

25p  
1280g  
5

# Spectacular Times

## GROTTY REPRINT

number four

## FIN DE SPECTACLE?

Guy Debord

Jan. 1977

Pocketbook Series



Under each result and under each project of an unfortunate and ridiculous present, we see inscribed the "Mene, Tekel, Upharsin" which announces the inevitable fall of all cities of illusion. The days of this society are numbered; its reasons and its merits have been weighed and found to be lacking; its inhabitants are divided into two parties, one of which wants this society to disappear.

Guy Debord  
Jan. 1979.



## TEST 3 ANALOGIES

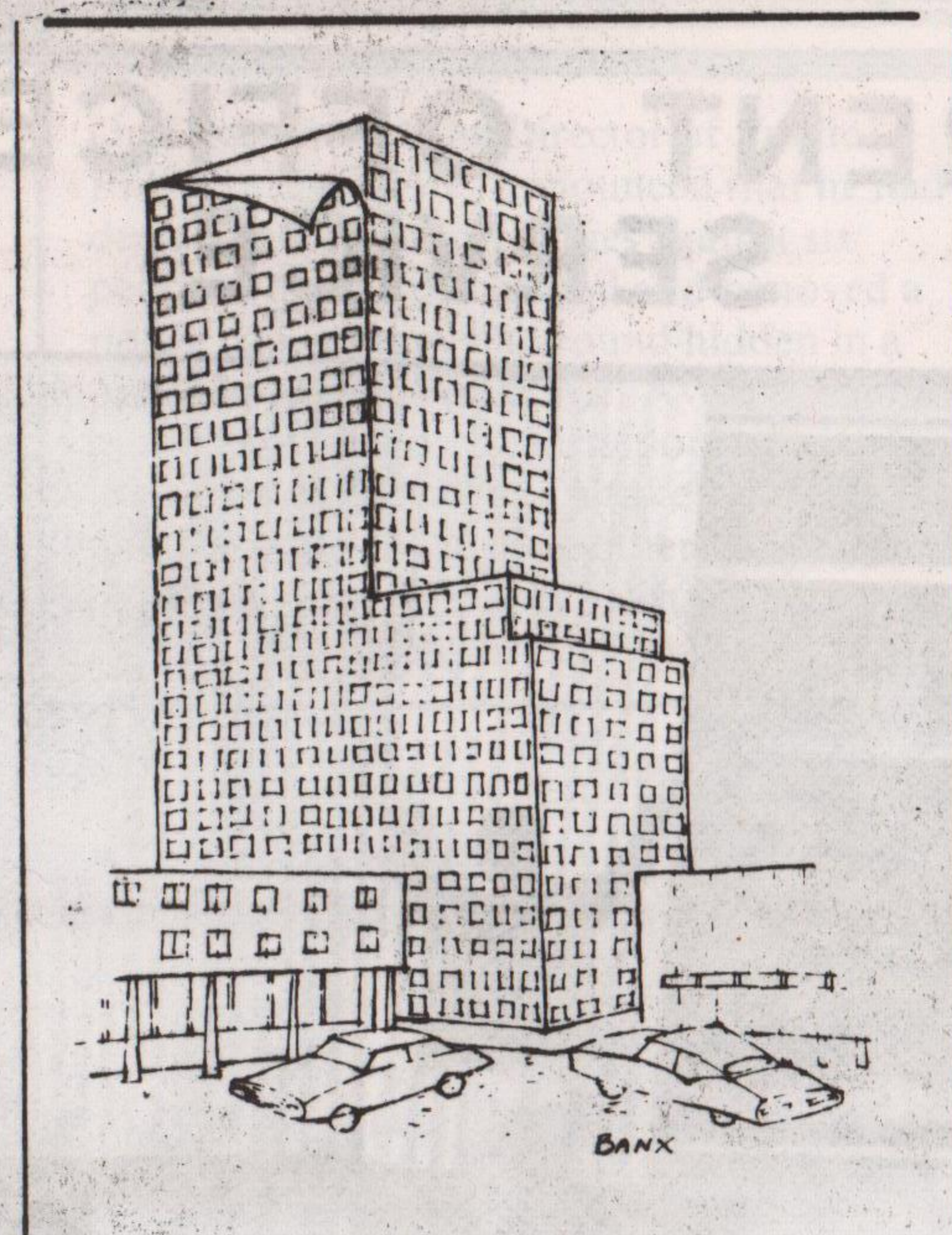
TIME ALLOWED—5 MINUTES

In each of the rows below, Figure A is to Figure B as Figure C is to ONE of the Figures D. Underline the Figure in D that bears the same relation to Figure C as Figure B does to Figure A.



Judges will be looking for  
academic input, originality  
and maximum visual impact.

The decision of the judges will be final.



It is hard not to notice.....



# RENT OFFICER SERVICE



.....that something is going on.

