EXPOSED: ANTI STRIKE BACKERS

An anarchist investigation into the far-right Freedom Association has revealed the extent to which that organisation and similar outfits have been secretly working behind the scenes during the Miners strike to help fund and organise strikebreaking and influence government strategy.

While the 1984 Miners strike has seen the government take the central role in organising strikebreaking, the FA has clearly not been prepared to play the part of 'supporting cast'. Notwithstanding their influence over the years on the importance of legal injunctions in weakening the power of trade unions, the FA, through their various media, political and business contacts, are prominent in helping to co-ordinate support activities for the several working miners groups.

The FA's main office at Avon House in London's Oxford Street, functions as an information point for enquiries about increasing strikebreaking activities. Front-man Gerald Bartup is quite happy to dispense information leaflets on the various campaigns set up to assist scab miners. He is also very free with advice: "Don't do street collections. You'll just get rumbled up, instead try and antagonise local councils - especially lefty ones - by asking where one can leave food collections to help the families of working miners who suffer from intimidation".

When challenged whether the FA had been actively assisting scabs from the outset, Hartup replied, "Oh, but we have," and went on to explain that the FA had been secretly helping out with a number of strikebreaking campaigns but didn't want it to be public knowledge as tactically it could go against the work of the scabs.

Bartup also boasted about FA involvement with the media. He mentioned that the FA had several contacts in Fleet Street who have been making sure that the 'correct line' was put out. Robert Moss is one such FA stalwart. Moss works for the Daily Telegraph. He also happens to be a founder of the FA and a co-director of the Institute for the Study of Conflict (CIA funded counter-insurgency think-tank based in Golden Square in London's Soho district).

Of course the FA is no newcomer to the field of strikebreaking and union bashing. In 1977 they were instrumental in breaking the Grunwick's dispute and they also obtained an injunction to prevent selective strike action by postal workers of mail and telecommunication traffic to South Africa. Over the past few years the FA has been backing a number of individuals involved in legal cases against closed shop agreements.

STOP THE CITY...

STOPPING THE CITY (extracts from log of events)

1.00pm Saatchi and Saatchi occupied. Smoke flares let off, windows smashed, and we piss off quick. Reports of earlier Halifax Bank action, 70-100 people windows smashed, police radio jammers worked so they had to use a phone box, they were humping mad!... Police radio reports 'disturbances at Barclays'... Legal office records only 79 arrests so far......etc 1.30 Group of 10 cyclists leave Finsbury Square... Police horses charge people gathered behind St Pauls for planned party... 30 occupy admin. buildings in London Zoo.......etc 1.45 30 more nicked by bank tube... One injured when pushed down steps by police...

Letter

Dear Black Flag,

Most people who took part in the last Stop the City saw it as a complete disaster. Very few of the host of good actions done in the March STC could be repeated and the most successful ones were done outside the City area anyway. Nevertheless with about 2000 of us this was one of the biggest anarchist demos ever seen in this country and though an incredible 470 of us got nicked only 35 of us were actually charged and we've already raised most of the cash to pay their fines. We cost the City a huge sum to mount a massive police operation and in effect to intern 450 people for the day.

What STC needs now is new tactics, eg, assembly points which can't be sealed off, a different target area, places to get off the streets when necessary, etc. The idea of Stop the City remains sound, that of every group doing their own actions without leaders, and it takes ten times the number of cops to stop such actions than with a normal demo. There is talk now of a Stop the Country! or even a Stop Europe demo with everyone doing actions in their own area.

The September 27 demo failed because of a total police occupation of the chosen area and assembly points, because we were marginalised into mainly punks and anarchist activists, and because (it must be said) that most who came had not planned feasible actions (much could have been done in back streets, for example). With these lessons in mind we should refrain from meaning and attacking each other and plan urgently to improve our tactics before the STC's in Birmingham on October 11 and in Glasgow on November 5 (Gay Fawkes Day).

More on STOP THE CITY next issue...

MAKE THE STRIKE SUPPORT GROUPS PERMANENT
THE MINERS & SOCIAL CHANGE

Strikers now find themselves in major confrontation with the police. It is an eye-opener for all those trade unionists who have been elected to public office, to councils and to Parliament, the sit as strikers or school governors or on tribunals and fancy themselves as part of the Establishment, to find that a determined government can at one blow wipe it all away. Miners - even the lower echelon of the union machine - are having to battle in the streets, to bleed under truncheons, to face political grilling in police stations, to be stopped at roadblocks, to have their homes searched, to be fined and imprisoned. All this has happened before, but to 'extremists' - suddenly the 'extreme' becomes nearer than they thought.

