

HOW TO SURVIVE THE BOMB

Wealthy suburban types in the South of England are planning to murder their neighbours. They are already building fortified houses under which they can retreat in the event of nuclear war, and are applying for guns to shoot down those who wish to share the limited shelter afforded.

This is already commonplace in America, if sensational news in the U.K. It comes to light as Mr John Emin, a well heeled civil engineering contractor, of Haywards Heath, seeks planning permission for a fortified house above his £150,000 hideaway "to stop people shooting their way in". He points out that many people in the locality have guns, as it is in a country area. (Gun licences are freely given to the Tory country gentry; as was proven in the Orkneys case reported in these columns, where an anarchist was refused on political grounds).

Mr Emin pointed out to the press that this type of application was commonplace in the States, where contractors building nuclear shelters build swimming pools at the same time, to keep the plan secret from the neighbours; and where it is not uncommon to supply a "brace of sub-machine guns" to customers.

The fleeing panic-stricken, scarred and dying survivors of a nuclear attack seeking shelter will not all be gunned down by the lordly possessors of their own hideaway. Those who can put down a sizeable sum now can buy a place in advance - Mr Emin, for instance proposes to take 75 people at £6,000 now (and whatever else he demands at the crucial

time), asking not only for money but giving preference to "surgeons and doctors and other people who have needful skills" (no carpenters need apply unless perhaps, they sell their house now and pay for a place in never-never land).

US AND THEM

What of the radiation victims stumbling around the big cities? Troops have already orders to confine them in the inner areas and not let them spread. Is not it time they thought up some survival strategies? It is doubtful if anyone will survive, nuclear shelter or not, or if it will be worth living if they do, but there is nothing to be lost by a last-hope final battle.

Troops also act as city jailers, and must be fought or circumvented and the main thing is to get out of the concentration death areas and into the pleasant green belt surroundings, there to take over the spacious and attractive houses of the (almost entirely pro-nuclear deployment) well-to-do, which may well be fitted with bunkers. There are weapons enough to grab from them, by overwhelming force if people stream out in stolen cars if necessary to overpower them.

It is odd that the threat of this, even the mere possibility that it just might happen, will more effectively frighten the property-conscious bourgeoisie from going along with nuclear war than any talk about the mass destruction and universal holocaust that would be brought about by the atomic bomb.

BLACK FLAG

ANARCHIST FORTNIGHTLY 3/9/84 VOL VII 6G No.118



For criminal damage to the entire pit industry and the whole way of life of the mining villages, Ian MacGregor (self-confessed 'Head of the NCB') has probably been recommended for the Honours list.

"CRIMINAL DAMAGE" MINER JAILED FOR SABOTAGE

A Derbyshire miner has been sentenced to 9 months in Leicester Prison, for "criminal damage to an 11,000 volt cable". He has been told that he will get only 15 minutes visiting time per month, and that he will not receive mail. Letters and cards of support would be greatly appreciated. Send to: **Andrew Bradley**, 4MP Leicester, Leicestershire. England.

121 RAIDED

On Tuesday 14th August, at 8 a.m., 121 Bookshop and four nearby squats in Brixton were raided by 50 police, from the Anti-Terrorist Squad and the Brixton Police.

Front doors were smashed in with axes one squatter being woken by police walking into her room, carrying an axe!

Some of the police were armed.

Police had warrants to search for firearms, but it was obvious that they were more interested in harassing people, and gathering information.

Three people were taken away from the houses - one for suspected theft of her own carpentry tools, and possession of an anti-rape spray (the charges were dropped), one for non-payment of a fine, and one for possession of a marijuana plant. Everyone was released later.

The police at 121 searched the Kate Sharpley Library, after breaking down

yet another door, and are suspected of having stolen some papers.

Some wearing "Support The Miners" and "Save the GLC", they lounged around the shop for 3 hours, while dogs trained to sniff out explosives were given walkies around the shop, and photographs taken of the inside and outside of the building.

No reasons were given for the raids, other than "Information received". Most people conclude it was a "fishing trip", and yet another attempt to criminalise anarchism and squatting, especially if you don't happen to be Tory-blue British.

Since the raid, there has been lots of support, with sympathetic publicity, phonecalls and visits. A leaflet telling our side of the story was letterboxed in the area.

The eviction court case is still going ahead, supporting letters can be sent to: Labour Group, Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton Hill, London SW2.

MINERS UPDATE

THE NEXT STEP

The miners have now been on strike for over 5 months. The Govt. and its NCB lackeys, hadn't expected so much resolution.

Their plan to provoke a strike and thus force a final showdown had clearly worked. But they had clearly underestimated the determination of the miners. Contrary to the media, the State and misinformed public opinion this strike has little to do with Arthur Scargill's political ego.

The strike began because of the closure of Corton Wood colliery. Before Scargill realised what was happening the Yorks area was already on strike. Corton Wood was the bait, the destruction of the NUM the trap. The miners reacted in this way because they had been previously transferred there with a promise of several years work. It is too much of a coincidence that the NCB decided to close the pit only a few weeks after the transfer of miners had taken place.

Of course the miners had been offered alternative jobs and redundancy money. The redundancy money payment of £1,000 per/years service would prove irresistible to a collier with 30-40 years service close to retirement age. But for a younger worker with say 10 years service, £10,000 (less tax!), less unemployment benefit, is close to sweet F.A. The alternative employment sounds fine providing you exchange like for like. Increasingly the skilled are being offered unskilled and thus lower paid work: an offer they cannot refuse. It is patently clear that the redundancy payment scheme, like the production bonus scheme which inflates the still pathetic miners wages, is just another way of putting worker against worker. It is, therefore, not surprising that the Corton Wood miners had the foresight to see clean through the NCB's sham. They could do nothing else since unlike North Yorks and the Midlands, the South Yorks. miners haven't got the luxury of a Selby or Belvoir. From this well planned incident the NCB sat back and waited to see the reaction of the colliers in Arthur Scargill's backyard.

Macgregor had been appointed to the job of Chairman of the NCB for one purpose only. The Govt. had for many years being stockpiling coal - enough to be able to sit out a long strike. Add to this the Tory determination to destroy the miners union: a grudge held since the 70's.

Many claim Thatcher is a fascist. This clearly is a nonsense not even worthy of the educated elite of the Left. What she is, however, determined to do is to restore the 'lower orders' to, what she and her class perceive as their proper station, at the bottom of the scrap heap.

