

NOTTINGHAM ANARCHIST NEWS

No.3 AUG / SEPT 85 AT LEAST 10p

BUMPER SUN-PACKED HOLIDAY ISSUE IIII

INCLUDING: SQUATTING
PICNIC SHOCK STORY
DIRECT ACTION
DHSS RULES
SNIFFING
STONEHENGE MUSHROOM
AND MUCH MUCH MORE...

Since the last issue we've been away all over the place doing lots of exciting things - so number 3 hasn't got much local stuff in it - it's a Special Holiday Issue, therefore. Apart from the events included in these pages, the anarchist group have been making lots of hummus to sell at Rock'n'Reggae festival (and eating most of it).

The print run has been increased by 100 again to 400 because the last issue sold so well. Only about 10% are sold through shops but they often want a mark-up, so you may end up paying more that way. Why not send us a donation and we'll get future copies to you till your donation runs out.

Nottingham Anarchist News is a local paper about local people and local action. We want you to send us information, articles or just dates about things happening locally - we don't just want anarchists involved, we're not writing for ourselves but for people in Nottingham. The deadline for no. 4 is the last week in September.

We've had a number of letters in response to numbers 1 and 2 - thanks, it's great to hear what people think and are doing.

P.S. There is a rumour going around that Mushroom don't sell vivisection books. We are unable to confirm or deny this!

"Never have so many spent so long putting together such a ~~short~~^{long} paper for so few." (Winston Churchill)

YOU CAN CONTACT US THROUGH:

BOX A
MUSHROOM BOOKSHOP
HEATHCOTE STREET
NOTTINGHAM



events

AUGUST

- SAT 10th 12 noon: men demonstrating against porn and male violence outside Private porn-shop on Carrington St.
- SAT 10th Nottm. Anti Apartheid Day of Action against the state of emergency in South Africa. Rally in Market Square 11.00am - 1.00pm. Banners/speakers/leaflet.
- SAT 10th 10.00am: Action for Benefit leafletting outside the Council House - about the new benefits Bill.
- SUN 11th AND EVERY SUNDAY 7.30pm: Defend Molesworth Group meets in CND office, St. Mary's Gate, Lace Market.
- MON 12th 7.30pm: Forest Fields Peace Group meets at 69 Wiverton Road, Forest Fields.
- TUES 13th AND EVERY TUESDAY UNTIL SEPT 10th 8.00pm: Anarchist discussion group meets. All welcome. Contact the anarchist group or 624742 for details.
- TUES 13th AND EVERY TUESDAY 7.30pm: Women for Peace meet at the International Community Centre, Mansfield Road.
- THURS 15th AND EVERY THURSDAY 2.00pm - 5.00pm. Claimants Action at the International Community Centre.
- FRI 16th AND EVERY FRIDAY 8.00pm: Anarchist Group meets at Nottingham Community Arts Centre, Gregory Boulevard (near Noel St.) All welcome.
- SAT 17th Peace Camp starts outside Styal womens prison in Cheshire. Contact the Anarcho-feminist Group for details.
- MON 19th AND EVERY FIRST AND THIRD MONDAY 7.45pm: Womens Anti Apartheid group meets at the International Community Centre.
- THURS 22nd 8.00pm: Showing of video of people rioting in Holland in response to coronation of Queen Beatrice. International Community Centre.
- THURS 22nd 7.30pm: Forest Fields Peace Group meets at 69 Wiverton Road.
- FRI 23rd Anarchist Group
- FRI 23rd Defend Molesworth Benefit at International Community Centre. 6.00pm - 10.30pm. £1 and £1.75. There will be food (like a meal, y'know), a bar, disco, a garden, videos & exhibition. Children are welcome. Music/performance from Toxic Shock, Art Vermin, The Others, Junkhead Poet (+ more?) Please try and be there - the money is desperately needed.
- SUN 25th Fylingdale Walk ends at Menwith Peace Camp (near Harrogate) with parties.
- MON 26th Mass trespass at Menwith Hill US spy base.
- FRI 30th Anarchist Group
- SAT 31st Gather for Peace at Upper Heyford USAF base. This gathering is not intended to be the usual regimented police/CND style demonstration. It will be spontaneous, come along with any ideas and anything you want to bring. This is your demonstration, not controlled by any leaders but by you. It's our world and we ourselves are entitled to take it back if we want.

SEPTEMBER

- MON 2nd AND FIRST MONDAY EVERY MONTH 7.30pm: Peace Action Network (direct action for peace in Nottm) meets at CND office.
- THURS 5th 8.00pm: Video of a Bunuel film at the International Community Centre.
- FRI 6th Anarchist Group
- SUN 8th Oddsox's Birthday
- MON 9th 7.30pm: Forest Fields Peace Group meets at 69 Wiverton Road.
- TUES 10th 7.30pm: public meeting - Trade Unionists for Irish Unity and Independence. T&CWU, Mansfield Road.
- FRI 13th Anarchist Group
- SAT 14th Conference against Police Repression; 12.00 - 6.00pm. Haringey Community Centre, Brabant Road, London N22 Wood Green tube. Resist the new Police Laws! People invited from Rainbow Village, mining communities, Animal Rights, Stop the City etc. We need to unite if we are to effectively challenge police repression. It is intended to plan future opposition including a proposed major protest through the streets of London. Details: Pete 01 341 5340. If you're interested in travelling together from Nottingham, tel. 624742.
- SAT 14th Women Against Pit Closures Conference in Nottingham.
- MON 16th Blockade at Faslane.
- TUES 17th "What is Anarchism?" course begins - see this paper for more details.
- FRI 20th Anarchist Group
- TUES 24th 7.30pm: Anti Apartheid Public Meeting with ANC speaker. Afro-Caribbean Centre, Hungerhill Road, St Anns.
- FRI 27th Anarchist Group

JANE WITHERS -- FROM NOTTINGHAM

RECENTLY WENT TO PRISON FOR 5 DAYS FOLLOWING NON-PAYMENT OF A FINE AFTER AN ACTION AT GREENHAM, SHE REFUSED TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE PRISON AUTHORITIES AND WENT ON HUNGER STRIKE, SHE WAS PUT IN SOLITARY, SHE'S DUE TO FACE THE SAME AGAIN SOON OVER AN ACTION AT MOLESWORTH. HER HUNGER STRIKE WILL BE SPONSORED - FOR WAR ON WANT AND/OR MOLESWORTH DEFENCE AND AID FUND, YOU CAN GET SPONSORSHIP FORMS FROM THE CND OFFICE, ST MARYS GATE,

ANARCHISM

ONE PERSONS VIEW - OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME.

LITERALLY AN ANARCHIST IS SOMEONE WHO SUGGESTS THAT SOCIETY HAS NO NEED FOR THE STATE, BUT THIS IS ONLY A VERY LIMITED PART OF WHAT ANARCHISTS BELIEVE IN.

THE WORD 'ANARCHIST', LIKE THE TERMS 'QUAKER' AND 'PROTESTANT', WAS ADOPTED AS A GESTURE OF DEFIANCE AND PRIDE AFTER BEING USED AS A TERM OF ABUSE BY OPPONENTS.

WHAT DO ANARCHISTS BELIEVE IN? ANARCHISM IS CONCERNED NOT JUST WITH OPPOSITION TO THE STATE BUT ALSO ALL FORMS OF COERCION AND AUTHORITY, WE'RE AS MUCH OPPOSED TO MEN'S OPPRESSION OF WOMEN, TO RACISM AND CAPITALISM, AS WE ARE TO THE STATE, THE STATE RESTS UPON VIOLENCE AND OPPRESSION AS MUCH AS THE REST OF THESE EVILS.

WE DON'T HAVE A ROSY VIEW OF HUMAN NATURE. ANARCHISTS DON'T BELIEVE THAT PEOPLE ARE SO WONDERFULLY GOOD THAT THEY DON'T NEED THE GOVERNMENT, BUT THAT WHEN POWER IS CENTRALISED PEOPLE TEND TO BECOME SO EVIL. THIS ISN'T JUST THE CASE WITH POLITICAL POWER CONCENTRATED IN THE STATE, BUT ALSO ECONOMICAL POWER IN CAPITALISM, OR PATRIARCHAL POWER CONCENTRATED IN THE FAMILY, THE STATE AND ALL OTHER FORMS OF AUTHORITY ACT AS A BLOCK TO MORALITY AND CO-OPERATION.

WE FEEL THAT SOCIETY CAN BE BASED ON SMALL GROUPS OF PEOPLE WHO, INSTEAD OF BEING CONTROLLED BY THE STATE AND BOSSES, DIRECTLY CONTROL AND ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN LIVES - WITH EACH GROUP, WHETHER IN THE COMMUNITY OR AT WORK, FEDERATING WITH OTHERS.

THE FREEDOM WE SEEK IS NOT IRRESPONSIBILITY OR CHAOS BUT IS REFLECTED ONLY IN EVERYBODIES FREEDOM, YOU CANNOT BE FREE WHILST ONE PERSON IS UNJUSTLY IMPRISONED.

HOW DO ANARCHISTS BELIEVE WE GET FROM THE SOCIETY WE LIVE IN NOW TO SOMETHING BETTER? WE BELIEVE THAT THE MEANS WE USE HAVE GOT TO BE EQUAL TO THE ENDS WE SEEK, WE FEEL THAT NON-HIERARCHICAL ALTERNATIVES CAN BE PUT INTO AFFECT NOW - CREATING THE NEW SOCIETY WITHIN THE SHELL OF THE OLD.

WE ALSO BELIEVE IN THE USE OF DIRECT ACTION - PEOPLE ACTING THEMSELVES RATHER THAN LEAVING IT TO POLITICIANS AND LEADERS, DIRECT ACTION IS NOT JUST AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE INDIRECT NATURE OF ESTABLISHED POLITICAL (IN)ACTION, BUT AN ATTEMPT BY PEOPLE TO ASSERT THEIR OWN POWER AND TO DEMONSTRATE TO OTHERS THAT THEY CAN DEVELOP THEIR OWN POWER TOO.

Why SQUAT?

Kicked out of B&B's because of the new Social Security 4 week rule, a few homeless people got their act together.

They didn't want to pay high rent prices for a crappy little damp room in Hyson Green. They didn't want to be homeless. Some had been so for as long as three months after being thrown out of their B&B's by the governments rule on Social Security. Then the squat surfaced, and became known as open doss houses by other people as opposed to a closed squat..

