

LETTERS

We got a letter from someone saying 'It's a abortionists such as Adolf Hitler, Stalin, good paper, I remember when Freedom was a weekly and now you're outdoing them' who goes on to raise a subject which needs to be aired.

You don.t seem to recognise that some Anarchists (perhaps a small minority) are anti-abortion, without supporting any Laws. It is Authoritarian to deny unborn humans their very life. And to state that a child is not a person simply due to it's location (inside the womb or out) is blatant nonsense. Biologically a member of the species Homo-Sapiens – a human is a human from conception onwards. It's weird for Anarchists to side with the pro-

RECEIVED

Margaret Sanger (a racist – founder of planned parenthood), etc. For Life and Freedom

Firstly let us clear some myths to set aside the 'guilt by association'. Hitler was not 'pro-abortion but faithfully followed the 'Catholic Line' on abundant births, in the case of Germans of 'Aryan Nordic birth. His views on sterilisation of the unfit and prevention of non-Aryan births notwithstanding. In the new Soviet Union, Church views on birth were enthusiastically thrown off, to be reintroduced by Stalin who also wanted to have plenty of cannon fodder and, unlike Hitler, had no racial

BOOK REVIEW

THE SELF DESTRUCTION **SYNDROME** – Steve Edwards. Pub. The Book Guild Ltd. at £9.95.

Most books which attempt to peer into the future make a sort of leap from where we are to where the authors will imagine we will arrive. The future is broken from the present and therefore is that much more remote. Sometimes such works focus on new forms of society and means of living as a result of dramatic technological change and developments; the optomist looks to a warm future wherin conflicts have been resolved.

The view this work takes of the future is disturbingly familiar; there is no break between the present and the future, all the events taking place in this 21st century world can be clearly seen as having their origins with our society. The book is distressingly plausible, and offers no brave new tomorrow, rather we have the venial environmental sins of today magnified

into the mortal sins of the next century. 'It's hell out there, you'll need oxygen to move about soon, comes through the filter masks.' 'Simon sat down,

Sulphur level is up eight per cent on last year and carbon fifteen.' 'They'll have to do something' Paul said

cheerfully. Why?'

'Well, they'll have to won't they... they

can't go on poisoning the atmosphere Many progressive people have a sort of inate belief that society has in its possession a safety valve which won't allow things to get too bad before the masses rise up and stop it. This book suggests that the earth could be on the point of torturous extinction and people would still continue to accept it. 'Perhaps they could call for an emergency

debate on a government-backed de-pollution scheme. It did not matter that the ideas would not be carried through because they were not economically viable and their implementation would undermine the whole system. The important fact was that they were presented and that tens of millions would read and believe them.'

What if? has been asked before, this time it poses the sickening conjecture, if things don't get better and all the bad things continue to get worse, where will we arrive, what if acceptance of the powers that be continues, despite a world dieing of forced consumerism, poverty and pollution? What if urban crime continues, and the permanent army of the unemployed become totally alienated from the minority working population?

This is not the future any of us want to see, but this book presents it as a plausible, and all too plausible possibility. David Douglass

POETRY CORNER

PIG CITY

If you go downtown just beware there's a demonstration in the square the boys in blue are everywhere see the blacks in the park

hear the doors slam, hear the dogs bark they're keeping the city safe after dark

the minister for corruption's working late he wants a piece of the action in race 8 no s.p. here, he rings interstate

the blacks at aurukun have to go to keep big business on the go while joh gets shares in comalco

who was the bagman, who was the hitman who were the frontmen, who were the big men in the national scam

hello, hello, is that you dear? what's that clicking noise I hear? walls have eyes and phones have ears

go to a dance to have some fun here come the boys with their dogs and guns they don't like punks, run johnny, run who's that knocking at the door

at 6am it must be the law right, you know what we're looing for

a state of emergency for the 'boks and then to show the workers who's boss you think you've got rights, they're already lost

so you don't want to know, you've heard it all before but if you cop this lot, you'll sure get more where to now from 84?

Demonstrations are banned in Queensland Australia, meetings in Brisbane can take place in the city square supervised by cops there to prevent it becoming a march.

Aboriginal people and travellers gather in Musgrave Park until police clear them

SP Bookmakers for horseracing are not allowed in Queensland so bets are placed interstate to New South Wales. Comalco is an aluminium corporation who used the State government to evict aboriginals from their homeland so bauxite can then be mined for a profit.

In the 1970's the South African Springboks rugby tour of Australia ended in tear gas and baton charges as anti-apartheid groups disrupted the tour and Joh Bjelke-Petersen the Premier declared a State of Emergency.

More recently, electricity workers who generate the State's supply had their union busted and many sacked. Individual workers face up to \$5,000 fine and jail for any industrial action at work, ie. go-slows or work to rule etc.

Born into a world of fear, and isolation, born into a world at war. We cry in the darkness, and consume the poison. We feel the pain, our fear is mutual, our prison within this system. No love, no freedom within its framework Our vision lies outside Where we can live and care. We sow the seeds of peace abd learn to understand Anarchy we are not alone our voices will not fade we confront and question our vision is absolute. A.B. Nijmwegen

FEEDBACK

theories.

Margaret Sanger might be termed a racialist but to her, and in her day, 'racialism' meant something quite different. She was not a hater of other races than her own; but like other contemporary eugenists believed in 'improving the quality of the race'. Some racialists made use of her theories but despite some erroneous ideas she was in her day a progressive fighter for the rights of women, particularly working class women to control their own bodies.

The idea that life begins at conception is purely a religious idea, and on it the

Catholic Church in particular bases a lot of assumptions, some of which would never have been made had women been in the priesthood. The Church has had to give way on several points involving contraception though it maintains its laws, knowing that they are ignored even by many of the

Neither Anarchists, nor most independent thinkers on the subject are 'pro-abortion' in the way the Catholic or religious influenced are 'anti-abortion': they assert the right of women to have control of their own bodies, and once this is freely granted, conception would rarely follow, since unwanted pregnancies are largely the result of religious influences which, even now, frustrate contraception.

The libertarian conception of 'rights' is that they are taken; the authoritarian conception is that they are granted. The foetus can hardly be said to have 'rights' in the libertarian sense; if the mother has rights she can give birth or not as she chooses. Economic security would probably

mean that there would be fewer unwanted pregnancies anyway.

Abortion is not something that is desired or fought for – whereas anti-abortion is (because it justifies a religious prejudice) but it is something a woman should decide for herself.

Dear Black Flag,

I'd like to suggest you run a series on the various British left groups and parties. The Introduction to Modern Politics was useful but, I felt, very generalised. You go into useful depth on various extreme right groups, but I think you tend to assume that people are already well up on the ideas and histories of the SWP, WRP, Militant, etc. I have a degree of knowledge of them but, as I say, I'd like some fullscale articles to increase my awareness.

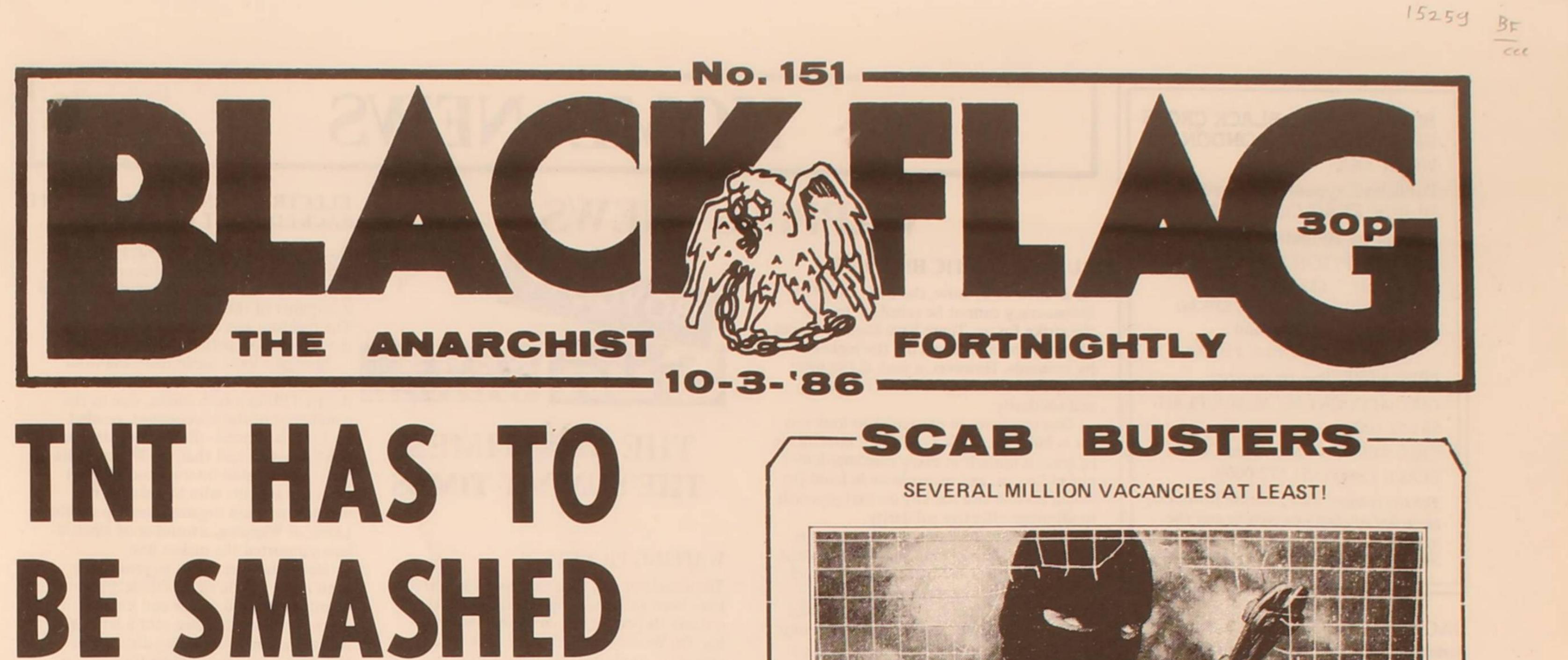
As much as the Trotskyists, I want to learn more about the Stalinist NCP and those in the CP. I'm amazed and appalled at the way such people still go on about Russia as if it has a totally unblemished history and is a 'workers' paradise'. So if you do decide to run such a series I'd appreciate an attempt to deal with the psychological angle as well (ie. how can people comfortably accept or ignore the concentration camps, muzzled press and cultural life, denial of the right to strike, etc. in some countries, and yet protest vigorously about such things in others?)

