New Publications

RESISTANCE No. 5 Winter 1983

OPEN ROAD Winter 1983 Canadian Anarchist Newspaper, 50p From Open Road, Box 6135, Station C, Vancouver, Canada. 46R AGS.

PROCESSED WORLD No. 7, San Francisco small magazine for offire workers, 75p, From A Distribution, 45b Whitechapel High St. London. 1.

QUIET RUMOURS Collection of Anarchist Feminist Writings. Dark Star Publication. £1.50 from A. Dist.

THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST March 1983 30p/Donation. From Sheffield Liberator Society, PO Box 168, Sheffield.


WRITINGS ON ANARCHO-SYNDICALISM 2nd edition in preparation. From 121 Bookshop.

NOBODY RULES OK! Views of the Dublin Anarchist Collective. From: Steve Woods, 46, Amiens Street, PO Box 1305, Dublin, Ireland.

Resistance Magazine March issue. Send use to Box G19, 40 Lower Ormond Quay, Dublin. Ireland.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: Although there is a similar BM address (WC1N 3XX) IRIS and the ASDNN groups are separate and distinct bodies. All IRIS correspondence should continue to be directed via BCM REFRACT, London WC1N 3XX.

FEEDBACK

121 Bookshop Anarchist Centre
121 Bookshop is facing eviction. Lambeth Council, who own the building have given us until the 3rd May to vacate the premises. Letters of protest can be sent to: Me Nigel Baker, London Borough of Lambeth, Directorate of Housing, Hambrook House, Porden Road, London SW2 BRX. Ph. 01-274 7722 ext. 2460. In the meantime the collective have said they will be looking for alternative premises but intend to fight to retain the premises.

NEAF NWAF CONFERENCE
Held in Leeds on 26th March. 50-60 people attended from all over the North and the Midlands. A proposal to form a Northern Federation was rejected on the grounds that it was too premature at the present moment. It was decided to have an Anarchist Day/Demonstration on November 11th in Manchester. (Last year when this idea was discussed, it got quite a lot of support but alas, never got off the ground). It will be organised by the Manchester 88. For further information contact NEAF or NWAF.

NEAF Box 168 Sheffield 1
NWAF 24 Garston Old Road Liverpool 19.

RESEARCH PROJECT
We are currently undertaking research on the ideological relationship between nationalism and national liberation, struggles and the possibility of strategic links between fascist paramilitary organisations and 'left' vanguardist groups (e.g. instances of direct collaboration, common sources of aid/funding, etc). All contributions to this project are welcome. However, no information received will be taken as reliable unless confirmed by at least one other independent source. We are interested in facts not unsubstantiated opinions.

ASDNN BM HURRICANE LONDON WC1N 3XX

PETERBOROUGH
Anarchists have squatted a centre in their town of Peterborough. More news next issue.

DIRECT ACTION

CANDADA

More news about the five arrested (Julie Belmas, Gerry Hannah, Ann Hansen, Doug Stewart, Brent Taylor). Charges include: the bombing of a British Columbia Hydro Electric sub-station on Vancouver Island, the fire-bombing of 3 video porn stores (see below), conspiracy to bomb a Proposed Cruise Missile testing site, and conspiracy to rob a Brinks security truck. The police are also seeking to implicate the five with the Litton Systems plant bombing in Toronto where cruise missile parts are manufactured.

Anarchist prisoners Kyriacos Miras and Photis Danatos have begun a hunger strike in Korydalu Prison, near Piraeus. The comrades have asked us for our support. Please send protests, etc. to the Greek Embassy at 1a Holland Park, London W11 or to Korydalu Prison, Piraeus, Greece. (We hope to have more details for the next issue of the News Bulletin). Source: PP.

BlackFlag Anarchist Black Cross VOL VII No. 20 8/4/83

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RANK AND FILE

Irland

Workers at the Dublin factory of Rank (part of the Rank-Hovis-McDougall chain) are currently engaged in a lengthy confrontation fighting for the continuation and future security of their jobs. Despite making a profit last year of at least £38m, Rank's decided to 'rationalise' its labour costs and to enforce a radical redundancy programme. However, the crunch came when the management informed the workforce that they would not be able to abide by the redundancy terms, jointly agreed to with the unions; instead many workers would find themselves without a job, with a paltry sum of redundancy pay, and no earnings related (no longer available).

