Syndicalist Workers Federation

I WISH TO JOIN THE S.W.F.

TWOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION

Delete where not applicable







The

Sparrows' Nest

Pacrétoriat aux Relations Internationales

3 Rue Ternaux - PARIS-XIº

Digital Library Project: What is in @? MANIFESTACION DE ANARCHIST OF THE PROJECT OF THE PROJECT

Syndicalist Workers Federation 25a Amberley Road London, W.9.

COMMITTEE OF 100



DERACION OBRERA REGIONAL ARGENTINA





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Hits: 1552



Below is the latest list of special collections and scanned documents. Please note that other curated collections (including Colin's, Chris', Dave's and Nick's), not online but available at the Sparrows' Nest, can be found itemised in sections within the main catalogue.

<u>List of all digitised materials (catalogued information and hyperlinks to the documents).</u>

For more detailed information regarding the individual collections, please see the respective pages:

Public Archive

Solidarity Federation Archive

Ron's Collection - Syndicalist materials 1940s-1960s

Miscellaneous Scans

If you have any materials you would like to donate or to be held in the library or archive, <u>please contact us!</u>

Donations to help us build the collections are very welcome. Please visit <u>our donations page</u> and see <u>our acceptance policy</u>.

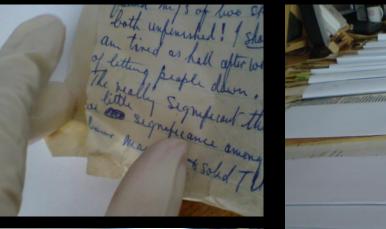
Some of our greatest treasures came from apparently random heaps of smelly paper. So if you have access to materials, be it pamphlets, bulletines, zines, papers, letters, etc. please DO NOT throw them out, but <u>let us know!</u>

We are always striving to make this Digital Library as accurate and user-friendly as possible. However we are limited by software, IT-know how, etc. If there are any people out there who could assist us in putting together a more user-friendly database, please get in touch!

An important part our work at the Sparrows' Nest is the Digital Library, containing thousands of documents.













Processing them involves:

- conservation
- identification
- classification
- digitalising
- cataloguing



Database allows for scrolling and searching

Anarchy 56	Emma Goldman in a Man's world	56	various	UK; England; London	October	1965	PAR0161.pdf	24.20	N/A	36	bulletin; magazine; N/A zine	N/A
Anarchy 57	N/A	57	Davies, Penny; Gibson, Tony; Colman, Marshall; Gibson, Morgan; Gosling, Ray; Ellingham, Francis; Segar, Rufus	UK; England; London	November	1968	PAR0151.pdf	23.30	N/A	36	bulletin; jurisprudence la magazine; crime Marx Buck zine Fuller Paris	
Anarchy 59	N/A	59	various	UK; England; London	January	1966	PAR0160.pdf	20.70	N/A	36	bulletin; magazine; N/A zine	N/A
Anarchy 64	N/A	64	various	UK; England; London	June	1966	PAR0162.pdf	22.90	N/A	36	bulletin; magazine; N/A zine	N/A
Anarchy 65	111 years ago	65	various	UK; England; London	July	1966	PAR0163.pdf	22.50	N/A	36	bulletin; magazine; N/A zine	N/A
Anarchy 72	Strike City, Mississippi	72	Brown, Peter; Meltzer, Albert; Moyse, Arthur; Woodiwiss, Tony; Pearce, Frank; Wooliscroft, Michael; Johnson, Vincent; Albon, Alan; Eichenauer, Jimmi; Robinson, Jeff; Mitchell, I.R.; Segar, Rufus	UK; England; London	February	1967	PAR0135.pdf	21.30	N/A	36	bulletin; Russia philologic magazine; philology zine	al _{N/A}
Anarchy 77	Do-it-yourself Anarchism	77	Weller, Ken; Schubert, John; Blitzen, Dorothy; Best, Robert; Ford, Peter; Clark, George;	UK; England; London	July	1967	PAR0136.pdf	20.30	N/A	36	Vietnam bulletin; autonomous gro magazine; Notting Hill King zine San Francisco	



Database features:

9,357 pages of digitised documents, spanning the 1940s-2000s.

That is c. 5% of the archival materials (currently) held at the Nest (not including the books).

More documents are being added all the time.



