

NEW WORLD

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NO STATE - MURDER

The Japanese Judicial System is in three stages. The first stage - Omori was sentenced to death by the Sapporo District Court although Omori is innocent of all charges and the prosecution could offer no decisive or objective evidence to prove Omori's guilt, unfortunately there was no evidence to prove him innocent.

Omori is now facing the second trial at the Sapporo High Court. This on-going circus will continue for at least a year. If the Sapporo High Court rules against Omori then he will be allowed to appeal to the Supreme Court in Tokyo. This procedure is expected to take between two and three years, but it has proved difficult in the past to reverse earlier decisions, so that it is imperative to build the support campaign during the next twelve months.

Omori had never been a member of any anarchist organisation or group before he was arrested in August 1976. Nevertheless, we can regard his ideas of social structure after revolution

as allied to anarchism. He has stood against the invasion and occupation of Ainus' land by the Japanese State (Ainus are aboriginal people in Hokkaido). He agrees with their method of guerilla struggle against the state, but he isn't Nationalist in favour of the Ainus, nor did he bomb the Hokkaido Government Office. The Ainus have a society based on mutual aid - all live equally.

There are a number of active anarchists in Japan, supporting Omori in prison and on trial and protesting against the frame-up trial and death sentence. Every ten days there is a meeting held by some members of a support group in Tokyo - the main one in Japan. A number of anarchists are members of this group. In Sapporo there are five or six members of a local support group and Omori's wife working actively in the campaign. They usually hold a protest march in the centre of the city on the day before the trial. There are seven members in Osaka and Kyoto. However, they have problems organising themselves.

The Tokyo Support Group held a meeting on 15 March in Tokyo with about seventy participants. Yamamichi Yasuko spoke about a struggle against the environment where she lives. She is an Ainu woman in Hokkaido. She is also supporting the Free Omori Campaign. On March 29 they picketed the Ministry of Justice Buildings. In May they decided to hold a monthly meeting to make more people understand the case of Omori. They are making slides (in Japanese) for publicity. An information sheet is published monthly in Hapanese.

On August 10 there was a picket of the Japanese Embassy in Quebec, on the 11 a picket in London and on the 12 a picket in New York, all in support of Omori.

Omori Support Group
[Redacted]
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CNT-AIT WIN APPEAL

