Coal Convoys Preparing to Outflank Pickets
Government Intends to Bankrupt NUM

CIVIL WAR IN THE COALFIELDS

In preparation for the early movement of strike-bound coal, police in the mining communities are stepping up the siege conditions in a desperate attempt to divert attention from the NCB/Government contingency plans. Government intransigence has provoked another death and the power station signs are that nothing short of complete bankruptcy of the NUM and total destruction of union militancy will be settled for.

The NCB/Government/Police strategy is to push through a pincher attack; keep the pressure up at the pits where resistance is continuing, while at the same time getting ready for the massive convoys that will soon be sent to the strike-bound pits to move supplies to the power stations.

Their aim is to outflank the pickets. Already some parts of the country are under a state of virtual siege. South Wales and South Yorkshire, particularly. With encouragement from the media a few decided to scab. But the response of the police was to treble their forces and to intensify their intimidation.

The result is near Civil War in many mining areas. It is little wonder with the sheer level of police intimidation that many communities have responded by organizing for their defence. The media have portrayed the violence as madness; the reality is there is a war going on - a war against imposed poverty and forced resettlement.

What we are all witnessing is the actions of a blood thirsty government out of control seeking total retribution.

Thatcher, Kinnock and TUC chief Willis are all anxiously trying to cool things down. A victorious NUM, using direct action, and with the direct support of the labour movement and rank and file trade unionists above the heads of the sell-out leadership; that is what unites this 'triple alliance' against those miners who refuse to give in.

But if the other unions can show physical support, fair enough. But in the absence of such support, the NUM will inevitably turn to the Support Network, whose roots are as much in the communities as they are in the workplaces, to act as a reserve.

But why now have the state forces gone on to the offensive - because the government has sensed that the time is approaching when the striking miners will have to call upon all their support for the final battle against Scab Coal.

The government is deeply afraid. A massive picket line will rise on a scale never before seen. Already the bourgeois press are talking about the threat of mass action that might pale Orgreave into insignificance.

Many of the Support Groups are self-organised; others are directly linked to the NUM. However they are organised, they can and should prepare for the massive physical support the miners will need in the days to come.

If, and when, the words go out the Support Groups will need to be ready for whatever is necessary; whether this means trebling the mass pickets or providing rear guard support in terms of creating diversions, sabotaging state reinforcements, etc.

The government has proven its resolve and determination not to give in and its foresight in preparing well in advance of the provoked strike. After nine months we have to prove that our resolve and our preparations are greater. This will undoubtedly mean arming ourselves with the expertise to deal effectively with riot-trained, truncheon-wielding cops, with massive numbers of amoral scab truckers, and with a professional army that would relish the idea of taking on an anti-state resistance.

We have already reported on the NUM's appeal for further massive support on picket lines. Many have already responded. But in the days to come the coal convoys will be mobilised, backed up by the nationwide mobile riot cops. How these coming battles will be concluded will depend very much so on the wider support the miners have been given from day one. Be prepared.

MINERS UPDATE

A Notts Probation Officer reports receiving cases of miners whose charge sheets read or include "possession of subversive material in the back of car". This is not a 'crime'...Lord Hailsham's ideal of law made by Judges is bad enough now. It's 'make it up as you go along' community policing?

All in all it is reported that a total of 41 police stations in South Yorkshire alone have been damaged since the commencement of the Miners Strike. Over 7,000 miners have been arrested and 4,000 subjected to restrictive bail conditions.

A striking miner from Fryston pit near Castleford, phoned up the so-called Silver Birch (a scab leader) to find out information on him. The Fryston miner asked him if any other miners from the Castleford area had phoned him; he said not. Silver Birch then invited the Fryston miner to a secret meeting of scabs in Notts. When the miner from Fryston asked Silver Birch how he could get into Notts with all the police road-blocks, he answered 'No problem, just tell me your car registration number and you'll get through'.

(SOURCE: Hull DM)

INSIDE - More on the Miners Strike. Question and answer on anarchism, International news, Letter from Spain, Students stop city, Murrays & more....
International Solidarity

On 13th October 1984, the following message of solidarity, written by a CNTF militant on a visit to Britain, was read out at a Miners's Rally in Burnley:

"After 8 months of Miners' struggle, information in France is poor concerning the evolution of the strike. On TV the only scenes that are shown are fights between police, miners and so-called uncontrolled people. Everyone the speaker's comments are: "English people really have got violence in their blood, violence on the football grounds, and violence at the pits."

The other comment is the absence of a national ballot on the strike.

The CNTF demand that this attitude, a national ballot is voting for the sack of comrades.

Like all sections of the IWA, CNTF is giving out news - the way of a radio in Paris, and a paper to over the country - about the actual situation of miners, to break the wall of silence.

At the same time as collecting money, we are organising in our factories, offices and shops for industrial action in solidarity with the British miners.

In the whole of Europe today, the Governments are fighting against a crisis and restructuring society, giving more places to machines, rejecting workers, giving preference to nuclear power, freezing all collective agreements (coal, sun wind and geothermal).

In CNTF-IW we think that there has to be a restructuring of society. But machines, one cannot say that this technology must be applied in the interest of the working class.