When the strike began many demanded, in union with the NCB propagandist and the simple-minded, a ballot. Many regret the timing. But on both counts the critics of Corton Wood miners were clearly clutching at straws. What could the NEC of the NUM do? Tell the miners on strike to go back to work and promise support when they have a better chance of winning? Allow a secret ballot in which those from secure pits (at least THEY THINK they're secure), would vote away the livelihood of miners from small "unprofitable" pits? Clearly NO to both! If the so-called Left cannot comprehend the reason of the miners they should shut up and piss off - taking their elitist newspaper crap with them.

When the workers take two steps forward by what right do the Left claim to demand the miners should take two steps backward? If the Left can't keep up with the miners they should drop out of the race instead of agitating for a ballot with the forces of reaction.

The right of veto is an important one that should be used often but not at the expense of someone else's job. There must also be a place for spontaneity of action

The police have been used to perfection with a total disregard for their Law they have harassed, arrested and downright brutalised the miners. Suddenly the "fair cop" image looks slightly tarnished. Once again State terror shocked many liberals, but not the miners. The potential for oppression is always there but is rarely used on such a large scale. Significantly the police showed that they had learnt from previous disputes, notably in 1972 & 1974. The mass pickets now illegal were not going to triumph and haven't worked. The NUM leadership despite this continue with this monumental waste of time resulting in many arrests as proof of machismo.

It is clear that new irregular guerrilla tactics are urgently needed since the cops have far greater sweeping powers and are not afraid to use them! The use of hit and run against selected targets with the result that the police jam is spread thin



Mindless thugs terrorise Armthorpe pit village.

and not the senseless push and grunt that goes on now. The promising use of the go-slow tactic on roads and motorways is a good tactic for example.

Another highlight of this dispute is the actions of the 'petticoat pickets' as the sexist media refers to the miners wives. Organising self-help groups, food collection and standing on the picket lines: promoting women's liberation far more effectively than legwarmers and aerobics.

The NCB as expected championed the 'right to work'(sic.). The lonely miner in Scotland, the winder in Yorkshire all heroes for the day. The Govt. help this propaganda along by personalising this strike and succeeding to the point that many now believe Scargill responsible for the strike, a comparison can be seen with the recent D-Day lies - the Russians were the enemies, the Germans just misguided. Enter Silverbirch a latter day Scarlett Pimpernel rescuing 120,000+ intimidated miners from the Scargill guillotine. The endless stream of tear-soaked women appear on TV blaming it all on the Govt.'s favourite parish. If the miners succeed in defeating the propaganda war it will be a miracle.

Whether as in some areas miners begin to drift back, as in Notts, to work yet remains to be seen. The NUM for their part need to turn the screw as soon as possible before its too late and the demoralisation of the constant anti-miner Media barrage takes effect. Whatever the outcome it is hoped that should the worst happen the miners don't turn their humiliation into hatred of those delegated to carry out their mandate, and save it for the State, the enemy of us all.

MINERS MEETING

"My father, a miner all his life, was unable to work at 47 years old, and he died at 57. During his working life, he worked hard to increase output, the reward for which is a flag at the end of each month for the pit that has produced the most coal. He would turn in his grave if he knew that by increasing production he was encouraging the premature closure of a pit." - the words of a miner's daughter who left Nottinghamshire 18 months ago and now lives in Amsterdam. She is one of approximately 50 people who attended a meeting in Amsterdam last month to organise support for the current miners strike in Britain. STEUN committee MIJNSTAKERS ENGELAND, set up by a section of the squatters movement, are planning various actions including fund raising parties & giving miners children a holiday in Holland. August 1984

The Other Paper A'dam.

Price - Waterhouse Occupied

The Birmingham offices of P-W the 'sequestrators' employed by the Govt. to seize NGA funds last year and NUM funds (£50,000 unpaid fine) now were occupied by 11 strikers and one woman supporter. They hung banners from the windows and when police arrived, breaking down the doors, they left without arrests being made. Money to buy food for strikers' families has been frozen in accounts by the State-paid thieves.

Money Money Money

South Yorks police bill is over £6 million for persecuting strikers. Much more on a national level but money "well spent" according to Tory Parliamentary Speakers.

340 scabs cars set on fire or sabotaged in Notts. Approx £150,000 damage to NCB property. Damage to miners on strike who have had their homes and cars attacked by police is higher, with over 6,000 arrested, 2 deaths (what price?) and 1,000+ injured, some with severe head injuries who will never get the 'publicity' that the gun-toting 'right-to-work' scabs get in the bourgeois press.

5 NCB coaches being fitted with window grilles by J.Thompson engineering works at Pleasley Vale North Derbyshire were destroyed by fire (£30,000 damage).

At a privately owned mine at Westerhope, Newcastle diesel fuel and oil was drained from tanks and caused £4,000 damage to vehicles and machinery.

Aug. 8th, 100s of miners attacked Silverhill Colliery smashing up 18 scabs cars, and rammed a police van. They then went 20 miles (passing a police station where they overturned a police car) to Harworth colliery where they smashed windows in the canteen and more scabs cars. From there they went across into Yorkshire and attacked the 11 storey NCB office in Doncaster, causing £2,000 damage to windows.

4 police were hurt and two cop cars damaged when they turned up at the 'Pussycat Club' in Wakefield where 300 miners were having a cut price social outing. One cop car was overturned with the driver still inside...the cops withdrew and there were no arrests.

STRIKER'S RADIO

Following on our report on the striking miners pirate radio broadcasting on top of Radio Trent in Nottinghamshire, the *Guardian* has picked up on the story and tells (22/8/84) of an important new development. They report that the miners have "penetrated the system" this week and are now breaking in on VHF broadcasts of Radio Trent, seemingly at will reporting the truth of the miners strike and blacking out the official media lies and distortion.

Mr Ron Coles, Director of Radio Trent commenting on this "sinister event" has refused to say how the miners are substituting their news for that of Radio Trent because "I don't want others to do it"...*Black Flag* can report one simple way of doing it, which uses the official radio's own transmitter, superimposing the pirate programme over the entire area. This is possible because the official programmes are beamed from the studio to the main transmitter (which has to be high up for Very High Frequency) by means of a low power, directional VVHF (microwave) link (see diagram).

