

ANTI CLOCK — WISE.

**Nihilists, one more effort if
we are to be revolutionaries!**



“Commodity Fetishism & the Dominant
Culture are draining my will to live....”

**‘THE MAGAZINE THAT DOESN’T KNOW
WHERE IT’S GOING AND DOESN’T
REALLY CARE**

Editorial

Rant

Hello - Well, here is Anti-Clock Wise *4, the post everything magazine that (still) doesn't know where it's going, but is slowly starting to care a bit.

A.C.W. and the Museum of Modern Alienation aim to be a sounding board for those people who are opposing the 1990s society of competitive, materialist selfishness based on, and more importantly reliant on, consumerism - i.e. a fetish for commodities. Commodities serve only one purpose: maintenance of the status quo - they are meant to buy our passivity. Most people have qualms and quarrels about society, but are happy to put these to one side if they can obtain the latest, usually useless, consumer durables, be it designer drugs, art, cars, environmentally products or the latest in electrical goods.

All this sounds very nice and no doubt some of these goods do make life a bit easier, but most are produced merely for production's sake and the price is high ... too high - the 'crime' created by society's standards demanding that people need money, goods and beauty to be anything. Inequality and poverty contribute to crime but so do greed and the desire for more and better things. The competitiveness of society leads to mistrust and alienation of humans from each other which leads to loneliness, stress, despair, violence, hatred, suicide and a general lack of care for other people. Society cannot stop producing goods, production is what keeps capitalist 'democracies' going, we are all hooked and would get withdrawal symptoms if we could not consume - hence, consumption increases destroying all the world's resources, all covered up by the smiling face of the ad. agency acting as capitalism's government, regardless of who happens to be in No. 10 Downing St.

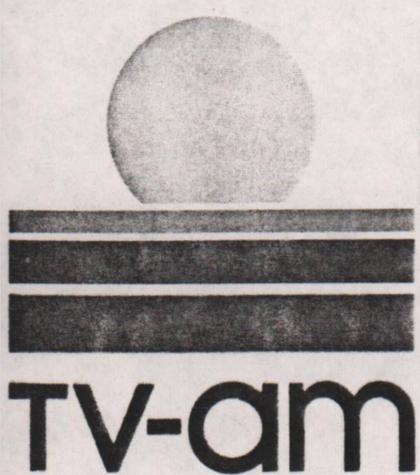
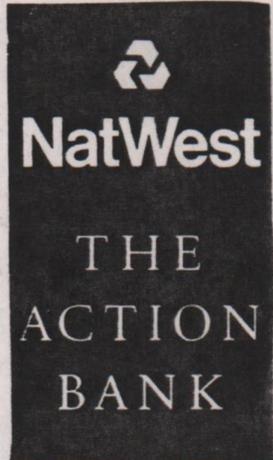
Of course, millions are frustrated, but all they are offered is the safety valve of piss pot alternative politics from the Labour Party, C.N.D. & the environmental lobbyists to the downright obnoxious so-called 'extremities' of communism and fascism. All these groups spout reform or impracticalities to bring better conditions to this society, their harmlessness of which is shown by the fact that they haven't been crushed or even taken seriously. The fact remains that there can be no happiness in an unhappy world.



Our aim is total pleasure: a society where trust, love and friendship are predominant values and materialist consumer ideologies are relegated to history books, along with religion, politics, sacrifice and nation states. However, in the apathetic days we live under, we can be under no illusions that some glorious revolution will come along and solve all problems, as much of the Left believe and want to lead. Yes, of course we should be revolutionary and militant, but our revolution has got to be now. We haven't got all the answers nor do we have the arrogance to patronise the working class (whatever that is) by urging them to join us.

It is surely better to develop ourselves in relation to other people and the environment around us. At the same time, class struggle or mutual solidarity is an integral part of this. Solidarity with others will bring a true resistance. During the war, the government declared that careless talk was dangerous - go for it, talk to others! But, to quote a well worn phrase "People who talk about revolution and class struggle without referring explicitly to everyday life, without understanding what is subversive about love and what is positive in the refusal of constraints, such people have a corpse in their mouth".

Look around you, at the city you live in - the architecture, the people, the transport, the open spaces etc. Look at the lives we lead - work, leisure, relationships, food etc. Look at the political sphere - the spurious opposition, industrial disputes, the environment, the health service etc.