The rationalisation plan was rejected outright and strike action soon followed. Rank's then announced that they would close down the firm regardless, and this left the workers with no other option but to OCCUPY. Within days of the occupation a court injunction was slapped on those involved and 14 were arrested under the new Illegal Occupations law. Their union-the ICU-refused to back them. The radicals' appeal to the courts on the grounds that their action constituted a 'direct challenge to the State' was lost, and they were forced to capitulate and remove the injunction, thus freeing the 14. The battle, however, was by no means over and on their release the 14 went straight back to the plant to continue the occupation. To date, neither the future of the factory and the jobs, nor the rationalisation terms have been resolved and the dispute continues. There is no denying, however, that these events have lifted the consciousness of workers throughout Dublin against the imprisonment of the 14 charged under the new Illegal Occupations law. The courts consisted a direct challenge to the law and may make the State think twice about provoking such further actions of mass solidarity.

Source: Resistance

SCABS

What have Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Sir Richard Attenborough, Alan 'Boys from the Blackstuff' Bleasdale & Bernard 'Yosser' Will all got in common? They've all crossed the picket line at the Grosvenor Hotel. The various Royals you expect to cross the line, but the Blackstuff lads? Surely not these concerned left-wing, working class heroes? Of course they did, they had to pick up TV awards didn't they? Why they even made moving speeches in support of those on the dole. In support of the workers no less. Whilst the real life workers were picketing outside. Of course, radical TV personalities are excused, huh, they should be kicked in the teeth for what they've done. Anyone who crosses a line is a SCAB.

The management of the Grosvenor Hotel have come up with a new trick to further isolate the pickets. They've a Court Injunction, on the name of 2 union members, to stop any unofficial pickets. This means anyone who joins the picket in support of the workers (as many anarchists have done) is liable to bring heavy fines on the heads of two union members. The union is looking into the legal intricacies of the matter. But perhaps its time to move onto a different plane of support. New tactics should be looked at now.

Source: SDAM

Noveltext, has started producing an item called a Yosserband—made of sponge rubber, which fits across the forehead, enabling the wearer to 'not' their head without sustaining too much self-mutilation, other than a slight bruise or the occasional recurring headache. (This is not a joke). Noveltext claims to already have over 5000 orders for the device.

FORTHCOMING

WANESWORTH INQUESTS

J.K. Johnstone: 'death by misadventure'. He had been given a 'liquid c.o.sh' a very large dose of Largactyl tranquiliser for 'schizophrenia' afterwards 'hanged in cell'. '...the dose was not particularly high...he was a very sick man...a liquid c.o.sh is used the world over...to make prisoners quiet. He died on Feb 20.

A £20 note counterfeiter died from a blood clot caused by septicaemia: 'death from natural causes'. Mr J. Bhadresa 52 also died on Feb 20 after complaining of pain all over and was treated with antibiotics. He died on Feb 20.

Prison doctor Ian Griffiths treated both these people who happened to die on the same day.

Black: the most beautiful colour for within its depths is contained every colour and colours never seen or dreamed of.

Black: for hope, for the poorest who have nothing and therefore nothing to lose and everything to gain in its blackness.

Black: the flag of no country, of no one people, of no armies, of no government, because one day the stars will shine Black, the sky will shine Black.

We have heard that a Croydon firm, Noveltext, has started producing an item called a Yosserband—made of sponge rubber, which fits across the forehead, enabling the wearer to 'not' their head without sustaining too much self-mutilation, other than a slight bruise or the occasional recurring headache. (This is not a joke). Noveltext claims to already have over 5000 orders for the device.

PRISONS

BRIXTON SHUFFLE

At present there are 770 persons on remand in Brixton prison. Last year 75,000 people passed through the cells, which is to say 500 per day! Many have to share a 'one man cell' with two others, some even sleep in the corridor and forced drugging by injection of tranquillisers such as largactyl 'the liquid c.o.sh' is frequent!
Women protest against pornography using graffiti on a shopfront in Oxford.

CANADA - Womens Fire Brigade

On 22 November last year, 3 'Red Hot Video' porn stores, which sold/rented films depicting women being beaten, raped, tortured, and generally degraded, were firebombed. The actions were claimed by the 'Womens Fire Brigade' and were taken as a final resort after many months of widespread protest and petitioning for the closure of the chains of stores to be closed down.

Strategically the actions were both well timed and coordinated and were seen to be fully integrated within the wider protest. As a result the actions received little criticism from the non-violent elements (as if that matters anyway) and women's groups throughout Canada demonstrated their solidarity in the streets. Demonstrations and the WFB actions, 6 closures were to follow. Many more closures were to follow. Source 'Open Road'.

