remand Chris was released on bail in June.

The BAe Ploughshare support group are planning to march on the court on the 4th October. They are appealing for people to join the demo and for funds for the support campaign.

Despite the ludicrous Ploughshares policy of activists giving themselves up after their actions (!!!??\*\*) they should nevertheless be supported in their campaign.

Cheques payable to 'BAe Ploughshares', to BAe Ploughshares Support Group,  
c/o NURN, 169 Holloway Rd., London N7 8DQ



## HIGHLAND HIV WARRIOR

We reprint here a letter from **John Young**, a prisoner with HIV to the newsletter of Mainliners, a group "working with and for people affected by drugs and HIV";

"I would like to thank you for your support and the excellent education on the topic of HIV/AIDS via your newsletter which was a great comfort to me in my hour of need.

This was at a time when all I had was four hairy blankets for comfort against the dreaded virus in a layout which was in the traditional form, of Victorian prisons of those long ago times. It had four tiered galleries, with no internal sanitation, dirty cells, paint flaking off the walls, covered in cracks and torn scraps of posters and a smell which can only be found in an old prison over many years of decay.

I took up the issue of healthcare with the hall Governor who turned out to be a cocky 23 year old yuppie type who knew nothing of any HIV policy for prisoners. That's when I became the Highland HIV warrior and fought against a prison system which failed to provide any form of healthcare but did impose HIV discrimination. I have been locked up 12 times over various issues of healthcare for prisoners with the virus, I have been put in cages just like the ones in London Zoo where they keep the tigers! (I only wanted

a special diet to try to prolong me life!) So I protested by smashing windows and defacing my cell. Now myself and the other two prisoners who are also HIV positive are given 14 complian a week each - two a day - to compensate for the poor diet. We are also given a battery shaver.

There have got to be some radical changes before more HIV/AIDS deaths occur.

I am sure the Scottish Lord who sentenced me would not have locked me up for trying to prolong my life yet in this prison I was treated this way because their budget came before healthcare.

I don't know the answers as to how the prison system can cater for someone with a terminal illness but I do know the best weapon we have is our VOICES!

*John the Highland HIV - Warrior*

John would be glad to receive letters of support; please write to John Young c/o London ABC and we will forward the letters.

Letter reprinted courtesy of Mainliners, issue 37 August '93. Mainliners, 205 Stockwell Rd, London SW9 9SL. Phone; services 071 738 4656, Admin 071 737 3361.

## URGENT APPEAL

**John Perotti**, who regular readers will know as a tireless prison activist and jailhouse lawyer in Ohio's Mansfield prison is facing a crucial appeal. He had 12-15 years added on to his sentence due to a frame-up charge of stabbing another prisoner (John was in isolation at the time and the real attacker has since confessed - see *Bulletin no 1*). But his petition against this charge has been lost. This means he has 60 days (30 by the time you read this) to appeal to the Judge's ruling. The snag is he has to raise at least \$1000 to 'retain counsel', in other words pay for the

appeal out of a prisoner's meagre funds - such justice!

So we are making an URGENT appeal on behalf of John. Anything and everything you can send to the *John Perotti Defence Fund*, 45A Bedford Av, Aberdeen, Scotland.

Donations most gratefully received. Or if you prefer buy a copy of John's prison writings published in a booklet, 'Down to the Wire', usually £3, buy it for a solidarity price; £5, £10 or whatever you can manage (lower limit £3).

It is vital that we don't forget John who has been an inspiration to us all.

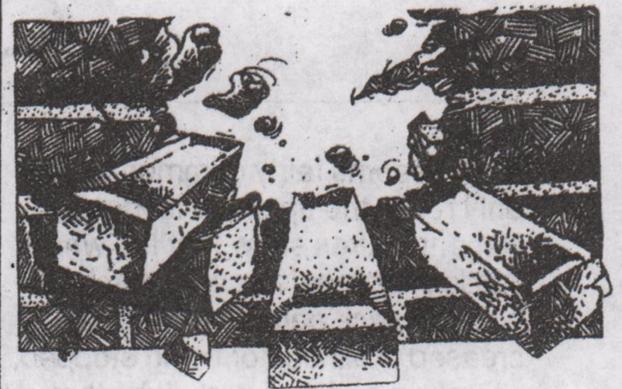
## Pam Donnelly Interview Continued

I can only do little things. When something happens to you that is sort of one of those things that happens to other people and not to you it opens up the possibilities of all the things that could happen and do happen. I thought I was an old tuffy - but this one has been a bit difficult. I wanted to go on your demo, I felt I had to, Nicky would have expected it. He wasn't amazingly political but he used to joke about my past of sit downs and demos. Although I can't run the rest of my life for Nicky, he would have expected it. And I do have a beady eye on Pentonville. ABC. Thanks for talking to us.

