FEEDBACK

Pamphlet Review

TELL US LIES ABOUT THE MINERS

Written by D.J. Douglass, Branch Delegate, Hatfield NUM, Doncaster.

This is a short account of media influence interference and reportage during the Miners Strike. Using examples from all sections of the media, it highlights the way events and arguments are misreported, misquoted and misinterpreted. It uses extracts to show how the strike became personalised how figures were inflated or deflated to suit the occasion, and how violence was distorted.

The pamphlet is important in that it makes people question what they read, hear and see in the media.

It was written by an activist who was well able to see the difference between what was reported to have happened and what actually happened. It contrasts those aspects of the strike which were emphasised by the media, and those which were totally ignored.

It also holds a warning for those of us involved in the production of papers and newshetts and who are trying to report and analyse these events. That is, we should never use, as sources of information, articles in the media which just happen to fit into our political outlook. For example, using distorted or invented reports which were used to attack the union structure/leaders, or emphasised acts of resistance.

Tell Us Lies is easy reading, aimed at the majority of people in this country who appear to believe that 'our' media is free, unbiased, and truthful.

Copies are available from:
Doncaster DAM, PO Box 96, Doncaster.
Cambridge DAM, c/o Grapevine, 25 Gwydir Street, Cambridge.
South London DAM, 121 Railton Road, Herne Hill, London SE24.

Cost is 60p per copy, plus postage. 20p of cost to go to victimised miners.



Play Review

REVIEW of Edward Bond's HUMAN CANNON, performed by Quantum Theatre Company, Manchester.

Human Cannon charts the struggle against Fascism in Spain (1936-40) through the stories of the village community of Estarabon and especially centres around the experiences of its two members, Agustina, and her family.

The communication tool of Direct Address is used several times in the play. This is useful for political theatre because it makes the audience question their own beliefs and actually think about the issues, rather than just being a passive observer.

Throughout the play it is never mentioned whenever those active against fascism are supposed to be anarchists or communists or whatever. They are presented as just being ordinary villagers rather than politicos, which is a good thing really.

The re-construction of village life during the revolutionary phase is not described in the play and in fact very early on in the play the village is surrounded to the Francoists, so the play is mainly about the continued fight against fascism after it has been imposed on the community.

Before the village is surrendered the local priest is sentenced to death by a peoples court, but unfortunately the priest is presented as being a nice chap (when in fact they (the clergy) were FASCISTS) and his alleged crime of contributing to the circumstances that had driven a villager to commit suiside is not made very clear. The average person in the audience could be forgiven for feeling sympathetic towards the priest. And what's more, when the priest escapes with the help of an old woman, two men are accused of not guarding him properly and are shot immediately! This sort of thing leads the audience to think that the anti-fascists are vicious and inhuman and not much better than the fascists.

To be fair, the brutality of the fascists is exposed such as in the scene where people are taken out into the hills to be shot by firing squad, while members of the bourgeoisie look on in approval. Also the scene in which the fascist 'Director' threatens to execute about ten women unless they say who planted the bomb in the church.

The linkage between the church and the class enemy (the bourgeoisie) and the role of the church in conning people into accepting social injustice is highlighted in the play, although today this role has largely been taken over by the mass media.

The political message of the play is that the system that the anti-fascists were fighting against is exactly the same system that we are living under today and in fact struggling against (as in the miners strike). The play is not just attacking Spanish Fascism but is attacking the system of injustice that is found all around the world — CAPITALISM.

To conclude, an interesting and enjoyable play, the performances were good, but I would say not very effective for political propaganda purposes.

P.

DAM—IWA SUMMER SCHOOL

The Burnley DAM/IWA are holding a Summer School commencing Saturday, September 7th at YORKSHIRE CLARION CLUBHOUSE, MENSTON, nr OTLEY, YORKSHIRE.

There is room for tents and for those who don't have one there are bunks inside the Clubhouse. However the cost will only be £5 for the weekend, this is because of the hire charge, and of the expenses of the non-DAM speakers will have to be paid.

For those who can get there Friday the 6th, it is hoped there will be someone to greet you there. For those in no hurry, we do not have to move off until Monday morning 9.9.85. Be sure to bring calor gas stove (you can't borrow ours) and a sleeping bag.

Saturday
11am DAM & the National Rank & File Movement — John Simpkin.
12am Break for dinner. (Cook your own).
2pm The National Rank & File Movement in the Past — Brian Bamford.
3pm The National Miners Rank & File Movement — Miners to be named.

Sunday
11am Anarcho Communism — Jim Petty.
12am Break for dinner.
2pm Marxism and Anarchism — Ron Marsden.
3pm Direct Action & the Anarchist Press — Guy Cheverton-Fox.
4pm Practical Ideas for Layout and Printing — Brett.

If you have any subject you would like to see discussed why not bring it up at a suitable time and we can all join in? The times, dates and speakers are provisional. The Miners have been contacted and we understand that one or two will speak.

Friends and acquaintances of DAM members are welcome at their own risk (and at the risk of the person who invited them).

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED:

UTNE READER No. 11 (Aug/Sept 1985). An interesting 'alternative Reader's Digest' publication from the US containing excerpts and reviews of important articles culled from over 1,000 independent magazines and newsletters. This issue contains articles on neo-nazism in North America; how to keep fit; what US students are up to and lots more. Interesting section under 'Anarchism'. 128 pages. Price $4.00, **c/o P.O. Box 1974, Marion, Ohio 43305. USA.**

REBEL WORKER No. 22 (Aug/Sept 1985). *The* Anarcho-syndicalist paper in Australia. Latest issue contains industrial news from Australia plus a look at the CNT; South Africa and more.There's also a Special Supplement about New Caledonia in this issue. Price 30 cents **c/o P.O. Box 92, Broadway 2007 NSW Sydney Australia.**

JAIL NEWS Volume 8 No. 2 July 1985 Put out by The Prisoners Action Group in Australia who are made up of prisoners, ex-prisoners and other friends and fight for justice, with particular interest in prisons and other forms of state violence. PAG: — fights for the ultimate abolition of prisons; — shows how the so-called 'justice' system and particularly the Department of Corrective Services is a front for violence and intimidation against the poor, the working people and minority groups; — fights for the rights and freedom of men and women in Australian prisons; — exposes the real nature of prisons and their failure to achieve their stated aims of deterrence, punishment and rehabilitation & — works for improvements inside the burden to ease the burden and routine of prisoners. JAIL NEWS: for a year's copies send $8 Aust. ($12 if you are an institution) to PAG (Prisoners Free) to: BREAKOUT, P.O. Box 397 Rozelle 2039. They are also promoting a book called **The Mickelberg Stitch** which is a chilling expose of Western Australia police practice. To order a copy send $9 to the Jail News address above.

POOH BEAR LIBERATION ARMY

On August 3rd, the old Arts Centre in Haringey, North London was squatted by anarchists. It is a huge ex-Church with two large halls and excellent facilities. An anarchist bookshop will soon be opened in the building, and it will be used for discos gigs, and fund-raising. Help is urgently needed to run and properly secure the council owned building. Drop by and see them. The address is *PBLA, Arts Centre, Corner of Redvers Rd/Lordship Lane, Haringey. (2minutes from Wood Green Tube/underground railway station).*

ANARCHIST COMPUTER GROUP

A new Anarchist computer group has been formed in Paris, its called the Libertarian Computer Association. Address is: *C.L.I. c/o Dusanter; B.P. 427 - 16 75769; PARIS Cedex 16. FRANCE*

SPANISH ANARCHIST RADIO

An excellent Anarchist radio station, sponsored by the CNT is still operating in Valencia, Spain. Their address is: *Radio Libertaria, San Martin, 5 - 1a VALENCIA, ESPANA.* Pirate on 106.5fm.

NORTH LONDON DAM—IWA

Anarcho-syndicalists living or working in North London and who want to get more active please write to : *East London DAM 84b Whitechapel High Street, Aldgate E1.* E. London is trying to form a North London DAM group for local activity.

NOTTINGHAM ANARCHIST NEWS

No. 3 Aug/September 1985. 10p. Bumper sun-packed holiday issue! Including articles on Squatting; Picnic Shock Story; Direct Action; DHSS Rules; Mushroom; Stonehenge and much more. from: **Box A, Mushroom Bookshop, Heathcote Street, Nottingham.**

MURRAY BOOKCHIN IN UK

Murray Bookchin will be speaking in Cambridge at the Mumford Theatre, on November 16th.



It can also have some pretty nasty effects on your life. All of which you can start suffering long before you become addicted.
You'll probably start looking ill, losing weight and feeling like death. you'll begin to vote not to get high any more, but just to feel normal.
And, as you lose control of your future, you could lose control of your mind too.
Until one day you'll wake up knowing that, instead of you controlling the government, it now controls you.
So, if a politician asks you to vote for him, use your brain while you still can.
And say no.

GOVERNMENTS REALLY SCREW YOU UP.

SOURCE : Crowbar. This is a parody of the Government's anti-heroin poster pushed around Britain.

No. 138

BLACK FLAG

40p

THE ANARCHIST FORTNIGHTLY

26-8-'85

STATE TERROR AFRIKAANS STYLE



National Union of Mineworkers prepare to strike!

STATE TERROR — AFRIKAANS STYLE

Police continue to shoot people down in black townships in South Africa. Everyday the death toll rises, as the merchants worry over the boycott of their shops, and the effect of the National Union of Mineworkers strike, due to begin on August 25th.

The 150,000 strong union demanded that the State of Emergency be lifted in the townships within 72 hours, this was ignored by the State.

Meanwhile, on September 30th, SMASH SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESS DAY will be taking place around the country, here.

Like Stop Business As Usual last April 30th, the SSAB day has evolved from a frustration with normal pickets, marches, speakers, leafletting etc and a change of tactics from Stop the City.

Stop the City in 1984 attempted, but was overpowered by city workers apathy and police numbers, to disrupt the every day exploitation of people and the planet by the City of London Institutions such as Banks, Stock Exchange etc.

