

the same table!

policy aims to present the province as a normal political entity rather than the crisis-ridden colony it actually is. Normalisation can take many forms: the promotion of tourism, the pushing of non-controversial aspects of Irish culture, attempting to restore the 'primacy of the police' in law enforcement (as opposed to the British Army), and efforts to present the republican struggles as a mere 'law and order problem in an otherwise normal part of the UK.

It is within this framework that Britain has been trying for years to replace direct rule from London with an internal administration for the north. However, all such attempts have failed because of either unionist hostility to power sharing, nationalist reluctance to play second fiddle in devolved government or republican or loyalist resistance.

There have been as many 'talks about talks' and doomed initiatives as there have been Northern Ireland Secretaries. All have come and gone without success because they don't address the central issue which fuels the conflict - Britain's continued presence in Ireland.

Because Brooke's talks didn't contain the option of a British withdrawal they will do nothing to de-escalate the war. A new devolved Six County assembly may even be set up (provided the unionist veto on significant change is built in), but this in itself will only guarantee the continuation of 'the troubles'. It's not as if Peter Brooke himself is unaware of this. In a statement issued to mark his first hundred days in the job he admitted that the IRA could not be militarily

attempt to cobble together a solution ity of a British government eventu- scrap the treaty altogether, while the What Brooke and the ruling class of withdrawal. to its war in Ireland. Peter Brooke, ally having to negotiate with the SDLP's credibility is so tied to Hillsborthe Northern Ireland Secretary, has republican movement. Despite this, ough and any deal replacing it that been praised for his diplomatic skills, Brooke is again going through the they can't afford to ignore the talks despite the fact that all he's acheived same old talks routine because this process. so far is to get some of the parties time the Irish government are in- Brooke is engaged in a delicate, but involved in the conflict to sit down at volved, and Britian wants to negoti- ultimately futile, balancing act. He by well-educated liberals who wanted ate a new agreement with them to re- believes that if he can shunt the un-The British government is hoping place Hillsborough — the 1985 An- ionists into a Six County assembly and who asked the state for relatively tarianism. It is this, and not the IRA that out of such talks will come a de- glo-Irish treaty which gave Dublin a which gives the SDLP and maybe small changes. When this moderate campaign, which divides the workvolved Six County administration nominal say in matters affecting north- Dublin some clout in northern af- movement was met with RUC vio- ing class in Ireland. We want workwhere a form of 'power sharing' be- ern nationalists in return for improved fairs, he may able to persuade the lence, loyalist mobs and, in the end, ing class unity for a class war against tween the unionist parties and the cross-border security co-operation and southern government to renounce its by British Army bullets, it was the the real enemy — the bosses. moderate nationalist SDLP can take a deal on extradition. Indeed, Hillsbor- territorial claim over the north, while rank and file of the Civil Rights camplace. These talks are part and parcel ough is the main reason that the pres- maintaining pressure on the IRA paign who realised that the state wasn't of an ongoing British policy of nor- ent talks are taking place at all. The through even tighter London/Dub- capable of being reformed and that it

Much has been made of Britain's latest defeated and accepted the inevitabil- pate in them because they wish to malisation in 'Northern' Ireland. This unionists have only agreed to partici- lin security co-operation. If such an had to go. It was these people, and

DAM POLICY ON IRELAND

As a working class organisation DAM supports working class unity. We believe that working class unity cannot be achieved without challenging the the causes of division within the working class.

1. PARTITION

Partition splits the working class three ways in terms of outlook and immediate interests - in the Six Counties unionist against anti-unionist; then the division between the Six County working class and the 26 County working class. Although we support and encourage all manifestations of working class unity now, we also believe that an end to partition will be a great help to that unity.

Partition was imposed in order to preserve the existing capitalist order in Ireland and to guarantee the respective class interests of both the Unionist bourgeoisie in the Six Counties and that of the Free State. The 1919 General Strike in Belfast and the "Soviet" movement in Southern Ireland were perceived as a "Red Menace", leading to repression of working class radicalism, with the southern bourgeoisie abandoning their nationalist ambitions in return for political stability. Partition was based on British military might and the British state remains the ultimate guarantor of the existing social order in Ireland.

No revolutionary movement can ignore this fact and, therefore, must be anti-imperialist and oppose partition. The DAM's commitment to British state withdrawal from Ireland is a matter of working class internationalism and solidarity with our comrades in Ireland. It is not a matter of "single issues", or of regarding nationalism as progressive, and cannot be ignored or marginalised as such.

2. <u>REPRESSION</u>

The use of CS gas, rubber and plastic bullets, the shooting of unarmed civilians, internment without trial, the use of beatings and torture, the criminalisation of anti-unionists in Ireland and the Irish community in Britain, the employment of informers and the use of show trials in nojury courts, are all examples of violence and repression by the British state against Irish working class people.

3. <u>RESISTANCE</u>

We consider the Six County state to be a barrier to working class unity, not the IRA's armed struggle, which is directed against that state, and is the result of its discriminatory nature and of British military occupation. The example of past Irish history shows this to be true, and therefore, the armed struggle will probably continue until the British state withdraws



"An excellent publication by the DAMit gives a lively introduction to the ways and means of the Labour Party, the unions and the possibilities of class action in the Nineties."

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AN ANARCHO-SYNDICALIST STRATEGY

agreement could be found, the Brit- now a younger generation, who took from Sinn Fein and the IRA.

Brooke's maneouverings are in line Hume and Haughey can dream up. with the normalisation strategy, the ultimate goal of which is to restore The Brooke talks have failed. The London, Dublin and Belfast are not Anarchists want the British out of

ish would use it inside the Six Coun- up arms, made 'Northern' Ireland ties to boost the flagging fortunes of ungovernable and who have now inboth its lackeys in the SDLP and the vested so much in the struggle that process of 'constitutional' change itself. they are never going back to second The aim being to draw support away class citizen status - no matter what phoney agreements Brooke, Paisley,

the pro-British 'peace' that existed war in Ireland is beyond mormalisaprior to 1968. His mistake (and that tion and the British state must be of all recent British governments) is forced into implementing the one to imagine that this is even possible. tactic it has yet to try in the north -

taking into account is the fact that Ireland, not because we're keen to people have learned hard lessons over see the creation of a 32 County state, the last 20-plus years. The Civil Rights but as an expression of solidarity movement of the late 60's was begun with the struggle there. The British presence props up a vicious Loyalist only to demcratise the Six Counties ideology based on bigotry and sec-

> Get Britain out of Ireland and Loyalism is finished — one less barrier to working class solidarity and victory.

militarily and politically.

While we recognise the armed struggle as resistance to state repression, we do not believe that it can bring about a free socialist Ireland, as it is a purely military tactic with no perspective for building working class unity in the Six Counties.

Although the military presence in the Six Counties is the most visible form of state oppression, it is not the only type of oppression. The fight against military occupation should not stop the struggle against other forms of class oppression - ie the bosses, the churches, sexism, etc. throughout the whole of Ireland. It is a campaign around these issues that will unite the working class to break down the sectarian divide.

4. NATIONALISM

A purely nationalist movement against partition cannot hope to command a wide enough base of support for its objectives, appealing as it does only to the immediate needs of the northern anti-unionists. The southern working class has no interest in the maintenance of partition and nor, in the long term, has the unionist working class. For an all-Ireland solution both their involvement is vital. Nationalism will not command support among all Irish workers. For a working class movement to do so it must put revolutionary aspirations on the agenda.

5. BRITISH WITHDRAWAL

As Anarcho-Syndicalists in Britain, our main role in supporting working class unity in Ireland is in putting pressure on the British state to withdraw. Part of this role is in education on the nature of British repression and challenging prejudice against the Irish among workers in Britain, which like all bigotry and racism, only serves the interests of the ruling classes everywhere. While British troops are in Ireland, past experience shows that the pressure most likely to force their withdrawal is largescale involvement of the working class in any withdrawal movement.

We support the broad withdrawal movement, and the demands of complete British military and political withdrawal; disbandment and disarmament of the RUC and UDR; amnesty for all political prisoners; and self-determination for the Irish people as a whole. Although these fall short of our goals, we believe that their fulfillment will create more favourable conditions for a strong, united working class movement to develop.

In supporting these demands, and politically supporting our comrades in Ireland, we stress our anti-militarism as Anarcho-Syndicalists. We must expose the anti-working class role and character of the British Army. The DAM should also promote, and participate in, anti-militarist activities.















BACKCHAT

EDITORIAL COMMENT

In this issue of Direct Action we devote our centre page feature to fascism and the fight against it.

Ever since the Italian fascists first organised in the 1920's against the workers' councils and the anarcho-syndicalist movement, the International Workers' Association and its sections have been fighting fascism. During the 1930's and the Second World War, the Nazis and their fascist friends in Spain, Italy and Japan crushed anarcho-syndicalist and other workers' movements. The IWA was active in the underground resistance movements throughout occupied Europe.

Wherever fascists seek to organise today, members of the IWA oppose them. In Britain, DAM members have long been active in Anti-Fascist Action. In debate further as part of the process of developing the fight against racism. France, the CNT are organising Sahelian workers and they fight fascism at work and on the streets alongside SCALP, the French equivalent of Anti-Fascist Action. In Spain CNT members are at the forefront of organising against the various varieties of fascism. In the USA, Workers' Solidarity Alliance (WSA) members take direct action against the Ku Klux Klan, the vicious racist organisation.

Over the past two years there has been an upsurge in fascist activity. The British National Party (BNP) have located their headquarters and bookshop at Welling in South East London. From here they are capitalising on the recent racist murder of Rolan Adams and are organising on the Thamesmead estate nearby. Racial attacks are on the increase, particularly in Tower Hamlets where the BNP secured 12% of the vote in a council by-election. The Gulf War has been a focus for attacks on all black people. Both the National Front (NF) and the BNP are now organising for the next general election. As the Tories attempt to tone down their image in the post-Thatcher era, it is no surprise that the extreme right seeks to organise through groups like the NF and the BNP. This increase in activity is not isolated to Britain. Throughout Europe, particularly in the East, fascists are organising. Prior to unification in East Germany, for example, fascists were even given a platform to speak at a big pro-unification rally.

Fascism is a ruling class attack on the working class. Fascists encourage working class people to blame other working class people for the effects of capitalism. Fascists aim to mobilise some sections of the working class against working class organisation and resistance elsewhere. Low wages, poor housing, poverty, recession and all the rest are caused by the ruling class not by other working class people. It is our lack of organisation and resistance that lets them get away with it

To those who argue that the fascists are small in number and, therefore, irrelevant, we point to the racist violence being suffered at this moment by black working class people; we point to the electoral success of Le Pen and the National Front in France; and we point to the rapid growth of the fascist movement in the 1970s. Now is the time to demonstrate our strength. Now is the time to chase them off our streets.

We firmly believe that fascists must be confronted wherever and whenever they organise. However we do not separate the fight against fascism from the fight for our class. Fascism is not an aberration within capitalism. Capitalism is by its very nature violent. Fascism is simply its most violent face. Therefore, although we fight alongside other groups and individuals, we do not support the broad or popular front approach which relies on alliances involving our pro-capitalist enemies in the fight against fascism. Similarly, the multicultural carnival-type politics of SOS-Racisme in France (and of Rock Against Racism in the late 1970s here in Britain) are at best misguided.

Fascism will be defeated by a united working class movement. Such a movement is united by the direct control by our class not through a centralised bureaucracy, democratic or otherwise. As anarcho-sydicalists we recognise the necessity for groups within the working class movement to organise autonomously. James Connolly's words of 1915 are still as true today: "None so fitted to break the chains as they who wear them, none so well equipped to decide what is a fetter". We, therefore, firmly support the autonomous organisation by those sections of our class which are singled out by fascists, whether this is by black people, women, gay men, lesbians, Jewish or Irish people. The presence of such organisations can only strengthen our class. Moreover, we are not a revolutionary vanguard. We seek to work alongside such organisations, not to infiltrate and take over. In mutual solidarity, together we are strong.

We support the direct action strategy of Anti-Fascist Action (AFA). Nevertheless AFA is not and cannot be the whole solution. Fascism will be fought on many fronts. We urge you to join us in the fight against fasciem.

Fight against fascism! Fight against racism! Fight for the working class!

Now turn to our centre pages for a history of fascism and the different forms it has taken around the world, together with an analysis of contemporary fascism and the fight against it in Britain.

Dear DA,

I feel I must respond to Ashleigh's letter in the last issue in which she called my article in DA 71 ("Class Consciousness") a "lukewarm mixture of rhetoric and garbage"!

Ashleigh says the article treated squaddies with total contempt. How should we treat them then, with kid gloves?