Only a matter of months ago one odd member of the anti-strike brigades was depreciating the printers of Fleet Street and their high wages (which were fought for over the years) saying how much more they could do (the thought was, they would do anything) if they were to stop printing any liens regarding this as totally unthinkable. Now they have done just this. The Daily Telegraph and the Daily Mail have printed the other side, they have stopped the Sun altogether because it wouldn't. The Daily Telegraph and the Daily Mail to print the other side, they have stopped the Sun altogether because it wouldn't. 'A fine free speech!' (Liev those who think only a few proprietors have the right to freedom of expression).

Amongst the lies being hurled at the strikers is the one that says that this is all a bid for power by or for Arthur Scargill. Mr. Scargill is being built up as the Lenin of the mining communities. Most older miners always hoped that the task of mining, at its known would eventually cease. But nothing is offered in its place. The NCB is taking the means by which whole valleys and communities live and ordering them to be extinct. This is being done by the nationalised coal industry, which was a 75 year ambition of socialism and trade unionism which the NUM forgets when it mightily attacks coal chief MacGregor. The younger miners are battling against police and pickets. But this is not a battle for the streets and it will not be won there. If the police are defeated, by seeing the army and all the reserve forces being built up the new dictatorship that front must not be neglected and it is one on which major support is needed, but like war the strike will be won or lost on provisions. In this the women of the coalfields have shown superb communal organisation ability and received enormous support which has won the admiration of politicians everywhere. They must be allowed to perish for want of 'lease-lend'.

DCOS SPURNED

The Dockers union, the TGIJ, and the steelworkers union, the ISTC, together with the assistance of the Labour Party came up with a classic sell-out deal to bring the docks strike to a quick conclusion. John Prescott, Transport spokesperson, played a leading part in scuppering the strike. There had been an earlier agreement with the miners union, the NUM, to restrict supplies to the Ravenscraig steel works to 18,000 tonnes of coal a week, but the steel employers, the BSC, wanted a sympathy action and accepted a sufficient quota of coal to keep the steel plants operating, but without production, should have been agreed. Although Ravenscraig was the first place, the action was taken, despite the public protestations, in support of the miners. Therefore to back off at the first chance of intervention was but an admission of defeat. In reality what Prescott had done was to get dockers leader, Connelly, off the hook - given that his union had split and support for the strike was diminishing - by coming up with an apparent face-saver. Connelly could easily have ordered a continuation of effective strike action in key ports servicing some, if not all, of the steel plants - even if only Hunterston terminal - instead of sabotaging the sympathy action completely. Effective action can still be on the cards in the form of unofficial action in order to stop steel production and maintain the plants at an operational level only.

NF SPURNED

Recently members of the National Front, not content with failing to get street credibility by trying to woo anarchists, attempted to do the same with the miners. Contrary to what the press said it was not Labour Party members who discovered their ruse but members of the Anarchist Collective. The NF members in question - Adrian Wiltshire and Phil Andrews - booked a hall under the bogus name, Solidarity With The Miners Campaign. Posters advertising the meeting were printed by Andrews, a YNF officer, giving his Isleworth home as the campaign's address. It was arranged that speakers from the NCC and the NUM would be on the platform and it was only because of good detective work (the poster portrayed an NF logo - as shown on Nationalism Today - of a fist holding a Union Jack flag - filled in to appear black - while the typesetting and headlines were of a type consistently used on other NF material) that the NUM and NCC were prevented from suffering the embarrassment of appearing alongside fascists.

Guy Fawkes was right!

Day of Action against capitalism, etc in support of the miners. Nov 5. Countrywide. All day.
DIRTY TRICKS / MEDIA LIES / POLICE THUGGERY

From the occupied war zones of the mining communities, pickets and supporters are facing an intensification of the dirty war employed by police thugs as part of their long term campaign of psychological and physical intimidation. Attempts to defend the communities from attack are met with the usual barrage of media lies which provide the state with just the 'black' propaganda it needs to scupper any wider support at the critical period (eg when the pit deputies were poised to strike and when the NUM were negotiating with the power workers' leaders for solidarity). Many mines where that police and army provocateurs are at large setting up 'juicy stories' for the media. But faced with brutal violence the mining communities have no choice but to use whatever measure they can to stop this encroachment. The cops are well protected and armed, with their dogs, night sticks, crash helmets, shields. The pickets have little but crude weaponry and their imagination. Inevitably the odds will need to be evened up.

At Kiverton Park, South Yorkshire, a field was set on fire near to an electricity sub-station and petrol bombs were allegedly found by police.

At Rotherham the NCB wages office was virtually destroyed when someone drove a nearby bulldozer into it.

At Kellingby riot police charged pickets. During the resulting melee an ITN Television broadcast vehicle was overturned and set alight.