A developed critique of society is important, a critique of how to overthrow it is as, if not more, vital.



Lufthansa

The critique is what this magazine aims to develop and invites you to contribute. There is no party to join, no demonstrations to go on, no papers to flog on street corners, (tho' help with distribution is very welcome !) no lain down answers to all the world's problems. The circulation of this rag is miniscule, but if what it is saying is of some use or has validity to those people fighting back now then hopefully at least the ideas may be disseminated in whatever ways that are available via other media.



Sometimes, everything seems hopeless, the odds insurmountable, but knowing there are others is inspiring, solidarity is indeed strength as long as individuality is not swamped by popularist cloneing and stereotyping. Alienation is one of power's greatest weapons- if we are all divided over religion, politics, dress, food, soap opera preference, washing powder etc. then we cannot be hassling those in power. Tolerate each other, be intolerant of patriarchal authority and exploitation.

Wall's

The tactics are up to you. I believe that there is a place for pacifism and a place for direct action against the property of capitalists. You may say this is vague, but the specifics are up to those willing to fight back. Ideally, a developed counter culture (a horrid and dated phrase, but it will do here) has to be created, with ordinary militant people prepared to take on those who bring toxic waste into their communities, to take on the police who kill and hassle their friends, to give support to those being exploited and

oppressed, and most of all to be imaginative, original and devastating in doing it - to have a laugh and enjoy opposition. Ridicule is our greatest weapon because we live in a ridiculous world.



... I'd just finished signing autographs when the nihilists jumped me, yelling "Death to celebrities"...

Anti Clock Wise is a project of the Museum of Modern Alienation and can be contacted c/o Rick, P.O.Box 110, L69 6AU, Liverpool, Merseyside. Do send correspondence, criticisms or contributions as it breaks the isolation.

Back issues of Anti Clock Wise are available, but in very small amount

*1 "Time is the enemy, Pleasure is the aim" - Time to clock off ; Why I won't volunteer to pick coffee for free in Nicaragua ; Names as keys to our identity ; Nihilism ; Advertising.

*2 "Those who carry out their revolutions by halves...Dig their own graves" - Isolation ; Hillsborough ; Billy Graham poster ; Glass in our society ; The gospel according to A.C.W.

*3 Anti-Art issue - Dada ; Mail Art S.I.Exhibition ; state of art.

Each 40p & S.A.E. or £1.20 inc. for the 3. £1.20 also gets you the next 3 issues by mail.

Jesus Christ, a Superstar

Superstars come in many shapes and forms - politicians, sportspeople, actors/actresses, pop-stars, criminals, artists etc. The thing that links them is that they are created by a media that thrives on the best, the most powerful and the most notorious people. They are only able to do this because the society we live in needs heroes, demands superstars and requires some distraction from the poverty of the ordinary person's everyday life.

The famous reduce the rest of us to the masses - to step out of the crowd you have to be different, a superstar. What makes those who achieve fame so special? Largely, it is the coincidence of a demand for superstars and a (seemingly inexhaustible) supply of people with a desire to be special, coupled with greed and gross egocentricity which reflects the competitiveness of society.

Superstars detract from the real world (whatever that is) i.e. they are a social control to keep our minds on something harmless and give something harmless to aim for - e.g. the big break in the pop music industry keeps thousands of young people slogging away within the constraints of present society, Fame is indeed the spur.

