FEEDBACK

New Publications

ANARCHIST WOMEN GATHER

There has been lots of discussion about anarchism and feminism, and after the last Black Flag readers meeting it was felt that a discussion weekend would be a good idea. Therefore the first weekend in September, 26th and 27th, will be the weekend for the debate taking place in Doncaster.

Saturday will be for women to discuss the issue without the men, although they are quite free to hang around if they wish. Sunday will be a mixed discussion. Although we are not necessarily separatists most of the women who put forward the idea felt separate initiatives were important. For further info. contact: A-Feminist Group, Box V, LAP, 59 Cookridge Street, Leeds. Or telephone: 0302 859015 (Jasqui).

CP LOGO

The Communardsckie is out-of-date now, says the British CP, what few British peasants to mobilise and not all that many workers, so they are running a £10 token as the prize for the best design for the official emblem. Send those abusive letters/symbols to C.P. HQ at 16 Regnard, 22 rue St. Paul, 75004 Paris. France. A.T.

ABC/BP

I have just read the 12/8/83 BFNB and I have to say that your emphasis disturbed me - your emphasis on covering news of racist attacks. I was particularly disturbed by your coverage of the Black man who was badly beaten (but I think it was the wrong Black man) when he came to the aid of a woman who was being raped - that was the point of the story wasn't it? No mention of the same concerning attacks on women. You take the trouble to find out about racist attacks; you could do particularly about attacks on women.

We found your letter interesting and acknowledge some of your criticisms although we are very dependent on what news comes in from our readers/contacts. Anarchist women in B.Flag have always quite free to hold their own, and Sunday abusive letters/symbols to C.P. HQ at 16 ABC/BP.


S.M.O.T.

Contact has been established with the banned USSR trade union SMOT. Donations can be sent via Odive Reynard, 22 rue St. Paul, 75004 Paris, France.

VOLYA No 7 10 pages 1op. The Information Bulletin on Eastern Europe & the USSR was formerly the Campaign for Solidarity with the Soviet Working Class. Polish/Afghan solidarity/Scargill vs Soviet dissident miners, News from the communist dictatorships and reviews. Volya plan to bring out a pamphlet out on in Bulgaria this autumn. In the future Volya intends to reproduce 'Mukhtar & Anjum' (a samizdat of recent origin), and 'Hungary 1956'. Subs: £2 UK; £3 overseas; £5 supporting to T. Liddle, 83 Gregory Crescent, Eltham, London SE9 5RZ.

ANARCHIST BLACK DRAGON

ANARCHIST BLACK DRAGON: supports and provides solidarity to prisoners. Its regular newsletter is published by prisoners with the help of friends outside. The first issues were put together by the ABD collective inside Walla Walla State Penitentiary. Other issues have been put together by groups in Seattle, Montreal, Wisconsin, Toronto (Ann Hanon of the Vancouver 5 helped with issue 6) and San Francisco. Copies of the newsletter were sent free to prisoners and outsiders were relied upon to foot the bill. For more information about the Anarchist Black Dragon please contact: John Bosch, 523265, Box 520, Walla Walla, WA 99362 USA.


Ten days after the riot at Albany jail fighting broke out after a demonstration in D Wing Wormwood Scrubs in protest at the treatment of the Albany prisoners. This has been documented in the Media; no press space, however, was given to the rooftop protest at Camp Hill jail on the Isle of Wight or to the riot at Highpoint jail in Suffolk. The latter took place on June 6 as a result of 50 prisoners being transferred from Blundeston (Norfolk) only to find that at Highpoint the facilities were minimal and they would have to share four to a cell. Paul Hill is one of those accused of taking part in the riot at Albany. He is one of three convicted of the Guildford and Woolwich pub bombings. The four have always claimed innocence and responsibility was in fact later claimed by Brendan Dowd and the Balcombe Street ASU.

NEWS BULLETIN FORTNIGHTLY
FRANCE

In Moissac, South-West France, 1.6 Mil. damage was caused to 2 companies involved in constructing a nuclear plant nearby. There were no injuries following the explosions. Police raids in the area have pulled in 3 anarchists as leads in tracking down the anti-nuclear group responsible. We hope to have more details on this situation, any readers able to help with French should get in touch or simply send in relevant translations or clippings.