On December 11 the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) announced that he had decided not to press charges against six people who had discovered and removed a police camera they had found hidden in a pub. On September 25 Wilf Aves, a regular at the Grange Hotel, Hartlepool, noticed the camera concealed in a fake juke box and disconnected it. Five other people tried to take it to show to journalists on a local paper. All six were arrested by the police.

The Spectacle is turning in  
on itself — it watches for  
every minute sign of its  
own deterioration.



FULL OF 1940s, '50s & '60s USED CLOTHES

Mods and bikers have already laid their plans and arranged their rendezvous in the growing nostalgia for the 1960s.

EVENING JACKETS & 50's TUXEDOS

Heavy Metal (HM), that loud aggressive rock music of the late '60s and early '70s is currently experiencing a massive and unexpected revival.

Having no future —  
it turns in on its past.

THE SOUNDS of a Sea Slug missile ripping into the underbelly of an enemy aircraft to the accompaniment of a chant sung by Swiss monks can be heard on a new LP record which promises to put the Royal Navy into the charts.

It attempts to beautify itself — but only succeeds in making itself even more grotesque.





The same old lie.

IT IS not sex discrimination to allow women workers to walk out of factory gates before men. That is the ruling of a Birmingham industrial tribunal which accepted a plea that if both sexes left simultaneously women might be injured in the rush to leave.

The illusion of escape. Running from 'work' time to 'free' time is just escaping from Producer time into Consumer time.

The main problem facing the builders is graffiti which has appeared overnight on the three detached houses.

Slogans reading "-Suicide's the only way out" and "I wish I were dead" have been daubed on the walls.

A majority are content to strum invisible guitars, but some want something more tangible.

On Sunday night at the Bandwagon one kid stands for the whole of the session in front of a speaker. Soaking up the blast from Neal Kay's 2,000 watt sound system, he expertly mimes every record on a homemade cardboard cut-out of a guitar.

By concentrating on programming and a wide range of specialist services—silent discs, so a customer could buy three minutes of silence —Laren For Music has developed into one of the giants of the British juke box trade, and left the troubled waters of the actual operation of juke boxes far behind.

Feel two hundred feet tall as you wander among astonishing models of of man's most breathtaking achievements — the Colossus of Rhodes, the Great Pyramid of Cheops, the R100 airship and many more, all precisely constructed in 1/36th scale.

In the Society of the Spectacle "free" time is as genuine as the hospitality at a Tupperware party.



But in the midst of the mayhem the police received an ultimatum: Release Bertram Wilkes or Haymarket (Bristol's main shopping centre) "will burn."

The ultimatum, according to our sources, was delivered in an anonymous telephone call at 8.20 pm. The police say they have no record of it. At 9 pm, however, Wilkes was released without being charged, and was even offered a lift back to the ghetto.

Sometimes the Spectacle  
appears to give ground.....

## Revolutionary Record Offer!

### 2 Albums for \$2!

**THE PEOPLE'S RECORD** brings you 90 glorious minutes of People's Music at People's prices. For just \$2, comrades, you can enjoy excerpts from the latest albums by such People's Music Heroes as **Fleetwood Mac, Alice Cooper, Rod Stewart, George Benson** and 21 others on one budget-priced 2-record set!

Wage slaves, throw off your chains! Beat back the revisionists and outwit the running capitalist dogs at Warner Bros. Records! Join the Cultural Upheaval: mail \$2 for THE PEOPLE'S RECORD, 25 selections by 25 of today's most resourceful musical heroes at one deviously low price.

THE PEOPLE'S RECORD

Warner Bros. Records  
P.O. Box 6868  
Burbank, Ca. 91510

RS



PRO 645

**Dear Chairman:**

Your agitprop has stirred my heart. Here's \$2 for my copy of the glorious PEOPLE'S RECORD. Off the bourgeois hooligans!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

(Make all checks payable to the imperialist cuts at Warner Bros. Records. Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery of THE PEOPLE'S RECORD. Offer good only in the U.S.)

..... while it packages the  
new commodity.....