Syndicalist materials 1940s-1960s

Part of the Digital Library project of <u>The Sparrows' Nest, Nottingham</u> - A centre for anarchist culture and education.

Last update 14th April 2013.

Ron's Collection is an amazing treasure trove of leaflets, newspaper cuttings and (most numerous and interesting) letters, providing fascinating insights into the history of syndicalist groups and individuals, active in Britain and around the world. Please browse the table below by either using your browser's search function or scrolling merrily about.

The documents primarily record activities of the Anarchist Federation of Britain (AFB), which subsequently became the Syndicalist Workers' Federation (SWF), between the 1940s and the early 1960s. The collection therefore provides researchers with unique source material on a period often overlooked in the history of radical politics, the years between the end of the Spanish Civil War and the iconic events of the late 1960s.

Part of the collection's importance is that it not only contains information on British syndicalists, but on groups and people from all over the world and with very different politics. For instance, the processed documents were sent to and from 25 different countries, feature six languages and refer to a total of 195 groups, parties, trade unions, committees etc. as well as 71 different publications.

Ron's Collection is complemented by the <u>archive of the Solidarity Federation (SolFed Collection)</u>. Whereas Ron's Collection contains mostly internal documents, the SolFed Collection includes many of the AFB/SWF's publications, such as papers and pamphlets.

The Sparrows' Nest holds the archives of a number of organisations and individuals, e.g.

- Anarchist Federation
- Solidarity Federation
- Ron's Collection

These contain published materials as well as unpublished sources.

Some unpublished materials are available in the Digital Library.

Examples of unpublished sources

Members of the London Group have been dissatisfied for some time with the apparent stagnation of our movement. Since the election of the Labour Government in 1945 the AFB has not developed as we anticipated at the Glasgow Congress. Members have lapsed and have not been replaced by new blood, organised Amerchist activity in Scotland - keystone of our movement during the war - has ceased, and our propaganda elsewhere has, to a large extent, fallen on deaf edra. Our work on the international field, for the formation of a World Amerchist Federation has not borne fruit - indeed, our position was decisively rejected at the International Congress in Paris last Autumn.

successful syndicalist activity. The AFB clearly lacks the organisational form both to attract discontented workers and to give an alternative to T.U. organisation.

After lengthy discussion on the basis of the above points, the London Group has decided to submit the following proposals to provincial comrades:-

l. That the AFB should transform itself into an organisation which will concern itself solely with syndicalist propagands and action.

2. That this organisation should aim: firstly, at carrying out industrial propaganda and forming, where possible, rank-and-file groupings in the different industries; secondly, to act as a liaison organisation between these groupings and; thirdly, to provide, by these means, the basis for a National Confederation of Labour in this country.



The Sparrows' Nest

RON01996-7

A letter outlining weaknesses in the organisation of the AFB and proposing the transition into what was to become the SWF.

letter; English; typewritten

Sender(s) Hawkes, Ken;

Rowe, Frank

Organisation(s) AFB

Sent from UK, England, London

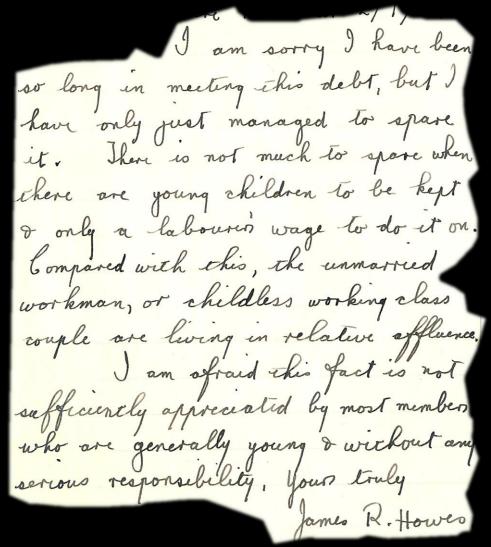
Recipient N/A

Organisation(s) AFB

Sent to UK*

Date 03/06/1950

Examples of unpublished sources





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RON00376

James R. Howes pays his debts and comments on financial difficulties of a working class father.

letter; English; handwritten

Sender(s) Howes, James R. Organisation(s) AFB* Sent from UK, England,

Stockport

N/A Recipient Organisation(s) **AFB**

Sent to UK, England, London*

Date 02/05/1949

Examples of unpublished sources

SPANISH CONFEDERATION OF LABOUR (C.N.T.) in EXILE Relations Committee in Great Britain

A. Ruiz: Secretary - 84, Illex Road, London N.W.10 Tel: WALL 1076

Dear Sir/Madam

We have received alarming news concerning the situation of the Spaniards detained in Madrid and Barcelona, accused of subversive activities. A Military Tribunal has demanded the death penalty for one of them, a young student. All of them are young libertarians (Youth Movement of the C.N.T.).

