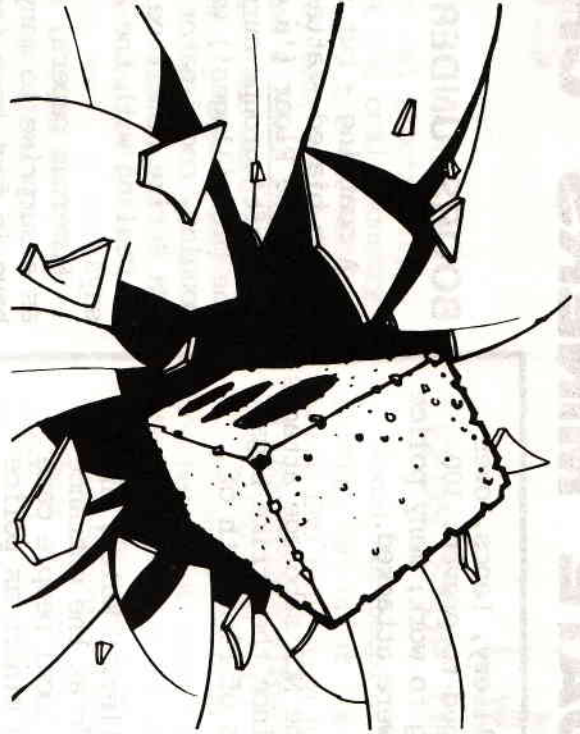


HIT AND RUN TACTICS

With the Govt. desperately using every dirty trick in the book to try and force a 'return to work', it is little wonder that the offensive to support the mineworking communities on strike in their hour of need has taken on a new phase. The resistance is widening and hit and run sabotage is increasing.

All over the country workers and unemployed are rising to fight the class enemy. The response of the press is to enforce a blackout on all but the incidents they cannot avoid to mention. The heroic struggle against the State's vicious attempt to break the back of the trade union movement has caught the imagination of everyone. Support is coming in from workers around the world - from Spain, where a NUM delegation is currently going from town to town visiting pits in the Asturias and getting a great welcome all round! From Scandinavia - where miners support funds have been started in tiny villages, collecting money for the hungry kids of miners whose funds are currently being stolen, by 'sequestration', and dumped into the coffers of the State. Support groups have formed in Denmark, Holland, France, Germany, etc. as workers everywhere realise that for the NUM and the trade union movement the fight against tyranny has been revived to the detriment of the Govt. Incidentally it is interesting to note that TV film of police terrorism against pickets which is 'too contentious' to be shown in this country has been sold to European TV channels.



The press have been 'shocked' by the fact that working people can effectively organise themselves into large commando-style units that can strike at the heart of the enemy, do what was set out to be done, and get away without losses or arrests. Why should they be shocked? If the enemy were a foreign aggressor the press would applaud such actions. The working people of this country are only doing what any working people have a right to do: to take back what is rightfully and morally theirs and to defend their livelihood against the 20th century robber barons who use the economics of the nation-state to increase their power and hold over us all.

The new offensive is only a beginning. The forces of law and disorder will need more than video cameras to prevent further attacks on the haunts of the boss class. Every government office, every cop station, every army centre, every court house, every home of every industrialist: all will need to be defended if the state foolishly refuses to give in soon.

The battle lines have been drawn. It's up to everyone to play their part. There's no going back now.

UPDATE MINERS UPDATE MINERS UPDATE

DIRECT ACTION

Guerilla tactics were used in the raids on Doncaster NCB Area Office and NCB property at Harworth and Silverhill collieries. Police vehicles, coal lorries and the cars of scabs were attacked and damage was extensive. At Silverhill many NCB office windows were smashed and cars damaged. At Doncaster over 150 took part in the raid on the Area HQ, causing extensive damage. There were only three arrests. Nine cops were injured during scuffles at Harworth. Later a police spokesperson said that they thought the operation was well planned and feared that the defensive tactics had taken on a new phase. According to some press reports those who took part in the raids numbered up to 1000 and knew exactly how to go about things, acting efficiently and with precision.

At Bilston Glen, Scotland, 3000 pickets confronted cops and when 50 were arrested pickets lay siege to the local police station until all their comrades had been released.

The South Notts Hit Squad has claimed responsibility for a raid on the NCB transport depot at South Normanton when vehicles were attacked. The caller who rang BBC Radio Notts stated that a campaign would be instigated against NCB and scab property and that further actions are to follow.