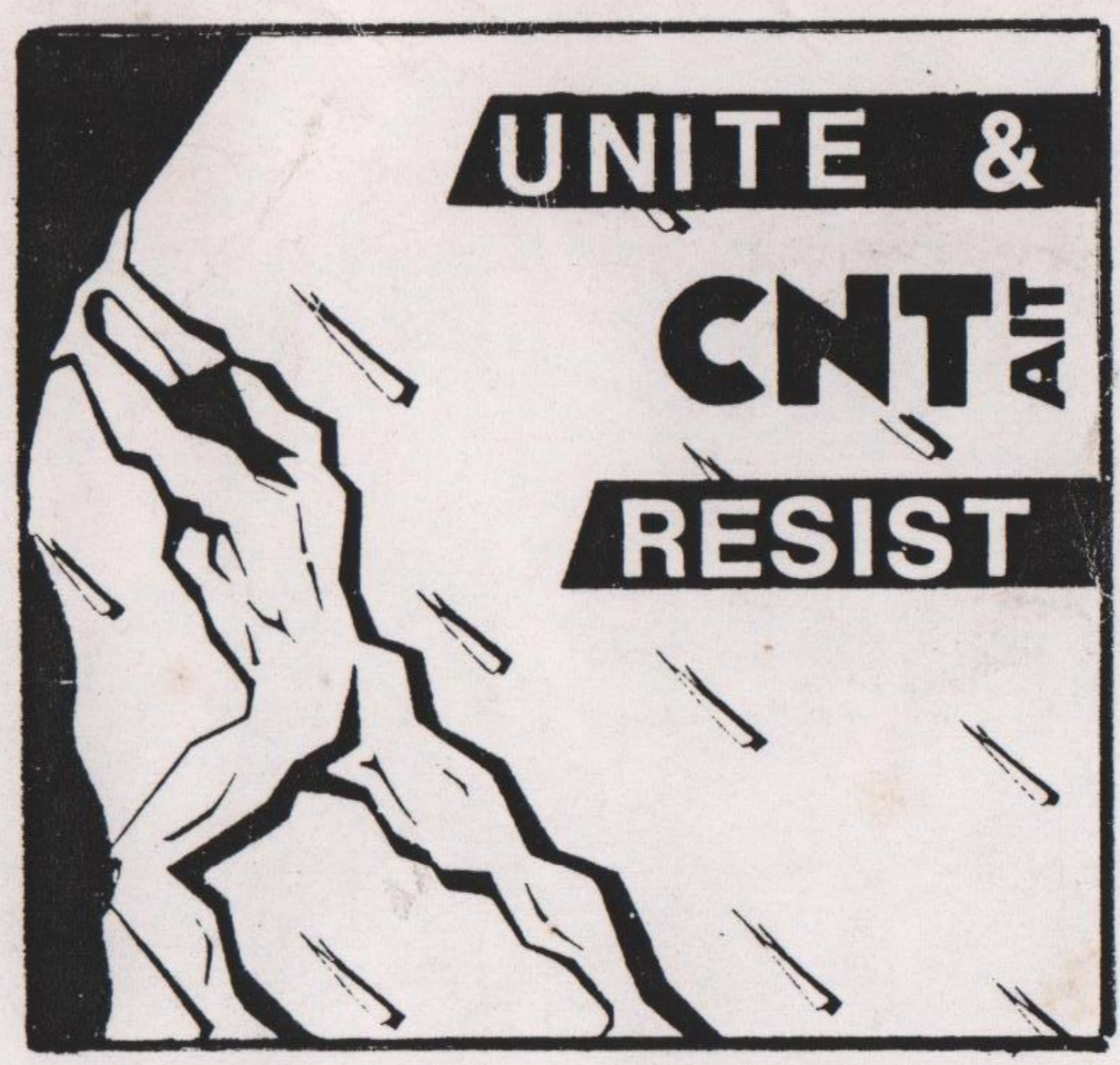
On June 23, 1986 (while the Turin Conference was taking place), the CNT-AIT was dispossessed of its legal personality, giving the separatist CNT (Valencia Congress and after the Congress of Reunification) the sole right to be called CNT.

The National Committee of the CNT-AIT immediately appealed against this sentence at the Territory Court, and succeeded in getting the decision overturned.

The original sentence was only provisional, though the real danger for the CNT-AIT was a request to the Judge by the new CNT for the provisional execution of the sentence, asking for the restitution of the historical syndicalist patrimony.

The sentence was recognised as being unjust and arbitrary (even by the lawyers), and was given under pressure from the high church hierarchies (at least according to leaked information).

The provisional sentence only recognised the existence of



the CNT-AIT as a syndicalist organisation, declaring illegal its anarcho-syndicalist position, which is the real nature and personality of the organisation, socially and historically, and recognised as such all over the world.

Also, they declared the anarcho-syndicalist movement illegal on the eve of the Anniversary of the Civil War and the Spanish Anarchist Revolution, trying to reduce the impact of the organised events - and failing miserably.

The reasons for the Judge giving such a partisan sentence were based on his nullification of the V Congress of

the CNT held on December 8, 1979 in Madrid, because of the differences between the anarchist groups and the separatist group, that would afterwards split away. The Judge never denied that the faithful syndicates of the CNT-AIT were the overwhelming majority in the V Congress, but that the minorities' (the dissidents) rights were never respected, which the Judge considers is unconstitutional. A hypocritical pronouncement, because he denied the validity of the democratic parliamentary system, based on the preponderance of the majority, and also all the actions of the Spanish Socialist government in the Congress and in the Senate during the last four years of its management.

The other reason given by the Judge is that after the V Congress was held, there was a Congress of Reunification, and he considered this the only legal Congress held by the CNT after Franco's death. In reality, this Congress was denounced from the beginning, and the few sessions held provoked violent fights

between CNT militants in which the police (who protected the place where it was being held) had to intervene.

But the Judge recognised the Congress of Reunification as valid, because in his sentence he nullifies the V Congress held five years before, as its representative organs (of the CNT-AIT) and the anarcho-syndicalist tendency that supports it.

