

BLACK FLAG

ANARCHIST FORTNIGHTLY

No. 128

18.3.85

40p

RIOT IN WHITEHALL

On February 24th, a huge march of 80,000 miners and their supporters was held in London, in a festive atmosphere.

The feeling of solidarity was destroyed when plain clothes police and uniformed police arrested 2 Notts miners as their part of the March neared the Theatre of War in Whitehall. Police and miners were quick to respond, with skirmishes breaking out as police snatch squads went for people only to have them snatched back by the crowd, as sticks and bottle rained down on the police lines which had halted the demo. TV cameramen were pushed aside as they zoomed in for sensation, as a steward with a loudhailer told everyone to go to Trafalgar Square. Abused, and asked whose side he was on, he accused "outside agitators" of causing trouble which he later changed to "anarchists" and "students".

Meanwhile the march was staying put, determined not to move until the Notts miners were released. The police withdrew, while a large crowd gathered outside 10 Downing Street (chants of, 'Maggie, we want you...DEAD!' echoed and bands played the catchy tune 'Here We Go, Here We Go!') and people milled around in Whitehall, which was clear of traffic.

Then in a new tactic and with new cops the police moved in again about 100 strong making arrests only to find themselves surrounded and given a good kicking. A Superintendent's hat was thrown up in the air, to cheers.

During the pushing and shoving, an elderly man was seen hitting the backs of cops legs with his walking stick! A cry of 'Horses' went up, and the helmets of the mounted police could be seen over the heads of the police lines.

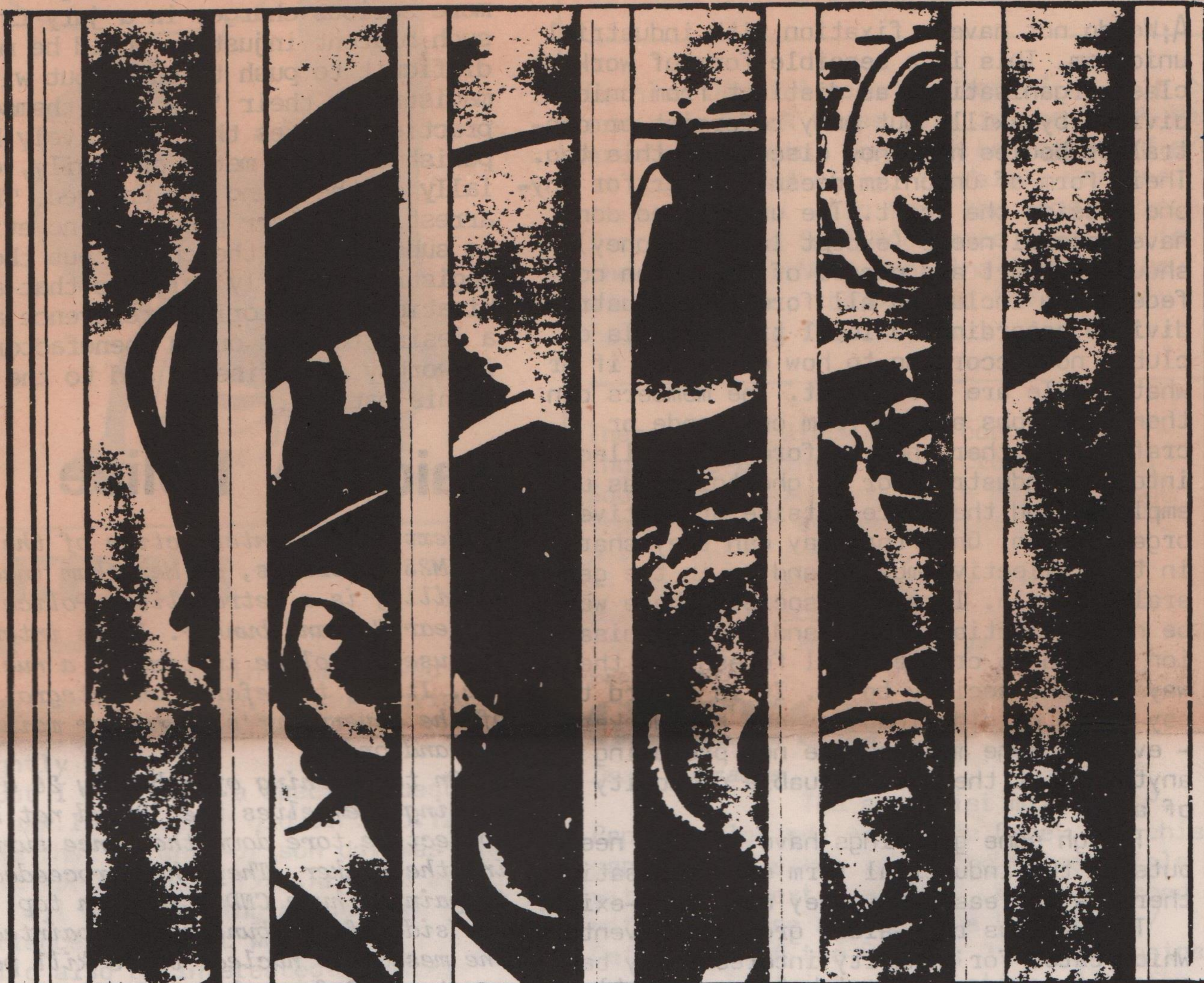
Then a crushing line of police moved forward, in a pincer style strategy to break up the crowd, forcing people into side streets off Whitehall. Children who were placed in safety on ledges, behind fences were dragged out by the cops, some people were viciously beaten as they were chased, jumped on and dragged to vans and into Whitehall buildings. One woman lost consciousness as her head was bashed on the pavement by the five cops arresting her. Stacks of crowd barriers were thrown off nearby trucks.

Whitehall Demo

About 30 mounted police cleared whitehall, crushing people against railings and then charging into groups of marchers without warning. Some people arrested were taken into the Horseguards area, and beaten up.

There was a shortage of missiles to throw at the police - at one stage a pile of *Socialist Workers* (the papers not the individual Trots) got thrown at a police line, and someone said "best use for them yet!"

While being arrested a man got his leg trapped under a parked car - the police yanked him so violently that his leg broke. He is still in hospital.



FREE THE HOSTAGES

There are now around 150 miners in prison and over 700 miners have been sacked because they actively supported the strike. They are political prisoners and, like all political prisoners, should be supported and freed.

And we can't just support them now. We must support them 1, 2, 5 or 10 years from now. We must support them until every last miner taken hostage during the strike has been freed and given back their job. Amongst those sacked are some of the most militant supporters of the strike. After the General Strike in 1926 the Government sacked and blacklisted "troublemakers". The same thing is happening now. Some people, including the Labour Party leadership, have attempted to separate those sacked and imprisoned during the strike into 'minor' offenders (whom they say, deserve to get their jobs back) and 'major' offenders (whom they say don't). This is dangerous rubbish. When you are being attacked and your future is being threatened you have every right to defend yourself by whatever means are available. The only criminals during this strike have been those who have tried to destroy jobs, communities and unions. They are the people who should be sacked and harassed. The strike may be over but the struggle continues!

FREE JAILED MINERS! TOTAL AMNESTY FOR ALL THOSE SACKED!

Ministry of Defence windows were smashed, and a police motorbike overturned, as crowds withdrew to Embankment, police in pursuit trying to give the impression that everything was under control.

There were 121 arrests in all, including some DAM members. Many people had to have hospital treatment, and 13 people were held overnight. Police were also hospitalised.

The general feeling was of amazement that a day for celebration of solidarity had been turned around so viciously by the police. And, on the other side, the police had learnt that these marchers weren't going to take attacks on them lying down.

