

# ANARCHY!

NORTHEAST LIBERTARIAN BROADSHEET  
ISSUE 3

**ANARCHISM:** The philosophy of a new social order based on liberty unrestricted by human-made law; the theory that all forms of government rest on violence, and are therefore wrong and harmful, as well as unnecessary.

**ANARCHY:** The absence of government; disbelief in, and disregard of, invasion and authority based on coercion and force; a condition of society regulated by voluntary agreement instead of government.

**ANARCHIST:** A believer in anarchism; one opposed to all forms of coercive government and invasive authority; an advocate of the absence of government as the ideal of political liberty and social harmony.

## Rioters ransack McDonald's

**H**UNDREDS of rioters broke into a McDonald's restaurant, two banks and several shops in the Danish capital, Copenhagen, and smashed their interiors in New Year's Day riots early yesterday.

They emptied the hamburger restaurant's furniture and threw it into a bonfire on the street, police said.

Leftwing anarchists have targeted McDonald's in the past because it symbolises capitalism and money.

"I've been a fireman for 30 years and I've never seen such vandalism," said Gerhard Nilsson. "Everything was smashed."

The 400 rioters smashed windows, computers, tables and office equipment in nearby banks and shops. They hurled cobblestones at police dispersing the crowds with tear gas.

At least seven people are facing charges.

Since the early 1980s, regular clashes have broken out in Copenhagen on January 1. — AP.

## Nice one Eric

Dave Strachan, editor of Red Attitude, the Manchester United anti-fascist fanzine, said that Cantona had been provoked. He added: "Supporters of Red Attitude would need no such provocation to attack this racist thug. We believe that racism and fascism should not be given the slightest chance to grow in football grounds."

The Palace fan has a fascist track record and sold his story to the Murdoch press, so he deserved to be decapitated. Cantona says one of his heroes is Leo Ferre, the late anarchist singer-songwriter, so he can't be all bad. Anyway, a world of Paul Mersons needs the odd Cantona!

## Danish police are accused of riot cover-up

**D**ANISH police have been accused of trying to cover up evidence which supports allegations that officers were ordered to shoot at demonstrators during the country's worst riot, writes Barnabas Wetton in Copenhagen.

Police are alleged to have withheld information from an investigating commission into the violence on May 18, 1993, which followed Denmark's vote to accept the Maastricht treaty.

For the first time since the second world war, the police fired live rounds at the crowd.

Doubts have been raised about police evidence after a Radio Denmark technician uncovered the order "shoot at the legs" being given.

The police — who maintain that no such order was given — claimed the statement was made by a demonstrator.

However, a British expert, Dr J. P. French, has concluded that the order was almost certainly given by a policeman.

Three Radio Denmark journalists claim that, in the debriefing after the riot, an order to shoot was mentioned, but the police then attempted to cover this up from the prosecutor.

16.1.1995

## Private enterprise...

**A** DRUGS suspect tricked Middlesbrough Customs agents into driving him 340 miles home from Dover and then escaped.

The 32-year-old man had £500,000 of cannabis resin in his van when he drove off a ferry.

He offered to deliver the 120kg load to the front door of the drug network's Mr Big in Middlesbrough, Cleveland. But before setting off, he telephoned his Teesside contact.

He drove the agents to an exclusive Middlesbrough street, and then escaped.

The Customs crew found he had delivered them to his solicitor's home. 12.94

## Where's our share?

You may have heard excited media talk about the windfall gains of "up to £60,000" which dockers stand to pocket following the announcement on December 6th of a bid for Teesside Holdings, the owners of Tees and Hartlepool Docks.

When the ports were privatised in 1992 about half the dockers (of those left after the shake-out following the scrapping of the National Docks Labour Scheme in 1989) purchased shares, amounting to an employee share ownership of 5%. Now industrial group Powell Duffryn wants to buy them out. The average docker stands to make a £24,000 profit, or so we're told.

Powell Duffryn is buying out the stakes it does not already own in two docks companies, Teesside Holdings and Humberside Holdings. They already own 50% of Humberside Holdings, and are buying out the rest. By taking full control of Humberside Holdings, Powell Duffryn also effectively purchase Humberside's 31.7% stake in Teesside Holdings, thereby doubling its stake here.

So this is what the "share-owning democracy" amounts to in the docks: a private company monopoly; sharply rising profits (which is why Powell Duffryn are interested); and a tiny "labour aristocracy" who may be doing fine in the short-term, but who in the long-term are returning to their position of being mere wage-slaves (and with worse conditions). It was the same end result at formerly "employee-owned" Cleveland Transit too. Tell Sid it was the biggest con.

—Teesside SolFed

# THE GREAT ROYAL DEBATE



do we hang them?

or do we shoot them?





# an appeal for SOLIDARITY

"Dear Comrades, 20.12.94  
 Find enclosed copies of a recently produced leaflet in response to the announced closure of Nestlé's Norwich factory in two year's time with the loss of 900 jobs.

You may know that Nestlé have 3 additional plants at York, Halifax and Newcastle. It is to these three that Nestlé intend to relocate the production currently based in Norwich.

Workers at the three other plants must realise their immense responsibility in either facilitating the Norwich closure by doing nothing or taking serious and effective steps to

oppose it. We believe that of all options available, a categorical refusal to accept any shift of Norwich's production to their plants must be given to the Nestlé board. A refusal to transport, to install, and finally to operate. The Nestlé board in such a case will be given great cause to rethink their profit-crazed decision when told in no uncertain terms that they cannot do so with workers' collaboration...

York, Halifax and Newcastle must equally appreciate that to allow and collaborate in the Norwich closure through lack of any solidarity, makes easier and brings closer the future possibility of closure in their plants...

First and foremost at this point we are gauging whether and to what extent in the York, Halifax and Newcastle areas there are fellow militants and anarcho-syndicalists at these plants OR prepared to seek out and pass on any contacts they have at these plants? Equally people willing to distribute material at these plants?

We also very much welcome any suggestions/further assistance anyone can offer.

In addition to this letter being mailed within the UK, we are pursuing the possibility of drawing on international support, particularly in Europe at other Nestlé plants with the cooperation of several sections of the International Workers Association (IWA) and symbolic actions at the Swiss headquarters.

