FEEDBACK

ANARCHIST ARCHIVES: Please send any material (books, pamphlets, posters and journals) to LONDON DOCUMENTATION CENTRE, c/o 121 Railton Road, London SE 24. Details of material held will be compiled and will be released shortly.

DARLINGTON ELECTION FARCE

Some of us hope to become involved in the farce at Darlington and we would be grateful for any ideas and/or material. Also if there are any comrades in the far North who want to help they will most welcome.

Contact Ian at Box A, c/o Red & Black Bookshop, 120 Victoria Rd, Middlesbrough, Cleveland.

RECEIVED "ROOTED IN SECRECY", by Joan Coxedge, Ken Callcott and Gary Harant. This book provides insight into the way secret intelligence agencies manipulate politics. It demonstrates how the global intelligence network, dominated by the USA, is an alternative government that transcends national governments. It also shows how the Australian government and its security forces are implicated in the murder of a Yugoslav diplomat and how 3 men were framed for the Commonwealth Heads of Govt. Conference bombing at the Hilton Hotel in Australia. "Rooted in Secrecy" is available from Joan Coxedge, 81 Irvine Street, Footscray, Victoria, 3011. Australia at £9 per copy (including P&P).

Cheques etc. payable to: Joan Coxedge.

AVAILABLE BACK ISSUES

Over 300 copies of various back-issue newspapers and pamphlets ranging from Open Road, Fish Out of Water, Multi-racial Education, VD and Birth Control etc. This material is available to any persons or organisation that are interested. Please enclose a 30 pence stamp and a large envelope to Glasgow Bookshop Collective, 488 Great Western Road, Glasgow.

MIGUEL GARCIA'S STORY

Edited by A. Meltzer. £1.00 per copy. Available from Refract Publications, BM Refract, London WCIN 3XX or from Black Flag, c/o Box ABC, 121 Railton Rd LONDON SE24. Cheques etc. made payable to "Refract Publications" or "Black Flag".

WHAT IS ASDNN?

The Anti-State Documentation and News Network, in relation to the Black Flag News Bulletin, will function as another channel for counter-information and news reports for publication in the Bulletin. The ASDNN Mailing List will also provide an Urgent News Mailing, regular updates on publishing projects/resources and the ASDNN Index, etc. For further details of these facilities see Black Flag Quarterly Vol. VII No.2, or write direct to: ASDNN, BM Hurricane, LONDON WCIN 3XX.

ANARCHIST BOOKS IN STOCKHOLM

Stockholms LS (SAC) Kakmakkargatan 47, 113 34 Stockholm

Goteborg (Sweden) Syndikalist Ergom Husagatan S, Haga 41302 Goteborg

AARHUS (Denmark) Ragnhems Andekraft Bogcafe Mejlinde 48 8000 Aarhus

NAMAZU JAPANESE ANARCHIST PAPER

The Japanese word for catfish is catfish legend being that a giant catfish sleeps under the Japanese islands and when it stirs, Japan gets an earthquake. The fact behind the myth is that the old belief that the behavior of catfish can be used to predict earthquakes is true. So the Japanese anarchist paper "Namazu" an English language bulletin hopefully indicates the social stirrings beneath Japanese society today. It is very informative-a social bulletin-predicts earthquakes in Japan. Its obtainable from left Bank, Seattle in the USA, Freedom and Housman's in London and no doubt others.

PIRATE RADIO

New legislation on pirate radio's is about to be introduced. Soon illegal transmission could mean a £1000 fine as well as prison sentences. During the last couple of weeks the cops have made raids on several radio stations, including 'Our Radio', which has an anarchist hour. 'Our Radio' broadcasts on FM 103.8; taped news items/programmes, donations, etc to: BM box 103, FM, London WCIN 3XX.