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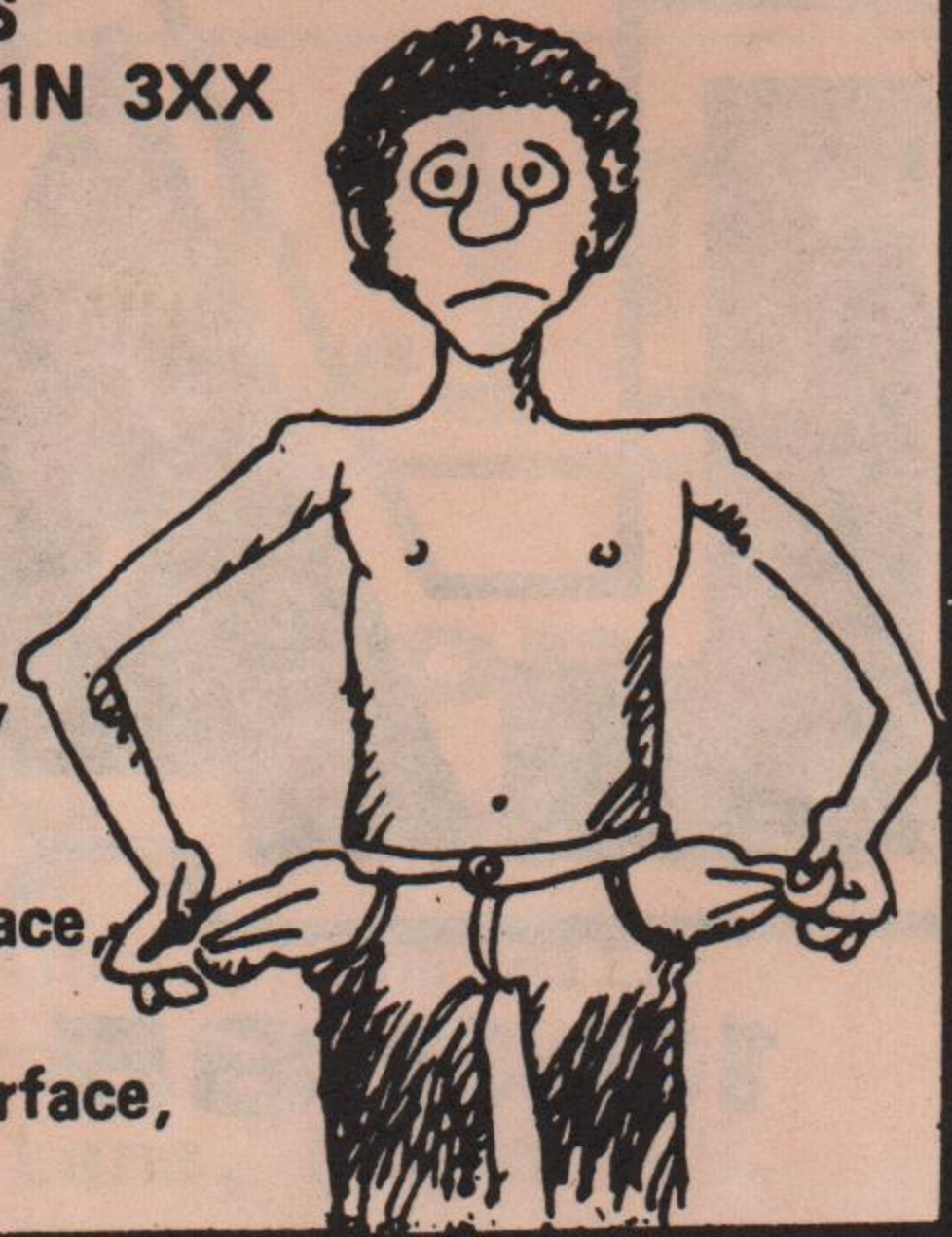
PAGE 6-ANARCHY IN ARGENTINA.

...AND LOTS MORE!!

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Q & A ON ANARCHISM

Q: Why do you think the only form of revolutionary organisation has to be industrial unionism? This doesn't cater for the majority of the population, the women, or the unemployed, who are not in productive employment and have special needs. Doesn't this mean you overlook community organisation?

A: We do not have a fixation with industrial unionism. This is a sensible form of working class organisation (as distinct from unions divided by skill) but many reformist or centralist bodies have now discovered this too. Their form of unionism doesn't cater for anyone outside the craft. The unemployed don't have special needs (except lack of money) & should be part and parcel of one union confederation including all forms of industry, divided according to local trades halls or clubs, not according to how or where, if or what people are working at. The members can then swap jobs and go from one trade or craft to another, not be forever labelled into one industry, nor be ghettoized as unemployed and therefore outside productive organisation. Only that way can they share in the collective muscle and so in the general struggle. In a free society there would be no distinction at all and the organisation yet to be created will foreshadow the way we want society to be. It is absurd to say women outside industry are not workers - even if some mothers are not producing anything but the most valuable commodity of all!

Though some groupings have special needs outside the industrial form of organisation, there is no reason why they cannot co-exist.

The various rate-aided groups and ventures which cater for minority interests may be 'community organisation' but are patently parliamentary socialist in tendency, whereas our community organisation is anarchist.

Law Inflamed

Twice in one week Wood Green Crown Court was hit by arsonists - each time by smashing a window and climbing in. On the first occasion - the evening of the day it was announced by the NUM Executive that the Miners Strike was over - six court rooms were hit. Another attack took place two days later. How about that for daring?

So far no one has claimed responsibility and the police have not indicated publicly whether they suspect any motive. It would be good though if it turned out that it was a revenge attack on the Court system for its part in the Miners Strike?

Self Defence

After four deaths from racist attacks in a North London suburb, 100 local Asian people have organised a street patrol in their area.

Last week, Talin Hussein was stabbed and beaten unconscious by ten white youths as he walked along a road in Walthamstow. He needed 15 stitches to the face and hand after the attack. Due to the police showing little interest, the Pakistani Welfare Society and others decided to patrol the area in groups of four. They are determined to stop the attacks once and for all.

NEWS HOME NEWS

Benefactor

The City of London is not responsible for the funding of the armament business but is the benefactor of millions of unemployed and underprivileged citizens. This was the view of a City of London magistrate who recently fined someone £190 for merely being in the vicinity of the City on a 'Stop the City' day. The person was charged with obstruction and at the hearing was told that having the apparent intention of obstruction was sufficient to imply guilt. Another case of preventative policing? On a more serious charge, in a jury trial, such blatant injustice would be more difficult to push through, but with magistrates their 'law unto themselves' practice ensures that relatively harsh punishments are meted out daily, especially on the young and unwaged. The arresting officer presented no evidence to substantiate the charge but the magistrate clearly believes that a combination of sartorial preference and a desire to meet one's 'benefactors' is worthy of a fine to add to the coffers of his patrons.

Raid on Police

...Next to the intersection of the M23 and M25 motorways, at Merstham (near Redhill), is a Metropolitan Police Nuclear Command bunker. It is intended for use by police in time of a nuclear war. It is, therefore, an integral part of the government's plans for maintaining law and order.

On the morning of February 26 a group calling themselves the 'Bread not Bombs' collective tore down the fence surrounding the bunker. They then proceeded to paint a huge CND symbol on top. Along the side of the bunker they painted the message, 'nuclear bombs kill policemen too'. Before they left they noticed a 40' radio mast, held aloft by steel cables. Out came the bolt cutters, down came the radio mast, breaking it in two as it did so...

(Source: SAG)

N.B. The full list of emergency regional police bunkers is included in the 'Preparing For Civil War' article in the Autumn '84 Black Flag Quarterly.

Enemy Within

Cathy Massiter - the person at the centre of the until recently banned Channel 4 documentary on MI5 - admitted in the programme that she knew Michael Bettaney and sympathised with his views on the emphasis MI5 is placing on 'subversion'. Bettaney for his pains now lies in prison with a 24 year sentence, having been set up as a double agent attempting to pass on information to Soviet Intelligence (see Black Flag, issue 122).

Like Massiter, Bettaney came clean and passed on information (which found its way to journalist Nick Davies, among others) claiming that a 'left-wing' barrister, Tony Jones, had infiltrated several fringe campaigns, including some involving anarchists. Davies also appeared in the Channel 4 programme corroborating much of the background to Massiter's revelations.

One such revelation was that of another mole, Harry Newton of the Institute of Workers Control (a largely bureaucratic, self-inflated, grouping that attempts to provide some degree of credibility to the Labour Party). Newton, according to Massiter, was employed by MI5 to infiltrate CND. Massiter also made it clear that Newton was not the only 'left radical' to be used to infiltrate legitimate labour bodies: she stated that most trade union bureaucracies had long-serving Intelligence Service moles working in them.

One wonders if the TUC General Council, or even the office of General Secretary, has not already been infiltrated in the same way. After all, Murray got his reward. And as for Willis, he's been a paid researcher/bureaucrat since the day he left university - and he has clearly shown where he stands. The solution, of course, is not to improve our vetting procedures - although there would be nothing wrong in that - but lies in the system itself, which being hierarchical is prone to infiltration, corruption, etc. The system lends itself to state control.

READ AND PASS ON THIS PAPER.

