ON TUESDAY 5TH MAY BOBBY SANDS DIED IN LONG KESH. WITHIN A FEW WEEKS THREE OTHER HUNGER STRIKERS ALSO DIED: FRANCIS HUGHES, RAYMOND MCCREESH AND PATSY O'HARA. THEIR DEATHS, PARADOXICALLY, TOGETHER COMPRISED THE GREATEST SACRIFICE THEY HAVE TRANSFORMED THE SITUATION IN IRELAND AND HAVE SUCCESSED IN FOCUSING ATTENTION NOT SIMPLY ON THEIR OWN STATUS AS PRISONERS BUT ON THE STATUS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN IRELAND.

The original aim of the hungerstrike was to gain political status [something which republican and loyalist prisoners had between 1972 and 1976]. It sprang from the 'blanket' and 'no-wash' protests which had continued for four years but it could never be separated from the wider issues concerning the presence of British troops in the North and the political future of the country. It is significant that the "Five Demands" of the prisoners have noticeably slipped into the background as the hungerstrike gathered momentum. The election of Bobby Sands as a member of parliament was an outstanding propaganda coup. At a stroke it dispelled the fiction that successive governments have maintained for over a decade - that the IRA is an isolated minority grouping which is able to exist only by intimidating the republican community. As Bobby Sand's electoral agent pointed out, the hunger striker polled more votes than Thatcher did in her constituency. The electoral victory of Permananath/South Tyrone was followed by the election of Paddy Agnew and Kieran Docherty to Dail Eireann (the Irish Republic's parliament), something which sent the media herrying to discover "emotional" reasons for something they predicted would never happen.

The embarrassment of Sands' electoral victory has prompted the government to introduce an amendment to the "Représentation of the People Act" which will make it impossible for prisoners to stand for parliament. Democracy is only permissible when approved candidates are returned.

Further evidence of widespread antipathy to the state's forces in Ireland came with the nightly rioting in Belfast, Derry and other towns during May and much of June. More than three hundred petrol bombs were thrown within a couple of hours of the death of Francis Hughes alone. In response, the army and police have killed a number of unarmed people, including children.

In addition to the rioting there has been a fierce escalation in the number of attacks by INLA and the IRA on military targets. Several policemen have been killed, including one who was killed when an RPG-7 rocket was fired at a police landrover. Four other RUC men were injured in the same attack. There were mortar attacks on military posts in Newry and Newtonhamilton and other soldiers have died during shooting incidents.

This demonstration of the existence of a community which views the British state as alien and repressive, neither the hunger strike nor the massive wave of protest following the deaths of the hunger strikers has convinced the government that this is the case. It continues its repressive policy.

THERE EXISTS IN IRELAND A COMMUNITY WHICH VIEWS THE BRITISH STATE AS ALIEN AND REPRESSIVE. NEITHER THE HUNGER STRIKE NOR THE MASSIVE WAVE OF PROTEST FOLLOWING THE DEATHS OF THE HUNGER STRIKERS HAS CONVINCED THE GOVERNMENT THAT THIS IS THE CASE.

IT CONTINUES ITS REPRESSIVE POLICY.
In the heart of the Pyrenees, on the French side, Marcelino Massana ("Pancho" of the Resistance) died in May. "Pancho" was described by the press as "the last Catalan guerillero" - which wasn't quite accurate - but he was one of those legendary mountain fighters like "Caragumada", Facerias and Sabate.

The Anarchists who formed the resistance against Franco that fought on after the civil war had ended, have a place in history, deliberately obscured by historians and journalists.

Massana went back to Spain a few years ago for the publication of his biography ("Massana: Terrorism or Resistance?"). [The biography of Sabate by Feller was published in England by Cienfuegos Press - that of Facerias is to follow.]

He was not one of those who had any faith in the Allies who so many believed would intervene during or after the world war. He knew that the only liberation from Franco would come from resistance. Asked what he thought about the post-Franco "democracy", a few months before his death, he said that a "real democracy" be preserved from above, because what is given can be taken away.

ANARCHO-QUIZ.

1) What major action in the early part of the last World War was perhaps in defeat of anything positive at the time) regarded by many anarchist propagandists as an example of anarchy in action?

