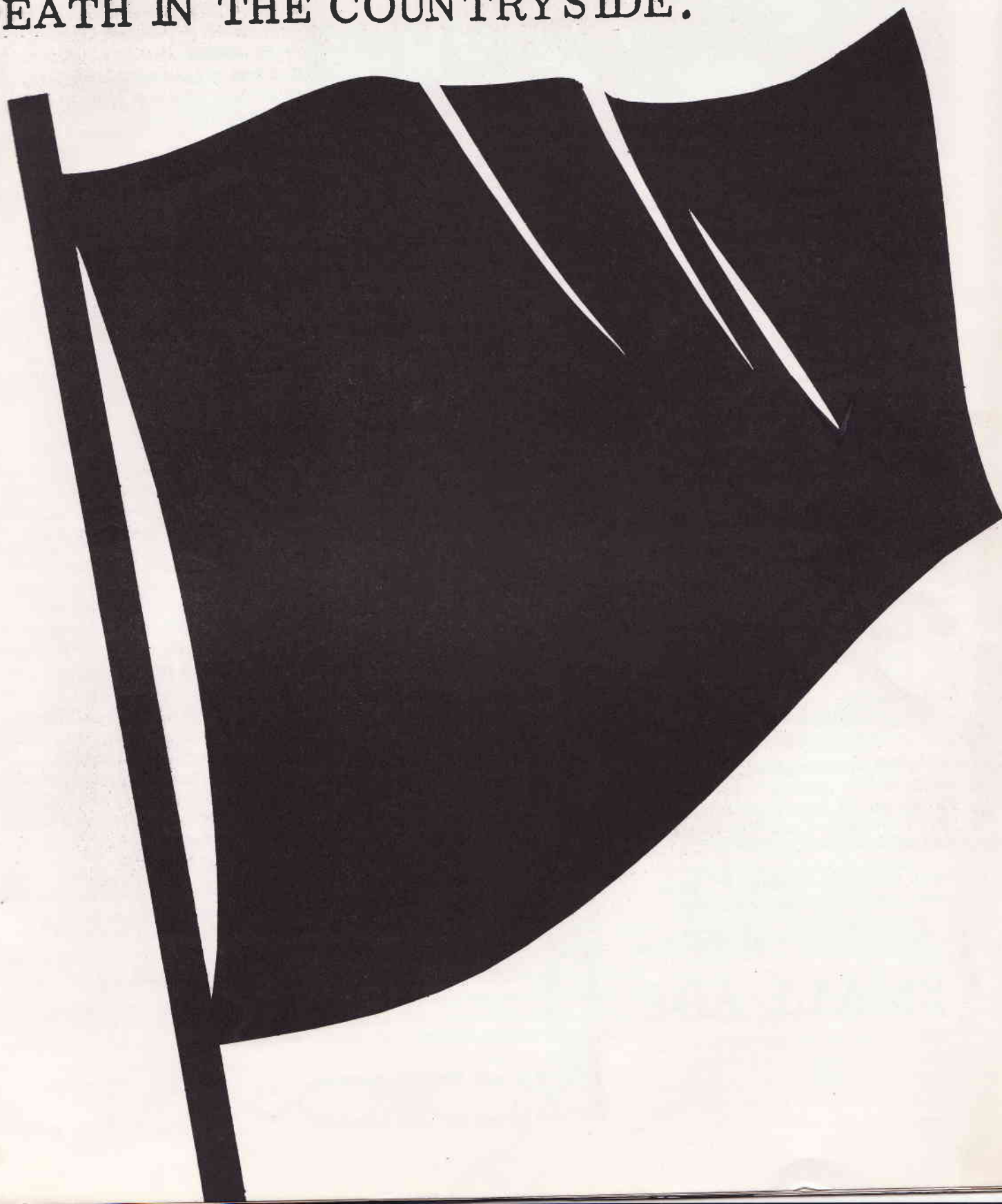


NO. 8. SEPTEMBER 1971

GRASSROOT ANARCHIST

The enemies of the people are those who know what people need

TECHNIQUES OF REPRESSION. ITALIAN
PUNK. HANDSWORTH. 'CLASS STRUGGLE'.
DEATH IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.



GREEN ANARCHIST

19. Magdalen Road,
Oxford, OX4 1RP.
Tel. Watford, 0923- 54041.

Subscriptions. £5.00. for
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Overseas subscriptions:
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Bulk orders. 10 copies: £3. 50.

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CLANGERS AND BOOBS.