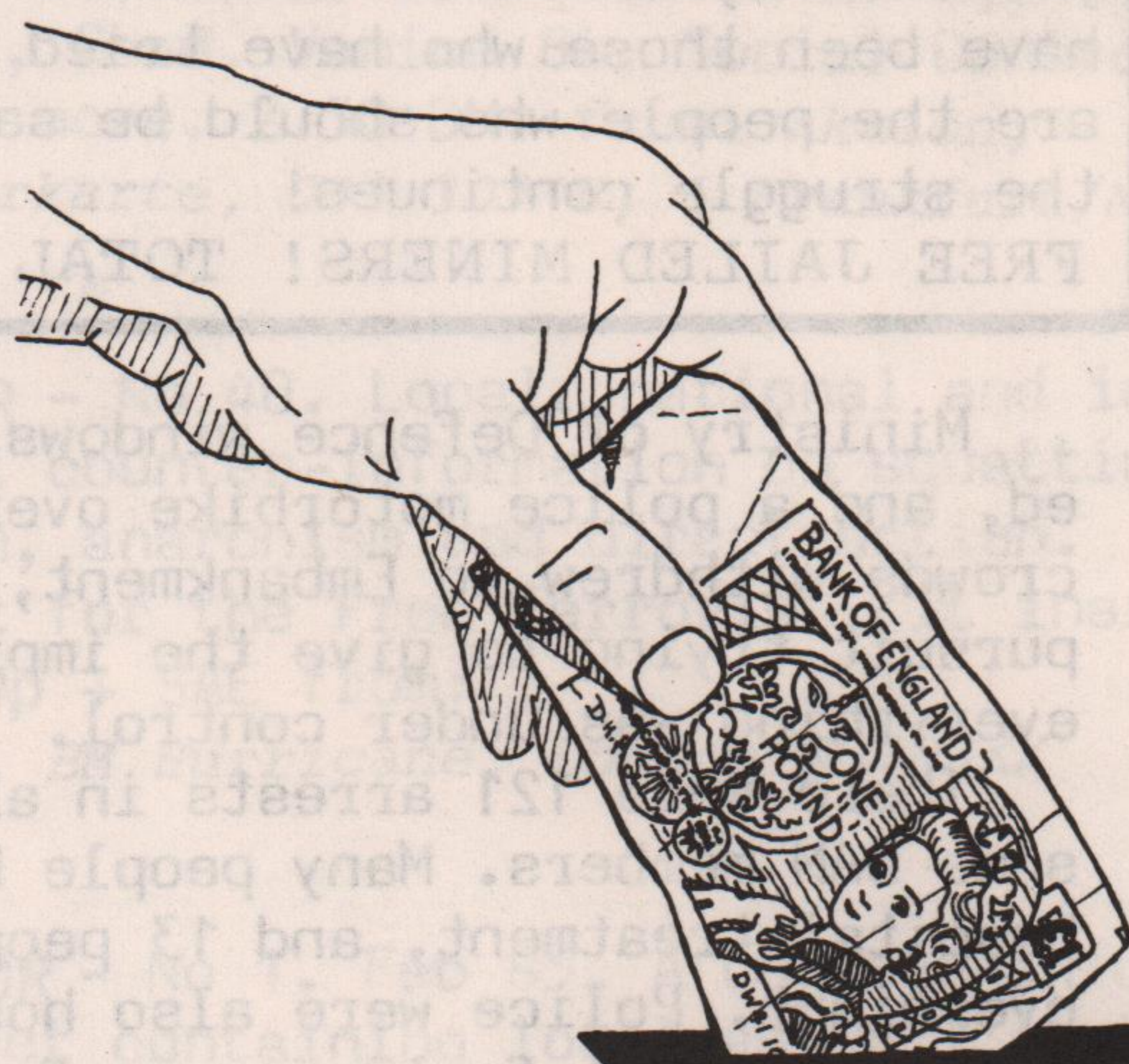
Right Wing Backlash

Victoria Gillick, the woman whose test case banned doctors from supplying or giving advice on contraceptives to under 16 year-olds was once a member of the Powellite group which campaigned against immigration in the 70s. When it disbanded many of its members joined the National Front. Two girls have already committed suicide since the ruling because they were unable to get contraceptives from their local doctors.

Schoolgirls Strike

At Edlington Comprehensive last week, 4 girls were suspended for trying to hold a strike in support of the miners (on the Yorks and Humberside Day of Action). It must be remembered that Doncaster Council, who are the Education Authority, is dominated by NUM members. Edlington is a pit village. Some Governors at the school are NUM members. They decided to suspend the girls and said it was not the kind of support that the miners needed and that they didn't want to have miners' childrens education disrupted.

Donations Aren't Just Helpful



They're Essential

HOME NEWS Labour Cuts

FUCK SCHOOL

2 militants were recently arrested in connection with the distribution of a *Fuck School* (a.k.a. *The School Stoppers Handbook*) pamphlet near Bradford.

One comrade was arrested outside a school in Shipley (about 8 miles from Keighley) and taken to Shipley Police Station. The C.I.D. then visited their home and arrested a roommate. Both spent the night in the police-station. Material was also seized from their home (and taken away in a removal van!) this included an address book. They were also photographed and finger-printed.

The case comes up on 23rd March. Letters of support/donations to their costs can be sent c/o *Black Flag*, BM Hurricane, London WC1 N 3XX.

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council is Labour controlled and dominant in the council are NUM officials. Six months ago the Labour District Party has a resolution that the Council should renounce Pritchards as a company when it came to deciding which private company would be employed to do the wages distribution. It must be remembered that Pritchards are the company involved at Barking hospital and have employed union-busters to work over low-paid workers in Boston hospitals in the USA. In 1983 they donated £10,000 to the Tory Party. The DMBC have employed Pritchards. In the Council minutes when tenders are granted, the name of the company is usually given. This time they have merely said 'awarded to lowest tender'.

As Doncaster Council have decided that cuts must be made in services to save money, the following 3 suggestions were put forward as ways of making cuts in social services.

- 1) Sacking of 80 home helps.
 - 2) Close 2 old people's homes.
 - 3) Charge £1 per visit of home helps.
- They decided on the latter, because, after all, we have to pay for school meals!

Finally it has been discovered that when the Meals on Wheels service delivers hot meals to old people, the old people save some of their meal for the following day. As a result DMBC is thinking of cutting the meal allowance.

The above items go to show that Labour Party control, dominated by a union involved in an historic struggle, have no real comprehension of class solidarity or compassion. The treatment of their workers particularly teachers and NUPE members is disgusting, and they behave like any totalitarian mid-European regime or MacGregor type bossism.



Community Policeman makes a friendly enquiry at an Argyle Street house.

NORWICH - Argyle St.

The 5 year squat of Argyle Street in Norwich by 200 people ended on Feb. 20th when helicopters and 100 police moved in to demolish the 60 terraced homes. In 1979 Squatters took over the Street when demolition seemed likely after complaints of damp and subsidence. They formed the Street Housing Co-op which the Labour Council agreed to give a licence while residents paid £1 per week to the City Council. In 1981 the Housing Corporation agreed to grant about £1 million for a renovation scheme which was blocked by the Department of the Environment which refused to allow the Council to sell or lease the houses. The Council then followed suit by backing down on supporting the co-op and instead allocated funds for the street's demolition! Despite much campaigning the High Court ruled in favour of the Council and granted a possession order. Any hopes of resistance were crushed when a week before the demolition, police forced their way into each house along the street. Several arrests were made and Police surveillance was stepped up. On the day of demolition police sealed off roads around the area anticipating trouble which did not occur. Residents had been offered temporary accommodation in a warehouse (!) by the St Johns Housing Trust, but people by this time had already left. Despite the loss of the only real community in Norwich some resistance has begun with 20 people squatting a house elsewhere in the city.

P.R. Norwich.

CORRECTION

I was on the November NUS march. You said in the paper that it might have been a right-wing affair. It was nothing of the sort, there were plenty of Black Flags and nearly all the people there were anti-Thatcher coming to make a noise. It was beautiful, thousands left the rally en masse before the speakers had finished, stormed over barricades, shoved police lines on Westminster Bridge, and brought London to a halt. The miners' strike has stirred up a lot of people; the scenes on the telly of picket lines, plus the experience of direct action from peace movement actions, has got rid of people's inhibitions.

J the @.

BLACK FLAG COMPETITION!



Can you put words into the mouth of this fine specimen of thuggery, who was photographed at the February 24th miners demonstration? suggestions have been: 'Oh no, its the community!' or 'I'm glad I wore my brown underpants!' Send in your suggestions - the winner's entry will be put in *Black Flag*. First prize is a six month subscription to the paper (the second prize, a year's subscription - sorry, just joking!).

NAZI SCUM'S HOLIDAY HOME

Pieter Menten has just finished a short jail sentence (5 years) for murdering over 400 men, women and children (Polish Jews) during the Second World War.

On March 28th he will leave Holland and return to his home in Leamybrian, Waterford, Ireland where he will live out the rest of his life surrounded by over £10 million worth of art treasures. He'll be quite safe because he has bullet-proof windows, alarm systems and closed circuit TV fitted to his house.

International Womens Day

One of the most publicised planned activities for International Women's Day on March 8th this year involved women picketing, and chanting etc outside various newspaper offices in Fleet Street. Officially titled *Float Down Fleet Street*, it ended up being about 200 women wandering up and down media row chanting slogans to draw attention to media exploitation of women. Various other activities also took place, including two spontaneous raids on newsagents in the city. Porn mags were snatched off shelves and dumped in nearby streets & skips etc much to the horror of inner city lunch crowds. No arrests!

MINERS PRISONERS LIST

Millers Park Youth Custody Centre,
Doddington Rd, Wellingborough,
Northamptonshire.

Paul Jones (E71036) 2½ years.
David Mason (E71033) 2½ years.
Philip Stirland (E71035) 2½ years.
David Gaunt (E71037) 2½ years.

Sudbury Open Prison, Derby, DE6 5HW

Steve Goodall (039) 2½ years.
David James (034) 2½ years.
Peter Pearson (038) 2½ years.
Kevin Beal (031) 2½ years.
Michael Southwell (030) 2½ years.

Lincoln Prison, Greenwell Rd, Lincoln,
LN2 4BD

Steven Wakefield on remand.
Guy Bennett (-) 3 months.
Gregory Budworth (-) 6 months.
Stephen Gregory (-) on remand.
Victor Gregory (-) on remand.
A. Edwards (-) 4 months.
S. Meeth (-) 4 months.
Jimmy Lees (-) ?

Featherstone Prison, New Road,
Wolverhampton. WV10 7PU

John Ellis (-) ?
Mark Gire (-) ?
Peter Newbold (-) ?
Billy Taylor (-) ?

Armley Prison, Armley Rd, Leeds 12 2TJ.

Dale Scofield (-) 3 months.
Kevin Green (-) on remand.
Ian Black (-) 6 months.
M. Hobson (-) 3 months.
Neil Marshall (-) 3 months.
Gary Millward (-) ?
S. Neath (-) ?
Paul Truman (-) ?
Michael Eyrkbowho (-) ?
Nigel Hodgson (-) ?
Terence Capstick (-) ?
Robert Laytham (-) ?
Clive Thompson (-) ?