2) The Industrial Workers of the World is often referred to in the press as the "Indignant Workers of the World". By which authority is this the proper style?

3) Simone Well (1909-1943) was a French Jewish writer who became a distinguished Christian mystic, though she declined to be baptised, and finally starved herself to death while regarding herself as a Catholic. What other seeming contradiction was there in her life?

4) What distinguished the Woolwich Working Men's Socialist Club (London) (1935) from most socialist and radical clubs of the period?

5) Which Nazi general made a passionate appeal to the Polish Jews to support the German war effort to avenge the anti-Semitic atrocities of Russia?

6) Two Polish Jewish socialist leaders (Ehrlich and Alter) made a passionate appeal to the Polish Jews to support the Russian war effort to avenge the anti-Semitic atrocities of Germany - what happened to them?

STOP PRESS

NOTE: THE PHONE NUMBER FOR THE NEW AUTONOMY CENTRE IS: 01481 3557
On 19th May this year Brenda Earl, a 30 year old libertarian publisher, and her 2 year-old daughter, Brannen Christie, were detained at Hanover airport as they were leaving to return home to Scotland. After a week in custody, on the 26th, mother and daughter were held by the Federal Border police when the Central Police Computer in Hanover indicated that Brenda was known to police as having caused an explosion at Frankfurt Airport on 10th May. This was the first indication that such a warrant existed.

The charge she faced was that in 28th April 1970 someone using the name Earl bought a ticket in Cologne for an Iberia Airways flight from Frankfurt to Barcelona. This ticket, in the name of a Spaniard called Santos, was used to check in a piece of luggage on the flight. 12 days later, on 10th May, this piece of luggage contained an incendiary device. Shortly after the luggage was checked in, a warning telephone call was made to the airport authorities, the bag was identified, and all passengers were removed. A warning telephone call was made to the airport authorities, the bag was identified, and all passengers were removed.

The reponsibility for the attacks was claimed by the Libertarian Youth (FIJL) as part of an international campaign against Spanish tourism and the support of the Spanish paramilitary terrorist organisations such as the Falange Española Tradicionalista y de las JONS, the Falange Española de las JONS, and the Falange Española de las JONS. The organisation had been contacted by Stuart immediately he heard the news of Brenda's arrest. An early attempt by the media, the police and the press to condemn the reactions of the anarchists, were met with a barrage of public support for their cause.

A year and a half later Stuart Christie was arrested and charged with "Conspiracy to Cause Explosions" - the case was to become known as the ANGRY BRIGADE TRIAL and was one of the longest in British judicial history. Included in this conspiracy charge was the incident at Frankfurt airport (and the other related incidents). As he was arrested, Brenda was charged, and did not deny evidence emerging during the course of the trial which linked her in any way with the activities of the ANGRY BRIGADE or the FIJL.

Brenda and Stuart were detained intensively by the police who tried to persuade her into making a confession, and put her on an identity parade, which turned out to be negative. As there was no evidence to link her or Stuart with any of the incidents, she was released.

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We believe the reasons for the arrest of Brenda in Hanover on 19th May 81 were due: a) to the fact that her name had never been removed from the Central Police Computer b) the embarrassment of the Government security services following the recent disclosures that the Grey Wolves and other paramilitary terrorist groups are operating freely in West Germany.

Brenda and Stuart would like to thank all their friends and comrades for all their help and support.

Help is still needed however to assist in paying the legal fees etc - please send donations to: Box Lidades, Over the Water, Sanday, Orkney Islands, Scotland.
On 15th April 81 the coroner's jury returned a verdict of "UNLAWFUL KILLING". City Coroner, Dr Richard Smith, said that there were 5 unanswered questions:
1) No record of force being used in the hospital occurrence book.
2) No initials of prison officials had been recorded in the remand wing occurrence book and there was nothing to indicate that anything unusual had happened.
3) Hospital officers ERIC SMITH & HOWARD PRICE had apparently soiled their clothes.
4) PRICE had a fresh injury on his neck when he had apparently only given an injection to an unrestrained prisoner.

NOTE: Since the article was written Melvyn Jackson and others have been re-charged with Prosser's murder and released on bail.