Outside Kilmallstone Colliery Kent, but were surprised and outflanked by Offers to attract Strikemakers. Many miners believe that police and army provocateurs are part of their long term campaign of a 'dirty war'.

Outside Kilhamstone Colliery, Kent, mass police reinforcements convoying scabs fought with pickets. Many of the cops sustained injuries. One scab was prevented from striking when his home was placed under siege. Posters with photos of scabs were flyposted around the village. Later the police enforced a curfew in the area; anyone who was seen on the streets after 8.30 was threatened with arrest.

At Easington Colliery police rioted and dragged a miner from the picket line, beating him up. Local people took to the streets and there was hand to hand fighting with the cops.

At Markham Main Colliery pickets attempted to deter mass policing by erected a barricade of concrete blocks in the road using an expropriated crane as a hoist.

At Bentley Colliery barricades were built out of NCB vehicles.

Tyres were set alight and one police vehicle was attacked near Munton Colliery after police sealed off a road leading to the pit.

At Bedwas, South Wales, police attempted to stop 200 pickets gathering at the British Benzol plant. Pickets retaliated by attempting to set a truck on fire inside the plant. The electricity supply was cut off and firefighters refused to cross the picket line to put out a blaze. Later a petrol bomb was allegedly discovered.

At Malby, South Yorkshire, riot police in boiler suits, accompanied by dogs, attempted to clear the area of pickets but were surprised and outflanked by more pickets who came out of a nearby wood. During the fighting an M6 and an ITN journalist were attacked by the riot cops. The pickets attempted to defend themselves using road signs and bits of wall as barricade material.

Over 1500 riot police gathered at Silverwood to protect a handful of scabs from crossing picket lines. The cops encountered barricades blocking their way and so dogs were set loose to attack pickets. Pickets fought back and dogs and dog handlers chased off. The story the cops put out was that they were 'ambushed'.

At Bilston Glen Colliery, near Edinburgh, firefighters refused to cross picket lines to put out a blaze caused by rubber tyres that had been set alight.

At Hartlepool hundreds of miners attacked the nuclear power station. Two tankers were damaged and burning roadblocks were set up. (One half hour of direct action is worth more than three years of symbolic indirect action - ancient anarchist proverb). In Manchester four rail workers were arrested for collecting money for the striking miners and as a result a 12-hour strike was called for the following week. The strike closed down Manchester Piccadilly station and a busload of miners from Bold and Agecroft Collieries turned up to lend support. The end result was that BR management conceded that collections can now go ahead at the station. Also the charges against the four were dropped by the police.

John Kane of Carrickfergus is responsible for the import of East German smokeless fuel. The fuel sells under the brand name of Brico and is 1.53p cheaper than the usual stocks. Since Kane signed the deal with East Germany other coal merchants in the rest of the UK have followed suit.

Eldon Griffiths, the Tory MP for Bury St Edmonds and Police Federation representative for the last 15 years, has threatened that pickets may be dispersed in the future by the use of baton rounds (plastic bullets). 'Shifts' - a play about the miners strike has been banned by the BBC but played by Radio Sheffield and other local radio stations. Now it may get airtime on the Australian Broadcast Company's radio network after pressure from an Aussie Miners Support Group. Rebel Worker, the Australian IWA group, have recently sent money to the Northumberland Miners. Another IWA group, the Libertarian Workers Group, based in New York, held a social recently and is sending money over too.

According to The Miner collections have been pouring in from miners support groups organised around bars in all parts of the north of Ireland. Workers from both nationalist communities have helped out in the contributions. Their class commitment has overtaken all other considerations.

The NCB has stepped up its inducements offers to attract strikebreakers. Alternative employment in other areas after the dispute is over, free accommodation and transport, large cash bonuses and compensation payments are all on offer. Details from a former scab from Scunthorpe who has crossed picket line at Brodsworth pit.

Doncaster contacts have the names and numbers of a large number of workers who have been masquerading as police on anti-picket duty.

Howard Thompson, director of Cowoods Solid Fuels Ltd of Harrogate, has been using a disused airfield close to the Selby coalfield to stockpile Russian, South African and US imports.

The syndicalist OVB union in the Netherlands has been raising funds and have produced a pamphlet on the miners strike. Support Groups have been formed by squatters and anarchist groups in Amsterdam. Meetings, video shows, benefits with punk bands and legies on the beer drunk at squatters bars have all been organised, The Amsterdam Support Committee raised £5,000 which paid for holidays for 40 people (32 miners' children and 8 adults from the village of Church Warsop, Derbyshire). They stayed for a week, going sailing and swimming time at a boat camp at Appelscha. Others stayed in squats and with Dutch Families. Another holiday for another group is planned for soon.