ERITREA

While US backed government troops war wage war against the people of El Salvador, Russian backed government troops have been fighting a war of attrition against peasants in Ethiopia and in the area known as the 'horn of Africa'. The Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front is the most organised of the several groupings committed to fighting off the attacks by Ethiopian troops. Remarkably the conflict has been going on now for over 21 years. It has continued so long because of financial and military backing from first the West to Hallie Selassie (the spiritual guru of the rastafarians) and then from the Soviets to the new marxist-Leninist regime. The Ethiopian government wants to secure control over the 600 mile strip of coastline in Eritrea that will give it access to the strategically important Red Sea. Both the West and now Russia could improve their military forces in the region if they gained access to a port-facility. The Eritreans maintain that most of their land is either straight-forward captured or simply recycled. But to a certain extent, they too, as with the Tigreans, are being used as pawns by the West against the marxists. Their position is such that if they capitulate then they would have lost their independance to the one-party state of Ethiopia; alternatively, with the war at a virtual stalemate they face a programme of slow but prolonged genocide. On top of all this there is widespread famine across the whole of Eritrea and Tigrean.

Lt. Col. Mengista, who heads the regime in Addis Ababa, has recently deployed over 200,000 troops to Eritrea. Soviet tactical bombs and napalm have been used against the Eritrean nomads. It was only a few years back when Selassie was in power, that similar weapons were used against them - that time supplied by the US. Over the past 10 years or so over 10,000 nomads have been killed and another 250,000 have been forced to resettle as a result of their vigilance being demonstrated.

At the moment the Ethiopian military have control over the skies and the Eritreans are forced to live most of their time underground in huge caves. In the caves vehicles and weapons are constructed, hospitals have been set up and everyone, from the young to the very old, helps out with all the daily chores. Its a question of survival and cooperation and sheer determination.

STOP THE PRIESTS

LOURDES

Three anarchists were arrested and 20 questioned following the fire-bombing of an office of a Catholic newspaper and the bombing of a religious statue just before the pope visited the Lourdes area of southern France.

SOURCE: L. Baudel

TURKEY

More news on the prisoners hunger strike. Six other prisons and over 2,500 prisoners are now involved. At least 2 strikers have died and over 40 are close to death. Those taking part are mostly 'politicals', including trade union activists. The strike itself was precipitated by the transferral of over 100 'politicals' to specially constructed isolation cells where there is no electricity, no daylight, and appalling sanitary conditions. Each prisoner - many of whom are inside on relatively minor charges - is labelled by the authorities as a 'terrorist'; nearly all of these are on remand. News of the strike inside Turkey is sparse: strict censorship is being observed and the junta look upon it more as a rather efficient means of 'voluntary euthanasia' brought about by its opponents. The junta itself is strongly backed by the US; left opposition (even moderate opposition) cannot be tolerated to germinate in a country so valued by NATO for its strategic importance.

Recently reports of force-feeding have been filtering through. Also the trial of over 750 citizens of in contracts in 1978 from the Army, Navy and Defense Logistics Agency. Federal Prison Industries operates 75 plants in almost all of the 43 Federal prisons, and 1981's total gross sales (to federal agencies only) came to $120 million. Prisoners get paid from 42c. to $1.05 an hour.

U.S.A.

There were 10,000 people lined up at the Anaconda American Brass plant in Buffalo, New York early in April, applying for 46 job openings. Hundreds camped outside the employment office overnight, warming themselves by bonfires. Buffalo's unemployment rate exceeds 14%.

New York will soon become the home port of a cruise missile CARRIER, the first in the world. NY AIR's fleet, NY AIR's field of political crimes and 268 death

IN BRIEF

WALES

At the Bulgaria vs Wales football match in Wrexham, Anarchists gave out leaflets protesting the imprisonment of their comrades in Bulgaria: Christo Kolev (who is a constituent in his village), Vasili Uzov (26 years inside) & Georgi Casabov (20 years in prison).