However, paradoxically, the Judge ignored the fact that most of the seperatists (and amongst them the General Secretary named in the Congress of Reunification) still remained in the CNT-

AIT as militants with responsible duties, some years after the V Congress.

Although the decision has been overturned, the fate of the historical patrimony has still to be decided, but given the CNT-AIT's recent victory, maybe they will get everything back that is owed to them.

* * *



On Saturday, 2 August 1986, the NW and NE Regional sections of the DAM-IWA called a picket of the Spanish Consulate in Manchester at 9.00 am. Having gathered in front of the building, passers-by were given leaflets and told of the reason for the picket.

This action was a total success, because the Consulate refused to open its doors - even when people arrived to make enquiries! The staff just watched from the windows. There were no arrests.

Various actions were arranged to coincide with this in London.

NORTHERN IWA CONFERENCE

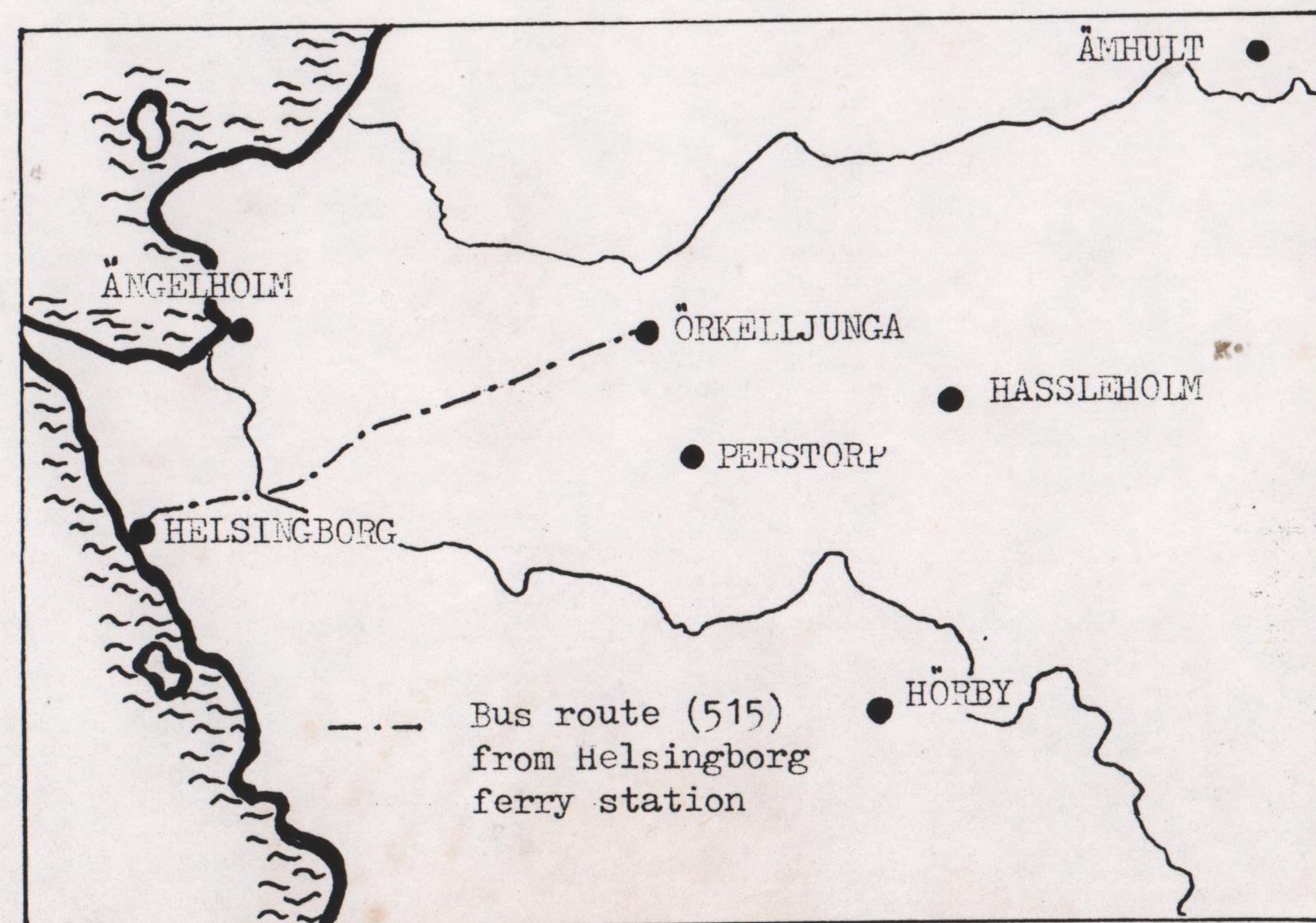
The delegate conference of the Northern sub-secretariat of the IWA will be held in Sweden.