Andrew Bradley, the Derbyshire miner sentenced to 9 months for criminal damage, has now been moved to Sudbury Open Prison.

Black Flag Page Three
CMT EVICTED

On Tuesday Sept. 18th from 9am until 1.30pm the CNT-AIT were evicted from the offices in Portaferrassa St. Barcelona.

Originally the building was used by the CNT (a falangist trade union) at a low rent of 600 pesetas (approx. £3) per month. After Franco’s death, the building was occupied by the CNT-AIT along with many of the buildings used by fascist organisations which suddenly ceased to exist after he died - the socialists did the same in 1978.

In 1981 the landlord began legal proceedings - it goes without saying that the landlord was a falangist, and used various excuses to get the CNT out. It was difficult, because the CNT had always paid rent, but in July 1984 the courts accepted that the CNT had to leave and sent police round to give notice. One militant was arrested and demonstrations took place all over Barcelona, violent demonstrations. The militant was released after one and a half days. Yesterday a large number of cops turned up for the final eviction. Firemen broke all the windows with hoes and truncheons and then dosed the premises with their hoses. At first, refusals, and under Spanish law they are not required to comply with orders which don’t have anything to do with putting out fires, but the socialist Mayor of the city, Pascual Maragall, then gave them a direct order to go ahead with police instructions; police and firemen together tried to break in; bricks, bottles and fire extinguishers (!) were thrown at them and four people were injured: one fireman, two policemen and one cop office.

Smoke bombs and teargas canisters were thrown into the building and the 15 militants inside climbed through the skylight onto the roof. The cops broke into the building (they threw up the roof) and found no one. They started running about like lunatics because they thought they had killed everyone, until someone spotted the 15 on the roof. They arrested all of them, but they were all released at 2am the following morning - probably because the authorities didn’t want a repetition of the events in July. While all this was going on the Rambla (the main boulevard in Barcelona) was barricaded by CNT sympathisers.

SOURCE: M.F.

GERMANY

HOFFMAN TRIAL

The trial has begun of Karl-Heinz Hoffmann, leader of the fascist WSGH. Hoffmann was involved in the Munich Beer Festival bombing as well as attacks on US bases in order to get arms/early withdrawal from Germany. Hoffmann is one of the most prominent members of the Sturmabteilung, the close guard of the WSGH. He was also a state of Manfred Roeder (head of the DBI - German Citizens Initiative - and the German Action Front) and was responsible for a series of bombings on refugee camps and residential centres for displaced Vietnamese. He was sentenced to a year in jail.

The WSGH (Wehrsportgruppe Hoffmann) has direct links with the terrorist neo-nazi group the League of St George, based in London. One of the WSGH’s top men, Arndt-Heinz Marx, was the military instructor for the WSGH and was their main liaison officer with the LSG. Marx belonged to the Sturm 7 section of the WSGH, based at Frankfurt, and trained the WSGH operative, Gundolf Rohler, who planted the bomb at Hanau, killing 13 and injuring 25. Another LSG contact man was Abal Kraus (also of the WSGH), who was safehoused by the LSG, via Brown Aid, at the home of a WSGH member, to the League of St George, via Brown Aid member.

Altogether there are around 160 known fascist groups in West Germany.

PORTUGAL

Three bombs have exploded outside the homes of landowners in a district 50 miles south of Lisbon. The three were all guilty of repossessing land that had been expropriated by rural workers after the '74 revolution. The Socialist (sic) government passed a reform act in '77 making it possible for the land to be repossessed. Since then there have been many protests and in one incident three farm labourers were shot by police. It seems that the bombings therefore got off comparatively lightly. The bombings were claimed by the leftist revolutionary group, FPF, and were reported to have fired warning shots at pacifists demonstrating at Hanau, near Frankfurt.

DENMARK

War Shipping

The headoffice of DFDS, a big Danish shipping company in Copenhagen was fire-bombed earlier this month. About 50 people from the group "Active Peace" entered the premises, went to the first floor wrote slogans "DFDS out of NATO" and "We are war-lovers" on the walls, and threw a fire-bomb. Everyone got away before the cops arrived. During the NATO exercise known as "Operation Lionheart", DFDS are managing some of the transport.

SOURCE: Ekomedia

CHILE

Six Killed by Troops

In case you haven’t heard, six people - civilians - were reported killed by NATO security forces taking part in the massive Operation Lionheart exercise. Also a soldier had his head decapitated by a tank. None of this got reported by the media of course, all the pet journalists and television PR types going for the official government line. "D" notices were served on the six deaths - the only way you’d hear being the grapevine (in our case, Ekomedia). Lionheart, of course, has a dual role: preparation for nuclear war and preparation for civil war. There were around 130,000 troops taking part in the exercise. There was some attempts made to disrupt the operation (classic resistance stuff: changing road signs, interfering with radio traffic, road blockades, etc).