Under those conditions, the British miners struggle for the survival of the international working class - an injury to one is an injury to all.

In solidarity,
Confederation Nationale Du Travail (France) International Workers Association.

Long live Direct Action
Long live Anarchist-syndicalism!

Kinnock-Russia & Sabotage

On the day of the funeral of two boys who were killed by a coal avalanche as they tried to stop a supplies because their family lived in the out of domestic fuel and living hand-to-mouth. Neil Kinnock was in Russia trying to prevent further mining accidents (around Elm. has been collected from 'trade unionists' so far) to British miners as part of a relief programme. Kinnock, nervous that the Labour Party might be upset, publicly said at a Moscow press gathering that the Russian media reports that the families of British miners were still in the atmosphere were untrue and exaggerated. They will also if Kinnock succeeded in sabotaging this aid - badly needed from whatever quarter.

At Kinsley, near Hemsworth, tunnels were dug by pickets across the road leading to the pit entrance, and a barricade was set on fire. Police also raided a petrol, by George, wearing balacovas. On the same night, at Hickleton, a paving slab was dropped from a bridge onto a passing police Land Rover and at Goldthorpe a 20 foot length of railway line was thrown from a parapet onto a stationery police vehicle. Further trouble occurred that evening in Peterlee (Co. Durham) where petrol bombs were thrown, also Batfield, Ressington and Askern. Barricades were erected and set alight as mass police tried to break up picket lines.

Radio 'Hi-jacked'

A group of anarchists in the Bedford area managed to occupy their local radio station and force the management to broadcast a statement supportive of the miners strike.

The group - part of a newly formed collective of around 20 members of workers, unemployed and students - began their day of action on November 5 by handing out leaflets in a square in the centre of Bedford and then went on to the offices of Chiltern Radio, which was the only station in the area that was not closed down.

The group, who arrived at 8am, managed to get a statement broadcast live, which was also repeated on the 5pm news report.

The police arrived too late, and the next day the group sent out press releases to the local papers. A half page story got into one local paper, mentioning that the anarchist group concerned have promised to return 'with more actions'.

Watch this space!

The Aims of Industry

The Aims of Industry - the far right employers group whose objectives are to smash militant trade unionism and 'subversion' in industry - has been active behind the scenes throughout the Miners Strike; their latest venture is to provide legal funding for an National Union of Seaclan scrab who took the NUS to court because he objected to NUS funds being used to help the miners.

The NUS lost the case and as a result can no longer continue with the江淮 without incurring contempt proceedings. The ruling, however, did not affect one-off payments to the NUM, only payments that are deducted from members at source. The Aims of Industry also specialises in providing 'hit lists' of union militants to employers groups.

They work closely with the police, through Special Branch.

Organisation

Organisation? Industry is organised to get what it wants by bullying of every man and woman working in a plant. Organised down to the security guards at the gate who search your lunchbucket for fear you might be taking home something you shouldn't.

What we need is organisation enough to have the company searched to find out if it is carrying home any parts of our wages!

T-Name Slim/Industrial Worker.

The daily '6pm anges' in the miners' camp is a nightly weapon.

ATTACK THE QUADRUPLA

The time needs proportionally more coal. Use the power now. Should you not turn it on for the Miners.

Tamper barriers, pet那次, flares, office equipment, lights, and let police have a cup of tea, turn the power on. Turn it on for the miners.

QUALIFICATIONS

In the ballot for 1984 £2 General President the candidates (al of them) are asked to make a statement of "equalities in the industrial demands of the struggle".

One of them, A. Shaw, from Manchester Central branch, states:

"In Manchester University, I was a Marxist, an activist, covered by a course in philosophy. I attended the TUC Training College and have taken the Harry Love Scholarship after attending a course in Industrial Relations at Nusum. I founded the Student's Union and helped to re-organise it through a mass meeting.

Excuse me, but what's Marxism, philosophy, economics and industrial relations, to get us with qualifications in printing, which is what the union all about?

QUESTION & ANSWER ON ANARCHISM

Q. While I see the danger of a police state, where the police take over and fashion law for themselves, surely Anarchists can't seriously contend that you can do without police altogether? To talk about a 'workers militia' is all very well in terms of defence but if it's going to be a police force, why not have a 'workers police' subject to agreed terms of reference (if you don't like the word law?)

A. Anarchists do say you can do without police altogether (thereby distinguishing themselves from Socialists) and a workers militia is solely military and not for police. The normal police role is the defence of the State and without police, a State assembly, (Parliament of whatever) becomes a debating society without any power to enforce its decrees.

The belief that the abolition of police is totally impractical comes about because people appreciate the impossibility of operating a capitalist system that way, which is what the Anarchists propose. Additionally, Governments have often to pass on emergency or necessary tasks to whatever standing body is available (Arms being used in earth quakes, for instance, doesn't make them useful bodies), and some social duties passed on to the police makes people think that these are normal police duties rather than the anti-social ones, given heavy road traffic, to have someone sorting it out; it doesn't have to be the arm of the police.

These are important things that don't need to be substituted by another body.