The address is "föreningshuset" Orkelljunga - which is 50 km from Helsingborg.

The conference will start at 10 am on Saturday, 11 October and continue until Sunday 12 October if necessary.

All sections are reminded to send in points for the agenda before the conference.

If people are arriving on Friday, please contact the ASF.



NORWAY



The year 1986 has started as a very interesting year from an anarchist point of view. At the local level in LO the initiative FUF (for a free and independent trade union) has got massive support, especially in metal, building transport and social workers. The answer from the central IO is threats of suspension or excluding of activists, saying that they make "an organisation inside the organisation". The climax so far has been the exclusion of a trade union activist in Tønsberg. He was excluded from the local geographical building section, for supporting the FUF, even though all the workers in the firm he worked for had supported the initiative.

Some weeks before a local LO boss had shown the employer in the firm a list of rebel workers in his firm. The employer, a Labour Party member was shocked by this activity of the LO and reported it to the union and the press. The union sent a complaint to the IO, without receiving a satisfactory answer.

The reactions against the exclusion were very hard, because of all these events, and even the largest building section of the Norwegian Building Workers Federation (Section 1 in Oslo) supported the excluded worker.

The negotiations this spring have shown clearly to many workers the need for a fighting and independent trade union movement.

In a situation of falling oil prices, the employers and the (at the time)

Conservative Government were preaching moderation, while most of the Federations demanded 37.5 hour week and higher wages.

Totally unexpected, the answer from the employers was a lock-out of large groups of workers in 4 LO Federations, totalling 106,000.

In the oil industry, 16,000 workers got locked out because of a strike of food supply workers demanding equal wages as the other workers at the platforms. These food supply workers are organised outside the IO.

The length of the lock-out (except the oil) was one week. This showed to many workers the character of a class society and the need for workers solidarity. The situation was favourable for the workers because the employers were split. A lot of them disagreed with the lock out and wanted to break it. This was especially in the catering industry, but also in building and metal. To understand this attitude, it is necessary to understand the different aspects of oil economy. Falling oil prices give less profit for the state and the oil industry, but gives cheaper oil to the industries as a whole. By this their profit had increased and a lock-out was not convenient.

The situation could have brought a total victory for the workers, with split employers and a united working class, but the bureaucracy helped the capitalists selling the result as an historical victory. The LO president was anxious for the

future relationship with the employers and said "we don't beat people who lie down".

The result was 37.5 hour week from 1 April 1987. The demand from the workers was at once, since the employers principally had accepted the demand some years ago. The 37.5 hour week was not without conditions: the employers got that it should not decrease the productivity, and that it should be possible to negotiate flexibility locally (!)

The total wage increase of the negotiations was about 7.5%. This does not take into account price increases and tax increases.

In the oil industry, the government ended the strike and lock-out by taking the conflict to a forced wages board after it spread to the Norwegian workers at the British Sector (Frigg). These forced wages boards are really class instruments for the capitalists and the state. In the last 30 years they were used 77 times!

In May 1, the government changed hands. The Labour Party marched under the slogan "time for changes". Now in government, the Labour Party has done the opposite, being willing to cut down the expenses with about 5000 million Norwegian crowns. Who is going to pay? The working class - as usual. The first step of the new government was to devalue the Norwegian crown by 12%. This will cause a price rise for imports, and 'eat' considerable parts of the wage increases.

Many trade unionists, even in the central LO criticised the

time for the devaluation during the wage negotiations. But the government daid they had no coice, since the foreign investors had been speculating on Norwegian crowns, waiting for a devaluation to come.