Thorpe Arch DC. Wetherby, Yorkshire.
Martin Hodgson (-) ?

North Sea Camp DC, Fresten, Bosten,
Lincs. PE22 0QX

Todd Booth (-) ?
Chris Hyman (-) ?
John Wallace (-) ?

Strangeways Prison, Southall St,
Manchester M60

Chris Thomas (-) on remand.
Mike Winstanley (-) on remand.

PRISON NOT KNOWN:

William Bannister (-) 2 years.
Raymond Patton (-) 2 years.
Gary Mould (-) 2 years.
Steven Lowe (-) 2 years.
Michael Jones (-) 2 years.
Antony Routledge (-) 3 months.
Paul Brothwell (-) 12 months.
Paul Foster (-) 12 months.

Ranby Prison, Retford, Notts, DN22 8EU.

Peter Cooper (-) 6 months.
Ron Staniland (-) 6 months.
Rob Andrews (-) ?
M. Wyzille (-) ?

Cardiff Prison, Know Rd, Cardiff. CF2 IUG

Dean Hancock (899410) on remand.
Russel Shankland (883752) on remand.

Wetherby Prison, Yorkshire.

Gary Hopper (-) 4 months.
George Richardson (-) 4 months.

Wandsworth Prison, Heathfield Rd,
London SW18 3HS.

Terry French (E73383) 5 years.

Chelmsford Youth Detention Centre,
Springfield Road, Essex.

Chris Tazey (A29398) 3 years.

Welford Prison, Leicester.

Ian Kestle (E71032) 2½ years.

Leyland Prison, Lancashire.

Gordon Miller (-) 4 months.

Haverigg Millan Prison, Cumberland.

(not a miner) Peter Hurst (G 78282)
6 months.

Winson Green Prison, Winson Green Road,
Birmingham.

Nev Bell (C54233) - 6 weeks.
Dennis Evans (C54230) - 6 weeks.
Bill Jackson (C54231) - 6 months.
Colin Ward (C54234) - 6 weeks.
Lesley Ward (C54232) - 6 months.

Sudbury Prison, Derby DE6 5HW.

Andrew Bradley (C954) - 9 months.

SOLIDARITY FOREVER

THE STRUGGLE GOES ON

The Miners Strike continues, with the emphasis being on 'guerrilla' tactics. While it is clear that the Coal Board intends to step up their war of attrition against the mining communities, this will be met in turn by a campaign of retribution, sabotage, selective strike action, go-slows, work-to-rules, etc.

The government mistakenly thinks that they have incurred a resounding defeat on the miners and resistance movement that sprang up in the wake of the strike. They have witnessed a strategic withdrawal in order to re-group, re-organise and prepare for the next onslaught that the forces of the state have lined up against the working and unwaged class.

The Support Groups should stay mobilised, help out with the current hardship, provide rearguard support (eg, revenge attacks, etc) and help consolidate the resistance in readiness for the next time round. But more importantly, during this interim phase, we have to construct a viable alternative to reformist trade unionism. As one Kellingley woman bitterly commented, much of the fund raising by the soft left was but 'conscience money', given in lieu of the only effective physical support needed - widescale industrial action. If this government or any future government is ever to be seriously challenged in this country then, short of a popular uprising, it is a fact, that a rank and file movement of industrial solidarity needs to be created to ensure that never again will weak-kneed bureaucrats or class traitors be allowed to stand in the way of justice.

MINERS VIDEOS

THE CASE FOR COAL is a new video on the economic and political significance of the coal industry, told by those at the forefront of the struggle against pit closures. Produced by the South Wales Miners' Video Project and the Community Video Workshop, Cardiff. The tape is £11 to buy, free to NUM/Womens Support Groups. It is 26 mins. From: Video Workshop, Market Road, Canton, Cardiff, CF5 1QE Tel: 0222-396061.

HOLIDAYS

Few miners throughout the industry will be entitled to holiday leave over the next 12 months. The most any miner is likely to get is 2 or 3 days. This is because the coal industry is run on the archaic system of holiday entitlement being given in arrears. This means that for all those strikers who have stayed out for the last year or so, the holiday leave for '85/'86 will be based solely on the next two months work, when the leave calculation period finishes.

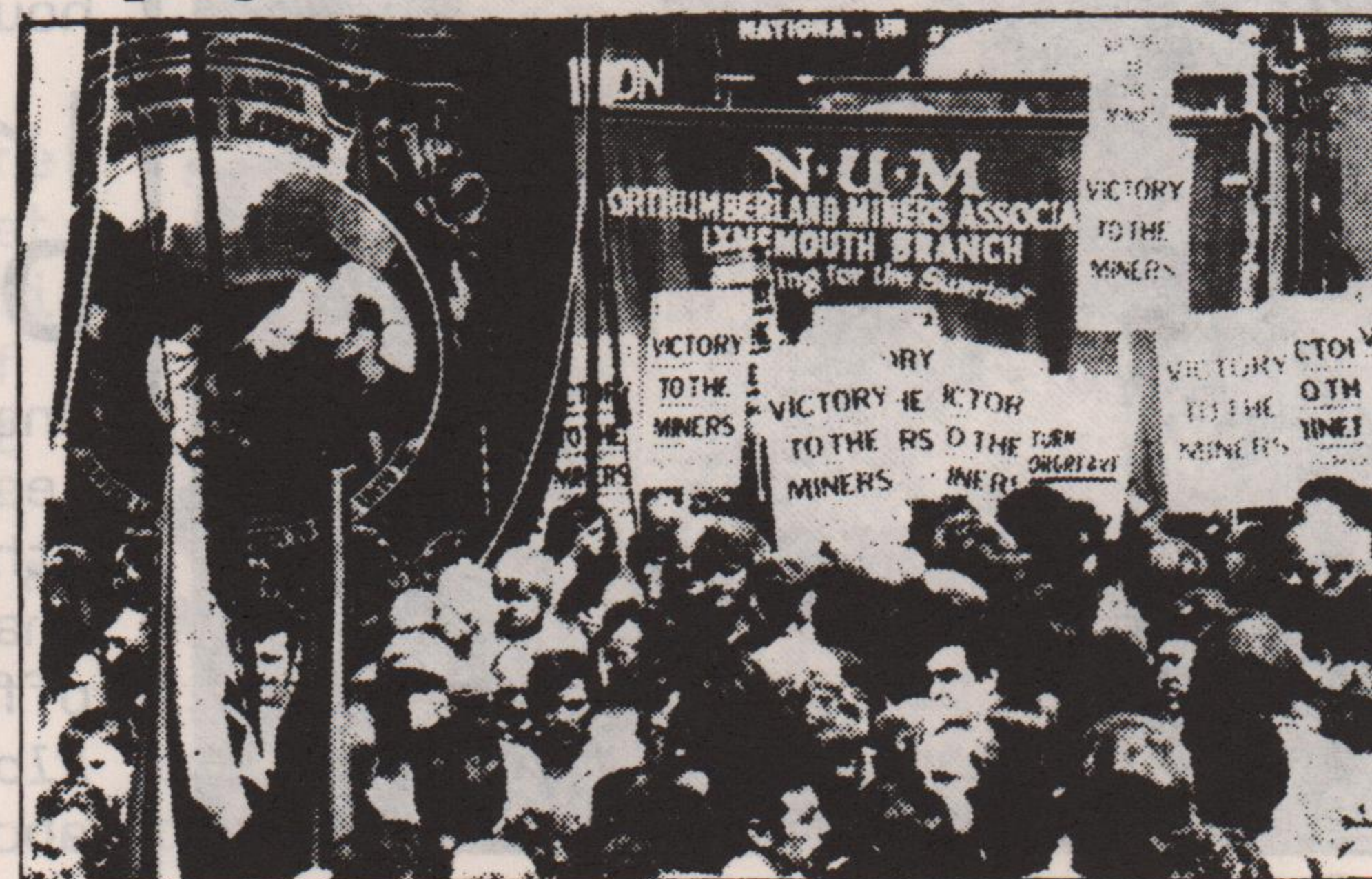
STATE CONSPIRACIES

Of those 2000 odd miners still awaiting a hearing on charges arising from the strike, over 700 are on charges of either riotous behaviour or unlawful assembly. The latter charge was first introduced into the strike at the Battle of Orgreave. Blanket arrests were made and it is thought that the decision to charge those arrested with this serious offence (carries a maximum sentence of 15 years) was made at the highest level. There are no limits to the sentences allowable for convictions on riot cases.

In cases involving either of these charges, like conspiracy cases, evidence does not have to be indisputable. All the police have to prove is a 'common unlawful purpose'. Also merely to be in the vicinity of a riot is sufficient to guarantee a conviction, although the jury system does occasionally has its successes - as with the 10 striking miners, 8 of whom were acquitted in Sheffield Crown Court on February 7

on charges of unlawful assembly at Orgreave, despite the 'evidence' of 34 police officers, who nearly all offered the same standardised accounts.

SOURCE: South Yorkshire Defence Campaign.



CLOSURE

Within days of the organised return back, the NCB in South Wales has announced the forthcoming closure of Celynen pit.



Riot in Whitehall - see front page for full details.

DHSS LOCKOUT

Reports are coming in that in some parts of the country the DHSS and local pit management are working in collusion to enforce a lockout on miners who are neither getting pay, strike pay, Social Security, or any other form of financial support.