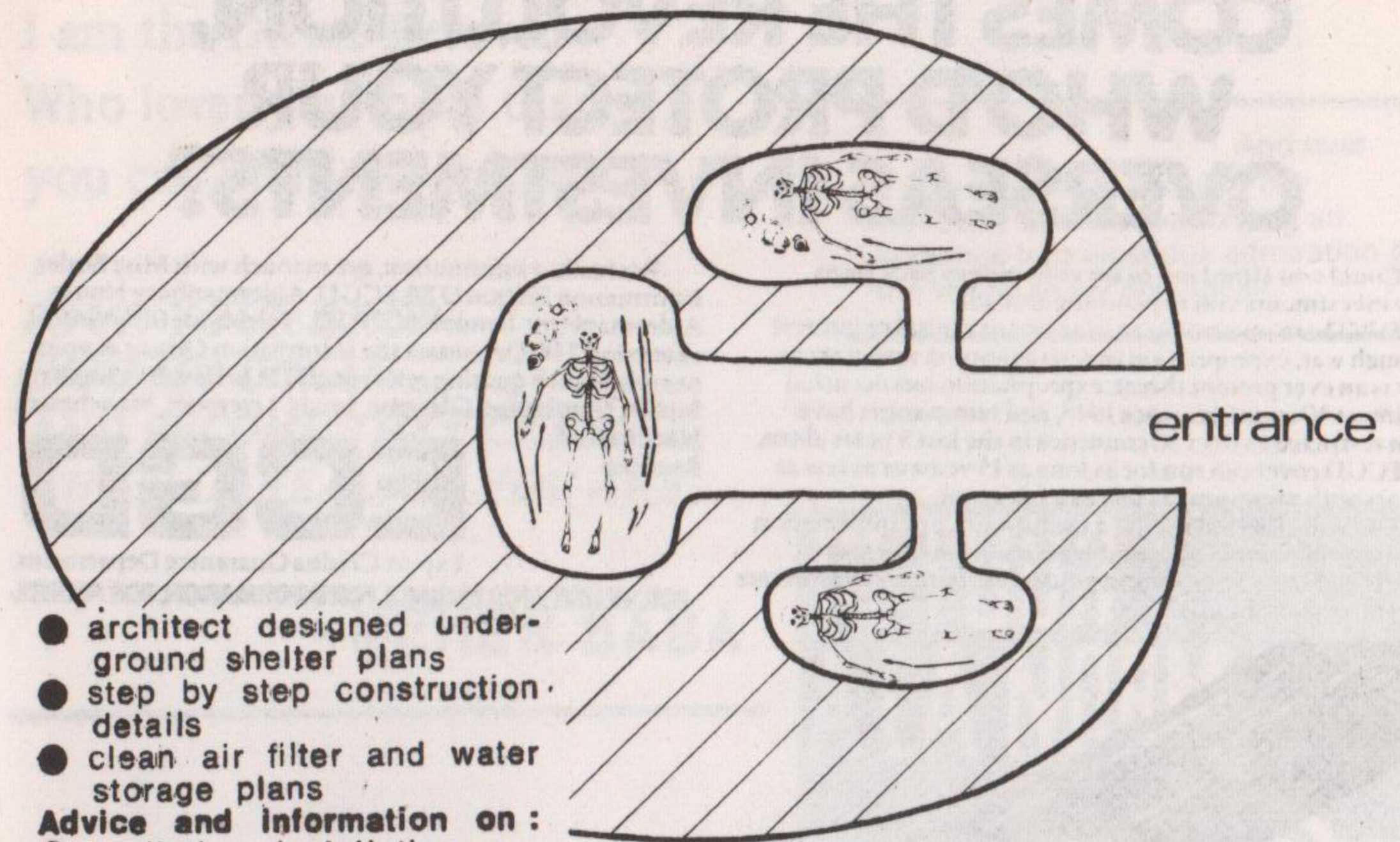


Dr Bertell Ollman, a Marxist professor of political science, has invented and marketed the world's first Marxist board game. He calls it 'Class Struggle', and it's caught on so well in the States that the poor fellow looks like becoming a rampant capitalist.

Dr Ollman, of New York University, spent seven years working out 'Class Struggle'. It bears a superficial resemblance to 'Monopoly' - 'another political game', he says - with players throwing dice and chasing each other round the board. You can be a Worker (with a hammer symbol), a Capitalist (with a top hat) or a member of the minor classes, such as Farmer, Student or Small Businessman. Rule One states that 'Class Struggle' can be played by two to six players; Rule Two adds, though, that the *real* players are classes, not individuals; Rule Three stresses that only the Workers or the Capitalists can win. That's life, says Dr Ollman.

Actually, it's pretty complicated, and the inventor has devised two rule books, a simple one for beginners and the real hard stuff for determined revolutionaries (or grinders of the faces of the poor). The big rule book has a bibliography of stout socialist reading tacked on the back, and if that's not being serious about a game I don't know what is.

..... makes it safe, and sells it back to us.



- architect designed underground shelter plans
- step by step construction details
- clean air filter and water storage plans
- Advice and information on :
  - sanitation installations
  - food and water supplies
  - radiation monitoring unit
  - equipment suppliers and costs
  - successful shelter living
  - life after the bomb

The worldwide computer network on which the Pentagon relies to keep track of its own and Soviet forces has a failure rate of between 40 and 85 per cent.



We're all in the same boat.



# COMES THE REVOLUTION, WHO'D PROTECT YOUR OVERSEAS INVESTMENTS?

Could you afford not to get your money back from new investments you're planning abroad?

ECGD can insure you against loss of capital or interest through war, expropriation or restrictions on remittances. War is an ever present threat, expropriation has occurred in almost 80 countries since 1945, and remittances have been restricted in over 30 countries in the last 5 years alone.

ECGD cover can run for as long as 15 years or as few as 3 years with premiums as low as 2.1 per cent.