**PRISON MURDER: THREE BAIRED.**

BARRY PROSSER (31) DIED IN A STRIP CELL, IN THE HOSPITAL WING AT WINSO GREEN PRISON, BIRMINGHAM, ON 79TH AUGUST 80. He was being held on remand, in custody for Medical Reports. His charge - "CRIMINAL DAMAGE" TO A DOOR HANDLE.

Barry Prosser was beaten and kicked to death by 12 screws, led by senior hospital screw Melvyn Jackson during the administration of a tranquillising injection. Medical experts at the inquest testified that Barry Prosser's body was covered from head to foot in bruises, probably caused by someone dropping on him with their knees as he lay naked on a mattress, which caused his stomach and oesophagus to burst. They all agreed that the injuries could not be self-inflicted.

5) No one at the prison seemed to know about the injuries until the autopsy.

The evidence clearly shows that SHO MELVYN JACKSON led screws ERIC SMITH, HOWARD PRICE, THOMAS BART, DAVID PINNEY, MALCOLM WATKINS and 3 others in a deadly attack on Prosser. But the case was DISMISSED by a Birmingham Stipendary Magistrate who ruled there was insufficient evidence for the case to go to trial.

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Inquest verdict: unlawful killing.

Right: BARRY PROSSER and left: Melvyn Jackson, one of his murderers.

**LIBERTARIAN HISTORIES.**

The anarchist "mole" who went into the National Front recently had a precedent in the French movement. In 1922 a young anarchist, Germaine Benton, knocked at the door of Charles Maurras, one of the directors of the Action Francaise. She offered him a newspaper and later fascist journal. She told the man at the desk that she wanted to reveal "the secrets" of the anarchist movement which, she said, was planning to assassinate leading members of the party, beginning with Alphonse Daudet. She asked if he were still at work at 31 rue de Bellechasse. This was in fact Daudet's mother's house; it had never been disclosed that Daudet lived there. It was merely a guess on her part. The man agreed he was and she went round to see him with an automatic pistol in her handbag.

She was not admitted however, so she left a note after giving the urgency of what she had to tell. Daudet, suspicious, communicated with the police but Germaine Benton called back at the Action Francaise with a message for Maurois from Daudet. She was interviewed instead by organiser Marius Plateau, who laughed at the "information" she had to give him. He told her he held all the tricks of the anarchists, revealed information he had from the police and explained how Action Francaise relied on co-operation with high-ranking police and military intelligence. No doubt he was doing this to depreciate the value of any information she had, thinking, perhaps, she was selling it. But Germaine realised the importance of the man she was seeing, which was greater than that of Maurras or Daudet; here was the man who represented French reaction at its most efficient. She shot him dead.

She then tried to shoot herself but was only wounded. She told the police "I had no accomplices. I wanted to avenge the deaths of Jaures and d'Almeayeda for which Daudet is responsible". Jaures (socialist leader) and d'Almeayeda (anarchist) had both been victims of Action Francaise. Jaures was killed at the outbreak of war because he had the confidence of the majority of workers and the right wing feared he might be anti-war.

In her defence the famous civil rights lawyer Maitre forces said this was a "symbolic crime". It was meant to avenge Jaures and the "guerrillas" of the "Camelots du Roi" (a French fascist group). This was hardly a place with any force in law but the jury sympathised with Germaine and understood the menace of fascism, acquitted.

This was not the only political acquittal; French jurists of the 20s were often representative of public opinion. Only later, in our day, was the position of the Anarchist caricatured and that of the Fascist mass murderers glorified, in the press. We salute our comrades Germaine Breton, Anarchist and Anti-Fascist.

In an extraordinary article in the Daily Mail (15th April) a second-rate journalist, Tim Miles, makes a series of vilipading remarks against Jean Weir, though without naming her. She was in a "Brixton flat occupied by anarchists" - they were living there when police raided the premises after the riots. "Political documents and other material were taken away from the flat for examination". (For the record, this is supposed to be a free country, and political documents are not necessarily criminal.)