With all the media clamour over how supposedly 'soft' prison regimes are, including the high profile given to a few ludicrous examples such as the 'sending a guard out for sweets' case, not to mention the daily barrage of crime hysteria, it looks like we're being prepared for some new government assault. We can look forward to a stern law and order speech at the Tories upcoming rally/conference. A tougher sentencing policy has been banded about, what other goodies have they got up their sleeve? Privatisation is already gathering pace.

Meanwhile with the 4 deaths in Leicester and 3 in Belmarsh, the total of deaths in prison this year reaches 33. That's 171 since 1990. It's worth remembering that this, and the experience of Pam Donnelly her family and many like them around the country, is the reality behind government posturing.

*Inquest, Ground Floor, Alexander National House, 330 Seven Sisters Rd, Finsbury Park, London N4 2JP  
Tel: 081 802 7430*



# ROUTINE RACISM

We have recently received several letters from someone in Bullingdon Prison giving us details of the sort of routine racism black prisoners can expect from her majesty's finest. In his case home leave and compassionate leave were withheld without any reasons being given at a time when friends who were white were given these 'privileges'. This is despite them having served a much smaller proportion of their sentences and having been disciplined numerous times compared to the clean record of our contact. When he complained, using the prison's 'request and complaint' procedure, firstly about his treatment and secondly about a prison officer using unnecessary force and violence to restrain another black prisoner he was put on 'good order and discipline'. He lost 8 days remission and got 3 days isolation ('therapeutic segregation') with the governor warning his friends that he should 'slow down' or he might end up losing all his remission.

This routine harassment and victimi-

to sentencing. Black youngsters are twice as likely as those who are white to be prosecuted rather than cautioned and more likely to be remanded in custody for the same offence. They are more likely to receive an unfavourable probation report, less likely to get parole or remission and likely to receive a longer sentence despite fewer convictions. In 1991, prisoners of African, Caribbean or Asian descent made up 16% of the overall prison population while they form only 5% of the country's population. An even higher proportion, 23% of 'dubious jailings', involve black defendants (based on a dossier of miscarriages of justice put together by *Liberty, Conviction* and the *National Association of Probation Officers*).