HOW IT CAN BE DONE

So all you have to do is to build a small transmitter on the same frequency as their link, make a directional aerial point it exactly at their transmission tower and switch on. If their link is more powerful you simply go closer, until your signal wins, with VVHF this tends to block out completely the competing signal. The transmission tower then rebroadcasts your signal at full strength. The big advantage of this is that you are very difficult to detect. Several London pirates have been using 'links' for years between their studios and transmitters and reckon they are almost impossible to follow. You can't take good 'cross bearings' for instance on such a low power narrow beam transmission, plus in the case of the miners the signal of Radio Trent will interfere with the hunt, and the miners only go on the air for short periods ie. news time. The Radio Trent Managers would either have to close down completely or switch to using land lines at additional cost, or more likely change their link equipment.

However it would be a mistake to underestimate the array of excellent detection gear available to the Dept. of Trade and Industry (DTI) who are sure to be putting all their efforts into stopping the strikers breaking the media monopoly; the penalties are quite high if anyone is caught. It would come under Section 13 of the Wireless Telegraphy Act (1949)... 'Deliberate Interference' which carries up to six months imprison-

MINERS GUERRILLA RADIO BREAKTHROUGH

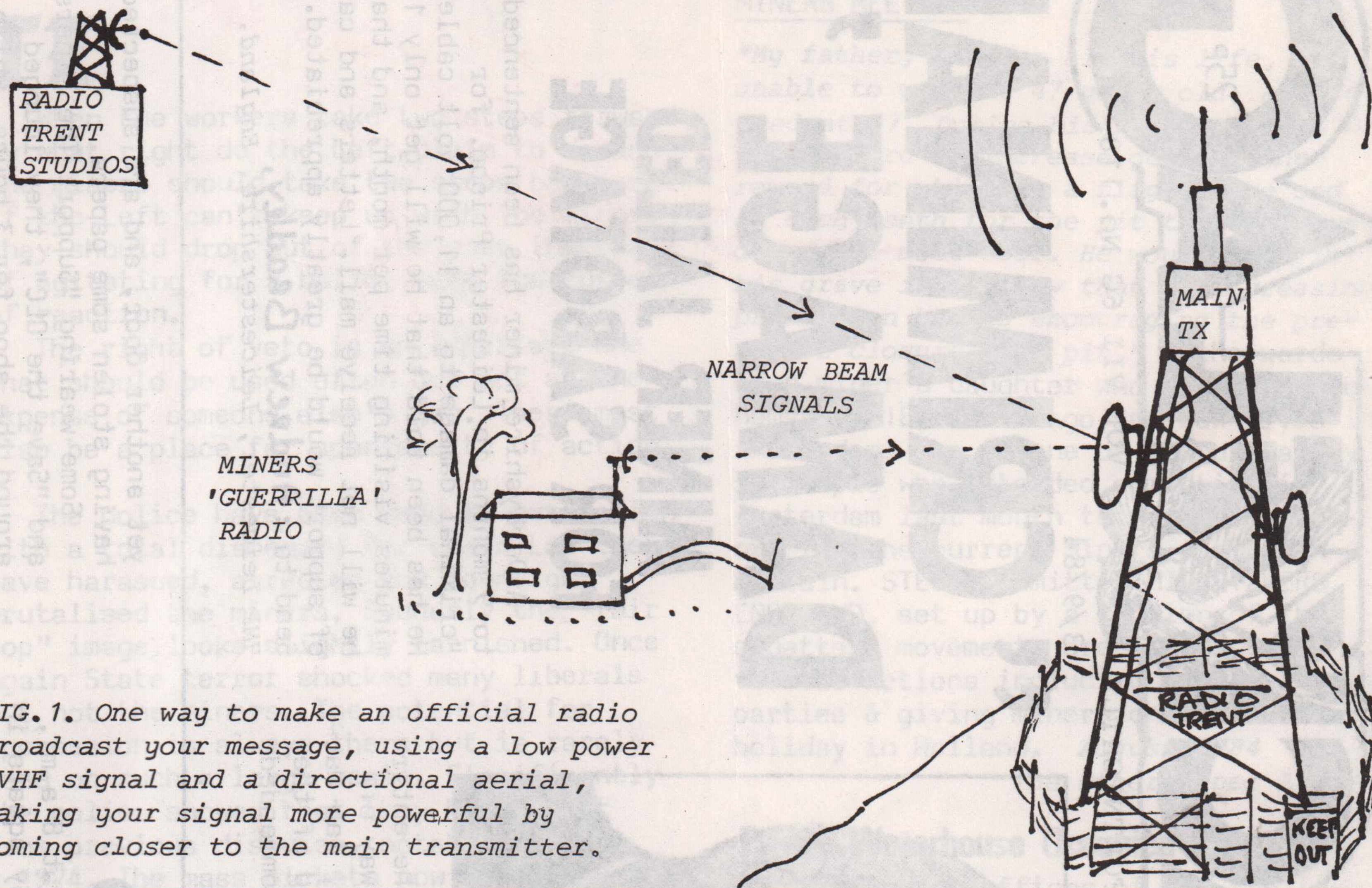


FIG.1. One way to make an official radio broadcast your message, using a low power VVHF signal and a directional aerial, making your signal more powerful by coming closer to the main transmitter.

ment,,and if it goes to Crown Court, it can be up to 2 years jail and an unlimited fine or both, plus of course seizure of equipment. A pretty steep price to pay for nicking a few of HM's airwaves.

If the miners' pirate really has 'penetrated the system' its an important step for political pirates. The equipment involved could probably be built by a capable electronics hobbyist with Radio Frequency experience. Main problems could be finding suitable circuit diagrams and tuning. Also I reckon it could cost £1000 to build, including directional dish, and you'd need access to expensive testing gear. Breaking into microwave links has up to now been a pipe dream of the radio pirates. In theory at least you could break into TV or even military communications in the same way.

The *Guardian* article also reports, quite falsely, that there have been no 'political pirates' in Britland since Radio Enoch closed down (good its gone!) The real pirates are of course the right wing and commercial class interests which control and censor radio. Its true that at present there are no anarchist pirates here, the nearest ones are in Amsterdam (Radio Vrije Keizer, Anarchist night) and in Paris (Radio Libertaire). There have however been at least 4 pirates in the last few years which have carried anarchist views, and have been relentlessly busted and persecuted off the air for their trouble.

These were, Cambridge Community Radio, CCR, Radio Revenge* (Leeds), Our Radio (London based open access), and Sheffield Peace Radio, (who were heavily busted in March but may be back). None of these have however tried the guerrilla 'interference' tactics of the miners in Nottinghamshire.

REVENGE IS SWEET

Radio Stop the World* (aka Radio Revenge) took to the airwaves in support of Leeds Stop the City. The station was on the air live between 8-8.30am, 10-11.30am and 8.30pm-midnight, on 90.4 mHz VHF - between Radios 2 & 3.