In solidarity,  
 Norwich Solidarity Centre"

P.O. Box 73, Norwich, NR3 1QD



## BINGO!

"The Lottery, with its weekly pay-out of enormous prizes, was the one public event to which the proles paid serious attention. It was probable that there were some millions of proles for whom the Lottery was the principal if not the only reason for remaining alive. It was their delight, their folly, their anodyne, their intellectual stimulant."

-from George Orwell's '1984'

## ANTI-FASCIST DEMO IN LEEDS

As part of a continuing campaign against racism and fascism, the Leeds Alliance umbrella grouping of anti-racist organizations called a demonstration in the city on the 26th of November. The local Anti-Fascist Action group was one of the sponsoring organizations, and a large AFA contingent (including AFA supporters from Tyneside and Teesside) was in evidence, prompted not least by rumours of attempts by the ANL (also sponsors) to take over the day.

About 1,500 people attended the march and the presence on (and about) the march of the large AFA contingent ensured no direct fascist attack. At one point however two fascists did make themselves known by directing the stiff arm salute at the marchers. They were chased off, a beer bottle scoring a direct hit on the back of one of them's neck. This same character later returned with coppers in tow and pointed out marchers to them. There then ensued five or ten minutes of scuffles between the police and anti-fascists at the back of the march. The police managed to arrest six people, but the back of the march defended itself and at least one demonstrator who had been snatched was pulled free by comrades.

Before the march set off a number of speakers from various organizations addressed the demonstration. The AFA speaker talked of AFA's successful policy of confronting fascism, and warned people not to wander about alone with badges on after the demo dispersed because the fascists would be about. Unfortunately it proved prophetic and a lad had to have a brain scan after being jumped by a gang of nazis...-J



### Neo-Nazis jailed 23.12.94

Three neo-Nazis, Kevin Dixon, Paul Atherton and Anthony Hedley, of Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, were each jailed for two years at Teesside crown court for beating up a Labour Party officer and a youth.



# Red Alert

In response to the plans of Whelan Environmental (sic) Services Ltd. to operate a toxic waste treatment plant on derelict ICI land at New Road, Billingham, the locals have mobilised to oppose yet another environmental and health hazard to a community that has already had more than its fair share.

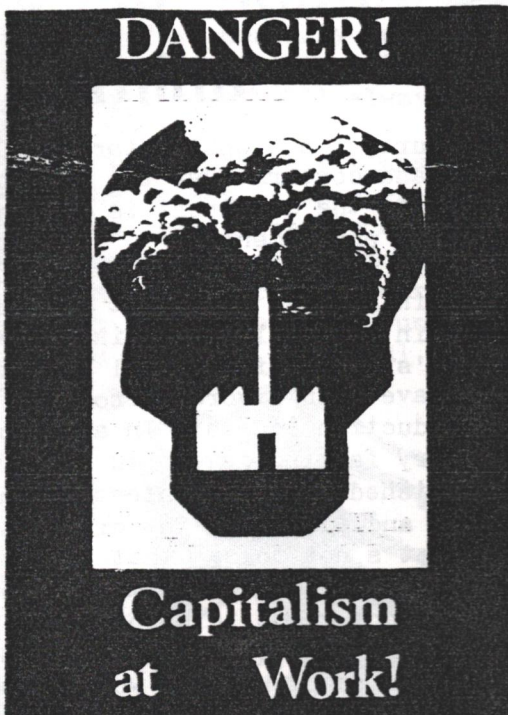
More than 4,000 people signed a petition against the proposed plant after 'The Northern Echo' revealed in September that Cleveland County Council's Consumer Protection Committee had given conditional approval for the plant, which would handle up to 500 tonnes of toxic waste daily.

A public meeting on Sept. 28th in St. Cuthbert's church hall organized by a local family saw some 200 angry locals tell Council officers and local MP Frank Cook that Billingham doesn't want the plant. Cook's line was that everyone uses the products of Teesside's chemical industry, a lot of jobs depend on it, and you can't have the jobs without the waste. But people throughout the country, indeed the world, use these products, not just Teessiders. The shit is reserved for us.

The Whelan plant was only one of three, that's right three!, toxic plants/incinerators being proposed for Billingham at around this time. Why is the town so honoured? Because derelict ICI land is available for sale and is ear-marked in perpetuity for use by hazardous industry. Whelan obviously thought that a community used to decades of co-existence with and dependancy on the chemical industry would not make much fuss. But the community involved (old Billingham) has objected almost unanimously, and a campaign group called Red Alert has emerged.

The Whelan plant was only one of three, that's right three!, toxic plants/incinerators being proposed for Billingham at around this time. Why is the town so honoured? Because derelict ICI land is available for sale and is ear-marked in perpetuity for use by hazardous industry. Whelan obviously thought that a community used to decades of co-existence with and dependancy on the chemical industry would not make much fuss. But the community involved (old Billingham) has objected almost unanimously, and a campaign group called Red Alert has emerged.

The company invited residents to a meeting on the site of the proposed plant, brokered by one of the few County Councillors supporting the campaigners. However if the company thought they could win people round, they got a rude awakening as 200 people turned up again and gave Whelan himself an earful.



A full County Council meeting in Middlesbrough Town Hall on November 23rd gave Whelan the all clear, despite a Red Alert lobby by about 100 Billingham people. Councillor Dave Punshon claimed on the local t.v. news programme that opposition to the plant is on NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) lines. This is a red herring. The biggest concentration of NIMBY syndrome sufferers on Teesside is to be found on the County Council, where the majority of Councillors voted for the plant, even after they knew the level of opposition in Billingham. No doubt they would have voted differently if a similar plant was proposed in each of their wards...

The point is that industry should be cutting down on its waste, and treat it in house. This creates many more jobs than the 25 that Whelan's profit-from-waste operation will bring. Just as decommissioning nuclear power plants would create many more jobs than Thorp nuclear reprocessing plant and the rest of that industry ever will.

We're almost of the opinion that if this plant has to go anywhere, then stick it in Whelan's own fucking back yard! But on second thoughts Whelan doesn't have the right to damage the environment anywhere.