'Crimes against the person' may occasionally now be handled by the police, but the present system is that crime rules, and an entirely different approach must be made.

BETWEEN 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM
IRELAND DUNNE IN SOLIDARITY

Since the summer thirteen young workers have been picketing Dunnes Stores on Clonmel Street in Dublin's Henry Street. They are not looking for more pay or improved conditions even after working with them for years. They are on strike in solidarity with fellow workers in South Africa and miles away in South Africa.

It all started when their union, the Irish Distributive and Administrative Trade Union, passed a motion at its Congress last year calling for a boycott of South African goods to help the struggle against apartheid. Too often such motions are all hot air and no action. But this time, for the first time, Dunnes Stores have taken their trade unionism seriously and are totally against the racist system in South Africa.

SCAB LABOUR

Mary Manning was suspended when she refused to sell South African goods. Ten of her fellow workers walked out with her and the picket line was strengthened by being supplemented by non-union part timers on the checker-stands and arranging deliveries on the MFM in Tallaght. Strikers have been assaulted by these scabs and by managers. They have had clothes torn and been beaten, but their determination remains strong.

The picket is having an effect, custom is waning down. On a Saturday the shop has only 2 scabs as against 5 a few weeks ago. The strikers are being supported by the whole community.

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BELGIUM

Unlikely Alliance

When Jean Le Pen (French NF) came to speak in Brussels recently the only people to demonstrate were the anarchists ("No freedom for the enemies of freedom") and the Christian Movement for Peace. The Labour party put out the following statement:

"We work at night, hate by hate, we're fighting for democracy, we MUSTN'T prevent Le Pen from speaking." The Belgian fascists have been rapidly gaining in strength.

LETTERS FROM SPAIN

I haven't yet had time to affiliate myself to the CNT because I've been working so hard. I wish I could work a bit more to establish some kind of bank accounts and then closing them immediately -- all economic activity in the area paralyzed (HINT HINT). All this has been developed primarily by those who suffered most (profiteers, the bankers). In fact, those who suffer most to the bastards still privileged to fritter away their hours in factories or offices that they no longer despise. And those who work.

The CNT has a job, it has the offices only at certain hours, which of course are the hours I work. But ... Banco ... Porta de Ferreres. St. (BF 15.10.84) Barcelona has been quiet; I'm from the point of view of anarchist activity -- otherwise there have been the usual shootings in the street, raids on banks, and major road accidents which are all quite frequent here. The CNT supported a joint union strike in the Bingo Halls a month ago (we are strong in bingo for some reason) which was successful. The real action is happening in the north. There the socialist government is starting the first mass industrialization programme. The idea is to update Spain's mostly obsolete industrial installations -- but they have decided to do it in most humanly way as possible, by putting thousands of people out of work for years with a vague promise of more work when the conversions are finished. Galicia, the Asturias and Euskadi have seen major riots, blockades, and mass demonstrations in their three major shipbuilding and industrial centres (Vigo, Gijon and Bilbao respectively). The CNT incidentally, have their strongest influence, (up north), in the shipbuilding industry which is one of the first to come under the cuneiform 'brainwashes'. I have no eyewitness reports, but reading between the lines and images of the newspapers and television (gagged) suggests the whole thing is happening the way we are being told. The violence is unprecedented, and with all due respect [and not wanting in any way to belittle the tragedy of these events], what makes what we call police violence in mainland England look foxy in comparison. As an anarchist friend said to me, what the socialists are doing is not even the most right-wing opposition party would dare to try to get away with, but they're not fooling anyone. And the rest of the story of the strong union in the north, the socialist UGT, will lose its influence in large quantities to the CNT and the CC.OO. in the next few days. (Communications, October 29th). October 29th in Gijon 50,000 people demonstrate in protest at the death of a young student, who was shot by a jeweller when he tried to rob him. In Vigo, 20,000 people gathered outside police headquarters to protest the general strike and the town was completely paralysed. In Euskadi workers blocked railways and highways, some of which remain closed in sympathy, and a TV crew thrown out of the shipbuilding centre in Ferrol (like in England the TV people take photographs on strike days). Whenever the police are doing something nasty and the strikers don't like it. From then on every day more incidents all over the north. The police regularly try to break up shipbuilding workers tried to set fire to the town hall in Gijon (throwing cans of gasoline and lighter torches about the front door). The same workers then try to burn the whole town down (it's their town remember) if they couldn't keep their jobs.

The same day the main banks in Euskadi were kicked up uncontrollable by a small group of people and going to close down. Bank accounts and then closing them immediately -- all economic activity in the area paralyzed (HINT HINT). All this has been developed primarily by those who suffered most (profiteers, the bankers). In fact, those who suffer most to the bastards still privileged to fritter away their hours in factories or offices that they no longer despise. And those who work.

France

Bosse Violence

Kemal Ozgul, a Turkish shop steward was shot dead by a security guard at Epone, near Paris. He was on his way to protest at a building company that has not paid its workers for 5 months with 30 immigrant workers. The employer's violence is matched by the anti-immigrant campaign of the National Front which won recent elections and is led by Le Pen.