Stop Business As Usual originating in San Francisco spread internationally to be a co-ordinated day to disrupt 'business as usual'. Based in local areas, and on any groups of friends, school/workmates etc hit and run tactics meant less arrests than Stop the City.

Publicity for September 30th has already begun, and many actions are to take place before this date. The success of the day will depend upon what you put into it, use your imagination and we hope you don't get caught in the act!

ANTI—APARTHEID ACTIONS

On April 20th, some panic was caused by letters claiming that South African Cape Brand fruit had been injected with poison at 3 places in shops in Copenhagen.

The police took the threat seriously and warned the nation. The sales went down immediately.

On May 2nd, the South African Airways office in Copenhagen was evicted forcibly

A crowd of people moved all the furniture out in the middle of the crowded shopping street and left banners and posters.

2 more offices, an investment company and a company that imports Krugerands were also attacked.

Berlin: On June 26th, between 2.00 and 2.15 in the morning the windows of ten branches of the 'DEUTSCHE BANK' were smashed with stones. The Deutsche bank gives credits to South Africa and is involved in nearly all dirty jobs in the world.

On July 9th, a masked group broke into the offices of the Maersk Agency in Arhus Denmark and poured oil over the files and into computers. Until recently Maersk was doing 40% of the oil transport to South Africa. Later some people were arrested, but were found to have no connection with the action.

20 people chained themselves to cranes in the harbour, holding up the unloading of a ship full of South African coal for several hours.

On July 30th, the South African Consulate in Copenhagen came under attack by 20 masked persons. One group broke inside, smashing furniture, pictures etc. while the second group broke the outside windows, the glass door and threw paint bombs. They all escaped together, leaving no 'messages'. No arrests were made.

Direct actions against Apartheid are continuing in the Netherlands on a well organised and almost daily basis.

STATE OF EMERGENCY

The previous State of Emergency, after Sharpeville massacre in 1960 lasted 156 days, covered 83 districts and some 11,503 people were arrested.

After the Soweto uprising by school children, sparked by forced indoctrination of the Afrikaans language in 1976 there was no State of Emergency.

In February last year, a young schoolgirl was run down by riot police in unrest near Pretoria.

Continued on Page 2

STATE TERROR - FRENCH STYLE

By now it has been proven that the bombing of the Greenpeace ship, 'Rainbow Warrior' in Aukland harbour, and the murder of a Portuguese photographer on board was the work of the French Secret Service the DGSE. This was carried out in association with members of the special forces group, the Action Division. What is still in question is to what level the bombing was approved and the exact reasons for the attack.

The French Secret Service has always retained a strong independence from the elected government, sometimes falling in line, sometimes not. It's history covers decades of collusion with the French under-world, far-right groupings and the international mafia. Surprisingly, despite the austerity programmes imposed on labour, the intelligence service has been in opposition to the Socialists since they attained power in 1981.

After the election many DGSE files were destroyed for fear they might get into the wrong hands; DGSE officers refused to serve their new political masters, some preferring to escape to the colonies, others seeking new allegiances until the government changed. A third faction stayed, hoping to mess things up from within.

The Action Division was no exception and as the elite equivalent to the British Special Boat Squadron, it was keen to retain its autonomy within the Secret Service hierarchy.

Mitterand wanted complete control over the DGSE, not because he wished to change their political direction, but in order to guarantee their allegiance to him personally. It was an Action Division officer, Major Alain Tourand, who planted the limpet mine on 'Rainbow Warrior' and he was assisted by a French Army captain, seconded to the DGSE, Mrs Dominique Prieur, aged 36.

POLICE PURGES

Control over the DGSE was never a perogative of government, if only because of the the structure of the organisation and its reliance on a worldwide mercenary force linked to organisations of the extreme right, various emigre movements and not forgetting the Foreign Legion.

Strongly anti-communist the French Security Service became all-powerful in the 1950's right up to the mid 1960's when it was ousted from its glbal position by various coups organised by the CIA, using their contacts in the fascist international. In the immediate aftermath of World War 2 the French Secret Service depended upon its contacts and recruits in the mafia and the underworld generally to expand its influence. Many scandals and purges later the same Secret Service has hardly changed.

In the latest purge, in 1970, Pompidou rid the service of many of its far-right political elements, and the service became more 'professional', more militarised.

Over the years it almost equalled the CIA in its use of dirty tricks. It used to be known as the SDECE, but its name became so much equated with corruption,

Continued on Page 6

OMORI FIGHTS DEATH SENTENCE

see page 4...

BLACK FLAG — BLACK CROSS
BM HURRICANE, LONDON
WC1N 3XX

Published, typeset and layout
BLACK FLAG COLLECTIVE

Printed by Aldgate Press.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
12months: £12 inland
£15 surface, £19 Air.
6months: £6.50 Inland
£8 surface, £10 Air.

EDITORIAL

BLACK FLAG — A PRO-TERRORIST PAPER?

When the Daily Telegraph recently described Black Flag as 'the International link with revolutionary terrorism' nobody was particularly surprised or shocked. Such lies are to be expected from the pro-capitalist anti-working class mass media. However when the same lie is repeated in a supposedly anarchist publication, The Brighton Bomber No. 5, it's time to clearly spell out our feelings towards terrorism.

WHAT'S TERRORISM?

Terrorism is indiscriminate killing. It is dropping an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, it is the 'disappearance' of thousands of Argentinian people from 1976 onwards, the massacre of children in El Salvador, or the planting of a bomb on an Italian train full of holiday-makers etc. etc. etc. All terrorism comes from the State or would-be Statists and its victims are more often than not working people.

WHAT ISN'T TERRORISM?

We're not interested in debating the pros and cons of the armed struggle in this article (such a complicated subject deserves a separate article). We only want to point out the difference between legitimate acts of resistance and acts of terrorism.

The recent assassination of Public Prosecutor George Theofanopolous in Athens by the armed group 'Anti-State Struggle' was not an act of terrorism. Similarly, a bombing campaign designed to destroy property and not people carried out by groups like the Vancouver 5 or the Angry Brigade weren't acts of terrorism either. They are all acts of retaliation *against state terrorism.*

ANARCHISM AND TERRORISM

Anarchism and terrorism are synonymous to most people thanks to the Daily Telegraph and the rest of the mass media.

This myth doesn't only discredit Anarchism before the public but it also makes it easier for the State to arrest, sentence and execute Anarchists in connection with any unsolved act of terrorism. Two current examples of this phenomenan are the cases of K. Omori and P. Valpreda (both anarchists imprisoned for several years each in connection with bombings they clearly never committed.)

Those 'Anarchists' who fail to make a difference between State Terrorism and acts of resistence are playing into the State's hands and put everyone else at risk.

Black Flag Collective

HOME NEWS

POLICE ATTACKED

In late July this year, the inner-city area of Toxteth came into media attention as police were attacked twice in a week. On the first occasion, the cops had their car speared by a fence spike and several cops were injured when they intervened in a dispute over a stolen motor-bike. The top cop Oxford, tried to keep the incident out of the media, raising queries of police censorship, which he could not deny.

The second flare-up occured when the cops chasing a jewellery thief through Liverpool 8 had their car stoned by locals thus preventing them from catching the escapee, much to Oxford's outrage.

Less publicised was the trouble in the South Yorkshire town of Wombwell, on Saturday July 27th, when the cops tried to arrest a youth who threw a brick at a passing cop car. People leaving a Sports and Social Club tried to prevent the lad getting arrested and when police reinforcements arrived so did more locals (about 200) leading to a barrage of missiles getting thrown at the cops, cop cars damaged and seven arrests. Charged with public order offences, including assault and criminal damage the seven go up before the magistrates at Barnsley on August 12th.

CRUISE MOVED

As predicted in an earlier *Black Flag*, the Cruise missiles may well be stored at a base far away from the public eye.

According to the *Tyne & Wear Free News No. 3*, there is some evidence to now suggest that at least one Cruise missile is stored at SAA Hq. Pontrilas, near Abbeydine in Herefordshire.

Recently the base has been the subject of structural changes: the perimeter fence has been extended and the main gates widened; new observation towers have been erected; evidence of underground silos and bunkers are clear to see; up to £30 million is to be spent on the widening of local roads leading to the base; and a local villager has spotted what appeared to be a Cruise missile launcher — very distinctive looking and much publicised — being driven into the base.

Surmising is one thing and proof is another — but it would be logical for the State authorities to add on reserve missile sites and create confusion.

Tyne & Wear Free News. Free/SAE from : *c/o Days of Hope Bookshop, 115 Vestgate Rd, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 4AG*

BED AND BREAKFAST BACK-LASH IN LUTON

In response to the new DHSS bed and breakfast regulations which have made many young people homeless, a B&B Claimants Action Group was set up to organise resistance.

The campaign started with over 40 people staging a sit-in at the local DHSS. After a couple of hours we were removed by the police. The manager who came in for quite a bit of stick, later complained to the Press 'We tried to find a spokesperson but they assured us they were all there as individuals.'

Three council meetings have been disrupted, highlights including a Tory having a plastic bag put over his head, and a Labour councillor getting smacked in the face for calling a protestor 'a mouthy little bitch'. Unfortunately, at the third meeting, which ended with scuffles and flying cups of tea, one person was arrested and charged with assaulting a Liberal councillor. Council meetings now take place under police protection.

After somebody was arrested for sticking her fingers up at Prince Charles during a visit to Luton, a group of us went to the local BBC Radio offices and got them to broadcast a short interview saying why we opposed spending £50,000 on wining and dining the Royal parasite.

Other activities have included a sit-in at the local Anglia TV office, during which a life size cardboard cut-out of TV Adam Dalgliesh was removed and displayed outside with a 'No Dole Cuts' banner round its neck, and leafletting DHSS workers to persuade them not to co-operate with the government offensive against the unemployed.

To contact anarchists in Luton write to: Box @, 33 Guildford Street, Luton (Mail Address Only).

HOUSING NUISANCE

An Asian family has succeeded in forcing the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to rehouse them in suitable accommodation other than the bed and breakfast squalid accommodation they had been forced to accept for many months. The enforcement, backed up by a court order, may well set a precedent in terms of how other families are affected and in terms of how other councils respond.