Where a pit is unworkable - not because of exhaustion, but because the 12 months of strike action has meant that there will be some delays (days, weeks) in getting the pit back to normal operations - miners have been told that they cannot be employed. On enquiring with the Social Security Office about dole/Supplementary Benefit, they are told that although it is recognised that officially they are no longer on strike, the fact that they are unable to work at the pit is a direct consequence of the strike and the DHSS regards these miners caught in this lockout as technically still taking strike action. Local DHSS officials decided, therefore, not to pay out money to these miners, even though they are fully aware that they are neither on strike pay (as when the strike was official) or receiving any other support.

Another reason why the Support Groups need to stay mobilised.

MALTBY

Only three weeks before the official return to work was called, miners at Maltby were beginning to reverse the trend that had led to a spate of scabbing. There were only a few that had scabbed at Maltby, but just before the February 11 Day of Action, over 11 scabs had decided to take up the strike once more and join their comrades on the picket line. Coincidentally this led to an intensification of police activity in the village. On the Day of Action itself villagers were warned by the police to keep off the streets or face arrest.

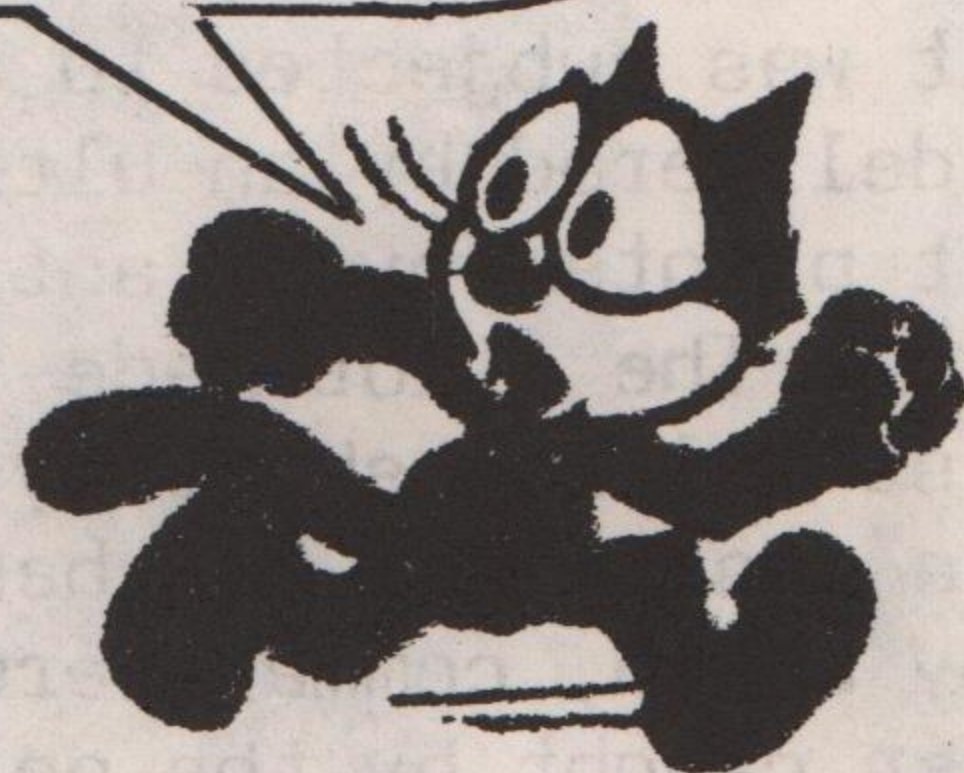
Only five days previously three police District Support Units arrived in the village to make indiscriminate arrests. In one incident a man and his son (Ray and Wayne Morris) and a friend (Alan Day) were arrested for merely standing

in their own front garden. At the same time Ray's daughter, Lorraine - who was pushing her 12 day old daughter in a pram - was knocked to the ground by these uniformed thugs, arrested, thrown bodily into the back of the DSU, leaving her baby by itself. Other women who came to help were also knocked about. Lorraine - whose baby was being breast fed - was eventually released as a result of community pressure.

KELLINGLEY

At Kellingley Colliery - where only 20 out of 220 NACODS (pit deputies) members crossed the picket line during the last twelve months - NACODS members came out on official strike because of a local dispute. Obliging they allowed NUM members to cross their picket line and clock on and so become eligible for wages, knowing that they (the NUM members) would have to be sent home because without the NACODS members no work could be done. In this way the NUM members were able to draw pay - after having been without for 12 months - while the NACODS dispute goes on.

DID SOMEONE MENTION
DIRECT ACTION?



NACODS

On a Channel 4 News programme, NACODS leader, Peter McNestry said that NACODS would not be recognising the agreement signed with the NCB as that agreement included the NUM as a third party, who had not been allowed to formally sign it. Therefore the deal was not valid until the NUM would be allowed to sign it - something the NCB does not want.

As a result, with no agreement in force, McNestry stated clearly that NACODS will not cooperate with the NCB

in the closure of any pits and that if the NCB attempted to close just one pit, NACODS would come out on strike and so force a total closure of all pits, including scab ones.

More empty words? Or is it a case of better late than never?



TIED HOUSES

One thing that doesn't get mentioned in the Media is that many of the miners who have been dismissed live in 'tied houses' (ie, houses owned by the Coal Board).

This means that as a result of the dismissal they will also be made homeless. Already local NCB officials have started making enquiries with miners who have been dismissed as to when they intend vacating the property.

FUNDS KEPT

In South Wales the High Court is using instances of attacks on scabs by women's support groups as an excuse not to return sequestered funds, rightfully belonging to the South Wales miners. Area NUM President, Emlyn Williams tried to use the fact that he was instrumental in breaking the strike to get the sequestration order rescinded. The verdict of the court was that no money would be returned to the union until there was clear evidence that miners or their families were not involved in any form of intimidation against scabs.

KINNOCK = SCAB

Neil Kinnock, Labour Party Leader was heckled, called a 'scab', accused of betraying the miners, and had tomatoes thrown at him at a demonstration at Haringey College of Further Education on March 4th. Well known for his "abhorrence of violence", he grabbed a student who he suspected of tomato throwing and snarled "If you were a bit bigger, I'd..." (maybe he meant smaller?). Now the student is being harassed by the college authorities.

CHIEF SCAB

On March 6th, 60,000 people marched through London, to protest against Rate capping on the day which was to be the anniversary of the miners strike.

Miners still on strike, at that time, from Yorkshire, and Kent, marched in a separate section, greeted by cheers from the crowds. Police harassed some of the marchers, objecting to references to 'bastard-coppers' etc.

The high point of the day was at the end of the march, when Chief Scab, Norman Willis General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress, was prevented from speaking. Miners, firemen and anarchists broke through the crowd barriers and hurled placard sticks & cans at him, yelling 'scab'. He was on the point of being mobbed and was hustled off stage.

Later police moved in on people picketing GLC workers who had scabbed for the day, as they left work. Police cameramen filmed from several places including the roof of St Thomas's Hospital opposite the GLC.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS INTERNATIONAL

Rosario Anarchists

We recently received a letter from an anarchist group in Rosario, Argentina, following our publication previously of a letter they sent to CRIFA (the Anarchist International).

We've reproduced part of the letter below to inform our readers of the situation anarchists face in Argentina today.

"...the Libertarian Movement is being re-organized here at the moment, although anarchism no longer possesses the tremendous strength it had at the end of the last century or at the beginning of the 20th Century. The legendary FORA (Argentine section of the International Workers Association) still exists although its importance inside the worker's movement is minimal.

In Buenos Aires there is the Federacion Libertaria Argentina and the J. Ingenieros Bookshop. The latter organised a national anarchist Conference in October 1984 which we attended along with other smaller groups (including an active group of anarchist workers who have since founded the 'Workers For Human Rights' organisation). In Rosario which is the second largest city with one million inhabitants there is the Libertarian Socialist Union which is affiliated to the FLA. There is also a Social Studies Centre named after R. Barrett, a Spanish Libertarian who lived in Rio de la Plata and Paraguay. Finally there is our Distribution Group: 'Impulso', who distribute a variety of libertarian literature, organise debates - talks, and have a Documentation Centre and Libertarian Library. We have been going since the beginning of 1984. In Cordoba the 3rd largest city, there is a fairly active libertarian group. There are also several groups or militants in other cities (Mar del Plata, Santa Fe, Avellaneda etc.). Libertarian publications started to appear from 1983 onwards. Relative freedom was re-established after the Falklands/Malvinas War in 1982. The first paper to return to the public was *La Protesta* (founded in 1897). 1984 saw the return of *El Libertario* (organ of the FLA), *Utopia* magazine and *La Antorcha* (another legendary publication founded by the late Gonzalez Pacheco).

We will send more information in our next letter but aren't sure whether or not you'll get this letter as communication between Argentina and England isn't too good right now. We hope you'll tell us about the situation in your country and what's happening to the miners on strike. We send them our solidarity and best wishes ..."

NB: A pamphlet on the Argentine anarcho-syndicalists is currently in preparation, suggestions, graphics etc. welcome and should be sent via Black Flag BM Hurricane, London WC1N3XX.