Hope you find this a worthwhile suggestion. In a way, it's also an attempt to say the paper needs a bit more 'home' content as lately I've felt you have tended to cover foreign events rather more extensively than those here. That's certainly not meant as a chauvinist remark, but just to urge you to keep in mind a rough balance of the two (No. 147 is about right, in my

Yours in solidarity,

Reply: The 'Introduction to Modern Politics' was an effort in this direction, and we hope to do a series on the 'left' but would appreciate more insights from readers (I was a teenage Marxist! Shock-Horror!). We received a letter from a comrade in Holland which requests we do a series on religions too; again, any help from atheist readers is welcome.





TWELVE MONTH PLANNING FOR TNT SCAB FLEET

We can reveal that Thomson Nationwide Transport, the scab haulage company that is aiding the print barons in their antiunion crusade, has colluded in the pre-planning for News International's move to Fortress Wapping in the twelve months prior to the move. There is strong evidence that TNT undertook contingency measures and was party to the scheme to sack the 5,500 print workers.

Details of TNT's involvement was leaked via the pages of the trade magazine, Commcial Motor where an article, entitled 'TNT's "Secret" Fleet', describes how the several hundred plain white trucks specially bought by TNT for the News International exercise was 'gathered over the past year'. The article goes on to say that the fleet is ^{*}part of a new TNT newspaper section, code named Division 800, and that drivers all over the country are being recruited to drive them'. TNT's UK manager, Alan Jones, told Commercial Motor



Alan Jones Are you loathsome tonight ?

that TNT also hopes to recruit another 2,000 drivers to take on work for the other newspaper barons. The fleet itself consists of mainly C-registration Volkswagen LT45 vans. A list of TNT main depots follows.

TNT began putting the fleet together for Division 800 around the beginning of 1985, the fleet was developed secretly as the year progressed, and as Murdoch moved closer to his 'D' day.

TNT – THE MAFIA CONNECTION

The TNT conglomerate has tried often unsuccessfully, to steer a course away from political intrigue. TNT's chairman, Australian magnate Sir Peter Abeles, has gone to great pains to cultivate friendships with those on both the right and left of Australia's political spectrum. TNT now has business interests in virtually every part of the globe (see below), but despite its attempts to keep a low profile, its dealings with unions has not always had a smooth ride. In the USA, TNT's launch was very nearly a fiasco when it was met with a campaign of arson attacks bombings and violence. TNT was able to survive this campaign because of the links it cultivated not with the political mafia, but with the criminal mafia (no doubt they interconnect though!).

The violence ceased as soon as TNT paid the handsome sum of \$250,000 as a first installment to mobster Venero 'benny Eggs' Mangano and Lawrence 'Buddy' Garaventi. This was not a simple case of 'protection' money but payments made, according to TNT (USA), for the 'services which the management of this group believe were in the interests of the group and were worth the monies paid for them'. The services alluded to were in reality a deal struck with mafia and officials of the right-wing and corrupt Teamsters Union to 'keep things cool'. In other words no wildcat strikes, no more violence (stage-managed by the mafia - controlled Teamsters), etc. Nor was the TNT-mafia connection simply a local one. Abeles himself was an acquaintance, for example, of Jimmy 'The Weasel' Fratianno, a member of the West Coast mafioso. Fratianno's link-man in the Teamsters was Rudy Tham, a Teamsters vice-president and close friend of TNT executive Peter Thomson. Tham was later jailed for embezzelment of Teamsters money. TNT's financing of the mafia has continued.

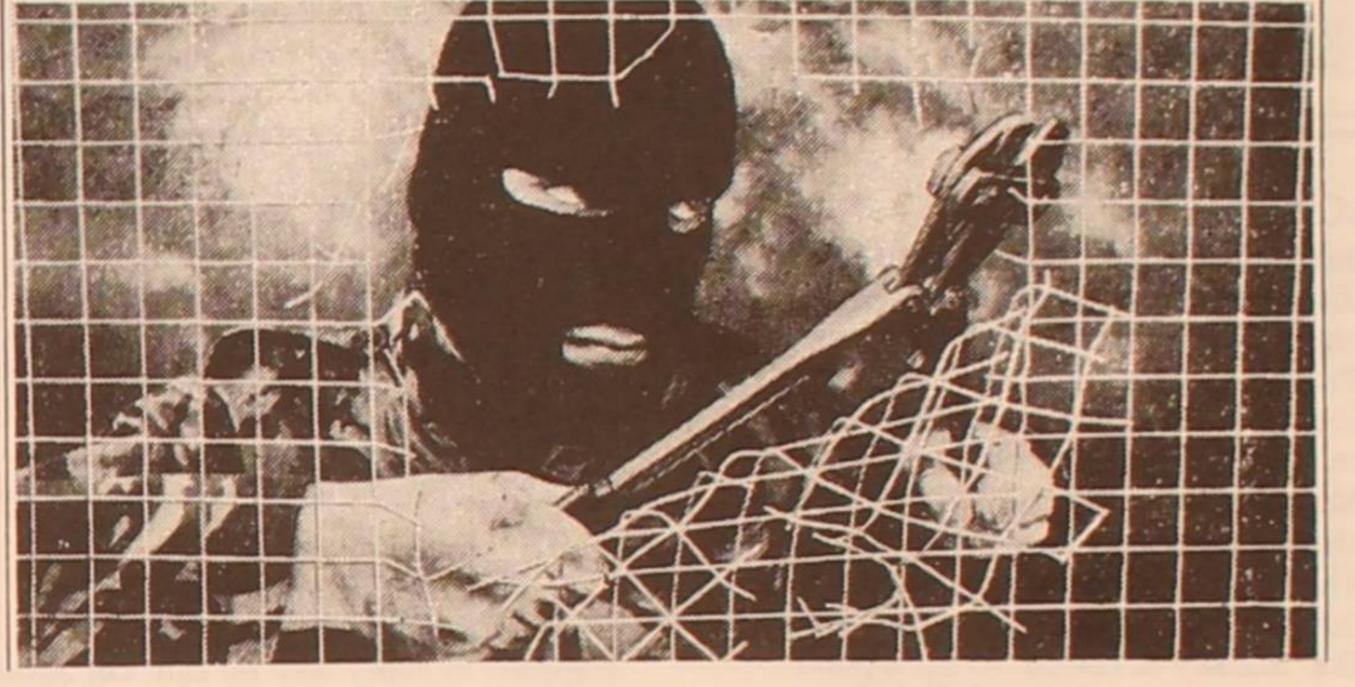
TNT - THE EMPIRE

TNT is a multi-national conglomerate with companies in most parts of the world. Its empire is expanding. In Britain it has around a dozen subsidiaries and has recently begun a new operation poaching mail contract work from the Royal Mail by flying out bulk shipments to Belgium and putting the mail through the Belgian postal service where casual, part-time and lower-paid young recruits are able to undercut costs; the consequence being that in several months time, thousands of postal workers in Britain might not have job security. This is a case of capitalism exploiting cheap labour on an international level, with unions unable to do much about it.

TNT expanded its business in Europe when it amalgamated with IPEC, freightcarriers. TNT-IPEC now has depots in most Western European countries and newspaper companies in those countries

Continues on page 4

7 No union recognition for supervisors and management grades.
8 Complete flexibility of working with no demarcation lines.
9 No job security – complete freedom for management to change methods of working.
10 No minimum staffing levels – either by agreement or understanding. Management freedom to alter starting and finishing times at short notice.
77 Management's "exclusive right to manage" to select people for jobs, "classify and reclassify" people, "hire, promote, demote and transfer employees as required".
They will also "suspend, discipline, dismiss, lay off employees from work" as they see fit.
12 Legally binding contracts, leaving the unions and individual union members open to court action.



Due to an intensification of anti-working class activity and taking into account the current malaise within the trade unions to effectively combat this activity, a massive number of Scabusters are needed to turn the tide and help the labour movement to move on to the offensive once more.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

To take direct action against all scabs, scab organisers and the property of scabs and scab organisers. To sabotage the activities of scabs and their organisers.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Mass picketing, local picket support work, propaganda work, fund-raising, etc.

QUALIFICATIONS

None required. Just a belief in direct action and the desire to overthrow capitalism and destroy the State. Ability to work in small teams could be an advantage. Equipment (eg, pick-axe handles, molotovs, inflammables, etc.) should be self-supplied.

HOURS

Varied and probably anti-social. Little warning will be given as to when work is needed.

PAY

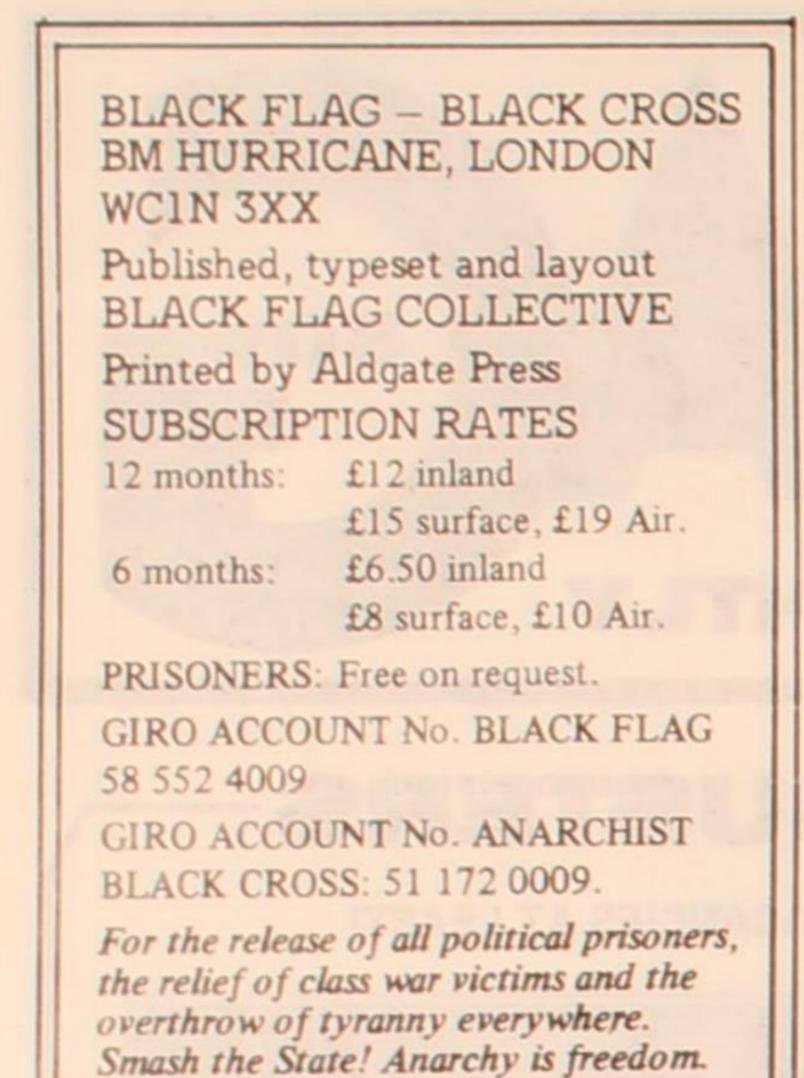
None. But rewards are high. Fringe benefits include experience in testing out new techniques, the opportunity, sometimes, of making new contacts.