During the broadcasts an appeal was made for money to help pay fines of the people arrested during the action to be sent to: RSTW, Box T, 59 Cookridge St., Leeds 2. They also broadcast over the recent long weekend 24/25/26 August at 10pm on 90.4 mHz VHF.

Black Flag is planning to carry a more detailed report on Anarchist radio in a future Quarterly Review (could people please send in more info!) which we hope will be a step towards setting up new stations. NB. Detailed information sheets and a bimonthly bulletin and legal advice are available from *Free The Airwaves*, Box CCR c/o Bath House, Gwydir Street Cambridge (Sub. £2.00) A photocopy of the *Our Radio* pamphlet, *How to be a Radio Pirate* are available for 30p and a Stamped Self-Addressed Envelope c/o

Black Flag, BM Hurricane, London WC1N3XX

JAPAN - NARITA!

The houses of three senior airport authority officials in and around Tokyo were petrol-bombed on Monday 6th August.

The attacks were in reply to Govt. plans to extend Narita airport (37 miles East of Tokyo) against local people's wishes. The airport opened in 1978 after 10 years of resistance by local farmers and their friends in which 9 people died and 10,000 were injured. Tactics included mass occupations, sabotage and a raid on the airport control tower which resulted in extensive damage.

LETTER

Dear *Black Flag*,

One final bit of cell cleaning before being transferred to a Federal prison tomorrow..

An interview appeared in a local feminist newspaper *Kinesis* with Ann Hansen. What is most interesting about it was the extent to which the two women questioning Ann were coming from a position which reflected a fair amount of the State perspective. Ann in her final answer says: "the hardest part is when people only focus on the negative aspects...". The indications are that the State was successful in distorting reality and that the media is very effective in making people believe their distortions. Two supposedly radical feminists actually ask about the "plan to murder a Brink's guard". They have

obviously swallowed the State's distortions - hook line and sinker. There was never any plan to 'murder a Brink's guard' - in fact all the scenarios for robbery plans were very thorough about how to ensure nobody was injured. But the persecutors and the Judge turned the case from 'conspiracy to rob' to 'conspiracy to kill a Brink's guard'. With the media following suit, they ended up having people believe that we were intending to ambush and kill a Brink's guard and take the money.

All in all, the trying of the 'criminal charges' first proved very effective for the State in confusing and depoliticising the case and in portraying us in the most negative way they could. We managed to redirect the focus somewhat with the political sentencing hearings - but still there are a lot of people out there saying "well, I can understand their cause but you can't go around shooting people to get money".

Apparently, the authorities in Toronto still haven't decided whether to actually proceed with the Cruise Missile factory bomb-in against just me... They already have two convictions against Ann & Julie and they know I am already doing the maximum time before parole eligibility, so therefore they probably don't want the radical focus that would be directed against the Canada/US war preparations and the continued forum for the development of resistance/guerrilla politics which will occur if they proceed. Yet, I wouldn't be surprised if they eventually decide to go ahead. However until they do I'll be residing at the regional maximum security Federal prison. New address for me is: Kent Prison, P.O. Box 2000, Agassiz, British Columbia, CANADA.

I hope things are well with you all. Take good care of each other and keep strong. In solidarity and resistance, Brent Taylor.

QUESTION & ANSWER ON ANARCHISM

Q. Is Nationalism compatible with Anarchism? There seems to be two types of Nationalism - one to do with nations seeking their liberty from imperialism, the other imperialistic. I would have thought Anarchists would support the former, not the latter, though to be honest I'm not clear how much they differ.

A. They don't, all that much, except that the former are unsuccessful and the latter successful. A few Anarchists do, it is true, (sentimentally or in sympathy with struggles going on near or around them) support national liberation struggles, but they are still not compatible with anarchism, whatever 'tactical' reasons are argued for supporting them.

Anarchism is by definition anti-statist, Nationalism is by definition either the creation of a state to represent a nation, or the glorification of an existing state. Nation states are artificially created out of an amalgam of peoples that make up a state and consider themselves a nation.

Some small nations try to break away from a larger state and create another with a more particular racial, linguistic or religious identity.

Nationalism, as the adoration of a state, appeals to the bourgeoisie, and forms the backbone of fascism because it is an alternative to class struggle and glosses over differences of class interest within a nation. An appeal to national unity is the classical last hope of tyranny. Those national liberation movements which are essentially successful, however liberal or even 'revolutionary' in their early stages, build up stores of this nationalistic emotion and easily fall into various forms of tyranny, including fascism.

LETTERS

Dear Comrades,
I think the fortnightly and quarterly publications are both very good, informative and generally pretty incisive. I also think that it's good that you are unashamedly putting forward anarchist proposals and views on issues (eg 'Disarming the State' and 'Collectivise the Mines'). Too often in the past anarchism has come over as wholly critical and negative, but in Black Flag there is now quite a good blend of information and constructive comment which definitely stands out from what I've seen of the anarchist press'

more general approach elsewhere
Best wishes and solidarity,
A Jones.

Dear Comrades,
Keep up the good work with Black Flag; the recent rebirth of the class struggle is at least showing us where the pseudo-anarchists' interests really are. Hope the next Stop the City goes well, although I won't be there and, if it's possible, you can inform the person who wrote the article in Black Flag about the last STC and said 'real success is not getting arrested' that his/her non-arrest seems to have depended on others being police fodder. Real success is hardly any or, better still, NONE getting arrested.

All the best, Graham.