As an anti-militarist I regard the army as a 'legitimate target' if you like. The fact that Britain almost alone amongst ture. European countries doesn't need a conscript Army, but can get 'volunteers' to fight for the likes of Major Direct Action is the paper of the Direct Democracy Wall have recently reand Thatcher in Kuwait or Belfast, says a lot about British society ...

Italy for instance, the Army is more meaniful and accessible way. To this widely perceived within the work- end, the views expressed in the paper Contact: Democracy Wall, PO Box ing class as a tool of the ruling class. donot neccessarily reflect the views of 31340, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong. They have to have conscription in the DAM as a whole or individuals these countries because otherwise they within the movement. wouldn't have enough cannon fod- We reserve the right either not to print der volunteering. As it is many of or to edit contributions. those conscripted refuse to go (10% of the call-up in Spain last year), and are prepared to go to jail rather than put on the State's uniform.

be pushing militant anti-militarism, recently received heavy jail sentences as against the vague pacifism that is for their involvement in the democthe dominant tradition in Britain. We racy movement. The WAF is an indeshould support squaddies who want pendent union movement formed to get out of the Army, who don't during the massive demonstrations want to serve in Ulster, etc. But the in 1989 that were so brutally crushed Armed Forces as an institution should at Tiannamen Square. The WAF argue elswhere. be challenged at every opportunity. that "the workers - that is, the people

shitholes like Middlesborough will and collective enterprises". still be marching off to fight for Queen and country in shitholes like Belfast, without even asking themselves why.

Dino, Middlesborough.

Despite the length of time between this response and the original letter, the DA editorial feel strongly that the questions raised around the Gulf War movement. should continue to be debated if we are to build an effective working class The Democracy Wall Group are ciranti-militarist movement for the fu-

Action Movement. Direct Action is printed "Voices from Tiannamen intended to further the aims of the Square", a self-explanatory collec-DAM through discussion, debate and tion of translations from Chinese Elsewhere in Europe, in Spain and argument by putting across ideas in a originals.

Dear D.A.

In China activists in the Workers' As anarcho-syndicalists we should Autonomous Federation (WAF) have

young working class lads from should become the masters of all state

It seems that these independent union activists have been singled out for the harshest treatment. Liu Zihou and Ren Wanding were each sent down for 7 years. Liu had been part of the Capital Workers' Picket Team, whilst Ren had merely publically advocated the independent union

culating a petition available from DA. Messages of support, solidarity etc will be much appreciated.

Dear D.A.

More headlines in May about bosses the so-called boom years (that in retro- mood on the shop floor. taking massive pay increases. The spect we can now all see were boom Clearly, if workers want a better stanpublicity this time surrounds the years for the bosses, not us), we were dard of living it is only going to come criticisms from the shareholders. In working 8.00 am - 6.30 pm or 8.00 am about by setting out their own detypical arrogant form one boss said - 8.00 pm in some departments (nor- mands and being prepared to take this was the rate for the job and that mal shift 8.00 am - 5.00 pm). Despite action. There must be a great many was what they were going to pay. In all this overtime the gap between our workers who have won a shorter other words, most other boards of wages and the cost of living wid- working week recently. To follow directors are paying their executives/ ened. managers similar massive salaries and if they didn't pay them these colossal When our right wing union officials sums the managers would simply go attempted to get us to accept a re- will act in the interests of the work-

Otherwise twenty years from now of China and not the bureaucrats - And colossal salaries they are. Mick nally found their voice, and many Les, Engineering Worker, Liverpool

Whilst fascists have both used and encouraged racism, fascism and racism are not to be confused. Each is an attack on the working class, but each takes many forms. In Spain and Italy, for example, facism has rarely been associated with racism. Fascists attack Jewish, Irish and lesbians and gay men, trade unionists and socialists. Racism occurs beyond the strict limits of fascism. Racism is fostered by the state in police violence, in immigration controls and other racist legislation. Racist images appear throughout the media. Black people face racism throughout their daily lives in violence and harassment and in poorer access to state and other services. Indeed it is because racism exists within the white working class that fascists actively parade their own racism. We must, therefore, fight both racism and fascism. But we reiterate that both racism and fascism cannot be isolated from class oppression. The fight against racism and the fight against fascism are each part and parcel of the fight against capitalism and the ruling class. All these struggles are complimentary - without fighting one we cannot fight the others. We concentrate here on fascism. In future issues we will take this Similarly this is far from the last word on fighting fascism.

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DIRECT ACTION

the paper of the Direct Action Movement, the British section of the International Workers Association (est 1922).

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For a revolutionary Anarchist (Non-governmental) society through Syndicalism (the struggle for workers control) to free communism (common ownership and no state).

Prudential has had a 43% rise, going Tesco, has risen to £1.48m, four times his 1989 earnings. While Lord King, chairman of British Airways, received publicity for taking a drop in pay unseen perks of the 80's and 90's.

Contrast the above to where I work, he first appeared in his white coat. on the shop floor in Otis Elevators

duced working week from 39 to 37 ers. hours with lots of strings people fi-

Newmarch, chief executive of the people began arguing against the right wing. By the time the factory meetfrom £380,000 to £544,000 per an- ing was held it was no longer the 25% num. Sir Ian MacLaurin, chairman of of left wingers who regularly opposed the right wing works committee but 75% voted to reject the recommendation of the outside officials and the works committee. For the from £515,000 to a 'paltry' £414,000 first time they were defeated and the - big deal. There is no mention of convenor had no option but to rewhether he has received any shares sign. It was not long before managein compensation. Shares are the big ment gave him a supervisor's job, "for services rendered", as a shop floor worker shouted after him when

Liverpool, and the miserly 4% the With a unanimous vote against the management have offered us. Fortu- 4% offer by management and now a nately the mood in our place has works meeting that voted unanichanged in recent times, partly as a mously for a strike ballot we'll see result of confidence gained during what the management's reaction is the 35 hour campaign and genuine this coming week. Equally we'll have economic pressures. We no longer to ensure the outside officials don't have a right wing dominated works take too long in organising the ballot. committee willing and able to rush While the remnants of the right wing through pay rises just on or under are going along with this, they have inflation. For several years, through no choice, as everyone is aware of the

> this through with better pay they must not rely on tired old officials but elect workers' representatives who

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when, at the 1990 Labour Party conference, he took the stand during a city's rate support grant, meant that When Neil Kinnock vowed to 'clean' could act in the interests of the working class in such a decisive way.

Needless to say, Eric's call went unheeded by Labour and he, along watched with dismay as it became ing class. ever more conservative. Eric Heffer was one of a tiny number of Labour Labour in Liverpool has always been this, combined with the pressure of Labour's leadership are crowing over

coupled with years of cuts in the than ever before.

My abiding memory of Eric Heffer was LIVERPOOL-WHY MILITANT WAS NOT THE ANSWER

debate on the economy and called for Liverpool was virtually bankrupt. up' the party in Liverpool the purges what amounted to workers' control Along with legislation forcing local of industry. I was struck not by the authorities to privatise services this and party activists have been expelled. audacity of his demand (for I share has led the 'moderate' Labour group Local Labour Party organisations it!) but by the fact that someone who on the council to draw up a cost- wards, constituencies, even the Lahad been in the Labour Party for so cutting budget - with many of the bour Women's Council - were inlong seemingly still imagined that it savings coming from wholesale job vestigated, suspended, abolished and losses and the city's refuse contract re-formed. And who was chosen to being given to a private company. As usual, when the going gets tough — Kinnock's hitman and, surprise the Labour Party turns on the very surprise, Labour's hopeful in Walwith many on the left of the party, people who put it in office: the work- ton. Needless to say, Militant see the ing class people. They're not known

MP's whose socialist principles plagued by faction fighting. This continuous expulsions, has prompted Militant being driven to stand against remained intact and undiminished isn't just due to the Militant Ten- them to stand against Labour in both them. They claim it as proof of their by the corrupting influences of par- dency but more because of agenuine the May local elections and in Wal- victory over the left and say that the liamentary politics. It is fitting, there- desire on the part of local people to ton. This decision wasn't taken lightly; tendency will now have to show its fore, that the by-election caused by fight back against the never-ending a mate who attended the Broad Left true colours rather than masqueradhis death has raised in many people's series of job losses and cuts inflicted meeting that agreed it said there were ing under Labour's banner. minds questions about how far La- on this city. But without doubt it is so many numbers being shouted bour's committment to its 'social- Militant who have capitalised most potential votes, possible votes and For us as anarchists this whole epithrown into sharp focus by two main been around (in various guises) since was like a game of Trot bingo! factors — Labour's civil war in Liver- the 50's, and until now their stated

began in earnest. Sitting councillors

oversee all of this? Yes, Peter Kilfoyle candidacy of the Witchfinder Gen- as the 'Tapeworm Tendency' for notheral as the ultimate provocation and ing!

THE POLL TAX VICTORY

The defeat of the Poll Tax has been a tremendous victory for the working class. Though everyone from Militant to the liberals claim they defeated it, it was in reality smashed by the massive non-payment campaign waged across the country by our class. This marks a significant change to the run of defeats we have suffered over the past decade.

However, whilst we celebrate our victory, we must not forget, as the ruling class would have us believe, that the campaign is not yet over. The government hope that by a deft change of name and some tinkering at the edges the anger over the poll tax will be deflated. Who are they kidding? The council tax will still rip us off. We will still pay more for less. Local services will continue to be restructured to meet not our needs but the. needs of the ruling class. And, let's not forget that there are currently more than 40 people banged up inside either for protesting against the tax or for not paying it.

In looking forward to the future of this struggle, we must also look back and assess the strengths and weaknesses of the anti-poll tax movement so far. How did we win such a victory? Why has the campaign not achieved more?

whole, thus ensuring at least the network of locally-based anti-poll tax Nothing could be further from the campaign relied on the passive indipotential for a very broad range of unions. Although not perfect by any truth! support for the campaign. However means, this essentially working class Although Militant jumped on the band paying. We were largely unsuccess- is an expression of the new political the campaign's achievement was to movement represents a significant wagon late in the day, years of expe- ful in getting the majority of non- reality breaking out across the world, mobilise this potential around a step forward from the centralised rience at back-stabbing, infiltration payers to take a more active role in as new truly working class moveprogramme of non-payment and and stifling structures of political and manipulation enabled them to their resistance. The movement as a ments are formed and increase in direct action outside the confines of parties and reformist trade unions. take control of the All-Britain Anti- whole seldom broke out of treating size and influence. It marks a new social democratic reformism. This in turn was due in part to the role taken It is a success in itself that the move- them, for the Federation did not control because of this, many former activ- this country. So let's keep the ruling by the anarchist movement in the ment took this autonomous form. the movement. Many groups simply ists are now treating the fight against class on the run. We have a world to campaight from the beginning. Indeed, this is what has most alarmed disaffiliated from the Federation the poll tax as over and done with. win. Organise!



this isn't true of the rest of the country. And it's important to remember capitalise on rank and file disenchant- Liverpool crisis. ment with the leadership. Without From start to finish Labour have been Labour Party membership cards the party machine and are no different that any other Trot sect on the left -irrelevant to and ignored by work-

ism' actually goes. This issue has been on this popular discontent. They have how many wards to contest — that it sode confirms our arguments that it a chocolate fireguard. We don't need is neither possible nor even desirable them, but we do need a movement to take over, reform or work within which can advance the class struggle pool and the choice of Peter Kilfoyle goal has been to take over Labour, Despite their success in May (Broad the Labour Party as socialists. Far to a successful conclusion without as the party's candidate in Walton. turning it into a Trotskyist revolu- Left candidates won 5 of the 6 seats from Kinnock's actions showing Mili- getting drawn into the compromises The Walton by-election came at a tionary party in the process. Their they stood for), this decision leaves tant's true colours, they have instead and dead ends of parliamentary time when the city as a whole was in relative success over recent years in Militant's strategy in tatters — what exposed the real function of the Labour politics. This is why we appeal to all turmoil. Several Tory government Liverpool has invoked the wrath of a happens now about 'taking over the Party - to be Her Majesty's very genuine socialists who are serious measures had driven the council to Labour leadership more right wing, Labour Party'? It's true that Militant loyal 'opposition' and channel work- about change to forget the Labour breaking point. The poll tax and the more image conscious and more sen- have a layer of support in Liverpool ing class anger into harmless Party - if you want workers' control mass non-payment it generated, sitive to accusations of extremism and may be able to deliver the odd constitutional politics. We reject Mili- join the Direct Action Movement and electoral shock to Kinnock here, but tant's 'reclaim our party' message - its industrial networks.

> ing it to continually adapt to new problems.