TO APPLY

To no one in particular. Scabusters form their own local groups via friendship networks. They are responsible to each other and take orders from no one. They don't need leaders.

Scabusters is an equal opportunities network of class struggle groups dedicated to direct action.

> SCAB BUSTERS when solidarity lacks, we step in



BACK TO NORMALITY

Stainforth, the village adjoining Hatfield Colliery was the scene of rioting on 25th January, reminiscent of the strike days.

Proof that simmering hatred for the police lies just below the surface of 'normal' relations was seen in the numbers of police cars turned over and brick marks on the walls of the village police station.

The spark was a police car rolling up to the local pub 'The Fox', cops marching in like 'Starsky & Hutch' to lift a petty (and young) criminal. The lads father objected to the smash and grab raid, and in the meanwhile hatred of the presence of the forces of law and order started to well up. The lads father had by this time been belted by the police, and the balloon had gone up.

First the cars were turned over, and then a rush made on the cop shop. One old veteran of the strike, despite his walking stick, gave a good account of himself but was lifted in the process.

By midnight, forty - fifty police cars and vans were streaming into the village and the crowd of insurgents had spread from pub to pub and club to club, a full scale running battle was going on. By about 2.30am the fun was over and the cops were left sneaking about the village. Peace returns – not for long that's for sure!

ATTACKS ON WOMEN PEACE ACTIVISTS INCREASE

On December 8th, four women broke into RAF (USAF) Mildenhall and hid in a maintenance hanger office. They were badly beaten up by US Security police. Said one woman: 'they seemed to have totally lost control, it was like a scene from Rambo... they came leaping across the tables, screaming, glass was flying everywhere'. The women were dragged out and spreadeagled on the grass, kicked, had their fingers trampled and one of them was kicked in the crutch. Another woman was picked up by the handcuffs, despite her screams of pain.

January 19th at Greenham Common, two women were attacked in their tents. and brutally kicked. At Basingstoke Hospital they were treated for severe head and back injuries, and shock. Their assailants description implies they were US servicemen.

Only last week, a woman caught throwthrowing eggs as a Cruise transport came into the base, was stripped by police.

On the 11th of January, Sue Pitman had her finger pulled off as she was being dragged from the fence around a new war bunker in Carmarthen, Wales. SOURCE: Titanic.

:12.1 not pring

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BUREAUCRATIC HICK UPS

As is obvious by now, the SOGAT/NGA bureaucracy cannot be relied on to run the strike for us. There have been instances of people being thrown off the picket line by stewards. However, a rank & file print group has been formed and is organising

real solidarity. One character in particular to look out for is Mike Hicks. SOGAT/TUC bureaucrat he installs himself at every meeting/demo/ picket he can, and megaphone in hand (to which no-one else has any access) proceeds to sabotage effective solidarity. He was the chief steward on February

24, 1985 who tried (and failed) to prevent solidarity with two Notts miners arrested on the London miners' march. On the Mayday march last year Hicks threatened violence from TUC heavies against a group of anarchists who would not get to the back of the march. He attempted to stop financial aid from the Feb 24 Defence Committee reaching people he considered 'agitators'. Hicks was amongst the TUC bureaucrats who pointed out 'troublemakers' to the police on the film of the March 6 attack on chief scab Willis.

During the present dispute he has attempted to sabotage the picket of Wapping in every way he can. On Saturday February 22, after haranguing the picket of one gate through his megaphone all night, he took a vote on whether to disband the picket just as lorries were about to go out. Even though the vote went unanimous ly against him, he led SOGAT members who would follow off the picket, thus splitting it in half and rendering it ineffective. The only good thing about this is that increasing numbers of people are losing what little trust they had in the bureaucracy. Clearly, it is up to rank and file printers, with the help of those who wish to give genuine solidarity, to organise effective solidarity.

Miners and supporters down in London for the campaign to support victimised & jailed miners are expected to join the picket and a women's event at Wapping on March 8th, international women's day, is to take place... A National march on the Wapping fortress will be on March 22nd. Build the mass picket! Every Saturday, Tower Hill tube, 7.30pm.

Details of actions coming up outside London are welcome and should be sent in as reports, or allow fourteen day publicity time please.

SABOTAGE TNT

Murdoch's papers are delivered to newsagents (by unmarked, usually white, transit vans) at about 5.00 am just before they open, giving just enough time for them to be stolen/damaged. Stealing and dumping is better (but more time consuming) as it makes it look like distribution has failed. The papers are left on the pavement unwrapped or in white plastic bags. However it might be worth checking that Suns etc. are not hidden inside packages of other papers. This form of sabotage is easy and effective, but be careful, watchout!

ERNST & WHINNEY OCCUPIED! Dear Black Flag,

Yesterday (20/2/*86) there was an occupation of Ernst & Whinney, King St. Leeds 1, from 1 - 3.40pm. They are the firm of accountants responsible for the sequestration of SOGAT's funds.

The idea was suggested a few weeks ago at a meeting and the word put round the anarchist periphery, which meant we had a dozen occupiers inside, and a dozen outside to talk to the press.

No one was arrested, the accountants sent the police away – they wanted as ttle hassle as possible – despite that the news made Calendar, Look North, Radio Aire and Radio Leeds news.

SOURCE: Leeds DAM-IWA

HOME NEWS



THE AND TIMES THE SUNDAY TIMES

WAPPING PICKETS

Thousands of print workers and supporters have been gathering nightly at mass pickets outside Rupert Murdoch's Fortress Wapping. On Wednesday Feb 19th, 3,000 pickets massed; the following Saturday, still more gathered.

The police were guarding all entrances to the plant, having learnt from the pickets described in Black FlagNo150 where scab vans were smashed. Some unguarded police buses had windows smashed, and at one point a scaffolding was tipped over, blocking a side road, after police had towed away parked cars to make a route for scab lorries.

There have been many arrests: up to forty on the Wednesday evening and more were to follow. Wednesday also saw cars overturned and police attacked. The next day two bus loads of print workers were prevented from attending a picket outside a distribution centre owned by Thomson Nationwide Transport (TNT), the multinational firm that is currently contracted to distribute the scab newspapers owned by Rupert Murdoch's News International company. As the planned picket was organised over the telephone, and not in writing, the police (as in the miners strike) must have been 'tapping' the SOGAT and NGA telephones. This is always assumed, but is clearly now proved!

Solidarity actions are continuing. For example, in Ireland, where printers who are employed by Murdoch's Irish Press group have refused to print copies of the Irish edition of News International's News of the World.

On Saturday March 1st 1986, printers and supporters held two marches from Tower Hill tube station boosting pickets to five thousand. Lorries carrying scab papers were held up, delayed as police tried to clear the streets. Thirty four of the pickets were arrested and some cops injured.

ELECTRICIANS RALLY SUPPORTS SACKED PRINT WORKERS

On Saturday 22nd February, 150 - 200 Electricians, Electronic Telecommunications and Plumbers Union members rallied in support of the sacked printworkers. The meeting was called by Flashlight, he left faction within the EETPU.

Speeches were made from the floor v electricians angry that everyone sees e EETPU as a scab union, due to the connivings of the bureaucrats, headed by Eric Hammond. Shop stewards from Southampton said that the Wapping dispute had created interest and support from electricians who had shown no interest in union organisation, up till then. Later, at Wapping, a number of electricians supported the picket line.

Meanwhile, as we go to press it has been made public that 180 electricians (earning £15,000 a year and bussed into work past pickets) have sent a letter to Bruce Mathews, managing director of News International, calling for an 'honourable end to the dispute'. This follows Trades Union Congress directing the EETPU to inform its members scabbing at Wapping that they are doing the work of SOGAT 82 and NGA members who are in dispute. Whether they will in fact NOT CROSS PICKET LINES remains to be seen. .

Dear Comrades.

It was a good humour at Wapping last Saturday (Feb. 8th), better than the week before, however, I guess most people had to get home by public transport etc. I'm not in 'the print' but I met a couple of SOGAT members from my part of London (Tooting) and they persuaded me to stay the night on the line. I'm glad I did, with about two hundred others, that great feeling of SOLIDARITY, and a brilliant atmosphere: intelligent conversations, laughing and joking and when the fleets of vans were going in and lining up in the compound (this happens all night), the bottles flew and the abuse shouted at the scabs openly showing themselves was wonderful. Anyway, all night vans pulled up and hot soup, sandwiches, sausages, Scotch and comradeship were freely given by all sorts of people – no chance of going hungry or freezing to death there, brilliant! What I'd really like to say is obvious, DON'T GO HOME NEXT SATURDAY! STAY THE NIGHT – THAT'S WHEN THE ACTION HAPPENS! If comrades would stay the night we could make it happen, more than a 'nine-to-five' picket. We delayed the papers by an hour last Saturday, and there were only five thousand of us - imagine if the five thousand stayed the night – the cops resources would be fully stretched it's worth it just for the atmosphere, an education in itself. See you all on the line, Love,

Nick

ARSONISTS AGAINST MURDOCH

Dear whoever.

Sunday 16th February: liberated the entire batch of Murdoch/scab papers from McColls Newsagents in Leeds. Burnt the lot! Here's a picture: Hopefully, if the plan works out we'll

Direct action – secondary action of course it's a needle in the haystack. We're not asking for a grain of corn, we're not demanding the loaf, we're taking the whole fucking haystack back! Hope the idea catches on!

Love, Arsonists against Murdoch.



FRANCE

CONSCRIPTION? NO THANKS!

Christian Frigoult Christian Frigoult was arrested in May '85 for refusing to be conscripted into the army. He was brought to trial on October 22 1985, and received a prison sentence of nine months. He was to have been set free on December 10 after having served seven months of his nine month sentence.

At eight o'clock on December 10, we waited in front of the Jacques Cartier jail in Rennes for Christian to be released. At nine o'clock, a prisoner who was also being let out that day informed us that Christian had been taken to the Foch armoury at seven o'clock. In effect Christian was being held at the copshop after once again having refused conscription into the army.

At two o'clock he was in court again, charged with 'refusing to obey an order', but because he demanded a lawyer's presence the case was put off until January 14th.