STRIKING COPPER MINERS

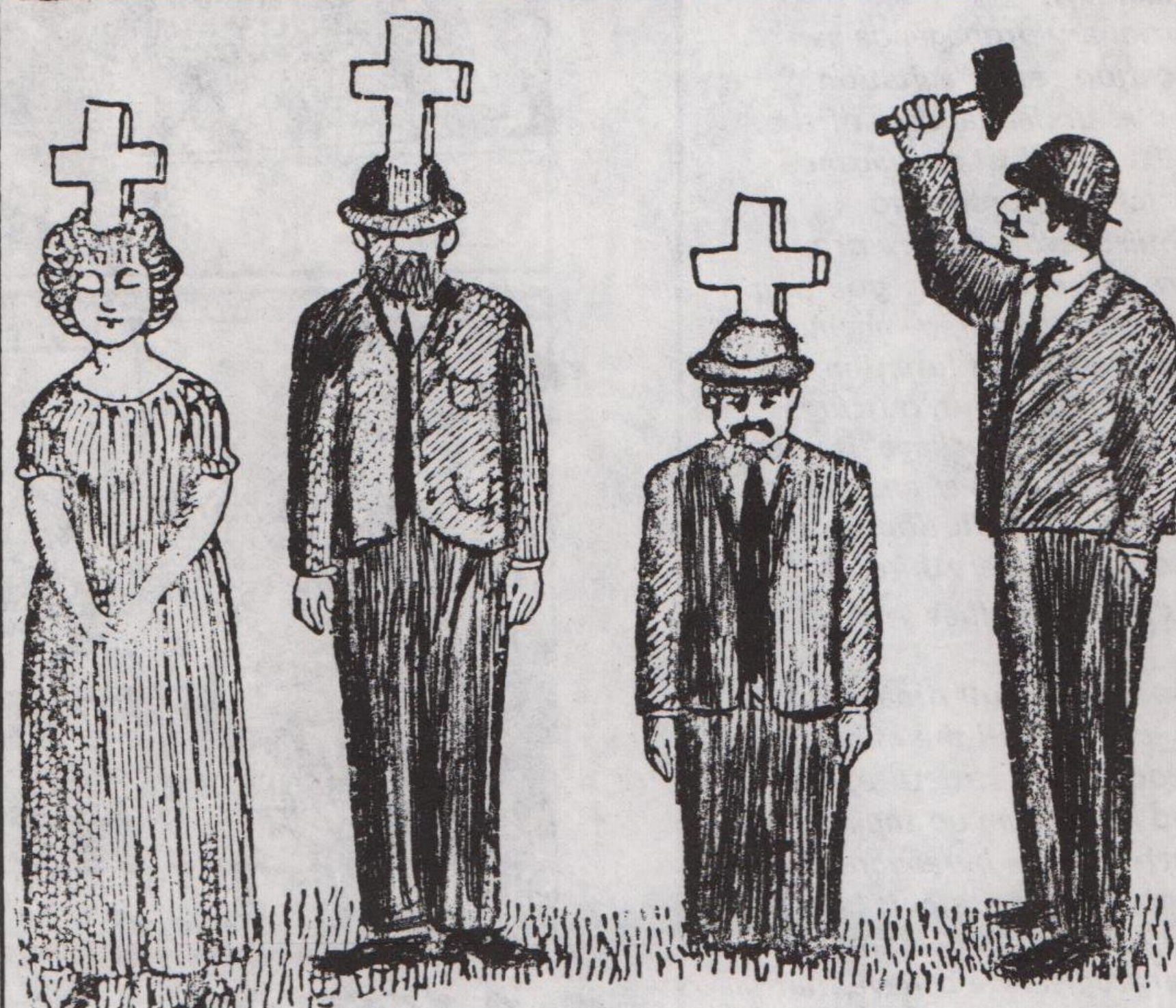
Phelps-Dodge: Out Over a Year

In Clifton, Arizona, USA mass pickets faced police sharpshooters, helicopters and tear gas when they assembled to mark the 1st anniversary (on July 1st) of the strike at nearby Morenci copper mine and smelter, 2nd largest in the USA. In spite of the strike, over jobs and union rights, the works have continued to operate, using scab labour protected by armed guards.

The strikers set up barricades to stop the road to the mine, defending themselves with rocks and petrol bombs, and managing to defeat police and take over the town for a night. However the police eventually took over with daylight.

The strikers are facing great hardship especially as Phelps-Dodge are beginning to evict them from company-owned housing. They urgently need our help. Write to: Copper Relief Fund, PO Box 1017, Clifton, Arizona 85533 USA

SOURCE: CLASS STRUGGLE



LUIS PALAU AND ANARCHIST STRATEGY

On Tuesday 10th July there was a major disruption of Luis Palau's religious fascism at Shepherd's Bush. People yelled their "doubts" such as "Riot Not Religion" and 'Sex not Superstition', ran out on to the pitch (QPR Stadium, London), attempted to play football with a ball called God, and so on. Generally, the aim was to demonstrate our opposition to religion and hopefully undermine its pervasive spell. But the end result of this was the arrest of 12 comrades. This article is not intended to discuss 'why' we disrupted Palau, more to discuss strategy in the light of events.

First, I personally felt more happy with our action on 6th July, when a group of us simply sat down, refusing to be sucked into the overwhelming spell of obedient religious consensus. We proved by our example that not everyone was willing to be duped into becoming a sheep-like acceptor of our shit society in the mythical hope of a 'better' future in 'heaven'. The cost to ourselves was zero (apart from a very boring evening!) - yet on Tuesday night the cost was very high. I believe that "small deeds" are far too underrated by many anarchist comrades - what is the point of a disruption if 12 comrades are arrested and so face court/fines, etc? Furthermore, our small deed on Friday was, I think, much better received by the Palau audience than the large deed on Tuesday - we will never convert anyone by alienating them from what we are saying. Of course, the problem with small deeds is that it is

NEWHAM 7

With an increase in racist attacks in East London a group of Asian youths began organising for self-defence. The police, as usual, were unable to catch the racist thugs and instead chose to arrest 7 of these youth charging them with conspiracy and affray. This is similar to Bradford 12 (1982) and Newham 8 (1983) where the State tried to criminalise and intimidate resistance to racism.

The Newham 7 Defence Campaign have now called a picket of West Ham Magistrates' Court for the Committal hearing on Friday 14th September. Contact them at:

PO Box 273, Forest Gate, London E7 9JN

THOMPSON TOURS

Thompson Tours' New Park Garage, Longton Road, Trentham, had 3 coaches set on fire (£150,000 damage). The coaches were used to take scabs to Hem Heath Colliery, near Stoke on Trent.

very difficult to evaluate their degree of success, and it is hard to continue the struggle without feeling that you are actually succeeding in some way. But the solution to this surely should be a belief in ourselves and those around us - mutual aid, affinity now!