The present is a home for the occupiers and not a community centre.

HOW TO 'OPEN UP' A SQUAT

First find the empty premises and get in. Preferably without causing any damage - as damage to property is illegal and you become liable to prosecution. USE YOUR IMAGINATION - SQUATTING IS NOT AN ILLEGAL ACT in itself and once inside it becomes your home

NOBODY may enter the building through the use of force or threat of violence or arrest. The police may only enter upon your permission or by producing a warrant.

The police may however apply to the courts for an eviction order. (Read the bit below about

London evictions). However, many squats still exist without being evicted!!!!!!

A council house that's empty for a year is an ideal target for a squat. Then you turn it into a home. Many squatters pay rent to the council and money to the electricity and gas and water boards.

LONDON SQUATTERS GET IT IN THE NECK

Next year some time, local council elections are to be held, and as you would expect, local councils are making ready, preparing for the big day so it is in London.

The LABOUR Lambeth council have decided it would be nice to be able to say as part of the election propaganda that they have no squatters to dirty the local estates, so they proceeded to evict them all.

In one estate alone (Brixton) there are 35 known squats - that's at least 120 people, all served with eviction orders.

COUNCIL LIES

The council argue that these squatters need to be evicted because they are jumping the rehousing waiting list.. However, as always, properties are left empty for as long as a year.

If you were homeless, what would YOU do?

In the whole of the Lambeth Borough, over 400 people have taken it upon themselves to find and make their own homes in over 200 squats.

In Southwark Borough, 500 squats were set up by a few homeless persons. But last June, their Labour councillorsevicted the lot - well over 1000 settled squatters. It seems to be a battle of power by the Labour councils, and not as they say, a crack down on those who choose to jump the long rehousing queue. (What am I saying? Choose? They have no choice.)

POWER MAD POLITICIANS AND COUNCILLORS, thinking only of themselves, their status, position, money and a few weeks in Majorca.

This brings me to think of the GLC - a Labour run framework. Why should the GLC pretend to be helping people, when the very people who run it don't care whether families rot in the gutter or not. What will happen when (and IF) Labour gain control of parliament? Not a lot I think.

Breaks your heart doesn't it. This is class struggle, and fucking hell, do we have to struggle. UNITE

NOT NVERY POLITICAL

THE HEAVY HANDS OF REACTIONARY POLITICAL ECONOMY GRAB MORE VICTIMS. YET ANOTHER CASUALTY SLOWLY STRANGLING SEEMS TO BE NOTTINGHAM VIDEO PROJECT (NVP). AFTER A YEAR OF SCRABBLING AROUND FOR LONG TERM FUNDING THE DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT REFUSED MONEY FOR WORKERS, AND CITY AND COUNTY COUNCILS ARE AT THE MOMENT NEATLY PASSING THE BUCK. REASONS? DO YOU NEED A REASON? THE DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT CONSIDERED THAT NVP WASN'T DOING ENOUGH FOR THE 'INNER CITY', FOR WHICH IT WOULD SPECIFICALLY GIVE MONEY, (POSSIBLY THE PROJECTS CONTRIBUTION TO THE MINERS CAMPAIGN TAPES DIDN'T GO DOWN WELL EITHER..), NVP HAS HAD GLOWING PRAISE FROM A NUMBER OF PILLARS OF STATE CULTURE - SUNDAY TIMES, BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE, CHANNEL 4, EAST MIDLANDS ARTS, - AND NOW LOOKS AS IF IT'S GOING TO BE DRAWN (DRAGGED?) INTO THEIR ORBIT. AS PART OF TOURIST FANTASY 'GLORY OF THE GARDEN' STRATEGY NOTTM, IS TO BECOME A MEDIA CENTRE. THE WHOLE CITY IS TO BECOME LIKE 'BROOKSIDE' AND PART OF A SOAP OPERA CALLED... NO, NOT REALLY, BUT MUCH MONEY IS TO BE PUT INTO A PLUSH BUILDING (THE

OLD ALBERT HALL INSTITUTE?) FROM WHICH FILMS AND TV PROGRAMMES WILL FLOW. ('MEDIA' DOESN'T INCLUDE FORMS LIKE PRINTING WHICH WE PLEBS HAVE TO COMMUNICATE WITH), AND THE VIDEO PROJECT HAS BEEN QUITE CLEARLY TOLD BY THE COMBINED COUNCILS THAT THIS IS WHERE THE MONEY AND ACTION IS. (IT LOOKS SO GOOD ON TOURIST BROCHURES AND ELECTION MANIFESTOS) SO GET IN OR PISS OFF.

MAYBE ALL THIS IS PREDICTABLE. WHAT'S MORE INTERESTING IS THE WAY IN WHICH NEW AND POTENTIALLY RADICAL COMMUNICATION FORMS BECOME INCORPORATED INTO THE RULING CLASS VISION. IN IT'S ORIGINAL FORM - DEOCRATIC USER CONTROLLED, ACCESS TO EQUIPMENT FREE OF CHARGE - NVP HAD POTENTIAL FOR RADICAL GROUPS TO PRESENT THEIR OWN VIEW OF THE WORLD. THE EVER THORNY QUESTION OF THE ROLE OF PROFESSIONAL WORKERS HAS RISEN AGAIN - AT WHAT POINT DO TRADE UNION DEMANDS FOR WORK SECURITY CONTRADICT WITH KNOWLEDGE SHARING? HOW CAN THOSE EARNING £9,000+ UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF THOSE ON SS? THE PROJECT HAS ALWAYS STAYED WITHIN THE LEGITIMATE POLITICS OF COUNCIL LOBBIES AND LETTERS OF SUPPORT - AS OPPOSED TO RAISING AND ACTING ON THE QUESTION OF WHO SHOULD CONTROL AND OWN THE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION. THE MOVE TOWARDS THE MEDIA CENTRE (AND THE MASS PRODUCTIONS PROJECT BACKED BY CHANNEL 4) IS TOWARDS PRODUCTION FOR TELEVISION, HIGH FINANCE, HIGH PRESTIGE, AND OF COURSE - LEGAL, BALANCED AND BLAND.

NVP IS NOW GOING TO INTRODUCE CHARGES FOR EQUIPMENT USE; THE PROPOSAL IS THAT 'VOLUNTARY GROUPS' SHOULD HAVE A 'NEGOTIABLE' FEE - BUT THAT'S YET TO BE DEFINED. IF YOU'RE A MEMBER/AFFILIATE THEN GET WRITING AND DEMAND A ZERO FEE FOR UNFUNDED GROUPS. THE WAYS IN WHICH THE LOCAL AND CENTRAL STATE NEUTRALISE DISSENT ARE ALWAYS CLEVER. IN ITS EARLY DAYS VIDEO WAS GIVEN THE FREEDOM OF A NEW TECHNOLOGY, NOW IT'S GOING THE SAME WAY OF RADIO - LICENSED AND MUFFLED. BUT YOU KNOW HOW IT GOES, SISTERS AND BROTHERS - GET THEM TRANSMITTERS OUT!!

SQUATTING IN AMSTERDAM

There are 10,000 squatters in Amsterdam. Not everybody is organised, but for people that need/want support from other squatters (for evictions or with hassles from landlord's heavies) there is a well sussed out apparatus to use. Amsterdam is divided up into areas. Each area has it's own meetings to discuss problems once a week/fortnight. Every squat that is in that area pays a levy towards the 'fighting fund'. Many areas have their own squat cafe and 'kraaksprekkuur' - squatting surgery - the idea being that you can get advice and information about squatting, but they cover other things too: talks, videos, meetings about other political issues.

The best way to describe what happens is this. You have found an empty house. You have found out the landlords name and you know there are no redevelopment plans in the pipeline yet, and no one is about to move in. So he is speculating. You and your group that want to live there goes to a Squat-Surgery. You announce it at a meeting and arrange a time to move in. An alarm goes out the night before - if it's a small house and there is n't likely to be much hassle from the police or the landlord, it's usually a local alarm. If it's a big place with hassles then a general alarm goes out. (There are three main types of alarms - telephone trees - local, general and women's.). Everyone meets at an address near the squat - though no one knows the exact address yet - with crow bars, new locks, bed springs - for barricading the windows and every exit but the main one - and you all go to the house. Break in - this is the time when you can be arrested for burglary or something daft - take the house and secure it. If you're sussed you'll have made leaflets to give to the neighbours explaining why your in there etc.

Every squat action is a non heirachal mass action. If there are hassles the group of people there decides what to do as a group. To make that kind of decision each individual there has to know all the facts - if anyone tries to hold out or be a leader, people can and do just go away and the whole thing collapses.

This " System " if you like, is applied to other actions in Amsterdam. Occupations, opening up women's centres, demonstrations (against the queen for instance), closing off a nuclear power station - 1980 and 1981.

All these meetings are relatively open. It is n't difficult for the cops to infiltrate meetings - though that does n't happen very often but because, for actions, no real, hard information

is given until the last minute there is n't enough time to react. And even if there is, there still is n't much they can do because of the numbers of people involved and the type of actions that are planned. I'll give an example.

In 1982 a squat - the Lucky Luke - was evicted whilst one guy was in the building and everyone else was at a public meeting to discuss what should happen to the building with the council. So it was planned betrayal. When news spread about what had happened people rioted all day. Squatters smashed windows all round the expensive area of the city and the M.E. (S.P.G.) and the military police moved in. They had to retreat. In response, the Mayor of Amsterdam (Polak) issued a " State of emergency " for the first time since WW II. - So any demonstrating was illegal as was being in groups of more than three. That evening a general alarm went out and hundreds of us met in a squat in the centre. It was decided that we would split up into small groups (any large group would have meant street fights with the police) and smash all the government buildings in the city. Which is what we did and no one got caught because the police were too spread.



Squatting as a basis for political action

Social control in Holland is much more streamlined than in England. Every dutch citizen has to be registered with the Bevolkiysregister (population register). These files are in every town, village and city and are divided up into streets, house by house. Every time you move house you have to register. So at any given time your name, date of birth and address is readily available to the authorities. Without registering you can't get welfare or a house. Squats are something else. Whole blocks of information are denied to the police - there is no official information about who lives there. So if you are an activist the advantages are enormous - you have the space to do things you could n't do from a straight house.