However, the court was in a position of having to decide whether Christian would remain in prison until his trial date. After having judged that he would not be kept in preventive detention, the court washed its hands of the affair by leaving him to the tender mercies of the army. Christian is now being held in strict detention in the Foch armoury in Rennes until his trial date. Translated from Courant Alternatif No. 52

Alain Souche

Alain Souche's trial date for having refused conscription has been set for February 28, 1986. In 1976, Alain decided to leave his town on Lyon and the country of France to avoid conscription and moved to Holland He was active in the Amsterdam libertarian group and the Dutch anti-militarist Onkruit group. He was also involved in support work for anti-conscription activities in France (such as the occupation of the French consulate).

Through Avis de Recherche, a support journal which was going through a period

DEPOTS - WHERE THEY ARE TNT

UNITED KINGDOM

ATHERSTON 102 Long Street, Atherton Warwickshire

ABERDEEN The Quay, Newburgh, Ellon, Aberdeen, Grampian AB4 0BN Tel.: (03586) 561 Telex: 739818-BELFAST (Sales Office) **TNT-IPEC** Cargo Centre 14 Belfast Road, Nutts Corner Crumlin, Co. Antrim BT294TQ. Tel.: (023125) 460-469 Telex: 74234 BELFAST (Depot) 651 Antrim Road Glengormley Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland BT36 8RG. Tel.: (02313) 43421 Telex : 747693 BIRMINGHAM (Sales Office) 10th floor Centre City Tower, 7 Hill Street, Birmingham B54UA. Tel.: (021) 6437484 Telex: 335266 BRADFORD (Sales Office) Bridge Street, Morley Near Leeds LS27 OHE Tel.: (0532) 525257 Telex: 557376 BRADFORD (Depot) Cross Lane, Birkenshaw Bradford, BD112BZ. Tel.: (0274) 688805 Telex: 51643 BRENTWOOD Unit 5. Horndon Industrial Park. West Horndon. Brentwood, Essex CM13 3XP. Tel.: (0277) 811593 Telex: 99211 BRIGHTLINGSEA

4 Kirkhurst Court, Brightlinsea, Colchester, Essex.

BRISTOL French Piece Wood, Bath Road, Old Sodbury. Bristol, BS17 6RS. Tel.: (0454) 323323 Telex: 444571 BYFLEET Unit T 327, Brooklands Ind. Park Oyster Lanc, Byfleet, Surrey KT130YL Tel.: (09323) 55155 Telex: 915801 CANNOCK Littleworth Road, Wimblebury, Cannock Staffs., WS12 5HV Tel.: (05438) 77251 Tclex: 336726 CARLISLE Plot 31. Peterfield Road. Kingstown Industrial Estate, Carlisle, Cumbria CA30EY. Tel.: (0228) 48881 Telex: 64270

DEESIDE Fourth Avenue. Decside Industrial Park, Deeside, Clwyd CH5 2NR. Tel.: (0244) 821055 Telex: 61230 DURHAM Mercantile Road, Rainton Bridge Ind. Estate, Houghton Le Spring Tyne and Wear DH4 5PH. Tel.: (0783) 849595 Telex: 53392 EXETER Lodge Trading Estate, Broadclyst Station, Exeter EX53DY. Tel.: (0392) 66888 Telex: 42642 GLASGOW Righead Industrial Estate, Bellshill, Lanarkshire ML4 3JU. Tel.: (0698) 749565 Telex: 777337 HOUNSLOW Phoenix Way,

Cranford Lane, Heston, Hounslow, Middlesex

ot police and court harassment, he established on going contact with a number of French draft dodgers. In 1981 Alain was notified that he was to be given amnesty.⁽¹⁾ In 1982 he returned to France.

In June 1985, Alain was stopped at a checkpoint on the Paris-Normandy highway and was taken into custody. He was informed that a search warrant had been issued by judge Hamy on the first of April. After being kept for four days in Rouen, he was taken to Lyon and charged with having refused conscription before judge Hamy. He is presently in

army custody in Lyon. At his trial on February 28, Alain will be facing a two month to one year jail

serntence.

Translated from Le Monde Libertaire No. 605 by M.W.

(1) When the Socialist government took power in 1981, most political prisoners received an amnesty (with the exception of most anarchist prisoners).

Note: We are expecting an update on the results of Christian's trial shortly.

BRUNO SANCHEZ

Bruno Sanchez was arrested in Nievre for having refused to be conscripted into the army, and was transferred to the Dupleix barracks on February 19, 1986. The address of his support committee Emancipation, 64105 Bayonne cedex,

ERIC HEBERT

FRANCE.

Eric Hebert is a member of the Anarchist Federation who was arrested on February 5, 1985 for having refused to be conscripted into the army. His trial is expected to take place shortly. Petitions and support letters can be addressed to: Comité de Soutien à Eric Hebert, U.P.F., B.P. 58, Darnetal, FRANCE

SOURCE: Le Monde Libertaire.

HORNSEY Units 1 and 2. Cranford Way Industrial Estate, Tottenham Lane, Hornsey, London N89DG. Tel.: (01) 3407532 Telex: 268669/264199 HOUNSLOW Unit 13. Heathrow International Trading Estate, Green Lane, Hounslow, Middx. TW46HB. Tel.: (01) 5725411 Telex: 897321/21682 LEICESTER 30 Wenlock Way, Thurmaston Leicester LE47TU Tel.: (0533) 740600 Telex: 347678 LENHAM (Inland Clearance Depot) Ham Lanc, Lenham, Kent ME172LH. Tel.: (0622) 858666 Telex: 965300 LLANTRISANT Coedcae Lane, Talbot Green, Pontvclun. Mid Glamorgan CF7 9EW. Tel.: (0443) 228515 Telex: 497995 LUTON 176, Camford Way, Sundon Park. Luton, Beds. LU3 3AN. Tel.: (0582) 505000 Telex: 825303 MAIDSTONE (Sales Office) Ham Lane, Lenham, Kent ME17 2LH. Tel.: (0622) 858666 Telex: 965300 MAIDSTONE (Depot) Hall Road, Aylesford, Nr. Maidstone, Kent ME207TR. Tel.: (0622) 70171 Tclex: 966649 MILTON

Block 35, Milton Trading Estate, Milton, Nr. Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4TH. Tcl.: (0235) 832323 Tclcx: 838721

NORTHAMPTON 29 Market Square, Northampton.

RAMSBOTTOM P.O. Box 4, Railway Street, Ramsbottom, Lancs. BL09AL. Tel.: (070682) 7611 Telex: 63336 ROTHERHAM Units 11/14, Shakespeare Road, Eastwood Trading Estate Rotherham, S. Yorks. S65 1SU Tel.: (0709) 62131 Telex: 547408 SOUTHAMPTON Parham Drive, Boyatt Wood, Eastleigh, Hants. SO54NU. Tel.: (0703) 619221 Telex: 477952 STIRLING Broadleys Road, Springkerse Ind. Estate, Stirling FK7 7SP. Tel.: (0786) 63421 Telex: 777932 THETFORD Howlett Way, Fisons Way Ind. Estate, Thetford, Norfolk IP24 1HZ. Tel.: (0842) 3423 Telex: 81501 WELLINGBOROUGI Sinclair Drive, Park Farm Industrial Estate Wellingborough, Northants NN83TX. Tel.: (0933) 679900 Telex: 317327 WORCESTER Unit 134. Hartlebury Trading Estate, Hartlebury, Kidderminster Worcs. DY04JB. Tel.: (0299) 250104 Telex: 338385

Also (addresses not known) Telex: 333398 Nuneaton, Clayton-Le-Moors, Rossendale, Chorley.



Forty eight arrests took place when approximately one hundred people held an illegal demonstration in support of Chantal Paternostre¹ in Brussels. Jean Louis Carpentier², his sister and a fifteen year old youth were beaten and are still being held. The others were let out without being charged (although photographs and fingerprints were taken, which is technically illegal if no charges are laid). Later, the residence of a person present at the demonstration was searched.

Radio Air-Libre, a station at which Chantal was working, has become the object of a vehement campaign in certain sectors of the press, which have offered outrageously absurd evidence as proof in accusing it of being linked to the CCC. In a communique, Radio Air-Libre states: 'To affirm that we



GREECE

COPS REALLY SCREW YOU UP

An interesting article recently published by the Guardian newspaper reported that 'local residents' had been arrested by police after tackling drugs dealers in Exarchia Square, Athens.

In fact, the eight people arrested were also anarchists fed-up with drug dealers operating in Exarchia Square, a meeting place for Athen's growing Anarchist community.

In response to police inaction over the problem of dealers in the area an antidrug patrol was organised by anarchists and on Monday February 17th they dealt successfully with a heroin dealer and smashed up his car. Local police have

not only done nothing to deter dealers in the area but they are also known to protect dealers and push drugs themselves!

For using direct action against one dealer, the eight anarchists were arrested and put on trial two days later. Fortunately, all eight were found not guilty [possibly due to sympathetic coverage in the media! and immediately released. Police sell heroin, they don't deter dealers!

LATE NEWS: Eighteen anarchists and anti-fascists are due to be tried on March 10th for alleged involvement in antifascist actions in Athens in 1984, just before French fascist Le Pen visited Greece.

BE LGIUM

The Repression Continues

have been involved with the CCC, or

that we have a common strategy is a product of the wildest fantasies; or else it represents a deliberate attempt to criminalise any and all discordant voices and to discredit the work we have been carrying out on a daily basis to offer a free medium of expression'. Radio Air-Libre has been searched once, and has been put off the air three times.

Support letters for Chantal and Radio Air-Libre can be addressed to the Minister of Justice by writing to: M. Gean Gol, Ministre de la Justice, Place Poelaert, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgium. 1. Chantal Paternostre is an anarchist who is still being held in total isolation after having been falsely accused of being a member of the CCC - see Black Flag Nos. 147 & 149.1 2. Jean Louis Carpentier was also falsely accused of being a CCC member (see BLACK FLAG no. 147) and was later released. Information from Le Monde Libertaire

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NEUWIED Tcl.: (02631) 54731-33 NUREMBURG Tcl.: (0911) 30861-65

SAARBRÜCKEN Tcl.: (06805) 21055-56-57

STUTTGART

Tel.: (07150) 31056 VILLINGEN Tel.: (07721) 55075-76

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BE SMASHED TNT HAS TO

Continued from front page

are eagerly awaiting the outcome of TNT's Division 800 to see if the same strategy can be employed in their local fight with unionism.

Elsewhere in the world TNT owns mas massive trucking and freighting concerns. These include Alltrans (USA), Seafast International (USA), Trojan Freight (of Canada), Railfast (Canada), Pilot Freight (USA). . . In Australia TNT owns the following subsidiaries: ASP Container Express, Union Bulkships Ltd, Queenslan Bulk Handling Ltd, Atlas Offshore, Seatainers Terminals Ltd, a new coal-loading facility on the Brisbane river and holiday omplexes on Hayman Island (as well as Vanuatu, formerly the New Hebrides). TNT is also involved in refridgerated trans portation, waste and rubbish disposal, etc. Future TNT plans for Britain include the purchase of dock facilities, the setting up of a private postal system, the purchase of parts of British Rail, the setting up of local privatised rubbish collection facilitie and the purchase of an airline company. In Australia TNT owns a huge chunk of Ansett Airlines, the rest being owned by Rupert Murdoch. It is well known in business circles that Abeles' reward for helping out News International in its distribution of scab papers was a promise from Murdoch that he could purchase his share of Ansett.