The trial of over 70 (mally Autonomia Opera members and ex-Prima Linea) has begun. They are charged with a long list of offences amounting to support of 'anti-state activities' and promoting insurrection. Initially the Italian state sought to implicate those arrested-many of whom have been held in 'preventative detention' for over 4 years- with the actions of the Red Brigades. During the period of detention charges have been dropped, new ones substituted/amended, repeatedly. Some defendants have been released, only to be re-arrested on different charges. Small wonder, therefore, that many critics of the Italian state, faced with this degree of onalloy on their liberty, have now placed themselves in voluntary exile. Few of the charges relate to specific acts or even conspiracy to commit 'specific acts'. Opposition to the state, according to the authorities, proof of complicity with those involved in or supporting armed struggle, acts of violence, etc. Although the RB connection is, we are told, no longer a feature of this trial, the state is determined to prejudice the conclusions as far as it can. Not only is the trial taking place in the same courtroom as the recently concluded RB trial, but the same jury has been called. The long term implications are that criticism of the state and 'criminal' action is by definition one and the same and therefore subject to the same laws and penalties. If you're not for the state, you're against it. Many governments will be watching the outcome of the trial with interest.

N.B. Significantly, perhaps, the trial takes place against a background of unofficial strike action mainly in the communications and transport industries in northern Italy, lasting from December through till February. The strikes-organised at factory-level have been condemned by political parties and union leaders alike and are part of the response by workers to the state's campaign of repression against its critics as well as functioning as a widespread protest against the decline in living standards and the creation of new poverty levels.

NEWS BULLETIN

THE NEW FORTNIGHTLY FROM BLACK FLAG
DON'T TRUST FORTE
The management of the Trust Houses Forte-owned Grosvenor Hotel in Pall Mall, London, has just sacked a number of shop stewards, for the simple reason that they approached the management for contracts of employment on behalf of the casual catering staff. Some of the "casual employees" have been working for the company for four years, but are not still eligible to negotiate with their employer or hold basic trade union rights.

Shortly after the shop stewards first meeting with management they were told that their services had been terminated. A list of planned sackings has come in the hands of the strikers on the picket line outside the hotel. The management has put up large banners saying "there is no strike at this hotel and the pickets are not our staff" - a blatant lie. They have also begun to hire agency staff.

The pickets have been harassed by the hotel security guards, are under surveillance and some have even had their placards personally torn up by Rocco Forte, a member of the Forte family.

The pickets demand reinstatement of the sacked workers and are leaving no passers-by and the bourgeois clientele of the Grosvenor who are hopefully getting indelignation having to stare at the picket line. A few people have decided not use the hotel, on hearing of the dispute.

The strike was backed by the General Miscellaneous Workers Union who are pressing for a tribunal to decide the definition of "casual labour". If the case sets a precedent it could open up a way for organising amongst casual catering staff in hotels around the country.

Until the case comes up in about twelve weeks, the pickets will continue. Any support - food, cigarettes, beer, and Telecom workers included threats to Telecom workers included threats to publicising the case. The Solicitor General was quoted as saying that there is a real risk that discriminatory or selective action could involve offences under this section" - in other words, wildcat (and unofficial) strikes. As in Poland, if you don't turn up to work you're against the state economy and therefore open to prosecution. It's a sort of totalitarian strategy that appeals to state socialists as much as to Capital.

N.B. Tactics used in Australia by Postal and Telecom workers included threats to handle Xmas mail without postage stamps and to refuse to maintain listening in free phone calls. The threat of prosecutions wasn't followed up. In Canada telephone workers occupied facilities linked into telephones and declared them to be 'under worker control'. This action also prevented attempts to criminalise employees. As they say, it ain't what you do its the way that you play it.

SICK PAY CUTS
In April Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) replaces National Insurance Sickness Benefit. In effect sick pay will be reduced all round by about 20%. This is because SSP, unlike NI sickness benefit, will be subject to lower limits. Also from April, for the first 8 weeks in any one tax year, the onus will strictly be on the employer to pay SSP and to make up the pay to the full amount for someone claiming, say, a married persons allowance and earning £120 per week net (after the usual deductions) only £83.33, while that person will only earn £101.33 paid out of the £103.33 paid out at present. The new arrangements thus serve as a penalty to all those who dare to inconvenience the employer by going sick. To date publicity about this drastic cut in living standards and hard earned and fought for basic entitlement has been scant.

TELECOM BILL
The new British Telecom bill will, for the first time in over 100 years, make strike action a criminal offence and may open up the state to criminalisation of industrial action taken by workers in nationalised industries. Although government ministers have refused to confirm or deny whether or not the clause will be in the official strike action, the Solicitor General was quoted as saying that there is a real risk that discriminatory or selective action could involve offences under this section" - in other words, wildcat (and unofficial) strikes. As in Poland, if you don't turn up to work you're against the state economy and therefore open to prosecution. It's a sort of totalitarian strategy that appeals to state socialists as much as to Capital.