These trials by Franco's regime are direct attempts againts the freedom and dignity of the Spanish people. We are conscious of the reasons that allow the continuity of this regime, but we rely on the humanitarian feelings of those who defend the elementary rights of justice.

The young student, Jorge Conill Vall, is in danger.

We appeal to you and your friends to make every possible effort to save his life.

In solidarity with the Spanish people, we need your support, either using your known influence by writing to the Press, to the United Nations or any other means available.

Yours sincerely,





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RON01467

An appeal urging for support of anti-fascist prisoners in Spain.

letter; English; typewritten, handwritten signature

Sender(s)

Organisation(s)

Sent from

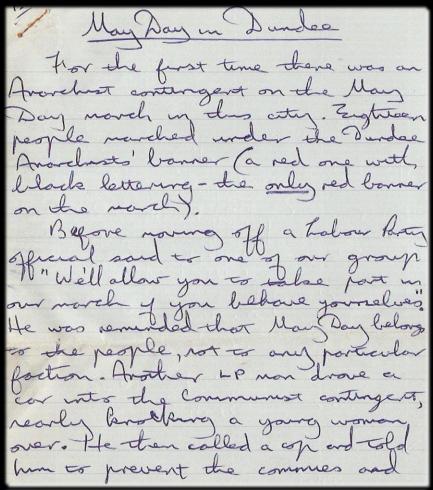
UK, England,
London

Recipient N/A Organisation(s) SWF*

Sent to UK, England, London*

Date 26/09/1962

Examples of unpublished sources



Anarchioto from talsing over Labour morch. However, he was averaled ley another official and we set - I - to lucasio



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RON01948-9 "May Day in Dundee." Probably a manuscript for a SWF paper.

manuscript; English; handwritten

Author(s) DYC Organisation(s) Dundee

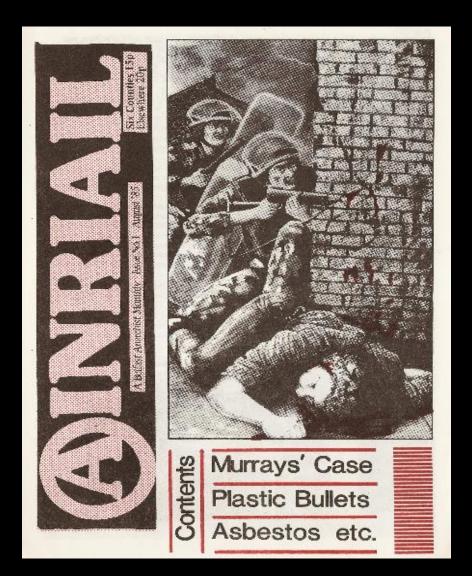
Anarchist Group*

Published/written in UK,

Scotland, Dundee*

1965 Date

Examples of published sources in Box A





The Sparrows' Nest

Title: Ainriail

Subtitle: A Belfast Anarchist

Bi-Monthly

Issue No:

Published by: Ainriail

Published in: Belfast

Month (etc): August

Year: 1985

Hyperlink: PAR0078.pdf

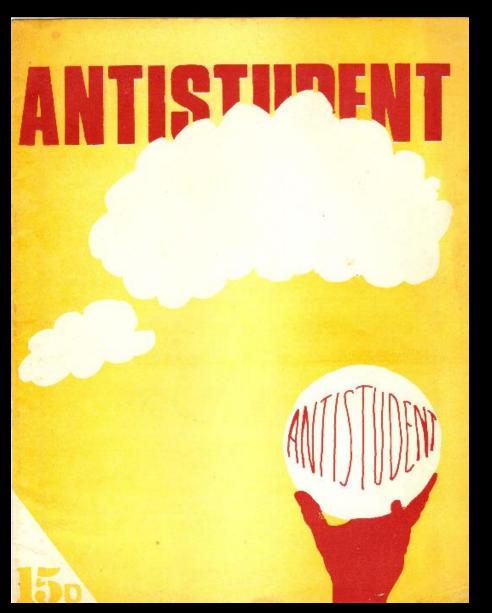
File size (MB): 7.53

Pages: 12

Format: bulletin; magazine;