At Chateaubriand, western France a 27-year-old Turkish man accused of immgrants and injured five others after he opened fire on a cafe crowd. On arrest he shouted he 'didn't like foreigners'. Clearly, in Britain, France wherever important issues are attacked they must reply "Self-defence is no offence" and organize themselves, not wait for the 'socialist' State and notoriously racist French cops to protect them.
MINERS

A curfew has been imposed on miners children in the Lothian pit village of Loanhead. Police have invented a "law" disallowing the children - so far, predictions that they would pester those whose fathers are miners - to be outside on the streets after 8pm. (SOURCE: Counter Information)

At Elsecar, near Barnsley, pickets set up barricades, oil was spread across the road to delay the coal traffic to skid, a tipper was set on fire and a railway crossing was immobilised. Pences were also torn down and the main gate to the entrance to the NGM works-shop was fastened together with wire. Mass police reinforcements were fought off with stones. Meanwhile at nearby Hatfield Colliery another road block was erected. Similar actions took place at Gawber, near Barnsley, Treeton, near Rotherham, and Kiveton Park. (SOURCE: Rising Free)

In South Wales a taxi-driver taking a scab miner to work was killed when a concrete post was hurled at the car from an overhead bridge. The scab was unhurt. The NUM has disassociated itself from such actions. The Government/NGM - who are morally to blame for creating the climate of repression that led to the man's death - has backed away from doing the same. The two men currently charged with murder may end up with life, the scab, however, who incited the taxi-driver to block the road in the first place, will no doubt also abide all responsibility for his actions. The two jailed miners will need all the support that can be obtained if the NUM officially disowns them.

SOUTH AFRICA

Things must be critical when the bosses' federations, the Federated Chambers of Industries and the Chambers of Commerce, come out publicly in condemnation of the arrest of trade union leaders. Of course their real concern is that the arrest will only polarise the situation further and provoke rather than prevent - the rehabilitation of the arrests in the first place - a second general strike by Black workers throughout many parts of the country.

Meanwhile the usual law and order statement: anything the riot police do is justified so long as the legitimacy of the state is upheld, etc, etc. What leader of any parliamentary democracy could disagree with him? After all in statist terms all state terror can be supported if the threat to power is sufficient enough. South Africa, like Chile, Poland and Portugal represents a picture of what any state would resort to - and what any liberal democracy by implication absolves - if the resistance is that intense.

But as with any industrial state - state capitalist or otherwise - the business interests step in to calm things down if they think the government forces are creating the conditions for a popular revolution. Hence the support for the Black trade unionists from the bosses unions.

Latest news is that the General Strike has been disclosed by all the major Black trade unions and political groups - they felt that the rioting was getting out of their control.

The reason Arthur Scargill got hit over the head at Orgreave was that all the PCs were trying to grab his baseball cap as a trophy. There was a "bounty" of £100 for anyone who got it.

At Shirebrook, a police rest room was visited by a journalist who found the cops watching porn movies. Complaining to an Inspector they were told to bother themselves with "special complaints"! More charming stories appear in a 'Letter from a picket line policeman' in the latest Levelier 'Monochrome' Supplement, December, 1980 from better bookshops and street-sellers or from 52 Acre Lane SW2 Tel (01) 274 2288 LONDON

Besides boredom and aggro from strikers, scabs returning to work have found their wages "downgraded". An electrician who had to sweep floors was paid for cleaner rates of a big amount of money. One scab got £19 for a week after allowances had been taken off. They have now rejoined the strike!

The NCB 'economics' of using a cheap taxi instead of a re-infenced van is no different from the cost-cutting which leads to industrial accidents and deaths, in the pits. The two strikers arrested for allegedly murdering the taxi driver did not intend to kill the taxi-driver, as with many of the alleged assaults they are spur of the moment acts not pre-planned (alibis etc) "terrorist" style and not the bourgeoisie style. The taxi-driver's wife said he kept the job secret from her as she would have disuaded him from doing such a 'job'.

4 members of the Yorkshire Working Miners Committee have resigned because "although moderates we found the Secretary too right wing".

Besides raising funds & morale, distributing food parcels the support groups in many areas have organised to fight any attempted evictions and electricity cut-offs with Alarm-llata and 'alerts'.

Michael Eaton, the North Yorke. NCB Director had his Great North Road, Darrington, near Pontefract home looted while he was holding private talks with West Yorkshire Police Commissioner. £10,000 in jewellery and property went.

Bentley NUM annually holds a memorial service for locals killed in the Bentley Explosion and Paddy Train mining disasters. In the past the NCB pit and area management sent representatives to pay their respects. This year: none. More than 150 people attended the memorial at Arksey cemetary including representatives from many unions. What post-humous awards will the 'working-miners' get in 1981? Is it clear that their bosses should there be accidents?