SOURCE: VOCA

CUBA

Four lawyers have been arrested for defending workers accused of setting-up a 'Free trade union'. 33 people have been given sentences for: 'carrying out acts of sabotage and preparing assassination attempts against the country's leaders'. This follows repressive measures taken against striking sugar workers.

SOURCE: RNA

PHILLIPINES

Public Transport drivers in Southern Philippines ended a strike after one day, as the Govt. used Army Lorries & refuse trucks to break the stoppage, a protest at rising prices.

SOURCE: RNA
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MORE ON THE SEPTEMBER QUARTERLY.
Additional articles will include:
Anarchism in Greece, History of anarchist Defence
Groups, 'Bulldozer' statement, news from the
Berlin streets, a Warsaw commun-que (the libertarian underground),
and LOTS MORE.

ALBANY PRISONERS CONTINUED
'false and malicious accusations
against an officer'. (A bit like
making a complaint against the
cop and then finding out, when
the Depo there is no grounds
for a convictable case, that you
yourself are being charged for
wast-
police time.) Details of the
sentences have come through on
7 of the 8 convicted; they are as
follows:
Tom Tangney, 112 days; loss of earn-
ings and remission; Larry Delaney,
168 days solitary; Alan Hirst 56
days solitary; Neil Wallace, 42
days; Joseph Brindley, 84 days;
Wayne Smith, Chris Clarke (and one other),
77 days each.
The total punishment the prison
authorities can give in charges
of the sort is 56 days solitary maxi-
um but they have got around
this ruling by running the sentences
consecutively.

One prisoner who was involved in the
Albany riot has specified that there
were no ring-leaders (IRA or otherwise)
as speculated in the press and as
alleged by the representatives of the
Prison Officers Association. On the 19
May, 4 prisoners , at around 7 am, armed
with clubs for self-defence, took over
and demolished four workshops, one of
which just happened to be the mail bag
shop. The MUPIT moved in the next day
and at that point other prisoners
came to the aid of the four. The prison-
er in question, in his version of what
happened, stated that 'to say and
blame the IRA yet again for something
they did not do, or start, as there were
no IRA PDM's on the workshop roof (with
us)'. Perhaps the press had got their
story from the Revolutionary Com-
unist Group, who at the time also claim-
ed that the action had been led (rather
than participated) by IRA prisoners.
Parity with prisoner improvements in
the north of Ireland was a demand of the
Albany prisoners, that is certain. But
the RCG have to learn that, like
black people during the Brixton riots,
prisoners do not need any vanguard.
The prisoner in question has made it
clear that the IRA prisoners played a
valuable part in the defensive action
and in the protests. There will no doubt
be other versions of what happened
on the day; we will be interested to
hear the details, if available.

W.Germany

West German "violent protest" Law plan-
ed to stop street and other forms of
direct action. If you do not leave a
rally when you are ordered by police
and the rally turns violent you will
have to prove you tried to prevent
violence. Sentences up to 12 months
are proposed. Us Vice Prez George Bush
was stomed in Krefeld recently and right-
ing Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmer-
man has pushed for stronger State powers.
His appeal comes up in September.

Zimmerman also wants penalties for con-
cealing identity (scarves or ski-masks)
and "passive armament" (wearing a crash
helmet to a rally). Protesters in Baden
Wuerttenberg received a bill for the
cost of policing a blockade of the near-
by US military base. Bavaria is also
expected to introduce repressive laws.

In Britain during the last last period it was suggested that demonstrators &
peace-cummers be made to pay for polic-
ing of their activities. Like the Police
Bill a rerun of these and other laws is
expected (Hanging -deated, Abortion
still to be debated, Censorship of
videos currently being debated therein
the near future in Britain.

CANADA

On July 8 Ann Hansen and Brent Taylor, of
the Vancouver 5, defended themselves at
their bail hearing 4 witnesses were called;
2 offered to put up their houses as sureties.
The trial will be split into 4 sections; the
first trial will take place on SEPTEMBER 6
with the first few weeks taken up with
legal submissions and other procedures.
The trial proper is expected to take place
later in November.

The Black Flag Free the Five appeal are coming in and
the case in the Black Flag Autumn Quarterly.