The SWP abandoned their original cream off the "best" activists to join the interests of the working class. their revolutionary vanguard, all the while urging all and sundry to "pass So where to next? The fight against sonments.

year. In contrast to Militant's denun- the movement in the longer term. ciation of criminal elements and their in forging new international links.

vidual acts of not registering and not The nature of the anti-poll tax struggle

COMMENT

Labour never was 'our' party and has never acted consistently in the interests of the working class. We don't need to delve into history for that what support they do have was examples of them selling us out only built up because they were in (though there are many), just look at the Labour Party and were able to the party's actions in the ongoing

doing the Tories' dirty work; imple-Militant can't gain influence within menting the poll tax, using bailiffs against non-payers, slashing their own workforce and privatising much needed services. Not once have they attempted to get off their knees and resist these measures, instead they've heaped the blame for the city's ills on the heads of those who are fighting back — poll tax defaulters, strikers and those the council is making redundant; and the local leadership have been backed every step of the way by Kinnock and the national leadership.

> Make no mistake, Labour are about as much use to the working class as

maintaining a national network The greatest failing was in the through 3-D, Refuse and Resist and workplace. Ironically in the area where the Trafalgar Square Defendants' we have traditionally been stongest Campaign. Thus largely unhampered as a class, we have made so few by the political parties and oppor- inroads. It is an indication of the scale tunist politicians, the libertarian form of the cumulative defeats that we of organisation was retained, allow- have suffered over the past 10 years that such a popular campaign within the working class got virtually no support from the trade union bureaucrats. Moreover, that these supposition the irrelevance of non-pay- posed workers' organisations have ment when they realised the size of encouraged a view of the anti-poll the campaign. Subsequently torn tax campaign as illegitimate and have between their desire to merge with fostered the fear that many workers Militant and their inability to defend have had at even discussing the poll Militant's practice, they concentrated tax at work, only points to the inabilon a recruitment drive attempting to ity of reformist trade unions to act in

a resolution at your next branch the poll tax, the council tax and cuts meeting". Nevertheless individuals in local services must continue. In within the SWP have done some good particular, the campaign will not be work and it is to their credit that the over until all those imprisoned are paper continues to publicise impri- given an amnesty. It is to be hoped that local anti-poll tax unions can, like the Solidarity Network in Harin-One of the real positives to emerge gey, broaden out the campaign to from the anti-poll tax movement is take on other working class struggles. "he Trafalgar Square Defendants' Whilst recognising the difficulty of Campaign (TSDC) arising out of the this task, without such a transforma-Battle of Trafalgar of 31st March last tion it will be impossible to sustain

promise to "name names", TSDC has The most important lesson however argued for the unconditional sup- is that we must organise in the port for all poll tax defendants. workplace. Our libertarian methods Moreover TSDC has had real success have been shown to work in the locality. It is high time that we demonstrate them at work. Through indus-Of course, there have been failures trial networks we can counter the and weaknesses. Militant were able presence of reformist unions in order From the start the movement was the politicians prompting them to togain a stranglehold on parts of the to build a revolutionary movement. Certainly the government made a organised along libertarian lines. The desperate attempts at convincing us movement and in some areas have to Such a movement organised in the major mistake in making such a bla- movement took the form of a largely that it was really parliamentary all intents and purposes closed down workplace and the locality would tant attack on the working class as a decentralised and anti-hierarchical democracy that defeated the tax. the campaign. All too often, the really be a force to be reckoned with.

Poll Tax Federation. Little good it did the poll tax as a single issue. Partly starting point for the class struggle in

RMT AND STRIKES

spring's vote for strike action on the supposed to lead to a merger. London Underground when work- The attitude of ASLEF's leadership, the RMT.

form staff's jobs.

increasingly bitter membership war weeks later.

NALGO STRIKE?

Newham NALGO voted at a branch · meeting on June 5th for a one day . strike if disciplinary action against 6 playworkers continues.

The playworkers at "Playbarn and Arc in the Park" refused to work on a bank holiday. Although their contracts contain no reference to bank holiday working, management claim the reference to "flexible working" covers this. Now we know what council bosses mean when they boast of "flexible working arrangements" in council job adverts.

Management refused NALGO's compromise of seeking (paid) vol- (National Association of Schoolmasunteers from the workforce to do the ters and Union of Women Teachers,) work. Instead they chose to intimidate the workers. The women stood 100% firm. They have now had a of Teachers of Further and Higher days pay docked. Bill Sanderson, the Play Services manager, who had argued for the necessity of a bank. holiday service, set an example by taking the whole half term off. Maybe he agrees with us that we don't need bosses! Seriously though, this represents management's double standards. They expect these low paid women workers to work holidays which they themselves take for granted.

FAT CATS AT LLOYDS

One piece of good news has been the insurance losses at Lloyds. Some of these fat cats stand to lose hundreds of thousands of pounds. Too bad! Let's hope this recession bites them miserably. Parents are angry at the this! deeper.

Many readers may remember last under a TUC agreement which was

ers voted 2:1 for srike action against which is behind the poaching camproposed job action. The strike was paign, has led to much bitterness called off when the RMT (Rail, Mari- among rank and file RMT activists. time and Transport Union) accepted At a recent RMT conference of driv- the RMT. a formula which saved 200 jobs with ers, guards and shunters, angry Where does all this leave rank and trade unions which can confront the lated syndromes. management. The issue was further to form the RMT. Unlike many of the during the 1982 ASLEF strike. Witness the 1982 railway strikes when portantly the vast majority of local

the RMT. All this takes place against history of rivalry between the two for joint workplace action.

LEWISHAM STRIKE WAVE

ommendation. This would increase helpers, out of a job.

A one day strike in Lewisham on July 4th organised jointly by the NASUWT NALGO, NUPE Education, the GMB and NATFHE (National Association Education) attracted wide support. The NUT, the largest teachers' union, didn't ballot in time, yet still most of their members, and hundreds of workers not directly involved, refused to cross picket lines. Postal deliveries were turned back. The NUT are organising for sustained action. starting with a three-day strike on July 16th-18th. Teachers, however, were disappointed at their union's failure to join the NASUWT on July 4th, and most feel that taking joint action will be more successful in the long run. NALGO members voted for a further one-day strike to build on their success, and this will tie in with NUT action.

Lewisham's attempts to turn public feeling against the strikers failed

between the two unions. Since the many ASLEF leaders(only drivers can built with the few activists willing to early '80's both unions have been be members) has been a constant take militant action, irrespective of part of the rail Federation set up barrier to a merger. Ten years of what union they are in. Activists need apparently working for a merger has to consciously raise in the workplace ended in a recruitment war. It must that only by confronting managebe questioned whether they will ever ment and not by seeking to compromerge. The current ASLEF leader, mise with them that better pay and against the spread of HIV (the virus Fullock, has privately stated that he conditions can be won. In the long which can cause AIDS) and the dewould rather join the TGWU than term activists need to argue for the velopment of drugs to treat PWA's

further talks on conditions. Whilst workers from the underground made file railway workers? There is real capitalist system and help build a Most worrying perhaps is the fact the partial backdown by manage- it quite clear that although they had danger in RMT members showing society in which workers would be that young heterosexuals have still ment was seen by the union and supported the Rail Federation in the two fingers to ASLEF and trying to able to live a meaningful life. We not fully understood the dangers of many workers as a victory, behind past, they had finally had enough- recruit all drivers into the RMT. It cannot carry on as in the past with a the HIV virus. Gay men, one of the the headlines lay a deep-seated prob- the gloves were coming off and they leads them into arguing they have a divided workforce or settle for the highest risk groups, have in the main lem that has divided workers both on would start recruiting ASLEF mem- better union than ASLEF, ignoring idea that one reformist trade union modified sexual behaviour in the light the underground and on the rail- bers despite opposition from the RMT the pathetic record by the RMT over instead of the current two will solve of HIV, even though there is a trend ways for many years - the rivalry be- leadership. Conference called for an job losses, restructuring and its often our problems. tween the drivers' union, ASLEF and end to the Rail Federation and to a treacherous behaviour during rank return to the pre-1981 position where and file strikes. Witness the Man-During the ballot management had the two unions were in direct com- chester Piccadilly guards' dispute (see embarked on an intense campaign of petition for members among drivers. DA no. 69). The record of RMT over intimidation in an attempt to terror- To those outside of the railways in an the past few years has been better ise workers into returning a 'No' age when union mergers are all the than the abysmal performance of vote. In the larger depots there was rage this position may appear strange. ASLEF, but this has not always been enough workplace organisation to Indeed the NUR has only recently the case. For example the disgraceful give workers the confidence to resist completed the merger with the NUS behaviour of the NUR leadership complicated that ASLEF officials right union mergers which are often no It would be simplistic to call for the down to to branch secretaries joined more than lumping together work- rank and file activists of both unions in the 'No' vote campaign with man- ers in different industries with few or to work together. To do so ignores agement. One tasty little leaflet urged no direct links, a merger of RMT and the bitterness that exists at local level. a 'No' vote and asked why drivers ASLEF would be genuinely benefi- Officials in both unions often feel unshould go on strike to defend plat- cial to rank and file railway workers. able to speak to each other. More im-This treacherous act was just the lat- the NUR came out one week while stewards are wedded to the ideas of est (albeit the worst) incident in an ASLEF worked, and vice versa a few reformist trade unionism, not seeing the need there is for workplace activ- with illusions that 'National between the two unions. The guilty Logic and common sense unfortu- ity amongst their own union memparty in this has been ASLEF through nately do not always prevail in these bers, let alone breaking down barriits attempts to poach drivers from matters. There is a long and bitter ers between the two unions to build a background of supposed unity unions. The craft union mentality of There is a crying need for links to be

> Hundreds of thousands are being squandered on PR - a glossy bro-Lewisham Council (Labour's answer chure flogging Lewisham Council's to Wandsworth) faces growing un- services, eg, offering £10 for every rest among its workforce. Following unanswered complaint about the ref- Miners in South Yorkshire have the infamous' compulsory redeploy- use collection service! There is a ru- branded Education Secretary, Kenment programme'-which will mean moured £20,000 'productivity bonus' neth Clarke "ignorant, arrogant, and the sack for staff who refuse to move for the Director of Education - pre- rude". This follows an interview he to a lower paid job - Lewisham now sumably paid for out of the cuts she did for a teachers' magazine, where must treat our partners(s) and ourplans to cut at least £5 million from makes! The Children and Parents he said that he would only be fit for selves with care. the education budget. Already it is Campaign for Playcentres hit local the pits if he were educated today, set lower than the government's rec- headlines (and scared Lewisham because of falling educational stan-Council) by direct action when par- dards. class sizes, close playcentres and put ents and children occupied part of His utter contempt for working people surdity of it all is brought home by a many support staff, such as lunchtime the Town Hall. The Lewisham Edu- is shown quite clearly in this state- comment from Grey-Green Coaches cation Campaign, which has parents' ment. Perhaps he should try work- plc, a major private operator in Lonreps in all but six schools, is organis- ing for a couple of weeks down a pit. don, that "deregulation would wreak ing a 'Parents and Pupils Strike'. On I'm sure the lads would put him havoc, put millions of cars on the July 19th parents will collect their straight. children, and older pupils will walk out of school, to converge at the Town Hall for a mass picnic! Though there are parents who are still reluctant to support teachers on strike, the education issue has at least raised public support for action against all council cuts. Public support alone we greet. never won a strike - but it certainly helps!



Hat's off to Liverpool strikers. They recently occupied the Housing Department's boiler room and made sure that scab housing workers had no heating, hot water or toilets. Let's hope we see more direct action like

RMT AND STRIKES

SCABS IN **COLD WATER**

building of an alternative to reformist (People With AIDS) and AIDS-re-

PATRIOTS REWARD

Six workers at a Sheffield engineering company were allowed to break a strike during the gulf war. Their fellow workers and their Union let them go into to do defence-related work 'in the national interest.' Now three of the six have been made redundant along with a number of others. Outraged, they protested that they should be kept on as they had shown their 'patriotism'. the company reply was 'You were not patriots or you wouldn't have gone on strike!

Such is the reward for workers Interest' is anything other than the interests of the bosses. Ironically, the firm concerned was one of those implicated int the Iraqi Supergun affair!!

MINERS GO SOFT ON **KENNETH!**

The Miners Song By Jim Connell

But we see a light through the breaking night and a smiling dawn

We'll toil no more in the planet's core for a crust and a winding sheet.

We'll drive despair from the breathing air and hands and hearts combine,

And we'll find our health in the common wealth

When the miners own the mine.

WALTHAMSTOW

Four years after the rest of the councall it), privatisation is now on the one district, who's next?

Direct Action. Page 4

HEALTH & SAFETY

SAFER SEX -SHOWING THE WAY

The recent international congress on AIDS and HIV in Florence has highlighted several aspects in the struggle

towards adopting less safe practices amongst younger gay males.