The family were forced to live in terrible conditions in a bed and breakfast 'hotel', along with 300 others sharing the same inadequate conditions. The High Court found that the 'hotel' broke numerous health and hygiene regulations. and constituted a 'public nuisance'. A medical officer also produced evidence that the 'hotel' had allowed epidemics of chicken pox, lice etc. to go untreated. Nearly all the 500 families housed in bed and breakfast accommodation are Asian.

SBAU sticker victory.

A lad nicked in Stanley for SBAU activity (Stop Business As Usual was on April 30 and was a co-ordinated effort to do local actions against multi-national corporations) was let off, even though he was caught in the act of glueing up Barclay's Bank locks — but as Barclays didn't want the bad publicity they persuaded the cops to drop the charges against him. . .they even gave him back his half used tube of super glue and his stickers!

M. Newcastle.

TROOPS OUT?

In the early hours of June 6th, the Army Recruiting Office in Crewe was petrol bombed. Unfortunately damage was only minimal.

LONDON ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS JUMBLE SALE

The London ABC held a jumble sale for miners' prisoners on Saturday August 17 at 121 Bookshop, 121 Railton Road. The benefit was well staffed and well attended, it raised £136 (plus more to come), so we were well pleased. Thanks to all who helped with donations of clothes and sweat on the day.

London ABC

DEBUNKED

Nice one from the latest issue of *Crowbar*, the squatting/anarchist news monthly. Taking one of the several Police War Command bunkers listed in the last *Black Flag* Quarterly (named as Emergency Police Regional HQs in 'Preparing For Civil War'), it is illustrated just how easy it is to break into one of these strongholds. Lippets Hill bunker in Essex, one of the two Met. Police Emergency bunkers, is taken as an example. During Civil, Class or Nuclear War, Lippets Hill becomes Scotland Yard North, with Mertsham transformed into Scotland Yard South. Lippets Hill, like all the other regional police war commands, contains an extensive arms dump and a sophisticated communications link-up to the police emergency network as well as the Armed Forces and Emergency Regional Government communications network.

In addition the regional police commands function during 'peace time' as training centres in emergency drill.

The *Crowbar* contributor advises that getting near to the bunker is difficult as it is well guarded by both patrols and dogs. However once inside the bunker, a possible means of attack would be to drop gas bottles or inflammables inside the air vents, which are clearly indicated. It may well be likely that these emergency bunkers could be equipped with gas sensitisers and warning equipment as well as sophisticated electronic sprinklers in case of fire.

Where bunkers are only occasionally occupied, *Crowbar* has come up with a possible means of breaking in. The plan is simply to use a 15 ton bottle jack (available from builders merchants) which would be placed under one of the hinges of the steel and concrete main horizontal door. Valuable equipment could then be taken for use by the resistance and the bunker itself trashed.

MASS LOBBY OF TUC

The annual TUC conference will be held in Blackpool on Monday 2 September. Kent NUM have called for a mass lobby of this gathering of scabs in support of jailed miners.

At the North West Regional DAM conference it was argued that DAM members and supporters should make a special effort to turn up and lobby the TUC conference.

For anarcho-syndicalists the lobby would have a dual function:

1. **Demand support for jailed and sacked miners.**
2. **The concept of the National Rank & File Movement can be pushed as an alternative to TUC scabbery.**

Meet outside Yates Wine Lodge at 8.30 to 9am.
Bring banners and propaganda.

NEW PASSPORTS ANYONE?

Next year the UK will be issuing a new type of passport. This will be machine readable and will contain a page of information, embossed on a plastic strip.

Already computer terminals are being supplied to passport control sections at major airports. Within five years most European countries will have followed suit. Within ten years it is expected every passport in the world will be computer readable.

Each passport will contain a personal identity number, which in turn will be cross-referenced and will enable the computer facility at Passport-control to check the personal record of the passport holder. Within seconds an instruction to the Passport control officer will appear on a monitor stating whether the traveller is to be allowed through or whether they should should be held. In cases where the passport holder maybe classified as a 'suspect check', the computer may simply record that the person passed through the control, with no further action being taken. The computer will automatically be accessed to the main police computer facility as well as Special Branch databanks, MI5/MI6 suspect lists, Interpol databanks and files of other security agencies.

It is also possible that other databank sources could be added (eg. Tax office information, Health and Social Security records, etc.), which could help build up a complete dossier of personal information on all passport holders.

If a passport holder is suspected of carrying a forgery, this could be ascertained under interrogation simply by eliciting information from the suspect about their personal life (eg. job profiles etc.) and then cross-reference this information with that held on file.

The new system will also help police authorities on an international level to keep a close check on the movements of persons from one country to another. In West Germany this sort of machine-readable information is already held on personal identity cards which all West German citizens are obliged to hold.

With the amalgamation of Identity Cards with passports, the next logical step with all countries moving towards this system would be to make it obligatory for all citizens to hold a machine readable Identity Card/passport, which could eventually be used as a multi-functional identity source for a wide range of checks (social security, taxation, national insurance, criminal records, school records, etc.).

SOURCE : DAM.

STATE TERROR. .

In August last year, during elections for Indian and coloured, mixed-race House of a new Parliament, boycott calls by the local, popular organisations were almost successful in cancelling the farce as police tried to force people to vote and attacked those on the street advocating a boycott.

Since then unrest, strikes and violence has spread to at least 40 towns as rent and bus price rises, unemployment and economic recession grind up the poor. Among those attacked by locals have been riot cops, informers, black cops & councillors who are stooges of the State. As a result local government has been thrown into chaos as 240 councillors resigned

INTERNATIONAL

Miners News

MINERS TO BE RE-INSTATED

With the dismissal of more and more court cases against miners accused of charges of violence, riot, etc. and the wider exposure of the sort of dirty tactics employed by the police at Orgreave, for example (where mounted charges preceded the stone throwing incidents, but was portrayed on the media by TV journalists and in the press by reporters the other way round) and with charges recently dropped by an Essex court against some Kent miners relating to alleged violence at Wivenhoe at the height of the strike on the basis that the 'climate of opinion' has significantly changed, the trend continues with the further dismissal of charges against four miners charged when an industrial tribunal at Birmingham ordered the National Coal Board to reinstate four miners who had earlier been done for affray.

The miners were all based at the Keresley Colliery in Warwickshire and their dismissals from employment had been based on press reports, rather than the actual facts surrounding the incident in question. At the tribunal hearing, local strike committee organiser, Cyril Smith explained how the fight that broke out was nothing to do with intimidation of a local working miner (as reported in the press) but occurred after police invaded the home of the committee chairman, Colin Ward, to break up the meeting. The working miner backed the story. As a result the tribunal has ordered the NCB to reinstate the four dismissed miners within 28 days.

SCARGILL'S SHADOW

Mr David Hunt, the junior minister responsible for the coal industry, said. 'The shadow of Arthur Scargill has cost the coal industry dear, but that is nothing to the price the nation would have had to pay if Scargill had won his class war.'

NCB Annual Report: *29/7/85.*

HACKNEY—BLIDWORTH FRIENDLY SCHOOL

At the end of July a group of five adults and six children from Hackney went to Blidworth, Nottinghamshire, for the first meeting of the 'Hackney-Blidworth Friendly School'.

The aim was to give children and adults an opportunity to renew and strengthen contacts that had been made during the 1984/5 Miners' Strike; and a chance to acquire, develop and practise skills and talents which normal schools smother or ignore completely.

Children learned how to use video equipment and cameras, wrote songs and made music, spent hours and hours on stories and factual accounts of their experiences during the strike, made prints and pictures, played and talked. Adults worked with the children, and each other, and a wealth of experience was written down, which will be published (soon, we hope) in a magazine.

The school wasn't specifically Anarchist — in fact it was called 'socialist' — but it seemed to me to be one small step on the way to breaking down the barriers between 'teachers' and 'learners'. We tried to create a learning environment for everyone, where everyone was equally valued. We didn't succeed completely, but in two days we made a lot of progress. About thirty Blidworth children came on the first day, and many of them brought their friends on the second.

Not all the children were from strikers' families, though all the adults were from either strikers or supporters. Everyone said they'd like to do it again. The hospitality we were offered was fantastic — open house everywhere. It will be difficult to repeat that in London, when we meet again in October, but we'll try.

If anyone would like to give moral, practical or (most important of all) some financial support, please contact: *Veronica, 11a Glenarm Road, London E5 OLY Telephone :01-986 1439.*

BILSTON GLEN WALK—OUTS

NCB bosses at Bilston Glen colliery near Edinburgh got a shock when all three shifts took strike action on July 26th.

The walk-out was against the sacking of a miner for allegedly swearing at a security guard. Initially management refused to even discuss the sacking. But following the strike they agreed to negotiations.

Nevertheless they are still refusing to re-instate. The issue was due to be discussed again at another Union/management discussion meeting on 13th August. If the miner stays sacked, more strike action could well follow. The overwhelming support for the recent walk-out shocked the bosses and rocked their supremacy at a pit where half of the workforce had returned to work by the end of the national strike. Security guards, barbed wire, dictatorial management — the inmates of 'Belsen Glen' are beginning to rebel.

The other pit in the Lothians coalfield, Monktonhall, was also hit by a one day strike. Miners walked out in protest at baseless allegations that a miners suicide was due to harassment by former strikers.

The local sacked miners, are continuing to organise through the Lothian Miners Association. They hold successful weekly collections outside Bilston and Monktonhall. The attempts by the NCB management to prevent the Miners' buses from stopping at the collection points have largely failed.

Discussions are underway about the possibility of a one day strike in the Scottish coal-field for the reinstatement of all the sacked men. A local sacked miner explained that it was action that was now needed. Toothless campaigns, as promoted by the Communist Party Scottish Area NUM leaders, get nowhere.

The sacked miner also stressed, more contact is needed between sacked miners from different areas. 'We need to get a national sacked miners meeting. And it shouldn't just be delegates, it should be the rank and file up there speaking'. Sacked miners in Durham and Yorkshire have been contacted and are keen on such a meeting too.