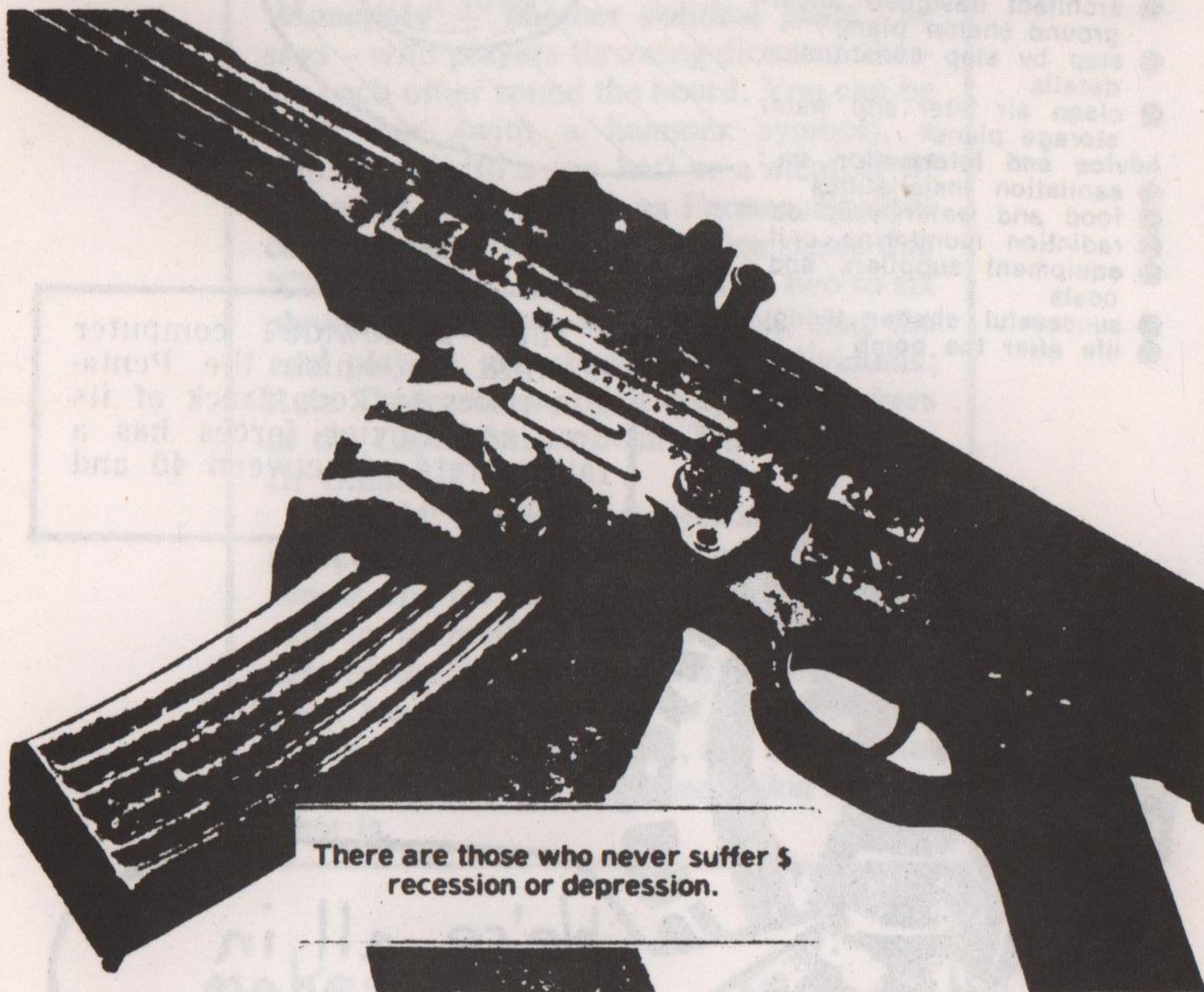
You will also find ECGD a useful source of information on investment procedure and regulations in overseas countries. Before you commit yourselves to new investments abroad, consult ECGD.

For further information, get in touch with Miss Butler, Information Section DTB, ECGD, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL. Telephone 01-606 6699, extension 258. Or contact the Information Officer at your nearest branch quoting reference DTR. Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Nottingham, Reading.

## ECGD

Export Credits Guarantee Department.

FOR SECURITY, FOR FINANCE, FOR INFORMATION, FOR PROFITS.



There are those who never suffer  
recession or depression.

..... aren't we?

I am the Divine Beloved  
Who loves you more than  
you can ever love yourself.