People still need to learn a lot about sexual experession and how to show affection in a society which is encreasingly mechanised and in which there is pressure for a 'quick fuck'. We need to show more respect and affection for our partners, whether she or he is more or less permanent or a one-night cop off.

As such we need to eroticise safer sex. Here are a few ideas:

instead of fucking, anal or vaginal, move away from penetrative sex;

try other forms of sexual expression such as tickling erogenous zones all over the body - nipples, ears, neck, anus, etc.

use more oral techniques - licking of ears, nipples, neck. It seems that licking or sucking the penis or anus can be dangerous, at least in the transmission of other diseases. If in doubt, use a flavoured condom, or a normal one with jam on;

lesbian sex is the lowest risk form of sex;

mutual masturbation (one doing it to the other) or individuals in front of each other (or more than one) with, perhaps, the use of mirrors, or in the shower, are good fun and provide highly erotic entertainment.

Diversify, erogenise and express; we

agenda for London's buses. The abroad, all in the name of 'redundant ideology".

But London Transport are still slaves to that redundant ideology, and dutifully pressed ahead with putting one of London bus districts out to tender - the 'Walthamstow Division' in North East London. The management of London Buses Forest District put in a tender at below what they get now, and won. They then turned round to the workers and told them to take a 20% pay cut or pick up the cards. Of 75% of the crews polled in a subsequent ballot, only 6 were against industrial action. However, the Transport & General is failing to widen the struggle, even though there is a golden opportunity with pay talks for the rest of London bus workers going on at the same time.

London Forest must not stand alone. Reject the 5% offer! Fight the attacks try's bus services were decimated in London Forest! If London Re-('deregulated', as the media likes to gional Transport get away with it in Direct Action. Page 5



In order to prevent Poll Tax capping by the Scottish Secretary of state lan Lang, Labour controlled Lothian. Regional Council, has decided to inflict self imposed cuts to the tune of £20 million! Lang, not wanting to be left out, and seeing this for what it was, a sign of capitulation from a Labour controlled authority, decided to cap the council by a further £18.8 million. In repsonse the Council has decided to take on the fight with its workforce by drastically reducing services and creating compulsory redundancies rather than take on the Tories.

It was on the 5th of March this year that the people of Lothian learnt through the press that cuts were to be made, affecting primarily the voluntary sector. The Citizens' Rights Office (CRO) and the Edinburgh Unemployed Workers' Centre (EUWC) were to have no further funding after June. Other voluntary organisations had to accept cuts in their workforce.

Having 'listened' to the various deputations present at the March 14th meeting of the Social Work Department, the Labour group decided to implement £350,000 of cuts from the voluntary sector, confirming the withdrawing of funding of the CRO and the EUWC, which could mean the loss of 9 jobs for the former and 1 for the latter.

Other cuts included in this round involve school closures and the freezing of posts.

Nalgo Broad Left organised a meeting to which rank and file members of the unions and organisations involved were invited. As a result it was decided that it would be useful Cuts are being implemented by the public. to carry on having such meetings in same agent of the Establishment in order to exchange information with Strathclyde, Liverpool, Lambeth, the view of starting an anti-cuts Bradford and elsewhere round the campaign. Nalgo members managed country. Anti-cuts campaigns that to push its officials to call for a one already exist should attempt to link day strike and organise a demonstra- up rather than fight in isolation. tion in support of their members losing their jobs. It has to be said that the It is undeniable that these cuts are the officials were less than enthusiastic product of a government intent on about this. From the start Nalgo destroying any kind of social servwanted to campaign on the basis of ices. That it is pursuing this by means redeployment rather than saving of attacking local government by and existing posts and services. The fact large controlled by the Labour Party that it was the Labour Party who is irrelevant. We cannot allow the were effecting these cuts obviously party of government-in-waiting to cooled down the 'militancy' of the either make capital out of this for officials.

A couple of days before the Nalgo can make hard choices and govern. strike, Lang announced his decision to cap Lothian Region by £25 million. Labour councillors in Lothian have No doubt this encouraged more people recognised the enemy. It is the same to join the strike and demonstration one the government have, as one of on the May 8th, which saw a crowd them stated publicly in the Regional of more than 2,000 oppose the La- Chambers - it is the crowd outside bour cuts.

A meeting followed the demonstration which effectively launched the Campaign against Redundancies and Cuts (CRAC) who immediately decided to produce an anti-cuts broadsheet and hold a press conference on the June 1st which would unite all A series of scandals and outcries staffed. At the same time, these homes So, as with prison reform, politicians, unions, voluntary groups and community members using the facilities affected by the cuts.

Meanwhile the Labour group lobbus passes for the elderly and redundancies for bus drivers.

Against this background CRAC has been set up to fight all cuts. In order to do this effectively, this campaign has a gigantic task in front of it. It has to break down the barriers between unions, the voluntary groups and the community at large. In the past unions have tended to fight on sectional issues, and similarly voluntary groups have tended to fight their own corner rather than see themselves as part of a wider struggle.

That union officials and politicians of all colours will endeavour to channel it into an ineffective campaign of lobbying and petitions is obvious. CRAC has been formed by rank and file activists of various organisations and intends to firmly resist any attempt to muzzle or control it. It cannot and will not accept the logic that the Labour Party is intent on pursuing, namely that cuts are inevitable and that they are better carried out by a party with a 'social conscience'.

their own benefit or to implement those cuts in order to show that they

shouting NO CUTS and RESIGN.



about childrens' homes have hit the house the young people who have civil servants, council bosses and headlines in recent months. The most been labelled as the most 'dangerous judges queue up to condemn these publicised has been the 'pindown' and 'problematic'. Large numbers of occasional scandals, but actually inregime in Staffordshire. There has agency workers are used to plug gaps. troduce reforms which reinforce and also been the revelation that two Home In this situation there is little oppor- reproduce this institutional and Office establishments, St Lawrence's tunity for workers to build up rela- degrading system of care. The ruling bied the Secretary of State for Scot- and St Charles Youth Treatment tionships with the young people and class want 'pindown'; they just don't land on May 17th and managed to Centres, have been sedating young a positive discouragement to have a want us to know about it. negotiate the capping down to £18.8 people against their will. Meanwhile, consistent overview or influence on As anarcho-syndicalists we recogdeepens the ones inflicted on the It all points to a crisis in the care people's or the workers' needs. well as threatening concesssionary at the very heart of the state system of childcare.

Certainly the working conditions for residential social workers have deteriorated. With the cuts and closures justified by the current emphasis on 'family care', the few homes that remain are underfunded and under-



HEALTH AND THE HSE

Spending cuts are putting health and 21 improvement notices and 8 prohi- to the position faced by the working safety at risk in more than a million . bition notices — 3 of them on build- class at the beginning of the century. workplaces, a Health and Safety firms has shown that of 221 premises We have to respond in the same way Executive (HSE) report warned re- visited 96 were not registered, while as they did then - with direct action. cently. The number of fatal accidents 21 improvement notices and 8 prohiand serious injuries increased last bition notices — 3 of them on build- Big Bill Haywood of the IWW, speakyear in the 1.2 million shops, offices, ing sites - were issued. hotels and warehouses where local The Local Authority Report on Health authorities are responsible for the and Safety states that 21,796 accienforcement of health and safety leg- dents were reported in 1989/90 comislation. There was a 14% increase in pared with 14,382 in 1986/7. Meaninjuries such as amputations, serious fractures and burns, while 61 people and safety staff from 1986 to 1989 died, half of them members of the leading to a situation where staff levels

More workers are being killed than ever before in small firms, many of and Safety at Work Act was passed. which are not even bothering to reg- This means that fewer than 5% of ister with the HSE. Workers in small workplace accidents are now invesmanufacturing firms of under 50 em- tigated. And the number of factory ployees, where it is harder to organ- inspectors is set to be cut from the is a must. ize, are 20% more likely to have an present laughable level to a new allaccident than those in firms with 100 time low. to 1000 employees - and 40% more at risk than those in firms with more than 1000 employees. At the same Initially the anger of workers at deaths ries is available free from the HSE at time small firms make up about 90% and injuries at work was instrumen- Public Enquiries Points, Baynards of Britain's Gross Domestic Product and some 90% of employees. The HSE has launched 'flying squads' of inspectors to monitor small firms, While we would not deny the posi- 'Local Authorities Report on Health concentrating on Newcastle-upon- tive aspects of the work of the inspec- and Safety in Services Industries'; Tyne, Leeds, Sheffield and Manches- torate, we think that if health and 1989/90; HMSO; £3.50



workers throughout the country are On 15th May 1991 the first day of mobilising in support of their year action in support of the claim took old regrading claim. The majority of place. At a subsequent general meetresidential social workers are NALGO ing workers decided to escalate the members. When the original claim action to include a series of one day was put forward for a national re- strikes together with overtime and grading, NALGO decided that local admission bans. Manchester workclaims should be pursued first argu- ers are still awaiting the ballot which ing that this would automatically lead the union insist upon. It appears to to a national agreement. Since in 1989 NALGO staged its first national allout strike in defence of national negotiating rights, this stance surely demonstrates the union's lack of support for low paid and low graded workers and the reality behind its campaign against low pay.

n Manchester a local claim was months the workers heard nothing tion of workers in small units. Man- depend on them.

INDUSTRIAL

THE DEGRADING SYSTEM **OF CARE**

ruling class does not want young workers and young people now. people with a strong fighting spirit.

million. Claiming some kind of vic- Gwent Social Services have publi- the running of the home. The empha- nise that council residential homes tory (!) the Labour Group entered cally recognised the brutality of their sis is on conformity and control rather do not meet the needs of young people into the second round of cuts which regime at TY Maur children's home. than on meeting either the young any more than the nuclear family does. However asking for reforms voluntary sector and education, as system. But this crisis is not new. It is Many young people who end up in can never be enough (although some residential establishments have been might be welcome). There can be no damaged by the brutality of the sys- real freedom or choice for young tem. However many of these young people or workers until we have a people's so-called problem is in real- integrated approach to childcare as ity their strength - their headstrong, part of a truly libertarian society. To no compromise attitude. Of courshe do this we must start to organise

while there was a 19% cut in health in the HSE stand far below what was necessary when the original Health

tal in articulating demands for in- House, 1 Chepstow Place, Westbourne dustrial safety legislation and the es- Grove, London, W2 4TF, and Broad tablishment of the factory inspectorate. Lane, Sheffield.

ter. The investigation of Manchester safety in the workplace is to be imfirms has shown that of 221 premises proved then it is now down to the visited 96 were not registered, while workers themselves. We are now back

> ing of direct action said: "They can compel the introduction of safety appliances, of ventilation systems, and save in that way thousands of lives every year... If they have the power to bring that about by direct action, they have the power to reduce hours; they have the power to increase or at least to better the labouring conditions round the mines and have better working". (quoted in 'Non-violence in America').

> For your health and safety direct action

Safety Pays', a report for small firms from the Director of Field Operations and Chief Inspector of Facto-



Local authority residential social from the union or from management. be blocked somewhere in the union's bureaucracy.

> Residential social workers are paid much less than other social workers. Yet the work is difficult and stressful. It is both physically and mentally demanding. Moreover workers are continually forced to patch up a system decimated by the cuts imposed by council bosses. Workplace organi

agement continually use the age old tactic of divide and rule. Rather than

blaming management for their difficult jobs and the faults in the system, workers are encouraged to blame other workers in other establishments. The view of service users themselves as the "problem" is also fostered, thus enabling the growth of horrific regimes like pindown.

To counter this workers will have to stengthen links between establishments and services and between themselves and the young people and adults in their care to present a united front against management. NALGO, which also represents council bosses, are incapable of this task. Unless we start to organise now the future will be bleaker for residential submitted over a year ago. For twelve sation is made difficult by the isola- social workers and for all those who

Direct Action. Page 6

THE FIGHT IN BRITAIN TODAY

The activities of the British National Party (BNP), the violent neo-Nazi group led by ex-National Front chairman John Tyndall, have in recent months put fascism back into the headlines. Black people and those among anarchists and the left in touch with working class reality know they never went away, but there is a myth in some circles that their electoral eclipse by Thatcher's racism in 1979 has marginalised them and that the rising tide of racist violence is,

simply 'desperation' on their part. Apart from insulting the victims of race attacks, this complacency fails to analyse the neo-Nazi Sun Wheel. The effects of changes in both fascist strategy and the strength of the Labour movement since 1979. It is necessary to examine these factors and how they relate to each other before any kind of effective strategy for combatting fascism can be developed.