TNT CAN BE STOPPED!

TNT's anti-union activities has to be stopped by whatever means possible. While Murdoch is the prime mover in the exercise to sack over 5000 print workers from their jobs (preparing the way for demobolising the print unions),

it is TNT who distribute the scab papers. TNT was crucial to Murdoch' plan from the beginning. Its recruitment of scab

labour was begun well in advance of the advice given by Murdoch's solicitors to News International, that the printers should be provoked into strike action to allow Murdoch to sack them and thus take away their redundancy and pension

rights: TNT will not stop there. It is clearly TNT's objective to cooperate in the distribution of other newspapers that take up Murdoch's lead. Sure, there are other freight companies that will compete for those contracts, but TNT now have a reputation within industry as strikebreakers, which they will capitalise upon if they can.

DIRECT ACTION

Because TNT's activities are multinational then the offensive against TNT must also be international, as well as national. TNT's depots cover Europe as well as Britain and trade unionists and labour activists in Europe have an important role to play.

Where TNT depots cannot be blockad ed because of massive police action, then the trucks and offices and retail outlets will become targets instead. The number of incidents involving scab-busters attacking TNT vehicles, smashing their windscreens and assaulting their drivers are

becoming more frequent. On another front too, print workers are preventing TNT from advertising in trade journals that form an essential part of TNT's media strategy. Print workers at Freight News Express, for example, have

ARGENTINA CAR WORKERS TAKE CONTROL

In Black Flag No. 137 we reported that Ford car workers at the Gral. Pancheco plant (Buenos Aires) had gone on strike in response to the sacking of 33 workers, (with a further 338 redundancies to follow) in early July 1985. Since then we have received more detailed information on the strike and its consequences. We reproduce below the main facts behind the strike.

THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS In early July the management at Ford's Gral. Pancheco plant announce its intention to sack immediately 33 workers despite previous assurances that no workers would be sacked that month. Workers at the plant organise a mass meeting in response to the provocative

action of the management and unanimously decide to go on strike and occupy the factory, much to the dismay of SMATA (the largest union in the plant) and the CGT (a peronist union).

The Ministry of Employment swiftly declares the strike illegal. The Church even steps in to try and avoid any type of confrontation between workers and management. It calls for a 'conciliation of the classes'. The mass media (newspapers, TV and radio) all denounce the strike as an irresponsible action.

On the positive side, workers at factories nearby, neighbourhood and political groups, including anarchists, all come out in support of the strike.

On July 10th three days after the strike, workers occupy the plant and decide to re-start production using libertarian (ie non-hierarchical) methods of work, not capitalist ones. This horrifies the state who accuse the workers involved of further illegal



STITCH NETWORK

Each year between three and four thousand cervical stitch operations are performed in this country to prevent miscarriages in women who have previously lost babies in

mid-pregnancy, normally due to an incompetent cervix yet little has been written about the cervical stitch. Now Ros Kane has taken the initiative away from the medical profession by collecting the detailed accounts of 146 women who between them have had 231 stitches.

INDUSTRIAL

refused to print the magazine while TNT ads are included. The magazine's management in turn refused to accede to a TNT request to seek a court injunction against the print workers on the grounds that advertising space can always be sold to someone else, and why should they risk union trouble anyway? TNT are reportedly extremely embarrassed by this secondary action and are hoping that other print workers on other trade papers where TNT advertise don't take similar action.

The action taken by print workers at Freight News Express, if supported by other print workers could well become the start of a campaign to prevent TNT from taking advertising anywhere. Not just in the trade press, but also in the national press, and even on television and radio. Print workers in Fleet Street and trade unionists working in radio and TV companies could ensure that. There will, of course, come a time when this secondary action would be outlawed by the courts, leaving unionists to decide whether to continue and face fines or sequestration. That point will either be the breaking point of the campaign to stop TNT advertising, or it will be the

beginning of the campaign's success. On another front, TNT can be stopped – again through secondary action – by the effective blocking of essential supplies such as fuel, gas, electricity, water, etc.

All in all, the offensive against the distribution of News International's papers - whether by TNT or whether by any other haulage company - can be at least delayed, messed up or sabotaged if effective action is continued by the print workers primarily involved and labour activists throughout the labour movement. The Strike Support Groups that evolved throughout the 1984/'85 Miners Strike should organise, re-mobilise. Take direct action against their nearest TNT depot, as well as send regular contingents to Fortress Wapping and Kinning Park, Glasgow to add to the growing numbers on the picket lines. News International papers outside newsagents are, unfortunately, to be found in most high streets of most cities and towns.

The dispute is winnable, but without solid support it could become another turning point in the battle to crush any organised working class resistance to the State and employer's exploitation.

action and respond by putting law 20840¹ into operation in the interest of 'national security'. President Raoul Alfonsin, Argentina's head of state, denounces the occupation and emphasises that such actions (ie. Direct Action by workers and libertarian organisations in the workplace) cannot be tolerated any where in the world. George Shultz, North America's Secretary of State, backs up Alfonsin's statements by saying 'You can't help but admire the way Alfonsin has acted. . . Democracy has given Latin-America a special power to combat communism and overcome its economic difficulties.' (July 5th 1985)

After nineteen days on strike the workers at Ford are forcibly evicted by 1200 police and the experiment in selfmanagement is over.

The strike and occupation is far from a total failure. The minimum objective of the strike, to get management to reconsider the sacking of thirty-three workers, is achieved. A mass meeting called by workers after the occupation brings 3,000 workers together (out of a total workforce of 3,500). More importantly, the workers at Ford proved beyond beyond a doubt that a work-place can be run efficiently on libertarian lines without any preparatory of 'transitional' period.

> Source : La Protesta.

1. Law 20840 was also the law used by Argentina's military junta between 1976-1983 to justify its policy of genocide against political opponents resulting in 30,000 people murdered.

Additionally, the pamphlet offers a Stitch network, whereby women wanting contact with others can be given the names of stitch patients living near them. The Cervical Stitch; What it's like by Ros Kane.Stitch Network, 15 Matcham Road, London Ell £2 plus 25p p&p.

MINERS NEWS

MINE CHIEFS DEMAND PAY CUT

Mineworkers at the slate mines in Blaenau Ffestiniog, North Wales, have been on strike since last August, 1985 demanding better bonus schemes payments. The bosses have been insisting on a 40% increase in output, but are refusing to provide bonus payments to supplement the meagre takehome pay, averaging £70 per week. In fact the bonus payments are actually being reduced by £28 per week, as part of a 'cost cutting' exercise. The workers are all members of the Transport and General Workers Union, which eventually made the strike 'official'.

The employers, Owen Glyn Williams and his brother Eifion, have refused to negotiate on the matter even though the strikers have offered to go back to work without any rise in productivity pay. Virtually all those who work at the mine have solidly stayed out (only six have scabbed).

Financial assistance for the strikers has been good with Strike Support groups set up in the coal mining valleys of the South. Food was sent up at Christmas in vans of the Miners Lodge in the Cynon Valley; turkeys were sent from the Ammanford Lodge; more financial support has come from Fleet Street print workers, students from Cardiff as well as members of the Swedish union SAC. At the local supermarkets at Blaenau, collections for the miners are made regularly and the local Miners Support group has consistently provided support from the beginning. So far, because the strike involves only about fifty workers, the State has not got stuck in to criminalise their action; nor have the courts been used to force an end to the dispute. But time may be running out; eighteen strikers have been sacked so far. Financial aid would not go amiss. If you happen to be in the area, don't forget to drop by to lend a hand.

Events moved rapidly in Haiti towards the end of the twenty-eight year reign of the Duvalier dynasty. After decades of slavery policed by State terror when an estimated 50,000 people were murdered.

While the Catholic Church hierarchy, voodoo priests, middle-class and military dissenters complained, it was the poor, the slum dwellers who sparked the rebellions. The absence of an 'armed vanguard in the hills' or 'left-wing' Parties was not missed by the United States and French governments who hoped to douse the flames of revolt by removing the fat little dictator before he was engulfed. As we go to press Liberia was declined as too dangerous and the US won't have him and the French now want him to leave, like a hot potato he is being passed around.

Drought, deforestation and pestilence as well as the country's dependence on bauxite and coffee compounded poverty. Until the current AIDS panic, human blood was exported to the USA for use in transfusions.

'Haiti for the Haitians'

Papa Doc used race, Black nationalism -Africanism (voodoo 'roots' etc.), to keep out foreign investors and 'mulattos' from political power sharing and the black masses on his side through fear of the Tonton Macoutes killers, his personal militia. At one time in the 1960's the US Kennedy administration tried to oust him, thinking he had served his anti-communist bulwark use but was going a bit far with the death squads, frightening the tourists (as Graham Greene's novel made into a Hollywood movie The Comedians portrayed) etc.

When his father died, 'Baby' Doc took State power's helm. He let in foreign investors, married a 'mulatto', expelled his mother and cracked the previously solid monolith of Duvalier authority by setting rival factions competing against each other for his favours and power. His wife Michele, now one of the wealthiest women in the world, became a conspicuous consumer, shopping in France for jewels, clothes and got together the biggest collection of furs in the Caribbean. Meanwhile the formerly quiet and mostly loyal poor starved at subsistence farming or got lowpay working for US 'off-shore' light industries, the Government, US 'aid' agencies or the Army, the biggest area of the economy. Corruption grew as money value fell and wiped out the savings of those with them and pushed prices up.

Gonaives, just 700 miles from Miami resembles the drought stricken Sahel in West Africa. It never seemed to receive any 'aid' due to corruption. A supply by the Red Cross of food was sold for new weapons for use by the renamed Volunteers for National Security, the Tonton Macoutes (translates as Kill and Go!).

Gonaives Rebellion Grows

In 1983 an anti-government demonstration took place in-Gonaives which was ruthlessly suppressed – people 'disappeared'. Gonaives was where one hundred and eighty years ago slaves rose up and declar-

ed their independence from France. In April 1985, due to US pressure for 'human rights' (Reagan's advisors fear of Cuba getting involved as it was only fifty miles away, despite the Cubans lack of interest in Haiti to date!) Baby Doc permitted some political parties and a few reforms. An exile group who had made a landing from Florida, were caught with weapons and killed.