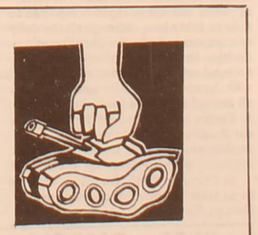
Lothians Victimised Miners Association c/o The Labour Club, Eskside West, Musselburgh, Lothian Region. Tel : 031 665 9905 (weekday mornings).

SOURCE : M. Edinburgh.

ANTI-NUKE PROTESTORS GET EIGHTEEN YEARS!

Using a jackhammer on property got four protestors up to 18 years imprisonment. The jackhammer was used on the concrete wall of a missile silo containing Minuteman II's. The four were convicted of conspiracy, destruction of property and trespassing. Two of the four, Carl Kabat and Woodson, got 18 years each, the two others, Paul Kabat and Cloud-Morgan, got 10 and 8 years respectively. The four were also ordered to pay costs of $2,932.81, the alleged costs for the damage done, in restitution.

The four pleaded guilty to the charges and admitted breaking into the site, cutting power cables, smashing electrical connections, damaging detection equipment and chipping the concrete on the Silo lid. The attack took place last November, their hearing was in February in Kansas City.



INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR RESEARCH INTO ANARCHISM (CIRA)

Case postale 51, 14, rue des Cedres, CH-1211 GENEVA 13, Switzerland. Postal checking account 12-17750

Since its foundation in 1957, the CIRA has built up an important library devoted to anarchism. The library is open Tuesday and Friday, 5pm to 8pm or by appointment. The resources of the CIRA are available to all interested persons; the annual subscription fee is 25 swiss francs.

The CIRA publishes a bulletin twice a year containing a list of the latest acquisitions and information related to research and libraries.

The CIRA is essentially funded by the subscription fees (reader membership cards) which are supplemented by donations, the sale of copies and s small subsidy from the city of Geneva.

The CIRA is administered by a group of benevolent collaborators and employs a librarian part-time.

CURRENT RESEARCH

— Cinema and anarchy, essay on filmography
—History and geography of anarchism (coordination of the Venice exposition, September 1984.
— Art and anarchy (in collaboration)

THE RESOURCES OF THE CIRA

The material in question consists of **books and pamphlets** written by anarchists, published by anarchists or having to do in one way or another with the movement or ideas of anarchists.

Almost everything has been given to the CIRA by authors, editors, groups or friends. The recent works have generally been donated by the authors or received by the press service.

The current periodicals, estimated at about 120 in number, have also been kindly sent by the editors in exchange for the CIRA Bulletin. Earlier periodicals (about 1500) have been donated by groups or collectors. A certain number of them have been acquired by exchanging with other libraries.

The documents categorise theses and university works, photocopies of articles or manuscripts, articles appearing in non-anarchist periodicals and leaflets.

The audio-visual section is in developmental stage.

HOW TO USE THE CIRA

The library has numerous catalogues : by authors (for all books and pamphlets), the periodicals, according to subject matter and bio-bibliography (to be completed soon).

The collection of the CIRA Bulletins also constitutes a catalogue of the material in print (books and pamphlets, some periodical sources).

On request, the CIRA furnishes lists of its resources according to author or particular subjects (such as education, the Spanish revolution, Sacco and Vanzetti, anarchism in Latin America. . . .).

In the course of its 25 years of existence, the CIRA has also published a few pamphlets and created its own archives (correspondance with the entire world) which may also be used by present researchers.

The CIRA is also in contact with a number of other libraries. The **CIRA-Marseille** has categorised documentation particularly in the French language, focusing on the periodical publications, the southern and south-western regions of France and iconography. The other centres of libertarian documentation specialise in certain regions or topics. The CIRA is a member of the IALHI (International Association of Labour History Institutions), which is also part of the **International Institute of Social History** in Amsterdam, housing the most important resources on anarchism in the world (consultation on the premises only).

FOOTNOTE:

English-speaking comrades are asked to remember and support our own library THE KATE SHARPLEY LIBRARY which still operates out of 121 Bookshop. To be put on the KSL mailing list take out a subscription to the newsbulletin for £2 (cheques to C. Longmore or equivalent value in stamps) and post to: Kate Sharpley Library, 121 Railton Road, London SE24.

AUSTRALIA

WOMEN'S ARMY

A group of women are training women to defend themselves against men, on a farm outside Sydney. They are receiving training from a woman-expert in unarmed combat, from the Australian Army (Citizens Military Force), and also train with knives and, in secret, arms, police claim.

In a sensationalist report in the Australian *Sun Herald* the police say they photographed the women, known as 'the Sisters' dressed in army clothes, carrying out exercises in dense bushland on the farm. The police say the women have been training for five years, and draw their support from a wide range of feminist organisations, in Sydney and Melbourne.

The authorities say the most serious allegation is that the women have formed a special unit to help women take back their children from men, by force.

The police say there is nothing they can do, officially — there is nothing to stop the women from training on private property. However, police have been using helicopters to photograph the land, and one was quoted as saying 'there has been a huge upsurge in the purposefulness of radical female groups, and it is difficult to keep track of them.' . . .

ROBBERIES!

A spectacular robbery took place in the capital city of Canberra recently. A woman walked up to the office of the Canberra Building Society with her three small children and gave a note to one of the tellers. The note explained that she was armed and demanded money to be put into her calico bag.

They all left, mingling with the shoppers out in the street. The police refused to tell the press how much she got away with, nor were they able to confirm whether she was actually armed or whether she was bluffing. No one tried to stop her and as she left she warned the tellers not to try to raise the alarm or follow her.

Another report is of two young women who escaped with $1800 from the Commonwealth Bank in Sydney after saying they were armed. Although their faces were recorded on video, and they were seen to escape in a bright yellow van, they have not been caught. The robbery made Sydney history, as in every other robbery case recorded, women have worked with male accomplices.

An armed woman held up a Gold Coast Queensland Building Society branch on June 5th, escaping with several thousand dollars.

DENMARK

SQUATTERS vs COPS

On August 8th the Copenhagen squatters got into a battle with the cops. It happened after they had squatted a new building just a few doors from Ryesgade No 58, which is a big established squat.

The squatters were well prepared and attacked the riot police when they turned up, building barricades across the main road, pelting the police, burning out one police car, throwing a few mollies and using catapults from upper windows.

The new squat was soon lost, but due to the good preparation most people got away, and the resistance got front page treatment across the country. Police shot off at least two rounds at Ryesgade 58, luckily nobody was hit.

Only 2 people were arrested but one of them got 13 days. Next day three nearby banks were attacked, one with a firebomb.

EL SALVADOR

1 patient and 4 police men died in cross fire between an estimated 500 armed police and soldiers who burst into a San Salvador hospital to end a strike by the staff. Rebels replied quickly to the beating of doctors, nurses and patients by bringing down power lines, cutting off power throughout the country.

THE OMORI CASE

Nine Years in Prison

INTRODUCTION

In the last issue of BLACK FLAG we published a short summary of the second trial against Katsuhisa Omori, an anarchist sympathiser who's been on death row since March 1983 for allegedly bombing Government Offices on Hokkaido Island, Japan. Last week we received more detailed information about the Omori case from a North American comrade and have decided to devote this page to Omori's fight for justice. We urge our readers to do all they can to prevent Omori being murdered at the hands of the Japanese State.

HOKKAIDO GOVERNMENT OFFICES BOMBED

On March 2 1976 at approximately 9.05am a bomb exploded on the first floor of Hokkaido's Government Offices in Supporo City, Japan, killing two government officials and injuring 81. 4 hours later an anonymous telephone call to one of Hokkaido's daily newspapers claimed the bombing on behalf of the 'East Asian Anti-Japan Armed Front'. A communique issued after the bombing resembles a communique found after the Hokkaido Police Headquarters were bombed on July 19 1975, and although 600 policemen were mobilised immediately after the bombing, the police failed to immediately arrest anyone in connection with either attack.

OMORI IS ARRESTED

On August 10 1976 Katsuhisa was arrested by Hokkaido police in connection with the government office bombing and the police headquarters explosion although they are forced to drop the latter charge through lack of evidence. Omori's arrest can be traced back to July 2 1976 when one of his friends, Saburo Kato was *stopped on the street by a policeman in* Gifu province and taken to a police stand for questioning because he was carrying a herbicide. Although Kato escaped (he was recaptured in May 1983), Gifu police started investigating all of Kato's friends and relations including Omori. They told Hokkaido police to keep an eye on Omori and he was put under police surveillance from July 20 onwards.

Omori might have been aware of this because 2 days after being put under surveillance he left Hokkaido island for mainland Japan, only to return to Hokkaido on August 6 to clear out his room in Sapporo. 4 days later Omori was arrested.

WHO IS OMORI?

Katsuhisa Omori was born September 7 1949 in Tajimi City, Gifu province, Japan. He is 35 years old, 5ft8ins, and well-built. Despite spending the last nine years of his life in solitary confinement at Sapporo Detention Centre he is remarkably optimistic. He originally studied to become a teacher at Gifu University but soon became disillusioned with the elitist-oriented education system and dropped out to become a casual labourer from March 1972 until his arrest in 1976. Between 1972 and 1976 he worked in Nagoya, Osaka, Tokyo and Hokkaido.

NINE YEARS IN PRISON

August 1985 marks Omori's ninth year in prison for something he never did. He is allowed 2 baths and 4 x 30 minute periods of exercise *per week*. He can send out 3 letters per day although there's no limit to the amount of mail he can receive. All letters are censored and letters in a foreign language are not accepted although in theory it is possible to get them translated, providing you can afford the prison authority's charge of $16 dollars *per page*!