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MORE CELL DEATHS
In the last issue of the Bulletin we reported on several deaths in custody. We are greatful to 'The Scorchcr' (a Cardiff based anarchist paper) for revealing news of other cell death tragedies.

On December 9 Simon Collins, aged 17, whose father was black and mother white and who lived in an area of London infamour for racist violence, was dragged into a local cop station for 'appearing' to be dead. He died the following morning and the inquest revealed that the cause of death was massive internal bleeding.

Hayes police station was the scene of the next cell death when on December 12 John Sime was held for being drunk. Two days later, after being rushed to hospital, he died of bronchial-pneumonia. Bruises were found on his head.

On December 15 Anthony Manetta was remanded in Cardiff Prison on a minor charge. Not long after being told by prison staff that it was inevitable he'd end up getting a minimum of 18 months, and in a fit of depression, he attempted to injure himself by pushing his head through a window in his cell. His neck was lacerated and blood spurted all over the place, but he had no hopes of surviving the immediate death. His cellmate desperately called for help and rang the cell emergency number. There was no response and it was probable that the bell had been jammed so that the screws wouldn't be disturbed. His cellmate then tried every possible means to get assistance: banging on the door, smashing the cell furniture, calling to other inmates in other cells to call as much noise as possible. After a while an attendant came, but having no keys had to go and find some screws who had. When the screws eventually appeared and saw through the door what had happened they opened the door, but of his head and his body had been removed. Once inside the cell they made no attempt to help Manetta or minister basic first aid, presuming wrongly that that he had a chance. They then casually arranged for him to be taken to hospital where he finally died. Altogether 40 minutes passed from the moment the alarm was raised to the moment Manetta was moved out of the cell. Had it been a death which needn't have happened. Even at the last moment had he been given even some attention he may have been alive today. The inquest, inevitably, whitewashed the whole thing, blaming the delays on the 'fauty' buzzer, instead of, as is obvious, police negligence.

Source: 'The Scorchcr'
France

The problem of free radio in France is far from resolved. Since July 1982, the so-called free radio has not arrived at a position on free radio. Day by day the free radios disappear to make way for the local private radio stations (controlled by associations dependent on political parties). Radio Liberte, the voice of the French Anarchist Fed. remains one of the only radios to defend freedom of expression and resist the Govt. On February 1, the Govt. published a list of radios which will have the right to transmit. In this list R.I. remains and is recognised. This was achieved by pressure from militants of the F.A.F. and listeners of R.I. (about 100,000 per day). But the Govt. wants to force us to share our frequency with other radios. This move is aimed to reduce our possibilities of expression. If we refuse the State will outlaw us and we will be represssed.

In the face of the firm determination of the French State to prohibit anarchist expression we may once again need to call for a large display of international solidarity.

ACTION DIRECTE-NEWSFLASH

As we go to press we learn that 4 people have been arrested in connection with AD actions: Marie Aline Felkin (English), Alain Carpenter, Jean Marc Niang (both French), and Rachid Hebbib (Algerian). Watch this space for more details.

GREECE LATE NEWS

Comrade Melitis, sentenced to life plus 21 years imprisonment (see Black Flag News Bulletin 24), can be contacted at Klisti Filafi Kerkiras (Kerkira Prison), Corfu, Greece.

Other comrades charged with bombings and membership of a terrorist group come up for trial on March 8. Full details, we hope, next issue.

BRAZIL

An FNT (National Labour Federation) has been formed. It is not intended to become yet another union central but to sponsor and foster a free trade union movement outside the control of the State or of the parties. Its founders are drawn from Christian groups. The effervescence in labour circles has put the Communist Party in a bit of a dilemma. In Sao Paulo, the CP followers of Joaquim das Santas Andrade are backing the official 'corporatist' unions. But in Sao Bernardo the CP followers (socialist-communist govt.) have not.

The recently formed PI (Labor Party) advocates a "solidaristic socialism" and also has its roots in progressive Catholic circles. It opposes the Official Unions...but can one, ultimately, trust those organisations? The anarchist labour movement, which formed a massive syndicalist union in Brazil, was reduced to almost nothing by a succession of military dictatorships, whose first training in war was against the libertarian workers.

