

WORKING CLASS

CAN DEFUSE IT!

The ruling class of this world is responsible for an immense threat hanging over our heads: the sudden destruction of all humanity in a nuclear war.

There is nothing new in the fact that the ruling class have the power of life or death over us. If they don't kill us outright and openly to keep us in check (like in the US con-

trolled dictatorships in Latin America) then, because they have robbed wealth of this world, we are left to starve (eg Africa) or die from lack of decent living conditions (eg by hypothermia in Britain). What is new is the scale of the threat our rulers now pose, that of total annihilation.

LIES

We are told that nuclear weapons have created a balance of power between East and West and have kept the peace for 40 years; told that a strong and nuclear NATO has prevented the Red hordes of the Soviet Union from sweeping across Europe; told that until the USA and USSR agree to limit, reduce and eliminate nuclear weapons at the same time, then the arms race must continue.

All these things are LIES. There's no balance of power between East and West. Western

economies are stronger than those of the East and the West maintains military superiority, especially in nuclear weapons.

Military and political specialists of the West have never considered it likely that the USSR would want to, or try to, invade Western Europe. The ruling class and its mouth-piece, the media, who say this threat is real are lying. Wars have been going on constantly since 1945. There has been no peace for nuclear weapons to keep! The arms race continues not because of stubbornness or distrust on the part of either superpower but because it is profitable and useful.

USES OF THE ARMS RACE:

FOR THE WEST

these profits help ensure their power. Owners of hi-tech industries set out to convince ordinary people of the necessity of spending more and more on weapons; in return the government ploughs millions into those industries. This technology which is developed for military purposes is adapted for commercial uses too, making it even more profitable for IBM and the like. Meanwhile, ordinary tax payers cop the bill.

The richest and most powerful sections of the Western ruling class will never give up their large government subsidies without a fight. Any government which tries to limit the wealth of the bosses, in any way, never lasts long.

On another level, all states, whatever their political complexion, need a "foreign menace" myth to keep ordinary

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And more...

ANARCHY THROUGH CLASS - STRUGGLE!

LIBERATION!

THE RICH

It is a well known fact that the scum always rises to the top. Perhaps, given the fabulous wealth of the "top" people in Britain, the same thing applies. Britain belongs to the rich and the super-rich, whilst the vast majority of the population struggles to make ends meet.

The individual holdings of the super-rich in Britain are truly staggering. The Queen is estimated to be worth more than 4 billion pounds, whilst some of the less well-off members of the super-rich group still do quite well. The Duke of Westminster (who owns Oxford Street) is worth over 2 billion pounds and Lord Vesty and David Sainsbury have to manage on only 1 billion pounds each. Robert Maxwell and Sir James

It's not as if they mostly achieved their wealth through the working of a meritocracy in which the most able rise to the top (and even if they did it wouldn't be any more acceptable). In fact most millionaires inherited large sums of money. Forty-two percent of millionaires had fathers who were wealthy businessmen or landowners. Forty-three percent of them were left over £100,000 and a further 32% of them inherited between £10,000 and £100,000. Of course, at the time of their inheritance many years ago, these sums were worth far more than they are now.

How do the rich spend their wealth? If we take Peter Cadbury, one of the heirs of the confectionary producing family,



Some people in Britain have become rich through hard work and luck. The great majority of the wealthy, however, get their money from shares and the like. Two-thirds of the population have no unearned income - even if you own a house, it doesn't necessarily

capital transfer tax was introduced to make sure that the scheming rich bastards paid up. Now, friend of the wealthy, Nigel Lawson, intends to scrap it, so that once again the rich can easily pass on their millions.

the bottom of the super-rich league, with only 5 hundred million pounds each.

There are about 20,000 millionaires in Britain, who own more than half of the wealth of the population as a whole. The top 0.1 percent - just 43,000 people - owns two-fifths of the wealth and own almost twice as much as the bottom 50 percent. So, whilst the vast majority of the population has a constant struggle to make ends meet, a tiny section of the rich lives a life of fabulous luxury.

obsessed with posh cars. He has been buying Bentleys for over 40 years and has, to date, bought 31 of them. With the proceeds of this inherited loot (and millions of decayed children's teeth later) he bought several money-making businesses. These include Westward Television, Working Woman magazine and the Keith Prowse ticket agency. He owns a huge mansion in Hampshire, complete with swimming pool, tennis courts and a cook. In addition, he owns a flat in London and a holiday home in the Caribbean.

generate income - yet the top six percent share 44 percent of unearned income.

The Thatcher government, as might be expected, has done its best to increase the wealth of the ruling class. Between 1976 and 1983, the share of the bottom 40 percent of income earners (ie people who work for a living) fell from 10 percent to 7 percent. As I have pointed out, most people are rich because their parents were rich. It was widely recognised that death duties were easily avoided and as a result the

If anyone thinks that Labour or the Alliance will do anything to redistribute wealth in favour of the poor, it should be recognised that both camps have their share of millionaires (eg 'socialist' millionaire Maxwell) and successive Labour governments have supported capitalism, the exploitative system which gives the rich their millions. Inequality of wealth goes hand in hand with inequality of power. A tiny number of people control both and, as a result, us too. It's high time that the whole apple cart was overturned.

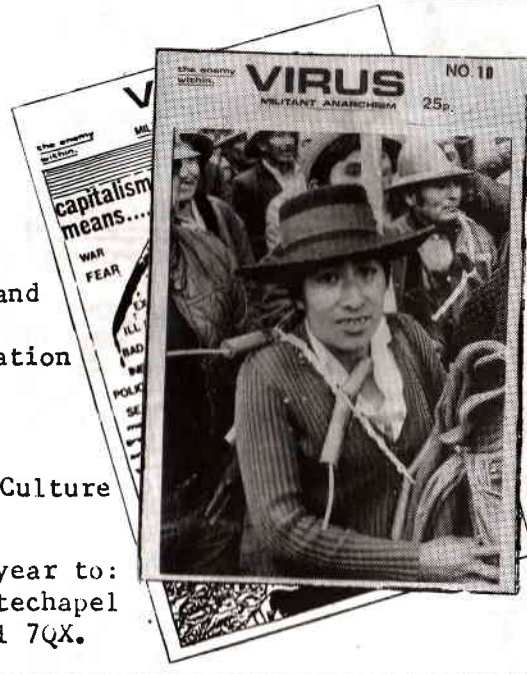
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STEVEN SHAW cont.

to him and his friends over the course of the last two years. Steven Shaw is being punished for organising against police violence and harassment and that is why we call on everyone to support this campaign.

The Justice for Steven Shaw Campaign realises that Steve is not the first to suffer at police hands. Many people know of worse cases. Only now is the police doing to white students what they have done to other sections of British society for many, many years.

In the first two months of 1987, two more cases of brutal police violence have been publicised: Trevor Monerville was put on a life support

machine after being beaten by police in Stoke Newington and in Wolverhampton Clinton McCurbin was strangled to death while being arrested in connection with a credit card offence. Here in Manchester the experiences of Sam White and Jackie Berkeley reflect the kind of treatment that people in Moss Side have grown to expect from the police.

More and more groups are learning from experience what police harassment and intimidation really means. Now is the time for all of us to unite and demand justice for Steven Shaw and all victims of police harassment.

For information contact: Justice for Steven Shaw, c/o MUSU, Steve Biko building, Oxford Road, Manchester. Tel:061 273 5111.

ORGANISE FOR ANARCHY!