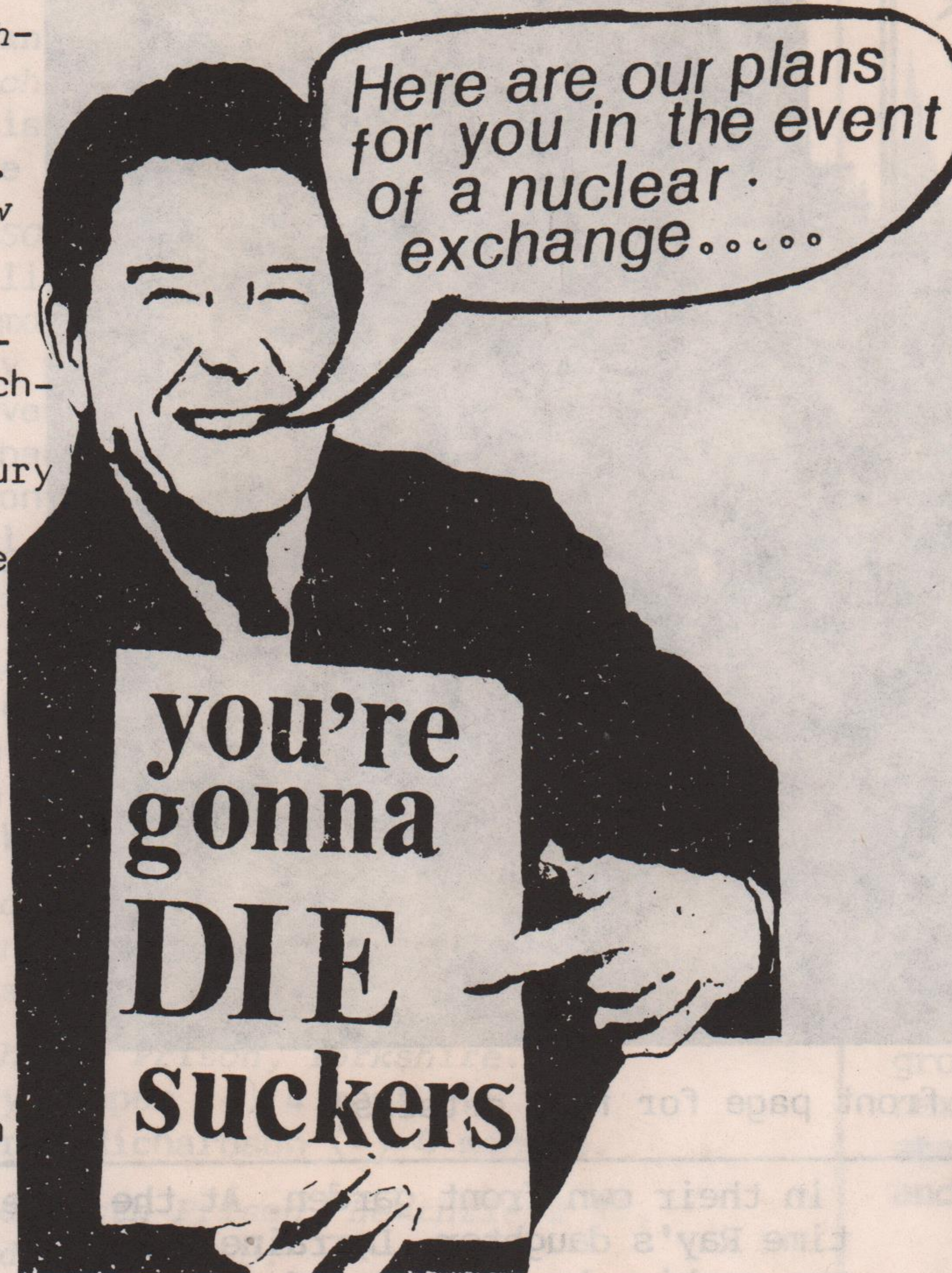
Solidarnosc

on Feb. 20th for the first time since June 1984, the Free Radio Solidarnosc broadcast sending out a request to support the 15 minute General Strike planned on the 28th of Feb. At the same time the radio said that the State makes it even harder to live in Poland. The broadcast ended up demanding an 8 hour day, an end to price rises and a cost of living allowance.

SOURCE: Ekomedia.

Peru

More than 150 strikers recently occupied the offices of a Peruvian State mining company in support of pay demands. The strike involves 800 workers from Peru's largest zinc refinery in Cajemaquilla which produces 60 per cent of Peru's output.



Near Miss

News has just come in on the assassination attempt on Air-Vice Marshall, Sir Patrick Hine, C in C RAF Germany and Commander of NATO's 2nd Tactical Air Force (ie, nuclear bombers).

The attempt took place on an autobahn not far away from Munchen Gladbach, HQ of the British Army on the Rhine. Three shots were fired into Hine's Mercedes; unfortunately no one suffered injury. Security forces suspect the Red Army Fraction (based on an alleged confiscated hit list), although - as we go to press - no claims of responsibility have been issued.

The Wintex exercise - taking place across Europe, not just in Britain, and involving on paper over 250,000 troops in countering civil uprisings - was in full swing when the assassination attempt took place.

Anti-Nuke Attack

Sydney, Australia 7.3.85

As the American destroyers *John Young* and *Buchanan* sailed out of Sydney harbour to participate in joint military exercises with the Royal Australian Navy, it was subjected to a paint-bomb attack delivered by an ultralight aircraft piloted by an anti-nuclear protester. The pilot made two shots, the first falling short by 10m, the second a near miss. He then landed on a nearby beach, commandeered a car but was later caught by the police. He faces charges of contravening air traffic regulations.

Santo Domingo

Troops and police backed by helicopters recently arrested hundreds of people in the Dominican Republic during a one-day general strike in protest against food price rises. President Salvador Jorge Blanco announced that food and fuel prices would be increased by up to 70% under the terms of agreement with the International Monetary Fund.

Police attacks in April last year on similar protests resulted in 55 people killed and hundreds detained.

Guerilla Resistance

The Revolutionary

Cells have attacked three targets connected with the West German coal industry in protest at the part the industry played in securing a temporary victory for the British Government in their battle with the mining communities.

The attacks took place in Bochum, Hamburg and Essen, and were targeted on the Ruhr Coal Industry Employers' office, and an office of the West German Coal Miners' Union (both organisations worked together during the strike in helping to supply scab coal to the NCB). A communique later described the offices as 'grave diggers'. There were no injuries caused, but extensive damage to property. The attacks were undertaken as a form of rearguard action.

Throughout the last twelve months the W German Coal Miners' Union consistently refused to provide any assistance to the NUM on the grounds that the NUM was 'communist' and direct actionist.

Wintex '85

During the last two weeks in the lead up to the anniversary of the Miners Strike a special Home Defence exercise, involving the military, the police and the emergency network, has been taking place. The exercise, code named Wintex 85, although only on paper, mapped out a scenario for a major state clampdown in the days prior to any national emergency.

The disposal of subversives, the restriction of people's movements, the enactment of new laws, etc were all worked out in several simulations.

At the same time it has also been reported that over 800 US riot troops were sent over last year to Britain as part of a 'mutual aid' exercise. The troops - all members of the US version of a Home Defence Force, the National Guard - took part in exercises alongside British troops who would be used to smash major rioting prior to nuclear war or insurrection. News of the visit was kept quiet for more than nine months. A further 350 Guardsmen are due to take part in a similar exercise later this year. Unlike the Territorials the National Guard are normally armed and have been blatantly used to smash strike action and to violently curtail civil protests and disturbances (eg, as at Kent State university, etc).

The significance of these new US/UK Home Defence arrangements is that they provide a future fall-back facility for a threatened NATO ally (ie, Britain) in case Britain's own Home Defence forces are unable to cope. As far as the USA is concerned Britain is a valuable military resource (not least as a US troopship and missile launching pad) that requires every measure of protection both from the enemy without and 'within'.

Wintex 85 is just one more contingency exercise in support of state power. More such exercises are in the pipeline.

Pyromania

John Deuss, an executive with Trans World Oil based in the Netherlands, had his house burned down by a group calling itself 'Pyromaniacs Against Apartheid'. Trans World Oil is a major seller of oil to South Africa.

SOURCE: Crowbar.

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

SPAIN ANARCHIST ATTACKED

Anarchist militant, Guillermo Marin Gaitan (still awaiting trial) received a beating from a group of prison guards on New Years Eve after he (along with the other political prisoners in Carabanchel prison, Madrid) asked the prison authorities for their cells to remain open until after midnight. They wanted to celebrate the New Year together.