*POUR YOUR DROP  
INTO MY OCEAN  
AND BECOME THE OCEAN  
WHICH IN REALITY YOU ARE.*

—MEHER BABA

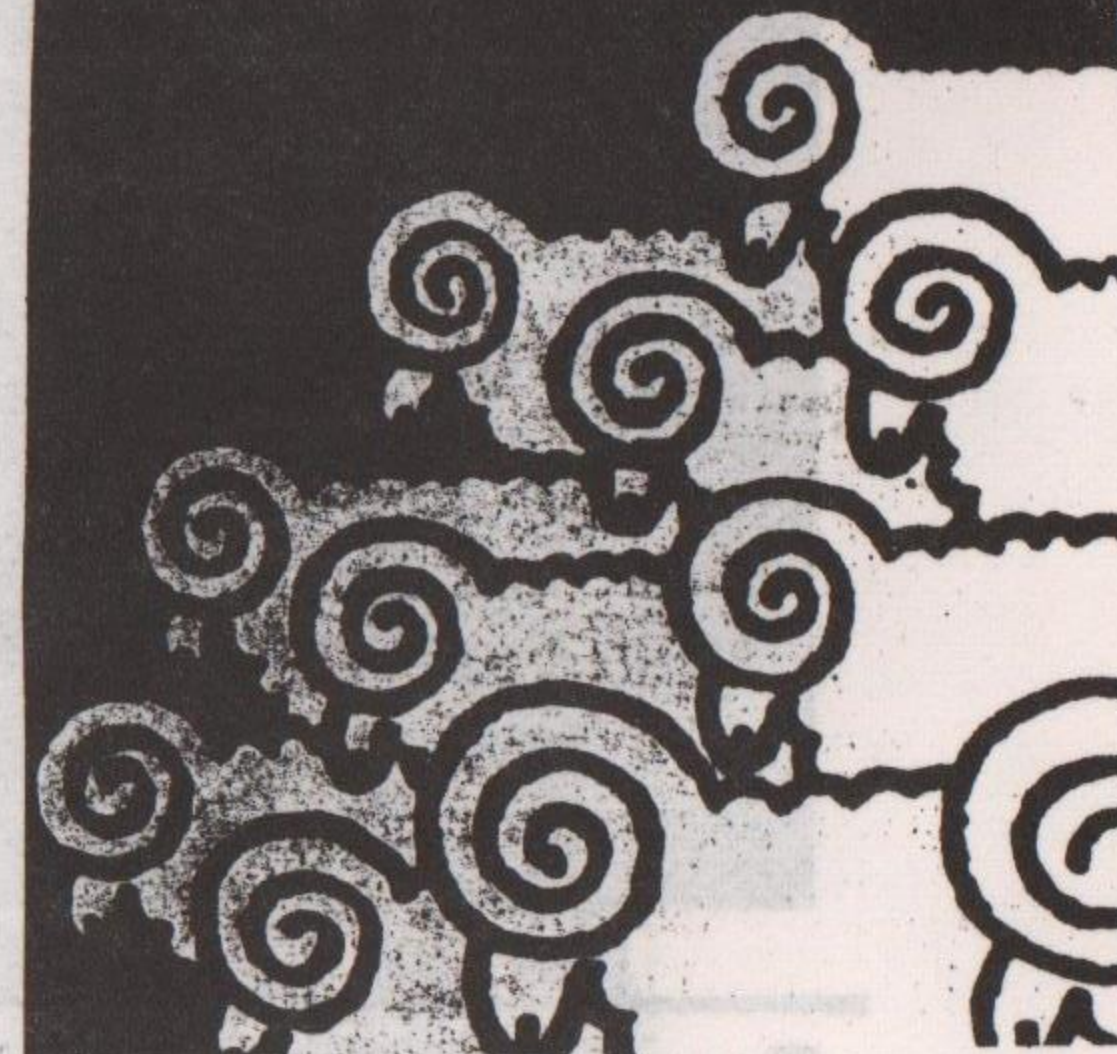
Then, before the penalty could be taken, Iran's goal-keeper, Rahmania, grabbed the ball. Messarafi knocked the referee unconscious and an Indonesian linesman, coming to the referee's rescue, kicked Messarafi.

At this point the Iranian team fell to their knees and hailed the glory of Ayatollah Khomeini, chanting his name.