Squats are no go areas for the police. Every serious squat is barricaded so if they come they have to come in force and by that time they know an alarm has gone out and they would have a fight on their hands. That does n't bother them - it's the cost that stops them. Mass actions cost money to the state and even super wealthy Holland has it's saturation point. For the past two years or so, it has been illegal to squat and by law they can evict anyone who has squatted since the law was passed. But the cost is so enormous that the authorities have to carry on evicting piece-meal. The authorities are on the defensive in Holland - just because of the sheer numbers involved. It's a lesson we have yet to learn and utilise in this country.

This is just a brief overview of squatting. There are many political issues I have n't gone into - that would take a book in itself. But I've tried to present the bare bones of Amsterdam squatting - remember though, this activity is n't confined to there, the major cities in Holland are run on the same lines. Any omissions I apologise for.

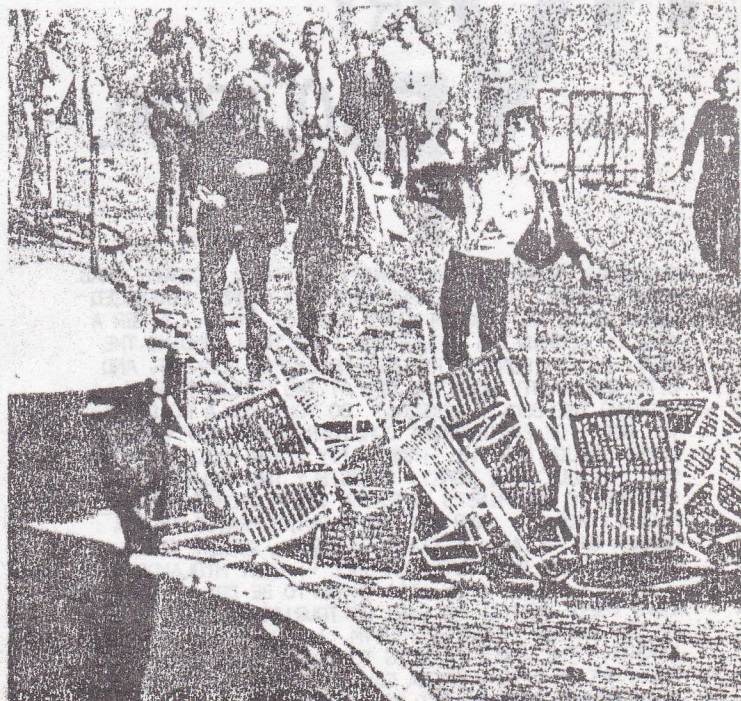
I did n't explain the fighting fund. This money is for any costs coming up during an eviction, demonstration, etc. There is also a weekly squat newspaper DE BLUF which, presumably, was set up with this money. There is also a radio station Vry Kaiser/ Radio Twist, and the Women's Radio which broadcasts weekly.

A Kingdom For A House

A video about the crowning of queen Beatrix of Holland in 1982 and the squatters riots that arose because of this.

at International Community Centre,
Mansfield Rd.

8pm on Aug. 22nd.



NOTTINGHAM goes to 'Stop The Air Fair'

AFTER A SATURDAY OF TRYING TO SORT OUT WHETHER THE MINIBUS SHOULD GO TO SALISBURY PLAIN TO CHASE THE CRUISE CONVOY OR TO ALCONBURY AS PLANNED, IT FINALLY SET OFF, ALONG WITH ANOTHER CAR, EARLY ON SUNDAY TO THE AIR FAIR.

TO GET IN AND BE LESS OBVIOUS WHILST LEAFLETTING AND VIDEOING WE WENT "STRAIGHT". PEOPLES IDEAS OF WHAT THE TYPICAL AIR TATOO GOING PUBLIC LOOK LIKE WERE DIVERSE, THERE WERE CAPPED SLEVED TEE SHIRTS SMART TIES AND A WOMAN MADE PREGNANT BY STUFFING A SCARF DOWN HER TIGHTS (THEREBY MAKING HER INVISIBLE, TO MOST PEOPLE A PREGNANT WOMAN IS NOT WORTH REGISTERING, LET ALONE VIEWING WITH SUSPICION). ALL IN ALL WE LOOKED A PARTICULARLY DUBIOUS BUNCH.

WE WENT GENERALLY SPEAKING IN COUPLES, TO INCREASE THE LACK OF IMPACT WE WANTED TO MAKE ON THE AMERICANS ON THE GATE. THE "PROSPECTIVE MOTHER AND FATHER" WERE LET IN HOLDING HANDS, HE EVEN PAID FOR HER, AND THE SECURITY GUARD LEFT THEM WITH THE PASSING COMMENT "I HOPE YOU'RE GOING TO BEHAVE YOURSELVES TODAY, MR D....." SPOTTED!! WHETHER THEY'VE GOT GOOD MEMORIES OR PHOTOS OF KNOWN ACTIVISTS, I DON'T KNOW, BUT IT GOT EVERYONE NICE AND JUMPY FOR THE REST OF THE DAY!

GOING IN ON FOOT WAS A GOOD IDEA AS WE SAW A LOT OF MINIBUSSES GETTING SEARCHED, I THINK IT MAY HAVE BEEN THE BLACK COMBAT JACKETS AND SPIKEY HAIR OF THE OCCUPANTS THAT BLEW IT!

ONCE INSIDE, EVEN THOUGH WE WERE ALL FOLLOWED OR THOUGHT WE WERE BEING FOLLOWED AT SOME POINT, WE WERE PROBABLY SAFER THAN MORE OBVIOUS PEACE ACTIVISTS. PEOPLE WHO MADE IT CLEAR WHAT THEY WERE THERE FOR WERE FOLLOWED CONSTANTLY, SO THAT AS SOON AS THEY UNFURLED THEIR BANNERS THEY WERE SWOOPED ON BEFORE THE UNSUSPECTING PUBLIC COULD MAKE OUT WHAT WAS GOING ON. THE SECURITY WAS LOW KEY BUT MERCILESS.

IT WASN'T SO MUCH DISTURBING AS TOTALLY UNREAL TO WONDER AROUND "LITTLE AMERICA" HAMBURGER STALLS, JETS TAKING OFF, STALLS ACCEPTING CENTS AS WELL AS PENCE, US AIR MEN AND SOUVENIER DELIGHTS SUCH AS BASE BALL CAPS FOR WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE USAF ALCONBURY TEAM, THE "AGGRESSORS"!! STRANGEST OF ALL AMONGST THE WARMONGERY THERE WERE ACTUALLY PLANTS, FLOWERS, POTTERY ETC FOR SALE.



IT'S DISTURBING TO CONFESS HOW IMPRESSIVE, THOUGH I HESITATE TO SAY "EXCITING" THE PLANES WERE, DOING DARE-DEVIL STUNTS AND SPLITTING THE SKY APART WITH THEIR ENGINES ROARING. WATCHING THE CHILDREN I COULD SEE THEIR DESIRES FOR THE KIND OF POWER AND PRESTIGE, THAT GOES WITH BEING BEHIND THE CONTROL OF SUCH A MACHINE, TAKING SHAPE. AND AS THE AIRMEN (I DIDN'T SEE ANY WOMEN) STRODE AROUND, MIRROR SHADES, NEAT GREEN BOILER SUITS AND CLEAN WHITE NECKERCHEIFS, THE CROWDS OF PEOPLE TENDED TO PART IN UNCONSCIOUS RESPECT. IT WAS ALL A GOOD P.R JOB FOR THE AMERICANS, AND THE BRITISH CROWD WAS SUITABLY IMPRESSED.

LEAFLETTING WENT FAIRLY WELL, THE FACT THAT PEOPLE MISTOOK THE NOTTM "WELLCOME TO THE AIR FAIR" LEAFLET FOR A PROGRAMME OF THE DAY'S EVENTS, AND ACTUALLY CAME UP ASKING FOR THEM MAY HAVE HELPED. HALF THE PEOPLE FROM NOTTM WERE PICKED UP FOR LEAFLETTING, THOUGH THE SMART CLOTHES AND PREGNANCY HELPED MANY CON THEIR WAY OUT OF IT. THE PREGNANT MUM IMPLIED SHE'D BEEN PROCESSED WHEN IN FACT SHE'D ONLY GONE IN FOR A PISS. SOMEONE ELSE EVEN GOT AWAY WITH THE OLD "I THINK THERE'S BEEN SOME MISTAKE" PLOY! THOSE THAT WERE CHARGED WERE MAINLY DONE WITH BREACH OF THE PEACE, A FARCIICAL CHARGE THAT THE M.O.D WILL FIND HARD TO MAKE STICK.

SECURITY WAS SO TIGHT THAT EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE MANY GROUPS DOWN THERE, LITTLE PROTEST WAS IN EVIDENCE (EXCEPT OUTSIDE THE GATE WHERE THERE WAS A PICKET). GROUPS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTY SEEMED TO HAVE MADE A SUBSTANTIAL EFFORT TO BE THERE, EVEN THOUGH WE ALL FELT SMALL AND INSIGNIFICANT COMPARED TO THE PROFESSIONAL AND INFLUENTIAL IMPACT OF THE U.S WAR MACHINE.

due classic bowler and hat that I was really on my way to bank.

Sinister group

At one point I got wedged in with what looked like a busload of women's institutors in virtually identical coats and hats, who screamed in unison when the pigeons whirred overhead.

I also encountered what was clearly a sinister group of pale young anarchists and looked for the bombs hidden in their evercoat pockets. But the police, no doubt fresh from the pithead, did not appear to regard them as very dangerous.

In the end I stationed myself as far from the anarchists as possible, near the bank on South Parade. Unfortunately this was the signal for all the umbrella-

IN MARCH, CHARLIE + DI CAME TO NOTTINGHAM. AREN'T WE LUCKY? WE WENT TO SEE THEM, GAVE OUT HUNDREDS OF LEAFLETS AND GOT VERY BORED. THE LEAFLET IS UP THERE? THE EVENING POST IS DOWN THERE?

ANCIENT HISTORY

EVERY DAY WHAT DO WE GET ON TV.....???

SOAP OPERAS, SOAP OPERAS AND MORE SOAP OPERAS.