In issue no. 6 we reviewed a book under the heading NHS Cold Turkey. But we omitted the title of the Book! It was "Women and Tranquillisers" by Celia Haddon, published by Sheldon Press.

And in the last issue at the end of the article on 'Better Schools' about Summerhill, we missed off the contact address. It is: David Stephens, Summerhill, Leiston, Suffolk.

'Triangle of Corruption', the poster on the centre-spread is available @ £1. 40. for 10. from Green Anarchist. 'Fraudulent Cold War' is also still available.

Green Anarchist badges, 1", dark green and two shades of yellow: 10 badges for £1. 70. post paid. "Green Anarchist", 19 Magdalen Road, Oxford.

SMALL ADS

Communities and people in London and Oxford: Do you have room for me? Contact Richard, 54, Efford Way, Lymington, Hants. SO4 8BY.

THE INDIVISIBLE WAR

THE PROBLEM with all single issue movements is that they divide the consequences from the causes. The problem of mass movements like CND is that its political clout is used as a stepping stone to political power. It is this system of society organisation that has to be challenged. It is no good agonising over the ultimate in political force if we are prepared to sanction the use of force to prop up an unjust and unequal society.

If we occupy more space or consume more of the world's wealth than is necessary, we contribute to the state of affairs that has produced the bomb because that state of affairs has ultimately to be enforced.

When those at the bottom of the pile ultimately explode, there is a plethora of outrage from various sources and they send people like Scarman to tell us why. Common sense should tell us why. All that these experts do is to try and eradicate the symptoms and not the cause. Those in political power will do everything except get off peoples' backs and by this I mean economic control as well. The bomb is a symptom; the only difference is that it is likely to destroy the rulers with the ruled. Is power seeking a sort of paranoia, I ask myself?

Certainly, education of the sort that is inflicted on people in this society and the specialisation that this education produces has resulted in a sort of tunnel vision that enables people to separate consequences from causes.

Green Anarchists believe that ecological dangers to the human environment are ultimately intertwined with the political-industrial power complex that has produced the ultimate in total destruction. We believe that large power structures are dangerous to human life and that they have to be dismantled forthwith. Ordinary people have to recover their understanding that people had for millions of years of the place we have in the environment, the knowledge of growing food, building houses, making clothes where the environment demands it, taking care of the sick, the old and the young, directly. These are simple things that all of us should know about and should be directly controlled in small communities where each has direct control over the environment.

This is beginning to happen in small ways in small co-ops in the black economy, in direct action against the warfare state, the sort of action that the politicians in CND are not happy with because they also are in the business of people control. The business of direct action could be extended to much more collective and mutual aid.

People control is necessary to the whole bomb business.

Alan Albon.

HANDSWORTH BURNS

Discarded by politicians, bullied by police, ignored by employers, denigrated by the middle classes and teased by the advertisers, their self-esteem demanded violence to shout their deep resentment from the bottom of the pile.

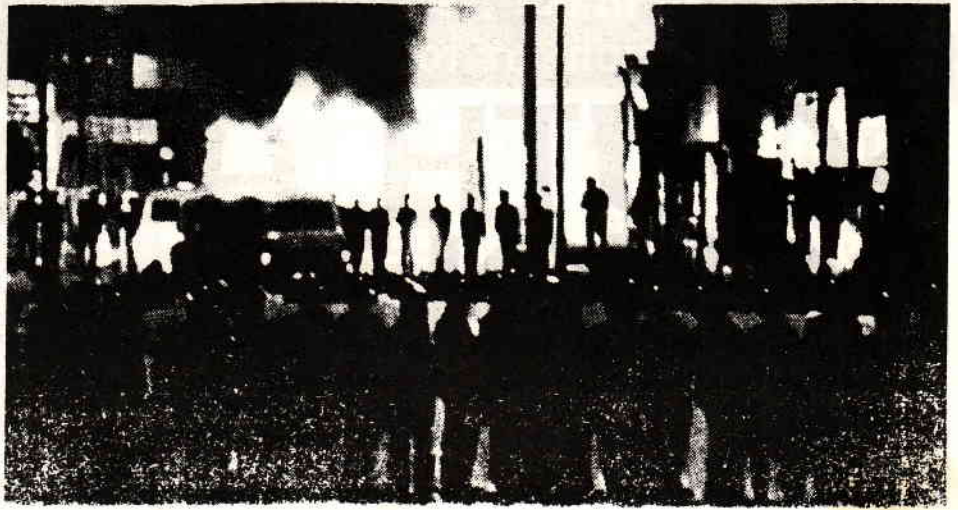
David Webb, police advocate of community policing, a soft approach and blind eyes to soft drugs, had already resigned after differences about police tactics. New senior police officers were changing tactics. A community worker 3 weeks before had warned the council about growing tension from police harassment. 'Community policing' was getting very heavy. Handsworth was waiting for a riot to happen.