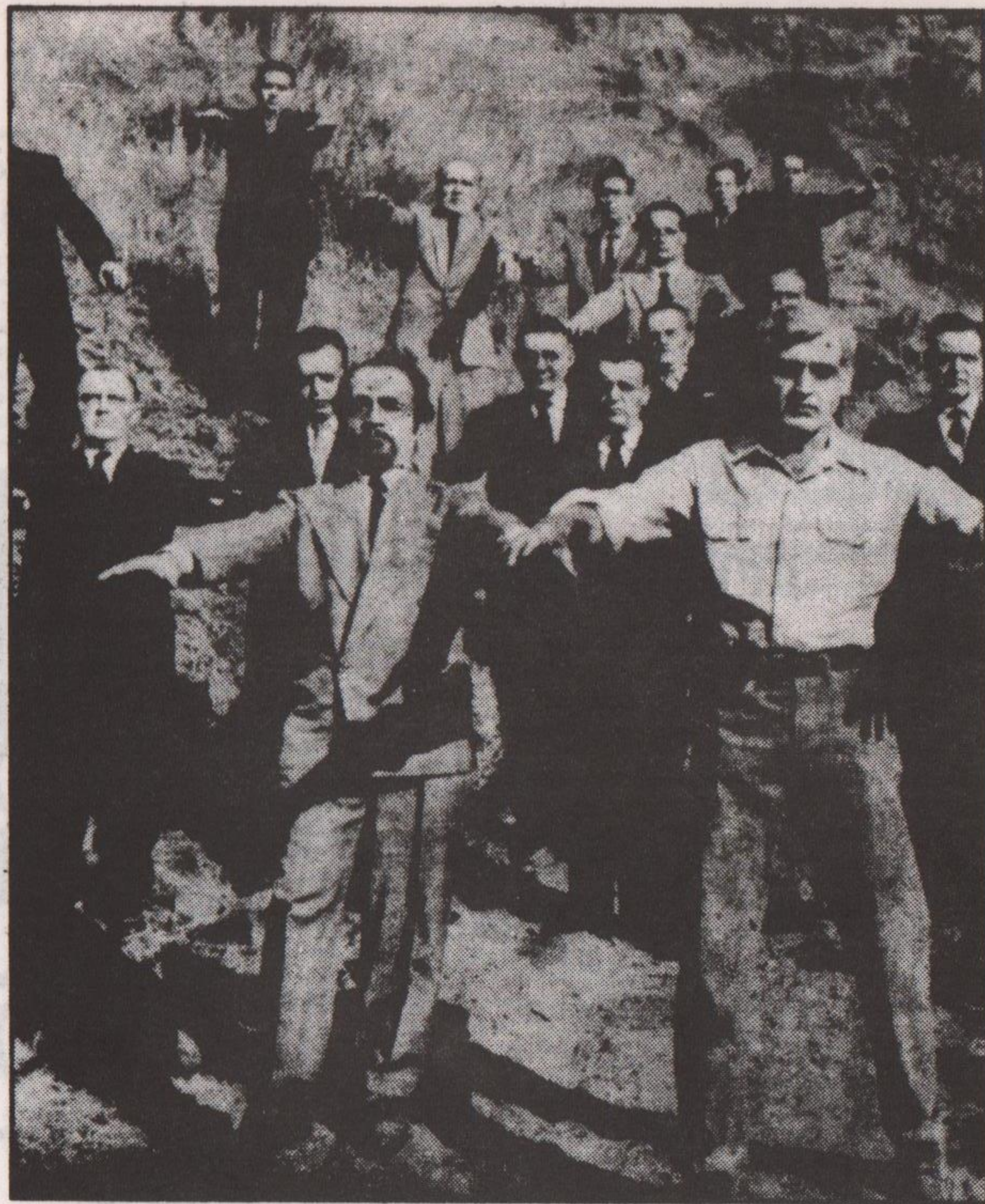
It's hard to know where  
to start.

And over  
it all hovers the crass and oily  
Whicker, verbally massaging an  
audience into vicarious admiration of  
the whole sickly spectacle.

## RETOUR ALA NORMALE...







**Everyone's off to the new ASCO  
SUPERSTORE!**

"The Spectacle in general..... is the  
autonomous movement of the  
non-living." Debord.

**WE WANT  
EVOLUTION  
NOT  
REVOLUTION  
VOTE  
LABOUR**

Beware the agencies of recuperation.  
A half-arsed revolution only  
serves to prop up the Spectacle.