zine

Examples of published sources in Box A





The Sparrows' Nest

Title: **Antistudent**

Published by: Antistudent

Pamphlet Collective

Published in: UK

Hyperlink: PAR0016.pdf

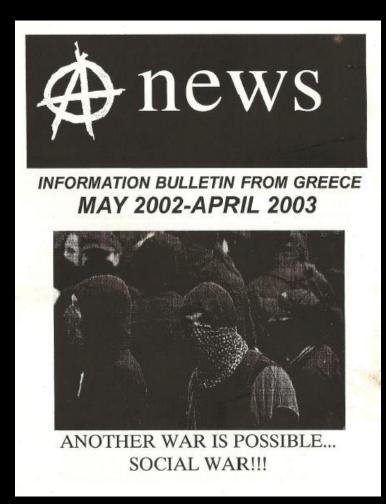
File size (MB): 34.60

Catalogue ID: 2718

Pages: 40

Format: pamphlet

Examples of published sources in Box A: Circle @





The Sparrows' Nest

The hands of G8 are stained with blood. The blood of those who, in the name of democracy, "security" and "antiterrorism", are murdered in Yugoslavia, Afganistan, Iraq, Palestine...everywhere. And the keep on being murdered. Against the G8, as well as those who meet in Salonica in Greece on 19-21 of June, at the E.U. Summit. Let's welcome them as they deserve...

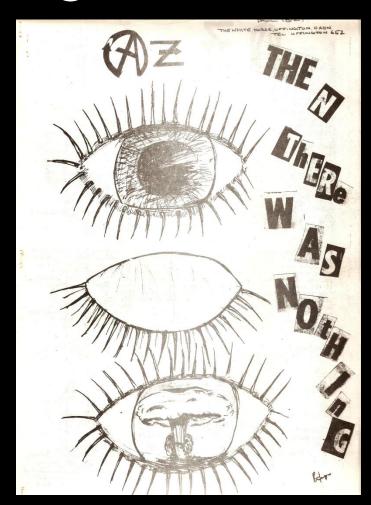
Athens 31-5-2003

ANARCHIST INTERVENTION

www.geocities.com/an_pare news_a@yahoo.com an_pare@yahoo.com

A text that was distributed during the G8 Summit in Evian

Examples of published sources in Box A: Circle @





The Sparrows' Nest



The above term was made famous by George Orwell in 1924. It's Principle Character altered old news to bring it into line with Big Bothern predictions. In 1920 it's already established Yund Big Ploy. That the UF Subs, recent press photos for instance. Bod carriers with hermdo's , "evolutionaries in rouge, Woul So trea Amarchiste, Why not take a picture of the record companies advertising dept, that would be for more howest. Ask Charlie Heartz about antifaction held probably turn away and numble held newer heard of it.

whilst the WK Subs choose to ignore a consecution of their seconest, Rich Adea Ant denies it ever existed. In the interest of American sales he tells or reserves the US Peres that there was no threat just "A revealt into style" for his the great thing about the Sex Pistolar were the Fisk Jumpers they were at one gig he saw. Of course he doesn't want to bother his protty little head about things like. Anarchy revolt, Anger or Frustration partly becomes this would not do wall for his puttil Arcrican males compaine and nortly becomes he's saidly old fox and knows that Virgin have been flogging a dead horse for three year now. Virgin would have you believe it was all Sid victous's drugs and water that the commodities both Adea and Virgin have no Written History National William and Cockney Rejects who see Punk Aided unwaitingly by Ol Rands. When the UK Subs and Cockney Rejects who see Punk as a Pisc Up and a pulse up and a light sing together, by a 90 mph guiter solo.

" By the way readers homework for today
" Whet did Punk mean to me?" Double think and revspeack must be used.

VARK B.