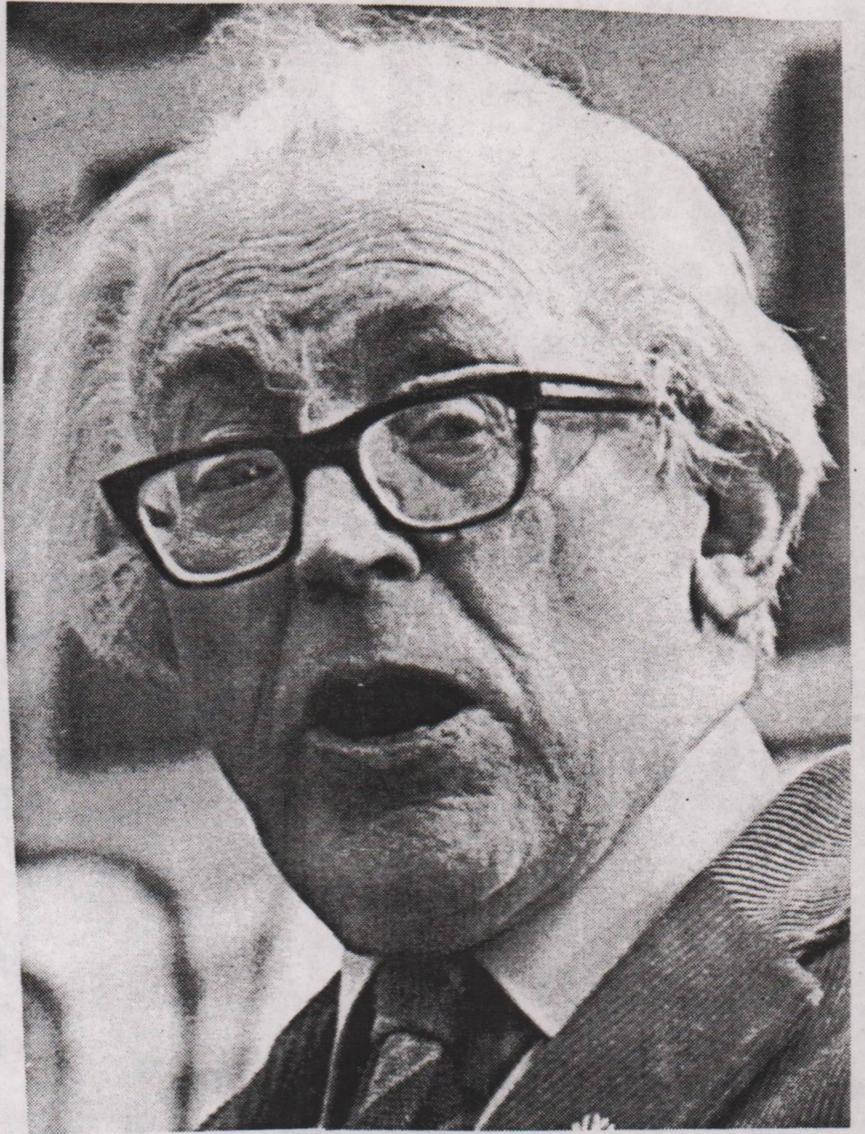
Of course, the famous are in turn abused by the faceless capitalists who encouraged their creation so that they can be used to advertise commodities, while acting as a safety valve for the preservation of the status quo. Rebellion can quite easily be turned into marketable ideology with it's own heroes.



The classification of humans on the basis of 'good looks' allows oppression in it's commodity formats to reach deeper into our lives than ever before- it instills hierarchies of beauty, beauty is not in the eye of the beholder but in the eye of the superstar creators.

There may be 10,000 people dead in an earthquake somewhere, but the latest antics of Jason Donovan receive the media and most people's attention. The desperation with which society creates superstars and establishes images is staggering, but totally typical of spectacular society.

Those who have achieved fame have always shit on others to get it, by clambering over the corpse of humanity - politicians by the graft of party workers and back stabbing,



soldiers by massacring civilians, royals by oppression and imperialism, pop stars by killing music etc.

The worst part of all this is that media stars create roles/stereotypes which we are supposed to model ourselves on - of course, there is a choice to give an illusion of democracy ("It takes allsorts to make a world). Royalists, soap opera viewers and pop stars creating the intellectual abyss of youth cults. It all says that we should follow our selected hero and not our own individual creative ideas. Role leaders speak for the group they represent so that fashion is solidified and individuality is totally stifled or ridiculed.

Even the 'revolutionary' left, and right wing groups have their gurus e.g. Tony Cliff or John Tyndall who think up the ideas and use their followers to disseminate those ideas. Tony Cliff is merely a milder and less obvious Jim Jones. It is a massive ego trip for some screwed up loony in a society of alienated screwed up people. In a blase society it is little wonder that people want to rise above a cesspit of mediocrity, but very few do it without the desire for power, to be superior to others.



The problem is that replacing the famous only throws up new figureheads - abolish the monarchy to introduce a Politburo is just going round in circles on the spot.