## General Elections

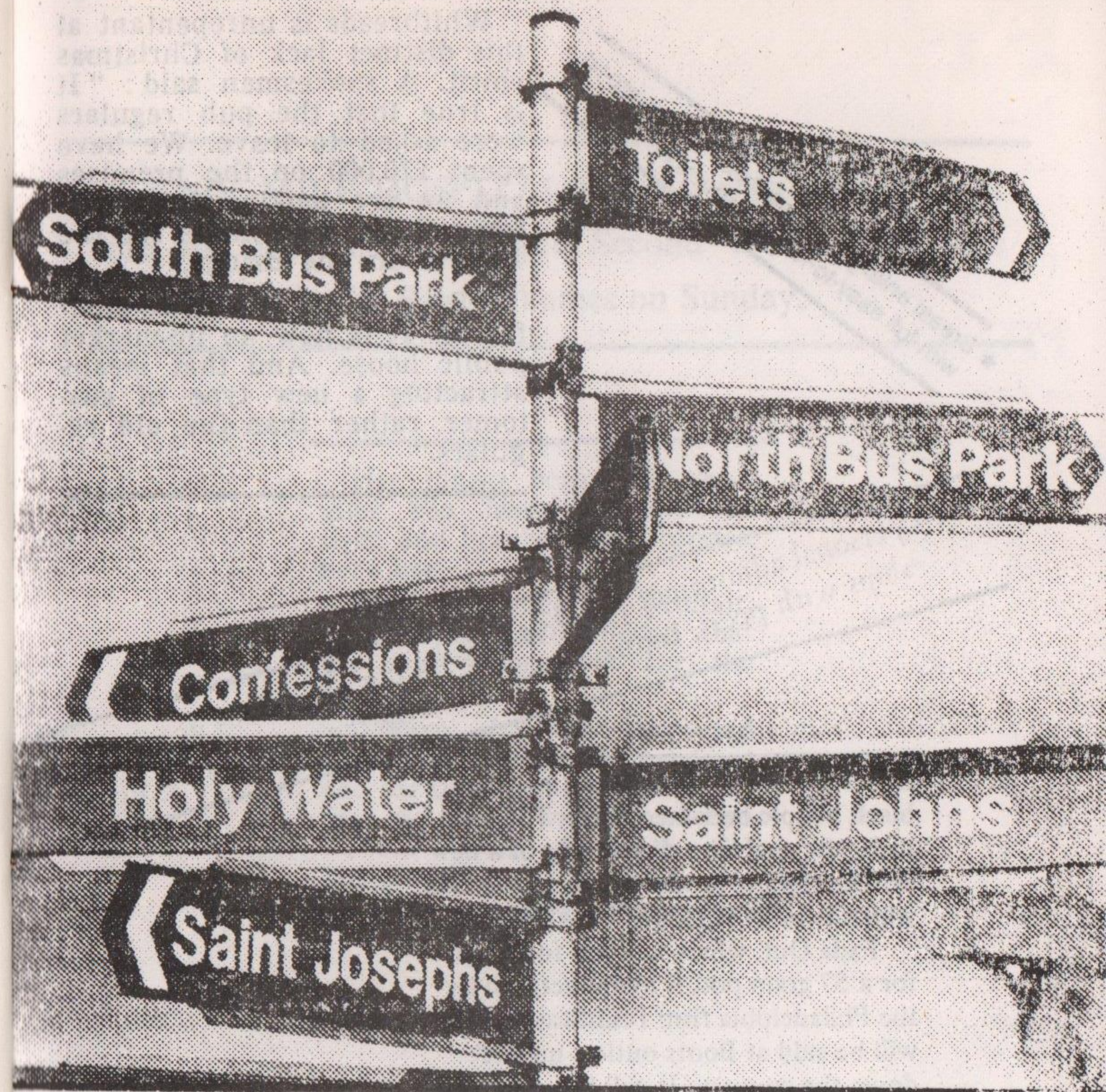
XXXXXXXXXX

## Local Elections

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXX

Here is your lifetime's supply of  
democracy. Don't go off with the  
pencil.

If voting could really change  
anything, they'd make it illegal.



Harrisburg 13

All their roads  
lead to Babylon.



★ Breast enlargement method — complete kit  
with full easy-to-follow instructions .....

Whitbreads is unrepentant at this distinct lack of Christmas spirit. A spokesman said: "It is true that the pub regulars were asked to leave. We have spent £70,000 on the premises and we are looking for a different type of clientele for the Brewer on The Bridge.

"It is a major investment for us. It is now an up-market public house. And that means attracting a new type of customer, rather than the old regulars."

PA—personal adjustment problems, including difficulties in relationships with peers, tutors, parents or with the university system.

Boots the Chemist are about to help black people become whiter. They are to be the exclusive distributor of a new skin-lightening product called Fade Out which is to be launched on April 14.

Fade Out, which will sell for £3.50 for a 57 gram pot, is manufactured by the Philadelphia firm Pennbeauty and will be sold at Boots outlets up and down the country. It will be advertised in magazines like *Black Music*, *Black Echoes* and *Jazz Review*, in addition to women's magazines.

A FAIR MILE HOSPITAL patient, who believed that she was responsible for the Second World War, was found dead in the River Thames on Sunday.

Her illness began, he said, after she heard an air-raid siren and bombs were dropped near her.

Since then, said Dr. Moffatt, Mrs. Jones had believed that she was responsible for the war.

"When she was depressed this always came to the fore, and for this reason she believed that she was a wicked and bad woman who had to be punished."

Refuse to take the blame.

Refuse their false standards.

(to be continued.)



# anarchist fortnightly **Freedom**

Send a large s.a.e. for a sample copy and/or a six-page mail order booklist of Anarchist and libertarian books.

Bookshop open Tues-Fri 2pm-6pm (8pm Thurs); Sat. 10am-4pm.  
(times can be irregular - so telephone to check if coming from afar).

**FREEDOM PRESS**

in Angel Alley

84b WHITECHAPEL HIGH STREET

LONDON E1 Phone 01-247 9249

## **INTERNATIONAL TIMES**

Join a growing handful—read the paper that doesn't tell you what you already know.

Now IT has no distributor except itself—make sure of your copy. Send £2.50 for 6-issue subscription to:  
IT, BCM IT, London WC1V 6XX.