GREECE

Some months ago four anarchist comrades in Athens formed the A Gallery group, aimed towards building an international documentation centre. On March 19, the group was ordered by the Govt. to send all the anarchist and libertarian material from around the world. Apart from this the group supplied information on the Greek anarchist movement to the rest of the world, they produced anarchist leaflets and papers in Greek to contacts around the world. Unfortunately this was followed by the replaying of radio by people who spread rumours and slanders about A Gallery. The culmination of this personal animosity was a verbal attack on the group by Leonidas Christakis in his magazine Thanatos (March 1983). This month in Order in Order (Read in Order To Read). The article not only attacks A Gallery and doubts the groups honesty, it slanders the International Anarchist Addressbook, Greek anarchists as well as any other 'international information exchangers, all in a'more anarchist than thou' attitude. Due to these attacks and the lack of support from other anarchists the A Gallery group decided to disband their project. They say they don't know whether to feel disgust or disappointment.

We have asked the group to state that in all our dealings with the A Gallery comrades we have found them honest and committed. We sent them material free. They sent us free material. The exchange was equal and fair. They did not sell off the A Gallery comrades were spending around £320 a month, out of their pockets on the project. The group have offered to return all material back to people who have sent them, they can keep ours.

We feel its a pity that the group allowed an inside remark to get them down. Its obvious that some people who call themselves anarchists have got nothing to do with anarchism. Lies and slanders to cause splits and ill-feeling amongst other anarchists are police tactics, intentionally or unintentionally.

P.F. for 121/Black Flag

Yet there always remains a nostalgia for the 'genuine syndicalism' among Brazilian workers. Some comrades are trying under exceptionally difficult circumstances to re-build the workers' movement, which is in Brazil, to say, the anarchist movement.

They have formed a 'social studies cente centre' publishing anarchist pamphlets and a magazine, but very poorly printed what they need is an offset litho.

DIRECT ACTION MOVEMENT

We have volunteered to help them from this country. The anarchist Black Cross has in the past sent up to a total of 50 individual offsets and duplicators to Spain, some of which are still in use. Thus the post-franco movement got off the ground not be difficult or beyond our resources to send an offset press to Brazil, notwithstanding the high transport problems. Direct Action will be doing just this. South London DAM are writing to Brazil for specifications of what type of offset they can use. We hope that before the year is out we shall be able to read a Brazilian magazine printed on the press we have sent.

NIGERIA

350,000 sheep and 18,000 cattle, of which 6,000 were dairy cattle were destroyed in the bush fires in Victoria Australia. This is reckoned among other matters, as a great financial disaster.

What would have been said if some nutcase had deliberately driven over the Nigerian frontier a horde of beasts of this magnitude, or even greater - say a million head of sheep and cattle, including valuable dairy cows? Even "his" long-suffering people would rise and denounce such a lunatic.

But not so if the hordes driven over his frontier were not beasts of burden including valuable producers and breeders, as was done by Nigeria's military rulers. There was dancing in the street as people of Nigeria demonstrated the very racialism they decry in other countries as they drove out the so-called 'immigrants' - who, we were assured solemnly, were responsible for all the crime and unemployment.

How does this come about that animal is preferred to human? This could not have happened if the humans had been slaves and so worth a valuable sum a head - as indeed the "immigrants" were to the Nigerian chiefs when they were selling them off to slaves a couple of centuries and less, ago. But they were "free" - and therefore valueless. Yet the worth of a human being is in calculable. The madness of nationalism, as a poison ivy covering the State, says that too many people is a disaster.

DIRECT ACTION: Canada

Five comrades were arrested on Feb 21, accused of being involved in the Direct Action bombing of the Vancouver Island Power Plant. The trial has been prejudiced by a huge police and media campaign accusing the five of being anarchists (Is that a crime?). For more info write Montreal Citizens for Survival C.P. no. 2, Succ. La Cite, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H2N 2M9 or contact the five comrades: Taylor, Gerald Hannah, Ann Hansen, Juliet Belmas and Douglas Steward at Lower Mainland Regional Correction Centre, Drawer O, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada, V5M 3N4
**Prison STRIKE**

As we go to press, 500 prisoners on the Isle of Wight in Albany and Parkhurst prisons, together with a number of prisoners in Wakefield and Gartree, have gone on strike and have refused to work. After a couple of days prisoners in Long Lartin (over half the inmate population there) also joined in the strike. The prisoners demands include: 3 hour association periods, the right to receive weekly supplies of clothes and supplementary food parcels (a right, by the way, that was even allowed in Franco's jails), the right to wear personal clothing, and remission to commence as soon as half the sentence has been completed, instead of two-thirds as it is now. These demands, if met, would then bring conditions for prisoners in the rest of the UK to fight for these basic reforms.