It's depressing to hear people in meetings still asking what their Labour councillors are going to do, writing letters to Tony Blair etc. (This will sound familiar to those involved in the anti-Poll Tax movement who came up against endless petitions and illusions in the Labour Party). But Red Alert is a reflection of a community no longer content to be used and abused by the chemical industry, for the profit of others.

There's an old saying that in North East towns like Billingham the Labour Party could stand a donkey and still get it elected. In the case of the Honourable Frank Cook MP donkey is about the right word. Hopefully, next time Elections come round people will think twice about giving their support to this waste of space (or any other politician), putting their trust instead in working class self-organization and DIRECT ACTION.

-D

15.1.1995

## BNFL to operate Cumbria rail line

British Nuclear Fuels plans to run its own trains on the coastal line to Sellafield to be used by workers and for flasks of waste and chemicals. The change could result in lost jobs at BR Transrail.

"New Labour"?

## Lord mayoral hopes dashed

Liverpool councillor Petrona Lashley, a former prostitute, has lost her chance to be the city's first black mayor after her deselection appeal was rejected by the Labour Party.

17.1.95

BNF rewarded those trade unionists who lobbied for Thorp reprocessing plant last year by sacking others at the Sellafield complex. This is the real face of corporatism - people count for nothing, the company is all.



# The reality of life on the run

'ANARCHY!' -4-  
#3

To survive as  
a fugitive, one  
has to adopt the  
guerrilla mentality

John Bowden

**M**Y OWN escape on November 16, 1992 was hardly an event to rank alongside the far more spectacular and audacious jailbreaks at Gartree, Whitemoor and Parkhurst; in fact the manner in which I slipped away to freedom was positively banal by comparison. Of course, questions were later asked about the apparent ease with which an allegedly "dangerous and violent" prisoner, such as myself, was able or allowed to make such an effortless escape, and the conclusion reached was that the prison authorities had been "fooled" by a prisoner who, while exhibiting all the signs of a reformed character, had manoeuvred himself into a situation whereby escape was relatively easy.

The governor of Maidstone Prison, from where I had been allowed out under escort, would later remark with some bitterness: "Bowden had been allowed out under escort to visit his father as part of his process towards rehabilitation, and this is how he chose to repay us. He probably thinks that he has beaten the system, but he will have to spend the rest of his life looking over his shoulder."

Few shared the governor's generous estimate of how long I might remain at large, and a review of my curriculum vitae prior to imprisonment for life certainly indicated that my first experience of freedom after years of close captivity would probably be short and unremarkable. If my police and prison records showed that I was an alienated outsider when arrested for murder in 1980, then what sort of inestimable damage must have been done after 12 years of severe institutionalisation?

The image created by the tabloid newspapers that reported my escape was of a mentally disordered killer, a de-socialised and de-humanised animal that had fled its cage without any fixed purpose, its recapture inevitable and imminent.

In fact, as the prison governor had obviously recognised, my 12 years of imprisonment had equipped me remarkably well, both psychologically and materially, to survive for a protracted period on the run. Far

from destroying me, prison had profoundly changed and strengthened me; the experience of extreme hardship and suffering deepened and tempered my character, and increased my resourcefulness immeasurably. It had also provided me with valuable contacts, and therefore the means to survive indefinitely as a fugitive. The bonds of solidarity and mutual support that I had developed in prison when fighting and campaigning for prisoners' rights were translated into an extremely efficient and loyal network of support and assistance after I had escaped.

My first month or so of freedom was like a time of rebirth, cocooned and cared for in the almost maternal and protective embrace of "friends of friends". My getaway had been organised by prison comrades, whose friends on the outside had provided a fast car complete with driver, as well as a "safe house" on the outskirts of London, where I remained hidden and extremely well cared for until a flight to Amsterdam was organised. My going to Amsterdam was also the beginning of an experiential and personal odyssey of remarkable richness and intensity.

For 12 years I had been entombed in the colourless and sterile world of maximum-security prisons, denied any human experience and stimulation beyond that generated by conflict and confrontation with my jailers, my physical and psychological horizons often reduced to the dimensions of a solitary confinement punishment cell, often for years on end. Suddenly I was completely free, alive and sensitised to a world infused with colour, activity, sensation and meaning.

To survive as a fugitive one necessarily has to adopt the guerrilla mentality, merging and blending with one's social terrain, while retaining a deep and irrevocable sense of one's difference and separateness, one's constant vulnerability and dependence on the support and assistance of others. For 18 months I lived as the hunted Jew in Nazi-occupied Europe; the runaway slave in the city of the slave-owner; the resistance fighter behind enemy lines; I lived with and amongst people, but was never truly of their world. I survived largely on my wits, although an absolutely indispensable ingredient of my avoiding recapture was the help and assistance given to me by others.

I grew a beard for a while but eventually reverted to a clean-cut image. I travelled to Paris and to the Republic of Ireland but I made the mistake of appearing on a television programme which I mistakenly believed was going to raise the issue of the position of long-term prisoners. As a result, I was recognised and had to leave for Scotland. I worked for

a while but I had no authorised papers and eventually had to commit a counterfeit Giro fraud.

Recapture was an experience akin to death, a terrible and unbearable extinguishment of existence as defined by the contours of free will and movement, of loving personal relationships, and the experience of bodily integrity and independence. I was, once again, the exclusive property of the State, to do with as it pleased. And as if in acknowledgement of my unbroken spirit, and a desire for revenge, it "re-classified" me as an "Extreme Escape Risk" and reburied me for life.



## A nation of animal lovers

The current national outbreak of demonstrations and concern over the export of live animals to the Continent is a quintessentially English phenomenon.

It's no accident, or a racial thing, that Britain has the strongest animal rights movement in the world. This is, after all, the world's oldest industrial society, whose people have been divorced from the land and food production longest. In addition intensive factory farming developed after 1945 and has flourished to the greatest extent in the US, here, and elsewhere in northwestern Europe.