The arrests were mainly made because of police provocation - they openly and directly provoked us into reacting: and we reacted right outside Shepherd's Bush police station! I find it difficult to think of a more stupid place to react to police provocation. It is vital that we struggle against the state on our terms, not on its - because then we simply get smashed. I feel that our reaction was important, as well as, of course, our demonstration of solidarity to those comrades who were first arrested. But need we have allowed ourselves to have been shepherded, provoked, controlled by the police so easily? It might have been better to have split up and disappear down the numerous side streets - instead we allowed the police to control us to the extent that we ended up outside Shepherd's Bush police station, where a gang of thugs in blue charged out and randomly arrested comrades. I think the general points to be considered are the importance of small deeds (eg, leafletting, talking to individuals, etc), the vital necessity of struggling where and when we want to, the need for calm and control by ourselves (which I believe can be best gained through strong affinity groups), and, naturally, the essential need for struggle. After our disruption, the religious heroin no doubt continued and the sheep probably obediently swallowed their regulated diet of containment, containment and more containment. But maybe our action made one or two of them actually think for themselves and place their faith in reality rather than myth.

REPLY: It's all a matter of 'balance of forces' (us & them) really. A variety of tactics and imagination can even go and upset the odds in our favour when we are largely outnumbered. Big thing is to not let them grind you down. By all accounts the locals nearly rioted with the cops when the arrests took place so sympathy was with the disrupters. Remember only the passive make no mistakes as they do nothing!

A Streatham @.

LETTER

THE MINERS STRIKE AND THE ANARCHISTS

The article (The Miners' Strike and the Left) in *Black Flag* 114 was correct to state the paramount importance of the miners' strike for the working class in this country. Considering themselves an integral part of that class it goes without saying that class struggle anarchists up and down the country are committed to supporting the strike and aiding its victory.

The article was also right to point out the various intrigues and manipulations that other groups of the revolutionary Left are indulging in during the miners' strike. But then this was expected; we know from experience the parasitic way Leninists feed off workers struggles. We hope that as libertarians we take a more principled position in workers struggles.

However, though the article was right to condemn the Leninists and then emphasize the importance of real solidarity it seems to me it then went on to adopt an attitude that borders on mere liberalism. Because we oppose the Leninist's practices do we really have to throw the baby out with the bathwater and refrain from any kind of specifically revolutionary propaganda about the strike?

The line pushed by the article is currently fashionable: "There will be plenty of time after the strike to put over our political heres theories, but during the dispute there is only one form of propaganda, and that is propaganda by deed, through no strings, non-dogmatic, consistent and practical solidarity."

We have to be involved in giving practical aid and solidarity of course (and I have been), but any variety of socialist can do this, and even bleeding heart liberals will collect food for the miners' families (not many round our way: typesetter). We should be in the thick of the struggle as anarchists and workers, and we take our own ide as into that struggle.

The article condemns the Socialist Workers Party for taking Jack Taylor (Yorkshire Area President) and other full time officials to task for certain aspects of their handling of the strike. The article says there's little we can criticize these on during the strike (!), and of course they've given up their wages during the strike. Was the article written by Scargill's press agent? True, they have given up their wages during the strike, but then as bureaucrats they've got plenty to spare.

I don't think much of the SWP's strategy, and is no more valuable than Jack Taylor's (such as their fixation with mass picketing). But I do read *Socialist Worker* because it gives probably the best industrial coverage of all the left-wing press, and I've seen no evidence of the "SWP's assault on the miners" as the article puts it. They have criticised the way the strike has been conducted at various junctures and the failings of full time officials but does this constitute an 'assault on the miners'?

I heard Arthur Scargill speak at a rally a few weeks back. Referring to the NCB closure plan he more or less said "I told you so, you should have listened to me" to the assembled miners. That is the attitude of the most militant of the NUM full time officials; a unionism from the top down. No realization that the grass roots hadn't listened to his warnings because in a reformist unionism the bureaucracy cracy, no matter how left-wing, talks a different language to the grass roots. As anarchists we believe in a unionism by the workers, not an ineffective unionism for the workers. So save your solidarity for the miners, bureaucrats don't need it.

This strike holds a number of lessons for the workers movement, and maybe one or two

two for the anarchist movement... Firstly it has shown once more the tremendous resilience and power of organised and militant workers. Secondly it has shown the ethical bankruptcy of the Leninist groups whose main priority is selling their paper behind the picket lines while people at the front are getting their heads cracked open. Thirdly it has shown yet again that reformist unionism isn't up to the job. Much of the sacrifice and commitment of the miners and their families has been squandered at times (as when the area NUM leaderships gave "their" steelworks special dispensations to carry on production). As to the response to the bureaucracies of other unions, the less said the better (wot? - typesetter).

The article misses the basic point: that the dynamism behind the strike from day one has come from the grass roots of the NUM. On

this welcome development, as anarchists and believers in a revolutionary unionism under the conscious control of militant, self-organised workers, we must base our propaganda and activity. We seek working class unity yes. But don't confuse that with entertaining the mistakes and missed opportunities of reformist trade unionism.

D.M. (Middlesbrough)

REPLY: There is a difference between revolutionary and anarchist propaganda. Revolutionary propaganda can be seen as the education and agitation which increases peoples understanding of the present society, whilst anarchist propaganda is presenting the anarchist approach to changing society. Whilst revolutionary propaganda in this miners strike, such as pointing out it is not solely a mass conspiracy against the miners, but it is the natural function of the DHSS police etc., is important, putting over the complete anarchist 'package' is not. Therefore the best way to put over anarchism is not by claiming to have the solution to the miners strike, the world and everything, but by proving ourselves as useful allies in the struggle.

Not all NUM bureaucrats (full time, paid officials) are better off than all the miners, some are at the bottom of the structure, are worse paid, these too have given up their salaries. Simplistic attacks on bureaucracies based on 'they get more money' etc. is basically petty and shows a lack of understanding of the problem. As anarchists we believe that bureaucracy, hierarchy etc. weakens workers organisations, wether they are paid more or less is irrelevant.

Getting on to the SWP. They have not attacked full time officials, they have attacked selected individuals ie. Jack Taylor, because he is a soft target. Even they aren't stupid enough to attack Scargill, which could be quite easily done in the same tone as their attack on Taylor. On the lines of more mass picketing needs national not regional control Scargill's failure to take control from the regions will loose this strike etc. etc. But they have personalised the miners problems into Jack Taylor - in the same way as the SUN newspaper of the Rupert Murdoch Party blames it all on Scargill.

The Socialist Worker may give a good coverage of industrial news but so does the Newsline (WRP daily paper) and for that matter the Financial Times and the Sunday Times & Observer business sections. In all cases there is a need to read between the lines.