The fascists have latched on to racial major industrial organisations of the violence as the crucial issue, focussing working class. The 1984-5 miners' on incidents of Black youths fighting strike was the watershed dispute, back against racist gangs portraying and was seen as such by both workthis as a 'race war' being waged against ers and the State and the time. As whites by lawless 'aliens'. The idea is well as the catastrophic effects on the to spread fear and insecurity and miners and their industry, and the then pose as the strong men who can recurring argument about the ineffi-'defend 'Rights for Whites'. In nation- cacy of strike action it has lent the alist logic black people are 'alien' and Right in the trade union movement, to grant them equal rights with the this defeat has had knock-on effect white population is to restrict the across the working class. For almost rights of the latter. The fascists use two centuries progressive and radiemotive images like counter-posing cal politics in Britain have been rooted Overseas Aid figures to pensioners in the struggles of organised labour. freezing in the British winter. The The crisis of the Labour movement reality of Aid is, of course, that it lines caused by the inability of such a rethe pockets of repressive despots who formist body to cope with the excluperform a service to British multi- sion from power it suffered in 1979 it national companies by preventing has led to a general collapse of socialtheir labour force from organising, ist assumptions and culture, particuor it goes straight into interest pay- larly among young working class ment on loans from British banks.' youth who have had no contact with It is being taken away from the white workplace organisation or its phiworking class to give not to foreign- losophy. ers but to British bosses. Blaming 'the socialism of fools'.

sues' to gain support among work- crats left resistance for rate-capping the 'white race', as well as encourage- ity to carry out propaganda work fare in extreme circumstances) and former left-wing of the Labour Party world how wonderfully socialist they has turned into its New Right, and were, joining the old bureaucratic has trapped the few demoralised and masonic fat cats. socialists left in the Party in a web of and the estimated 70,000 racial at- and insecure black middle class who result of a constant series of internal fascists organising on your streets, ideas among their target group. It is held responsible if the attacks don't tacks each year have grown in the are themselves beginning to lose out disputes and attempted witch-hunts you are going to end up a victim of not a 'firm' or an inner-circle elite but stop. political vacuum caused by the crisis now. The Race Relations Units (RRUs) by middle class liberal 'anti-racists' their violence sooner or later. of the Labour movement - its inabil- have been a typical triumph of image against the working class compoity to cope with its long exclusion over substance, but the publicity has nent of the organisation. from power.

the fold, the Conservative victory not political realities. reduced the fascists to the hard core

Thatcher's policies in the Labour movement served to open up a political space hitherto denied the fascists as the Left retreated, a space in which their post-'79 strategies have been implemented and are beginning to bear fruit.

During the period of the fascist rethink the Tories took on and beat the

been used by racists to state that the

for whom the irrelevance of an elec- In the East End of London Tower an organisation dedicated to fighting tion meetings (about the only way within the organisation means it would ments. This is essential if lasting toral strategy did not matter, as well Hamlets council fell to the Liberals. fascism both ideologically and physi- they can hire rooms) to prevent them be impossible for AFA, as a single (class) solidarity againt the racists is as allowing rabid racists to become The Liberals/Liberal Democrats have cally on the streets. It now has a clear spreading their hatred. All this in- issue group, to define strategy for going to be built and the problem David Phelan, NT 1337, HMP Bisley, more respectable as Tory MPs. The played the racist card in housing and perspective that it is working class organisation without solved in the long term. Solidarity Woking, Surrey GU24 9EX fascists in both the NF and the BNP other areas to great effect, taking politics (which oppose the State and jury or arrest. This is not for every- provoking a split. This does not mean groups of local people committed to had to rethink their strategy during advantage of the discredited state of capitalism) as the real causes of the one, although anyone who claims to . that DAM sees itself as the organisa- using direct action and organising on Tony David, NT 1338, HMP Bisley. the early 80s, the former adopting socialist ideas after decades of La- problems which the fascists seek to be anti-fascist will either support it tion to join if you wish to organise the basis of class solidarity to fight HMP Blundeston, Lowestoft, Suffolk 'Strasserism' -'left' nazism - the latter bour rule. The fascists have always exploit, and which provide the ideo- or be exposed as a fraud. However, politically but that AFA is no substi- round local issues are a possible vehicle building covert links with sympa- been in the area, and still sell their logical component. thetic Tories while maintaining a more papers on the corner of Brick Lane in to take part in these activities. The movement - anarcho-syndicalism traditional nazi posture, although Bethnal Green. In 1990 the BNP made To oppose the fascists ideologically keys to defence are organisation and which we see as the means by which There is a lot more to racism than just wrapped in the Union Flag not the the area a national priority and has it is necessary to go on to the streets information - knowing where the the working class can revive the val- race attacks but there is not space to _____

the former almost as much as the fas- they have planned. cists. AFA has been re-launched as It also means occupying their elec- cal activity and the range of views white residents to fight for improve-





Not a bucketful of blood this time.. BNP passes the bucket among fascist regulars

followed by the collapse of the apple est level of race attacks in the countrying to organise. This involves with any targets they can handle. of the Left's eye - GLC-type 'munici- try, offering thugs a political justifi- confrontation with the fascists and That the fascists can use these 'is- pal socialism'. Local union bureau- cation and a status as 'defenders' of local gangs, and means that the abil- Legal Support (and prisoners' wel- talism and the State.

AFA is also committed to making the sation on the streets. 'no platform for fascists' (to which 'loony left' cared only about black Although AFA was founded in 1985 the Left pays lip-service) a reality. AFA is essentially an umbrella group gangs, it can only really be done by Thatcher's victory in 1979 did not so people and not about the white by working class groups like Red This means taking their paper-sell- for all individuals committed to fight- working class people who live there. To find out more about AFA, much eclipse the fascists as displace working class. The reality is that they Action and East London DAM, it ing pitches, occupying their re-direc- ing fascism and has a number of If black residents are made the scape- an introduction to London AFA them. Having stolen their 'respect- never cared about any working class also contained middle class liberals tion points for meetings and assem- small political groups ranging from goats for repairs not done or for any is available from AFA BM Bx 1734, able' anti-immigration stance and people, black or white, but the racists and the magazine Searchlight, whose bly points for marches, and disrupt- DAM (the largest affiliate) to Trotskyite other working class grievances, then London W.C.1.3XX - price £1 + p&p brought racist Tories firmly back in and fascists deal in emotive images own agenda dictated that they hated ing or preventing any street activity groups like Workers Power affili- there is a need for a local working

you do not have to be a streetfighter tute for the revolutionary labour for such activities.

something designed to allow the



British National Party



Nick Griffin, International Third Position/Liberation

black people for poverty is indeed The Miners' defeat in 1985 was swiftly been trying to capitalise on the high- and into the estates where they are fascists are and not presenting them ues of workplace organisation, mili- examine State and institutionalised tancy and solidarity and embark on racism here. Fascism is a specific its liberation from the chains of capi- phenomenon which may need racial , goon squads into a political party, bor- racist ideas, and above all by being goon

-ated to it. The emphasis is on practi- class community to unite black and

ing class people is an indictment of up to the 'fighting leaderships' of the ment and help in carrying out more safely is a prerequisite for any activ- the three elements of Security, Or- On a more immediate level, rooting class in character. Historically, fasthe Left and demonstrates the des- Councils, they caved in and blamed attacks. Their aim is to turn youth ity. Safety on the streets is mostly a ganisation and Intelligence, are out racist violence will have to be cism has gained partial or total power perate need for working class poli- insufficient support from the gangs into the Party's stormtroopers matter of organisation, making sure combined in AFA's Stewards Group. done on a a very local basis, actually through providing strike-breakers and tics instead of left-wing posturing. workforce. The 'Socialist Republics' and get them involved in attacks on the easy targets the fascists love are This has so far proved effective only on estates where the attacks take place. street gangs to attack the working The only way to defeat the fascists is had often been regrafted on to tradi- the 'commies' as well as the 'blacks'. not presented to them. Part of that or- in the first element and measures are The race attackers, whether fascists is had often been regrafted on to tradion their chosen ground. The 'revolu- tional 'one party' Labour boroughs Fascism is at once more and less than ganisation is the ability to meet force being taken to remedy the situation' not, require the tolerance and silence State to the capitalists to overcome tionaries' flit from one short-term with a new generation of political racism, but it is certainly true that with force and to win fights with but the Stewards Group is for all of other white residents and the iso- challenge from workers' organisarecruitment issue to the next, hardly appointees in the Policy Units, set up fascists. As many lation of their victims in order to op- tions. The crisis of the labour movenoticing the working class at all. The to tell the Labour leaders and the separated out and fought separated out and foug them out of a working class area - edevelop the organised skills required of persecution need to be broken, lenge for power is not on the agenda, This is the view of Anti-Fascist Ac- where they don't belong. All vio- to be effective and safe in opposing which means identifying the gang but if we let them get a foothold in the Hitler's party was a response to Marx- he has done the latter he can denounce tion, which has been re-launched in lence against fascism is defensive. the fascists on the streets, halting the leaders, organising local opposition working class and establish them- ism. He took over the leadership of a immigration as cheap labour, acquisi-London and other parts of the coun- There can be no artificial distinctions spread of their propaganda and to them and letting them know that selves, they will be there to fight us party most people thought of as Bavar- tion of housing and so on, and divide the their own illusions. Both the fascists Among the new fat cats was a small try after its near collapse by 1989 as a made because if you don't stop the enabling the spread of working class they have been identified and will be by means the State is unable to use openly when we have built a revolutionary movement. We in the International Workers' Association (IWA/ broadest possible anti-fascist mobili- While AFA could play a supporting AIT) have recognised this since we role in such a processs, especially if first encountered fascism in Italy in the fascists come in to support local 1918 and we will fight it to its death.

AFA Prisoners

Mark, c/o AFA BM 1734 London WC1N 3XX

For some years now the very name of Only police protection - i.e. support by this came out very clearly when fascism fascism has stunk. Regrettably this has the ruling class - guaranteed its exis- was in power in France. only been because of the actions of the tence. It came into power basically to Third Reich rather than an appreciation crush trade unionism, than any opposi- During the war German fascism used of what fascism is. It is the last ditch of tion to its rule. the ruling class when the working class becomes "too uppity". There are many British Variety variations on it and they are not all the same, though any fascist group will Groups like the Imperial Fascisti in jump on whichever is in the ascendant ...

Many people are "against fascism" be- only when Mosley came along, taking Imperial Japan, and those who ran the cause Nazi Germany was an enemy but his ideas from Hitler that they pre- factories supreme. that does not make them anti-fascist. tended to be anything else (though their Fascism, once favoured by the ruling actions were similar). Since Mosley's The Japanese system, which we can call class even when not practised, became death, fascists have been changing the Mikadoism, though it never got a speunfashionable unless served up under name and changing back again trying to cial name, has only been modified in another name.

What is fascism and where did it come from?

The Final Solution

Fascism began as a response to an- the danger of revolution, of consfisca- Military dictatorships have the same rearcho-syndicalism. Because the Italian tion of wealth, of the threat from an- pressive measures as capitalism. They workers had occupied the factories. archo-syndicalism in Italy or Marxism are not the same economically and are Younger members of the land-owning in Germany, which are no longer there usually dominated by corruption. We and capitalist classes began forming except as represented by groups less in see these over South America and can goon squads to strike back at the work- numbers than the original Nazis. ers. They burned halls, gunned down workers, kidnapped strikers or agitators The British ruling class have not only a gentine, nowadays backed by gangs of in the style of the Mafia, and also (which Government but an Opposition which off-duty or mercenary soldiers and poreceived the most publicity) physically can deliver all that they have ever ex- lice backing the army ostensibly out of attacked liberal lawyers who defended pected of fascism. Why should they power. the workers' cause, dousing them with spend their money, hazard their politicastor oil and tying them to lamp posts. cal chances and maybe prejudice their Any fascist grouping can be used for one They were aided and abetted by the futures for a few nutcase adventurers police, without whose complicity fas- who may not be as trustworthy to them what programme they put forward, cism nowhere could have succeeded or as Mussolini was, and turn out to be whether openly big business, anti-Hitlers? even got a hearing.