That's not to say that veal crates etc. are not cruel and "inhumane", and that people are not right to oppose such practices. But we have to question a sentimentality that leads people to get worked up about the treatment of animals to a much greater extent than say the treatment of the unemployed, the homeless, caged up immigrants and asylum seekers, the greater part of the prison population whose biggest crime was to be born poor etc.

Animal rights is a cross-class issue (except where the toff factor comes in with regard to fox hunting). Thus comfortable, solidly Tory-voting towns on the south coast have been turning out en masse to block the loading of animals for export. In the case of Shoreham, even the Chief Constable of Sussex police, Paul Whitehouse, has said he believes the protesters are right. It's hard to imagine a similar stance during the Miners' Strike of 84/85 for example. Note however that this hasn't prevented the animal-loving Chief Constable from using police in riot gear to move protesters... After all, that notorious butcher of humans, Hitler, was also a vegetarian.

The real villain of the peace is intensive factory farming - an agri-business that makes huge profits for a few, produces shite meat, milk, eggs etc. for the rest of us, and is cruel to animals. (continued p. 10)



# Tyneside anarchism

Anarchists in and around Newcastle have decided to relaunch Tyneside Anarchist Group as a broadbased focal point for anarchist propaganda. TAG was originally set up three years back, but activity died down some time ago.

Now with a lot of new faces and energy, TAG do regular bookstalls at The Monument in Newcastle and at other occasional venues, as well as attending marches, producing propaganda etc. The response has been good and the feeling is that with a lot of hard work and commitment, something sustainable can be created. 'Anarchy!' wishes them well!

-R



## THE HISTORY OF ANARCHISM ON TYNESIDE

"TAG does not claim to be a new movement or set of ideas. In actual fact, TAG is the newest of a long line of northern-based anarchist groups. Our predecessors go back as far as 150 years. These anarchist traditions date back to the 1880's when the Russian anarchist Peter Kropotkin visited the Northeast and anarchism took root in the more radical of the mining communities.

When the Newcastle 'Daily Chronicle' was under the editorship of Joseph Cohen, Kropotkin wrote a series of articles in 1881-82. He also spoke at the 1882 Durham Miners' Gala to around 50,000 miners. After his release from prison in 1886 Kropotkin again returned to the Northeast, chairing meetings in The Haymarket pub as well as a lecture to around 4,000 people in the Tyne Theatre.

In the 1890's the Newcastle anarchist club formed and continued to agitate on both Tyneside and Wearside during 1893-94, holding open air meetings on Sundays.

By 1895 'Freedom', an anarchist paper, was listing meetings in Sunderland, South Shields, Newcastle, Stanley and Gateshead. The Clousden Hill colony at Forest Hall was also set up around this time. Chopwell also gained a reputation for militancy, even having its own socialist Sunday School, teaching socialist and anarchist ideas. Felling, Washington and Usworth also gained a reputation as "red" villages.

During this century the British Industrial Union, the British Section of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), was strongly represented on Tyneside. Indeed, arguably the most important English anarcho-syndicalist, Tom Brown, was a Geordie who worked and was active in the shipyards.

In 1963 'The Chronicle' reported how an anarchist-led group tried to turn over a coach from which the Tory MP, Dame Irene Wood, was speaking, with the rest of the Town Moor crowd cheering them on. A year later the weekly all-night parties held by Tyneside Anarchists in Grosvenor Place ceased only after the police attacked revellers, which resulted in a riot. In the same year, South Shields Anarchists forayed south and occupied Reading's nuclear fallout bunker. Closer to home, the Anarchist Club night which regularly attracted over 500 people was finally closed due to allegations of under-age sex taking place and the efforts of a local priest who said devil worship was occurring.

The late 70's saw a rejuvenation of anarchism across the country, thanks largely to punk rock, the Sex Pistols' 'Anarchy In The UK' getting to number one in the charts, despite being banned. ('Anarchy!' edit. note: Later, youthful -and not so youthful- Tyneside rebels would be involved in the North East Anarchist Federation (NEAF) of the early eighties, in supporting the 84/85 Miners' Strike and a number of local strikes, such as that at HFW Plastics, and in the Tyneside Revolutionary Syndicalists (TRS) group of the later eighties, who published a rather excellent paper called 'The Tyneside Syndicalist'.)

We have a long, fine heritage, despite the media trying to ignore us." (Excerpt from the TAG introductory brochure.)

## Anarchist Black Cross

Newcastle Anarchist Black Cross, the anarchist and class struggle prisoner support group, is also being relaunched following its collapse last year. The previous Newcastle ABC group collapsed due to members moving abroad and bad publicity in 'The Northern Echo', after it printed allegations from local fascists that Newcastle ABC was urging people to murder members of the BNP. 'The Northern Echo' fell into the publicity trap set by the BNP in which they portrayed themselves as decent, straight-laced people and slurred several other groupings noted for their stance against fascism.

Newcastle ABC say they have already been supporting prisoners on a personal level and feel it's time to set up and work as a group. ABC news should start appearing in 'Anarchy!' in the future.

-R



# TIME TO GO

The freeing of the log-jam that had previously characterised the situation in northern Ireland will be welcomed by everyone who wants to see progress there.

The republican movement is pursuing an "unarmed strategy", realising that they've fought the British State to a standstill and to the point where Britain is looking to divest itself of a now expensive liability (the northern Ireland statelet).

Some of us have long called for British withdrawal, because the British presence was the main cause of "The Troubles", not the IRA. And to be sure, credit for the unlocking of the situation belongs to Irish nationalists, no matter how much Major would like to claim it for himself. Every initiative has come from the republican side. The Downing Street Declaration (which doesn't go far enough for the republicans, but does hint at a British desire to get out) was a belated response to the Hume-Adams talks, where the whole "peace process" began. At the time the government was routinely repeating the hypocritical line that they wouldn't talk to "terrorists", whilst in fact maintaining extensive contact with the IRA through unofficial channels.

Without the initial British interference in Ireland (colonialism) there wouldn't even be a "loyalist people". Later it suited British interests to have prosperous Protestant farmers and a Protestant "labour aristocracy", the easier to divide and rule.