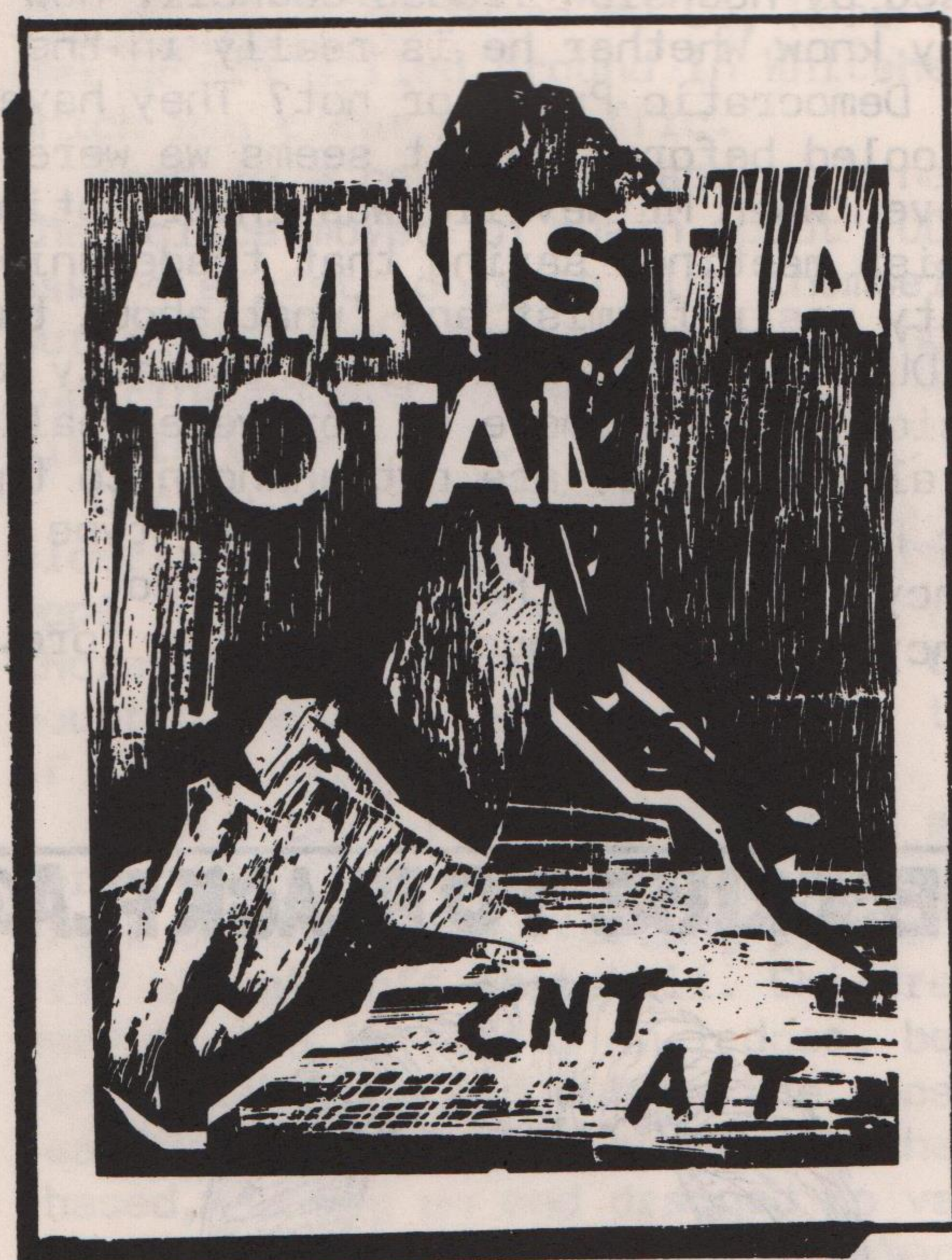
Guillermo was brutally hit in the face and suffered kicks and punches to the body. He was then handcuffed and dragged to a punishment cell where he was sprayed with an asphyxiating gas before being left in isolation overnight. His friends immediately staged a hunger strike on his behalf when they heard about the treatment he had received and demanded his release from isolation plus a proper medical examination.

On the same night a prisoner on the 7th gallery died of peritonitis. His inmate called out for help for 4 hours while the prison guards - too busy drinking - let the mandie like a dog. Only months earlier a prisoner on the 5th gallery died in similar circumstances. Prisoners name Federico Mora Serrano as one of the prison officers on duty that night and as one of the persons involved in beating up Guillermo Marin.

Individuals like Federico Mora were also responsible for the murder of anarchist Augustin Rueda in Carabanchel in 1978.

Prisoners, especially political prisoners are under the constant threat of violence and their struggle is for survival. It's high time that the more overtly fascist guards were sacked and punished for the torture they commit.

SOURCE: *Solidaridad Obrera*.

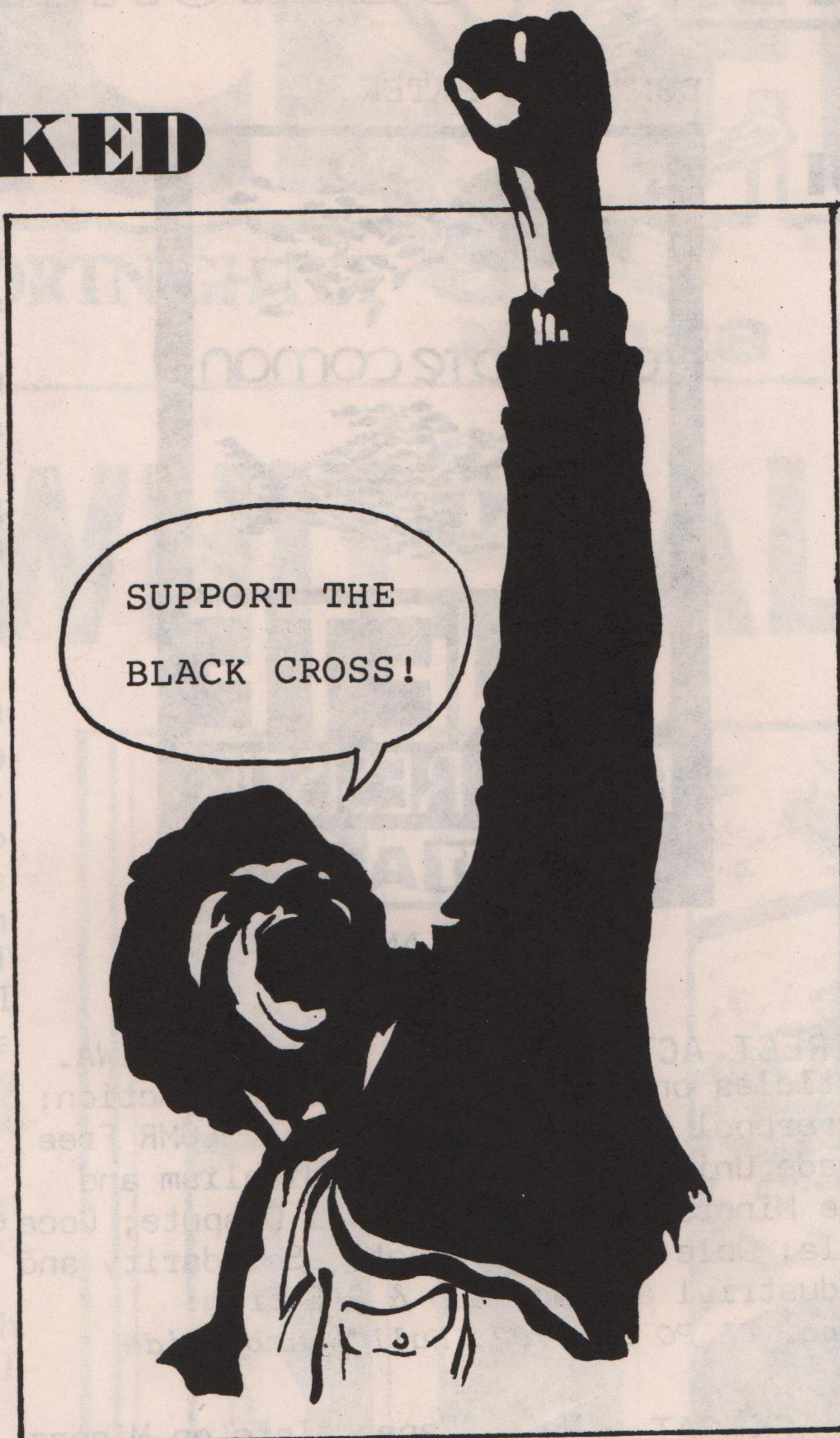


SCALA FARCE

Jesus Fortes Gil, implicated in the infamous "Scala" bombing, has been freed "on bail" after nearly three years imprisonment in Italy. He, along with Maite Fabres (also implicated, imprisoned and released without explanation in connection with the Scala bombing) have been victims of the judicial farce surrounding this incident.

MINERS

As we go to press there are a total of 152 miners with prison sentences. Out of the 7874 charged during the strike, 5528 cases have been dealt with. There were 4112 convictions.



LETTER

Dear Comrades,

Last month I was moved to Rome (see my new address) and obviously I am always interested in your fortnightly B.F.

But I also have a special question to ask. In a rather old B.F. (No. 122) I read that an anti-prison day was planned for December 15th. Are you able to tell me something about that experience or how it went?

I'd also be interested in libertarian prisoners in England: their consistency, their struggles, and their ideas of getting rid of the necessity of jail. You will know, perhaps, that we are going to launch a campaign for a global and equal amnesty in Italy. We aren't dead!

Affectionately,
WILLY PIROCK, MAIETTI 165, CARCERE
REBIBBIA, G8 00156 ROME, ITALY.

SOLIDARITY NEEDED

Sean Hawkey was found guilty at Southwark Crown Court on 7/2/85 of criminally damaging the Ministry of Defence building, Whitehall last June. He has been given 3 months and would appreciate letters. We have been warned that incorrectly addressed letters or letters containing political, or abusive material will not be given to him. It is also advisable to put a name and address on the letter. Please write to: A28660 Sean Hawkey, Boscemere Unit, Hollesley Bay Colony, Woodbridge, Suffolk. IP12 3JS

There are still many of the serious cases, involving assault, riot, etc, to be heard. The number of dismissals to date are 718, with around 40 reinstatements. Further dismissals are possible as a result of the pending Court cases.