One US commander, Lieutenant-General Robert Wezel stated that all US troops would be defended from attack by protestors. He said, "I will do everything within my power to ensure that anarchists and criminals - (surely the two are synonymous in the state’s eyes) who damage US property and endanger life are arrested by the proper German police authorities and are prosecuted fully under German law. Later police were reported to have fired warning shots at pacifists demonstrating at Hanau, near Frankfurt.

Chile

Since our last news bulletin there has been an intensification of the street violence by police and death squads. Street execution of political dissidents has resulted in over nine deaths; in Concepcion two leftists were chased and killed during pursuit, a third was summarily shot for allegedly possessing political leaflets; in Santiago two politicals were killed by the secret police as they tried to run away from their kidnappers. There were others.

Within the shanty districts police squads have stepped up their terror raids. Witnesses have reported the shooting of a leftist known as ‘liberation theology’. Ironically he was murdered the day after the Pope’s denunciation. Indiscriminate terror tactics are being employed on a daily basis. One regular tactic is to grab someone off the street, strip them and hold the victim over an open fire until they are nearly burnt alive. Scalping is another police favourite.
**CENTRAL AMERICA**

Members of the 20th Special Forces Unit of the Alabama National Guard are involved in covert operations in Central America. Two members were recently exposed when a helicopter the two were flying had an engine failure. The two, together with four others, were part of a paramilitary group calling itself Civilian Military Assistance. The CIA is based in Huntsville and employs counter-insurgency instructors. According to the US Army the mission of the Special Forces is to plan and conduct unconventional war operations and to support the war efforts of US allied 'indigenous forces' in countries involved in internal warfare.

The CIA has around 1000 members. The CIA has denied any involvement.

Source: AANN

**USA**

The offices of the South African Consolidate-General in New York were bombed within days of the police riots in South Africa. A few days later another bombing occurred at a Union Carbide chemical plant. (Union Carbide has extensive mining interests in South Africa). Earlier this year the United Freedom Front bombed a IBM office in New York in reprisal for the execution of three guerrillas by the SA authorities. IBM is one of the companies that have investments in SA.

The UFF issued a statement at the time: "It is clear that support from US high-tech companies benefits the war machine that enforces that apartheid. Collaboration with apartheid by US companies, including IBM, by supplying equipment, products, technology and training is equivalent to those crimes war companies, which are involved in the war machine that enforces apartheid. Collaboration with apartheid by US companies, including IBM, by supplying equipment, products, technology and training is equivalent to those crimes war companies, which are involved in the war machine that enforces apartheid. Collaboration with apartheid by US companies, including IBM, by supplying equipment, products, technology and training is equivalent to those crimes war companies, which are involved in the war machine that enforces apartheid. Collaboration with apartheid by US companies, including IBM, by supplying equipment, products, technology and training is equivalent to those crimes war companies, which are involved in the war machine that enforces apartheid. Collaboration with apartheid by US companies, including IBM, by supplying equipment, products, technology and training is equivalent to those crimes war companies, which are involved in the war machine that enforces apartheid.

We know who the collaborators are. We have attacked them in the past. We attack them today and will continue to attack them in the future unless they cease their support and dealings with the illegal regime of SA. All governments are illegal - typists.

After our last bombing attack against IBM facilities, which caused extensive property damage, the IBM bosses offered a $25,000 reward for our capture. They encourage collaboration with the enemy on every level. We say: give your $25,000 to the families of those murdered while in the detention cells of South African jails.

Source: AANN

**SOUTH AFRICA**

On the day PW Botha was elected as the first executive president of South Africa its government announced a new policy that would set the country on a 'new' path. The policy was designed to address the problems of poverty, unemployment and crime. It was to be implemented in four phases, with the first phase focusing on the so-called 'decentralised' areas. The policy was widely seen as a continuation of the government's existing policy of 'liberalisation'. It was also seen as a move towards greater political stability and economic growth. The policy was widely criticised, however, by opposition parties and civil society groups.

**INDIA**

**BONDED LIBERATION FRONT**

The Bondhu Nukti Marsha (BLF) was set up as a union in 1988 by 'bonded labourers' from the stone quarries of Faridabad district (near New Delhi). Many of whom were illiterate.