D'Annunzio, a poet and dreamer, who So far as the British variety of fascism to- have come to the vague and weird ideas syndicalism' and using black shirts as a (and disowned) for other purposes. reply to black flags. The whole purpose was to prevent the occupation of the The Race Card factories, smash up workers' organisations and preserve private capitalism Racism. It has always got to be rememand the monarchy. He succeeded by get-- bered that as regards immigration the ting the support of the ruling class and capitalist wears two hats. As a capitalist was to the end of his life their defender. wanting to cut wages, he can move his

Hitlerism - The Nazi Version

Business to prevent it happening again. to them is relentless opposition. He did not steal anarchist slogans but Marxist ones (calling his party 'national Fascism Abroad socialist') and using a red background

unorganised and unlikely to fight back, from the French ruling class agenda

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ON FASCISM

Britain were formed specifically as man soldiers returned to victory, work strike-breaking organisations. It was would have counted for nothing, as in dissociate themselves from their specifi- Japanese industrial practices, where cally anti-worker philosophy by popu- 'paternalism'flourishes and workers are list slogans, especially racism. They are regarded as belonging to their place of still only able to do so because of police employment. protection but the ruling class only need them in a last resort. The reason Big Military Dictatorships Business backed fascism was because of

wanted Italy freed from "foreign invad- day is concerned it is totally irrelevant of reactionary novelists G.K. Chesterton ers" (i.e. grab Trieste) invented the with no chance of successs. End of and Hilaire Belloc, Distributism). word fascism for a nationalist philoso- story? Not quite. This does not make phy (the fasces were the ancient Roman them harmless, otherwise the police Spain and Franco's Falange symbol of law and order). Mussolini, a would not be detailed to preserve them Socialist editor who had been bought by carefully like an endangered species. the Italian government to push inter- They are useful to the ruling class in vention in WWI, was called in to give it deflecting workers from revolutionary a populist base. He reorganised the ideas, in dividing the workers class by violence to flourish in Britain today, rowing freely from anarchist slogans squads which are now used in racist but which is basically anti-working (not ideas) such as talking of 'national attacks but could if necessary be used

factories to where the cheap labour is, or dalist Catholic elements opposed to inbring the cheap labour to where the factories are. As a right-wing politician, if ian Nationalist or monarchist which had workers. A right-wing politician in a no clear ideas but that of fighting com- liberal concensus needs two parties, munism and defeatism (with the war). kept separate - respectable conserva-He aped Mussolini but the party did not tive (or a substitute) and fascist. That the have to fight the occupation of the facto- local fascisti have never been up to the American Capitalism ries since the workers' councils had al- job is unfortunate for them, but to make ready been defeated He was paid by Big sure they never can be, the only answer

for his banner, for the simple reason that French fascism has to compete with Marxism was as popular with German other right-wing elements, such as Royworkers as anarcho-syndicalism was alism, often indistinguishable. The Black Power. Their attitudes are imiwith Italian workers. For populist effect French fascists during the war aban- tated by most fascist groupings he revised the anti-Semitic programme doned the populist idea of a supreme throughout the world who appreciate which had been current in German right nation-state - which the Catholic right the ruling class does not need them at wing circles since the late 19th century wing tried to enforce under Vichy - and and designed to discredit the rising tide looked to Germany as the supreme of socialism with "guilt by association". power (as many other fascist elements did, in the Netherlands for instance). The idea behind using racism was that it This is why the right-wing was in dewas hoped that if one minority was stig- cline for years and was taken over by De matised, became unpopular, and was Gaulle. Now by using racism - never far it would be a stepping stone to attacking there is a revival of fascist fortunes. Ulanother minority, and so on, until the timately, however, fascism is not about majority were terrified. In point of fact racism or nationalism, both of which it name/s of file to use. Include sae ... thanks this did not work. Hitlerism was still uses as stepping stones to power. It is unpopular when it was given power. about keeping the workers down, and

forced labour, or in other words slavery, not just for its productive and economic value, but as a means of reducing the power of the working class by starvation, overwork and death. Had the Ger-

distinguish between Peron's rule (which was fascist) and Army rule later in Ar-

thing or the other. It does not matter worker, racist or plain eccentric (as in the case of neo-fascists in England, who

Spain had the misfortune to be conquered for years by a coalition of all the elements vaguely lumped together as fascist bar racism. (Though glorifying nationalism and yielding to nobody in regard to religious persecution, also possibly because of the nation's mixed racial composition, it did not need racism). It had an openly fascist party, the Falange, whose leader and would-be dictator had the bad luck to be in antifascist territory when the war loomed up. It had the pro-capitalist Christian Democrats. It had the Christian capitalist Opus Dei and the anti-capitalist feu-.dustrialisation, as well as two different royalist parties wanting different kings (in the end they got a third non-runner) , one of which was divided in two (proand anti-capitalist). That's why the army generalissimo ran the show himself as a military dictatorship.

American capitalism has always relied on populism and vigiliantes to oppress the people. Yet the federal government itself while maintaining democratic forms can achieve all the repression needed by a capitalist class. Today racist demagogues flourish in the US as a response to the rising consciousness of present, and would only need them in an emergency if they built up their strength on playing on racist divisions

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IWA

VENEZUELA

We reprint below an article from Umaniata Nova, the Italian anarchist paper, written by two Venezualan liberatrian groups, Collectivo Ciculo A and Revista Correo A. Whilst there are elements within the analysis here with which we disagree, we feel the article still presents a valuable picture of Venezuela. We privatisation on the basis of blackwelcome the resurgence of working class action and the growth in the Libertarian movement there.

In our country the 90s have begun At the same time, the travelling saleswith an accelerated worsening of the man Perez (he's notched up 24 forius by the Europeans, Americans and of genuine democracies in Latin of crisis and of the 'package'. Japanese. This crisis stands out, not America and putative father of more so much for its severity - though it is egalitarian North-South relations. The official opposition, the Christian severe - as for the violent transition These grotesque ambitions contrast from a 'mini-Saud' Venezuela to a with the suffering of almost the enclearly Third World status, unthink- tire 19 million inhabitants of the able 10 years ago.

Despite the recent increase in oil The Venezuela of Perez II is yet anrevenues due to the renewed con- other example of the pitiless application for 1990 of 'only' 40%; the aver- benefit of the multinationals and the mises with the government. age cost of essential goods and serv- local parasite bourgeoisie; uncondiices has guadrupled in the last 4 years, tional productivity of physical and But other, more inconvenient, actors while the average wage hasn't even human potential for these interests. are playing in this scene: workers, doubled; industrial and agricultural The whole thing is accompanied by a the impoverished middle classes and sectors are on the rocks; unemploy- brutal offensive against the common the enormous mass of the poor. These ment and underemployment have people, who won't passively accept are the protagonists of 27th Februgrown; chaos in education and health; and, crime is at its height.

The country drunk on oil reached its

INDONESIA

Source: Australia Asia Workers Links

Last September in Jakarta, a new trade union was launched, "free from the influence of the owners of industry, employers and government".

The 'Setia Kawan' (solidarity) Free Trade Union has been formed because, in their words, "the existing state controlled union, SPSI (All Indonesian Workers Union), has failed to defend workers".

The government's immediate reaction was to declare the Free Union illegal. Sudomo, the minister for Political Affairs and security, said "the sia. governement will not accept a new union.... it's existence cannot be tolerated". No action has been taken by the government so far, but a crackdown against the union and it's activities is imminent.

The government and military did not interfere with the Inaugural Congress approved an initiative (Proposition of the union on December 15th 1990, 139) that would allow private induswhen a constitution and programme try to enter into joint ventures with of action were adopted. The Con- the Department of Corrections to hire gress was attended by over sixty inmate labour. delegates representing fourteen prov- Companies would receive 10% tax inces as well as workers in the textile credit on wages paid to inmates in and garment, electronics, pharma- county jails and state prisons who ceuticals and transport industries.

The government reaction may de- prison. pend on how effectively the union, A similar programme in Arizona which began with nearly ten thou- resulted in 400 lay-offs when a meatsand members, can organise. Gov- packing company shut its doors to ernment reserve probably also has a make room for inmate labour. A report lot to do with the fact that the union, entitled 'Californians To Save Jobs' r was created after President Soeharto states that even more jobs may be lost called for a greater observance of in California because the initiative human rights, last August and lifted a 27 year ban on strikes.

and sacking of workers who have been generally ignored.

and as a second and a second a second and a second a second as a second as a second as a second as a second as

trast with his second reign (1989-?) all the more ironical. From pseudostatist paternalism and much acclaimed 'fair association' with the multinationals, we have come today to self-sufficient neo-liberalism, to mail and to being given over unconditionally to the international technobureaucratic powers.

country.

taken industrial action. The government does no wish to deter foreign companies who have been investing in Indonesia at an increasing rate over the years. The minimum wage is A\$1.30 per day, which is rarely enforced by the Manpower Ministry, which is powerful incentive for multinationals.

Setia Kawan, also known as SBM, says it wants to build a strong bargaining position for workers to pursue a minimum wage of up to A\$3.00 per day.

Letters of support can be sent to SBM Setia Kawan, Jalan Menteng Kecil No.10, Jakarta 10320 Indone-



Last November, Californian voters

makes no restrictions on prisoner

peak in the first presidency of C. A. repression. The hundred of victims for 30 years and is incomprehensible Perez (1974-79). This makes the con- of 27th February 1989 (when riots to the traditional politicos. But in this against government imposed price reinforcement and deepening of conincreases were violently crushed) have ciousness, the growing Venezuelan socialist nationalism, the glories of already shown repression's macabre Libertarian groups, hope to root capacity.

. What is more, since the fall of the last military dictatorship in 1958, we have not known such a climate of moral and political degradation as exists now. Accion Democratica (AD)-the social democrats in power, a convergence of various political factions collapsing amidst internal conflicts and the discredit brought about by economic and social situation, with egn visits and over 100 days abroad the actions of a governement that is the collapse of the illusion that 'oil in the first 20 months of his govern- as corrupt as it is directionless. This is dollars' could be the basis for build- ment) doesn't hesitate to take up the nothing new in its 50 years of exising the consumerist plenty presented mantel of Third World leader, judge tence, but is intolerable in the climate

Democrat COPEI party has survived and prospered under the wing of the social democratic Accion Democratica, being so identified with Accion Democratica that in the past the repective electoral programmes became indistinguishable. Now, however, the flicts in the Middle East, the popular tion of an International Monetary Fund Christian Democrat COPEI is, at great feeling is that things will continue to 'package', that miraculous techno- risk, proposing more extreme neoget worse for us, as is obvious from cratic recipe book which converts liberal recipes for getting out of the even the manipulated official statis- promising underdeveloped countries crisis. Meanwhile the minority partics: 'critical' poverty for 46% of the into convinced developing countries. liamentary 'left' is buried in its claspopulation; 'relative' poverty for This is happening under everyone's sic search for legitimacy at a cost of another 33%; a general rate of infla- eyes: economic reconversion to the agreements and shameful compro-

> that their aspirations are 'unproduc- ary, of the 65% abstention in the last tive waste' (ie workers' demands for elections, of the climate of social protest housing, health, education etc). They (strikes, demonstrations and street have to suffer the rigours of state actions). All this has been unknown



Three and a half years ago PROD-IECU, a company that made money from work by disabled people, was closed by the Spanish socialist government (PSOE). Workers were promised compensatory work in ONCE (National Organisation for the Blind) but in Catalonia alone only 250 - 1,200 registered disabled workers were given work in ONCE. They therefore organised into AMIBA (Disabled Association of Barcelona) to demand work. The government refused to offer any new work. On May 1st, at the CNT organised demonstration, AMIBA distributed leaflets calling for proper work and compensation and denouncing ONCE for treacher and government ties.

SOME FREEDOM

would work inside or outside the Exactly what freedoms were the allies defending in the Gulf? Not, it seems, the freedom of workers to organise. Although there is a legal trade union federation in Kuwait, it is hardly free and independent. Non-Kuwaitis have to wait 5 years before they can join. Potential members must be certified as being of good reputation and conduct before they can join. In Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar direct action and so forth). They can employment. The fact that prisoners ' and the United Arab Emirates on the be contacted at: Centro Obrero Inc., That has not stopped the repression will now be doubly exploited has other hand trade unions are com- PO Box 3975, El Paso, Texas 79923, pletely illegal. Some freedom!

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ourselves.

KURDISH MASSACRES

The root causes of the massacre of Kurdish people cannot be solved by imperialist intervention in Iraq whether by military or political means Currently allied forces under the auspices of the United Nations are herding refugees into huge camps. Here the Kurdish people can be controlled and manipulated by socalled leaders and politicians backed up by military force. At the same time the various political factions of the emerging Kurdish bourgoisie are being courted by the international ruling class. The aim is to ensure that the working class can be purged of its revolutionary elements and thus smashed completely. There is an urgent need to go beyond the limited humanitarian objectives of the charitable agencies and to counter this ruling class attack.

Through Kurdish exiles here in Britain we aim to establish links with revolutionaries fighting for our class amidst this disaster. Obviously given the current situation together with the high profile presence of repressive forces, such revolutionaries have great difficulty organising. However they do exist and they need our support. For example, we have recently heard of an organisation called the Communist Path which has been distibuting literature attacking both the Iraqi state and the Kurdish nationalists.