The campaign for parity has in fact been developing for almost two years with petitions being smuggled out and presented, through PLUK (now NPM), to the Home Office and to the past few months the idea of concerted strike action has been sounded out throughout the prison population via 'stiffs' (notes from prison to prison). News of the planned strike was eventually leaked out through the Daily Mail's police sources and the echoes of that known paramilitary lot, the Revolutionary (sic) Communist Group (who, by the way, support Jarulski's stand in Poland). The RCG's paper, 'Fight Fascism/Fight Imperialism', decided to play their Irish card once again and print a piece outlining the campaign (as self-appointed spokespersons of all prisoners), linking the then unannounced with their (RCG) campaign for solidarity with anti-imperialism in Ireland. The RCG are, of course, experts at demanding solidarity, victory to this or that victory to that, as long as they don't have to actually do anything. The Press of course loved it. The RCG had provided them with the ideal diversion and they proceeded to blame the strike on a) the trots and their propaganda machine and b) the Irish Solidarity Movement. The RCG (or was it the RCP-same difference) managed to bring off a similar coup during the last Brixton riot when they tried to take all the credit, through the deliberate manipulation of the Media (who adore them), for 'leading' the disaffected blacks and squatters into street rebellion. The implication—that people need to be led, or shown the way—is both vanguardist and authoritarian and detestable. They have shown these same tendencies with the prison strike, only paying attention to 'ordinary' prisoners when it suits their political ambitions. The truth is, of course, that, despite RCG's fuck-up, the strike had nothing to do with them, was organised without their help by the prisoners themselves and through their own resources, in a way that diverges with Irish Nationalism and more to do with Irish Nationalism and more to do with the prisoners awareness of their own political status.

**S.A.S.**

The lengthy article on the activities of the S.A.S. written by Stuart Christie for the Anarchist Review No. 4, has been reprinted in full in the regimental magazine of the S.A.S. They add to caustic remark to the effect that if anyone is thinking of suing, Elenburgers Press is in the "verge of bankruptcy" (the wish being perhaps father to the thought).

According to the "Sunday Times" the reason was "they thought it was rather flattering". Or is it possible that inner rivalries prompted the desire to publish something that exposed many individual people by name?

**FIREBOMBINGS**

A cop station in Attleborough, Norfolk, was firebombed on Friday (March 4). Two offices were extensively damaged. Readers in East Anglia are requested to send in more details.

A restaurant fire at Kingsbridge, near Plymouth, was recently destroyed by fire. The building was at first only partially damaged, but 4 days later a second serious fire started in the kitchen and this finished it off. Police suspect arson.

**THE NEW FASCISTS—Paul Wilkinson**

A book that I think all anarchists should read. The title is "The New Fascists" by Paul Wilkinson. Published by Grant McIntyre, 1967. The book has recently been reprinted. A need for a critical review of the book is urgent. Here is one.

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**Karl Marx & the GLC**

The GLC plan a series of meetings and events in London to commemorate the centenary of Karl Marx's death. Predictably the Conservations Opposition has been unable to come up with a plan of their own, partly because they thought he was pro-Russian. If there was one thing in which he was consistent, it was his anti-Russianism (even though the late Revolution).

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According to the "Sunday Times" the reason was "they thought it was rather flattering". Or is it possible that inner rivalries prompted the desire to publish something that exposed many individual people by name?

**Ralph Churchill**

Ralph Churchill believed that if you read "Das Kapital" you could find the whole key to German fascism. The Opposition spokesperson, Mr Stanley Bolton, gave himself away, however, when he remarked, "We don't owe anything to the German opposition. Without Hapo and his brothers there would be no Fascism."

"In "The Origins of the Anarchist Movement in China.""