I thought I'd open my zine with the above piece by Mark because I'm so faccinated by his style of writing I aim to cover the lesser known bands as much as possible and maybe cocaisonally take on a bigger band if needs be. The name can be seen as an anarchist's send up of the famous hippy oz zine of yesteryear, or maybe you can interpretate the A as a symbol for anarchy and the Z as the last letter of the alphabet or last resort, and from that derive the statement or question "why shuold anarchy be the last resort..... XHEME Enough of all that this zine is to show you that anyone can produce a publication of some kind, and is just a big V sign to the established press who seem to have ability to and is just a big V sign to the established press who seem to have ability to manipulate interviews and what have you into what they like to provide interesting but inaccurate reading, and they have the POWER to condemn some of our up and but inaccurate reading, and they have the POWER to condemn some of our up and

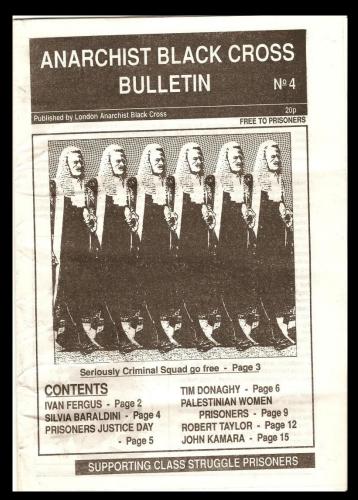
PAUL - AZ,
THE WHITE HORSE,
UFFINGTON,
OXON. TEL UFFINGTON 652...

4 special thomass to the Talestine, for their tape e record (FSp + postury). I'm a front your letter cours too labe for usure Nº1 but Nº2 2 will contain yourselves.

For INFO OR RECORDS DRIVE TO: ROB BANK

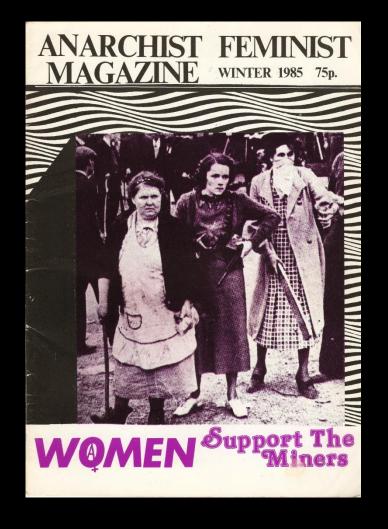
ROB BANKS,
12, MACLEON ROAD,
WEST HOWE,
BOURD HOMEN
OVERSET,
BHII BEP

Examples of published sources in Box A: Struggles

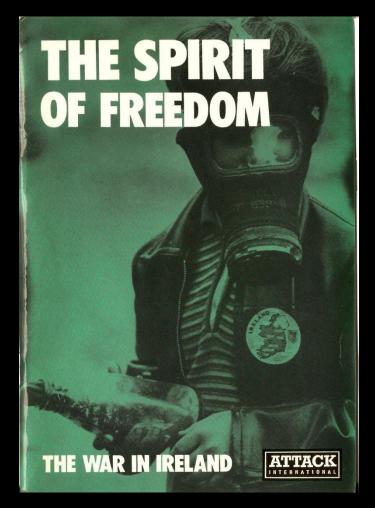




The Sparrows' Nest



Examples of published sources in Box A: Struggles





The Sparrows' Nest

Attack International

We are a small revolutionary propaganda group. We aim to spread ideas and information that help to incite, support and develop struggle by the working class against capitalism and the state. We have produced a number of leaflets, posters and so on, as well as a paper ('Attack') and a book ('Breaking Free'). We plan to produce more in the future. If you would like to receive any of these publications, please send a (large?!) donation to us. And if you want a copy of 'Breaking Free', please send £2.00 (all cheques made payable to Attack International). And, of course, all donations are very welcome. Please contact us at BM 6577, London, WC1N 3XX. England.

ATTACK

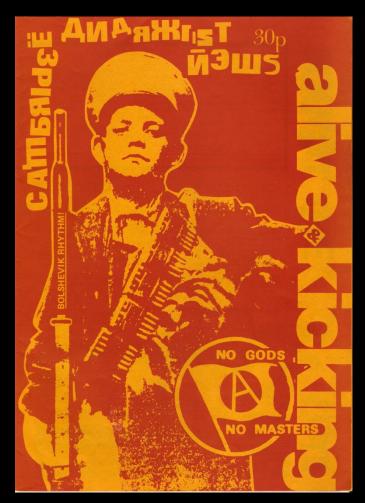
ATTACK ATTACK ATTACK



The Voice of Respectable Moderation

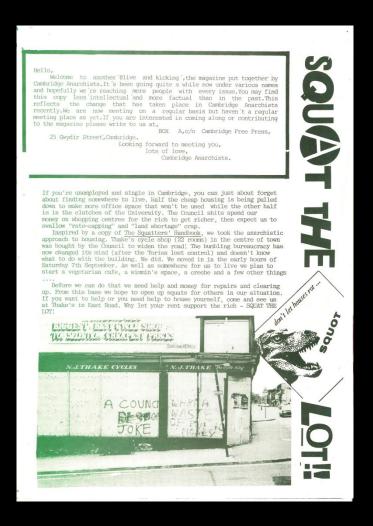
PAY WHAT YOU WANT...