Virtual slaves, drawn from the lowest Hindu caste of 'harijans' or 'untouchables' they have no land, jobs or prospects of work in India and are easy prey for exploitation by 'jamaades' and middle men who lure them to jobs with cash advances from future wages. Once in the job debts to build a home, buy tools, food and clothes as well as medical treatment for work injuries quickly mount up. Dangerous working conditions lead to serious accidents and many deceased, those not obedient are left to look after their own injuries, often where they lay...

No improvements have been fought for by direct action and self-managed organisation. No-one else is willing or can get emancipation for these slaves but themselves. A Law passed in 1976 that abolished the Bonded Labour System has never been implemented.

BLF members drove into the quarries and told workers of their rights, helped those who wished to leave and showed them where to go. Where they told their story to the press. Once the publicity 'novelty' wore off the labourers were left down and out.

The local Haryana State Chief Minister, Bhajan Lal, claimed there were no bonded labourers in his area yet investigations showed he owns some of the biggest quarries where bonded labourers are exploited.

The labourers earn less than 13 rupees (about 75p) a day - the Indian minimum wage.

In the organised quarries where BLF members are in is site employees are paid by direct action and self-managed organisation.

**VENICE**

The Biennale Centre for Social Studies at Venice last week held a press conference at Venice during the last week of September. A huge marquee in one square housed an exhibition on Anarchist movement, which was set on fire and burnt. Another square was taken over by the gathering of some 3000 anarchists from all over the world. There was a bookstall overflowed with anarchist literature; information and meeting tents and a street theatre. The BBC TV turned up the first day but when they found there was nothing sensational to film they left - despite the frantic attempts of the local police and press to describe punks sleeping and making love in the squares.

The Black Flag/DM contingent of few hundred (in the first time meetings with friends of many struggles from the Spanish War to the First of May Solidarity Movement; or ex-prisoners for whom youth is lost; and there were many animated discussions with comrades everywhere.

But the conference (in the Continental sense - it was not a 'congress') was not an unqualified success. As predicted the lectures (one could barely call them 'discussions') at the School of Architecture (taken over for the occasion) revealed a clear-cut division between live anarchism and a putrid, largely academic, institution. It was either 'capitalist' or 'communist'.

A more comprehensive analysis will presumably be published in a future issue. The need for a definite break between the anarchists and the 'libertarian' rings is apparent.

A.M.

Black Flag Page Five
**ARWEN 37**

A photo of the ARWEN 37, the rapid fire plastic bullet machine gun developed by the Ministry of Defence, has been released by the Home Secretary and is reproduced below. The ARWEN (Anti-Riot Weapon Enfield) was first described in detail in the Winter '83/'84 issue of Black Flag magazine. This terrifying arm has a rotary magazine that has the capacity to fire up to 60 rounds a minute. Loading is child-play. The maximum range for the ARWEN is 100m, but with an explosive grenade (of which it is equally capable of handling) the range can be increased to three times that distance. In addition the ARWEN has a special built in stabiliser—never before found in any other baton round weapon—which improves accuracy.

The MOD have denied that the ARWEN is to be used for counter-insurgency situations, either in the UK or abroad. They specifically deny that it is to be used in the north of Ireland. But the MOD first set about designing the ARWEN in order to create a weapons system that would overcome some of the shortcomings of the current baton round system in use in Ireland. They required bullets that were potentially lethal but more accurate and a weapon that was more accurate. The ARWEN fulfills this requirement. And it is hard to believe that after some years of R & D the MOD/ Home Office will not use the weapon to its advantage. Such a weapon would allow for armed resistance as a contingency requirement in the event of widespread civil disorder or insurrection within Britain itself.

*MOD — Ministry of Defence*

**ANARCHIST RADIO LIVES**

Just when the authorities have begun a new clampdown, especially on smaller ethnic and political pirate radio stations, we have good news that Rebel Radio has come on air in a station that has been broadcasting on Sundays, 5pm to 9pm on 103.5 FM and describes itself as providing 'a voice for those denied that right to subverting the police state'. Rebel Radio has already put out programmes on police violence, Stop the City, striking in Seattle and the Vancouver Five, as well as lots of 'loud obnoxious music'. They have been broadcasting from a 'top secret hideaway in downtown Bristol' and the Dept of Trade and Industry have been watching their every move, but have failed to catch them in the act so far. Send your tapes and cheques c/o Box FR, 116 Cheltenham Rd, Bristol.

*Not so lucky were Sheffield Peace Radio who were followed wherever they were finally busted on May 20 and are facing heavy fines and the loss of all their gear. They got lots of support and have had some interesting technical support: available 50p from SPR, c/o 55 Ashton Rd, Sheffield*.