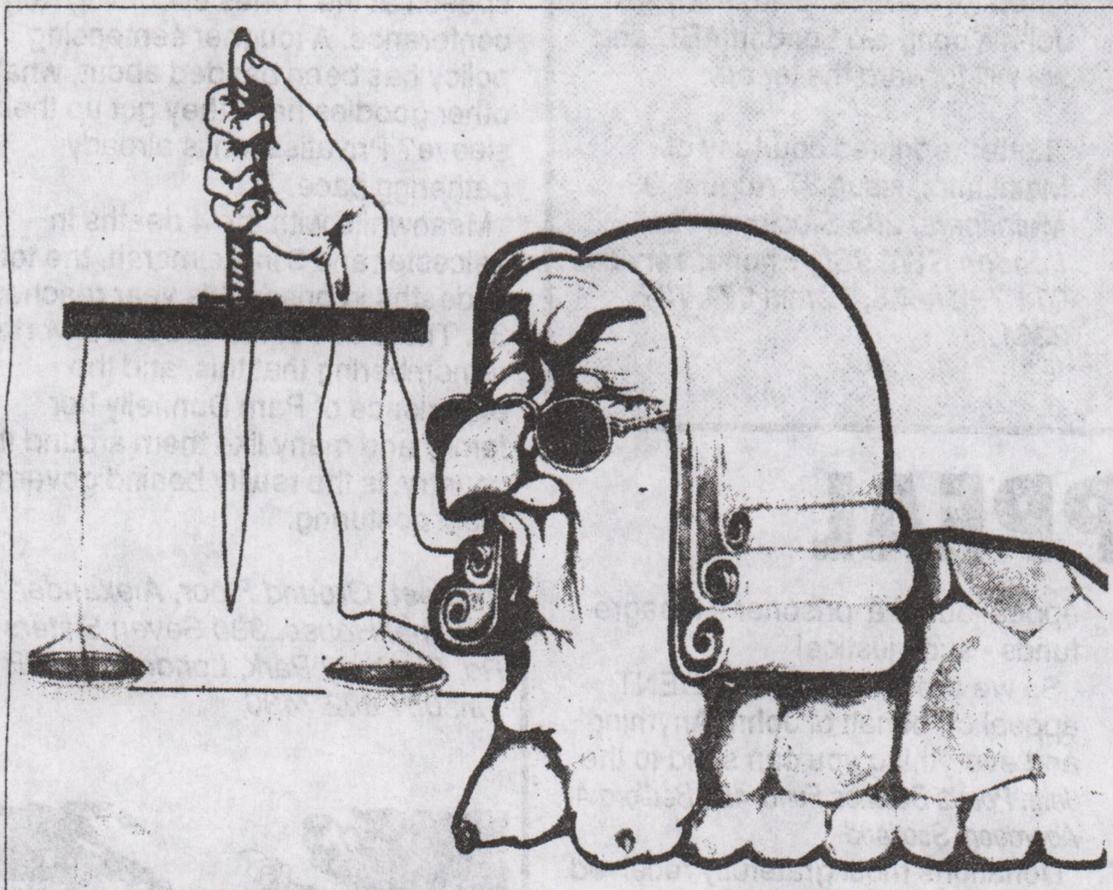
The clear institutional bias is then turned on its head with the media stereotype of the violent drug-taking black mugger and the image of the general criminality of black communities;

"They come from countries where bribery and graft are expected and

The fact is that black people are also more likely to be victims of crime and are more frequently framed and/or assaulted by the police. When Kenneth Carrera fought off two 'muggers' who attacked him with a knife as he was returning home from a phone box, one of the attackers was stabbed in the struggle. Carrera, knowing he'd injured one of them immediately phoned the police but the attacker was dead by the time they arrived. He was then charged with murder and spent 8 and a half months in prison without bail before a jury finally found him innocent. Compare this to the case of Barry Crane, who shot Lloyd Davis twice in front of 5 witnesses. After an argument over parking in which Crane hurled racist abuse at Davis, Lloyd cut Crane on the chin with a knife. Crane then produced a gun and shot Davis once in the arm and then again in the heart whilst he was retreating. The judge guided the jury to a not guilty verdict saying there wasn't enough evidence to say Crane had not acted in self defence. Crane was fined £1000 for possessing a firearm without a licence! He had said to the police "he deserved it". Lloyds family point out "If a black man shot down a white man in front of 5 witnesses do you think he would walk away without doing any time?"

When it comes to racist attacks, white defendants accused of racial murder are regularly given bail, that's if they're arrested in the first place. Frequently the racist motive is obscured as in the case of Rolan Adams the 14 year old murdered in Thamesmead, where the prosecution tried to claim the attack was just "territorial". And in cases of racist attack where people dare to defend themselves, they consistently end up getting charged while their attackers get off. The cases are so numerous and stretch from local incidents, like the case of the Drummond St. Four; when Bengali youth dealt with some fascists who had been terrorising the neighbourhood without any police response, only to receive charges, while the fascists got off, to the routine police protection of fascists on demonstrations.

Added to this is the presence in prisons and secure hospitals (where there are again a disproportionate number of black people) of staff with right wing connections. In Ashworth special hospital on Merseyside staff



sation seems fairly common and is only really the tip of the iceberg. Recent figures show that the whole 'justice' system is heavily stacked against black people, from an increased likelihood of being stopped, searched and arrested, right through

where stealing is a virtue as long as you are not found out. They no longer share the same code of morals or religious beliefs" - No not a quote from the Sun but Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls in 1982.