BLACK CROSS CONTACTS

Bristol now has a Black Cross group which will co-ordinate Black Cross work in the South West of Britain. Activities so far have included picketing the local prison (Horfield) and all members are now writing to prisoners in this country and abroad. Future activities will include publishing an Internal Bulletin and a pamphlet on the connection between prison and mental jails and institutions. They also hope to hold a prisoner benefit gig in the summer and can be contacted: c/o Joe Hill, 93 Chesterfield Rd, St Andrews, Bristol.

Burnley DAM-IWA recently agreed to help co-ordinate Black Cross work in the North West area of Britain. They can be contacted c/o 18 Collingwood House, Trafalgar Gardens, Burnley Lancs. Also from the same address for a Stamped Self-Addressed Envelope is the AGITATOR. No 6 contains info on the miners strike, the DAM and the recently held Congress for Industrial Action.

There is now Black Cross contacts willing to co-ordinate Black Cross work in South West Wales and South East Wales. Their contact addresses are:

Box 5, Neges Bookshop,
31 Alexander Road, Swansea (SW Wales).
Box 600, 108 Bookshop,
108 Salisbury Road, Cathays, Cardiff.
(SE Wales).

GREECE

Dear Comrades,

The anarchist militant P. Papadopoulos editor of the Greek anarchist paper *The Breaker* is facing three trials within the next few weeks. He is charged with; 1) Abuse against the Government/Defamation of the Police; 2) Abuse against the Army & Minister of Justice; 3) Defamation of the Prison Police.

After our demonstration against the visit of the fascist Le Pen in Athens on Dec. 4th, the police raided the extreme left magazine & organization Rixis.

Repression, like the police violence towards the prisoners revolt of Korydallos, the sanatoriums and of the workers of EVKO MOBIL, FAGE etc together with suicides by conscripted soldiers, is on the increase. The State intends to control all aspects of life, especially the media (press, TV, Radio etc.), the police have shown a heavy presence on the streets in the last 3 months.

Anarchists and the extreme left face a continuous attack from the State during the run up to Parliamentary elections. This includes the trials of the demonstrators against Le Pen (instead of the police who killed two demonstrators Koumis & Kanelopolou that night!), against the demonstrators of Exarchia Square who the police attacked for five days in October '84, against the Free Radio stations Mole and Free Radiophone together with searches for 'terrorists'; illegal arrests etc.

The 'Socialist' Government of Papandreou is based on lies and violence (like all other Governments). They are integrating Greece into the EEC & NATO. P. Papadopoulos is facing imprisonment next month. We ask for the solidarity of the working class all over the world. We ask for financial help for the trials from all of you.
Autonomous Greek Newspaper: *The BREAKER*
Papadopoulos Panayiotis, Emmanovilidou 6,
17564 P. Faliro/Athens GREECE.

FEEDBACK

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

DON'T BE EATEN.



"UNITE AND RESIST."

MINUS ONE

Anarcho-syndicalism is frequently condemned by alleged anarchists who say it is inconsistent with their individualism and that it is somehow authoritarian; to which riposte has been by anarcho-syndicalists that what such people really mean is that they object to libertarian revolutionary theory, viz Anarchism as such. Again the same people have maintained that anarchists were "violent" and they had to qualify their "anarchism" as "non-violent anarchism".

They come and go; one of these noted for this a few years ago was Peter Neville, a contributor to *Freedom* and the old *Anarchy* (when it was *F's* theoretical journal). He denied, on one occasion a few years ago that all he was concerned with was the peace movement; he said he had only ever belonged to the "anarchist movement" but he was an Individualist and opposed anarcho-syndicalism.

Now that Peter Neville is standing for the Executive Committee of the National Council for Civil Liberties (however admirable that body, this is one of the ways of getting considered for Parliament, see Harriet Harman now a Sth. London Labour MP) we learn of Mr Neville's "extensive voluntary work in the Peace Movement" with no mention of anarchism or individualism; and that he is on the GMC of Brentford and Chiswick Labour Party & Branch Secretary of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education! His trade union activity was obviously concurrent with the time he was rejecting syndicalism as "authoritarian", possibly so too was his membership of the Labour Party. He is proposed by Hounslow Trades Council. How do they know whether he is really in the Social Democratic Party or not? They have been fooled before. But it seems we were not, even when Mr Neville was interrupting anarchist meetings saying that trade union activity was reformist and 'what about the INDIVIDUAL?' People who create disunity & confusion and then move on (or were really there all the time) are not unknown to the Labour Party. The Owen/Jenkins SDP type tendency as well as the Tapeworm/Trot tendency has only brought it to the fore.

DIRECT ACTION - Paper of the DAM-IWA. Articles on Miners Strike, Direct Action; Liverpool Council; IWW strike; SLOMR Free Trade Union in Romania; Syndicalism and the Miners; Barking Hospital Dispute; Coca Cola; Dole Coupons; Robots; Solidarity and industrial action. 20p & SAE from: Dept. DA PO Box 102, Hull N. Humberside

BLACK CAT - No 6. Paper. Info on Miners Meeting; Thatcherism; Clive Ponting Trial; 20/20 Vision TV programme; BR meals; Bus services & South Cheshire College Womens Group. SAE to: *Black Cat*, Box BC, c/o 7 Camm St, CREWE.

NO MIDDLE GROUND - No 3/4. Price £2.00. Anti-authoritarian perspectives on Latin America and the Caribbean. A well produced and informative booklet. Essential reading for anyone interested in libertarian struggle today. Available from: *Information Network on Latin America*, 495 Ellis Street N. 781, San Francisco, CA 94102 USA

BATTLEAXE - No 1. Broadsheet. Info on police brutality; pornography, Luis Palau; Ethiopia; Miners Strike & Right wing coup in Britain. Stamped/Addressed/Envelope to: *Battleaxe*, c/o Autonomy Press, 64 Queen St Glasgow, SCOTLAND.

COUNTER-INFORMATION - No 5. Paper. Info on the miners strike, miners prisoners, International solidarity. Write with a SAE: Box 81, First of May, 43 Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh, SCOTLAND.

AKTION - January 1985. Articles on Nicaragua, USSR workers against the 'workers' State, RAF, Freedom, Direct Action (Vancouver 5), IWA Congress, Chad, Venice 84, Social Control and lots more. 2.50 DM. from: *Aktion*, Postlagerkarte, 031 301 B, 6 Frankfurt/M17.

CROWBAR - No 40. Local, national and international counter-information on squatting, feminism, anarchism and direct action. Look out for the Free Terrorist Kit inside! Price 20p + SAE from: *CROWBAR*, BM Hurricane, London WC1N3XX

AGITATOR - No 1. Feb 85. A counter-info. broadsheet containing local as well as the national news. A good read, published by Liverpool Direct Action Group. 5pence.

SUBSCRIBE TO BLACK FLAG



THE ONLY SERIOUS CHOICE

South East Region DAM-IWA Day School

On Saturday 23rd of March. 10am - 6pm with a social afterwards. At Hackney Trade Union and Labour Hall, 96 Dalston Lane, London E8. Speakers: Albert Meltzer - the history and Ideas of Anarcho-syndicalism.

Phil Kane - Activity in the workplace.
Cat Lorigan - Production & Distribution of Propaganda.
Phil Ruff - Marxism, Council Communism and Anarchism.

Each session is followed by questions and discussion. £1 Waged. 50p UB40.

For further details write to:

East London DAM c/o Box A, 84b Whitechapel High Street, London, E1 7QX.

East London DAM (anarcho-syndicalists) meet on alternate Wednesdays at Hackney Trade Union & Labour Club. Next meeting 20th March.

Stop Business

All the people who are wondering who the hell is organising it, LOOK IN THE MIRROR. The whole point of trying something like this is to get people to act locally!

A small run-down of major places where things are happening: US: San Francisco; NY; Dallas; Chicago and in-between; Canada:

Toronto and Vancouver; Europe: Amsterdam; Copenhagen; Arhus; Lyon; Paris; Geneva; Milan; Turin; Bari; Rome; Pisa; Bologna; Barcelona; Madrid; San Sebastian; Saragoza; Berlin; Hamburg; Munich; Bonn; London; Leeds

Manchester and in-between. There are plans for action in Australia, Japan and various countries in S. America. So you're not alone.

It doesn't need to be big or small, just effective. Stop Business as Usual means to STOP, delay, disrupt, etc so take action on April 30th at 12 noon.

S.E. Anarchist Federation

Following a conference in January, which was attended by anarchists from Ashford, Broadstairs, Hastings, Grays, Maidstone, Medway, Tonbridge Wells, the SEAF was then formed. The next meeting will be in March any anarchists in the area are welcome to write for details to Black Flag and we'll pass letters on.

Anarchist Picnic and Bookfair

Anarchist picnic on Hampstead Heath, London by the Bandstand, 1pm on Sunday May 5th. Bring drink, your favourite anarchist paper to swap, food etc.

Also look for details of the next @ Book Fair at the beginning of May!

In the last issue of *Black Flag* (No 127) we published information on a West European Dissident Group in Gent, Belgium. They have since changed their address and can now be contacted c/o Zwart en Rood, Postbus 546, 9000 Gent, BELGIUM.

PUBLICATIONS

WORKERS SOLIDARITY - paper of the Workers Solidarity Movement. No 5. Ireland's Anarchist news and views. Articles on Bishops Rule; the State; Capitalism; Wage Rises; miners Strike; Women's Groups; Nelson Mandela, and the IRA's 'socialism'. 20p & SAE from: WSM PO Box 1528, Dublin 8.