We appeal for funds for our Kurdish comrades both to provide aid for revolutionaries involved in the present conflict and to enable them to distribute information on what is really haapening in Iraq.

Please support our comrades in their hour of greatest need. Solidarity forever.

Send donations to: Kurdish Fighting Fund, c/o DA.

USA - EL PASO STRIKERS

Seven garment workers (six women and one man) went on symbolic hunger strike in El Paso, Texas, to protest continued exploitation of garment workers in that garment centre

The hunger strike is organised by La Mujer Obrero (The Working Women's Project), an El Paso organisation dedicated to fighting for the rights of women workers and against exploitation in general in the garment industry.

Their particular target is the small contract firms. These outfits take in work from the larger manufacturers and are known for their cheap wages, little or no benefits, and terrible working conditions. It is not uncommon for these contractors to employ chil-

La Mujer Obrero is an independent organisation that attempts to fight the exploitation on many fronts (legal, USA.

NEWS FROM THE SOVIET UNION

An international conference was held in Moscow on 16th-18th March, attended by, amongst others, the IWA Secretariat and organised by the KAS (anarcho-syndicalist confederation). It was dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the Kronstatd rebellion. The following resolution was passed at this conference:

"We, participants of the International Syndicalist Conference in Moscow (March 16th-18th 1991) dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the Kronstadt's rebellion, state that the corpse of Stalin's system of state socialism against which Kronstatd's sailors had fought, opens new perspectives for the independent workers' movement in the USSR.

We warmly support the aspirations of the workers of the USSR to be independent of Party and State structures. We are certain that to simply substitute state exploitation for national and international capital will not give us freedom, social justice, private or collective security.

Today the Party and State bureaucracy, by using the slogans about 'denationalisation' of our economy, usurp our means of production with foreign companies, setting up dirty and resource rapacious factories within the USSR. The interests of our old bureaucracy and of our new capitalists coincide with each other.

Only the determined struggle of the USSR workers fighting for their interests, by forming strong militant unions and fighting for the reconstruction of our society on the principles of self government can be an alternative to this".

In remembering the sailors of Kronstadt we look forward to the creation of a classless and stateless world of workers' control, built through international working class solidarity. To this end, the IWA Secretariat are financing a regular English language information bulletin from SMOT the free inter-professional workers union in the USSR. Copies of the first bulletin are available with a donation from DAM's International Secretary.

FINNISH NEWS.

Our comrades in the SAL-AIT, the Finnish Anarcho-Syndicalist Federation afffiliated to the IWA, continue to pursue revolutionary objectives through direct action working alongside other libertarians. Here are just two of their recent activities.

A group of young trade union activists have set up the "Youth of Finnish Trade Unions". The group bills itself 2as no less than an internal revolt within the SAG (the Finnish equivalent of the TUC).

In February, environmentalists used direct action and passive resistance to halt the construction of an illegal road through the Jerisjarvi Nature Reserve in Lapland. They succeeded where legal measures had failed. Despite assaults on the activists by a posse of hunters and businessmen aided and abetted by the police, the minister of Transport has suspended the work. Well done.

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BRAZIL

Source: Ideas & Actions (the paper of the Workers Solidarity Alliance (WSA), the American IWA section)

Dear Comrades

Here in Brazil, things are crazy. In March the new president took (stole) the money of everybody (from their democracy. Now, maybe, these citicurrent accounts, in the banks, if they zens are coming to understand what had more than US\$500) and then a the government (and the churches, big recession was created, and it's the politicians, and the employers going to get worse. The population too) have in mind for them: more has been deceived; they have been poverty, more ignorance, more hunwaiting for some miracle, or maybe ger. Fifty percent of the electorate they are waiting for the President to refused to participate in this election. improve their lives.

While the people believe, the government sticks a knife in their back. The (the vote in Brazil is mandatory - a worker's movement is feeble, and person can be fined if they don't workers can't strike anymore because vote). of their fear of the recession. Many So maybe they understand what we problems, no solutions.

the state of Bahia (Nitrocarbono, and without government. The time is Cobafi, etc) some workers died, and coming soon when the anarchists shall continue to die, as the atmosphere is show the way out for the people. polluted with benzene and other prod- And the people shall decide and act ucts.

In the (rural) Northeast of Brazil, one and self-management. child dies every ten minutes from hunger. The people don't have enough The anarchists in Brazil are organwater to drink. Life in the cities is ised in almost all the states. Either in bad, too. The poverty increases eve- seperate groups or federations (like ryday and the church propaganda the COB - Confederacao Operaria appears to keep people everywhere Brasiliera, or the MANN - Moveresigned ('God is Love', etc). Day by mento Anarquista Norte-Nordeste). day the people appear to be losing In recent months, most of the anarhope.

munist Party, etc) and their unions against compulsory military service are entering into a Social Pact with the government and the employers. have appeared in the bookstores about

GREECE

Occupations and violent protests erupted throughout Greece early this and strengthened the movement. year over government reforms in education. Privatisations, closures of halls of residence and cafetarias, and the introduction of a 'points system' (a grade for attendance and behaviour both in and out of school) all led to some of the most serious violence Greece has seen for many years.

A large demonstration in Athens in December 1990 ended in fighting with the police who attemped to attack the occupied polythechnic. In January fascist groups attacked the schools in different parts of the country, leading to one teacher being killed. Immediately teachers declared a national strike, and occupations were strengthened. The Minster of Education resigned. There were huge demonstrations in Athens. Once again the and finally ended up back in Almundemonstrators were attacked by police. During the violence police fired a gas cannister into a bookshop, setting it alight along with a neighbouring clothes shop. Four people died of suffocation. It was later discovered that one of them had in fact been beaten to death. For the next twelve hours the police attempted to They maintain regular conatct with gas people off the streets. Riots con- the libertarian movement and give tinued for the next week as the police continued to try to occupy the polytechnics and schools. The state blamed the anarchists for the disturbance and started arresting militants involved in the movement. Hundreds have been arrested so far and the state intends a crackdown on the movement in general. The anarchist movement CNT C/O Calle Viuda de Epalza 12,

about changing their names. The bert Read, etc. Many anarchist meet- disposed of in accordance with theiron patriotism and the 'end of social- country. We are a bit optimistic, but ism' deceive the people.

But in the last election (October 3, 1990), most of the people seemed to Carlos Baqueiro show their dissatisfaction with these COB-AIT (Bahia) parties and their disillusionment with Brazilian Section of the IWA They didn't go to the voting places at all, or else they annulled their ballot

anarchists have been saying. We need At some of the industrial plants in to show them how to live in peace for themselves — through direct action

chists did a campaign against voting. Leftist parties (Workers Party, Com- Now we intend to do a campaign (and against militarism). Many books

years, despite the harsh police repression that is ongoing. However, this seems only to have broadened



TRACTOR APPEAL

On the outskirts of the beautiful mountain side around Rhonda (Malaga, Spain) a group of five or six adults and three children have set up a collective called 'Los Arenalejos'. They went from France to New Caledonia but found they were regarded as colonists themselves and they looked around for somewhere elese ecar (Granada), where they found sympathy and solidarity to start their collective. It was 15 hectares with olives and oranges and a large house which was 90% destroyed. They have rebuilt and ultivated oranges and pears succesfully and now form part of the Anarchist Federation of 'Land' Communes.

valuable advice on ecological problems. They have encountered a lot of problems with the land that they farm and desperately need a tractor, says the journal CNT, which feels it is a great opportunity to help them realise their potential.

If you want to help them financially please contact them via the journal in Greece has been growing for many 20 48005 BILBAO, Euzkadi, Spain.

The Communist Parties are talking Kropotkin, Bakunin, Malatesta, Her- associations will either see their funds. we know that the fight will be hard.

The PSOE (PARTIDO SOCIALISTA **OBERO ESPANOL - THE SOCIAL-**IST WORKERS PARTY) has been rocked with further scandal. Many companies owned by PSOE ministers have been receiving donations from the national banks for electoral campaigns. In Spain PSOE is clearly seen as a good bet for big business.

THAILAND **UNIONS BANNED**

Source: PTTI (Postal, Telegraph and Telephone International) News

sembly passed a new law dissolving tripartite bodies such as the Adviall unions in state-owned enterprises, sory board for Labour Development, including PTTI's three affiliates, the National Wage Committee, the TOTWU, CATLU and TWU-CAT. Labour Relations Committee and the The Assembly, consisting of 60% mili- Central Labour court. Nor can they tary ranking officers passed the leg- sit as associate judges in labour courts. islation in three readings on the same The PTTI General Secretary protested day. On 25th February, at a meeting to the Prime Minister of Thailand Abel Paz, the author of the classic with trade union leaders, the authorities had pledged not to restrict trade of the legislation. Many PTTI attiliunion rights and activities during the ates have taken similar action. The martial law administration. More than two hundred thousand Committee on PTT Services also sent State enterprise workers, handling a protest. electricity, water, communications, A complaint has been lodged with nationalised banks, ports and public the ILO. utilities in general, presently grouped To demonstrate the PTTI's solidarity in more than 120 unions, will be denied with the Thai public sector unions, Donation however small can be sent their fundamental trade union rights the PTTI General Secretary visited to: as laid down in ILO (International Thailand and addressed a PTTI/PSI Labour Organisation) Conventions Seminar, 25th-27th May. There were 87 and 98. All unions in the State- some 40 participants from a wide owned enterprises are dissolved; the range of public enterprises. The only alternative being to form asso- General Secretary assured represenciations. The funds and assets accu- tatives that the PTTI would continue mulated so far by the former unions to work with affiliates in Thailand to must be transferred to these govern- support the struggle for the full resment-initiated 'Associations'. Un- toration of trade union rights for public ions refusing to turn themselves into sector workers.

WHAT'S HAPPENED TO **BLACK FLAG?**

Black Flag which had been running 21 years had to be suspended in November 1990 (number 201). The reason was due to the breakdown of computer typesetting facilities. It needed a brand new computer - which it has now got. (DAs using it!) But meanwhile it suffered death, sickness, emigration among those responsible in the collective.

Meantime all the collective have been active in other respects - Black Cross, DAM. anti-poll tax, etc. But they're still conscious of the unique contribution Black Flag makes and it will be out soon.

Back as stroppy as ever!

ferred to charities, e.g. the Red Cross. ised racism The associations cannot be considered as independent and representa- The Fatherland Party was due to have

ditional holidays.

tional federations of their own.

terprises and from demanding bene- their tails between their legs. fits for workers in other State-owned enterprises. Apart from losing their positions in the national trade union congresses, trade unionists employed On 15th April, Thailand's military by State-owned enterprises will also calling for the immediate withdrawal workers group of the ILO Joint

INTERNATIONAL

rightist parties, which base themselves ings are taking place all over the rules; or, failing that will have their We recently heard from Norway of funds and assets seized and trans- a novel approach to fighting organ-

NORWAY ...

tive workers' organisations — and its official foundation meeting. in cannot function as such — because of Bergen (Norway). Though attached the very stringent conditions and to Ivar Garberg's local radio and the criteria imposed upon them under National Democrats - both right wing the new Act. The right to any form of - the meeting was held in a democollective action (e.g. strike, work to cratic fashion. So when a hundred rule) is denied to them. The associa- * anti-racialists turned up at the meettions are prohibited to hold general ing and overwhelmed the meeting, meetings other than on official or tra- there wasn't much they could do but call them 'national betrayers'. The Associations formed under the new majority in the hall agreed to the legislation cannot join existing na- singing of anti-racist songs and gleetional centres of trade unions in fully accepted the name of the party Thailand. It is unclear whether asso-. should be the National Betrayers Party ciations are allowed to establish na- ,The organisers called in the police but it was decided it was all perfectly The new Act allows State enterprise constitutional (it could only be in workers to form 'associations' within Norway!) and an anti-racist protheir own enterprises but bars them gramme was agreed while the defrom being active outside these en- fenders of the fatherland left with



"Durruti: The People Armed", is still alive, well and living in Barcelona. He wants to publish a book - provisionally entitled "At the Foot of the Wall" - about his experiences whilst imprisoned by the Spanish dictatorship. However he has no money for the project. Help him reclaim our history

Diego Camacho Banco Banesto Cta. N. 1237-271 c/. Providencia 64 08012 Barcelona. Spain.

Correspondence to:

Abel Paz c/. Verdi 109 3 - 2 08012 Barcelona. Spain.

Further details from DA.

Dear Readers, Subscribers, Distributers, Bookshops.

Welcome to issue of DIRECT ACTION. Our apologies for the delay in its arrival. We have recently changed the way in which DA is produced and this has taken us some time organise. We hope you like the new style paper and enjoy this and many more issues.

(Distribution Note. The have been various changes to the distibution system which we hope won't affect many people. If it does let us know.)