*Continued Next Page*

were suspended for racist abuse. Recent reports from Pentonville, where only this June it was finally admitted that Omasasi Lumumba, a Zairean refugee was 'unlawfully killed' by screws, show that detainees under the immigration act face racist abuse and threats of violent assault from prison officers, some claiming membership of the fascist British National Party.

Basically the racism general in British society is intensified and amplified in the institutions of state control and policing so that black people are constantly under threat from the machinery of so called law and order. In a perverse way the 'criminal justice system' feeds on the criminalisation of black communities which it is responsible for. The stereotype of the black mugger has become one of the favoured criminal icons the media has created (in competition with the 'IRA monsters' to receive the loudest condemnation) and used to whip up fear and hysteria to justify more police, more prisons, more surveillance. Meanwhile, black people are murdered by racists, assaulted and framed by the police, abused and killed in prison or drugged to death in mental institutions like Orville Blackwood.

It's no surprise then that black activists are often at the forefront of campaigns against various aspects of the 'justice' system. From police monitoring to frame ups. Psychiatric abuse to community defence, whether that be against police or other racists.

(Statistics taken from a report for Liberty by Peter Herbert given to the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice).

# FRAMED

Paul Steele is serving life for murder and 8 years for robbery. He was sent down in 1990 following the death of Joseph Casali who was attacked in Leyton, East London in December 1989 while taking money to a bank. Paul denies ever being on the scene and has always denied the charges.

The case against him relied on evidence from friends who claimed that he had confessed to them, and on the word of a co-defendant Maurice Cooper, who worked for the victim's firm and was said to have supplied Paul with information for the robbery. (Cooper was acquitted.) Paul never confessed to the murder; he is said to have fled to Tenerife afterwards, but in fact went to the police voluntarily after returning from holiday there - and was immediately arrested.

Eye witness accounts of the murderer don't fit Paul: the man was said to be clean shaven and Paul had a beard at the time; at an ID parade, 2 mixed-race men were picked out,

whereas Paul has a dark skin. On top of this a hat, a knife-sheath and a watch were left behind by the robber - all of which was shown not to belong to Paul. There was no forensic evidence.

Paul appealed against his conviction and had a hearing in December 1992 in front of 3 appeal judges. But he felt from the start that they would turn him down as they showed little interest in the defence case but paid close attention to the prosecution, and the main judge went over the top at Paul in his summing up. The appeal was refused.

Paul Steele is another prisoner suffering from the routine framing up of black people by British police, judges and courts, he is determined to fight his conviction and needs letters of support, and people to spread the word about his case so his name gets known.

Write to **Paul Steele MT3097**, C Wing, HM Prison Whitemoor, Longhill Rd., March, Cambs., PE15 0PR.



## SPRINGBOK TRIAL KICKS OFF

The 'Stop The Springbok 9' are 8 members of City of London Anti Apartheid Group and a freelance photographer who were arrested while participating in a campaign against the South African Springbok rugby team's tour of Britain in November 1992. City AA was opposing the tour with support from various South African groups who feel that little has changed in the country and the boycott of SA sport should continue. Protests were

held outside the 4 matches played here. It was the day before the match in Leicester that the 9 were stopped by police on arriving in the city in a van, arrested and charged with going equipped to commit criminal damage. This carries a maximum sentence of ten years. They were accused of having broken glass and licks to damage the pitch. After the match they were released, on bail conditions intended to prevent them from attending any other demos. They all

deny the charges.

Their trial starts on the 8th November at Nottingham Crown Court. The Stop the Springbok 9 Defence Campaign are asking for people to distribute leaflets and petitions and to support a picket of the court from 9.30 to 11.30 on the morning of November the 8th. For more info contact: Stop the Springbok 9 Defence Campaign, c/o BM City AA, London, WC1N 3XX. Tel 081 837 6050.

# OZ COPS ON TRIAL

Its not just in Britain that the police are given their head to beat up and kill people. In the state of Victoria in Australia, seven men were shot by the cops between August 1989 and December 1991. However useful the power of the police is for capitalism, though, they can't be seen to be too far above the law. 8 serving and former officers have been charged with the murder of Graeme R. Jensen in Melbourne in 1988, and 2 with the murder of Gary Abdallah in Carilla in 1989. Jensen was shot in the back of the head as police "tried to arrest him" in a shopping centre, this was alleged to have sparked off a revenge killing of 2 cops. Abdallah was shot six times, also dying from a shot in the back of the head. All the officers pleaded not guilty and were of course bailed. As if any of us would get bail - its amazing they aren't still on the beat!