When Britain was ejected from the rest of the island by the IRA in the early 1920's, the politicians and generals drew a line across the map and partitioned the country, retaining that part of north-east Ireland (not even the entire Province of Ulster since some of its counties went into the Republic) where a Protestant (i.e. loyalist) majority could be gerrymandered. They were supported in this by the Irish Protestants of Ulster, who threatened civil war if the British consigned them to a united Ireland.

The loyalist statelet soldiered on until the Catholic minority had had enough of systematic discrimination and the Civil Rights Movement of the late sixties took to the streets. When the RUC tried to beat them off the streets, the Catholic ghettos defended themselves and sent the RUC packing. Then the British Army was sent in. The troops were at first welcomed by the besieged Catholics, until it became clear that they were there to prop up the Orange statelet. They remain there to this day, over 25 years later.

Now all the dynamics are tending towards the final disappearance of this pathetic border. (And as anarchists we'd say all borders should be scrapped.) The British Empire is long gone and both the British and Irish governments see their future in the European Union. Even the demographics say that soon Catholics will outnumber Protestants in the Six Counties (as they already do in the western half of the "Province").

Sectarianism was introduced into Ireland because it served the interests of absentee landlords and engineering employers. The "Orange Card" was used repeatedly by the bosses to divide the working class when it threatened them, as during the syndicalist-inspired unrest in Belfast early this century, or the unemployed agitation of the thirties, when Catholic and Protestant workers united briefly.

Now it doesn't matter so much if you're a Catholic worker or a Protestant worker. The largest employer amongst the "Protestant" working class is now probably the security forces, and even that's threatened with the republicans having adopted a more imaginative strategy. But then again the benefits to Protestant workers of the Protestant ascendancy were always a matter of perception as much as substance. ("Tuppence ha'penny looking down on tuppence".)

And that's where the loyalist house of cards falls down. The economic and strategic foundations of loyalism have evaporated. The Downing Street Declaration says that Britain "has no selfish or strategic interest in Ire







'ANARCHY!' # 3

land". Since loyalism was only ever a bastard child of British imperialism its future looks bleak.

That's not to say that the endgame won't be a messy affair. There are some nasty pieces of work amongst the loyalists who still believe in the Protestant ascendancy even if Britain no longer does. But even in this constituency the monolith is breaking up, as evidenced by Paisley's marginalisation and the loyalist paramilitary ceasefire following the IRA's.

This is the key. Because Irish Protestants have not always been automatically loyalist. In fact, the Irish republican movement was originally an alliance of "Catholic, Protestant and dissenter".

The Ulster Protestants are Irish - they only have to open their mouths to tell you as much. Even if a few hundred years ago the British brought their ancestors across the sea to displace the native Irish (i.e. "ethnic cleansing" wasn't invented in Bosnia). And there's been so much interbreeding since (Gerry Adams having a Scottish Presbyterian surname for instance), that to talk of the "loyalist people" as a distinct national group is ridiculous. Someone born and brought up in loyalist East Belfast like Brian Keenan, the former Beirut hostage, soon abandons the paraphernalia of loyalist "culture" and regard themselves as Irish if they escape the Lager mentality.

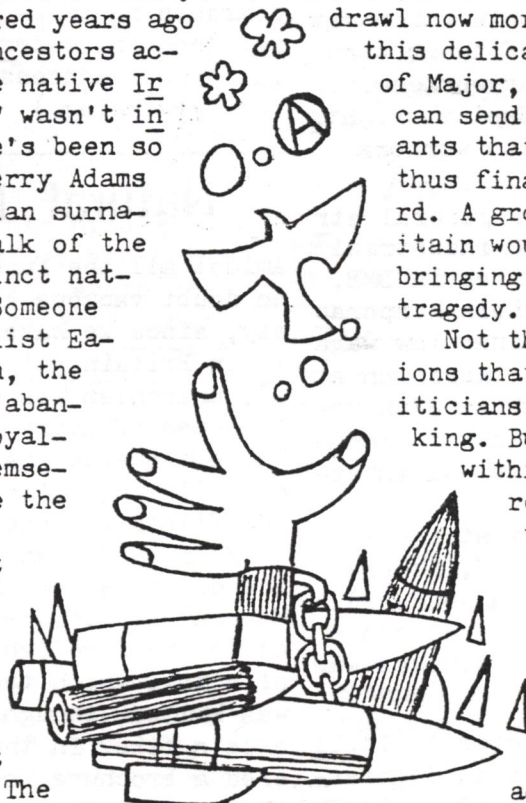
Things are moving so fast it's difficult to say how the situation will develop. One thing's for sure though. It can't be left in the hands of the British (or indeed the Irish) government if we want to see an end of The Troubles. This class started the whole mess off in the first place. Even if they've decided that they want to get out in

the long run, they might not be averse to playing the Orange Card one last time. If they need the votes of loyalist MPs at Westminster for instance. Also, letting northern Ireland go would have repercussions for the rest of the "United Kingdom", with nationalist movements in Scotland and Wales.

And the IRA won't hold to the ceasefire if they think they're being strung along and nothing much changes on the ground. Already there have been attempts to provoke them, with continuing sectarian murders of Catholics after the ceasefire, and the Enniskillen bomb planted by "persons unknown" (State security services, loyalists?) as Sinn Fein was about to enter into formal talks with government representatives.

British anti-militarists and revolutionaries need to raise the call for British withdrawal now more than ever. We can't leave this delicate moment a prey to the whims of Major, Mayhew and Blair. Also, we can send a message to Ulster Protestants that they're Irish, not British, thus finally severing the umbilical cord. A groundswell for withdrawal in Britain would be a major contribution to bringing down the curtain on the Irish tragedy.

Not that anarchists have any illusions that Sinn Fein are other than politicians, another government in the making. But once the cause of disunity within the Irish working class is removed, Irish workers will have to start to think about confronting their bosses. For in the end it matters little if the boss drapes himself in a Union Jack or Tricolour. They're only flags of convenience for capitalism. But the Social Question won't be addressed as long as all energies in northern Ireland continue to be directed at resolving the National Question. -D





# NEWS FROM SERBIA

As a change from the bad news coming from th at part of the world a comrade of the "Torpedo" group in Serbia writes:

"We're very active this days. Together with some peace movements we work against the war in Bosnia. Now we focused all our forces to Annual assembly which will be held at february 1995 and which will be very important for our group. We will make some big decisions at Assembly.