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PLEASE NOTE 'DIRECT ACTIONS' NEW ADDRESS ! P.O. BOX 574, LONDON, SE4 1DL, ENGLAND.

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ODDS & SODS REVIEW - 'THE DOORS'

The film would have been better titled 'Jim Morrison' as it is Morrison that Stone concentrates on, whilst the characters of the other band members are not really explored. If you enjoy the Doors' music, but are not too idealistic about the men themselves, then you will probably enjoy the film, which follows the band from its founding to Morrison's mysterious death in a bath tub in Paris. There is some beautiful photography, but the story is spoilt a bit by Stone's mysticism (a dead Indian and a death-like figure keep appearing). However, Morrison himself was a bit mystical and Stone draws out how he used ideas of Shamanism (a Shaman is a sort of witch doctor associated with drama and music), Dionysianism (Dionysas is a figure from Greek mythology connected with sex and alcohol) and mass hypnosis. Morrison is shown 'warts and all', including locking his girlfriend in a closet and trying to burn the house down. [Oh, he was a one, wasn't

Both Morrison and Stone are symbols of what was good and bad about sixties American counterculture. On the one hand, freedom, the challenging of establishment values, rediscovering of

older traditions and ideas, a sense of belonging to a movement that could change the world, and the counterposing of Love and Peace to bigotry and war, can all be seen as positive. On the other hand, naive experimenting can lead to dangerous self-destructive activity and addiction. If not seen as part of a social and political movement, the idea of freedom can degenerate into selfish individualism. Hero worship is not useful because it often involves ignoring the lessons of what people did wrong. Neither Stone nor Morrison raised questions of class or serious dis- lively context and made exciting.

cussion of the issues of sex and race. There are glimmers of understanding when in the film Morrison drunkenly attacks the blind idolisation of him by the fans. He then smashes the TV in a rage at the Doors becoming just another commodity in the capitalist supermarket. Ironic, given the ultra-hyping of the

Jim Morrison was a drunken, selfish, sexist bastard, but ultimately a sad charactar who produced some interesting music and words. Val Kilmer gives an amazing performance as the main character. In the end hope lies not with the Shamans, the rock stars or liberal film makers, but with the mass of ordinary working people.

"THEY'VE GOT THE GUNS, BUT WE'VE GOT THE NUMBERS".

Paul, Doncaster

EMOTIONAL HOOLIGAN by Gary Clail/On U-Sound System.

It's hard to imagine lyrics such as "everybody needs food, clothes and shelter, proper health care and clean running water ... " actually forming part of anything reasonably musical, never mind something to dance to. For years now anything with any real anger and politics has been caught up in the 'do they owe us a living?' anarcho scene. Enjoyable as that side of life might have been, it's a bit old now. What Gary Clail has managed to do in his new album, is something very fresh, verging from almost reggae beat to hard techno dance music. All this while the lyrics question "What makes a man hate a man for the Published by ASP and colour of his skin, why do people get off on bigotry, intolerance and racial intolerance." A great album, and gives a kick in the teeth to the Tory MP's who commented recently that the homeless are those people you step over when you leave the opera. Very poignant. Potentially very boring lyrics taken into a

THE KATE SHARPLEY LIBRARY

The Kate Sharpley Library is intended for collecting, borrowing or consulting material on anarchism and related ideas. It already holds substantial stock and further documents, books and videos have been promised to it from other private collections. It has been in abeyance for two or three years since it was originally set up in 121 Railton Road, but owing to difficulties in preserving and keeping up the Library it was placed in storage. Now we have obtained ample space outside London, and are cataloguing, shelving and preparing to reopen. (Nothing is available for re-

BLACK YEARS

THE RED YEARS The armed struggle against fascism did not start in 1939 or even in 1936. It started after WWI in Italy and Germany. By 1939 many, if not all of those who joined the anarchist partisans had seen years of active armed resistance to fascism. 'Red Years, Black Years' a tribute o those men and women who fought both the native fascists and the German Nazi invaders.

available from ASP, BCM Box 3714, London, WC1N 3XX Price £1.80 ISBN 1 87 2258 05 0



(Next Deadline is 1st August!)

Against Fascism Saturday, October 5th the day after the

National Demonstration 50th Anniversay of Cable Street

10th Anniversary of Hunger Strike Prisoners Friday 26th July Music by Faoirse at The Emerald Centre Hammersmith Broadway London Late Bar - £3/£2

Benefit for Irish Republican

Deptford DAM Benefit Saturday, 3rd August Music by The Proles & Guests Lewisham Labour Club Limes Grove London SE13 £2/£1

The editorial wishes to thank the following for donations to Direct Action : £50 - Alex, Bristol

£37.40 - Manchester DAM

DA is sent around the world for the following costs Within the U.K.only £3.50 for 6 issues. and £6.00 for 12 issues. Direct Debit is nice and handy for us, (our bank details are Account No : 07216904, Sort code 010488, Account name 'Direct Action' at the Ladybarn Branch of Nat West), Europe is a bit more expensive but blame the post office 6 issues is £4.50 and for 12 issues only £8.00 North and South America is more pricey with 6 copies at £6.50 and 12 copies at £12.00 The most expensive of all is unfortunately the rest of the world. 6 copies at £7.00 and 12 at £13.00. WONDER SUB!! To all new subscribers we will send FREE either of the following pamphlets !!

SUBSCRIBE

Subscription to DIRECT ACTION is realy nice and easy.

'Miguel Garcia Story' or 'Sans Cullottes in the French Revolution' Please fill in the bits below and send to DIRECT ACTION, P.O. BOX 574, LONDON, SE4 1DL, ENGLAND.

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Plaease make all cheques/ money orders etc payable to DIRECT ACTION and tell us which pamphlet you want.

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The Kate Sharpley Library will be opening in early 1992. This is a preliminary announcement.

search until we finish cataloguing and open).

f you or your group have any books, pamphlets, newspapers, tapes, and material relating to anarchist, anarchosyndicalist and anti-State activity, lease consider donating it to us and putting us on your list to receive future issues of publications.

We hope eventually to compile a history of anarchism in Britain and elsewhere and to make this the first library and anarchist research centre of its kind in this country.

The service will be free to members of DAM, ABC, and supporters of Black Flag, Direct Action and activist groups. We don't particularly want to cater for academics into pure research for its own sake.

The KSL Collective. **BM HURRICANE LONDON** WC1N 3XX



'DIRECT ACTION' A brief history

Many papers in the international syndicalist movement have been called 'Direct Action' or DA for short. The name represents what is one of the basic principles of anarcho syndicalism. Since its creation in 1945 'Direct Action' has consistently advocated the direct control of society by workers, completely unswayed by any political party - an attitude not only deeply rooted in the traditions of British labour, but more relevant than ever today.

Intially the paper was founded as the journal of the original Syndicalist Workers Federation. When the SWF merged with other anarcho syndicalist groups the name 'DI-RECT ACTION MOVEMENT' was chosen and the title 'DIRECT AC-TION' continued as the paper's name. Since then the paper has been published, always without the help and hindrance of party hacks or paid political journalists, by various DAM groups, such as Leeds, Manchester, Sheffield and now London. We wish it all the success for the future!!

The Direct Action Movement was formed in 1979 by the Syndicalist Workers Federation and other groups and individuals believing in the principles of anarcho-syndicalism. The DAM is the British Section of the International Workers Association (IWA). The IWA, was formed in 1922, and has sections in France, Spain, Italy, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Australia, Argentina, Brazil and the U.S.A and Finland. If you would like to fin out more about the DAM and anarcho-syndicalism, please contact the national secretary or your nearest group.

EVENTS & GENERAL LISTINGS

East London Unity Carnival Sunday 8th September London Fields, Hackney London organised by Anti-Fascist Action

REMEMBER VANDANA PATE CAMPAIGN

Vandana Patel, aged 21, had been married for over two years. Throughout that time, she had suffered extreme violence at the hands of her husband to the extent to which she sought sanctuary in a Women's Refuge. On the 29th April 1991 he stabbed her to death. Horrific by itself, the murder was exacerbated by the fact that it took place within the confines of a Domestic Violence Unit (DVU) at Stoke Newington Police Station, where police where supposedly attempting to reconcile the couple.

A campaign is now being built around the DVU's - 'Police Protection Is No Protection'

For further details please contact Remember Vandana Patel Campaign, PO Box 225, London, E7, Tel - 081 472 0528.

A translation from Greek into English is needed for publication of two chapters of a book on anarchofeminist Mujeres Libres. If you can help us please write to PO Box 73, Norwich.

Public Meeting in Norwich 'The Need for an Anarchist Approach to Environmentalism' Wednesday 31st July, 8.00 pm Duke Street Centre Norwich

FREE LEGAL SUPPORT

A group of solicitors and barristers are providing free legal support to any one in London in danger of going to prison for non-payment. Several non-payers have avoided imprisonment when they have had good legal support.

For details contact Mike Yule at Powell Spencer, Solicitors (071-624 8888). If you're outside London, they may be able to put you in touch with sympathetic lawyers.



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PUBLICATIONS AND SALES

Winning the Class War

excellent publication by the DAM. Its a well produced interesting pamphlet, which doesn't really seek to lecture or give a blue print of what to do next. As such it gives a lively, if complex introduction to the ways and means of the labour parties, dodgy unions and the possibilites for class action in the nineties. Available via D.A for the very meagre price of £1 plus with 30 pence extra please for postage.

'Winning the Class War''. ADAM-IWA publication 1991. ISBN 873605 00 5

Yet another publication from the DAM in 91 is the 'Sans 'Cullottes in the revolution, and gives a first class account of the ordainary peoples fight as distinct form the versions picked up by English speaking readers second hand from 'reactionaries'.

Available for the bril price of £1 plus 30p postage ...

'Fragments: A Memoir' by Sam Dolgoff is a personal recollection 'Rudolf Rocker's Anarcho Syndiclaism' drawn from a lifetime of struggle in is a more pedantic and less accurate DA for the dosh of £6 only with an the cause for anarchism. Sam started view of the same subject as covered extra 30p for postage. life working the railroads and lum- by Tom Browns book, however still ber camps in America. he got caught definitely worth a read, and costs 'The Art of Anarchy' when it was up with the ideas of socialism and only £2.50 plus 30p postage. became a member of the IWW. he



'Anti Fascist Action' is the paper of the fascism of Franco and in support London Anti Fascist Action believe it of the CNT-AIT. This story is a very profit. or not. Shows Searchlight up and moving and emotional account of a the French Revolution'. This pam- highlights the very important ac- persons life to the background of the 4. In order to bring about the new 8. The Direct Action Movement is phlet deals with the 'mob' politics of tivities around town against those fascist scum. Only £1 plus 30pp.

> On the historical side of life "Tominsight into working class organisation and anarcho-syndicalist expla- send 30p extra for postage. nation and theory. A good read for only£3.95 plus the usual 30p postage Summer's here and it's still raining via DA

'Miguel Garcia's Story' is an incredible story of a lifetime struggle against Brown's Syndicalism' offers a great Press shortly after Miguel died it is on behalf of the workers. available via D.A. for £1 only. Please

> but that no excuse for not getting hold of one of Norwich DAM's lovely red and black t'shirts. Available from

first published won an award fot the best cover / published design. This





working class organisation.

and classless society.

3. We are fighting to abolish the state, capitalism and wage slavery in all their forms and replace them by self managed production for need, not

civil war after which he spent twenty social order, the workers must take resolved to initiate, encourage and years in prison. Published in 1982 by • over the means of production and the Miguel Garcia Memorial Com- distribution. We are the sworn enemitee in association with Cienfuegos mies of those who would take over

> 5. We believe that the only way for the working class to achieve this is 9. The Direct Action Movement is a by independent organisation in the federation of groups and individuwork place and the community and als who believe in the principles of federation with others in the same anarcho-syndicalism: a system where industry and locality, independent of and opposed to all political par-

All such workers' organisations must and so-called experts.

CONTACTS

be controlled by the workers themselves and must unite rather than divide the workers movement. Any and all delegates of such workers' organisations must be subject to immediate recall by the workers.

6. We are opposed to all states and state institutions. The working class has no country. The class struggle is world wide and recognises no artificial boundaries. The armies and police of all states do not exist to protect the workers of those states, they exist only as the repressive arm of the ruling class.

2. Our aim is the creation of a free 7. We oppose racism, sexism, militarism and all attitudes and institutions that stand in the way of equality and the right of all people everywhere to control their own lives and enviroment.

> wholeheartedly support the creation of independent workers' unions based on the principles of anarcho-syndicalism.

the workers alone control industry and the community without the dicties and trade union bureaucracies. tates of politicians, bureaucrats, bosses