EVERYBODY TALKS ABOUT THEM, EVERYBODY'S INTERESTED, AND TODAY NOTTINGHAM'S LUCKY CITIZENS WILL BE ABLE TO MEET TWO OF THE ACTORS IN BRITAIN'S LONGEST RUNNING SOAP OPERA, DALLAS MEETS REAL LIFE. JUST WHO ARE THESE ROYALS AND WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

TAKEN TO THIS EXTREME, SOAP OPERA IS NO LONGER FUN, IT'S

- * A WASTE OF MONEY - OUR MONEY, THEY SPEND MORE ON DOGS AND HORSES THAN MOST PEOPLE HAVE TO LIVE ON IN A LIFETIME.
- * DESIGNED TO KEEP OUR MINDS OFF REAL PROBLEMS, NOTICE HOW A BIG ROYAL OCCASION IS ALWAYS WHEELED OUT DURING A TIME OF CRISIS OR POPULAR UNREST.
- * A DISPLAY OF INEQUALITY AT ITS MOST VICIOUS. WE GAIN NOTHING FROM THE ROYAL SOAP OPERA, WITH OVER 5 MILLION OUT OF WORK, WE CAN'T SERIOUSLY THINK THAT THEY BRING JOBS OR WEALTH TO THIS COUNTRY.
- ROYALS ARE NOT JUST HARMLESS SYMBOLS. THEY HEAD THE STATE, THE ARMED FORCES AND THE CHURCH. THEY ARE THE HUMAN FACE OF THE SYSTEM THAT BRINGS YOU POVERTY, SOUL DESTROYING JOBS OR UNEMPLOYMENT AND WAR.

P&P AMBRIDGE REPUBLICAN FRONT
CAMPAIGN FOR REAL LIFE - NOT SOAP OPERAS

MORE ON MUSHROOM

DO YOU FIND . . .
Smashing the state a bit tough?
Patriarchy too strong?
Co-operation a hassle?
CND too wishy-washy?
Black and red are your favourite colours?
Yes - You too could be an 'anarchist' - it's fun picketting radical bookshops.

HOW WOULD YOU ADVERTISE A MEETING FOR MUSHROOM USERS? WE HIT ON THE BRIGHT IDEA OF GIVING OUT LEAFLETS ABOUT IT OUTSIDE MUSHROOM. WE DID LOTS ONE SATURDAY AFTERNOON, BUT WERE AMAZED BY THE AMOUNT OF PARANOIA WHICH RESULTED. CUSTOMERS WERE QUITE HAPPY TO TAKE THE NICE YELLOW LEAFLETS, BUT THE REACTION OF THE SHOP WORKERS MADE LITTLE SENSE.

FIRST, A PARTNER EMERGED AND TOLD US TO GO AWAY, AND THAT HE WAS GLAD THEY WEREN'T STOOPING TO OUR TACTICS. (LEAFLETTING, I ASK YOU!) WHEN WE DIDN'T GO, NOTICE AFTER NOTICE DENOUNCING US STARTED APPEARING IN THE WINDOWS. AREN'T CUSTOMERS ALLOWED TO GET TOGETHER TO TALK ABOUT MUSHROOM, IS ALL DISCUSSION AND/OR CRITICISM FORBIDDEN? ANYWAY, COPIES OF THE NOTICES APPEAR ON THIS PAGE FOR YOUR EDUCATION.

A NOTICE FROM MUSHROOM
The meeting you are now being leafletted about has no connection with Mushroom. It has been called by some 'anarchists' who are peeved because we refuse to sell a couple of so-called anarchist papers which encourage gratuitous violence!
Peace & Freedom: Mushroom.

IN OUR LAST ISSUE, WE ADVERTISED A MUSHROOM USERS MEETING, THERE WERE SEVERAL ISSUES THAT ANARCHISTS AND OTHER MUSHROOM USERS WANTED TO DISCUSS WITH THE PARTNERS. OVER THE YEARS WE HAVE GIVEN THEM CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT SO WE WERE SURPRISED TO DISCOVER THEIR LACK OF INTEREST IN TALKING WITH US.

MORE THAN THIRTY PEOPLE FROM VARIOUS AREAS OF NOTTINGHAM'S "RADICAL AND ALTERNATIVE" SCENES TURNED UP FOR THE MEETING, BUT NONE OF THEM WERE CURRENT WORKERS AT THE SHOP. WE STILL HAD AN INTERESTING AND USEFUL DISCUSSION, WHICH ONLY ENDED WHEN WE WERE SO COLD WE HAD TO GO TO THE PUB.

WE TALKED ABOUT CENSORSHIP (ONCE A FEW TITLES START BEING SELECTIVELY BANNED, WHERE WILL IT END?), POWER AND MONEY, STOCKING POLICIES AND THE RECENT "SACKING". BUT MOST OF THE DISCUSSION WAS ABOUT WHO MUSHROOM WAS AND SHOULD BE ACCOUNTABLE TO. WHERE WAS THE BEST BALANCE BETWEEN INDEPENDENCE AND RESPONSIBILITY TO PEOPLE AND MOVEMENTS WHOSE SUPPORT HELPED TO MAKE MUSHROOM AS BIG AS IT NOW IS, AND WITH WHOM MUSHROOM IDENTIFIES, FOR EXAMPLE BY THE SYMBOLS ON ITS VAN? AND IF THE PARTNERS DIDN'T WANT TO DISCUSS DIFFERENCES WITH THE USERS, WHAT CAN WE DO WHEN WE HAVE COMPLAINTS? (SHUT UP AND LET BOOKSELLERS DECIDE WHAT'S BEST FOR US?)

THE MAIN PROBLEM THAT EMERGED WAS THE LACK OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN USERS AND PARTNERS, SO SOME PEOPLE DECIDED TO APPROACH MUSHROOM TO ASK THEM TO ORGANISE A USER'S MEETING. WATCH THIS SPACE . . .

A NOTICE FROM MUSHROOM
Various anarchists are leafletting about a forthcoming meeting to discuss us . . . seems to be called because we won't stock two violent magazines
Here's a list of people who don't like us: police, Tories, fascists, some 'anarchists', pornographers

ANARCHIST MONTHLY

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FREEDOM



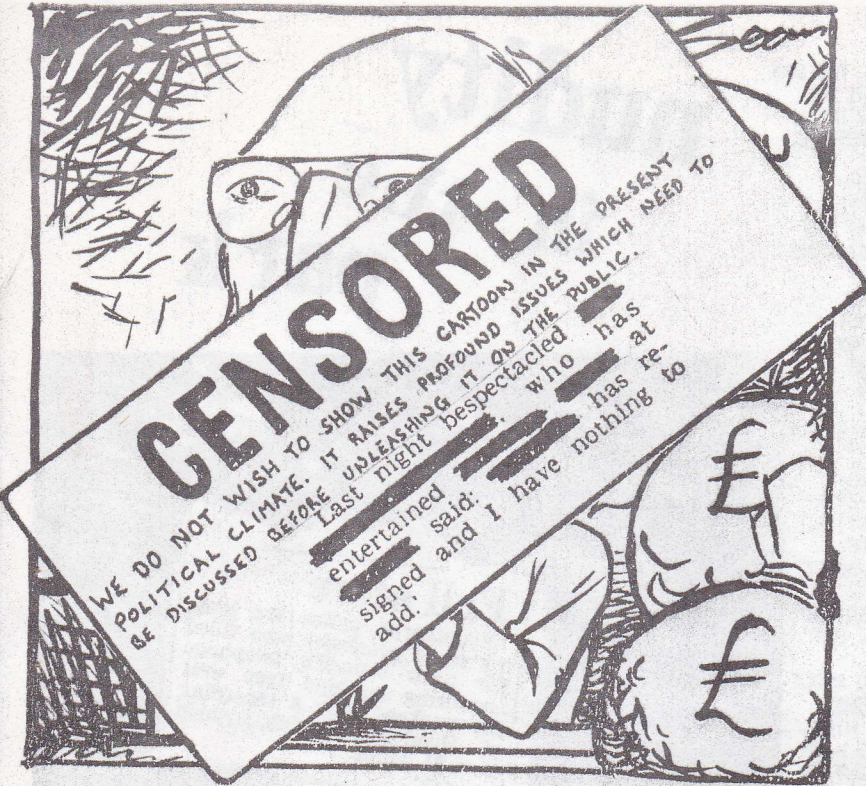
WELL FARES THE STATE WEIGHING UP OUR PAST

CLASS WAR



THE BEST CUT OF ALL

TWO PRETTY HORRIFIC IMAGES, EH? I CAN WELL UNDERSTAND THAT SOME PEOPLE MIGHT FIND THEM OFFENSIVE. WELL APPARENTLY. ACCORDING TO MUSHROOM, THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEM. THEY REFUSE TO SELL CLASS WAR, BUT GIVE FREEDOM TRADE OF PLACE ON THEIR FRONT DESK. WHY? I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND BUT IT SEEMS VIOLENCE IS O.K. PROVIDED THAT THE PEOPLE WHO BUY THESE PAPERS HAVE BEEN POSITIVELY VERIFIED. FREEDOM IS O.K. BECAUSE IT IS BOUGHT BY SENSIBLE, INTELLIGENT HUMAN BEINGS, NO DOUBT THE SAME PEOPLE WHO BUY JAMES BOND BOOKS FROM MUSHROOM. BUT CLASS WAR, ON THE OTHER HAND, WHO COULD POSSIBLY TAKE THAT SERIOUSLY? AND THE PEOPLE WHO BUY IT - YOUNG, WORKING CLASS, UNEMPLOYED! THE ISSUE



IF A LOCAL FIRM TRIED TO SACK SOMEONE WHO'D BEEN WORKING THERE FOR TWELVE YEARS BECAUSE OF "INCOMPATIBILITY" AND, FINDING ITSELF IN DISPUTE, LOCKED THIS PERSON OUT, STOPPED PAYING HER AND EMPLOYED OTHER PEOPLE TO DO HER WORK, WHO WOULD WE IN NOTTINGHAM EXPECT TO FIND SELLING PAPERS AND LITERATURE IN SUPPORT OF THE SACKED WORKER? WHY, MUSHROOM OF COURSE.