At Parkside Colliery, Lancs, over 1000 pickets managed to prevent 100 scabs from getting to work; many police and NCB vehicles were attacked.

According to the NCB sabotage attacks on NCB property since the strike began comes to an excess of £1m worth of damage.

In the Garw Valley, S Wales, miners erected a barricade at the entrance to the local pit. Local people came out to support the miners as police dragged some away to waiting vans. Pickets attempted to rescue prisoners and attacked a police van. A crowd gathered and surrounded one group of cops who were holding the prisoner and forced to let the prisoner go.

At Kinsley colliery over £100,000 worth of damage was caused when buildings and vehicles were set on fire.

Six articulated lorries used to transport coal to power stations were destroyed in a fire near Mansfield that caused an estimated £200,000 worth of damage. The lorries belonged to the EJ Meeks depot. (A detailed list of scab haulage contractors can be found in the last issue of Black Flag bulletin).

At Hawthorn, near Durham, a railway line from the pit to a nearby port was ripped up by persons unknown.

BOORS UNDER THE FLOOR

A scathing - but reasonably accurate, though biased - attack, called Bores Under The Floor ('a guide to the wave of 'left' groups currently invading the pit villages') was written by David Douglas, coordinator of the Doncaster NUM Strike Committee.

Dealing with the anarchists, Douglas says:

Numerous papers, etc. It will come as a surprise to many but the Anarchists have in fact been far more helpful than many of the self-proclaimed saviours of the working class. Since they are against people telling other people what to do, they have in fact spent what time and energy they have to actually helping us in the ways we ask to be helped. Printing is often their strong point and they have often done this for free; they have also helped in food collections, etc and when WE have asked they have shown up on picket lines, without the newspapers the others on the left usually carry.

You will have no problems with Anarchists moving in to try and take things over, or sell you a line; the only problem will be that many of them look funny. You might find that quite acceptable if the choice is the company of some of the groups mentioned above (eg Socialist Workers Party, RCP, CPGB, Militant, etc - Ed); in addition you will find that when push comes to 'shove' in dangerous situations on the picket lines, the 'left' are way back with an arm full of papers, whilst the Anarchist is stood with you.

NCB and scab property and that further actions are to follow.

line from the pit to a nearby port was ripped up by persons unknown.

WOMEN AGAINST PIT CLOSURES

On Saturday 11th August, a march organised by Women against Pit Closures was held in London. The march was attended by about 20,000 people, the majority of these from Women's Support Groups spread all over the country.

Feeling was good on the march, which took a long route through the city, past the Theatre of War, with the graffiti, "Remember Hiroshima-Don't Glorify War" still on the front, then on to DHSS HQ at Elephant and Castle, where a huge cheque for £49 million - owed to the miners and families in benefit with-held- was on display. A window of the building had been smashed earlier.

Lots of songs were sung along the way - "He can shove his ballot up his arse" and "Maggie Thatchers boot boys" featuring.

DAM was well represented with a large well-made banner which had been given as a donation to Burnley DAM from a friend in Manchester. Anarchists from all over London attended. Less savoury elements on the march were the Revolutionary Communist Party and Spartacist League, plus perhaps the worst band of all time, who sang (sic.) about how Marx and Engels singlehandedly united the proletariat :

The march was also plagued by "official stewards" who did their best to antagonise and disrupt the proceedings.

The march ended at Burgess Park, South London, where speeches were made by, amongst others, Arthur Scargill. Despite the problems mentioned above, a good time was had by all.

RAID ON SEQUESTRATORS

Dear Black Flag,

On the night of Sunday 5 August we attacked the Headquarters of Price Waterhouse, the company responsible for stealing the funds and donations for the Welsh miners.

We wrote Scabs, Scabs, Scabs on the wall of the building at 32, London Bridge Street, and set fire to building materials and a security hut, totally destroying it. We telephoned ITN to claim responsibility for it but as we expected there was no publicity. We hope you will print this and that others will be encouraged to take action.

Miners Support Group No.7

Note to Special Branch : All letters received are shredded.

ORDER EXTRA COAL STOCKS NOW ! USE
ELECTRICITY BETWEEN 6-6.30 P.M.
AND OVER-TAX THE NATIONAL GRID AT
PEAK CONSUMPTION TIME !