Also, we have a new Youth commission and there's a lot of work to do. It's frightening how the young people are uneducated and unactive. They are real slaves of our society and they suffer more than people. They have just two ways for future: one is to be a criminal, because only criminals have enough of money, and the second way is to be a drug users, because that's a fashion now! We discuss about that on our last meeting and we will take some direct actions against drugs and drugs dealers (which are, mostly, in cooperation with government) when we will can."

From 'Torpedo News Flash' Number 3: "September 1994 was a fightfull month. A month which show to our new bosses that we are not their slaves.

Everything start on the end of August when 12 workers of big industrial complex IMT (and also members of independent union) in Belgrade, start with a hunger strike because factory bosses want to give sack to 2,500 workers mostly old people and people which get invalidated on work. In support of their struggle Independent Union of Foundryworkers proclaim a general strike on 5th September. Strike was ended two days later with workers victory.

On 21st September start a new general strike of all 8,000 workers in same industrial complex IMT. Same day start strikes in DMB, Belgrade (500 workers) and in "Lola korporacija", Belgrade. Strikes was against low wages and bad living conditions. Strikers won at DMB at 26th September and in IMT at 27th September. Only the strike in "Lola korporacija" was unsuccessful. That strike was interrupted by police.

On 26th September start a new strike wave. With strikes start "Teleoptik", Belgrade, "Lola - FAM", Belgrade (1,000+ workers), "Vagonka MIN", Valjevo (400+ workers) and "Desa Petronijević", Užice. That strikes was mostly successful."

From 'Torpedo News Flash' Number 4 (14.II.94): "Last month we set up a Youth Commission which aim is to spread libertarian ideas among young people. The Youth Commission ta-

ke a first steps into their revolutionary work. They distribute more than 50 copies of bulletin 'Prêko zidova nacionalizma i rata' ('Over the walls of Nationalism and War') on one local rock concert. Also, they distribute more than 100 copys of leaflet against war in Bosnia. Now they work on their first leaflet dealing with libertarian issues.

Torpedo finished work on pamphlet 'Svo što oduvek želeli da znate o anarhizmu ali ste se plašili da pitate' ('Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About Anarchism But Were Afraid To Ask') and send it to comrades from... Australia who will printed that pamphlet for us. That pamphlet is in fact translated and for people from former Yugoslavia modificate pamphlet with same name first time published in Cardiff...

Also we distribute this days first issue of new bulletin 'Anarhistička borba' ('Anarchistic Fight') which is printed in Paris, France. In that issue is also printed one of our articles, called 'Self-organisation as the only way out today'.

We receive calls for help from citys Kovin and Lučani where young anarchists try to organise themselves. We help them how much we can."

('Anarchy!' reminds our readers, comrades and all internationalists that at anarchist publications, office supplies etc. are much needed by our comrades in Serbia. Send any material to our address for forwarding.)



## Natural Born Killers?

Amidst all the furore about Oliver Stone's no doubt vacuous and flashy film (we can't say, since we haven't had the chance to see it in Britain yet thanks to the film censors), anarchism was drawn into the frame by the case of Audry Maupin and Florence Rey. These two students were involved in a shootout with police in Paris around the time of the film's release there in October.

Maupin (22) and Rey (19) killed three police during a car chase through the city, and Maupin himself died later of wounds sustained in the firefight. In addition, the driver of a taxi which the couple had flagged down was killed, though it's not clear by which side's fire. In the aftermath police discovered a brochure for Natural Born Killers in the couple's squat, though there's no evidence they actually saw the film. »



According to 'The Guardian', Rey was an "angelic student" and Maupin a "gentle-natured rock climber". "There were no drugs, no drink, nothing like that", said Rey's older brother. "It was politics. What was the point of studying like mad when you can only get dead-end jobs? Florence had taken part in a big youth march this year and only remembered the police hitting children. Audry had been a member of SCALP - the anti Le Pen organization. He hated racism."

It's not our place to condemn the road taken by Maupin and Rey. We may have objections about their tactics and the efficacy of isolated armed struggle, but we'll leave it to the likes of the Interior Minister, Charles Pasqua, to talk about "two mentally retarded anarchists". Servants of the State will never understand that oppression will always breed resistance.

And we certainly won't shed any tears for the Paris cops, whose losses in this episode were the worst on a single night since 1945. Every month last summer they seemed to kill another north african youth or joy rider, even managing to shoot one while he was under arrest in the police station... Natural born killers in fact. -D

**Radio silenced**

French censors shut a radio station yesterday for 24 hours because a talkshow host described reports of a policeman's murder as "good news". - AP.

7.1.95

**Luxemburg march**

About 50,000 people marched in Berlin yesterday in memory of the founders of the Communist Party of Germany, Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht, who were killed by rightwing fanatics 76 years ago. - Reuter.

16.1.95



**REMEMBER THE HEROES**

Every year on Remembrance Day, November 11th, when the official ceremonies honour (or claim to honour) the memory of the millions who died in two World Wars, some of us refuse to be a party to the whitewash job...

It's not that we don't remember the millions who died. We do. In fact we ask ourselves what did they die for? What was a whole generation of young men in Europe cut down for in 1914-18? In a war "to end wars" they were sometimes told - in reality for "King and country" (i.e. the King's country), and in defence of the old power blocs of Europe.

And some of them knew the truth. You won't find their names on your local war memorial, but tens of thousands went to jail rather

than join up, mutined at training camps and at the front, or deserted. Some even had the good sense to shoot their own officers when ordered over the top.

The Second World War was belatedly turned into an "anti-fascist" crusade by the predecessors of the ruling class who today lead the Remembrance Day ceremonies every November 11th, despite the fact that large parts of the British ruling class were pro-fascist in the thirties (until Hitler started to threaten their interests). We on the other hand like to recall the Italian anarchists who were fighting Mussolini in the early twenties, when Churchill is on record as an admirer of the dictator. We also remember the Spanish workers (anarchists to the fore) who initially defeated the fascist coup there in 1936, only to see the "democracies" abandon the Republic, while Mussolini and Hitler armed and supported General Franco. Fascism could have been stopped in Spain, sparing Europe a lot of the grief to come in 1939-45, but the bourgeois democracies (and Stalin) were more afraid of the Spanish Revolution than they were of fascism.