The fine weather brought them out onto the streets; rough action by the police got their adrenalin going. The police, after the successful carnival of two days before, were taken by surprise. Outnumbered, they retreated and it was a no go area. Empty office blocks, symbols of the blind industrial system, went up in smoke. After an hour the plate glass windows of the local shops went and behind them were the goods which measured others' success. the looting emptied every shop.

Two Indians died in their burnt-out Post Office. But it was not a race riot. The stones thrown at Douglas Hurd, the new Home Secretary show how political the riot was. They know perfectly well, as they knew in the 1840s, that the only thing the Establishment fears is threats to their property.

EURO-GREEN GATHERING.

A proposal to hold a European Green Gathering in Sussex next year to be policed by the local rugby club has been declared unacceptable by those Green Collective who were at the Festival Forum at Glastonbury. They thought that a middle class green party political rally would cause a split between the green anarchists and other green factions.



Riot gear policemen block off blazing Jozells Road

BRAMBLES. RAID AID

ANARCHY comes to south Hampshire Bureaucracy tried to beat us. Bad weather tried to beat us. The council even refused us water. But Brambles Shambles was not stopped. Two skip loads of gravel had been dumped at the entrance to the site to prevent access. The first arrivals managed to shift these and block the entrance with one of their vehicles, and the third skip load had to turn away. Kept going by Ricardos hot food, and the slow arrival of more vehicles and tents, the site was well and truly liberated. A collective effort to get stage and P.A. together ensured live music from the Poison Girls, Roy Harper, and many local bands. Vi Subversa cried out "Anarchy is what we want". Many would agree that at Brambles Farm '85, Anarchy is what we got!

ANIMAL LIB WITH KNIVES

ALF has repudiated an action at Tring when butchers were held at knife-point while carcasses were sprayed with caustic soda.

MINK FREED.

1000 mink worth £10,000 were released from a farm close to the New Forest. This is controversial because the mink are said to do great damage to local wildlife. On the other hand the European mink is dying out so these mink probably won't survive. And mink farming is fairly degenerate.

RAID AID

In the early hours of Sunday, Aug 11 a group of 10 entered a 'Midlands Storage' warehouse at West Hallam near Nottingham where 39,000 tons of surplus grain are stored, and took away bags of grain. Before leaving slogans were sprayed on the outside walls of the building. The following day the local media were contacted and later grain was 'delivered' to the offices of the Min, of Ag. in Nottingham. Envelopes of grain were also posted to the local representatives at Westminster. A massive food mountain is maintained by government. Under EEC agreements, excess (ie. to the profitable market agricultural produce is bought up by government to guarantee farmers profit levels - and then stockpiled, left and wasted. And the Third World starves.

Rob

UPPER HEYFORD.

5 people got arrested on Aug, 5 during an action at the base. One of these, a 20 year old, got a care order placed on him after saying he was and was put in a home straight away but managed to escape to the embassment of the care officer and the police. Upper Heyford Peace Camp is taking on a new lease of life and needs support.

TECHNIQUES OF REPRESENTATION

For 17 years now Northern Ireland has been the training ground for the British

ON A RECENT VISIT to Ireland Arthur Scargill told an audience of Irish people that the miners' strike of 1984 had shown Britain for what it really is, a vicious police state. Roars of laughter greeted the spectacle of an Englishman coming to Ireland to tell the Irish that they live in a police state. For 17 years now Northern Ireland has been the training ground and the Irish working class the guinea pigs for the British state's counter-insurgency techniques.

..... Since 1972 the British state has been able to erect the full apparatus of a totalitarian state here in Northern Ireland in the name of "a war against terrorism", ie. a war against the catholic working class). 'Totalitarian' is no exaggeration. The typical catholic housing estate here has an army barracks/fortress in the middle of it, keeping a close surveillance of everyone on the estate with close circuit TV cameras, infra red cameras for night vision and a radar system which can detect anyone moving out of sight of electronic eyes in cameras. Helicopters hover overhead for most of the day with zoom-in cameras, and the telephone of anyone 'discontented' is tapped and their mail opened.