The long-awaited 'clamdown' by the DTI (who are setting up Security Telecom as pirate catchers) has failed to happen, at least for the 7-day commercial pirates who are booming in the London area. However many small stations have been hosed off the air, including DMC (the only black station), one Arabic and two Turkish or Greek stations. These new face fines up to £200 per person per week for breaches: available 50p from SPR, c/o 55 Ashton Rd, Sheffield.

This means the authorities are mainly in the same old departmental department (e.g. the other seven radio stations. 'Fancier Alternative, DNC, Hurricane, London WC1N') which has hijacked Radio Trent, new broadcasts (see Black Flag no. 118) came from the Vrije Keizer group in Amsterdam who in '82 operated and cheeky tactics and have considerable back-up to survive. All we need is for sufficient dedicated people to 'go for it'. We hope to continue this discussion in a future Black Flag. If you are interested or can give info or help, especially technical, cash or backup aid, please write to Radical Anarchist Transmissions (RATS), c/o BM Hurricane, London WC1N.**

*DTI — Dept. of Trade & Industry*

**ALBANY STREET**

"Albany Street Books" was an anarchist bookshop situated in a squat, rot 20 years from Albany St, cop shop, where the infamous "Black Cat Night" operates from. We gave squatting advice & info., we were a contact address for Class War & other anarchist papers, we sold books.

The neighbours, the Council, the local newspaper (the Camden Journal) started a witch-hunt against us. They wanted us out. They kept asking if we printed this or that book — did we print our own stuff? They obviously thought we were very organised & obviously thought we were very well. They were finally evicted.

The 7-day pirates are mainly in the same old departmental department, just when the authorities have begun a new clampdown, especially on smaller ethnic and political pirate radio stations. All the time the cops were in the house, we were knocking at the door. As no cops were to be seen, someone opened the door to try to talk to them, spit at them, throw shit at them, try to burn them alive or whatever! We heard of the impending eviction from the Camden Journal, the neighbours, and the Council all started claiming we were racially abusing and attacking Asians who lived in the house. They kept asking if we printed this or that book — did we print our own stuff? They obviously thought we were very organised & obviously thought we were very well. They were finally evicted.**

Someone set fire to this notice and the neighbours saw it happen. The front page of the Camden Journal, the neighbours, and the Council all started claiming we were racially abusing and attacking Asians who lived in the house. They kept asking if we printed this or that book — did we print our own stuff? They obviously thought we were very organised & obviously thought we were very well. They were finally evicted.

The cops "seized" £500 worth of books and smashed everything else up; we've been evicted.

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Dear Black Flag,

I was pleased to see the letter from RG (Exeter) in the Flag No.116. I had been furious about the article "The Miners and the Left" and had intended to write to you myself.

I am stunned that any Anarchist can write that the structure of the miners, or any other strikers, work within an "irrelevant" framework. When I read the article I pictured immediately entering my head of a hypothetical union run on fascist lines and headed by a dictator. One sunny day the dictator called a strike and threatened to expel/beat up/murder every worker who did not support it. As it happened a group of Anarchists supported the premises of the strike and joined the dictator and would advocate—- and seeing the structures as "irrelevant".

I was amazed to learn that the article was written to stimulate debate about the nature of solidarity. You could have fooled me! I thought it was a thinly disguised attack on the SWP. Next time could you make it a bit clearer. An interview with the miners as to their struggles— in particular about the miners strike, which to me, is the most important industrial action for years and deserves all of our comrades. Of course it was about the nature of solidarity. As for the Scargill thing: Taylor had nothing to do with it — see previous issues of Black Flag. Having been involved with this strike for over six months I find your cheap jibes insulting. If you believe that debating _constructive disagreement yet to me M seemed to be making very similar points to you make it a bit clearer. An interview with the miners asto their _is occupied by an enemy force — which we are. Pigs from London, structure of the NUM may not be perfect, but attacking that during the middle of the struggle does not help. After attacking the workforce in the country for years, this is constructive. Anarchists themselves have started to question the "rhetoric of the NUM". There is not a structure but want unity now & we are the ones to determine its political line. Talk with members of the mining communities, don't patronisingly sport public phrases from the safe confines of Hackney. And if you want strike/solution's, can't get to Kent, who won't try writing through-soliloquies in your area— or aren’t there any?!

It seems to me there is too much attacking of the NUM in this strike — in countries which deny women the right of enforced celibacy.

I was very interested in your letter on the death of pickets; people are lying in intensive care with broken limbs & the like. They will be handled directly by the Anarchist Black Cross. Documentation enquiries to: ASDN, Karlshamn. They have distributed around the Urgent NewsMailing List. For admin- _for free. Please send money, books or pamphlets to: §komedia—Karlshamn, Hautverkarggatan 19a, 5-22200 Karlshamn. Perhaps the idea _good manners? The same applies to. Wehave had to increasethe subs _12 months: £12 Inland £10 Air. _willing to help in raising the legal costs of the »_10 cents an hour!) but if you want to drop a line my way I'd enjoy hearing from you. I know. I imagine you're pretty busy too, so I'll understand if ya don't have the time.