HOWEVER, SINCE THE REVELATIONS IN THE LAST ANARCHIST NEWS, MUSHROOM ITSELF HAS TAKEN ON THE ROLE OF SCAB EMPLOYER. THEY TOLD THE ONE PARTNER WHO DISAGREED WITH THE DECISION TO CENSOR ANARCHIST PAPERS (AND WITH THE INCREASINGLY LESS RADICAL DIRECTION THE SHOP WAS TAKING) THAT THEY DIDN'T WANT TO WORK WITH HER ANY MORE. THEIR PROBLEM? NO! MIGHT IS RIGHT, MAJORITY RULE - THERE WAS INCOMPATIBILITY AND SHE WAS THE ONE WHO WOULD HAVE TO GO, UNFORTUNATELY FOR THE REST OF THE PARTNERS, SHE DIDN'T AGREE TO GO QUIETLY. SHE'D BEEN WORKING THERE FOR TWELVE YEARS AND ALSO FELT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO KEEP HER INFLUENCE IN THE SHOP. MUSHROOM'S RESPONSE:

A LETTER, TELLING HER SHE WAS NOT TO COME INTO THE SHOP EXCEPT AS A "NORMAL" CUSTOMER STOPPING HER PAY CHANGING THE LOCKS TO KEEP HER OUT. AS A RESULT OF LOCKING OUT ONE OF THEIR PARTNERS, THE REMAINING WORKERS FOUND THEMSELVES SHORT-STAFFED, BUT THE BUSINESS MUST GO ON. HOW DID MUSHROOM COPE? WELL, HOW WOULD ANY FIRM WHO'D FOUND THEMSELVES OVERWORKED BECAUSE OF A LOCKOUT WANT TO GET BY? BY EMPLOYING SCAB LABOUR OF COURSE! NOT EVERYONE YOU'LL MEET BEHIND MUSHROOM'S DESK IS A GENUINE COLLECTIVE MEMBER.

SINCE IT FIRST OPENED IN THE MEADOWS IN 1972, MUSHROOM HAS GROWN TREMENDOUSLY. FROM £600 AND A LITTLE OUT-OF-TOWN SHOP, MUSHROOM NOW HAS £15,000 IN THE IMPERIAL BUILDING SOCIETY, A LARGE DOUBLE SHOP WITH OFFICE IN A POPULAR SHOPPING AREA, REGULAR ORDERS FROM LIBRARIES AND A HUGE STOCK. THE BUSINESS IS RUN AS A PARTNERSHIP, HAVING ALWAYS VALUED ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM OUTSIDE PRESSURES. THE PROBLEM SEEMS TO BE THAT THE PARTNERS WILL NOT ACKNOWLEDGE THE AMOUNT OF POWER THAT MUSHROOM NOW HAS IN NOTTINGHAM. HOW COULD ANYBODY WHO MIGHT WISH TO SEE A DIFFERENT SORT OF RADICAL BOOKSHOP IN NOTTINGHAM POSSIBLY SET UP IN COMPETITION WITH SUCH AN ESTABLISHMENT? YET SURELY THE PEOPLE WHO SELECT THE BOOKS A CITY'S RADICAL POPULATION CAN CHOOSE FROM HAVE AN ENORMOUS THOUGH INDIRECT SAY IN WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES AND ATTITUDES FOR ACTION, AND WHEN THOSE PEOPLE ARE ALSO ONE OF THE FEW GROUPS RICH ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO CHOOSE WHICH CAUSES ARE OR ARE NOT WORTHY OF DONATIONS, THEN MAYBE THAT COULD BE CONSIDERED TOO MUCH POWER FOR FIVE PEOPLE.

HOW TO ACHIEVE STREET CREDIBILITY . . .

- 1) Get raided by police
- 2) Bricked by fascists
- 3) Spray painted by Socialist Workers Party
- 4) Picketted by 'anarchists'.

Mushroom must be doing OK to get that lot against us!

IS NOT ABOUT VIOLENCE AT ALL. IT IS ABOUT CLASS! MUSHROOM ALSO SELL REPUBLICAN NEWS, BOOKS ON TERRORISM BECAUSE "PEOPLE NEED TO READ THESE THINGS TO COME TO A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION." CLASS WAR IS THE LARGEST SELLING ANARCHIST PAPER IN THE COUNTRY. HOW CAN ANYBODY COME TO ANY UNDERSTANDING OF MODERN ANARCHISM WITHOUT READING IT? YOU MAY NOT LIKE IT BUT IT IS IMPORTANT! "MIDDLE CLASS PEOPLE CAN BE TRUSTED, WORKING CLASS PEOPLE NOT. AFTER ALL THEY MIGHT BE FASCISTS!" MUSHROOM WILL SQUIRM ALL WAYS TO JUSTIFY SELLING ALL SORTS OF GARBAGE, BUT CLASS WAR? NO, ITS TOO MUCH OF A THREAT TO THEIR ROSY MIDDLE-CLASS LIVES. IT IS CLASS WAR!

BELOW ARE TWO VIEWS ON PORNOGRAPHY. THE FIRST IS FROM FREEDOM, THE SECOND FROM CLASS WAR. THE LATEST FREEDOM HAS 24 PAGES ON WHY PORNOGRAPHY SHOULD BE ATTACKED. THE ISSUES ARE IMPORTANT. MUSHROOM, LET YOUR CUSTOMERS DECIDE. WE DON'T NEED YOU TO DECIDE OUR MORALITY FROM YOUR POSITION OF CLASS AND AGE.

AS FOR YOUR FACIST POSITION:

- 1) YOU DO SELL VIOLENT BOOKS.
- 2) VIOLENCE BY PROXY, USING THE FORCE OF THE STATE IS STILL VIOLENCE. HYPOCRISY! HYPOCRISY!

① By extending the meaning of people to include non-human individuals one can, awkwardly, stretch anarchism to include opposition to butchery and vivisection. But there is no way whatever of making anarchism include attacks on freedom to publish.

② Porn is deadly for women and degrades men as people too. I just can't understand the mentality that thinks porn is ok, harmless. If we are to work towards mutual respect then how can porn be ok? As far as I'm concerned it's fascists, liberals and lunkheads that think that porn is ok, and the same goes for those who think the state, church and schools are harmless. They all need destroying in order to create something better. THAT is revolutionary, THAT is working towards anarchy-responsibility for ourselves and each other, remember? Anything less is because the people concerned are scared of confronting the crap in their own heads, and find it easier to attack those who are doing something.

If you excuse porn, you are taking part in the humiliation, rape and murder of women. It really is that simple. And that dangerous.

AFTER BATED BREATH AS TO THE CONDITION OF THE WEATHER, THE DAY DAWNED BRIGHT AND SUNNY, AT WOLLATON PARK FAMILIES SPORTED IN THE SUNSHINE, UNTIL SUDDENLY A SILENCE FELL AND ALL HEADS TURNED TO WATCH THE SINISTER GROUP WHICH PASSED LIKE A BLACK SHADOW OVER THE LAND.

THEY GATHERED BY THE SIDE OF THE LAKE AND DEVIDED THEMSELVES INTO THREE CAMPS - THOSE WHO EAT, THOSE WHO TALK POLITICS AND THOS WHO LISTEN TO VERY LOUD MUSIC (THE SECOND CAMP BEING THE SMALLEST). A COUPLE OF HOURS LATER THESE ACTIVITIES WERE BEGINNING TO PALL ON THE REVELLERS, MOST OF THE EATERS LOOKING SLIGHTLY SICK, WHEN SOME ENTERPRISING CHILDREN SUGGESTED GAMES, NO-ONE EXACTLY LEAPED TO THEIR FEET, BUT AFTER MUCH PERSUASION (CONSISTING OF DRAGGING SLIGHTLY DRUNK ANARCHISTS ACROSS THE GRASS BY THEIR HAIR), TWO TATTY LOOKING TEAMS WERE SOON ASSEMBLED, THE PEACE NEWS FACTION BUSIED THEMSELVES TRYING TO APPROXIMATE A CIRCLE WHILE THE REST LOOKED ON MOROSELY.

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'VE EVER SEEN A BUNCH OF UNFIT ANARCHISTS TRYING TO HIT A BALL WITH BLEARY EYES AND RUN IN A CIRCLE BUT ITS NOT A PRETTY SIGHT. BUT A COMPETITIVE TIME WAS HAD BY ALL AND A LOT OF ANIMOSITY WAS AROUSED IN THAT CAME THAT I DOUBT WILL EVER BE FORGOTTEN, NEEDLESS TO SAY EVERYONE CHEATED AND IT WAS NOTICED THAT A CERTAIN LARGE HIPPIY CHANGED SIDES ACCORDING TO WHO WAS WINNING, ENDLESS GAMES FOLLOWED, MOSTLY RIGHT-OFF AND SMALL SCUFFLES BROKE OUT OVER NAMES OF CERTAIN GAMES SUCH AS 'WHAT'S THE TIME MR WOLF MAN', UNFORTUNATELY A SMALL HEDGEHOG WAS CRUSHED DURING A DARING AMBLE ACROSS OPEN SPACE DURING BRITISH BULLDOG, BUT WAS SOON REVIVED WITH A FEW SLUGS.

SEVERAL WOMEN HAD EARLIER BEEN ADVENTUROUSLY SPLASHING ABOUT IN THE SLUDGE BLACK WATERS OF THE LAKE BUT NOW IT WAS THE MENS TURN, BEDEVILED BY EARLIER ANTICS THEY THREW CAUTION TO THE WIND AS WELL AS THEIR CLOTHES AND PASSERS BY COULD BE SEEN GAPING WITH HORROR AS FLABBY WHITE BEER GUTS AND SKINNY LEGS FLATLED ABOUT IN THE WATER... MOST OF THE WOMEN WERE DISDAINFUL ABOUT THEIR MALE 'COMRADES', THIS RITUAL MARKED THE END OF A HAPPY DAY.

A SOCIALIST REMARKED TO A FRIEND OF MINE RECENTLY THAT HE THOUGHT ALL ANARCHISTS DID WAS ORGANISE PICNICS, WELL MAYBE ITS NOT REVOLUTIONS, BUT AT LEAST OURS ARE SUCCESSFUL.

nudity in the park

Full score

Scunthorpe police are looking for a prankster who filled the town council's telephone answering machine tape over the weekend with a recording of Handel's Messiah, which lasts 2 1/2 hours.

Joke 'plot'

VIETNAM says it has smashed a plot to incite rebellion through poetry recitals, songs, and jokes. The Communist Party newspaper Nhan Dan said in an edition received in Bangkok yesterday leaders of literary groups had been arrested and pleaded guilty to "extremely malicious counter-revolutionary schemes." — Reuter.