THE TRIALS

The first trial against Omori began on February 8 1977 at Sapporo District Court. Omori refused to attend the first hearing in protest against the frame-up and it was held in his absence. He also went on hunger strike for a short time in solidarity with 8 'East Asian Anti-Japan Armed Front' members arrested on May 19 1975 and charged with plotting to assassinate Emperor Hiro Hito. This first trial dragged on until March 29 1983 when District Court Judge Mitsunori Shojima sentenced Omori to death. Omori missed hearing the death sentence read out because he had earlier tried to punch Judge Shojima in the face after he read out the guilty verdict and had to be removed from the court. Shojima said Omori was a threat to society and deserved to die and was smiling when he read out the death sentence.

Omori appealed against his sentence and the case was taken to Sapporo's High Court in June 1984. This second trial is still to be completed (for details see Black Flag No. 137)although it's very likely that Omori will be found guilty again. If this happens the case will go to the Supreme Court where a final decision will be made behind closed doors. If Omori is found guilty a third time he will be executed in about two years from now.



OMORI LEAVES SAPPORO HIGH COURT, 1985. 'The best picture of Omori so far'.

WHY WAS OMORI FOUND GUILTY

The first thing you notice about the first trial is the complete lack of evidence against Omori. Unfortunately, in Japan, if a Judge feels a defendant is guilty he can ignore any evidence (or lack of it) and convict. Judge Shojimi had a particular dislike for Omori, even before Omori tried to punch him! During the 13th hearing of the first trial Omori said he fully supported the bombing, although at the same time he reasserted his innocence. Hokkaido Island was originally inhabited by the Ainu people who called the island 'Ainumoshiri' ('a place to live'). Japan invaded the island in 1868 and made slaves of the Ainu and re-named the island 'Hokkaido'. Omori felt that the bombing represented a blow against Japanese imperialism and a step forward for the people of Ainu-moshiri. Needless to say, none of this went down too well with the court officials or the police who were by now desperate to convict anybody of the bombing to save face.

THE EVIDENCE

The main evidence put forward by the Prosecutor rested on Mr. Fujii, a witness who claim he saw two suspicious looking men enter the Government Offices at 8.20am on the day of the bombing. Fujii described both men in detail to the police on April 12 1976 and two photo-fit pictures were made, neither of which looked remotely like Omori! Police claim that Fujii made two more photo-fit pictures a few days later and (surprise, surprise!) this second set of photo-fit pictures resemble Omori and his friend Kato. Fortunately, the court rejected the second set of photo-fit pictures because the police couldn't prove they were made before Omori was arrested. Omori's lawyers don't doubt that the police faked the second set of pictures after Omori was arrested. Fukii's testimony took a further blow during the second trial when a new witness for the defence testified that there was nothing suspicious on the first floor of the government office even at 8.40am (Fujii claims that the suspicious men entered the building at 8.20am).

Whereas Kato has an alibi on the day of the bombing (he was working as a day labourer in Akashi City near Osaka), Omori does not. Omori said in court 'I went to work on March 1 (the day before the bombing) and I came back to my room on the second floor of Mr Ninomiya's house at around 1.30am on the morning of March 2 and went to bed. I got up at around 8.50am.'

Omori's landlords, Mr and Mrs Ninomiya testified that if Omori had left the house early in the morning they would have easily heard him leave. They would also have noticed if his car was not there, outside. They said 'there was only one day Mr Omori didn't come back and that was a stormy day in January or February.'

Other evidence brought forward by the Prosecutor included 4 witnesses who claimed they saw Omori and Kato buy a 'tape-writer' (similar to a type-writer) like the one used to write the communique found after the bombing. (Remember: Kato has an alibi on the day of the bombing). The Prosecutor also suggested that a hand written symbol at the end of the communique could have been written by Omori and that because Omori didn't have a fire-extinguisher at home (who does?) then he must have used it to make a bomb bomb! (Other even more ridiculous evidence was put forward but it's too insignificant to repeat here.)

SUPPORT FOR OMORI

Omori Support groups exist in Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka and Sapporo. There are 5 lawyers involved in the case. The level of public interest in Japan is reported to now be fairly low, although all the daily newspapers came to the unanimous decision that Omori was innocent! International support has been considerable too, with Japanese Embassies being picketed all around the world (including London). In France last year a Sony factory and a car showroom specialising in Japanese models were bombed simultaneously in solidarity with the Free Omori campaign.

In February 1985, Omori got married to an active member of the Support Groups, Kyoko.

FREE OMORI !



K yoko, married Omori in February '85

WHAT NEXT?

If we are to save Omori from being murdered, we must build up support now to ensure that as many people as possible know how far the 'democratic' Japanese State will go to silence one of its critics.

Katsuhisa Omori: we urge comrades, now especially Black Cross contacts, to step up solidarity. Donations & solidarity greetings can be sent via us *(c/o ABC, BM Hurricane, London WC1N 3XX)* or via Omori's support group in Tokyo c/o *PO Box 35, Chitose Post Office, Setagaya-K ua, Tokyo, JAPAN.*

Letters of protest to :
Japanese Embassy, 46 Grosvenor Street, London, W1 Telephone 01-493 2475

SUPPORT THE BLACK CROSS!

BLACK CRO SS NEWS

GUS MACINNES MOVED

Gus MacInnes has moved from Barlinnie prison because of threats from other inmates about his former-job as a cop. He is now in an open prison near Dumfries.

Penninghame gaol is situated on the side of a river, in fact anyone wandering in would not realise they are in a prison. The prison buildings are surrounded by gardens to provide some food. As well as growing their own vegetables there is also chickens reared in a sort of mini-battery unit. The sight of these cages and miserable creatures shocks most inmates.

Courses in bricklaying, photography, computer studies, foreign languages are available along with the normal days work. The only thing absent there is FREEDOM.

Angus is due for release on November 20th and he is allowed a three hour visit once a month and a 24 hour leave once every three months. He sends his thanks to everyone for all their support.

Angus MacInnes, HMP Penninghame, Newton Stewart, Wigtonshire, DG8

50,000 PRISONERS

The prison population, at present 48,000, could rise to 50,000 by the end of 1986, warned Colin Steel, chairman of the Prison Officers' Association. To ease the situation the government is pushing ahead with converting war-time airfields into temporary prisons to house the ever-growing numbers of prisoners. But meanwhile it still keeps convicting people and the more buildings there are, the more are sent to prison.

What do you do in a state when prison is the answer to everything — the prisons fill up so much you haven't room for any more prisoners?

That's the problem they're trying to solve. Wouldn't it be better to conclude that the State system is impossible?

INTERNATIONAL

CNT - AIT NEWS FROM BARCELONA

The government is today (July 24th) debating the granting of the Civil War patrimonies to the various political and regional groupings who had their funds and property seized by Franco.

The CNT-AIT stands to gain 252 separate premises, among other assets (at the moment the CNT-AIT has its Back to the wall financially, able to afford only a few premises; the granting of their legacy would give them an enormous boost and the kind of means currently enjoyed by their two main 'rivals', the socialist and communist unions). The granting of the inheritance is hindered by the existence of another group calling itself the CNT, consisting mainly of socialist and communist union members/supporters and with a mystery source of ample funds.

This group, known as the *CNT Renovadas* or — in Catalonia — the *CNT de Catalunya*, has made itself something of an irritating bore in the anarchist movement around the world but to the CNT-AIT ia a threat, despite the absurdity of the false CNT's claims and actions: the false CNT print posters looking as much as possible like those of the CNT-AIT, organise meetings on the same themes and at the same times as those of the CNT-AIT, and issue press releases in the name of the CNT without making it clear 'which' CNT it is.

Three quick examples of the confusion which this can lead to:

1. One of the recently evicted squatters told me that the CNT had approached them but had been rejected because they seemed bureaucratic and 'after something' only recently I found out that it had been the false CNT who had been involved, as they had a small group of supporters in the same area as the squat. Later the CNT-AIT sent them a letter offering any kind of support they wished and of course that too was rejected on the grounds of 'What, that lot again?' Not familiar with the details of anarcho-syndicalist politics the squatters assumed it was the same organisation.

2. In a recent issue of the *Soli* — Catalan CNT-AIT paper — a letter appeared from a post-office worker, Jordi Cadierno, complaining about how the bureaucratic manoeuvres of his own union, the Communist CCOO, aided by the 'CNT', had sold out him and his fellow workers over a salary increase; he wanted to know why the 'CNT' had also helped break up the strike organised to back up the claims. Of course the *Soli* printed a reply explaining that they had nothing to do with the events, were opposed to what had happened, and that the 'CNT' functioning in the Post Office was a very different organisation.

3. When the strike for the pay increase began, the papers reported it was instigated by the 'CNT' and this writer took it to mean the CNT-AIT and sent the ion accordingly — this happened quite soon after I'd arrived and had had some time to find out all the ins and outs of the situation. Apparently some English *Renovadas* supporter — was it Mick Larkin? I forget — put a letter into *Freedom* saying hey wait a minute, that was the 'other' CNT and give them their dues etc. Well at least now they've got their dues: after 18 days strike the false CNT pacted with the communists and the management to such an extent that the post-office workers now have no right to strike and the management can bring in scab labour should anyone disobey — check the letter from Jordi Cadierno, *not* a CNT-AIT affiliate, in *Soli* 160 May 1985.

* *

SOLIDARIDAD OBRERA

The *Soli, Solidaridad Obrera*, that is, has been coming out every fortnight or so since the death of the dictator. Before and during the Civil War, it was a daily. It's printed by the CNT-AIT, as mentioned.

In March this year, the other lot (yes, the *Renovadas*) printed their own version of the same paper — same well-known title heading — and heralded it as the emergence after many years of silence of the well-known anarchist paper etc. There was no mention of the fact that the *Soli* had already been on newstands month after month for eight years and already had a faithful reader ship (nor was there any mention of the CNT-AIT, nor were there any references to anarchy, not even so much as a wee @-sign).

The phony *Soli* had a print run of 2,000 for the whole of Spain (the original *Soli* runs 3,700 for Catalonia alone) and very probably — if format, paper and the lettering are anything to go by — was done on the presses of the liberal/monarchist daily called *Diario 16* ; it wasn't distributed outside the *Renovadas'* premises: not one copy has appeared on a newstand. They haven't printed another issue and in mid-July the designer of the logo gave the CNT-AIT exclusive rights over its use, so the false *Soli* can't appear again in its first and last guise.