Jean Weir is described as "a committed anarchist, a white man, with a long history of alleged participation in crimes carried out in Europe for revolutionary ideals". We are puzzled as to how one can have a "history" of "alleged participation"; she was arrested in France and Italy true, but released.

But here Tim Miles shows himself in unblushing colours as of clearly identifiable sympathies. While in prison, Jean Weir, with a long history of alleged participation in crimes carried out in Europe for revolutionary ideals. We are puzzled as to how one can have a "history" of "alleged participation"; she was arrested in France and Italy true, but released.

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Operation Countryman, the City of London force alone forces was finally wound it was compelled to look other forces. However the implicating officers from investigating team was blocked police in London to assist by the unwillingness of the investigating team.

To date there have been a number of attempts to prosecute arising from Countryman but none of them have been successful recently 2 detectives were acquitted of taking £12,000 part of the proceeds of a robbery in return for suppressing evidence against a man, Gilbert Kelland, a senior Yard officer said that reports of massive corruption within the force were widely exaggerated and asked how much credence could be given to evidence from criminals? Something that many convicted prisoners who were sentenced on the word of grasses might well agree.

A prisoner from Albany, Isle of Wight, won an important case against prison department in May. It concerned the right of a prisoner to write to police, solicitor or MP without interference from the prison authorities. Steve Ray was serving a 10 year sentence for theft, applied for an immediate custodial sentence for the governor of Albany because he had repeatedly stopped prisoners mail to their legal advisors. The request, heard at the Law Courts in the Strand, London, was rejected by the judges who nevertheless upheld Steve's complaint.

Steve is currently sojourning at Parkhurst - guess he is not wanted at Albany!

Dr Alan Clift, a Home Office forensic scientist, is under investigation for a series of major "mistakes" which have resulted in at least several wrongful convictions. The celebrated victim of Clift's mistakes is John Preece, who has just been released after serving 8 years of a life sentence for a murder he did not commit.

At Oxford Crown Court earlier in June Ray's sentence were given one week to pay up. One of them, Time Out news editor, Duncan Campbell, was ordered to hand over the £1,000 he had put up for Ray.

The same pattern of smash-in, arbitrary arrests and detentions was followed in the Persons Unknown case, though here not only was nobody killed or injured, some of the crimes alleged had not even taken place and some were only alleged after the trial was over and the people acquitted.

One has only to compare this attitude with that taken towards the fascists. Hundreds of racist attacks have been made by people openly declaring themselves to be members of racist and fascist organisations. There have been murders and injuries ensuing and all these assailants are clearly called for in the Nazi press.

Whereas screaming headlines proclaimed conspiracy in the Persons Unknown case (to commit acts never mentioned in court thereafter) and judicial atmospheres created - which failed to convince the jury but was intended to do so - the press and police invariably play down racist attacks. The mad fascist, who the other week was rapped on a woman driver, put her in the boot, and drove it into a left wing bookshop to get it (on fire), gets all the courtesy of the press. Its sub judice - don't mention it.

Clift's conviction was largely due to Clift's evidence during the trial about the blood groups of Preece and the victim. Clift has been successfully to.) for about 4 years after other mistakes had come to light; though he continues to draw his full salary more than £12,000 per year.

Ray Baron, who was acquitted last year on charges of conspiracy to rob and had decided not to stand trial on further charges and has jumped bail.

Ray was re-arrested immediately after his acquittal at the Old Bailey and held for several days before being charged with 9 counts of robbery. Shortly afterwards he was released on bail.

Ray's attitude to his chances in his forthcoming trial may have been influenced by the fact that in his last encounter with the police he was planta shotgun and masks - something the jury noted as they acquitted him.

As soon as the judge had finished with the proceedings, Ray called to the press office to say he had a statement to make. He asked for more time to prepare it and then went.

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MORRIS APPEAL

Micky Morris, sentenced in 1972 to 10 years in prison in 1972, had his appeal against conviction heard in May. Micky was the victim of an attempt to murder, the climax of a prolonged campaign of beatings during robberies. Micky, as the victim of a prolonged campaign of beatings during robberies. Micky, as the chief prosecution witness, had a long history of mental illness which made him an especially unreliable witness. He also received the inducement of a 5 year sentence in return for his testimony.