Amphithe Miner's Wives Action Group have been digging out 'waste coal' compressed into the non-NGB ground by lorries in a former stock yard behind a car park near Rossington pit. Family of Goldthorpe whose two teenage sons died in a coal-digging tragedy on Sunday Nov 18th Food has been donated by many Amphithe shops and street groups. Meanwhile 23 men and women have been arrested for digging out 'waste coal' compressed into the non-NCB ground by lorries in a former stock yard behind a car park near Rossington pit. Family of Goldthorpe whose two teenage sons died in a coal-digging tragedy on Sunday Nov 18th Food has been donated by many Amphithe shops and street groups. Meanwhile 23 men and women have been arrested for digging out 'waste coal' compressed into the non-NCB ground by lorries in a former stock yard behind a car park near Rossington pit. Family of Goldthorpe whose two teenage sons died in a coal-digging tragedy on Sunday Nov 18th Food has been donated by many Amphithe shops and street groups.
BIRMINGHAM
STOP THE CITY

Reclaim The City Birmingham has changed its name because of police pressure, comprises of 200 people who share ideas and go to demos etc together. No more STC's for Birmingham but maybe some actions on something for xmas. Also a festival, a place where people can exchange ideas, exchange thoughts and to watch a couple of bands...publicity being organised:

L,8 Central Lib, Box 4, c/o Peace Centre, Moor St, Queenmoss Birmingham, West Midlands

Last October STC actions went off with a lot of harassment. Someone giving out leaflets about the action weeks before was soon arrested for refusing to let cops look at the leaflet. There were plans to hold a gig at a spot but due to bad weather and the roof not being fixed in time it was flooded and we tried various other places. We knew warnings had been sent to all banks, shops etc warning them to beware after London STC.

The night before a very heavy cop presence people getting searched, 3-4 cops on every other corner, with vans in back streets. People were met who needed a place to hide, and the way out up to is safe. Although the cops made a lot of noise.

Despite the cops many banks were super glued & doors stuck by other means, spray painted and some had paint splattered over their entrances. The cops were out in force.

29 people from London were arrested for 'conspiracy to criminal damage' and 'criminal damage' which they did not do! They were followed and surrounded by cop vans. Until Friday, some until Sunday and then bailed to stay in London the Court appearance will be on Dec 6th.

A letter was received from the Cathedral which said they couldn't use their land as a meeting place because it isn't a public right of way and that anyone found there would be arrested. Surprising? Not really, officers were to be used in the streets.

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ISLAMIC LIBERATION?

The Palestine National Council, holding a meeting in November in Amman, Jordan, were guests of King Hussein, who expressed his solidarity with the PLO - evidently forgetting the number of times he has called for Israeli support in bolstering up his kingdom, allowing his escape from the consequences of revolt, or Israeli intelligence aid against his predecessor to the Hashemite rule, or his own rule in crushing the Palestinians in 'Black September'.

Arafat is now backed by the Syrians - and has taken with him into exile left-wing allies in the lurch. Described in the press as 'Communist, leftist and Moslem militants', the anti-Hefetz wing of the PLO has succeeded in alienating Arab nationalists and his old supporters - rot in Syrian jails, having carried the brunt of the anti-Israeli military activity and being no longer needed by the Syrian military.

STUDENTS STOP CITY

A student protest, culminating on the South Bank, ended up in a near riot when 1000's poured over Westminster Bridge in an attempt to 'lobby' Parliament. Next day the papers described the scene outside the House of Commons as a 'siege'.

According to one report nearly 30,000 students from around the country took part in the demonstration. The organisers - and the police - expected only 3,000 - and the heavy turn-out threatened the mostly efficient security arrangements.

Police panicked as many demonstrators began to head for Parliament. At one point the Embankment, Waterloo, Lambeth and Westminster were blocked by the students and traffic trying to enter or leave the City of Westminster was impeded. In the end police blockaded the approach roads to Parliament and Mounted Police were brought in, with a contingent of riot cops on standby.

Stones and empty beer cans were thrown at the police. MP's inside the House of Commons raged about being 'trapped'.

Within a matter of minutes, several District Support Units and hundreds of special police forces were brought into the area in case the students could not be contained.

There were many arrests - around 200 people were found charged, instead the arrests took the form of temporary detention as a means of defusing the situation.

The protest was over proposed cuts in student grants, affecting particularly the daughters and sons of mainly middle class parents who will lose the grant and who will be expected to contribute to university costs. Universities fear that their parents will refuse to pay out. Support for the parents has naturally come from many back-bench MP's, who fear the cut may lose the Party votes. Ironically, Labour are opposed to the measures and are thus taking a stance that one would expect the Conservatives to take if they were in Opposition, namely to go against the subsidising of grants for working class students by the parents of those students who are clearly better off.

To be cynical, is the sudden student militancy a sign that students are once more becoming 'political' or is it more of a right-wing backlash, as with the French student riots in '82?

INfiltration?

Ten years ago the Ulster Freedom Fighters - a pseudo organisation set up by the SAS to instigate and provoke sectarian killings in order to achieve the right 'spooking up' conditions for the British Army - claimed the deaths of many an innocent life and were responsible for many more. Today theUFF are reportedly back in force out to provoke more sectarian violence so as to take the heat off the British presence in advance, perhaps, of an intensification of yet another dirty tricks campaign.