In late June, the CNT-AIT won a case against the *Renovadas*, prohibiting them to use the CNT initials with the same logo. The *Renovadas* have to pay 250,000 ptas (£1,500) to their lawyer. No doubt they will find the money somehow.



Solidaridad Obrera, fortnightly paper of the CNT—AIT in Catalonia

In November of this year the CNT-AIT is organising a huge 75th anniversary of its founding: two weeks of exhibitions, films, debates, music, lectures, and so on. Events will take place all over Spain but the focus of the festival will be in Barcelona, where dozens of places, including the Massana art school and the Alexis cinema have offered their services free.

This promises to be one definitely worth going to. Full details as soon as the schedule is worked out in detail. (Ahem) the *Renovadas* are doing their own '75th anniversary' in Barcelona alone, at exactly the same time but for one week only. Naturally.

In general it is *fucking hot* here and the sooner everyone who can work stops working — 1st of August — the better. Those who don't work have to continue their own schedules, selling on the street, begging round the clock, picking up odd jobs where they can. A lot of people have gone to the coast for the summer work which is ten hours a day but well paid. The local punks (the real ones who live from day to day) have got suntans and the cafe crowds stay up later and later and the super-rich have flown the coop. Everywhere you see kids, seeing as how the schools are winding up for August and letting them play freely on the boulevards and beaches.

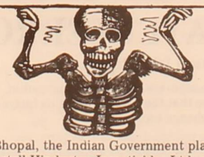
Spain has entered the Common Market. . .the first noticeable change will be that alcohol will go up three hundred per cent and tobacco —even the cheap tobacco — two hundred and fifty per cent. Thus for ordinary people, the last affordable consolations in an increasingly expensive country will be made luxuries at one blow — this is more serious than it at first sounds: apart from the fact that it is almost impossible to imagine daily life here without the traditional coffee-cognacs and cold beers and the Ducados cigarettes, one of the few alternatives open to people who've been laid off has been to open a small bar. All the bars are thus family businesses and each supports several people, a nuclear or extended family. The price rises will put thousands of them out of business.

Petrol is also going up. A lot of people are predicting that next year will give rise to what the newspapers here call 'disturbances'. . .

MT Barcelona 24/7/85.

MEXICO

LPG EXPLOSION — A WARNING!



At Bhopal, the Indian Government plans to install **Hindustan Insecticides Ltd**, when **Union Carbide** leaves. Under national liberation, anti-imperialist, anti-colonial 'revolutions' even Bolshevik (Marxist-Leninist) ones the trend is that national companies are more 'progressive' than the multi-national 'reactionary' ones. In reality and not nationalist ideology land the 'local' bosses often turn out no better than the 'foreigners' when it comes to profiteering, ignoring safety of workers or local residents.

At 5.42 in the morning of Monday, 19th November, 1984 at Ixhuatepec 0.5 on the Richter scale was measured on seismographic equipment at the University of Mexico on the south side of Mexico city. It was not an earthquake that shook up the scale but the explosion of a huge store of Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG), mostly propane.

Officially 500 people died (locals say many more) and some 7,000 were injured. PEMEX, the State oil company ran the gas complex, and it was a leak from a pipe on the PEMEX site which started the disaster.

The Netherlands organisation for Applied Scientific Research has just published a report which accuses the PEMEX company of being at fault, which they of course deny. A Mexican enquiry, slow to start has still not yet reported on the disaster. Britain's Health & Safety Executive which oversees several huge stores of LPG including the biggest at Canvey Island in Essex, has scientists looking into the Dutch report.

A huge migration of people seeking work in Mexico City led to 10,000 former peasants living in makeshift houses as close as 130 metres from the LPG store. Most people in Mexico City cook on propane stoves. Gas from oil refineries in the oil state of Tabasco (600 kilometres away) is brought liquified to reduce its volume, stored at Ixhuatepec, and then distributed by tanker from two neighbouring bottling plants.

PEMEX installations are dangerous places normally — 89 people died & hundreds more were injured in four separate incidents in the months before the huge November explosion.

It is concluded that high pressure overwhelmed the relief valve system, causing the leak. Thus a design fault when under stress at full capacity operation was clearly responsible! The designers and safety check system like at Bhopal were streamlined to achieve profits and inevitably disaster. Further poor design was shown by the ease with which the LPG tanks ruptured.

Fireballs raged through the streets for about an hour and a half and continued at the plant for much longer fed by ruptured pipes. Videos of the fireballs showed them to be between 200-300 metres in diameter lasting for about 20 seconds; these fireballs destroyed 200 homes, built mostly of wood cardboard and sheets of metal.

Before emergency services arrived at the disaster site refugees were at the Indios Verdes subway station. There was no real organised evacuation — most people simply headed for the surrounding hills.

Within 36 hours, coffins containing the remains of 300 victims were dumped into 2 great holes, each 150 metres long dug in into the hillside of the Caracoles Cemetary. Only 25 victims were identified. The bereaved of Bhopal stand a chance of winning compensation from the Union Carbide (American) Corporation — the bereaved of Mexico do not even have an official record that their relatives were killed.

SOURCE : Greenwar.

INDIA/BRITAIN

BHOPAL — STRUGGLE CONTINUES

On July 4th, 1985 about 20 groups and individuals who had been concerned about **Union Carbide** & Bhopal agreed to take action as the *Bhopal Victims Support Committee*. The committee was initiated by and is now co-ordinated by *Southall Monitoring Group, top floor, 50-52 King Street, Southall, Middlesex UB2 4PB Telephone 01-8432333.*

They organised demonstrations outside *India House, Aldwych, London WC1* and the *UK Hq of Union Carbide, Fountain Precinct, Balm Green, Sheffield S1 3AE.* on July 10th, to protest the plants closure as with no alternative employment, now poverty on top of industrial diseases face the former workers.

Beside protest letters to Union Carbide in Sheffield (see address already given) messages of solidarity can be sent directly to: *UC Employees Union, c/o Dyes and Chemical Workers Union, 17 Dalvi Building, Poibavdi, Parel, Bombay 40012 India.*

Money for relief work, legal and medical support can be sent via the *Bhopal Victims Support Committee* (see address already given) for a strike fund to *Bhopal Trade Union Solidarity Group c/o TICL, 54 Ayres Street, London SE1 1EU.*

The Trade Union Solidarity Group have an Appeal by the Union Carbide Workers' Committee for planning Alternative Production which may raise some support if taken along to union meetings etc.

The Union Carbide Employees Union, a coalition of trade union and community groups drew up an alternative plan to produce overalls, tools, medical equipment for victims of the gas attack (ie. respirators) and a soya bean protein food (soya beans are grown in the area). They want Union Carbide to hand over the premises and provide a lump sum for investment in alternative production at the former gas plant.

2,500 at least and as many as 10,000 are assessed to have died. 100,000 people are officially registered as missing. Severe respiratory damage means many have gas-affected symptoms which prevent them working, and from carrying out daily tasks necessary for survival. Many women had spontaneous abortions. The Indian Government has done little beyond providing very basic supplies, as it does not want to appear liable. Union Carbide are awaiting the Court case to settle compensation and while carrying on as usual, the multi-national corporation recently announced no drop in profits!



COMMENT

DISINFORMATION / COLLABORATION

The latest on the scene of US private spook firms comes under the fashionable sounding name of an 'information boutique'. Strictly speaking the information boutique is in the business of supplying hard data to other agencies, but using news gathering as a cover for more dubious activities.

Of course this sort of thing has been going on for years. In the old days the onus was put on the government information departments to supply black propaganda and cover. The old IRD (Information Research Department) in the post-World War II functioned in this way as a clearing house for Britain's state propaganda employing 'journalists' to knock up stories and supply them as 'exclusives'. It also worked the other way around with real journalists working closely with IRD and in addition providing cover for spooks. The situation today is no different except that it has proliferated, while in the States the private sector has moved in, in a big way.

In Britain the journalists union recently took strike action because of censorship by the government in co-operation with the BBC whereby a TV documentary on the north of Ireland was refused air time. But no such strike action was ever taken by journalists in the case of the 12 month long bias applied to the Miners Strike. Journalists, like many of their trade union colleagues, asuaged their guilt by limiting their support to welfarism (much needed, but only as a starter). Censorship in practice to many journalists is an attack on their precious ego, rather than a concerted and continuous management of information, which is reality. During the miners strike, there was limited strike action by Fleet Street printers and there were many other attempts by the print workers to provide solidarity, but on the whole the journalists acquiesced

The recent strike over the BBC/Government censorship has helped the journalists retain a degree of credibility and help sustain the myth in part amongst some *segments of the population that censorship has been defeated.*

But apart from how news is written, the source of that news is the other side of the coin. For example, with the increasing sophisticationof hi-tech news gathering and dissemination, many newspapers rely considerably on international news agencies for the initial input. Associated Press, Reuters, etc. are immediate examples. When we learn from a *Guardian* report, for example, attributed, say, to AP (Associated Press), that a recent bombing has been claimed by the guerrilla group, the Red Army Fraction, it could well be true, but their is little immediate means of establishing that information. According to Philip Agee, the CIA dissident, the CIA used agents in several press agencies to mount fictitious campaigns, in the name of communist insurgents, in order to create the required backlash.

Nor is disinformation tied down merely to the capitalist press or even to centre-right sources. Notwithstanding the far more blatant and total disinformation techniques of the Eastern bloc media, in the West it is feasible to take nearly any paper, right, centre, left or non-aligned, and you can find disinformation. Trendy 'left' publications such as *Time Out* are no exception, often revealing their gullibility for the sensational radical.

No paper can be immune from such criticism, if only that the sources of information operate from their own parameters.

On the international front, a new source of 'white' propaganda I.e., raw data) is the Oxford based Oxford Analytica, which provides electronic news analysis to business and other subscribers around the world. Oxford Analytica was set up by an ex-Nixon aide and charges its subscribers a hefty $2,000 a month rental time — obviously a pretty exclusive service. Oxford Analytica describes itself as an information boutique and provides its subscribers with daily analyses on matters concerning defence, wars, international updates, economic developments, etc.