CNT-DAM MEETING

On 21st August 1984 a meeting organised by the Cambridge DAM (Direct Action Movement) in liason with Cambridge Anarchist Group was held on the CNT (Confederacion Nacional de Trabajo - Spain's anarcho-syndicalist union) today and the DAM. Talks were given by a CNT member and a DAM member respectively, after which the audience were invited to ask questions (notably about the miners and the Post-Franco organising situation). The meeting was well advertised locally (the area was fly-posted beforehand) and was well attended. The problems faced by the CNT today and the history of syndicalism in Britain and the IWA (International Workers Association) the anarcho-syndicalist international to which both DAM and CNT belong, were mainly concentrated on.

In Spain, NUM strikers have been touring Asturias, appeared on TV and several times on the radio. The CNT has organised the meetings and a lot of interest has been generated in the miners' strike. More details as they come in.

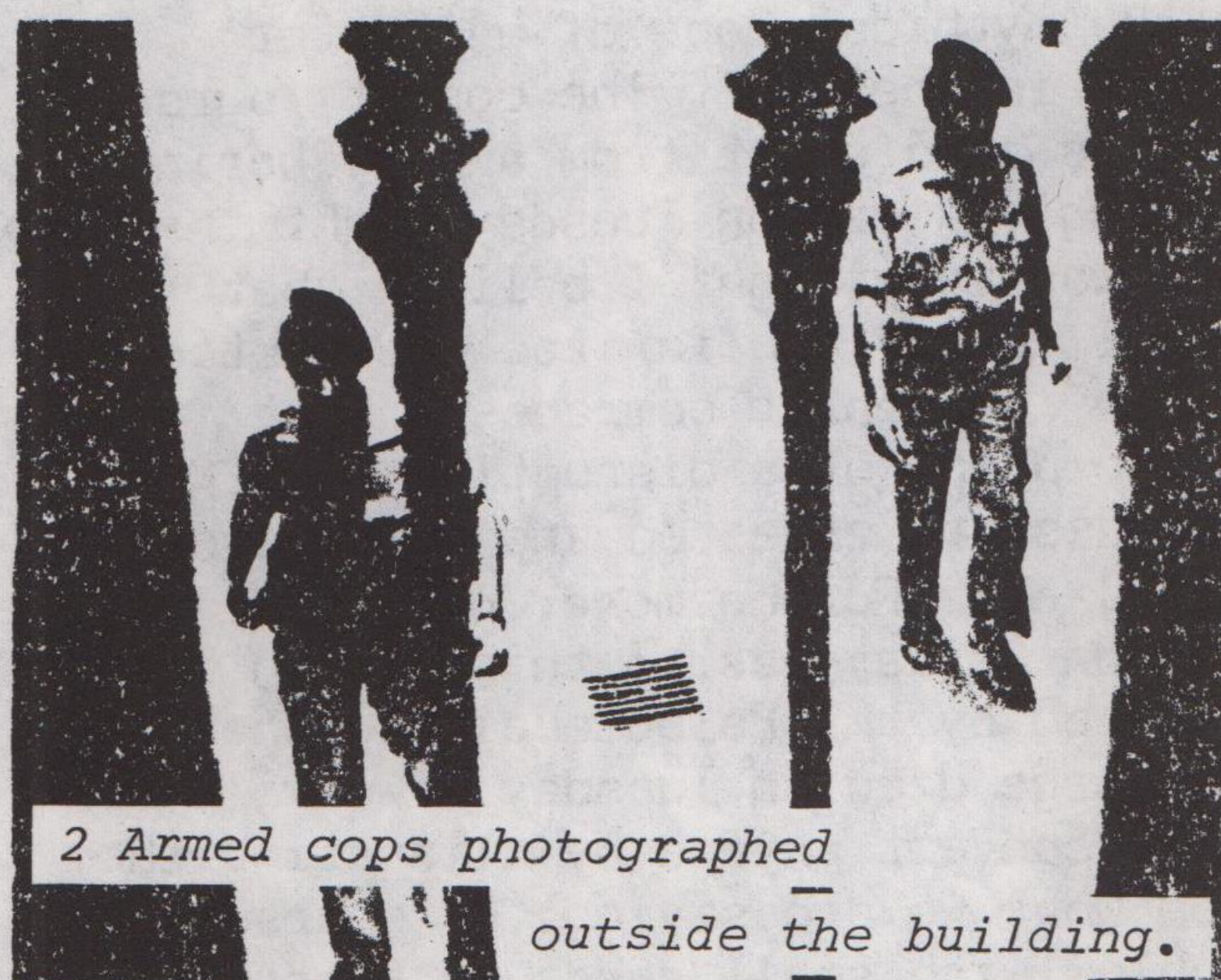
CNT EVICTIONS

Following last June's eviction of the CNT-AIT National Committee, Prisoner's Aid Committee and several CNT-AIT unions from their premises in Madrid, the Spanish "socialist" State recently attempted to forcibly evict more CNT-AIT anarcho-syndicalists, this time in Barcelona.

The building in question (in Puerta-ferrisa St.) was originally occupied by Spanish Falange (Fascist Party) during which time no rent was ever collected or paid. In 1976, after Franco's death, the fascists abandoned the building and it was subsequently occupied by the CNT-AIT Local Federation and several local CNT unions. Over the last couple of years the local Federation moved to another building nearby, but the building was still being used by local CNT unions.

The landlord had always refused to

accept rent from the CNT, insisting that he was only interested in selling the building. Interviews with the landlord, arranged by the CNT had also been non-productive. So it came as no surprise when a Court Order for Eviction was finally drawn up.



2 Armed cops photographed outside the building.

On 5th July, 1984, at 5pm, 13 Court Officials and 4 police turned up outside the building and demanded entry. This was refused so long as there were police present (a baaricade was built behind the door just in case). Police reinforcements soon arrived and surrounded the building, followed by 6 more van loads of cops. One CNT member was arrested outside the building, provoking others on the building's balcony to hurl abuse (and other things!) at the police below. The cops retaliated by pointing guns and machine-guns up at them. Two more people were later arrested when a delegation was sent to the local Police HQ in order to obtain the release of those arrested earlier.

Fortunately by this time the eviction attempt had been cancelled (until the next time). Those arrested were released after several hours.

SOURCE: Tinta Negra.

FEEDBACK

PRISONERS INDEX ON COMPUTER

Anyone in an anarchist group with access to a 16K ZX81 and would like a copy of the Black Cross Prisoners Index on cassette please send a blank tape and/or donation to ABC c/o BM HURRICANE, LONDON WC1N3XX

CORRESPONDENCE WANTED

I wish to correspond with any autonomous/fervent minded anarchists. I am serving a five year prison sentence. I only earn \$5.00 a month in jail and would appreciate any literature freely sent. I have been an anarchist for 8 years and am now 27 years old. Contact: Steve Siwek No. 048164 (MECC) 2-B-10, 18701 Old HWY 66, Pacific, Missouri 63069-9799 USA

STOP THE CITY LONDON SEPT. 27TH.