Two weeks back the UFF claimed responsibility for the murder of Patrick Brady, allegedly an Intelligence Officer for the IRA. Brady was a member of Sinn Fein but his family deny he had any parasitical connections. The UFF are also believed to be responsible for the murder of a Catholic taxidriver - who had no known political involvements - in the same area.

It became common knowledge that the UFF had SAS agents working within it and was itself set up with SAS assistance. In the early '70's a UFF campaign presaged the invasion of British troops in Northern Ireland. The North was employed once again as a 'protect' to the Catholic against Protestant violence.

A few years later and the UFF were in force. What many forgot is that the UFF were employed once again to instigate paramilitaries (although by no means to the same degree) partly by intelligence gathering and partly by selective assassinations of those loyalists who wanted to go it alone (eg, Tommy Herron, head of the Ulster Citizens Army).

Are the same destabilisation tactics above to haunt the British again? An increase in sectarian violence only benefits the British state, that can use such an escalation to its advantage.
Murrays

There are informal meetings going on between Padraig Terry B.A. (Murray's solicitor) and interested individuals on ideas and strategy on an ongoing basis. He also wants to get a better sense of opinion, including legal. This means the theological aspect from Maynooth and other mainline churches. In this way the judiciary will have to be careful in their rulings and the obstacle mounted in that a so-called liberal Doctor who was asked for a synodal report and examination of Noel and Marie got cold feet...This report will be needed so as to close any technical excuses from the Judges.

The old solicitors are looking for £5,500 before they would hand over the files of the five years previous work they were supposed to have. The Barristers on that one were MacBride and MacEntee and ethics don't allow for a new solicitor to take over the case until bills are paid up, to make matters worse MacEntee is now the President of the Incorporated Law Society.

This obstacle can be overcome because the former solicitors had not done much research and friends are now in a position to start from scratch. MacBride is still interested in the case, he was flabbergasted that the old solicitors could ask for £5,500 and has agreed that any expenses he will incur can be deducted. The conclusion is one way or another the Court should award costs. On this basis MacEntee might also re-enter. MacBride is away on International business for two months so a postponement will give some breathing space, time to get extra funds etc.

With luck the State might just get pissed off with the lot and let them out on some other excuse.

*Maynooth - one of the oldest respectable catholic college near Dublin.

Letter

Dear Friends,

It is a pity that a paper like Black Flag which is usually 'down to earth' and gives good info, especially during the miners strike, is still stuck in an old anarchist 'tradition' of slagging each other off.

For example the article attacking Freemond newspaper in the last issue of B.F. seems to me to have no place in an agitational paper (i.e. not just written for politicians).

Even if freedom is a bunch of 'middle-class, pacifist wallies', so what? There are much greater threats to our livelihood and the anarchist movement than Freemond newspaper. So let's concentrate our fight against them, and not each other.

Obviously there will always be disagreements in the Anarchist movement which need to be discussed publicly, such as Ireland. But then, I think, the issues should be discussed, not what members of another groups specific ideology is.

In solidarity,

Robert Davis

Would it be so simple. Since the event of the new music scene anyone with a rich dad can bring out a paper with no movement behind it; a duplicated sheet can be done by anyone. This does not make them part of the anarchist movement, or of any movement we belong to.

For example totally unknown well-heeled London kids suddenly brought out a one-off my logo, solely to slag off the anarchists, and expected us to distribute it! When we weren't denounced as 'censors', and a group in Sheffield, no part of our movement: rush to their defence and incidentally announce our active comrades as police agents. What have these horseflies got to do with us?

The situation regarding Freedom is that (whatezever ilies you say now read) some of us did a lot more to found the weekly, since falling to fortnightly and now a monthly, Freedom than any of its self-appointed founders, it because of a proposed collection for an injured policeman who was knocked off his horse; after years of their bringing in so many of what our readers calls the 'pacifist wallies'. These have now either died, or walked out, and the 'Old Guard' never having cared to do any of the work themselves, let alone finance it have found themselves obliged to do the work solely of producing the paper, nothing else; and in the invidious position of having recently collected bumper amounts from American comrades on their assumption this was the old established Freedom, and then being obliged to suspend publication. Rather than honourably return the money and up, they have, retaining the freedom of printing, assets and book publishing, allowed the paper to fall into the hands of one previously unknown, Stuart Black aka Stuart Stuart, who has transformed it (see November issue of Freedom) into 90 per cent personal abuse of anarchists and 10 per cent other content only to have an alibi that the paper still exists. Surely in addition to our variously producing a fortnightly, a quarterly, participating in strikes, demonstrations, union activity, meetings up and down the country, organising prisoners aid (and being asked for help sometimes by the very gadflies who spend the rest of the time slagging us off, when they're not in trouble), international solidarity, feminist activity, squatter and organisation, and reckon to pay for our unpaid activity without relying on grants or established hand-outs, we could be excused for occasionally getting the fly-whisk (unless provoked to anything stronger).

What is the alternative? To allow repeated lies to pass into acceptance by default? Even our reader, expressing solidarity, falls into the trap of believing that there is an 'anarchist tradition of wrangling', which outsiders want to establish; while others may accept that it is among our active comrades that people 'live in the past' rather than in the ossified Press 'Old Guard', as did the punk group producing the record 'Hello Albert' and later saying 'Sorry, we mixed you up with Philip Sansom!! This is then repeated by logo.