To a certain extent the service provided by Oxford Analytica is analogous to that provided by those companies specialising in Risks. Risks is a combination of economic analysis and security backup, provided through specialised consultancies, some of whom operate closely with governments or government agencies.

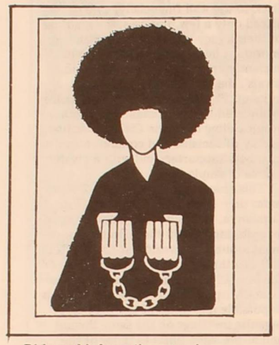
In the States the Risk business employs many ex-government officials and/or government ministers as paid consultants. For example William Colby, the ex-Director of the CIA, is now a part-time consultant for a company calling itself International Business and Government Counsellors Inc. Other Risk type consultants include Richard Helms (another ex-CIA Director) and Alexander Haig (former Secretary of State and NATO Supreme Allied Commander). They use their expertise in the Risk business not only to advise government and businesses around the world as to what is really going on behind the scenes but also how to invest and plan their economic forecasts based on, for example, inside knowledge (supplied by contacts in the Intelligence Services and central government, etc.). It goes without saying that they also earn huge sums of money for providing this expertise.

One Risk company, Business Environment Risk Information (BERI), successfully predicted the assassination of Anwar Sadat of Egypt, and the Iran/Iraqi War, and advised their customers well in advance in order that investment changes could be made.

Another Risk area is that of advising governments on policy in order to help financial projections. On this basis wars are created, new conflicts established, anti-labour laws enacted, etc. In this way, firms such as Aims of Industry, or associations such as the CBI or the Institute of Directors play their part in determining government policy in order to protect their membership.

On the security front Risk companies provide insurance and advice against potential or actual emergencies (e.g. terrorism, insurrection, revolution, hijackings, wars, etc). This can range from providing projections supplied by the various security services to providing actual physical protection. Henry Kissinger now runs such a business and among his staff are Lawrence Eagleburger and William Rodgers, both former under Secretaries of State. In Britain Edward Heath is involved in the same line of business, working for an outfit known as IRIS (International Reporting and Information Systems), a US based organisation that pays him an annual salary of £100,000 for his patronage and advice.

Other less well known outfits include Cassidy-Davis Ltd (insurance) who work with Control Risks Ltd (who provide the action) — a London based company. This firm specialises in anti-terrorist kidnaps, providing insurance and security. It is run by an ex-SAS man, Richard Turle. It also includes, on a consultancy basis, Richard Clutterbuck, a government expert on terrorism, and General Frank King (retired).



Risks and information agencies around the world now emply a growing number of government and military experts as well as financial experts to advise on news and sometimes help create it. Journalists (such as Robert Moss of the London based *Daily Telegraph*, who works closely with the far-right Freedom Association and the CIA-funded 'news agency'/research centre, the Institute of Conflict in London's Golden Square) rely for much of their information not from original investigations, but from such agencies. For printing, the right sort of line, this entitles them to the odd 'exclusive' and likewise by supplying confidential 'bandgound' information to a freelance or semi-government contact, the journalist will ensure that the relationship with the news 'creators' is not harmed. This is only the tip of the iceberg and it goes without saying that direct contact with journalists of any sort is sheer collaboration.

T.H.

AIDS: Is the Panic Justified ?

Panic has swept through the United States and Australia, and has finally come to Britain, on the subject of the 'gay plague' AIDS. The writer pretends to no specialised medical knowledge but there is something fishy about the hue and cry. It is said that AIDS spreads through homosexuals and there has been panic that has almost put homosexuals in a bracket with lepers (in former years). Mortuary workers are afraid to handle bodies of AIDS victims, hospital staffs are terrified of treating them, coroners and doctors decline to put themselves at risk, and it may be supposed though nowhere admitted, that doctors and nurses are afraid to give treatment.

Homosexuals presumably only differ from other people in their sexual contacts and if the panic-stricken mortuary worker were intending to have necrophiliac contact with the victim, one could see why they would panic. If, however, the disease is spread some other way than by sexual contact, it cannot be confined to homosexuals and cannot be the 'gay plague'.

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome apparently destroys the body's natural resistance. If it can be transmitted through infected blood, it is not an exclusively homosexual plague. Apparently it can be transmitted through blood, semen or sputum. If may be that, in this case, those who have panicked are right to do so in the case of a victim of AIDS; but it cannot belogical that it is passed only on through homosexual contacts if so. Now that it is said 'the disease is beginning to appear outside the homosexual community' it is clear that it cannot be homosexual practices that cause it.

Following the death of a chaplain by AIDS, the district medical officer for the Essex area was asked by what he described as 'eminently respectable ladies' who asked if they may have caught the infection through using the same communion cup at Church. He emphatically stated it was quite impossible. Why so, if the disease can be transmitted through the sputum/spit? Because of the evident respectability — indeed holiness — of the surroundings?

Much evidence points to the fact that the abuse of certain drugs may lead to the atrophying of certain normal resistance cells (it by no means follows that the drugs concerned are the narcotics usually at fault), and that gonorrheal infections have therefore had a free spread. Because of the involvement of homosexuals, there has been a witch-hunt of the the gay liberationists, who have attained almost to positions of power in many cases, certainly in many professions. A moralistic lashback had to come soon, especially from the religous fanatics.

PREVIOUS WITCH—HUNTS

Can a disease be *created* by sexual contact and spread by non-sexual contagion?

It is worth looking at previous 'scientific' and 'medical' facts once taken for granted. Fifty years ago, it was still possible for shock stories about masturbation to be put over to adolescents. It caused blindness or deafness; it led to insanity; it weakened the kidneys; it was even blamed for syphilitic infection! Today nobody believes these stories. Indeed, the word 'wanker' has become popularly synonymous with harmless ineffectuality.

Incest was for years believed to cause degeneration, especially mental degeneration in the children of incestual relations. How two perfectly healthy people could produce an unhealthy offspring as a result of the sexual union, and for that reason only, is explicable only by appeals to Divine intervention. In fact, the story relating to first cousins producing mentally disturbed offspring originates from the ban on union *without the consent of the Pope. With* the consent of the Pope, such results did not occur (he was even prepared to grant it to the King of Spain relating to his half-sister)! In England, marriages of first cousins were only permitted by Act of Parliament, which prevented the disturbing consequences of physical degen-degeneracy.

Of course in modern society only those fairly mentally backward copulate with their brothers and sisters, so that genetic characteristics on both sides are more likely to occur than if only one genetic source were concerned.

But taking the history of wild stories of masturbation and incest, accepted in their time as true, we can see there is considerable room for doubt on the story of AIDS as presented in the press.

It appears more as a parable on the guilty being punished — and *is* so presented by fundamentalists — than as objective scientific evidence.

A.M.

ANARCHIST RAILWAY WORKERS

Any Anarchists/Syndicalist Railway-workers interested in getting organised, contact Cambridge DAM, c/o Free Press, 25 Gywdir Street, Cambridge. National Meeting to be called soon.

STATE TERROR

Continued from Page 1

murder, sabotage, etc. it was changed in the hope that the perception of its image would change too.

WHO'S THE BOSS?

To say that the DGSE/SDECE is a law unto itself would be an understatement. In recent years the Secret Service has come under the nominal control of one Francois de Grossouvre, and below him the Ministry of Defence led led by Charles Hernu. The head of the DGSE is Pierre Marion, a close friend of Hernu's. Marion was not long in the job before he was replaced by Admiral Pierre Lacoste, a former military attache to Raymond Barre, the former right wing Prime Minister. Through Lacoste, Mitterand hoped to gain control over the DGSE, who have never gained their pre-eminence since the days of de Gaulle.

It is still very active in Africa, however where DGSE agents, together with local mercenaries, undertake counter-insurgency operations in countries like Chad, Angola, Gabon and Tunisia. Like MI5 officers, DGSE officers, on retirement often take up posts as 'security advisors' for colonial and ex-colonial governments. This has recently been the case with Gabon and New Caledonia.

According to France's right-wing press the plot against Greenpeace was hatched initially between a Mitterand aide, Jean-Louis Bianco, and the Gaullist leader, Jacques Chirac. The Gaullists were concerned to frustrate Greenpeace, given that New Caledonia was under Gaullist control and it would have been embarrassing for the Gaullist Party had Greenpeace secured a major propaganda coup.

At the same time it is known that the two people charged with the bombing in New Zealand had been closely working with ex-OAS mercenaries and Front National agents in New Caledonia in the months leading up to the attack. Three men who are thought to have carried out the planting of the limpet mine are now in Gabon or about to be transported there after being safe-housed in France via New Caledonia.

Another person wanted is a French woman, now believed to be in Israel, who is thought to have provided detailed intelligence to the saboteurs. She played the role of a Greepeace supporter in order to win over the confidence of the crew. From her observations, the bomb should have blown up when a Greenpeace crew meeting was taking place, luckily the time was changed. Unfortunately the photographer returned on board to try to rescue photographic equipment after the first explosion.

WHO GIVES THE ORDERS?

According to the magazine, *Le Point*, the man who actually gave the go-ahead for the operation was General Roger Emin, deputy head of the DGSE. The boat used to transport the sabotage crew came from New Caledonia. The actual day-to-day planning is thought to have been undertaken by Colonel Serge Codet, another DGSE officer.

The two people now facing trial in New Zealand went under the pseudonyms of Sophie-Claire Turenge and Alain-Jacques Turenge, on Swiss passports. She was based at the DGSE clandestine operations HQ at Cercottes, near Orleans.

More recently the names of the three men, moved from France to Gabon are Eric Audrenc, Raymond Velche and Jean-Michel Berthelot. Their recruiting agent is believed to be Rene Dulac, who has close connections with mercenaries. Dulac is an old DGSE mercenary who has undertaken many operations in Africa on behalf of the SDECE/DGSE.

Again, recently, it has been revealed that the name of the woman who helped in advance surveillance and logistics was a Frederique B (full name not known).