Spain

VALENCIA FLOOD AID

In the last news bulletin we referred to the work of the CNT in co-operation with SIA in distributing food, clothing and medicine to the Valencia flood victims. We were able to get some photos:

HISTORIA libertaria

It was revealed that Louis Darquier de Pellepoix, the French fascio who collaborated with the Germans - whom Pierre Laval considered too extreme to include in the Vichy Government, but later came in as Commissioner for Jewish Affairs, and who ran a paper 'Je suis partout' to denounce the 'righteous Gentiles' who aided in the concentration camps of the Spanish Anarchists. On the one hand, he had been sentenced to death in France in his absence in 1947 but escaped to Spain where he had the protection of General Franco. He hid from the Spanish Authorities when he was 16 years old; finally he made it to the land of the free, Britain. What happened then? He was arrested and put in the notorious Ashford Remand Centre (remember Carston Campbell and Jim Hayes?). Papusiou began a hunger strike in protest at his ill-treatment, and was transferred to the hospital wing. There, on the 24th of November last year, he was attacked and beaten up by screws. Four days later he was beaten up again. Papusiou was later put on a plane and sent back to Rumania against his will. The Rumanian Authorities had made it clear that they did not want him back. Stancu Papusiou was the sort of person no State wants, a worker who fights back if he had been an academic, middle-class intellectual he would have been welcomed here with open arms. But as an uppity worker he has been imprisoned and beaten up on both sides of the Iron Curtain. When it comes down to it, the working class is shit on by all sides, the politics of the arsehole makes no difference.

Sauce: Noamnesty International

GERMANY R.A.F Prisoners

Christine Klar and Bridgette Mohnahaupt have been arrested and charged with complicity in several Red Army Fraction actions; namely: the assassination in 1979 of Seigfried Buback (the former Chief Public Prosecutor—who was responsible for the imprisonment of many RAF and other guerrillas); the kidnapping in 1977 of Jurgen Ponto (head of Dresdner Bank—the 2nd largest in W. Germany), and the assassination attempt in 1981 on US General Kroesen (NATO C-in-C). The trial is expected to take place in Stuttgart.

During the world war thousands of refugees used the Spanish route to escape from Hitler. They were guided over the Pyrenees by Resistance people, largely of the CNT, and directed into small hotels and pensions in Barcelona, from which they got by forged passports onto foreign boats. The principle was that those who had money, paid for the service and kept the libertarian resistance going. Those who had nothing but their anti-fascism or their status of being persecuted to recommend them, were taken over for nothing. The refugees got the bill for escaping soldiers and airmen (and reckoned the debt discharged by the financial payment). The Allii did nothing politically and in the end betrayed the resistance. The floods of refugees were an embarrassment to Franco. Where he had sent them back. But he did not wish to fall out with the Allies. Sometimes the Falange - outraged at this official "bureaucratic delay"- hauled out the refugees from their beds and beat them up, or left them dying.

To prevent this, Franco set up special concentration camps for escapes and refugees, classified according to political opinion, racial category or military affiliation. Nothing like as bad as the concentration camps of Hitler — as the defeated or the civil war — they were all the same criminals who were aided by Franco in his absence in 1947 but escaped to Spain when he had the protection of the Rumanian Authorities. Papusiou was later put on a plane and sent back to Rumania, against his will.

Today you will find in Israel tribes to 'righteous Gentiles' who aided in the escape of Jewish refugees from Hitlerian camps. You will find a trace of recognition of the Spanish Anarchists. On the contrary, you will find a propaganda against the Musik in the world of the world in its struggle with a vicious and mortal enemy.
On Wednesday 23rd March at 9.30pm the police and Home Office raided a flat in Deptford South London. They seized the transmitter and other equipment. After 4 failed attempts the Home Office had at last got Our Radio. The 5 week hunt had used 4 cars loads of men, a van, use of tracking equipment, night binoculars, phone tapping and heavy backing from police forces across London, even the police helicopter was used. In all probably £30,000, to take a £150 transmitter...An open access pirate which included Radio Solidarnosc (half in Polish), Women on the Waves, Gaywaves a magazine published by Homogenous (which in part covered news of London's 40,000 squatters)...future plans were to include shows made by Black People's Action Group (whose premises were bombed by fascists recently), a Greenham support group and many music projects. A recent public meeting by Our Radio was well attended, but they need help. They want all sympathisers to send a little cash so they can continue to: OUR RADIO, BM Box 703 FM, London WC7N3XX

HISTORY OF ATTACKS

Wed Dec 15th 82, O.R. Transmitter seized in Kilburn. One person arrested and later fined £80, equipment was seized. (Off air for 5 weeks Treating) Wed Feb 23rd 83, tower block in Bermondsey raided, O.R. escape by running down 15 floors and hiding in a cupboard. Wed March 2nd 83, laptop was out but Home Office watch with night glasses & a police helicopter "buzzes" about Deptford. Wed March 9th 83, in Camden after 1 hour a raid but O.R. escaped. Wed March 16 83 after barely 30 minutes on air, O.R. hide their equipment safely & escape from a North London site as 5 vans loads of Home Office await police backup. Wed March 23rd 83. Using Deptford again, O.R. set up a dummy transmitter which contained a light bulb, 2 cans of lager, and a note "Better luck next time Eric, here's a consolation prize", Eric Gotts is the head of the Home Office pirate squad. Police come straight to the flat after Home Office observe with night glasses. Equipment seized, detain the occupant for 3 hours then illegally evict him.