We don't think it harms the public learning about anarchism to distinguish between the real anarchists, and a few, unrepresentative of anything, who occasionally dash the odd 'A' or even bring out a paper slagging of the anarchists pretending they're the extremist internal opposition.

Black Cross Prisoners List

At the Black Cross meeting held recently several groups around the country offered to become regional Black Cross groups anyone who did not attend the meeting and would like to become involved in Black Cross work please contact us and we will put you in contact with local groups.

In the next issue we will publish an updated list of prisoners around the world and their addresses. If you cannot wait write and we will send you the list, if you enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Prison Pickets

On Saturday 15th December there will be pickets of blacks picketing at their overcrowded, brutal, regimes and their function to break working class resistance (miners on strike, black youth, anti-militarists left and to destabilise the anarchist alternative of a free society. The jails are the real crime.

9.15 - 11.15 am at 1.00 - 3.15pm outside BRITISH prison, Jopp Avenue SW2 9.45 - 11.15 outside HMP prison, Parkhurst Road, NT 9.15-10.45am & 1.30 - 2.45pm PENTONVILLE prison, Caledonian Road, N7.

1.30-3.30 outside WOODHAM SCRUBS prison, Durlston Rd W12.
Change Of Hours
Illington Housing Action Group have asked us to point out that their hours are now 2-4pm Sundays at Molly's cafe, 283 St. Illington, NI.

Macclesfield Squatters Group
Is based at an old school and has plenty of space for meetings, gigs, etc. They need to raise funds for repairs, tools, books and a generator and are looking for any old bar who can help to write or come around to: Macc Squatters AID, St Peters School, Windmill St., Macclesfield C18SHR.

Counter-information
is a free news-sheet which aims to provide information about the miners strike & related struggles which is censored by the mass media, and to suggest ways for the class struggle to go forward. It's meant for mass distribution, especially mining communities, perhaps along with your own more general leaflet on the strike. And/or you can use the info in your own publications. Produced by BS & revolutionists in Clydeside & Edinburgh.

The 4th issue is now being prepared, information and orders for copies to: Counter-information, Box 81, c/o 1st May 43 Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh.

E London DAM Meeting
Will hold their next meeting on Wednesday December 12th 1984, at 84b Whitechapel High St. London E1 (begins 7pm).

Taking Candy From Babies
Customs officers and police have stopped a mini-van of Belgian supporters who were on their way to deliver sweets and toys to the children of striking miners at Amherst pit in Wales

Extradition Threat
As we go to press news has come in of protests planned for December 6/7th at the French Government's plan to extradite two Italian communist militant, exiled in France and wanted by the Italian State. France traditionally grants asylum to political fugitives. Enrico Fedele and Giovanni Giudice must not be jabbed if they are to be extradited. Protests to your nearest French Government Office or French business. More information from: Enrico Fedele-Support Committee 17, rue des Vigneaux, 75020 Paris

Workers Solidarity
Workers Solidarity is the paper of the Workers Solidarity Movement. Issue No. 1 is out for November 1984 and is 20p. It has an 8 page offset printed format. Articles include: Planning for Progress; Planning for Poverty; Our History: Anarchism; Socialism & Freedom; Dunne strikers and Victory to the Miners. The WSM has been gaining affiliates North & South and has been involved in picking the Anglo-Irish Embassy over coal imports. They run an Anarchist Book Service too and have put out a new pamphlet Anarchist for Ireland which we will review shortly. Contact: W.S.M. P.O. Box 1528, Dublin 8, Ireland.

Anarchist Meeting
Dec 7: WOMEN AGAINST THE STATE = Anarcha-Feminism at 121 Bookshop, 121 Railton Road, Brixton SE24 at 7pm. Meal 6pm.
Dec 21: THE REDUNDANCY OF XMAS. Speaker from Anti-Theists. Satirical songs set to Xmas tunes at Molly's Cafe 1a Upper Street, Illington at 7pm. Meal 6pm.

Change of Address
Iranian libertarian journal in Farsi/perian has changed address to ENSANA AAZAD 440 001 15, 4400 Eesen 4100 Essen 11 W.,Germany.

Renegade
Renegade No.7. Nov/84. A3 single sheet. Features, Bricks & Pieces; Ethiopia, the Milkman station, squatters, etc. On sale: Box Renegade, c/o Lark Lane Books, 82 Lark Lane LIVERPOOL 17, England.

Class War Prisoner
Davy Hamilton, a prominent member of the Dalkeith Strike Committee is at large after being held under the 110 day rule on a charge of 'serious assault'.

It is widely felt that Davy is a political prisoner, and that had he not been a member of the local strike committee he would have been released on bail. As it is he is on a 110 day remand on the charge of seriously assaulting a cop. No witnesses were present at the time of the alleged assault. His next hearing will be December 19th and any readers in the area should get in touch with the Strike Committee. Letters of sympathy and solidarity should be sent to: Dalkeith Strike Committee, Miners Social Club, Woodburn Road, Dalkeith, Midlothian.