New working class housing estates are built according to a British army architect's specification. They are designed to give minimum room for civil disobedience and maximum room for the British army to step in to crush any outbreaks. Housing estates are built with only one exit/entrance so anyone causing trouble can be easily trapped inside; each block is a different colour or shade and army helicopters have a special colour code of the estate so that any block or single house can be quickly and easily pin-pointed from the air. The pavements of the new estates are tarmac so they can't be ripped up for bricks for a riot; the roads leading into the estates are specially reinforced (some are fly-overs) to take large convoys of armoured cars and saracens moving into the estate at first signs of a disturbance. This is not paranoia. This is fact - this housing policy has been part of British colonial rule for decades. Estates on the mainland may even now be designed in this way in case of future unrest.

Daily, the estates old and new are patrolled by British soldiers and the Royal Ulster Constabulary. But more threatening than that, the undercover SAS, totally ruthless legal assassins walk our streets. They strike the most fear into people here. They work alongside the loyalist protestant paramilitaries, the UDA and the UVF, to assassinate suspects, mainly at sight. By day they walk catholic housing estates, dressed like ordinary working class catholics speaking with a N.I. accent. I have had several SAS men pointed out to me. Otherwise I wouldn't have known. They look just like us and speak just like us. The one difference is that they are primed to blow our heads off if we do anything suspicious. People have been shot dead here for painting graffiti on a wall. A lot of the police and local

army here are part-timers and in their other jobs as milkmen, breadmen and insurance men etc they keep a close watch on the housing estates and note down everything they see.

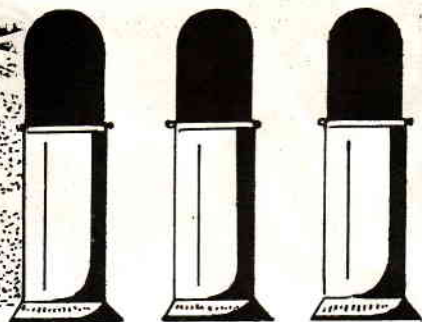
Once we move out of our estates, we are still under heavy surveillance for the biggest computer system in Western Europe is here in Northern Ireland and can keep track of the daily movements of almost every car in N.I. and carried detailed information on almost every citizen (right down to colour and design of wallpaper). There is a special driving licence which is more or less an identity card.

..... The law here is (in the words of Britain's leading expert on counter-insurgency himself), "little more than a propaganda cover for the disposal of unwanted members of the public". Permanent emergency laws have been the norm here since 1922, giving the police unlimited powers of arrest and detention, and like everything else these laws have been used indiscriminately to intimidate and frighten anyone engaged in any form of protest. The courts in N.I. are juryless with one judge who can pass sentence on the word of a cop alone, or a confession that was beaten out of you, or on the word of a highly paid informer who is schooled by the police with all the information they have in their computers.

The army barracks and police stations here are modern torture chambers where every form of torture has been used to get confessions and produce informers (informers are deadly to any cause). In 1971 an experiment was carried out here on twelve men to see how quickly a man can be broken psychologically. Hoods were placed over their heads by the British army, they were dressed in boiler suits and made to stand spread eagled against a wall balancing on their fingertips till they collapsed from exhaustion (to be repeated again as soon as they recovered). While they stood in this position for hours, they were bombarded with white noise and beaten and kicked if they moved at all. This went on for 4 or 5 days. The human guinea-pigs weren't given any food or drink or allowed to sleep or go to the bog. At intervals they were taken up in a helicopter and told they were going to be chucked out hundreds of feet up. They were thrown out, but only when the helicopter was a few feet off the ground (but with hoods on they weren't to know this). After 5 days of this barbarity most of the 12 were psychologically destroyed for life, made into nervous wrecks. In less than a week. The 12 were not IRA men. They were randomly chosen by the British government for this experiment in what is known as "sensory deprivation", a modern torture which leaves not physical but mental scars.

..... The prototype English Bobby has never been seen here. The RUC has been a military style colonial police force since N.I. was set up in 1921. They have been

S SIGN



state's counter-insurgency techniques.

driving round in armoured cars, armed to the teeth with the latest machine guns and other weaponry since that date. Since 1969 the RUC have been ruling N.I. in a joint military dictatorship with the British army. The only thing that tells them apart is the uniform, for the RUC is trained by the British army, have their own SAS-style killer squads, and now work with the SAS independent of the army. If the police thuggery during the miners' strike looked menacing, then be prepared for more of the same in larger amounts, for the RUC are training your British police - every superintendent has to do a tour of duty here with the RUC.....