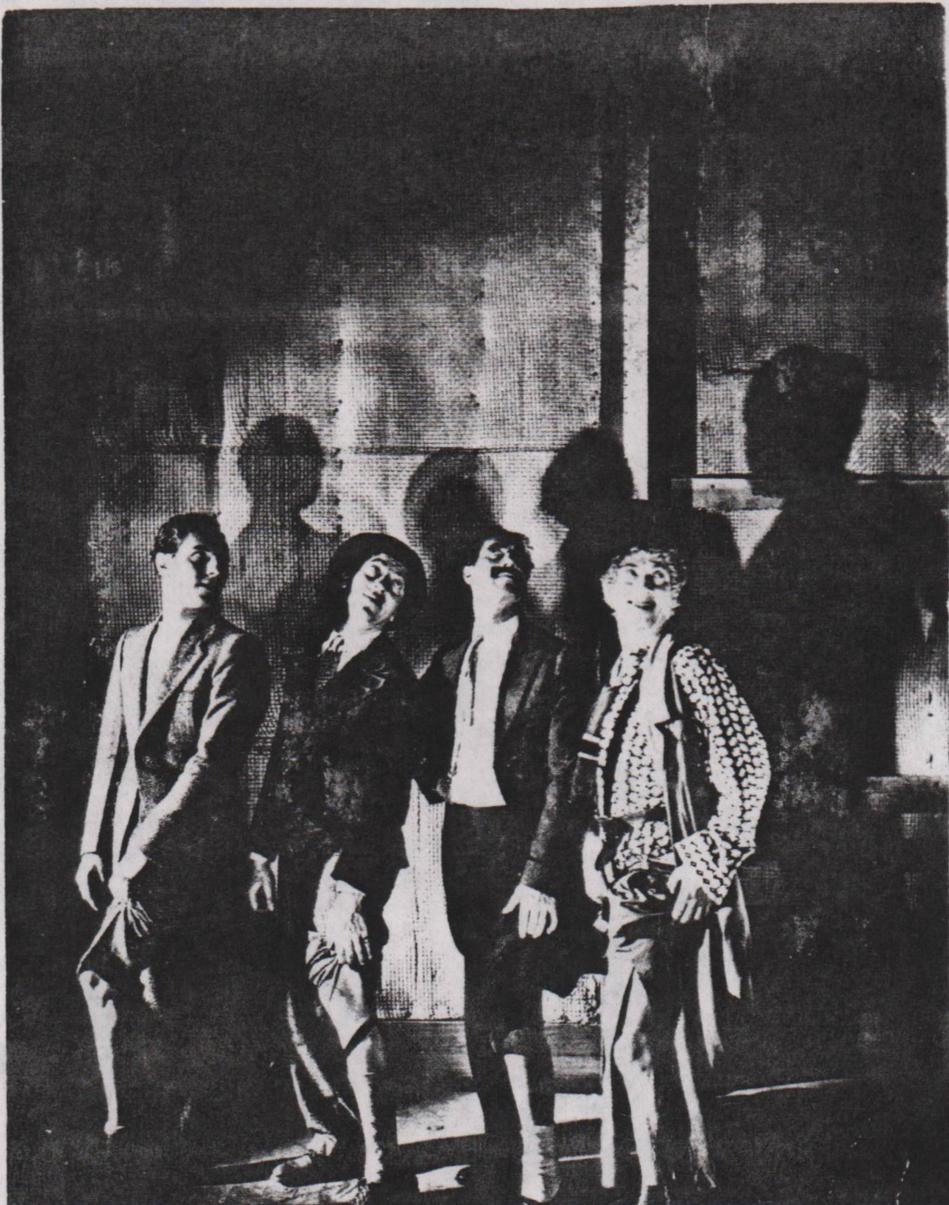


Perhaps it is better to just anonymously shoot your local celebrity and disappear into the background with a knowing smile on your face, the assassination of Olaf Palme has proved that it is possible to gun down a star and get away with it. Every famous person who dies brightens my day - every Ayatollah, every John Lennon, every Kennedy, every Sadat, every Rock Hudson. There are so many of them, that you are guaranteed of at least a few every week... if only they weren't replaced.