However, the Appeal Court judges upheld Micky's conviction, although they cut his sentence to 10 years. Micky continues to deny any involvement in the robbery for which he was convicted. He is currently seeking remission to write an MP to point out the discrepancy between the remission that a prisoner in Northern Ireland can earn and the £1,000 he had put up for Ray.

The 10 year sentences served by the 4 who were convicted in the Angry Brigade trial, only for possessing firearms - they were acquitted of causing explosions - within 6 months of 6 months or so occasionally passed on the murderous heavily- armed fascist paramilitary groups. Even a 3 year sentence works out at less than that served by those who were acquitted in the anarchist case.

When it is said that New Cross was not a racist incident, how can the Black community, or anyone else, be expected to believe the police? Precisely the same thing is said about every racist murder and assault.

Yet does the public regard the continued on page 9
THE GERMAN HUNGER STRIKES

Gabrielle Rollnick, Monika Berberich, Knut Folkerts.

On 2nd February RAF and 2nd June Movement prisoners in the isolation wing of West Berlin's Stammheim prison began a hunger strike against the isolation of political prisoners, for improvements in prison conditions, demanding political status, and the release of Claus O. Delilho, who suffers from brain damage as a result of being shot in the head when he was captured, and Vesna Becker, who has tuberculosis. See RAF hunger strike document in last issue. The strike spread quickly to 17 prisons throughout West Germany, as well as to 3 political prisoners in Switzerland and one in Austria. At the same time numbers on hunger strike were swelled by "ordinary" prisoners joining in out of solidarity with the actions of the political and making their own prison conditions. At one time the strike reached 300.

On 14th March fourteen 2nd June Movement prisoners in Berlin suspended their hunger strike after the government had conceded to their minimum demands: one extra visit per month; the stopping of isolation; granting of open visits where the glass partition was taken away and physical contact with visitors allowed. In Bern Gabrielle Kroehler-Tiedemann, Christian Mosler and Rolf Clemens Wagner suspended their hunger strike after receiving a promise of being allowed to associate with 4 others. Meanwhile in Cologne, Dusseldorf and Celle, Karl-Heinz Dellwo, Stefan Wiesniewski and Gerhard Schreiber were force fed. Dellwo reached a critical condition, passing blood in his urine, and a second attempt at force feeding was abandoned because of the danger of suffocation. By 20th March 4 prisoners in Berlin, Regina Nicolai, Andreas Vogel, Guedrun Steiner and Gabrielle Rollnick had also reached critical points. Rollnick suffered damage to her eyesight but resisted an attempt to force feed her.

Knut Folkerts became dangerously ill after a visit to the psychiatric wing of Hohensberg in an attempt to isolate his further hunger strike. An artificial atmosphere was created between prisoners. Angeline Speitl in Cologne was force fed even though her condition was not serious enough to warrant it. Christoph Macknergall, Hanna Krabbe and Waltraub Warmbier also reached a critical condition by 21st March.

On 22nd March seven lawyers representing the prisoners had talks with the federal attorney general Rehmann, who is responsible for implementing the programmes against the prisoners and demanded full negotiations. Rehmann refused to consider any of the prisoners' demands unless the hunger strike was called off first. The next day Rehmann set off for the USA. The West German state applies special programmes of imprisonment against those prisoners who come from West Berlin and who are part of resistance groups. These prisoners are subjected to isolation torture in the silent cells of high security wings - many for long periods - with no association periods at all, some of them have no exercise either. The isolation cells are air-conditioned, soundproofed, white-

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The artificiality of the surrounding wings and the stress of isolation are increased by which tensions are created between prisoners. These tensions are noted by the control and increased through manipulation. Programmes of privileges and punishments are devised to fit each individual prisoner, noting every nuance of the prisoner's behaviour. This is an attempt to influence where they have so far failed: our minds, our will to resist, our consciousness - to destroy it all" (Andreas Vogel & Till Meyer - Hohibit prison).

The policy of criminalisation of political prisoners in Western Europe and the way in which political prisoners are subjected to special programmes of imprisonment and treatment is a crucial part of a co-ordinated strategy intended to deny the political nature of the struggle, both inside and outside the prisons.

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