We also remember the countless millions of unknown civilians who die in all wars when politicians and generals decide on a Guernica, Coventry, Dresden, Hiroshima etc. Despite the propaganda about "smart bombs" and limited "collateral damage" (human beings), tens if not hundreds of thousands of Iraqi civilians were killed during Operation Desert Storm. But a few captured allied pilots slapped around a bit by the Iraqis are probably better remembered by the patriotic British public.

But it's not simply a matter of historical accuracy in the face of a State that wants to honour only a few old men with medals on their chests. Anti-militarism is an issue today. That's why we've been saying that lads from the shitty ends of Tyneside and Teeside had no business carrying a gun on the streets on Belfast and Derry for the last 25 years in the interests of the UK ruling class. (And private Lee Clegg is no hero or "victim" by the way, despite the Establishment-supported campaign for his release.)

In Spain in 1994 (according to 'The Guardian') 100,000 young men declared themselves conscientious objectors and refused to do their military service, opting instead to do some form of substitute "community work". In addition some 5,000 "total objectors" (the anarchists amongst them) refused to do either military or the substitute "civilian" service and risked jail. (Total objectors are committed anti-militarists rather than mere pacifists. For the total objectors refusal of military service is the chance to make a stance against militarism and the State and capitalism that spawn it.)



In Russia in 1993 40% of eligible conscripts failed to report for service in Moscow. The 1994 figure was said to be even worse (or better, depending on from which stance you look at it). No wonder, given the poignant images of captured teenage conscripts sent by the Generals to capture Grozny.

In a world where new wars seem to be breaking out every week, this is the only hope: that young people will realise, as some always have in the past, that the only war worth fighting is the class war. -Percy

### CRAP ON THE RADIO

Media personality and washing powder salesman Danny Baker apparently called a radio programme which had just preceded his own "crap", whilst on air. The offending programme had included a discussion during which someone had had the temerity to question whether the nation was remembering the right things on Remembrance Day. Danny Baker was a punk rocker... a long, long time ago though.



### DIRTY BUSINESS

Armaments industries are run for and by governments. In Britain it's called "defence services", thereby disguising its real function. The UN Charter says that "all sovereign States (i.e. States ruled by local elites favourable to the Western ruling class) have the right to their own self-defence". This is used to justify the arms industries, even when the "self-defence" is the self-preservation of a brutal regime against the legitimate claims for freedom of the oppressed people. This is the situation in Indonesia, where the armaments of repression are mainly supplied by British companies, with government approval and support. Indeed, Britain currently is a major arms supplier to at least five countries where there is internal conflict. In situations where there is no distinguishable favourite, arms are supplied to both sides, as was the case in the Iran-Iraq

War in the 1980's and in the arms race between India and Pakistan, while Western capitalists reap the profits.

The British arms industry, cosseted by the government, has 20% of the world's arms market. Almost half of all research & development funding goes on "defence"; 10% of the the manufacturing workforce is employed on arms industry work; the MOD spends £20 billion of our money every year; 57% of all credit guarantees to foreign governments finance arms sales, and if the buyer reneges on payment, the British taxpayer pays the bill. Imagine the progress in housing, education, transport, medical technology etc., that could be made were such resources applied there instead of being wasted on the arms trade.

Following Saddam Hussein's notorious gassing of 5,000 Kurds in Halabja in 1988, British Tory ministers rushed to Iraq with indecent haste, offering Hussein \$340 millions in credit guarantees, and British exports to Iraq increased from £2.9 millions to £31.5 millions. In order to circumvent the arms embargo, the British intelligence service used private companies, Astra and its subsidiary PRB, to export arms illegally to Iraq.

The State is an artificial system created by and for the interests of a ruling class. The working class of a nation State has more in common with the working class of other nation States than it has with its own ruling class. The manufacture of and trade in armaments are detrimental to the working class.

-J

### Animal lovers...

If you believe that animals have equal rights with humans then logically you should be a vegetarian or vegan. And that's fair enough, though as I've said this is life-style choice can co-exist with real inhumanity.

● Germany's upper house of parliament, the Bundesrat, yesterday called for a total ban on the import of British beef to protect consumers from mad cow disease.

Many Germans are wary of buying beef from Britain because of widespread outbreaks there of the disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

21.1.95

If you believe, as I do, that the natural world can be exploited (and managed) for the benefit of all humanity, but with responsibility for the environment and without unnecessarily cruel practices, the question is posed: what kind of farming do we propose? The answer is a less intensive system of agricultural production which would produce: greater numbers of people employed on the land in animal husbandry etc.; organic rather than chemical-laden fields; good quality meat and other animal products, rather than the huge quantities of tasteless garbage that fill the supermarket shelves and burger bars; an end to the obscenity of food mountains; as much as possible, food produced where it is to be consumed; an end to the barbaric practices of factory farming.

-Omnivore



# libertarians

## WHAT'S IN A WORD?

The word "libertarian" used to be the preserve of the anarchist movement and labour movements influenced by it. Thus the "libertarian movement" in Spain meant, and still means today, the anarchist movement proper (FAI), the youth wing (FIJL - "Iberian Federation of Libertarian Youth"), the anarcho-syndicalist union confederation (CNT), the Mujeres Libres ("Free Women") movement, cultural centres, publishing houses, free schools etc.

The weekly paper of the French Anarchist Federation is called 'Le Monde Libertaire' ("Libertarian World"). Similarly the long-standing anarchist radio station in Paris is called... Radio Libertaire. The Italian Syndicalist Union (USI) terms itself a "libertarian union". Looking up the word "libertario" in an Italian-English dictionary it simply gives: "anarchic(al), anarchist".

The word seems to have had less currency in the English language, but there was, for example, an anarchist group called Hull Libertarian Collective in the late seventies.