Even those people with the guts to assassinate the famous and up by becoming cult figures due to their notoriety - Rasputin, Manson, Oswald, Ruby, Hinckley etc. Their acts of resistance and defiance, however commendable, tend to reduce daily resistance to a seeming pittance - but to be fair, they do provide inspiration and a good laugh, showing more imagination & impact than the entire Left.

There is only one way to deal with the rich and famous NAIL 'EM UP !





Groucho marxists take **THE NEXT STEP!!**

CAUTION

Not all comedians are Marxists,

but all Marxists are comedians.

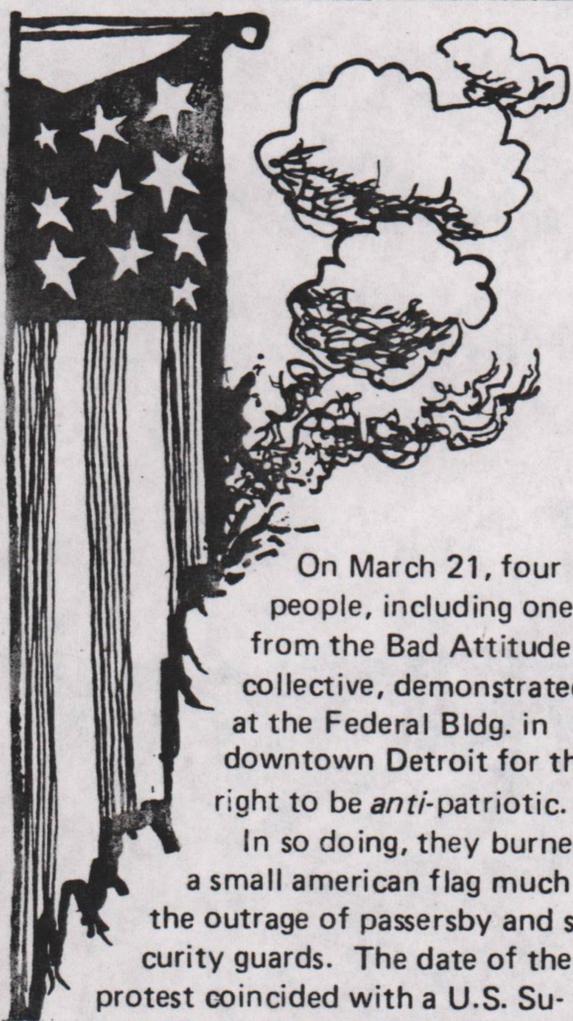
Jeer the dominant farce.

Put some punch behind your punchline

S/he who laughs best...

... laughs last.

"SMIRKERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE."



On March 21, four people, including one from the Bad Attitude collective, demonstrated at the Federal Bldg. in downtown Detroit for the right to be *anti-patriotic*.

In so doing, they burned a small American flag much to the outrage of passersby and security guards. The date of the protest coincided with a U.S. Supreme Court hearing of a criminal conviction of a demonstrator who also burned a flag as a political statement at the 1984 Dallas Republican Convention.

Flags have also been in the news recently involving an exhibition in Chicago in which an art student placed a flag in front of his work so people would be forced to walk on it. Veterans and other patriots

Action at the Federal Bldg. **BURN ALL FLAGS!**

demonstrated at the art school, and the U.S. Senate passed a law 97-0 making walking on a flag a federal crime.

We give full support to *all* acts of flag desecration and encourage others to commit similar provocations.

These incidents show how important flags are to those who rule us. *All* flags are rags; they are symbols of the nation state which traps the human spirit within artificially established boundaries guarded by men with guns. Flags are part of the whole parcel of tricks rulers use to make us act in *their* interests rather than our own.

Flags cause people to lose their common sense. They make men willing to kill other men who wave a different flag; they cause people to hate those who live in a different nation state rather than hate those who rule us. Flags make people forget that the interest of rulers everywhere is to protect their own wealth and privilege and to expand the territory and people they control.

Flags make people love an abstraction called "my country" and forget that in real life we are ruled by a rich, selfish, swinish elite who think of us as dog meat

for their industry and businesses and cannonfodder for their wars.

The function of flags can best be seen from the oppressive institutions from which they are most frequently flown: government buildings, police stations, courthouses, schools and from a million places of business and commerce.