The whole affair has more than a whiff of 'Ben Barka' about it, and might be the SDECE/DGSE's revenge for the way their part in that affair has been subsequently portrayed.

BEN BARKA

Ben Barka was to attend the Tricontinental Congress to gain support for an international campaign against French (and US US) imperialism. De Gaulle was interested at that time in expanding French interests in Africa, by supporting national liberation struggles.

The CIA had its own plans and saw the possible assassination of Ben Barka as a means of embarassing De Gaulle, limiting his expansionist programme in Africa that were in competion with their own. It was also a way to send a warning to national liberation struggle leaders who were putting their faith in Ben Barka as a new style Castro.

In addition the French Secret Service was plagued with rivalries, with a strong pro-O AS faction, despite the purges, who were eager to discredit De Gaulle, even if it meant collaborating with the USA,who who they despised also.

The head of the Moroccan Intelligence Oufkin, sought Israeli Intelligence (the MOSSAD) help in the conspiracy, as well as the pro-CIA agents in the SDECE.

They needed a bait to draw Ben Barka to Paris and having achieved that he was then kidnapped by members of the Joe Attia gang. Joe Attia was a French underworld mobster, who began his criminal career in Corsica and who ended up in a concentration camp during the War for working alongside the anti-fascist Maquis. He was decorated with the Legion of Honour. In the post-War period he joined up with mobsters, was imprisoned, then recruited into the SDECE to seek out Moroccan insurgents.

Also involved in the kidnapping of Ben Barka were members of the SDECE whose loyalties were to Oufkin.

Ben Barka was then killed on the orders of Marcel Legros, SDECE agent and associate of Kissinger and Pompidou. In the end Oufkin was balmed for the actual murder. It was later established that Legros was also working for the CIA.

The whole affair was a huge embarassment to De Gaulle and Pompidou reaped the benefits. Later Pompidou undertook a clean-up operation, at the request of the US, to rid SDECE of the Corsican elements and those elements that were against the CIA.

The SDECE/DGSE have never forgotten the way they were used to US ends. At the time the left made the most of the the affair to discredit De Gaulle, but it seems their day has now come, now that the DGSE — which has a tendency to shrug off scandal — has done its worst once again.

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

A.B.C. PRISONERS LIST

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS LIST

Here's our updated Anarchist Black Cross list. Please send solidarity greetings to as many comrades as possible. Although we do our best to keep this list as accurate as possible, there may well be a few wrong addresses somewhere on it. due to moves by the Authorities of these prisoners.

Let us know if you know someone who we've missed on the list and we'll put them them on next time. *Black Flag* is sent free to prisoners.

ITALY

Raffaele Di Biasi — *c/o Carcere Speciale, via Roncata 75, 12100 Cuneo.*

Sandro Meloni, Vitto Messana — *c/o via Gleno 61, cap 24100 Bergamo*

Pino Piccolo — *via Sforzesca 44, Novara.*

Riccardo D'Este, Willy Piroch, Rocco Martino — *c/o Carcere di Rebibbia G.12, via Majetti 165, Roma.*

Carmela Pane — *c/o via Bartolo Longo 92, Roma.*

Gianfranco Bertoli — *c/o Forte S. Giancomo (LI), 57036 Porto Azzorro.*

Ivan Zerlotti, Valeria Vecchi — *c/o Piazza S. Francesco 3, 43100 Parma.*

Gaby Hartwig, Enza Siccardi — *c/o via Prati Nuovi 1, cap 27058, Voghere (PV)*

Monica Oppezzo — *c/o via Consolare Valeria 2, 98100 Messina.*

Renata Bezzo — *c/o via Don Bosco 43, 56100 Pisa.*

Juan Soto Pailacar, Horst Fantazzini *c/o via Navicella 218, 63100 Marino del Trot Marino del Tronto (AP)*

Paolo Ranieri — *c/o via del Fante 4, Verona.*

Renato Cornacchia — *c/o Corso Vercelli 16 10015 Ivrea.*

Angelo Monaco — *c/o via Minervini 2, 50018 Sollicciano.*

Bruno Abramo, Luciano Burrai — *c/o Carcere Speciale, 57035 Pianosa (LI)*

Daniele Bennati, Enzo Valenti — *c/o Sez. Fornelli, Asinara (SS).*

SPAIN

Guillermo Marin Gaitan (Remand), Jose M. Vieites Arcas (16 years), Pedro Garcia Pena (20 years), Juan Fernandez Asensio (19 years) — *c/o Carabanchel Prison, Apartado de Correos 27007, 28025 Madrid.*

Fidel Manrique Garrido (32 years) Alvaro Alvaro del Rio (23 years), Rafael Simon Gomez (11 years), Guillermo Lorenzo Trevino (12 years) — *c/o Segovia Prison, Apartado de Correos 113, 40080 Segovia.*

Miguel Mulet Nicolau (31 years) Arturo Palma Segura (17 years) Jose Granados Martinez (31 years) — *c/o Lerida I prison, Apartado No. 500, Lerida I, 25071 Lerida.*

Francisco Javier Canadas Gascon (17 years) Jorge Gil Salvador (4 years, 5 months), Francisco Nicolas Garrido (43 years) — *c/o Modelo Prison, Apartado Oficial de Correos 20, Barcelona.*

Jose Ramon Cornejo Sanchez — *c/o Puerto de Santa Maria Prison, Carretera Jerez Rota, Km. 6 (Prision), Puerto de Santa Maria, Cadiz.*

M. Luisa Alvaro del Rio (10 years) — *c/o Valencia Women's Prison, Carcel Valencia de Mujeres, Valencia.*

Fernando Garcia Morales (11 years) *c/o Murcia Prison, Murica.*

CANADA

Doug Stewart (6 years) — *c/o Kent Prison, PO Box 2000, Agassiz, BC VOM 1AO*

Ann Hansen (life) Julie Belmas (20 years) *c/o Women's Prison, PO Box 515, Kingston, Ontario K7L 4W7.*

John Abbot, Gerry Hannah (10 years) — *c/o Matsqui Prison, PO Box 4,000, Abbotsford, BC V2S 4P3*

Brent Taylor (22 years) — *c/o Box 280, Bath, Ontario, KOH 1GO*

SUPPORT THE BLACK CROSS

USA

Larry Giddings (life) — *c/o No. 10917-086 PO Box 1000, Leavenworth, Kansas 66048*

Steve Siwek — *c/o No. 048164, Mecc 2-B-10, 18701 old Hwy 66, Pacific, Mo. 630664 - 9799*

John Bosch — *c/o No. 253269, PO Box PO Box 520, Walla Walla, Washington 99362.*

Kathy Aikman — *c/o No. 43886, Box 3400, Women's Center, Goodyear, Arizona 85338.*

Steve Layton — *c/o No 80663 - 011, PO Box 1000, Marion, Illinois 62959*

BRITAIN

Eddie Horner (008) — *c/o HM Prison, Hedon Road, Hull, Nth Humberside HU9 5LS*

Terry Helsby (F17287), John Curtin (F17288) — *c/o HM Prison, Cambridge Road, Horfield, Bristol.*

David Babington — *c/o NEAL, Box 15, 59 Cookridge Street, Leeds LS2 3AW.*

Jim Oakes (L61864) — *c/o HM Prison, Perry Road, Sherwood, Nottingham.*

Angus MacInnes (1 year, due out Nov.) — *c/o HMP Penninghame, Newton Stewart Wigtonshire DG8*

IRELAND

Noel Murray (life), Marie Murray (life) *c/o — Limerick Prison, Limerick, Ireland.*

HOLLAND

Alan Reeve (15 years) — *c/o C. Vleugel, Scheveningen, Netherlands.*

FRANCE

Michel Noury — *c/o 8548, 17 rue de L'abbage, 78303 Poissy.*

Helyette Bess — *c/o 15518T, D11 R.5, M.A.F., 9 av. des peupliers, 91705, Fleury Marogis.*

JAPAN —

K. Omori (death sentence) — *c/o No. 35 Chitose PO Box, Setagaya-Ku a, Tokyo, Japan.*

GREECE

D. Meletis — *c/o Klisti Filafi, Kerkiras (kerkiras Prison), Corfu.*

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON ANARCHISM

Q: Given the highly complex situation of housing and the enormous variation in standards, including the growing trend to worker-owned homes, how can the anarchists possibly hope to solve the problem by reformist measures such as squatting or even by revolutionary means that exclude a planned central government?

A: Squatting does not try to solve any social problems. It is an attempt by some people to resolve an immediate personal problem by direct action and as such Anarchists commend it. The word 'reformist' is meaningless in this context: it ought to refer to people who think reforms can alter fundamental social problems.

It is true the housing problem is immense, but patterns alter dramatically within a short space of time. After the change in social patterns coinciding with each world war housing has changed — after the first because of the disappearance of cheap domestic help leading to the abandonment of large family houses; after the second because of the break-up of family patterns in the larger cities. Change is now coming because parliamentary legislation has made rented housing lose its attraction as a means of speculation; and because of the banks and building societies finding house loans and mortgages an attractive profit-maker. These factors while having nothing to do with a social revolution show that the different patterns of wealth distribution and access have an obvious effect on how how many and what sort of houses get built.

There is no doubt that a social revolution, without the benefit of 'planned central government' which would soon make it no revolution at all and possibly a worse tyranny, will face considerable stress for a few years while people work out who lives where. It may be that a new form of squatting — occupying the richer rather than the unwanted places — will play its part; but eventually, and sooner rather than later, an expanded building industry, freed from financial motivation, plus commonsense, will see that people can live where they want to live in the manner they prefer.

- FRENCH STYLE



President Mitterand to Charles Hernu: *Explain to the Ambassador they were tourists, not terrorists. . .*

WILL WE EVER KNOW?

One of the theories in the media is that the bombing was done by a faction within the Secret Service who wanted Hernu. So they left clues (a brand marked French navy air cylinder for example) as to who did it.

Another is that MI5 from Britain realised what the French were up to and blew the gaff to expose them.

If nothing else it reveals the real 'terrorists' are government agencies!