

No. 143

BLACK FLAG

30p.

THE ANARCHIST



FORTNIGHTLY

5-11-'85

CORTONWOOD

NCB PUTS THE BOOT IN

Rank and File Meeting

The miners at Cortonwood refused to take their pit's closure in 1984. From there solidarity strikes by NUM members brought the industry almost to a standstill. The strike cost the British State some £5 billion. On the 25/10/85 the mine closed after it was threatened. Industrial resistance became rearguard action as the strike was lost and the 'streamlining' steamroller crashed on. 64 miners are still in jail. More miners have lost their jobs and face the

MINERS BALLOTS

As predicted in the *Black Flag Supplement* on the miners strike the TUC and Labour Party are in a quandry about what to do with the new scab union split from the NUM. So far the TUC has avoided the UDM getting official affiliation, but still has met its organisers. The Labour Parliamentarians want votes and have not come to any conclusion over the UDM wanting to sponsor Labour MPs like the NUM.

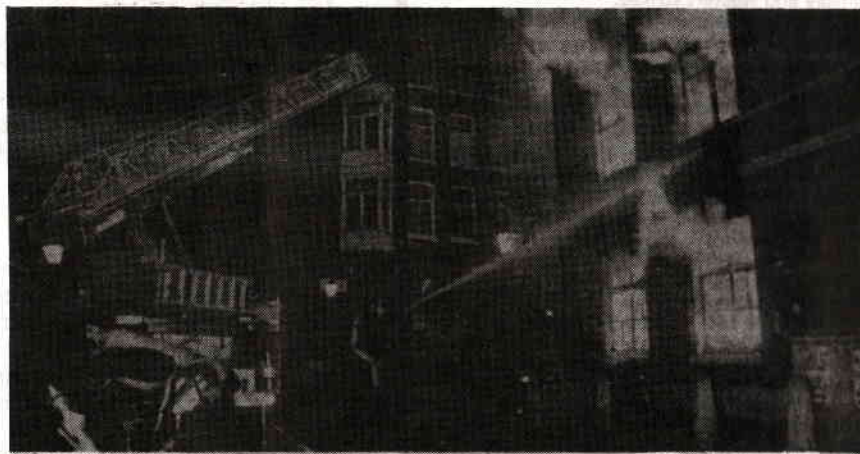


The support network which included workers in other industries and communities lies dormant with but a few fighting on. The National Rank & File Miners Movement is holding a conference of support groups and rank and file workers independent of the State, Church and domination of a political Party. It will be in Sheffield, in the Students Union Building all day Saturday, November 30th. This initiative could see the re-emergence of a syndicalist workers movement whose mutual aid, solidarity and direct action tactics means emancipation of the workers by the workers themselves. Don't mourn Cortonwood's closure, organise resistance.

ers based in Nottinghamshire and South Derbyshire has been recognised by the Coal Board boss McGregor and the NCB has begun to harass Bolsover miners who did vote to stay with the NUM. The NCB has told them they do not recognise the NUM in the Notts area or South Derbyshire.

In Notts 6,000 voted to stay in the NUM and 1,090 in South Derbyshire. In the strike the UDM members ignored the 'democratic' majority who voted with their feet to support the fight against pit closure. What 'freedom' the NUM members in the Notts and South Derbyshire area will get from the UDM scabs & bosses will be like that they received in the 1984/5 strike. . . none.

SQUATTER MURDERED



A Council building burns as squatters take action - angry at the beatings and murder by the police.

COPS MURDER SQUATTER

Riots and severe battles occurred from Thursday, 24/10/'85 to Sunday 26/10/'85 in the Dutch capital Amsterdam after a squatter died in police cells.

The fights started after the surprise eviction of a mother and child from her squatted flat in the Staatslieden area, a Squatters stronghold. Local squatters decided to do a mass re-squat. The police who were still occupying the flat panicked and fired their guns at the squatters, hitting one in the arm before escaping out the back.

The riot police were gathering outside, battles followed. All those arrested were badly beaten up. One squatter's death in

the police station cells flared up the riots until Sunday evening, leaving police cars in the parking lot of the main station burnt out, most Council offices smashed, other police stations attacked.

Other sources reported the occupation of the Townhall but no details are available as we go to press. At least 50 people have been arrested.

There was *NO* media coverage in the British press.

The Dutch authorities blame the squatter's death on drug abuse — highly unlikely according to his friends and family.

Solidarity actions against the Dutch State were done in Frankfurt and Berlin at the time of this article.



Goodbyes at the last production shift at Cortonwood pit.

Black Flag Readers Meeting

The readers meeting will be held on Sunday November 10th, at 2.00pm in the North Room, Conway Hall, 25 Red Lion Square, WC1 Tube: Holborn.

All readers are welcome to come with helpful suggestions, comments and ideas for distribution. There will be a bookstall (back copies of *Black Flag*, *Fortnightly*,

Supplements, *Quarterlys*, pamphlets and some books and posters), refreshments and if you need child-care, please contact 121 Bookshop, 121 Railton Road, SE24 or phone 01-2746655 12-4pm, in advance. If you have any other queries, or need accommodation, contact 121.

Black Flag Collective.