Consider the poor, deluded dopes who so love power that they fly flags from their *homes*. They have their tiny banners dwarfed by flags so enormous in size that rather than fluttering in the breeze, they undulate obscenely in front of meat packing plants and auto dealerships.

Only the U.S. has such a compulsive flag waving mania and no country since Nazi Germany actually insists on a *pledge* to the flag.

Free people have no need of flags; only the slaves of nation states do. Even the red flag of revolution is waved by police state bureaucrats and those who aspire to be. The black flag of anarchy could easily suffer the same fate.

Forget the symbols of revolution. Burn *all* flags! Be anarchy!

—reprinted from *Bad Attitude*, POB 11589, Detroit MI 48211

LETTER

- Extracts from a letter from Bruce Elwall, ex member of the S.I.

... Either the texts sent strike a spark in another hayfield... or they don't. I last thought myself an anarchist in the summer of 1967, before turning 21, while corresponding with the self-styled Internationale (merger of the young groups in Meallmontant and Rennes) itself under the influence of the S.I. ... as was I. By early autumn of that year Chasse and I had proclaimed the Council for the liberation of Daily Life, and I french-kissed anarchism goodbye.

Anarchism as ideology is nonetheless a bit too gelatinous to be hijacked. A decomposition of the ideology of proletarian underdevelopment in the last century, really, during the reign of the formal domination of capital. Contemporary anarchism in its' 1001 variants reflects the frittering away of revolutionary possibilities in an age marked (nay, seared) by the images of Li Peng, Bush and Thatcher.

"Classical" anarchism as an organised movement was always part and parcel of the so-called old left (tho' there were always, at least in the U.S., right wing anarchists ... lovers of private property, enemies of the state). It's decomposition is the decay of that old working class opposition into dreary, racketist spectacle. Similarly, in the past 15 years, what was once thought of as the S.I. has been recuperated by the anarchist fringe of the rotting left ... sometimes as personal cover for reassimilation into the prevailing drift... to the right, to the cannibalism of capital. So-called pro-situs by and large didn't become bureaucratic cadre (unlike their leninist friends), rather they tended to become entrepreneurs.

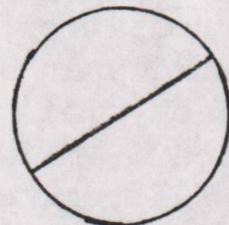
And that drift was precisely what some of us "under the influence" of the S.I. (and others intoxicated by other traditions) set out to oppose ... as capitals's renewed crisis shredded post war ideologies of prosperity. The S.I., in the days after May '68, knew it had to become more "Marxist" (without hyphonations) to keep abreast of developments, that it's thought had to fully reappropriate the critique of political economy. Racketist tendencies endemic to afterhours capitalism caused the tiny organisation to ignobly devour itself before the undertaking was half begun.

...The idea of revolutionary plagiarism from Lautreamont through Debord to now is always to improve things, to invest older elements in a specific new weapon. So as you attack the blank glass faces of Thatcherised Liverpool, do so in specific homage to the young rioters of Toxteth at the dawn of this wretched decade..... Bruce Elwall, 20 Clinton St., *SA
New York, NY 10002, U.S.A.

POETRY CORNER

I don't care about human rights,
I don't care about public opinion.
Gotta choose sides.
Can't let the enemy
think we're odd.
They're different than us
so it's okay to
KILL THEM.

(Taken from Semiotext U.S.A.)



TOTAL NEGATION

Anti Clock Wise is permanently available from the following outlets: Grass Roots, Newton St., Manchester; News From Nowhere, Bold St., Liverpool; Lark Lane Books, Lark Lane, Liverpool; Compendium, Camden High St., London; Housmans, Caledonian Rd., London; Acorn, Chatham St., Reading; Emma's, Brynmor Rd., Swansea; A.K.Distribution, 3 Balmoral Place, Stirling, Scotland (They have an amazing mail order set up, check it out).

New outlets are, of course, very welcome - please contact A.C.W., P.O.Box 110, L69 6AU, Liverpool - from where current and back issues are available. Please support the outlets mentioned.