The next problem for the new government was the negotiations of the municipal and state employees. As a consequence of the oil economy, many in state jobs have taken employment in private industry, where the wages are much higher. To keep the workers in the public sector the unions this time had

higher demands than before; ie the teachers had a demand on about 15-20% wage increase to avoid parts of the school system from collapsing because of too few teachers. The result of the negotiations was a strike amongst teachers, technicians, nurses and municipal workers. The first week 25,000 were on strike.

The NSF members have taken part in the struggles where they are organised - in the local unions and inside the main union federations. The tactics, now as before, are to strengthen the local

HARMLESS KILLERS

After the riots in Tottenham, Brixton, Hadsforth et al, the police decided that the time is now ripe for the use of plastic bullets on the British mainland.

The history of plastic bullets begins in Hong Kong with the development of the 'baton round' - a combination of a truncheon and a bullet, specifically designed for riot situations to enable the police to strike demonstrators from a distance, therefore reducing the risk to themselves. They were used extensively in 1966-1967 and were considered such a huge success, the authorities planned to use them in Northern Ireland. This was rejected because they were considered too dangerous (but OK to be used on the Asians). Therefore a new version - made of rubber was first used in Ireland in 1970. A harder and more accurate version was produced soon after - the plastic bullet, which was first issued in Northern Ireland in 1973. These proved to be even more successful than anything else manufact-

ured so far, even surpassing the rubber bullet, which was withdrawn in 1975. The biggest advantage for the British was that the plastic bullet could be aimed directly at a target rather than being fired at the ground - as with the rubber bullet.

However, there was one small flaw in their dream weapon - the more effective it was, the more people were killed - not only the so-called rioters, but also children and non-rioters as well. From a public relations point of view this was catastrophic and would have to be passed off somehow. Therefore, the term 'harmless weapon' came into being. This campaign was chillingly successful.

Essentially, plastic bullets are used in situations where the use of live ammunition would be counter-productive. The image of frowd control weapons is crucial, especially when TV cameras are likely to be there. The ultimate situation for the government is when the target population fully realises the danger of a

force against the central concessions, and to spread an anarcho-syndicalist perspective. Fortunately, the FUF (see page 3) can be an embryo of a new opposition inside the LO, if the left political parties do not interfere. So far the Maoists are active in this movement. Strangely enough, the Maoists are strong in Norway (with daily newspaper etc), but the Maoist activity came after the initiative was a reality, so that the character of this initiative is as one shopsteward said: "light years further than the political parties!"

weapon and is therefore intimidated by it, but everyone else thiks it's harmless.

This ideal may seem very naive but it actually works very well. The idea that plastic bullets are only used on rioters and malcontents of various persuasions is a commonly held one, but only by everyone who has not experienced it first hand (the Irish and the blacks in Britian are notable exceptions).

Britian has become a world 'brand name' in riot control weapons, exporting them to Spain, Portugal, South Africa, Iran, West Germany. Also, it seems, the British are world leaders in 'doctoring' bullets. In Northern Ireland there have been allegations of soldiers putting razor blades, jagged bottle tops and slivers of glass into the ends of plastic bullets.

Therefore, the propaganda lies of seeing plastic bullets as 'harmless weapons' must be crushed once and for all.

PUBLICATIONS RECIEVED:

Arbeider Solidaritet

NSF
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Norway

Direct Action

DAM
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Manchester

Black Flag

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The new address for the International Secretary of DAM-IWA is:

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New World is published by the Northern sub-secretariat of the IWA.

All information, articles etc should be sent to:

Northern IWA sub-secretariat

England

Art work by Flavio Costantini

Statement from the DAM-IWA.

For the past several months it has been apparent that the views of the Hull DAM group have differed considerably from the stated aims and objects of the national Direct Action Movement.

As a consequence of this the Hull comrades were requested by the National Committee of the DAM to relinquish editorship of the Organisation's paper Direct Action; it being obvious that they no longer had the support of the membership.

Hull are no longer members of the DAM-IWA and in leaving

the Organisation have brought out a spurious and totally bogus issue of what purports to be issue No 32, July 1986, of Direct Action.

The DAM totally rejects this false edition as well as the attacks on our sister organisation the CNT-AIT contained within it.

In taking this step, however reluctantly, we call upon the anarchist movement in Britain and abroad as well as the International Workers Association to reject these people and their dishonest behaviour.