Examples of published sources in Box A: Local papers

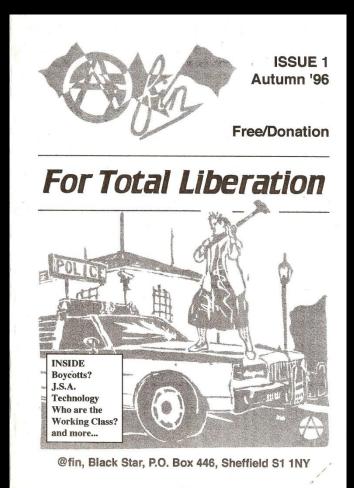




The Sparrows' Nest



Examples of published sources in Box A: Local papers





Sparrows' Nest

What they will (inevitably) say:

"If Leon were alive today he'd shoot them like partridges" - Socialist Worker "Lock them up" - Michael Howard

"They're all neo-nazi state assets trying to gain secret information about us. their spies are everywhere...everyone's out to get us...wibble!" - Green

"Oooh It sounds a bit violent and extreme, all this talk about 'smashing', can't we tickle the state instead?" - Some sad fluffy

ADVISORY SERVICE FOR SQUATTERS

2 St Pauls Road, Islington, London N1. 0171-359-8814

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

Supporting class struggle prisoners 121 Railton Road, London SE24

ANARCHIST-COMMUNIST FEDERATION

For class struggle anarchism 84b Whitechapel High Street, London E1 7QX

ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT SUPPORTERS GROUP

BCM 1160. London WC1N 3XX

ANTI-FASCIST ACTION

No platform for fascists-by any means necess. BM 1734, London WC1N 3XX, 0161-232-0813

BAD ATTITUDE

Radical womens' newspane

121 Railton Road, London SE24

BLACK FLAG

"Excitingly irregular" aparchist magazine (f1 50: A4SAF)

BM Hurricane, London WC1N 3XX

Britain's most unruly tabloid

PO Box 772. Bristol BS99 1EL

CONTRA-FLOW

ree (SAE) subversive newsletter 56 Crampton Street, London SE17, 0171-326-0353

COUNTER INFORMATION

quarterly free (SAE) newssheet Pigeonhole CI, 11 Forth Street, Edinburgh El 1, Scotland

network of anti-JSA group

OUWCU, East Oxford Community Centre, Princess St, Oxford

SCOTTISH FEDERATION OF ANARCHISTS

£1 for magazine. SAE for newslette

PO Box 1008, Glasgow G42 8AA

SOLIDARITY FEDERATION

PO Box 29, SWPDO, Manchester M15 5HN

SQUATTERS ACTION FOR SECURE HOMES

Anti-left communists, A4 SAE for newsletter

Dept 10, 1 Newton St, Manchester M1 1HW

SHEFFIELD CONTACTS

SHEEFIELD ANARCHISTS

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS CLAIMANTS' & WORKERS' RESISTANCE TO THE JSA

Black Star, PO Box 446, Sheffield \$1 1NY

SHEFFIELD ANTI-FASCIST ACTION

c/o Manchester AFA, PO Box 83, SWPDO, Manchester M15 5NJ

SHEFFIN (Sheffield Free Information Network, SAE for

201 Crookes Valley Road Sheffield \$1 1BA 0114-267-1200

SHEFFIELD HUNT SABOTEURS c/o Animal Rights Group, SHUUS, Nelson Mandela Building, Pond