Punk ratter

A POLICEWOMAN was bitten by a punk's pet rat in Frankfurt at the weekend during a body search. The policewoman disturbed the animal when she put her hand inside the owner's blouse. — Reuter



IT'S NOT WORTH IT DON'T DO IT GLUE SNIFFING CAN KILL...

You will read in the papers. On Nationwide you will see it, doctors and social workers warning of the harmful medical side effects, crazy killers and suicides jumping from buildings after raping a woman or burning a cat. You don't relate to that and neither do the glue sniffers. We read the newspaper headline, advertising glue and we watch the nationwide adverts in between South Africa and the miners. All sensationalist headline stories.

No wonder so many kids venture into glue sniffing, fucking themselves up innocently.

OK, so today's sniffers are rebelling and attempting to drop out 'cause of society's mannerisms, but this is anarchy, the kind of thing never heard, never seen in Thatcher's media. Glue sniffers have become puppets the media turn against, labelling them as no good head cases 'cause of their 'low down dirty habits'. No mention of the real harmful effects of this drug. Just pure golden sensationalism. Real fairy tales, most of them.

They shouldn't concentrate on these things, the killing and the suicides, 'cause it hardly ever happens, what is more important are the little, interesting hard facts about the drug. Never mentioned, skipped over 'cause they don't make interesting enough articles and film clips.

SOMETHING YOU CAN UNDERSTAND:-

My Accounts of Glue Sniffing (through personal experience)

Coming Up I started on a small drop a day. The smell was horrible and strong. My eyes watered and I wanted to be sick (I often was later on). I told myself I liked it and I wanted to carry on. I was free, living away from home, living my own life. Everyone glue sniffs, it's there in the papers and on TV and Radio, it must be worth it.

BUT THE TASTE OF GLUE WAS EVERYWHERE - WHEN I ATE, DRANK, OR SMOKED. AFTER A SHORT TIME OF SNIFFING, I FORGOT THE WORLD, FORGOT MYSELF AND BECAME ANOTHER SELF ...

I started stealing glue. I forgot myself, my body, and tended always to concentrate on the actual glue high. I didn't eat properly - just steal glue, buy glue, and by and by become a recluse. (I can see a parallel forming, between me as a glue sniffer then, and dope smokers and trippers today who don't keep their habits to a moderate level).

Losing Control The first stage of the glue high is coming up. After that, it starts getting progressively more difficult to explain, although I still recollect a number of thoughts and moments whilst in control, and maybe even times when I lost control. Yes, that's it, you become so into the moments of coming up - exploding, sniffing the fumes as you breathe, you forget how much you have taken and don't realise how far you go. This is the point of no return. The stage at which you 'lose control'. You don't know what you're doing or why, who anyone is, let alone who you are. 'Really out of your head' - 'wow' ... This is the point when people think they can do anything, without thinking about it, or may feel

a certain paranoia creeping over them, seeping into their empty space - into their 'out of this world' world, you might say. A very unstable position to be in. It's like fire to petrol. Anything could happen.

This is also the stage when glue sniffers get arrested. For maybe walking on building tops (if they don't fall off first) or finger tracing the patterns on police station windows or front room terraced house windows and doors.

You'll always hear stories of how kids are found in the middle of the road. It happened to me. I collapsed unconscious, the car stopped just in time. I was taken away in an ambulance.

In all I have ended up at Queens Medical Centre three - or was it four - times whilst under the influence of glue.

Coming Down At one point, (this was when I was well 'into it'), I was taking more than 2 litres in a few days. But even before that stage, the 'come downs' were cold and empty. The smell lingers on furniture, carpets, and glue stains covered my clothes. My mind felt 'washed out', 'empty' and 'worn away'.

I soon reached the stage when I couldn't sleep without having a goodnight sniff in bed, and a wake up buzz in the morning. (This part doesn't necessarily follow as a pattern in the development of a sniffer's high). Then it was back down to the DIY to nick more, although it is becoming quite difficult to steel sniffable substances nowadays.

Bigger than life Emotions Selfishness overtakes (as it does with alcohol, dope and acid) and you find yourself becoming self-centred - as I have said, a recluse, a Howard Hughes.

As it is with selfishness, feelings are amplified. I was either happily dancing to my favourite records or crying about the state of the world, falling deeper and deeper into depression, wallowing in apathy and self-pity.

I remember getting a knife from the kitchen of my bedsit, sitting down and sawing away at my wrists - I still bear the scars. Once, I was feeling particularly down, so I loaded my flat-mate's air pistol and shot myself in the head.

Not Dead - Yet The pellet stuck in my skull. I was told at the hospital that the pellet was only 1mm away from my brain.

By this time the bedsit stunk - you could smell the vapours from the bottom of the stairs. Sometimes, you could even see them - oops sorry, that one just fell in.

Another Place, Another Time Another time, I was sniffing, and the next thing I remember, I was 'coming back' from a 'blackout', (a state of lost control or walking around not knowing what I'm doing and not remembering or even being aware of it). It turns out I'm in Old Basford, so I head for the nearest chip shop. The woman serving told me I was bleeding. I looked in the mirror behind her and my forehead was pouring with blood. Luckily, a kind man offered to take me to the hospital. I was still pretty spaced out, but once in the Queens, I was stitched up. I still don't know what happened.

Family and Friends My parents always thought I looked white, undernourished and hung over from alcohol. It wasn't until I was brought home handcuffed in a police van that they found out what I had been up to.

Tears were shed - it was a great shock to them, and great concern for me was shown. Perhaps for the first time an interest was shown about what I was doing, what I wanted, and my interests - in me as an individual and not as a clone, puppet, or follower.



However, I was a different person because of the glue. It negatively changed my personality, which in turn destroyed friendships and trust, for one reason or another. I won't waffle on or go into it.

It wasn't that the habit was hard to break, the glue was just there on the shop shelves. I soon sussed which shops were easiest to nick from, and it didn't seem like a bad habit at the time, just another natural, everyday, ritual - like getting dressed or brushing your teeth. I never thought I could be damaging my nostrils, lungs or my brains like the media told me. I never thought about previous sticky situations - (and God, a lot of them were very sticky and messy), I just thought about the ritual of getting the glue, pouring it, sniffing it and coping with the come down - often over the bathroom sink being sick.

From firstly disliking glue to liking it, I saw: GREED, SELFISHNESS, SELF PITY, HOSPITAL, HEAD PAINS, A POLICE CELL AND A COURT ROOM AND OF COURSE SIMPLE MINDEDNESS - even after coming down.

Luckily, I survived without any permanent damage - some didn't. All this in me and my fellow sniffers. All thanks to glue. It's possible for you to experience it too!! And all in a little red tube.

DONT GLUE SNIFF - IT AINT WORTH IT

An Ex-Sniffer



HEALTH WARNING - THINK FIRST, MOST POLITICIANS DON'T!

IN defence of the FESTIVAL.

THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THIS YEAR'S STONE HENGE FREE FESTIVAL HAVE LEFT VAST NUMBERS OF PEOPLE EXHAUSTED, FEARFUL AND BITTER. FROM THE INITIAL BAN, THROUGH THE TRASHING OF THE CONVOY TO THE ILLEGAL ROAD BLOCKS THAT MADE A GATHERING ON THE SOLSTICE FINALLY IMPOSSIBLE, THE AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN SHOWING US THAT WE HAVE FEW RIGHTS AND LITTLE FREEDOM. WHAT THEY WANT US TO BELIEVE IS THAT THE MORE FUSS WE MAKE ABOUT IT THE LESS LIBERTY WE'LL HAVE.

THE FESTIVAL ITSELF HAPPENS EACH YEAR BECAUSE STONE HENGE IS A PLACE OF TREMENDOUS ENERGY AND SIGNIFICANCE THAT DIFFERENT PEOPLE RESPOND TO IN DIFFERENT WAYS. WHETHER YOU WANT A PAGAN 'CHRISTENING' OR JUST ENJOY WATCHING THE SUN RISE WITH THOUSANDS OF OTHER PEOPLE, THE ANCIENT AND MYSTERIOUS ATMOSPHERE IS UNDENYABLE. THE RIGHT TO BE THERE AND SHARE IT WITH OTHERS IS IMPORTANT NOT ONLY FOR THE 'SPIRIT' OF THE EVENT. (IT IS A TEMPLE, NOT A MUSEUM) BUT DEEPLY POLITICAL AS WELL.

THE REASON I WANT TO WRITE ABOUT STONE HENGE IS BECAUSE THE SITE IS IMPORTANT TO ME PERSONALLY, BUT MAINLY BECAUSE I WANT EVERYBODY CONCERNED BY THE INFRINGEMENTS THE STATE IS MAKING ON OUR LIBERTY, TO HELP DEFEND THE FESTIVAL.

THERE ARE THOSE WHO REGARD THE EVENT AS PURELY HEDONISTIC - A LOT OF HIPPIES GETTING INTO LUMPS OF GRANITE AND LITTE TO DO WITH BEATING TO SYSTEM. LIKEWISE THERE ARE FESTIVAL GOERS WHO LITTLE KNOW OR CARE WHAT POWER THE STATE HAS AND WILL PUT UP WITH ANYTHING AS LONG AS THEY CAN FIND SOMEWHERE TO SCORE!. WHAT I AM INTERESTED IN IS THE VAST NUMBERS OF PEOPLE IN BETWEEN WHO KNOW THAT TO LIVE WORK, TRAVEL, ORGANISE AND COME TOGETHER IN LARGE NUMBERS EACH YEAR TO LIVE IN AN ANARCHY THAT WORKS NOW - IN PRACTICE - IS RADICAL AND A POSSITIVE THREAT TO THE STATE'S POWER

THE POINT IS THAT IT IS NOT JUST THE FESTIVAL OR THE CONVOY THAT IS UNDER THREAT, BUT ANY ONE WHOSE LIFE STYLE OR BELIEF OPPOSES THE STATUS QUO. IT IS NOT JUST BECAUSE IT IS LARGE THAT THE FESTIVAL IS DANGEROUS TO THEM, BUT BECAUSE IT WORKS WITHOUT THEM. THERE ARE MILLIONS THE WORLD OVER LIVING OUTSIDE THE LAW (OUTLAWS -- LET'S RECLAIM THE NAME!!) BUT RARELY DO THEY COME TOGETHER IN SUCH VAST NUMBERS WITH SO MUCH POTENTIAL. (FOR EXAMPLE, IMAGINE 20,000 FESTIVAL GOERS BLOCKADING THE A303 WHEN THEY TRY TO MOVE THE CRUISE CONVOY ALONG IT, AS THEY OFTEN DO ON EXERCISES - ISN'T THIS THE SORT OF THING THE GOVERNMENT ARE REALLY AFRAID OF?)