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SPAIN

All those who thought the Barcelona
"Modelo" prison was, and is a model
prison are simply fooling themselves.
The chaos inside the walls, that domi-

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PAPAL MAMMA

The milking Madrid daily, YA has received
40 million pesetas (about £221,000) from
the Pope which was collected during the
visit last November. YA, closely associ-
ated with the Franco regime has a daily
distribution of 107,000 and falling.
The proposed abortion reform law in
Spain is of course opposed by the Pope
and YA which has begun campaigning to
keep abortion illegal. Already many
Spanish women to leave Spain in much
the same way as women in Ireland.

ITALY

At Comiso, the site for 112 US-built
 cruises missiles, there was a clash between
cops and 'automatons', 1000 protesters
turned out, 20 were grabbed, but no
charges laid. Construction & police
vehicles were surrounded, rocks thrown &
then the cops fired tear gas & used their
batons to beat off the demo. 30 cops were
taken to hospital while only 6 protesters
were injured.

BOLOGNA

About the same time as the escape of
Signor Gelli - who was awaiting
extradition proceedings from the
Italian authorities on charges
ranging from fraud to membership
(def he was the head) of the banned
right-wing freemason type organisa-
tion, P2 - three people were severely
injured in a bomb explosion timed to
go off as part of the 'strategy
of tension'. The explosion took
place on a train just outside Bologna
at a place called Prato. Respons-
ibility was later claimed by a fascist
group called Black Order.

The attack is reminiscent of the
much larger explosion in the area 2
years ago that destroyed the restaurant/tea-
room. One person who is wanted in connection
with the Bologna bombing, Luciano
Bompiani, has recently launched an appeal
with the British courts not to proceed
with his extradition back to Italy.

His appeal comes up in September.

A plaque dedicated to the memory of
those murdered by the fascists
in Bologna station in 1980.
After the Industrial Tribunal returned a verdict of Liagaut All losing his job, the support group put itself forward. Workers at Aire Valley Yarns had already returned to work and agreed to accept the Tribunal decision and a 3 month 'no-strike' clause.

**HYSTER HEIST**

The US forklift truck giant Hyster had a £19.5 million plan at their plant in Irvine, Scotland. At least £10 million came from Govt, industrial and retraining aid. They proposed to retrain 1,000 people at the up-dated plant, which now employs 300 people... all this would mean moving the production line to Irvine from the Hyster Nijmegen factory in Holland, where 158 of the 600 workers would lose their jobs.

The Dutch workers are trying to resist this and have now prevented the line moving. They have applied for a court injunction in Holland and the European Court.

As well, an application to the Ombudsman in Holland, who has the power to investigate the financial affairs of the company, and stop the closure, has been made.

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**CLEEVELAND/TURNER**

In Gartree Paul Cleeland is being forcibly given drugs - the liquid cosh - to keep him quiet. He says that the drugs are affecting his mind and that the prison authorities are thus hoping that his protestations over his innocence will seem less credible. Cleeland has a strong case for a second retrial; a prosecution witness has admitted that the evidence he gave was submitted under protest. He was threatened by the cops, the forensic officer did not cover all possibilities (the pain arrested his 'evidence'). He was charged with a shotgun alleged to have been the murder weapon), and the retrial papers were, subsequently, tampered with by the prison authorities to make it look as if Cleeland had colluded with a defence witness. Cleeland is now in his 11th year of a 20 year-old sentence. In the Scrubs Leonard Turner, over the last 3 weeks - after months of fruitless appeals for a retrial, has resorted to hurling his cell (spreading faces on the cell walls) as a 'dirty protest'. As a result Turner has been allowed no visitors and correspondence has been stopped. His family have made several attempts to see him but visiting orders have been refused. Turner is serving the best part of 7 years for armed robbery; he is now in his 4th year. Most of his time has been spent in punishment blocks; he has lost virtually all of his remission because of his determination not to 'do the time' obediently. His protests have also included a consistent refusal to do the shit work that the prisoners are forced to do. Turner's family are also alleging that the screws have organised a continuing campaign of harassment against him because of an incident where he on 4th April was told to hang for the crime of bashing up a guard over a toilet incident 3 years ago.