In June 1985, protest marches planned were banned. Six editors of the opposition magazine L'Infernal were arrested for calling a boycott of the coming 'Referendum for Democracy'

In July 1985, busloads of people at gunpoint were forced to vote several times in the 'referendum' which the Government 'supervised' and claimed 99.98% (!) voted to back Duvalier as President for Life.

In August 1985, the National Progressive Party benefits from 'liberalisation'; it becomes the officially recognised ie loyal 'opposition'

In September 1985, a meeting at which three 'opposition' Leaders are to speak is banned anyway.

In October 1985, demonstrations occur in Gonaives that are organised by slumdwellers against price rises, food and petrol shortages.

In November 1985, more demonstrations occur until on the 27th, with more people joining in including subsistence farmers and school students. Four youths are killed as police break up crowds chanting 'down with the Constitution' (Duvalier is President for Life, and can choose his successor) and 'Down the Misery'. Next day schools are boycotted and fearing repression an exodus from the town occurs.

On December 15th 1985, a Gonaives School Principal is arrested and beaten to death in police custody. All newspapers are silent on events, the Catholic Radio Soleil is closed down for reporting the murder. The Government orders schools closed. News spreads by word of mouth now.

Duvalier sends a Minister off to the USA as the Reagan administration threatens to cut off aid unless stability returns. Various super-Millionaires retire early as Duvalier reshuffles his Cabinet in an attempt to appease protestors and the US governors.

January 4th and 7th 1986 sees yet more protests in Gonaives involving more people. 'Revolt' is openly shouted in the streets and troops called on to 'Mutiny'. A baker in his twenties is murdered by the police. January 11th 1986, in Port au Prince the capital, tracts calling for a general strike 'operation uproot' are circulated,

DEATH SQUADS LINKED TO SPANISH POLICE

More evidence has come our way of collaboration between Spain's para-military police, the Guardia Civil, and neo-nazi terrorists.

The new information has come from Jose Juis Cervero, an ex-Guardia Civil member who gave up his job in 1982 after seven years in Gossi. (The 'Action Commando' of the Secret Service information branch of the Guardia Civil). Cervero claims that his work changed dramatically from spying on 'subversives', espionage against political parties and planting microphones in trade union offices to blatant state terrorist operations under the new leadership of General Santamaria, Leutenant Catalan and General Casinello.

The first terrorist act master-minded by the new Guardia Civil leadership was the kidnapping and torture of Martinez Soler, an editor of *Doblon* magazine. A low-ranking Guardia Civil (still working today!) was later implicated in this plot along with a neo-nazi called Gauza y Sierra. Gauza y Sierra went on to murder Arturo Ruiz, a communist, before he was arrested. He eventually escaped from prison with the help of friends in the Guardia Civil.

In 1980 General Santamaria was

appointed Guardia Civil Governor for the Basque region of Spain and Casinello became head of the Guardia Civil's General Staff in Bilbao (the Basque Capital city). Spain's Basque region has its own language, culture and independence movement. It is a highly sensitive area with a history of armed and industrial resistance. Kidnapping and bombings increased dramatically from 1980 onwards on both sides.

Cervero claims that GOSSI blew up several high voltage pillons and later blamed the bombings on ETA (a Basque nationalist armed group). GOSSI also sent letter bombs in marzipan tins to several industrialists known to be paying E.T.A. 'revolutionary taxes'. Santa maria is also accused of setting up the terrorist organisation ATE (Anti-terrorist ETA) with the help of several neo-nazis. 'ATE' is known to have assassinated several ETA members. Two other similar organisations active at the same time, 'Group 1' and 'Group 2', also freely collaborated with the Guardia Civil.

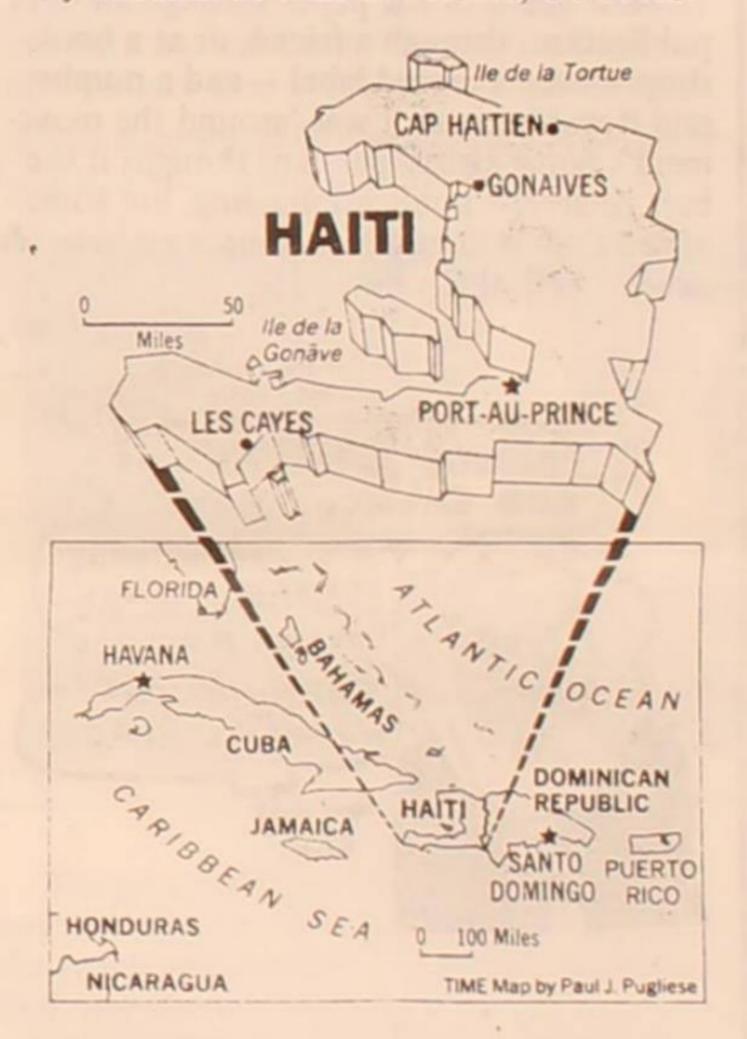
'Group 1' was controlled by Spain's Army General Staff while 'Group 2' received its orders direct from the government. It was in this latter group that several Italian neo-nazis (delle Chiaie,

INTERNATIONAL HAITI - WHAT'S UP DOC?

with small response. Duvalier admits to holding sixty political prisoners. The pseudo liberalisation is not working, demonstrations occur in more and more towns, the State's informers and police cannot find leaders.

January 20th 1986, slum dwellers try to march on the US Marine built Presidential Palace and are beaten back by Army using gas and volley rifle fire. Panicing, the Government arrests a militia chieftan and accuses him of murdering the youths in Gonaives in December. Graffitti appears calling for 'Food, Justice and Freedom'

Twelve hundred tourists and holidaymakers arrive at a newly built resort at Labadie near Cap Haitien called by locals Apartheidville. In Cap Haitien itself there are riots over unemployment and police repression. The Tonton Macoutes are to be officially 'abolished' (to appease Washington image makers and locals), but the Government strengthens the Army's antisubversion Leopard force. The two hundred jet set Millionaires of Port au Prince begin looking for better climates and the flow of capital from the country begins in earnest. Already the Duvaliers have got overseas at least \$400 Million. A promise of 'elections' to be held in 1987 is made by Duvalier, this will allow an elected Prime Minister who must swear allegiance to Duvalier as President for life. Protests by Haitians in exile in Florida, US occur.



Our Doc who art in the National Palace for life, hallowed be Thy name by present and future generations. From Duvalierised Lord's Parayer.

Calzona, Vanolli, Citcutani and Concutelli) were involved along with exmembers of the OAS (Cherid, Khilar) and Argentinian nazi Boccardo. All were free from the threat of extradition as long as they agreed to carry out 'dirty' work' on behalf of the intelligence services.

Casinello is also suspected of taking part in the murder of four lawyers at Atocha (Madrid) in 1977. Two nazis, Garcia Julia and Mariano Sanchez Covisa (head of the fascist 'Guerrillas of Christ the King' death squad), were charged afterwards but they claim that a Guardia Civil, Arturo Prieto, carried out the massacre and supplied the guns.

Ironically, state terrorism has increased since the socialist government took power. In October 1983 a new State-funded terrorist group 'GAL' was founded under Casinello's control (see BLACK FLAG 140 for details). 'GAL' has so far assassinated over 20 ETA members and there is little sign of it stopping its murderous activities.

That governments are responsible for setting up terrorist groups is not news to anarchists. It is, however, news to the majority of people and as time goes on, governments will find it more and more difficult to hide the truth.

Going Going Gone

Through Radio Soleil etc. the Catholic Church tries to channel the growing revolt into a direction of use to itself, but refrains from ousting their own corrupt Leader, who is the cousin of Baby Doc, and pleads non-violence. Yet with its origins in a slave army the roots are returned too and blood shed starts on the State side for a change.

The US Government claims that Baby Doc has fled the country, causing premature celebrations everywhere. Duvalier goes on TV and Radio to say he has not left and declares a state of siege. Celebrations turn into rioting, burning and looting as militia and army shoot it out with the snipers and angry crowds. Estimates of four hundred people murdered by the State are common, many 'disappeared'

Embarrassed, the US cuts off aid as, in Haiti, Government offices are razed to the ground as locals take over their towns and barricade highways between regions.

At 4am on February 7th a US Special C-141 Transport plane (unmarked and in darkness) took Duvalier, his wife and an entourage of twenty two thugs and ilk, out of Haiti finally landing in Glenobles France. He was expected to stay for a week and faces demonstrations outside his Alpine hotel everyday.

Celebrations, a re-run of the premature downfall of Duvalier a week previous, occured all over Haiti. In Boston, exiles stormed the Haitian consulate burning flags and portraits of Baby Doc. In Miami a gigantic street party took place. The Jamaican Minister of Social Security, Dr. Neville Gallimore, a personal friend of Baby Doc is thought to be the one who persuaded him to flee for his own life.

Crowds soon turned on those Tontons who had not managed to escape to the Dominican Republic or to boats offshore. Their homes were also targetted by locals. In a mock re-run of Papa Doc's days the heads of Tontons were put on display, as had the heads of rebels decades before.

The Army, feared by the Duvaliers as a source of mutiny, secured a role of new police-force channeling the violence so as to direct it for their own ends. A new Government was formed, mostly of old Duvalierists, headed by Lt. Gen. Henri Namphy, chief of the armed forces general staff. They try to impose a curfew. This was ignored as homes of Duvalierists were looted and dismantled. The tomb of Papa Doc was beseiged, and the remains of lots of graves were dug up and burned. Duvalier, in a recorded message squeez-

ed in between Mickey Mouse cartoons, appeared on TV saying he was handing over power to the Army.