REVENGE

CHINA LEST WE FORGET

After a month's search, the Chinese ruling elite finally found an army willing to break the student-led protests in Tiananmen Square. Given a month or two, the ruling strata will always find an army to protect itself against protest. Revolution is another matter altogether. And revolution was another matter altogether in relation to the Chinese protests. The great fear of the Chinese Communist Party is that the protests were spreading to the industrial and agricultural workers and be transformed into a class action with a class program, something usually called a revolution. The great fear of the Western bourgeoisie was that the protests would dissipate and be replaced by a class action with a class program. So the 27th Army of the PLA moved through Tiannamen Sq. like a fish in the water. This time the fish was a barracuda. Happily for the bourgeoisie, the CCP, serving now & forever as the instrument of the world market, acting against its own great fear, relieved the other.

The protests rallied to the banner of democracy, freedom & liberty - demands essential to the emerging bourgeoisie of the 18th century, demands luxurious to the decomposing bourgeoisie of the 20th century. The demands are the demands of private property, a democracy of property owners, freedom to accumulate property, liberty to exploit labour as property. The students are the offspring, literally, of the CCP. The student protests are the offspring, literally, of the decomposition of the economy.

The transparent inadequacy of democracy, freedom & liberty as a social program will compel the working classes to advance their own program for social revolution.

- S. Artesian

When in the first days of June the citizens of Beijing said that the PLA had never taken up arms against them, they were correct, but in the narrowest geographic sense only, for every other part of China had seen the army attacking workers 22 years before.

In 1966, when the CCP split in 2 as the senile lout called the Great Helmsman launched the so-called Cultural Revolution, power devolved into the streets: massive strikes on the railroads and throughout the industrial cities, a general strike in Shanghai, peasant seizures of land, the resurgence of Warlords negotiating with Beijing, local armies battling the PLA. It took nearly two decades - and a T.V. in most households - to restore the appearance of central control.

It is hardly an accident that the first public trials were not at the scene in the Eternal City of bureaucracy, but rather in Shanghai, the world's largest city, the home of the Chinese proletariat.

It was hardly an accident that those first three sentenced to death were not students calling on the ruling elite to reform itself, but rather workers accused of having led the burning of a locomotive after it had smashed into a crowd of protesters, killing 6, workers accused of "causing economic loss of c. 3 million yuans and stopping transport on the railway line for 50 hours", that is, of exercising class leadership in struggling against the circulation of commodities and armies.

And it is hardly an accident that the people of China should first see these workers and the others on state television.

Modernisation is marvelous - for the elite and its bourgeois children - but it is dangerous. On T.V. China can see the countenance of the condemned workers of Shanghai. The Maoist lie used to be the East is Red. Tiannamen Square turned that lie to ugly truth. It is the modernised workers of China... and Korea and the Phillipines... who, on dispatching a million or two bourgeois and bureaucrats, will give that truth some dignity.

- R. Ryder

(Both these articles are from The Wolf Report "China: Two Columns - available from A.C.W.)

Six months after the events in Tiannamen Square, the massacre is a blurred memory - as Kate Adie has said, TV gave no true picture of the scale of the horror. More importantly, the lessons of the student protests' suppression have again slipped by - in the same way as the Chinese students had not learnt the lessons of their own and the proletariat history. Yet again the old saying comes true - "Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it". It seems that thousands more ordinary people must die as sacrifice to archaic concepts of politics (of any colour) and democracy - the people who control the masses constantly change tactics, from brute force to consumer bribery and TV programming, while opposition has to stick to accepted rules of democratic pissing in the wind ... and if you think that the events in China could never happen here, just take time to consider the recent history of this country and examine the run-up to Tiannamen Square ... then again, it couldn't possibly happen here could it ?

R E V E N G E

LEST WE FORGET ... Stammheim Murders

"No-one is feared or hated more than the opponent of the state":- It is 12 years since the deaths of Andreas Baader, Gudrun Ensslin and Jan-Carl Raspe. The state called it suicide, but it was barbaric murder committed under a veil of anti Left hysteria, carried out by the state itself. Just consider a few of the questionable aspects of the case...

Baader, Ensslin and Raspe, along with Irmgard Moeller and 7 other political prisoners were kept on the 7th floor of Stammheim prison, near Stuttgart in West Germany. All were alleged members of the self-styled guerilla group, the Red Army Faction. They were young, well educated people of largely middle class origins - but had declared war on Capitalism.