A worrying trend in recent years has been the use of the word (in Britain and the USA) to describe elements on the far Right supposedly opposed to the State. Thus a recent article in 'The Washington Post' on the opponents of "big government" in the Republican Party was entitled 'Beware the lure of the libertarians' and referred to "libertarian Republicans"!

Of course these "libertarians" are against the State only in so far as it sometimes gets in the way of their being able to exploit the poor more thoroughly. They want to roll back the Welfare State, but their opposition to the State doesn't extend to dismantling the Army, Police, or to challenging the concept of government itself.

These people would more correctly be called free-marketeers and laissez-faire capitalists. Thatcher and Reagan resurrected this old tradition and now the world's full of their offspring, from Yeltsin and Berlusconi to the "Labour" and "socialist" parties who follow the same agenda these days to varying degrees.

A recent article in 'The Guardian' on the growing far Right militia movement in the US ('Adolf's US army') used the term "libertarianism" to describe the groundswell against big government shown in the Republican landslide in recent mid-term elections. Middle America has apparently had enough of high taxes, attempts at gun control etc., and at one extreme militias are being established in the backwoods to train for the coming show-down with Federal government. (What can you say, the Waco spirit obviously lives on unfortunately).

## Ecoutez Radio-Libertaire

Radio libre de la Fédération anarchiste émettant sur Paris

Back on this side of the Atlantic every now and then some idiot will come up with the tag "anarcho-capitalist" - a contradiction in terms if ever there was one.

Thatcher talked a lot about "freedom", but those of us on the receiving end of monetarism know that it meant the freedom to be exploited, ripped off and conned. Major changed tack slightly with his "classless society" line, but it's the same word games.

"Libertarian" is a word that historically belongs to the Left - to the revolutionary and anti-Statist Left. We will not allow it to be devalued by reference to the Right (or for that matter to the reformist Left, as also happens sometimes). Thatcherites, survivalists, vigilantes and all other rightwing loony tunes are not and have never been libertarians. Everywhere these ideas hold sway liberty is on the rack.

-D

### Steve Bell



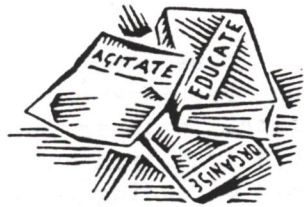
### ANOTHER FREEDOM-LOVER...

In California the campaign of the Republican Senate candidate Michael Huffington hit another rock yesterday. Mr Huffington admitted that he had hired an illegal immigrant as a nanny for his children.

The revelation came as a blow to Mr Huffington, who has made opposition to illegal immigration a central plank of his campaign. He is a supporter of California's controversial Proposition 187, which would deny illegal foreigners access to state-funded welfare, health and schooling. 28.10.94



# BOOK REVIEW



'Tom Brown's Syndicalism'  
(Phoenix Press £3.95)

At last, a book about anarcho-syndicalism, written by an active anarcho-syndicalist; written mostly after World War 2; and written without constantly referring to the Spanish Revolution.

Tom Brown was an engineer who served his apprenticeship in a Newcastle shipyard where he was drawn into politics as a union activist and shop steward. After a period in the Communist Party he moved south, and sickened by the activities of the Bolsheviks, he left the party eventually becoming an Anarchist and Syndicalist. Over the years, as well as producing many pamphlets, he wrote articles for 'Revolt', 'War Commentary', and 'Direct Action' which was launched in 1945 as the voice of the Anarchist Federation of Britain.

This book is a collection of these writings from the 1940's and 50's. Of course this means the book is slightly old-fashioned, sexist language and the (for today) hilarious rates of pay quoted for bosses being the obvious examples. However, after decades of pointless Labourism and the nonsense of Lenin's disciples, the anarcho-syndicalist ideas and actions proposed are as fresh and exiting as the day they were written.

And it's all here. How anarchists should organize. Trade Unionism or Syndicalism? The General Strike. Social Revolution. Workers Militias. Nationalisation and the New Boss Class. All written in a straight forward, easily understandable style, using references from British working class history.

One extract is enough to give an idea of the whole: "Who will pay the wages? No-one. Money, the most powerful weapon of the capitalist, is discarded. The banknotes in his wallet are so much fluff. But we must eat to live. Very well, the canning factories, the docks and warehouses are already in the hands of the workers. The flour mills and bakeries, the dairies and packing houses are controlled by them. The dockers, railwaymen and lorry drivers deliver the food to the factories and working class districts and canteen workers supply it to the workers and their families.

Distribution will not be according to the amount of money a person has but according to his need."

'Nuff said!

-M

PHOENIX PRESS - P.O. Box 824, London NI 9DL

AFA believes that fascism is an anti working class phenomenon which must be confronted both physically and ideologically wherever it raises its ugly mug. This cannot be left to the institutions of our "democracy". For example, the nazi group in Billingham is still attacking people (well, when they outnumber their target at least...), despite two of its members already facing court cases... AFA Office: 061 232 0813. 'Fighting Talk' (AFA magazine, £1): BM I734, London WCIN 3XX.

## Anti FASCIST ACTION

## Solidarity Federation

The Solidarity Federation is the British Section of the International Workers Association (IWA), and was launched in 1994 as the successor of the Direct Action Movement (DAM), which had been the IWA Section since 1979. The SolFed consists of Industrial Networks in the transport, public service and education sectors (each producing its own bulletin), and local groups around the country, which we hope are the embryo of a future anarcho-syndicalist union in Britain.

SolFed Secretariat,  
P.O. Box 384,  
Preston PRI 6PQ

## International Workers Association

The IWA is the syndicalist (i.e. revolutionary unionist) International established in 1922. Today it has union sections in France, Italy and Spain; propaganda sections in Argentina, Brazil, Britain, Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Norway and the USA; plus sympathetic groups in Australia, Japan, Nigeria, Russia, Switzerland etc.

The IWA Secretariat is currently entrusted to the CNT in Spain.



'ANARCHY!' is produced by anarchists from Tyne-side, Teesside and County Durham. This issue put together Jan. '95 on Teesside. P.O. Box ITA, Newcastle, NE99 ITA.