The sudden crocodile tears of the US and French Governments over Haitian human rights - why did they not interven before? – is as strange as the silence of the 'communists' of Cuba. Could it be that all States, no matter who runs them, fear any revolution which once begun may not always be controlled. Duvalier had to be taken out because he was visibly losing his grip, powerless, without friends (save those he can pay) or country now. Botha, Zia, Pinochet and others remain in power because their control still appears to be there despite protests, riots and strikes. It is clearly revolutionary violence which pushes over regimes and as Anarchists our history shows we reserve our violence for the property of the State or it's heads. How many more States will be shaking this time next year if the poor organise their own emancipation without waiting for religious or political parasites to give their blessing?

In Haiti, one hundred years after they threw off their Gods and Masters and became the first successful black slave revolt, the spirit of liberation lives on. After the revolution? It has barely started! It is not over yet. A second revolt against the military itself, or a mutiny by a section of it may occur.

The 19,000 six-month contract labourers who were to slave in the Dominican Republic cutting cane, are now not wanted. How are they and others to live?

In 1915 US Marines occupied Haiti after President Vilbrun Guillaume Sam was torn apart by a crowd for killing one hundred and sixty seven political prisoners. The occupation lasted twenty years. Haiti may not be as easy to take over as Grenada though and its close proxrelation to the Dominican Republic and Jamaica may start a chain reaction in the island chain itself.

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A TALE OF TWO CITIES

'The people of Madrid are beginning to enjoy their new-found democracy after forty years of fascist dictatorship which suppressed every form of public accountability, replacing the democratically elected Council or 'Ayuntamiento' by a quango of the military, police, big business and Falangist hirelings and spies.

Today, the famous 'Parque Del Retiro' bequeathed to the people of Madrid by a free, having had its best part denied to the people and used solely for the benefit of the Falange fascists and their American

Places like the meeting house of Spain's renowned authors and great painters were closed to public view and reopened after Franco's death by the newly-elected Council.

It took forty years to regain Madrid's extinguished democracy following the rape, torture and legal murder of thousands of its inhabitants. The elected Council with a Labour and Communist majority is now flourishing .Famous buildings are being restored, the metro is being modernised, buses run on time and are cheap and very efficient, the people can see the benefits Bob Doyle of elected democracy.'

London Central Branch **Ex-International Brigade** Sogat Journal (Feb '86)

How does this measure in reality? Of all the thousands and millions of pesetas stolen from the trade union movement in Franco's victory, how much has been returned? The majority trade union before Franco has not received one peseta, not one hall returned, nothing. Socialists in Madrid are just as likely to return what was taken as Kinnock is likely to return what Thatcher has had sequestrated.

Though the government is interested in promoting its own version of unionism, based on Franco's, the unions existing before Franco are demonstrating and protesting in vain for printing presses, journals halls and locals seized by the State and all given out to the Falangist 'unions'. How nicely the writer talks about the 'Parque del Retiro' being opened to the people and the meeting houses of authors and painters of renown being re-opened! What about the worker's atheneums, the children's colonies, the voluntary schools seized by Franco and the proceeds still held on to by the Socialist Party because it hates the old trade union so much that it built up its own scab union during the Primo de Rivera dictatorship (even that went under Franco)

What about the hundreds of pensioners without pension, deprived of everything they were entitled to as war veterans because they fought against Franco, while Franco's veterans get pensions for their 'service'? The civil war is still on: oh, no, says the Socialist Government - we just can't afford to pay the anti-fascists, we can just about afford to pay war pension to the Fascists!

NO ANARCHY AT FREEDOM To Anarchy Collective,

It has been unanimously agreed at the monthly meeting of the Freedom Bookshop Committee on 7 February 1986 that you may no longer use this address and that you to be 'anti-abortion' another 'to stop bitchmust therefore make other arrangements by the end of March 1986.

From Freedom Bookshop Committee This ends 25 years association between Anarchy and Freedom – which is at least as certain as '1986 - Centenary Year' of Freedom - during which sales of Anarchy helped rescue Freedom financially. Now Anarchy has gone more Anarchistic than it was, and it receives the 'bum's rush' along with the nesting anti-Anarchists.

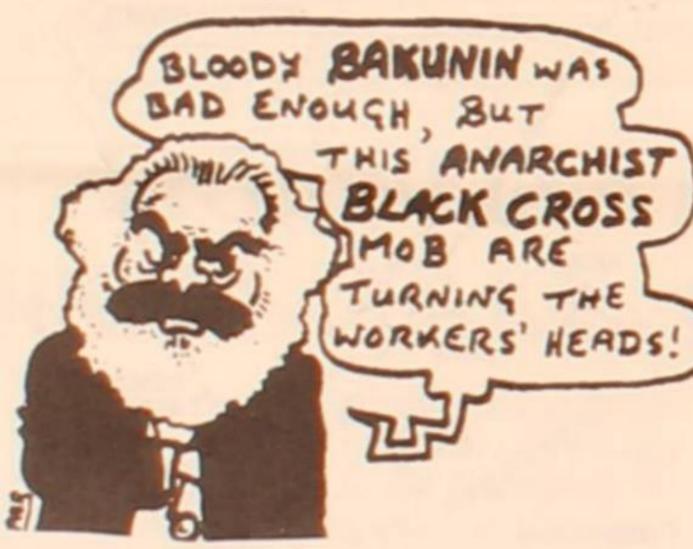
Anarchy is celebrating its quarter-centur it is 25 years since it was founded in March 1961. They are NOT at 84b etc. Contact them now:

c/o Refract Publications, BCM Refract, London WC1 3XX

We sent out a questionnaire to our subscibers some issues ago. We appreciate it isn't exactly representative of our readership, but of those who buy it rather than subscribe, and then only those who fill in a questionnaire. But the facts revealed by some four hundred replies are revealing and in some cases surprising.

wealthy Spanish philanthropist is open and We found for instance, that most readers have been reading Black Flag from two to four years, though some faithfuls have been reading it ten years and over – and some since the first issue. For some it was their introduction to Anarchism - some went back to previous eras. What surprised us was to learn that the majority are fifteen to twenty three years old, but that ages of readers span from ten to eighty eight. It may be supposed that the ten year old reader is in an anarchist family but the fifteen twenty threes can't be explained that way. Most of our readers seem to have been Anarchists for five years - but it ranges from six months to way over thirty years

(forty, fifty and sixty in individual cases! The first fifty years are the hardest). Most heard of the paper through another publication, through a friend, or at a bookshop – even a record label – and a number said it was because it was 'around the movement'. Some eighty per cent thought it the best Anarchist publication going, but some added that 'it does differ sometimes between issues' (well, that's natural).



Criticisms were that it was a bit wary of animal liberation movements, there were complaints that it lacked a sports page, and even a crossword (pleasing that anyone should have thought we were capable of doing it even if we wanted!), that it lacked popular appeal, or that it was too inclined to be sensational, some wanted more theory. more wimmin's movement, more on the environment. One complained that too many articles were by 'white males' - little we can do about that (the white males in the collective seem to be quite prepared to go and get suntanned but not to change sex); though the non-whites and non-males in the collective are not at all token types. Some think we should have more on theory and a lot think we should have a lot more home news (we usually have to go out and make it rather than being able to describe it objectively); and researched articles are well in demand.

A plaintive call 'be daily and cheaper!' and some individual comments include one ing' and to be balanced, also to show more 'compassion for enemies'. OTHER INFLUENCES

Most popular papers from our readers are Crowbar – way ahead with seventy five per cent - Direct Action, Anarchy (when it's around), with Class War, Freedom and the Green Anarchist also receiving mentions, though most criticism comes from those



COMMENT

WHO READS BLACK FLAG

and what they think of it

fed up with Freedom. Popular local papers are Bristol's Stuff It, Edinburgh's Counter-Information, Glasgow's Clydesider, and Southampton's Boot Em. Someone asked whatever happened to Sanday's Free Winged Eagle - it flew off, but is hatching anarchistic eggs still.

Many were sympathetic to the Direct Action Movement, and around thirty per cent are members. Only one was hostile, and and several did not know of it. One complained that what he had against DAM is it didn't do enough direct action and the only people he knew were solely into building the organisation by recruiting members. This, we felt, was a fair criticism but easily countered: the type of direct action DAM is chiefly into is syndicalist industrial action for which you have to 'educate, organise and agitate'; it doesn't preclude that members are also into direct action in a great many other fields which by the nature of things is individual.

Most of our readers seem to be anarchists - or anyway, nobody replied saying they weren't - and most described themselves as collectivists (either syndicalists or communists). Many offered to contribute articles donations, clippings and to translate from various languages - unfortunately we purposely made the Questionnaire anonymous and detached it from any other enclosures when we received it. Thus we're unable to follow up on these offers and hope they'll write to us. One reader who clearly wasn't an Anarchist offered to send us an analysis of the last six issues, showing where we went wrong and how we should be offering a 'clear-cut Marxist-Leninist critique of capitalism' as the best way to anarchism. Hopefully he won't write to us.

We had a criticism from a Western Buddhist calling for tolerance and claiming that Buddhism was 'more anarchist than anarchism itself' . . . Another says 'like Moliere's Middle Class Gentleman who learned late that he spoke prose, I've been anarchistic all my life'. This is very true of a great number of people.

A criticism echoes that we publish news of events 'which have gone past before I see the paper'. Sad but true; we've been trying to stop it for a long time without success. Our comrades abroad are particularly bad on this (we often receive invites to events in Spain starting tomorrow afternoon).

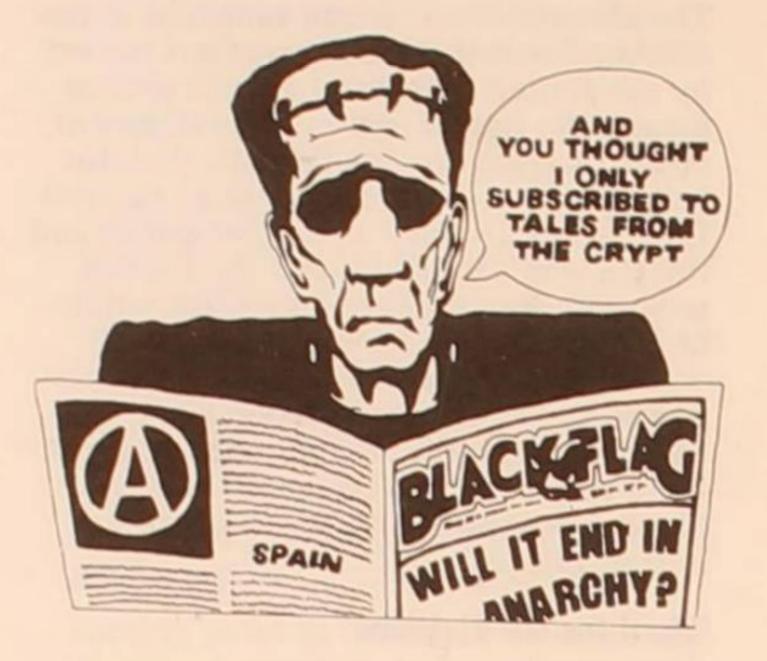
Black Flag is the best available paper with a good deal of hard news and comment. Your coverage of the miners strike was unsurpassed and gained yourself and anarchism new respect and probably supporters, if my circle is to be taken as representative' writes one.