It remains to be seen if they will be convicted or if this is a show trial to persuade us that "justice" does apply equally to the police and us. How many times have the cops been found guilty of murder in Britain?

This info was nicked from a newspaper, if anyone has any follow-up news or other info please send it in.

# PRISONS FULL OF HITMEN

Meanwhile it seems that in some parts of the world prison officers can actually GET THE SACK for attacking prisoners! In April 17 screws from the infamous Mangaroa Prison in Hawkes Bay, New Zealand, were suspended after a weeklong series of revenge attacks on cons in one block in January this year. 12 were dismissed in June following an investigation. An inquiry into other prisons revealed "designated hitters" who were unofficially appointed to beat up prisoners, and "illicit and dangerous" head and arm locks used in restraint were "exposed". Only prisoners protests forced this into the open and so the government has to be seen to be doing something positive. In the long run will anything change? Experience suggests that some of the screws will be sacked for show, most will be shuffled around, noises made about changes and in the end the same brutal regime will carry on. Only collective action by prisoners and us on the outside will bring about real change in any prison system.

## ABC GROUPS

**Birmingham ABC**, c/o Box 3241, Salliey, Birmingham B8 3DP

**Bradford ABC**, c/o 1 in 12 Club, 31 Manor Row, Bradford, BD1

**Devon ABC**, c/o SWAN, PO Box 4, Buckfastleigh, Devon TQ11 0YZ

**Essex ABC**, c/o Box A, 12 Mill Rd., Cambridge

**Huddersfield ABC**, c/o Bradford ABC Address

**London ABC**, c/o 121 Bookshop, 121 Railton Road, London SE24

**Manchester ABC**, Box 8, 1 Newton St, Manchester M1

**Norwich ABC**, PO Box 73, Norwich NR1 2EB

**Oxford ABC**, Box A, 111 Magdalene Rd, Oxford

**Sheffield ABC**, Black Star, PO Box 446, Sheffield S1 1NY

### SCOTLAND

**Glasgow ABC**, PO Box 1094, Glasgow G14 0NS

**Inside Information**, c/o Pigeon-hole Cl, 11 Forth St., Edinburgh EH1

**John Perotti Defence Fund**, 45A, Bedford Ave., Aberdeen, Scotland  
**Conviction**, PO Box 522, Sheffield S1 3FF. Organisation that supports framed prisoners.

### IRELAND

**Derry ABC**, c/o Organise, PO Box 5, Derry BT48 6PD

For international contacts, get in touch with your nearest group.

## Jamaican Death Row Prisoners Contd.

### EVERETT PARKINSON

Sentenced in 1992 for murder. He says it was self-defence. He was involved in a shooting incident with three men, one of whom was killed. The other two appeared in court with false evidence against him. Both were wanted by the police. He is waiting for an appeal to come through and needs money to fund it.

### CLARENCE MARSHALL

He says he was framed by the police. No more details yet.

### LEVI GREY

Sentenced in 1992 for a murder he denies. He is appealing against an unfair trial.

### GEORGE LINDOM

He says he is innocent. No more details yet.

### EGBERT WHITE

Sentenced in March 1990 for murder. He has won a retrial from an appeal. He says the police beat him and tortured him with electric shocks. He desperately needs money for a good solicitor.

We have also heard of three other men in the same position:

**GILBERT HYDE**

**ANDY WILLIAMS**

**DUDLEY SMITH**

All these men are currently imprisoned at:

Saint Catherine Correctional Centre  
1 White Church Street  
Spanish Town PO  
St Catherine  
Jamaica

Also Antony Macintosh (no details),

General Penitentiary  
B North Sec. #12c  
2-4 Tower St  
Kingston  
Jamaica

A firm of solicitors who act for death row prisoners in Jamaica are:

Barlow Lyde and Gilbert  
Beaufort House  
15 St Botolph St  
London EC3A 7NJ  
Tel: 071 247 2277



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