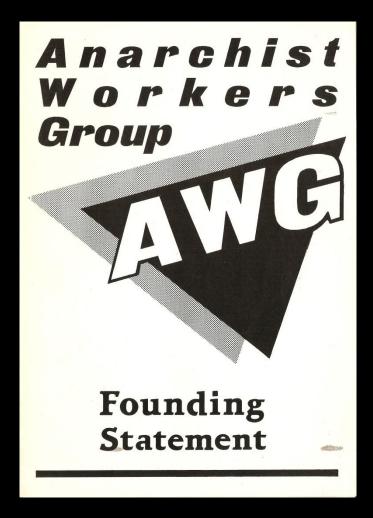
Street, Sheffield S1

SHEFFIELD RED & BLACK CENTRE

Social & Political meeting space
Wharncliffe Works, Green Lane, Sheffield S3. ALL MAIL TO SHEFFIELD ANARCHISTS PO BOX PLEASE

"One must try to increase as much as possible the theoretical content of all our activities, but without the dry and shrivelled doctrinalism which could destroy in part the great constructive action which our comrades are carrying forward in the relentless light between the haves and have nots. Our people stand for action on the march, it is while going forward that we overtake. Don't hold them back, even to teach them 'the most beautiful theories'.

Examples of published sources in Box A: Manifestos





The Sparrows' Nest



NDER CAPITALISM the workers produce the wealth of the world but neither own nor control the produce of their labour. Capitalism creates postery, starvation, unemployment, waste, pollution, war and the threat of nuclear annibilation. Only when the working class seize control of, and plan production, for use not profit, can busan needs be satisfied.

THERE IS no parliamentary road to socialism. The company directors, top civil servants, security and army chiefs and laulords exercise real power and will prevent parliament from legislating for fundamental social change. The power of the ruling class can only be contested effectively at the point of production which is primarily ubere socialists must organise.

HE STATE is an instrument of class domination and cannot be used in any usey to further the interests of the working class. All gains conceded by our rulers can only be defended through the class struggle. The capitalist courts, local councils and industrial arbitration bodies cannot serve as a substitute for direct action by workers. The state cannot be reformed, bypossed or brought under democratic control. It must be destroyed and replaced by the power of workers conceils.

THERE CAN be no socialism in one country. Capitalist production is international and, therefore, social revolution must be international in order to succeed. The working class bave no country; British workers bave no common interests with their bosses. As internationalists we side with all oppressed peoples fighting imperialism whitst promoting the primacy of working class interests in all such struggles.

THE TRADE unions exist to defend workers' interests within the limits of capitalism: they cannot be be vehicles for its revolutionary overthrow. The trade union leaders are a bureaucratic caste whose existence depends on the maintenance of their role as professional negotiators. This role fosters a conserv-

attie outlook to act as a brake on militancy. It is necessary, therefore, that workers organise a rank-andfile movement within the existing unions across sectional divisions and independent of bureaucracy. Such a movement would act, firstly, as a political counterpoint to the reformist bureaucracy and, secondly, provide, in times of struggle, the organisational framework to bypass the leaders who always side with the bosses in a revolutionary crisis.

HE LIBERATION of workers must be achieved by the workers themselves. This tasks cannot be carried out on behalf of the workershy a wangund party. Any ai-tempt to sustple the prot of the mass of the workers must subbe opposed. There can be no socialism without workers democracy. Therefore we do not consider the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, China or Cuba to be socialism.

APITALISM generates systems of oppression which divide the working class. To create a unified workers' movement and a genuine communist society we must fight all forms of oppression in principle.

To this end we oppose the oppression of women. In the family women are burdened with the main responsibility for childcare and domestic labour. We stand for free abortion on demand and the socialisation of childcare and bousework through free provision of 24-bour nurseries, laundries, dormitories

We are opposed to all forms of racial discrimination. We are opposed to all immigration controls and support the right to physical self-defence against racist

We oppose all forms of discrimination against lesbians and gays and stand for the full decriminalisation of homosexuality.

ALTHOUGH WORKERS learn through struggle they do not spontaneously become revolutionary. Therefore we advocate a political organisation of anarchist workers which can win workers to liberta-ran communist ideas and intervene decisively in the class struggle. We stand for the fullest democracy and independence of all workers' organisations. Therefore we defend the right of all revolutionary currents to participate within workers' councils. We urge all those who agree with our objectives and policies to foin us in building such an organisation so that Libertarian Communism can become a reality.

ANARCHIST WORKERS GROUP.





Please come and use our library and archive!

Please give us feedback on the project!

Please help us, e.g. with:

- Knowledge of historical movements, to help us interpret what we have.
- Donations of books and materials relating to anarchist groups/organisations.
- Money, esp. to help us to preserve and digitise further documents.