Another demands 'More infc on the enemy... ie. practical options for overthrowing the State - exposes, etc.' While another finds 'Black Flag indispensable for news, I'd like to see reviews of other Anarchist publications – and I wish you'd bury the hatchet with Freedom. (Readers outside London do not seem to know Freedom is in internecine conflict with itself. What happens when an affinity group ceases to affine is that it externalises its attacks).

'The main criticism I've got is your attitude towards violence. . . referring to your coverage of the riots, I thought you should have been more critical of this kind of action. Perhaps a discussion of violent/ non-violent types of action?' We have had this many times . . . Anarchists get haunted with it. Perhaps we should reprint such arguments for constant reference. We are also taken to task for the some-

what 'haughty tone' we adopt 'in a sort of self-righteousness'. (True, but hard some-

times to refrain from letting contempt for some groups creep into one's writing we're not writing an objective academic journal).



Basking in self-righteousness, we read from another friend that ours 'must be a difficult task and to my mind you make a good job of it'. It is in fact incredible how many hours of unpaid work are put into Black Flag. It is suggested 'Black Flag wimmin should write what they want' they do, it's not necessarily specifically women's issues though they write about.

We are reminded that 'not all vegans are middle class and into pacifist and green politics, some like myself are just ordinary working class folk trying to extend rights to animals as well as humans'. But seems like we never said it, it's our use of 'specie-

ist' words like 'treating people like animals. 'How come I never see Black Flag being sold on demos?' - well a lot of our readers think that selling papers on demos when other people are getting into the action is a bit swpish, but don't let's stop anyone..

A lot of people praise the Faction strip cartoons. There seems some division about design (some prefer the old logo) but all agree that the typesetting's improved. A good number suggest 'a calender of forthcoming events' but we need co-operation from outside.

'BF has always been the best Anarchist paper around. Recently it's improved a lot – regularity and what's in it! It's the only paper that's always been anarchist – and has done incredible work for class war prisoners - for years and years thanks!" writes one comrade who says of another paper (allegedly anarchist) that they 'would rather read The Sun than this rubbish' – just when we going to bury the hatchet!'

All in all taking the replies all round it has been a salutory experience reading them . we hope to incorporate a lot of suggestions and it's been very encouraging to our team.

LATE NEWS: HUNGER STRIKE

Salvatore Circione⁽¹⁾, an anarchist who is a refugee in France was arrested for possession of false identity cards. He has been on a hunger strike since January 8, 1986 (from the most recent information we have on March 1st he was still on hunger strike). When he was in prison in Italy, Salvatore suffered a number of beatings which left him with a permanently dmaged bladder, making his current physical situation even more perilous. He continues to face possible extradition back to Italy.

After serving four month terms, Gabriella Bergamaschini, Alessandra D'Agostini and Michele Visciglio have now been released. Luigi Bergamin, Orestino Domichelli and Sergio Beneduci are still in prison facing extradition. (1) See the article Against Extraditions and Expulsions in Black Flag No. 147 for details about Salvatore and the other comrades mentioned.

ANARCHIST THEATRE

ON THE LIVING THEATRE



Julian Beck, the anarchist co-founder of the Living Theatre died recently in New York city. Michel Mattieu is a founding member of the Theatre de L'Acte, which put on the play Tout Homme (Everyman) in conjunction with the Living Theatre in 1969. The interview with Michel is taken from the French anarchist journal Agora Libertaire.

Agora: To what extent has the Living Theatre modified theatrical method? MM: Between 1967 and 1974, for many independent groups, the Living Theatre was a true inspiration because the American group found itself at the precise crossroads of two historical forces: on the one hand, an internal revolution in theatre circles which consisted of a reassessment essentially based on the work of Brecht and Artaud; on the other, a worldwide political, moral and cultural protest movement which appeared to signal the end of the 'old world'. .

The group was exemplary, because during a certain period it was truly able to link demands and unfocussed revolutionary desires which were present in millions of people with the creation of a theatrical language that removed all the added accoutrements, and attempted to renew contact with its essence. From our perception of the Living Theatre, this represented a desire to create a human community which was revolutionary in its internal functioning, and libertarian in its insistence on focussing society as a whole's attention on all the sources of domination, violence and exploitation.

In 1969, the example set by the Living Theatre gave us the courage to sever our personal ties with society in order to define ourselves collectively. We then set up our own community at the 'Chateau de Persin-Bas', and apart from the performances from which we earned our living, we were involved in many types of 'street or intervention theatre' which were linked to the social

movement. This was our first 'debt' to the Living Theatre.

In the realm of theatrical practice itself, the Living Theatre, or more precisely Jo, who was later the founder of the Open Theatre, taught us a series of exercises that are designed to free the actor's spontaneity and develop his/her corporal imagination, and to favour collective creation.

The Living Theatre also represented the 'blue jean method', in other words establishing a more direct contact with the public by avoiding everything that can be considered theatrical 'accessories': costumes, lighting and scenery. The Living Theatre in this sense was on the same path as Grotowski, another great innovator.

Agora: Is the Living Theatre style still possible in 1986?

MM: Certainly not the Living Theatre style precisely, because there has been a 'Living Theatre style', one which was a la mode, a code which became just as restrictive as those which preceded it. On the pretext of attempting to involve the public, or in the search for a cry of revolt, all kinds of performances which were total failures began to appear. What had been a profound exploration for the Living Theatre, at the same time personal, very concrete, involving and dangerous, has since often been taken as a collection of recipes. It ended up as a 'genre', and when something becomes a genre it can already be said that what was alive has departed.

The Living Theatre itself, in this sense, after their period in Brazil (the 1974 Seven Meditations), let itself be trapped in an image, or rather in a Fourierist discourse which in effect had little to do with theatrical practice. The miraculous artistic/political convergence which had been the groups revolutionary strong point was no longer present. The discourse which remained was very far removed from concrete social situations and the public's everyday experiences. At least this seemed to be the public's reaction in France.

After a series of ups and downs, the Theatre Libertaire de Paris has found a new home in the Dejazet theatre, a nineteenth century theatre which is one of the most attractive in Paris. Comfortable seats, a spacious stage with a red and black background and two balconies provide a warm atmosphere. The sound and visual quality is irreproachable, allowing the audience to appreciate the performance to the fullest extent.

In the last two months, the exterior has been redone in the original style and the interior has been entirely renovated.

For libertarians, culture, art and education have always played an important role. But if they have received widespread attention, a distinction has always been drawn between the demand for free expression and Culture (with a capital c). In effect, present day so-called art is usually synonymous with bourgeois art, whether within an educational framework, serving as a social reference point, or when it is applied to the notion of the 'masterpiece' (an arbitrary and dogmatic concept). 'Culture owes its meaning and importance to the fact that it dissolves political and social boundaries' (Rudolf Rocker).

The demand for free artistic and cultural creation is equivalent to an ongoing attempt to free ourselves from the misery of daily life. Culture thus becomes a conscious act, which is continually manifested in our everyday activities. Most cultures have now dis-

But in the case of the Living Theatre, it isn't as much questions of form that is important. What remains just as relevant today in my opinion is how demanding they were, because they were saying that theatre is an act which involves a group of actors directly with the public, and involves the individual actor in her/his entirety: physically, emotionally, mentally, philosophically and through the actors political decisions. The actions and ideas of the Living Theatre are well worth evoking considering today's theatre climate, which usually

THEATRE

LIBERTAIRE —

appeared, 'replaced' by the pounding of the media; they have become more and more something which is imposed.

The TLP-Dejazet represents a libertarian search for a true culture, and will present performers who are at ease in communicating emotion. We also wish to support music (which does not emphasise form to the detriment of content). In a music hall tradition, 'American' and 'English' style opening acts will also be presented, allowing the audience to discover little or unknown performers.

Independent of the monthly schedule, the TLP on Mondays will provide a trampoline for singers, musicians and groups.

To begin the season on the right note, the inaugural evening will feature Leo Ferre (1)

The Theatre Libertaire de Paris. Translated from Le Monde Libertaire No. 603 by M.W.

TLP- Dejazet, 41, boulevard du Temple, 75003 PARIS FRANCE Tel. 48 87 97 34 Reservations are available at: Libraire Publico, 145 rue Amelot, 75001 Paris FRANCE

(1). Leo Ferre is an anarchist singer/songwriter who is very popular in France and French speaking countries.

A friend just back from France informs us that the TLP is off to a very good start and is attracting two hundred or more people for every performance.



The group then put on Brecht's Antigony. Despite the death of Beck, perhaps the group will reach their former level and find new sources of inspiration.

tends to be self-confining. Performances are thought of as finished products designed to dazzle in a saturated market. In a period in which an onslaught of racist and chauvinist tendencies is competing to fill



a political void, the Living Theatre represents what is fundamentally healthy...a gut reaction to the rampant anesthesia that is the true character of the infamous 'consensus'.

Agora: Can the theatre be an important means of revolutionary communication? MM: That's a really theoretical question! No revolutionary practice without revolution. In classical political terms in this sense, today it seems very hard to find a revolutionary project. Perhaps it is more appropriate to speak of what is below the surface; it may be that the revolutionary movement is pursuing a course which is outside the critique of the classical theoreticians. On the other hand, perhaps we will escape the capitalism/terrorism predicament through a new approach, which will give a true coherence to revolutionary initiative.

Personally, I'm very pessimistic, but I know that like myself thousands of other people refuse; behind this there must be an energy which can open possibilities if theatre is linked to a palpable revolutionary movement. I believe that it can represent an important means of revolutionary communication. Lacking this it can at least serve as a cleansing act, in other words that it can help to free us from what is imposed by the dominant ideology. But to do this, it will first have to set its own use in order.

Important? Yes, because theatre is an unmediated relation, one that is direct, unique and in a sense archaic. Paradoxically, this is what is most promising in a situation in which mediation is becoming more and more the norm. Theatre remains a medium for direct contact. This is its importance, and the goal theatre should always set for itself. Interview by Claude Ariso. Translated by M.W. The address of the Theatre de L'Acte is: 32, rue des Blanchers, 3100 Toulouse, FRANCE.

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