The cleverest weapon of all though, in the armoury of the British state is not the massive repressive power of the army, the SA S and computer technology, but the most subtle form of repression that exists - media brainwashing. If you thought that media distortion during the miners' strike was powerful, then you still have only seen the tip of the iceberg.

There is strict censorship in the media on Ireland, it must present the British states version of the war here or else. Just a few of the myths that the British media daily regurgitates about Ireland is that there isn't a war going on here at all, its an age old religious feud between rival religious maniacs ("The Troubles"); the army are here doing the best job they can keeping the peace and preventing a bloodbath; and the IRA are a relatively small gang of pathological killers and mafia godfathers holding a whole society in a vice grip of terror. All of these myth are total rubbish but are widely believed on the mainland (and therefore responsible for most of the deaths here). The truth can't get through because the media gives very little space to Ireland, the only news it will report is the same daily catalogue of shootings and bombings. It deliberately does not report the reasons for or background to each incident and avoids giving any historical information on Ireland.

I hope, then, we have given you some warning of what the British state will throw at you if you succeed in creating a mass movement of civil disobedience like the one here. It should be clear now that during the miners strike, the British state only revealed a little of its hand. Maybe you knew this already.....If however, after all this you still think that the British state will never turn its guns on you as it did (and is still doing) on us, then you are trully fucked. For the British army will have to leave, or be driven out, of here someday, and guess where the next stop is?

This is a shortened version of a paper presented to the 'Class War' rally in London in July.



THE 'CLASS STRUGGLE'

The British working class, without land, depends for its necessities of life on the exploitation of the peasants of the Third World, who are dying of starvation because their land is being used to grow crops for the workers of the industrial countries, (cotton, one fifth of the world's entire food and, jute, rubber, vegetable oil, fruit, beans, soya, meat etc.).

While the bosses have always exploited urban artisans, those artisans have always been dependant on the exploitation of the peasants of the city's hinterland. Today our hinterland is the Third World.

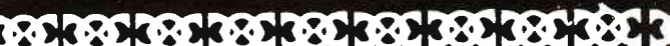
To recognise that the artisan exploits the peasant is to undermine the whole theory and strategy of those who concentrate on 'The Class Struggle'. Since the exploited British working class is also the exploited of the Third World, it is unlikely that the working class will take any revolutionary initiative. Theoretically we must expect and support, Third World revolution before a British revolution..

Tactically it is a mistake to try to find revolutionaries in the British working class. Any revolutionaries will be found amongst the unemployed, not at the workplace.

Because it disproves the conventional 'Class Struggle' theories and strategies every effort is made to marginalise Green Anarchism by harping on about our odd aspects like hair dos and brown rice and our unsounder, holier-than-thou aspects like 'lifestyle'. For the same reasons they underplay world pollution and resource depletion which also falsify their theories of industrialism.

They'll try to ignore the awkward basic issues. It's up to you to bring them to their attention.

GREEN ANARCHIST.



One of the first multinationals, the Hudson Bay Trading Company in the 1680s set the pattern. For beaver skins (used for expensive London hats), it traded cheap glass beads for Canadian Indian trappers. The trappers, having enough to King Charles II (our government): "Supply us with guns and military cover and we'll cut you into the profits." The guns were passed over to enemy Indian chiefs (the puppet government) on condition that they forced the trappers to produce the skins. The Triangle of Corruption delivered. The multinational got the skins and the profits: our government got its cut: and the puppet government got its guns. We got our hats. The Indians got exploited.

TRIANGLE OF CORRUPTION

OUR PUPPET GOVERNMENT
to our elites supply guns
to Third World elites
to suppress their people
and sell their crops to
multinationals to sell to us.
The unpalatable fact is that our govern-
ment connives with the multinationals
to keep tyrannical Third World govern-
ments in power expressly to remove
crops and let their people starve.
The multinational must have the mil-
itary support infra-



Our government has supplied President Marcos, (the puppet government) of the Philippines with military equipment (for example, personnel carriers from GKN-Bankey). In return Marcos has driven 8000...



to keep ty...
ments in power express...
the crops and let their people...
The multinational must have the mil-
itary cover and transport infra-
structure supplied by the home
government. It must also
have the licences to mine
and the leases of land
from the puppet gov-
ernment, and the
arms supply to
keep the
puppet in
power.