Our Radio have produced a pamphlet: HOW TO BUILD YOUR OWN PIRATE RADIO STATION. The first edition has sold out and a second issue is planned: BCM Box BCM Box 103 FM, London WC1N 3XX

LETTER BOMBS

As reported in the last News Bulletin, 'Makhno's Anarchist Army' claimed responsibility for the 2 letter bombs that were sent to the US Naval HQ in Mayfair and to No.10 Downing Street. The anti-militarist basis behind these actions is apparent and within days of the attacks a counter device was sent to CND Luminary, Bruce Kent; this was later claimed by a group called by itself the 'English Peoples Liberation Army'. There is no monopoly, of course, on the use of particular techniques to demonstrate resistance/counter-resistance, nor is there nothing to prevent right-wing organisations from capitalising and making full use of the media spectacle arising from the spate of letter-bombs sent over the last few weeks to various targets.

Back in 1981 letter-bombs were sent to Thatcher and claimed by an organisation called the 'English Reforming Army' (a name extremely similar to that used by the group that sent the letter-bomb to Bruce Kent. The ERA bombs were all posted in the same way, and was later revealed that there may have been a connection between those responsible and the VMD (Belgian fascist organisation). The League of St George (UK based fascist group) has previously done unite in their opposition to CND-who they see as a Soviet puppet-and over the last year or so attacks against anti-nuke groups have been on the increase, the most notable being the firebombing of the SRECM (Scottish Campaign to Resist the Atomic Menace) HQ in Edinburgh. All in all, the anti-foreign aid we-can-do-it-alone stance that the nationalist organisations have taken has an almost anti-imperialist ring to it (the 'foreign aggressor' being anyone that is not of the 'nation' and its indigenous 'culture') and from their point of view places their struggle within the definable bounds of a national liberation package. To everyone surprise, but ours, a future English National Liberation Movement may turn out to have right-wing roots and not, necessarily, develop automatically out of a 'left-wing' rebellion (Were Trotskyists, Marxists ever left-wing?). NB We have no further information to that reported in the national press about the 16 year old boy who has been charged with sending a letter bomb to Margaret Thatcher (yet another one). The case is, of course, sub-judice.

The Peace Protesters CND Prefers To Ignore

Two "counter-cruise cosmic carnival" protesters who knocked down several posts at Greenham Common were given 3 month custodial sentences. The group contained nearly £10,000 worth of damage to a dummy cruise missile with arms arrested and sledge-hammers. They threatened and threw stones at police who tried to stop them. The carnival had no connection with the Greenham women's peace camp.

Source: Reading 85

'NEW BRITAIN PARTY' - PICKET

There was a strong picket (DPM/lefty dominated, but with a strong libertarian presence as well) outside Slough Town Hall on 26 March to counter a conference there by the fascist New Britain Party. The picket attempted to blockade the entrance to the hall and prevent the poorly attended conference from taking place. The police waded into the picket line, pushing people aside, kicking and punching some of those demonstrating. However, when they tried to make arrests on individuals, the crowd were quickly encircled, fought off, and those who had been grabbed were freed. The NBP followers tend to be posh, respectable, ultra-right-wing Tory types and a constant reminder that the NBP is a fascist group. They armed themselves with clubs, smashed windows, kicked and punched some of those who made barricades. The police were quickly encircled, fought off, and those who had been grabbed were freed. There were some arrests, but they were of the more legitimate kind - like those of the kind of issues that the Freedom Association is keen on pushing. Both the NBP and the FA provide the unacceptable face of toyzism that the so-called 'wets' would not like to admit to, but they are often used by the Conservative Party to help push through changes in the law-especially anti-union legislation-or to challenge workers resistance (eg the Grunwick dispute). They are the kind of toyzism that would support theought of policies useless organisatiuns, such as the NF or the BNP, would propagate and because of their 'respectability' (they like to suck up to local dignitaries) at the Slough conference the town mayor acted as host) they tend to get away with a hell of a lot more. A point where big business and reactionary politics can combine to their comfort and without (Slough being one of the exceptions) drawing too much attention to their insidious activities.

Source: a Thames Valley anarchist, et al