MINERS RADIO

'Independent' Broadcasting Authority radio station 'Radio Trent' was interrupted in Mansfield/Derby on August 9 by a voice urging working miners to join the miners strike. Police were unable to seize the mobile transmitter so possible future broadcasts should continue. Any readers who hear the transmissions or want to get a similar project off the ground should - within the limits of our mail being 'read' - contact us. Support Radio Resistance.

will find that when push comes to 'shove' in dangerous situations on the picket lines, the 'left' are way back with an arm full of papers, whilst the Anarchist is stood with you.

The Daily Telegraph got hold of Davies' report. It gave hack journalist Maurice Weaver the chance to 're-write' it as they thought. He altered the reference to Anarchists - a deliberate act of misrepresentation - for fear of giving credence to political opponents, even though he referred to the report as 'true'. The Anarchists, said Mr Douglas (rewoven by Weaver) 'looked funny and did not live up to their fiery image'!

PURE TERRORISM

On July 28 a 71 year old man driving a car was stopped on the A611 by cops because he had NUM stickers on the car windows. The cops viciously assaulted the man and hit him across the face three times because he persistently refused to be intimidated and get out of his car for no good reason. The man explained to these thugs that he was simply trying to visit his daughter and was not 'on his way to picket'.

An eye witness to the incident said that he tried to get the man to say he was visiting him in a vain attempt to provide the cops with a reason to desist from harassing him further. The old boy had guts, however, and remarked 'I'm going to see my daughter. I helped fight a war and I won't let these lot stop me.' The cops finally released him.

Shortly after the incident a nearby Met police bus was attacked by persons unknown.

MINERS

75% of all coal mined in the UK is bought by the Central Electricity Generating Board. If the coal industry needs to be 'economic', let the NCB charge a dual rate system: a higher rate for the CEGB and a lower rate for the consumer. The CEGB make vast profits and could easily absorb such an increase without passing it on to electricity users. As for the so-called losses caused by 'uneconomic' pits the NCB want to close down, it will cost around £4,300m in redundancy payments, dole, etc if the closure programme goes ahead, while to keep them open with current level of subsidies (and taking wages into consideration) would cost only £2000m - a saving of £2300m all round.

British Steel are selling off one of their operations based in Rotherham and Manchester. The privatisation deal is going to several companies, one of which is Lazard, the international banking firm which Ian MacGregor, BSC's ex-Chairman and now current Board Member, is a director. Small world.

It has been revealed that 'Silver Birch', the Notts scab who has been secretly organising to sabotage the strike action, has been funded in his campaign by several business interests. We wonder if the Freedom Association is helping out. They, after all, were behind the conspiracy to crush the Grunwicks strike and are also involved in the Newbury anti-Greenham women group, RAGE. Financing 'Silver Birch' would be just up their street.

FEEDBACK

LEEDS STOP THE CITY

About 400 people, mostly anarchists, met up at the Art Gallery, where CND have been holding a vigil to commemorate Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days, and then split into small groups.

One group smashed up the Job Centre, another paint bombed Barclays Bank - others did a lot of superglueing locks, and smashed the windows of a sex shop and the Masonic Lodge.

There was one successful sit-down which blocked the traffic for a while. Stores reported shoplifting, - many windows and display cases were damaged.

The Police appeared quite OK at first, but got nasty when they realised the demonstration was succeeding. They began to make violent arrests, and even began arresting and beating up innocent shoppers.

The public were quite sympathetic and shocked by police violence. The police tried to get everyone into one crowd and escort them away - some people broke out, and were chased and attacked by police.

About 102 people were arrested - most were released the same day, charged with criminal damage, and "public order" offences.

PS Police were using a new tactic for arrests - grabbing people by the back of the neck in the two places which cause dizziness and fainting, if pressed.

CAMBRIDGE DAY SCHOOL

Cambridge Anarchist Group will be holding a day-school to discuss anti-militarism and strategies for disarming the

Stop The City

Stop the City Co-ordination meetings are now being held every Monday evening at 6.30 p.m. in Marchmont Community Centre, Marchmont St., London WC1. These meetings will be held in preparation for the next London STC on 27th September. On 1st September, from 11a.m. to 6p.m. an all London Gathering to plan for the event will be held at the Tonbridge Club, Cromer St., London WC1.

A video film of London STC held last March is now being prepared and should be ready by 20th August. If groups or individuals are interested in buying or borrowing a copy, or want further info. on STC, contact Box STC, Housemans, 5 Caledonian Rd., London N1. (Leaflets are also available).