In London every Monday at 6.30pm at the Marchmont Community Centre, Marchmont Street, WC1 there is a STC co-ordination meeting. On Sept. 1st a London-wide meeting will take place at the Tonbridge Club corner of Cromer & Judd Streets WC1. Postal contact Box STC, Housmans B-shop 5 Caledonian Rd. London N1. for STC publicity and other contacts: North West, North East, Wales, Scotland, Midlands, South West, South East, London and the various interest and issue groups. Don't delay set up an STC affinity group today

Between Sept. 20 and 30 is a series of actions based on local groups. Some will involve leafletting and picketing of 'City' targets such as Banks, Police Stations, Army Recruitment Centres and many more. Still other hit and run type actions to make it 'hot' for the City.

IRISH PRISONERS

In August 1984 there were 41 Provisional IRA prisoners in jails in England. The Provos state that there are also 12 innocent people accused of IRA actions, held in jail, including 3 women. all of these are serving life, except for Ann Maguire (14 years) and Carole Richardson ("indefinite"). Of the 41, none are serving less than 12 years and most 15, 20 years or life. Patrick Hackett's release is asked for on medical grounds.

WANTED

Lonely anarchist aged 43 seeks people for love and friendship, Birmingham area. Write to: M.W. C/o 57 Eastham Rd, Yardley Wood, Birmingham B13 0JY.

WANTED

Anarchist male seeks accommodation and work. Contact: J.P. Simcock, 1 Albany Rd Bedford.

SOUTHEND ANARCHISTS

Southend Anarchist & Libertarian Group has several projects under way including an organic allotment, magazine, book-stall (which will be set up at festivals and gigs); and recently held a People's Picnic at Pitsea, and a sponsored ride round local companies involved in the arms trade. "Billy Graham" and Black Flag posters have been put up, and a collection for the miner's families got £20.

HUDDERSFIELD DAM

Huddersfield DAM can be contacted c/o Old Stewards House, Northgate, Hudd. HD11RL Also c/o the same address, anarchist printing service. Screenprinted posters, cards, badges at ultra cheap rates. They teach you to print as well. Contact: Black Shadows. K. Omori (Japanese Anarchist facing the death penalty) post-cards, 2 designs. 10p each & S.A.E. 1985 Calendar in preparation, artwork, ideas and anyone with Esperanto entries please get in touch with these comrades.

LUMPENPROLE STOP THE CITY

No. 1. 15p. 8 page A4 format. Available from better bookshops/anonymous. Looks at the previous STC's of Sept. 29 1983, March 29th 1984 and the ill-prepared May 31st actions. No comment on Leeds, looks towards the Sept 27th strategy. Concludes: 1. Arrive in large numbers. 2. Arrive outside the 'City'. 3. Dress 'normally'. 4. Get clear, accurate info not rumours by using messengers. 5. Regroup elsewhere if the Police win but watchout for mobile vans trying to close off streets at both ends and make arrests. 6. If a no-go area is won then immobilise police is the priority.

Also looks at the miners strike, the violence/non-violence debacle, & Left/Right State controllers. Interesting.

PUBLICATIONS

A DAY MOURNFUL AND OVERCAST

Is the title of a beautifully produced work, in English and Spanish, from an article in *Nosotros*, during the Spanish Civil War, on the much-labelled Iron Column, organised by Durruti (sometimes confused with the Durruti Column).

The writer had escaped from San Miguel de los Reyes "that sinister penitentiary" (described in Miguel Garcia's book *Franco's Prisoner*). He went in at 23 and was released by his comrades when he was 34 years old, to fight with rifles seized from disarmed Civil Guards and military, against fascism.

A stirring story, which gives a picture from that moment of light in a dark century. **From:**

P. Dumas
CP 275 Succ H, MONTREAL, QUEBEC
CANADA H3G 2K1

CLASS STRUGGLE

Anarcho-syndicalist Bulletin produced by Hull Direct Action Movement/International Workers Association Group. Stories on the international solidarity shown for the miners by the French CNT, Dutch OVB and others. Also on a miners strike in the USA (reproduced in this Black Flag). 2 pages A4 format. 2p plus Stamped and Self-addressed envelope. to Hull DAM c/o 5 Hollins Hill, Burnley, Lancs.

ALIVE AND KICKING

No.1 25p. 16 pages A4 format magazine with colour. Cambridge Anarchist News (formerly titled *No Choice*). Articles on Anarcho-syndicalism, Labour & Police Computer Ripoffs, Arts Page(!), Miners More Free Love...From: Box A, Cambridge Free Press, 25 Gwydir Street, Cambridge CB1 2LG

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K. Miras

Greek Anarchist Re-arrested

Kyriakos Miras was arrested in Aiginia in Greece and is presently on remand in Korydallou Prison, the charge is an outstanding one from 1982. At that time a police spy was found at an anarchist meeting to discuss the violent evictions of the few Greek squats. Once the police spy was uncovered he produced a knife and threatened the anarchists. The nark was disarmed and beaten up. Four other comrades are also charged: M. Vlachos, G. Bouketsides, Akis Lavranos and G. Lambrou.

* K. Miras and Photis Danatos undertook a 50+ day hunger-strike in May/June 1983 to obtain their release from prison. Anarchists around the world protested to the Greek Authorities in solidarity.

Paul Reveniotis, the editor of the magazine *To Kraximo* was brought to trial twice, on charges of obscenity and "for offending public morals". He was acquitted on the first charge, but found guilty on the second. He was sentenced to 7 months imprisonment.

Source : Greek Embassy

EL SALVADOR

Guerillas Outwit US

US military advisers have unwittingly been instructing Salvadorean leftist guerillas in US style warfare techniques over the past 3 years according to rebel sources and US officials. The officials explained that US Army trainees in Honduras and El Salvador have taught rebels basic and advanced counter-insurgency tactics and the handling of weapons while the rebels posed as government soldiers.

A US embassy official said that there was no screening by US trainees of the Salvadorean recruits.

Guerillas in the ERP (Peoples Revolutionary Army) recently interviewed said 'When we find out that an FMLN (the rebels) supporter has been forcibly recruited by the enemy and will be trained by the gringo advisers, then we tell him to stay until the training is complete and then leave at the first chance.'