WE DON'T NEED THE STATE AND ARE THEREFORE THE GREATEST THREAT TO IT. LAST YEAR AT STONE HENGE THERE WERE 30,000 PEOPLE, AND A FAIR FEW JACK-BOOTED MEAT-HEADS AMONGST THEM BUT SOMEHOW THERE WAS ENOUGH FOOD, WATER, SHIT PITS AND SHELTER FOR EVERYONE. SMACK DEALERS WERE DULY KICKED OFF THE SITE AND EVEN A REQUEST FROM THE STAGE FOR A HOT-DOG VAN TO "PISS-OFF - THIS IS A DEATH-FREE ZONE" WAS EVENTUALLY HEEDED. I HAVE MANY CRITICISMS OF THE PEOPLE THAT ATTEND FESTIVALS, AS WILL MANY PEOPLE READING THIS, BUT THEY ARE ESSENTIALLY THE CLOSEST THING TO AN AUTONOMY IN ACTION THAT WORKS - EN MASS - THAT I HAVE SEEN.

THIS YEAR, ON THE OTHER HAND, I SAW A GLIMPSE OF THE MORE PROBABLE FUTURE OF THIS COUNTRY AT

STONE HENGE. I HAVEN'T SEEN A POLICE PRESENCE LIKE THERE WAS FROM AMESBURY THROUGH TO WESTBURY SINCE NORTH NOTTS IN THE MINERS STRIKE. I DON'T KNOW MANY PAGAN MINERS, BUT BOTH PAGANS AND MINERS NOW KNOW WHAT A POLICE BOOT IN THE STOMACH FEELS LIKE. SAVING PITS AND SAVING FESTIVALS ARE PART OF THE SAME FIGHT.

SO NEXT YEAR WHEN PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO GET ANOTHER FESTIVAL TOGETHER - REMEMBER - 10 ANARCHISTS SQUABBLING IN THE BACK ROOM OF A PUB ABOUT WHETHER "DOPE-HEADS" ARE WORTH WORKING WITH IS ABOUT AS MUCH POLITICAL THREAT AS 10 HIPPIES GETTING STONED IN A SQUAT. BUT 30,000 PEOPLE DESCENDING ON A SINGLE PLACE BECAUSE THAT IS WHERE THEY WANT TO BE AND NOTHING IS GOING TO STOP THEM GETTING THERE, SETTING UP HOME AND CREATING A LAW-FREE-ZONE.....?.....?

Police station bombs attack

A MAN was still being hunted by police today after three petrol bombs were thrown at a Nottingham police station.

The attack was made on Clifton Police Station at 2.15am yesterday while three officers were inside.

The bombs ignited on impact but did not cause any significant damage to the Green Lane building.

"The real danger would have been if they had gone inside," said Chief Insp Keith Newman.

A suspect was chased by officers but he got away. He is described as white, in his early twenties, 5ft 9in tall, and of slim build. He was wearing a light-coloured flat cap, with light jacket and trousers.

EVE. POST JULY 85

NEW COURSE

"WHAT IS ANARCHISM?"

TUESDAYS 8:00PM - 9:30PM
STARTING SEPT 17 1985 AT NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE, 14 - 22 SHAKESPEARE ST.

THE POPULAR IDEA OF ANARCHISM IS OF UNIVERSAL PAN-DESTRUCTION; BLACK-COATED, BOMB-THROWING FANATICS OR SANDAL SHOD IDEALISTS PREACHING PEACE AND LOVE. DO EITHER OF THESE IMAGES PORTRAY THE REAL SITUATION? WHAT DO ANARCHISTS BELIEVE? WHAT DO THEY DO? THIS COURSE AIMS TO PROBE INTO ANARCHIST MORALITY AND POLITICS AND TO PROVIDE AN ALTERNATIVE TO COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS.

THERE WILL BE 18 MEETINGS ON TUESDAY EVENINGS. BELOW ARE OUR IDEAS FOR 1/ OF THESE MEETINGS; ONE HAS BEEN LEFT FREE FOR SUBJECTS YOU MAY WANT TO CHOOSE. WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU READ "THE DISPOSSESSED" BY URSULA LE GUIN BEFORE THE COURSE STARTS. OTHER BOOKS WILL BE SUGGESTED AS THE COURSE PROGRESSES. THESE WILL INCLUDE "MARXISM, FREEDOM AND THE STATE" BY BAKUNIN; "ANARCHY" BY MALATESTA AND "QUIET RUMOURS" A PAMPHLET WITH VARIOUS AUTHORS PUBLISHED BY DARK STAR.

1 INTRODUCTION (I)

A GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO HOW THE COURSE WILL WORK AND TO SOME OF THE BASIC CONCEPTS OF ANARCHISM. POPULAR MISCONCEPTIONS OF ANARCHISM. DIFFERENT TYPES OF ANARCHISM.

2 INTRODUCTION (II)

FURTHER INTRODUCTION TO THE BASIC IDEAS OF ANARCHISM, EXPLORED THROUGH DISCUSSION OF POPULAR NOVEL "THE DISPOSSESSED".

3 INTRODUCTION (III)

SHOWING AND DISCUSSION OF THE VIDEO "TRIAL BY MEDIA", WHICH PORTRAYS THE MEDIA'S ATTITUDE TO 5 PEOPLE ON TRIAL FOR ANTI-STATE ACTIVITIES, THE VANCOUVER FIVE.

4 HUMAN NATURE

GIVEN PEOPLE AS THEY ARE, IS ANARCHISM POSSIBLE? MUTUAL AID, SELF-HELP, MORALITY.

5 THE STATE

THEORY OF THE STATE, WAR, NATIONS, GOVERNMENT TAXATION AND THE LAW, METHODS OF ENFORCEMENT: POLICE PRISONS, 'SOFT-COPS', MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES ETC

6 CAPITALISM

CLASS, PROPERTY, SOCIALISM, SYNDICALISM, NATIONALISM, LABOUR AND THE WORK ETHIC, TECHNOLOGY, CONSUMERISM.

7 PATRIARCHY

FEMINISM, SUFFRAGE, SEX ROLES AND THE FAMILY, FEMINIST INFLUENCES ON ANARCHISM AND VICE VERSA, ANARCHA-FEMINISM.

8 ORGANISATION

WHO RUNS THE STREET LIGHTS? COLLECTIVES, FEDERATIONS, NETWORKS, HIERARCHIES, DECISION MAKING, CONSENSUS, TYRANNY OF STRUCTURELESSNESS, OPTING OUT.

9 THE REVOLUTION OF EVERYDAY LIFE

LIFESTYLE, RELIGION, DRUGS, CHILDREN, EDUCATION, HOUSING, HEALTH, FOOD, ECOLOGY, SITUATIONISM; SOCIETY AS SPECTACLE

10 VIDEO

PROVISIONALLY "MY SURVIVAL AS A DEVIANT" ABOUT "DEVIANT" LIFESTYLES IN SYDNEY.

11 THE REVOLUTION OF EVERYDAY LIFE CONT.

12 RESURGENCE OF ANARCHISM

PARIS 68, CND AND NVDA, HIPPIES AND PUNKS, ANARCHY IN ACTION, ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT, ANGRY BRIGADE, THE ANARCHIST PRESS, THE ANARCHIST MOVEMENT TODAY.

13 CULTURE

MASS MEDIA, POPULAR CULTURE AS IMPOSED CULTURE? CULTURAL IMPERIALISM, HIGH ART AND HIGH FINANCE. LIMITATIONS OF CONDITIONING AND RECOUPERATION POSSIBILITIES OF FREEDOM, CULTURE AS A REVOLUTIONARY TOOL. MUSIC, FILM, LITERATURE.

14 VIDEO

A FILM, AS YET TO BE CHOSEN, RELEVANT TO THE DEBATE ON CULTURE.

15 CULTURE CONT.

16 GETTING FROM HERE TO THERE

RESISTANCE, VIOLENCE AND NON-VIOLENCE; ENDS AND MEANS, DIRECT ACTION AND SYMBOLIC ACTION, NATIONAL LIBERATION AND SELF-DETERMINATION, ARMED STRUGGLE, SOLIDARITY, PROPAGANDA, BUILDING THE NEW WORLD IN THE SHELL OF THE OLD.

17 WHAT IS ANARCHISM?

ANARCHISM IN NON-ANARCHISTS. TYING IT ALL TOGETHER.

THERE ARE THREE WAYS TO ENROL FOR THIS COURSE:

- AT THE UNIVERSITY ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE BETWEEN 9:30AM AND 5:00PM.
- BY POST TO THE UAEC
- OR AT THE RECEPTION DESK UP TO 15 MINUTES BEFORE

THE CLASS IS DUE TO BEGIN.