*IT is Britain's only international, non-aligned, access newspaper.*

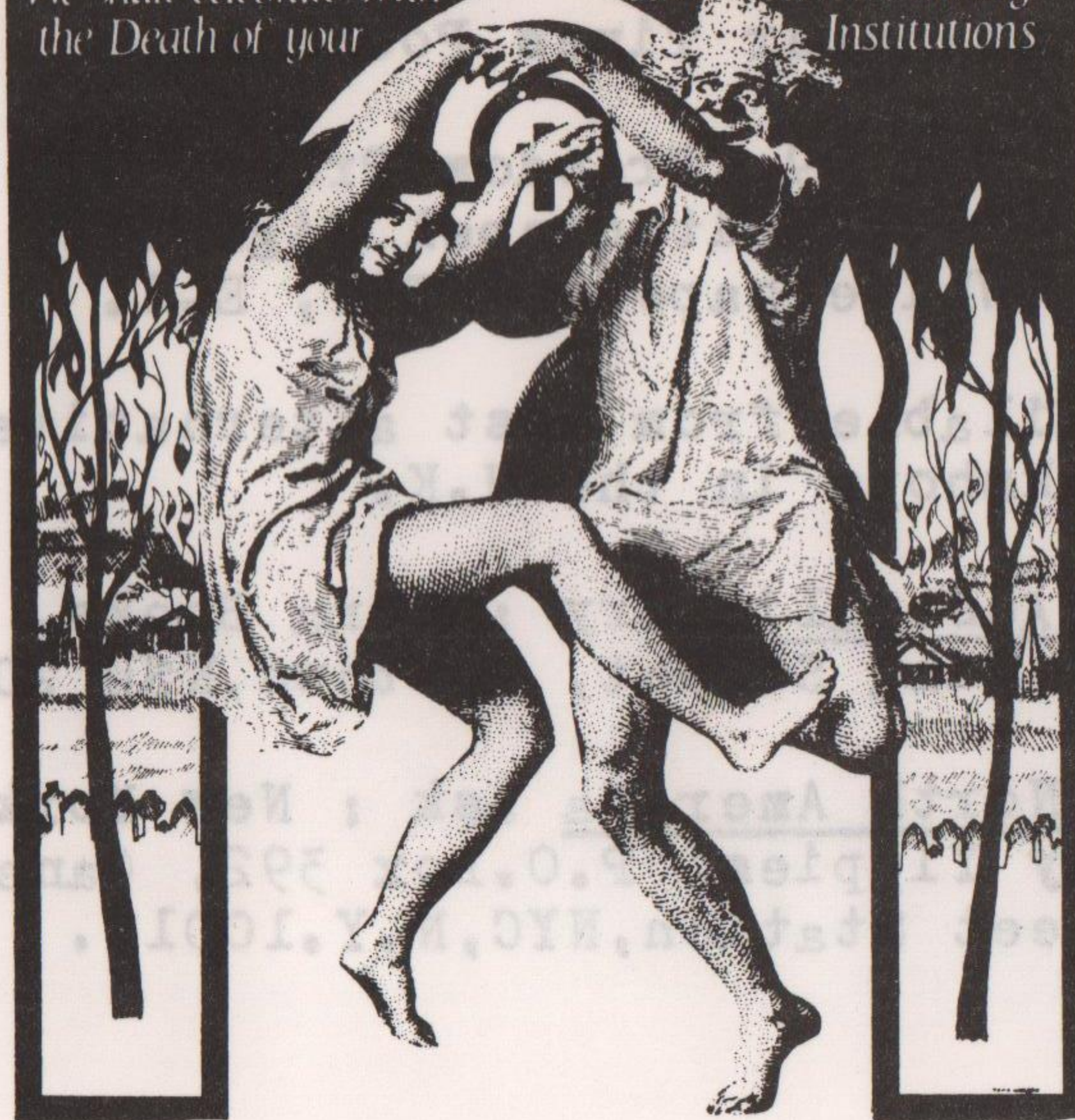


Xtra!  
182, Upper Street  
Islington  
London N1.

Angry Anarchism  
with a sense of fun.  
===== 30p

We shall celebrate with  
the Death of your

such fierce dancing  
Institutions



## **TIMES PAST**

Also in this series :

- No.1 "Images" (Out of print)
- No.2 "Everyday Life" 20p post free.
- No.3 "The Media" 30p post free.

Provisional orders for No.1 welcome  
- pending bookshop returns or re-print.



## Spectacular Times Pocketbooks

Box 99, Freedom Press,  
84b, Whitechapel High St.,  
Whitechapel, LONDON, E.1.

Available from most alternative  
bookshops in the U.K.

In Australia try : Jura Books,  
417, King Street, Newtown, NSW 2042.

In North America ask : New York  
City Yippies, P.O.Box 392, Canal  
Street Station, NYC, N.Y. 10013.

Production :  
Liz and Presto Print

Compiled and Edited  
by Larry Law

1980