On 18th October 1977 the newspapers reported the suicides of Baader, Ensslin and Raspe, and an attempted suicide by Moeller. From the start, the possibility that the deaths could have been anything other than suicide was never considered by the media, even when there were no facts available. Ensslin died from hanging, Baader & Raspe from pistol shots, while Moeller suffered stab wounds, but survived. The suicides were discovered at 7.41 a.m.

There were no fingerprints on any of the weapons. This was initially explained by there being so much blood on the weapons - but this had to be retracted after the revelation that there was no blood on the pistols. How on earth did the weapons get into Stammheim? How could warders searching the cells of the most dangerous 'terrorists' in Europe have overlooked 2 guns and a knife? The cells were searched daily, as the German prison system is renowned for its perfectionism. The newspaper Der Spiegel claimed that Baader's pistol was hidden in his stereo - but his stereo had been removed on the 5th September! Could lawyers have smuggled the weapons in? But they were thoroughly searched with a metal detector, no bags or dictaphones were allowed. Prisoners were stripped and given new clothes before & after any visits. Also, officials admitted bugging & videoing the visiting rooms.

Since 6th September (when the R.A.F. kidnapped a former Nazi, then a leading businessman, Hans Martin Schleyer, to try to gain the release of the prisoners) total isolation or 'Kontaksperrre' had been introduced, this included no physical contact with lawyers, no radio and generally no news at all of the events outside Stammheim.

After the deaths, astonishing discoveries in the cells were reported to a gullible media, e.g. on the 20th October a Sanyo transistor radio was discovered in Raspe's cell (this was an effort to explain how the prisoners heard of the release of hostages from a Lufthansa 737, hijacked as another attempt to free the prisoners, at Mogadischu. These plants were to convince the public that the 3 dead guerillas had been able to smuggle weapons in, if not explaining how.

A further strange fact is that there were 3 shots fired in Baader's cell, why 3? As a rule, after a gun has been fired traces of gunpowder are left on the hand. Der Spiegel, (incorrectly, as was later to be revealed) reported that traces had been found on Baader's right hand, but he was left handed! The autopsy reported no traces. The autopsy was carried out by an "eminent team of international physicians". Amnesty was invited to nominate a doctor, but while it was selecting one the autopsy took place anyway. One of the doctors, Armand Andre from Belgium, said that suicide was merely plausible - far from sound proof.

Irmgard Moeller is supposed to have stabbed herself 4 times with a breadknife, does that sound feasible? She cannot remember the stabbing, just losing consciousness and is adamant that there were no suicide pacts. At 2a.m. on 18th October 'medicaments' were given to Baader, Raspe and Moeller although none had any ailments, but no traces were found in the bodies. It may be that these were psycho-pharmaceuticals that rapidly decompose and could explain Moeller's lack of memory of the events.

According to the media, the deaths occurred after the prisoners heard of the storming of the hijacked plane at Mogadischu by German GSG-9 special police. Despite Kontaksperrre, efforts were made to explain how the prisoners knew of the events - all the suggestions are ludicrous as the cells were soundproof and there was an empty cell between each prisoner.

Ensslin had stated her fears of being executed just 2 days before her death. Another RAF prisoner, Ingrid Schubert, has stated that Baader had been subjected to death threats by a warder. Heinz Kuhn (Minister President of Nordrhein Westfalen) threatened "The terrorists must understand that to kill Hans Martin Schleyer can only have severe repercussions on the fate of those they seek to free through their shameful act". All the prisoners had said that under no circumstances would they commit suicide. It is important to remember that if prisoners are to be murdered, it must look like suicide - an accident at Stammheim would have been unbelievable. The events at Mogadischu minimised outcry at the deaths & provided a motive for 'suicide' - all very convenient. The German government and the whole structure of the state stand accused of murder.... This article is not a defence of the R.A.F. who were largely rich kids playing the rebel, tho' they hit the right targets, which is more than can be said for a certain guerilla group nearer home and both are macho hierarchies, but at least they did fight back and the treatment meted out to them puts S.American dictators to shame and shows the oppressive nature of ALL governments.

REVENGE



SAY NO TO DEMOCRACY