(JKN-Sankey). In
return Marcos has
driven 2000 peas-
ants and tribespeo-
ple off 4000 acres
for our Common-
wealth Development
Corporation with
Guthrie Inc. (the mul-
tinational) to grow palm
oil for our margarine
etc. Our government
keeps Marcos in power
with our guns. In return
he hands over his people's
land for multinationals to
make its profits on crops
grown for us. 55% of the
Philippines now grows crops
for export.
But this time the Triangle of
Corruption was foiled. The
New Peoples Army, fighting a
guerilla war against the UK/USA
supported Marcos, has burned
down our palm oil processing mill,
making the whole project unecon-
omic.



ANARCHO-SYNDICALISM

ONE THING that all types of anarchism have in common is respect for the individual, and the ultimate goal of the creation of a free, classless society in which people have direct control of their own lives. Anarcho-syndicalism believes that, in order to replace the state and capitalism with self-managed production for need, rather than profit, the workers themselves must take over the means of production and distribution. There is no room in anarcho-syndicalism for the authoritarian-socialist notion of taking over "on behalf of the working class", or of a "revolutionary vanguard" - history is littered with examples of where these ideas lead, eg. post-revolutionary Soviet Union.

How, then, do anarcho-syndicalists see the way to work towards a free society, faced with existing conditions? In the first place, the workers' control, which is the means towards the anarcho-syndicalist goal, must be fought for by a united movement, organised on a libertarian, anarchist basis. To achieve consensus in a large group anarcho-syndicalism favours a structured organisation. There are no leaders and no full-time officials or bureaucrats. Those people, chosen to act or speak on behalf of the working class, should do so as delegates, not representatives. As such they should carry out their function according to the will of the movement as a whole, and not have the power to take action or make decisions themselves without consultation. This means the delegates must be subject to instant recall, or if they do the dirty on their fellow workers, they can be replaced at once. Organisation of workers will be by industry, rather than by trade - the existing craft union system being divisive and counter-productive.

Anarcho-syndicalists, in common with other anarchists, have no use for the political parties, parliamentary processes or out-of-touch trade union bureaucrats. The potential collective power of the working class lies in the workplace more than anywhere else, and this is what has to be recognised in the struggle towards an anarchist society. Direct action at the point of production is the major means of achieving this goal. This action can take several forms - everybody knows about strikes, but there are other methods, such as the "good work" strike (eg. bus workers refusing to take fares, catering workers giving out large helpings of food), and "open mouth" tactics (where workers make public facts which are embarrassing to the bosses - such as abuses of

health and safety regulations). There is plenty of scope for direct action which will win the support of other working class people.

As 'working class' is a phrase which seems to cause difficulty for some people, it should be made clear what anarcho-syndicalists mean by it. It includes everybody in the lower part of the economic scale - unpaid workers such as people who manage households and look after children, old people, disabled people and unemployed people dependent on benefits, as well as working people. It is vital for all these people with a common interest in changing society to be united, and to co-operate in trying to achieve the ultimate goal of a free anarchist society. One of the most powerful weapons the state is divide and rule - the more that different groups among the oppressed sections of society go their separate ways and refuse to adopt ideas of mutual aid and overall co-operation, the more those with a vested interest in maintaining the system like it. This is where the traditional trade union movement fails miserably, as, apart from its reactionary attitudes, it divides the working class, both between different sections of production, and between those in and out of paid employment.

It should be remembered that anarcho-syndicalists are also involved in other activities, such as unemployed groups, anti-racist, anti-sexist and anti-militarist campaigns, opposition to nuclear power etc.

For more information about anarcho-syndicalism there are a number of pamphlets published by the Direct Action Movement (DAM) which is the organisation of anarcho-syndicalism in Britain, and is the British section of the International Workers Association (IWA). For details contact: DAM/IWA Publications, c/o Box DAM, 121 Railton Road, London SE24. Read 'Direct Action', 20p a copy from: Direct Action, Dept. DA, PO Box 102, Hull, North Humberside.

George.

In a follow-up article George will describe how anarcho-syndicalism works out in practice - how national decisions are arrived at, delegation of decision-making, local organisation, and tactics derived from the theory - how we get from here to there!

VAGABOND FANZINE ISSUE ONE 30p & SAE Garry, Weals Bungalow, Newcastle Road, Craven Arms, Salop... includes interviews with CHUMAWAMBA/TOXIC SHOCK/D&V plus... DCL/THE MEMBRANES/LEDGEND/YEAH YEAH NOH/ and articles on USAF MOLESWORTH/SEXISM/NORTHERN IRELAND/AND NIGERIAN MUSIC.

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