Refrac

Refrac Publications are hoping to publish a book about Spanish anarchist resistance fighter Facerias (Title: Facerias Anarchist Extraordinary. Author: Antonio Tellez) but need financial assistance to help cover printing and binding costs. Those who wish to help get this title into print should contact Refrac Publications, c/- Cambridge Free Press, 25 Gwydir St., Cambridge.

PUBLICATIONS

NOTES FOR A NEW UNDERGROUND

Vol 5, No 2. Journal of the Shimo Under-

... Birch
would be just up their street.

The NCB have been employing desperate measures to create the impression of a massive return to work by striking miners:

- non-miners have been bussed into collieries past picket lines
 - miners from other pits in other areas have been brought in to border line pits to add to the illusion
 - new recruits have been secretly taken on to boost the figures
 - wages have been paid (on paper only) to relief workers who have been distributing coal to hospitals and pensioners
- The NCB have also been sending officials around to striking miners to offer bribes to return to work.



CO-OP COPS

The 'caring, sharing Co-op' van rental section has been hiring vans to the co police, for picket duty. The NUM should respond by pulling all its funds (those it can) out of the Co-op Bank!

SCABS DAMAGES PAID OFF

In the latest issue of 'Coal News' the National Coal Board paper, written by scabs for scabs, the NCB promises to pay for any damage done against scabs' cars and property. Perhaps this is what provoked the assault on the scab cars at Harworth and Silverhill pits.

CAMBRIDGE DAY SCHOOL
Cambridge Anarchist Group will be holding a day-school to discuss anti-militarism and strategies for disarming the state on Saturday 1st September. Everybody is welcome to attend especially anarchist/libertarians in the East Anglia area. There will also be a meeting the following day, Sunday 2nd Sept., to discuss London Stop the City on 27th September. For further details please contact Cambridge Anarchist Group, c/- Cambridge Free Press, 25 Gwydir St. Cambridge.

DAM SUMMER SCHOOL

There will be a DAM Summer School on 7th - 10th September, in Burnley, Lancs. Contact your local DAM group for details or write to : DAM c/- Raven Press, 8-10 Great Ancoats St., MANCHESTER.

WOMENS STRIKE

Womens Strike September 20th-30th. Massive NATO exercises will take place in Germany in the last two weeks of September. The government has asked British employers to release 57,000 Territorial Army men from their jobs, to participate. The aim of the women's strike is to call on women to go on strike, take time off, visit Greenham Common, and take collective action against the war machine. More information : 144 Caledonian Rd, London N1. Ph. 01-8332831/2

FASLANE

We have been asked to report on 'month of actions' planned for November against Trident (due 1990). Construction work, estimated at a cost of £10b, has already begun. All activists welcome; if large party coming, please give advance notice. Contact Faslane Peace Camp, below St Andrews School, Shardon, nr Helensborough, Dunbartonshire. Tel 436-820719 (Iain MacDonald).

PUBLICATIONS

NOTES FOR A NEW UNDERGROUND

Vol 5, No 2. Journal of the Shimo Underground Network, PO Box 1593, Kalamazoo, MI 49005, USA. News of interest to the 'radical/revolutionary/anarchist movement'. Includes anti-voting campaign, Leonard Peltier update; plugs for publications include some marxist-leninist ones (!). They run a mailing service and archives.

The Iron Fist, A State of Siege, Vol 2. by Martin Walker and Susan Miller. Available from Housmans Distribution, 5 Caledonian Rd, London N1 9DX. £2. Second part of a series covering the policing of the coalfields during the present strike. Commissioned by the NUM. Highly recommended.

ANTI-AUTHORITARIAN NEWS BULLETIN

9th issue. Subs \$12 yearly. C/o Unknown Anarchist Coop, PO Box 915, Stn F, Toronto, M4Y 2N9 Canada. Many interesting news clippings from US, Canada and elsewhere on world events of interest to anarchists. News of trials coming up, current events, and lists of resource material. Good read.

STATELESS

Paper of the South Yorkshire Anarchist Group. No 1, August '84. Includes article on police tactics in the miners strike, unions and the state and lots more. Donations welcome. Available c/o SYAG, PO Box 96, Doncaster.

SPLASH

12th issue of Plymouth's independent paper. 20p from 115 St Pancras Ave, Manadon Vale, Plymouth PL2 3TL. Advice on the water shortage: use water wisely - drown a politician! Also local news, official vandalism, etc and lots more.