Anarchist

Black Cross

In the near future we intend to organise a meeting, somewhere central but outside London, to which all Black Cross contacts are invited. Those contacts who wish to attend should write in soon and we will send the details on.

The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the organisation of the Black Cross network and how it can be expanded, the work of the Black Cross, tactics, propaganda, mutual assistance, improved intelligence gathering and short and long term strategy.

ABC - London Chapter.
PRICE WATERHOUSE OCCUPIED

THE DAY WE TOOK THE WHITE TOWER

At 7.30 am on Tuesday, 4th September, 12 Anarchists stormed a multi-storey office block in Glasgow city centre. They went in to occupy the headquarters of Accountants Price Waterhouse, which sequestered the South Wales Miners' Funds. As the newspaper reported, the block had been reinforced with anti-scaling equipment and was guarded by fiftysome security agents. About 6000 of equipment, including hammers, drills, saws, and hairdryers was carried past the startled staff. Lots were equipped and carried matches, and all the keys were lifted from the security guard's desk. Everyone knew their task and skillfully completed it.

Not that everything was perfect. The security guard managed to regain entry to the foyer before all the equipment had been moved in. The elevators were too small to easily accommodate the 8' by 4' metal sheeting. An officer had to be ejected from the premises as the occupation got under way. It proved impossible to commandeer all three lifts for the 13th floor and so that area came under police control sooner than planned. An early casualty was a man who was arrested at the Hire Desk as they were returning the very team which arrived at the premises.

In spite of those reverses the operation was a complete success. The fire doors leading to the common stairway were nailed up. The twelve had captured the office of Price Waterhouse and were securely barricaded in. The police arrived at 7.30am and could see only real estate agents at the steel doors out in the corridor as those inside calmly outlined the reasons for their occupation.

For this was no exercise in bravado but a serious social act. The anarchists were convinced of the need for direct action against Price Waterhouse. Contrary to popular report, this Company did not simply carry out a mundane legal job of sequestration against the miners, they entered into the fight with all the commitment of parties. Price Waterhouse has repeatedly been shown not only further than their Law demanded. Not content with seizing the £350,000 administrative funds belonging to the South Wales Miners' Funds and money collected for hardship cases, food and ration, they entered into the fight with all the resources at their command.

By 8.30am a senior police officer was knocking at the door seeking to negotiate. He was told:

1) That his men had threatened to burn the building down.
2) That PW were arming themselves.
3) That PW would not simply carry out a mundane legal job of sequestration against the miners; they entered into the fight with all the resources at their command.

The group hope that the action has helped forge closer links between Clydean Anarchists and the miners for whom they have campaigned and collected more than £2,000. Perhaps it will galvanise more workers into direct action and show them that defence against the boss is not confined within the narrow limits of branch resolutions and letter-to-MPs campaigns but includes the proletariat's instinct for self-defence.

The next several hours were spent in talks with the South Wales Miners' headquarters by phone and via Man Outside the Door. The Door, perched on top of an eight storey block, was an open-eye-open. This multi-million pound outfit has accountancy as only a small part of its business. It concentrates on handling takeovers, mergers and takeovers of companies, buying and selling other companies, etc. It was clear that a big percentage of the big mono-polies are clients of PW.

One of the Aborigines claimed the building around 12 but almost all resisted the temptation of PW's extra cellular bars, '79, not a great year, but...'. Leaflets were scattered at 5 min intervals. Supporters were going up and down the streets and trying to contact the agencies contacted about the occupation and the reasons for it. The South Wales NUM repeatedly repulsed locally and were delighted by the action. Meanwhile, the cops were bored and were boring. Stealthily, they were trying to gain access, but the group had been nailed up – it was the subject of a superb piece of civil engineering by the Castlemilk Constructors (unemployed).

A former miner who lived around 12 also contributed to the building's defence, to which the miners added their willingness to release identified funds.

The discussions within the South Wales NUM revealed that they were not prepared to identify those seized funds which were for the relief of hardship. They claimed that to do so would be to recognise the Courts which was contrary to union policy and in conflict with the Wembley Conference decisions which had been reinforced by the Brighton TUC the previous day. One of the team, Emric (Malatsta) in speaking to Emlyn Williams (SNUM) observed that they were in the court (not to recognise any Court, however, the Anarchists did not see their task as that of making demands of the miners but of exposing the scab output of Price Waterhouse.

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