As we do not have his full Prison number letters to the above address are most likely to reach him through his friends.

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Power Stations
Next Twin coal-fired power station has been closed since late March, making the North of Ireland the only region to have kept a power station shut throughout the entire dispute. Belfast coal dock workers have only allowed coal for domestic & emergency services through and lost wages in some cases have been laid off. At Warrenpoint no coal is moving. Dwinding stockpiles and low imports mean no industrial use coal which in turn means the RUC or Army being used. At Larne though coal is still moving and pickets are taking place to try to get through to those moving it.

Dad the kettle's boiling. Hey Dad what's the time? Dad where's our mother? She's on the phone. Dad we want our dinner Dad where's our mother? She's on the phone. Dad where's the dinner? Dad where is that bloody dinner? And we're feeling fine. We'll always remember that bloody pickle line Dad when we are grown up. And we're down the mines If the Union are on strike We'll be on the pickle line Then we'll teach our children About the pickle line And hope the history lesson still goes on for all time.

A song from Barnsley Woman Against Pit Closures. The group have just published a well-produced book of writing on the miners strike. Aneurin, anger, songs and solidarity, plus photos and excerpts from supporters letters. Available from BWAP, c/o Women's Co-ordinating Centre, St James' House, Vicar Lane, Sheffield for a minimum of £2 inc p&p.
CIVIL DISORDER HOLDING CENTRES EXPOSED

Inside-details of the main Met. Police riot-training and holding centre in south-east London have been lodged with Black Flag. Pull London-wide Riot Force is now operational!

The secret River Way Metropolitan Police Training Centre, specialising in civil disorder operations and counter-insurgency training, has been the subject of a recent 120 page internal report by the Greenwich Police Sub-Committee. A copy of this restricted report is now with Black Flag and we reproduce a map of the controversial centre, showing the layout of the centre and details of some of its functions.

The 11 acre site, bordering on the River Thames, is virtually hidden from view and is protected night and day by a special civilian security force. The centre has been used as a riot-training establishment now for the past two and a half years. It is only now that details of what goes on behind the well-guarded perimeter have been revealed, albeit via a restricted document.

The centre includes a mock urban environment for police to practise counter-insurgency combat operations. Significantly these operations are led by a Brigadier seconded from the Army. The Sub-Committee document, entitled 'Riot Training in Greenwich', goes on to describe the training programme, which includes training in the use of water-cannon, dealing with petrol-bombs, hand grenades (plastic bullets) and deployment of specialist riot-control vehicles, etc.

The Sub-Committee estimated that over 20,000 rounds of plastic bullets are handled and stored annually by the London-wide District Support Units, strategically located between the Inner City areas and the Kent Coal fields. The River Way site is now recognised to be one of many around the country designated as Holding/Training Centres in case of widespread or even localised civil disorder.

Altogether there are two other such centres within the Capital. Namely, Hounslow and Buckingham Gate (Central).

In addition a further Holding Centre is based in south London at Camberwell. The Hounslow centre was in fact set up before the Brixton '81 riots, while the Camberwell centre (a warehouse owned by the Met) was used to intern several hundred demonstrators arrested (but not charged) during the mainly CNL organised anti-Reagan demonstrations last Summer.

Since then temporary interment as a way of defusing mass demonstrations has been used on at least two occasions by the Met - namely the last stop the City protest, when over 400 were arrested and held for several hours, and the recent student protest outside Parliament, when around 200 were held and later released without charge.

Mass detension is a trend which is growing. We have seen it with anti-militarist demonstrations. We have seen it being applied with the mass pickets. And it is a trend that is likely to continue. The Greenwich report bears this out in that the document also reveals that the River Way centre, as do the other Holding/Training centres, also doubles as an emergency interment site for occasions when normal prison facilities for mass arrests are overused.

The holding centres (as they are euphemistically called) do have the facilities for the billeting of large numbers of police, drafted in from other areas, as well as accommodating specially trained support units on a localised basis.

It is this last point, together with the fact that all London's DSUs have been using the centre on a more-or-less full time basis for the last 3 months, that proves that the Met has now a fully-trained London-wide Riot Force in readiness for any major disturbance. The report goes on to show how this force, as are similar specialist units, is under the direct control of the National Reporting Centre, which is running police operations through the Office of the Director.

As we have pointed out in previous issues, the work of the NRC is closely linked to internal civil defence plans as coordinated through UK Land Forces HQ. Back in October we referred to four new Counter-insurgency centres, under URLP control, one of which is to be based in Norfolk. At Stansted, others of such centres are in the pipeline.

The Civil War scenario is no myth.

FRUSTRATED by the Luxembourg Court's decision to unfreeze all NUM assets (totalling around £56) lodged in a Luxembourg bank, the High Court in London has now handed all NUM monies (to include money held in accounts in Zurich and Dublin, etc) into the hands of an official receiver - a Yorkshire solicitor - to administrate it on behalf of the NUM. This now leaves the NUM with no assets at all as the receiver will no doubt decide that the strike he has been declared unofficial the money he holds can no longer be used to help strikers, but only scabs.

The Mass Appeal is a community newspaper in London.