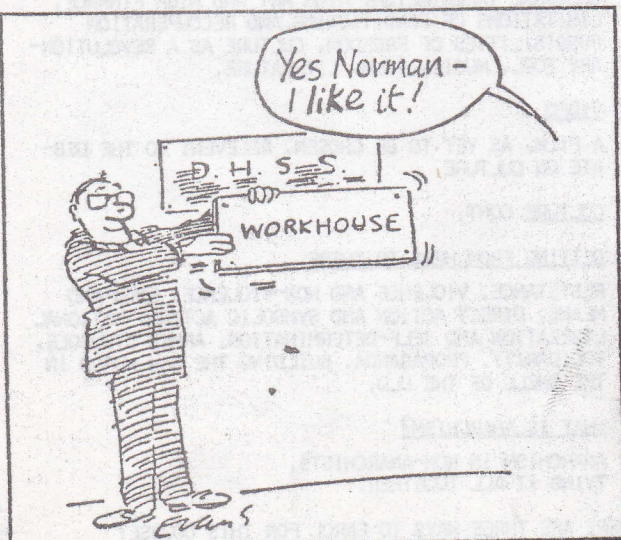
benefits Bill

NORMAN FOWLER HAS PRESENTED HIS GREEN PAPER ON SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM TO THE WORLD. THE DETAILS ARE LISTED, IN BRIEF, BELOW, BUT THE IMPLICATIONS AND THINKING BEHIND THEM ARE TERRIFYING AND BEAR THE TYPICAL HALLMARKS OF THE RULING CLASSES (THE RIGHT WING INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS HAD A LARGE SAY IN THEM). SINGLE PARENTS, THE POOR AND PENSIONERS WILL BE SQUEEZED BY THE PROPOSALS WHICH ARE NOTHING LESS THAN AGGRESSIVE AND DANGEROUS CUTS IN SOCIAL SECURITY SPENDING. THEY ARE RACIST - WITHOLDING BENEFITS FROM THOSE WHO SPEND TIME OUT OF THE COUNTRY, SEXIST - ESPECIALLY EFFECTING PREGNANT WOMEN AND SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES (WOMEN IN THE MAJORITY) AND THEY ARE ALSO AGIST - LOWER RATES FOR UNDER 26's AND HOUSING BENEFIT CUTS FOR PENSIONERS (THE RATES FOR UNDER 26's IS JUSTIFIED, IN THE REPORT, BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT "FULLY INDEPENDANT"!)). THE BASIC THINKING IS THAT IF YOU'RE POOR, YOU DESERVE TO BE TREATED LIKE SHIT - AND TO BE MADE EVEN MORE POOR.

ALREADY THEY HAVE VICIOUSLY ATTACKED UNDER 26's WITH THE NEW BED & BREAKFAST RULES, FORCING MANY YOUNG PEOPLE EITHER BACK TO THE PARENTAL HOME, WITH THE RESTRICTIONS CONFLICTS AND INCOMPATIBILITY MANY LEFT HOME TO ESCAPE FROM, OR OUT ON THE STREET. ALSO, AS FROM THE BEGINNING OF AUGUST, HEATING ALLOWANCES FOR CENTRAL HEATING WILL NO LONGER BE CLAIMABLE (HOWEVER THIS DOES NOT EFFECT THOSE ALREADY RECEIVING IT).

UNFORTUNATELY CLAIMANTS DO NOT HAVE MANY WAYS TO FIGHT BACK AND DEFEND OURSELVES FROM THESE LEGISLATIVE MUGGINGS, BUT ONE THING THAT WE CAN DO IS UNITE AND MUTUALLY SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER WHEREVER WE CAN, SHARING KNOWLEDGE OF WELFARE RIGHTS, VISITING THE DHSS TOGETHER AND ORGANISING SOCIAL EVENTS. WE CAN ALSO AGITATE AMONGST OTHER CLAIMANTS, DHSS OFFICE STAFF AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC INTO TAKING ACTION.

CLAIMANTS ACTION IS SUCH A GROUP OF CLAIMANTS WHO MEET REGULARLY TO FAMILIARISE OURSELVES WITH AND DEFEND OURSELVES AGAINST THE RAVAGES OF AN UNTETHERED 'WELFARE' STATE. WE MEET AT 2:00PM ON THURSDAYS AT THE ICC, MANSFIELD ROAD, OR YOU CAN ORGANISE AMONGST YOUR FRIENDS. THERE WAS A GENERAL MEETING FOR CLAIMANTS ON AUGUST 1ST, TO DISCUSS ACTION AGAINST SOCIAL SECURITY CUTS AND THE WAY MANY CLAIMANTS ARE TREATED BY THE DHSS, CITY TREASURY ETC. HOPEFULLY THERE WILL BE FURTHER MEETINGS - SEE THE EVENTS PAGE FOR DETAILS, THERE WILL ALSO BE A "NATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY ACTION WEEK" FROM SEPTEMBER 7TH TO 16TH INCLUDING A NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION IN LONDON ON SEPTEMBER 14TH.



'Scuse me sir - can you lend me £50 for a cup of tea and 20% of the rates?



changes IN BRIEF

SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFIT

- * UNDER 26's TO RECEIVE A DIFFERENT, LOWER S.B. RATE THAN OTHER CLAIMANTS.
- * WEEKLY ADDITIONS & SINGLE PAYMENTS TO BE ABOLISHED. SUPPOSEDLY THE W.A.'s GIVEN FOR LAUNDRY, SPECIAL DIET ETC WILL BE INCORPORATED IN THE WEEKLY BENEFIT PAID TO CLAIMANTS, BUT IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THIS WILL COMPENSATE FULLY IN MOST CASES. SINGLE PAYMENTS FOR CLOTHING, BEDDING ETC WILL BE REPLACED BY ACCESS TO A SOCIAL FUND - SEE BELOW.
- * A RACIST 'PRESENCE TEST' TO BE INSTITUTED WHERE BY A CLAIMANT WILL HAVE TO HAVE BEEN IN THE COUNTRY FOR A CERTAIN LENGTH OF TIME BEFORE RECEIVING BENEFIT.
- * PAYMENT OF WATER RATES BY DHSS WILL STOP.
- * ALL CLAIMANTS WILL HAVE TO PAY 20% GENERAL RATES - NO INCREASE IN BENEFIT TO COVER THIS.
- * MORTGAGE INTEREST PAYMENTS WILL PROBABLY BE SCRAPPED FOR SHORT TERM CLAIMANTS.
- * DISREGARDED INCOME TO BE RAISED TO £5 FROM £4 BUT WORK EXPENSES WILL NO LONGER BE PAID.
- * MATERNITY ALLOWANCE (PAID TO PREGNANT WOMEN ON S.B.) TO BE MEANS TESTED.

THE SOCIAL FUND

WILL BE SET A LUMP SUM AVAILABLE TO REPLACE SINGLE PAYMENTS, DEATH AND MATERNITY GRANTS AS WELL AS SOME WEEKLY ADDITIONS.

- * THERE WILL BE NO RIGHT OF APPEAL TO A TRIBUNAL IF REFUSED A PAYMENT FROM THE FUND.
- * IT WILL BE FIRST COME FIRST SERVED. IF THE FUND RUNS OUT, CLAIMANTS WILL HAVE TO WAIT TILL THE NEXT YEAR.
- * MANY PAYMENTS WILL BE LOANS TO BE PAID BACK WEEKLY OUT OF BENEFITS - WITH INTEREST!
- * THERE WILL BE MORE PRESSURE ON THE FUND FROM THE ABOLITION OF MATERNITY AND DEATH GRANTS NORMALLY PAID TO ANYONE (NOT S.B. CLAIMANTS) WHO IS PREGNANT OR HAS A DEATH IN THE FAMILY.

HOUSING BENEFIT

TO BE CUT NATIONALLY BY 500 MILLION POUNDS - 1/2 OF ALL HOUSHOLDS WILL SUSTAIN CUTS IN BENEFIT - 7,200,000 PEOPLE WILL BE AFFECTED INCLUDING 4 MILLION PENSIONERS.

1,800,000 PEOPLE WILL LOOSE BENEFIT ENTIRELY INC. 1.2 MILLION PENSIONERS.

WE ARE SORRY IF THIS SCARES OR DEPRESSES YOU - BUT WE MUST UNITE AND FIGHT THIS SHIT!!!!!!



WILF WAGSTAFF'S

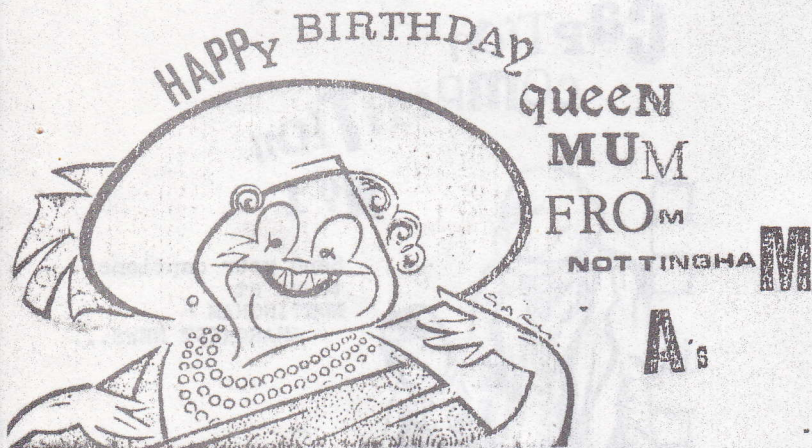
life & times

TIDDLY-WINKS AGAINST HOMELESSNESS

THE UNEMPLOYED CENTRE (CASTLE GATE IN CASE YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT) MUST BE HEAVING A GREAT SIGH OF RELIEF AT THE RECENT RULING THAT THE NEW BED AND BREAKFAST REGULATIONS ARE UNLAWFUL.

THEY NOW CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO POOL THEIR MEAGRE BRAINPOWER IN AN ATTEMPT TO LAUNCH A CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ENFORCED HOMELESSNESS OF THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

NO, NOW THE PROFESSIONAL WORKERS (THE ONLY OCCUPIERS OF A "GHOST-TOWN" CENTRE) CAN CONCENTRATE THEIR POWERS ON MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS SUCH AS THE ORGANISATION OF ARM-WRESTLING MATCHES BETWEEN THE D.H.S.S AND CLAIMANTS.
WELL, STRENGTHENS THE ARMS FOR SIGNING ON DOESN'T IT :



EX-P.M. ADVOCATES VANDALISM !!

THE FOOTBALL SEASON IS ABOUT TO START AND DONKEY BREATH THATCHER IS GETTING HEAVY WITH THE CLUBS. HOOLIGANISM IS THE PROBLEM.

LET US BEAR IN MIND THE WORDS OF THE OLDER GERIATRIC OF THE TORY PARTY, HAROLD "YOU'VE NEVER HAD IT SO GOOD" McMILLAN. SPEAKING TO THE 1979 OXFORD BOAT RACE CREW, HE SAID....

"I HOPE YOU GO OUT AND BREAK UP THE TOWN. IF PICADILLY CIRCUS STANDS TOMMOROW I SHALL BE DISAPPOINTED. IF EROS HASN'T BEEN MOVED IT WILL NOT HAVE BEEN A GREAT NIGHT."

SO, IT'S ALRIGHT FOR HOORAY HENRY TO BE A VANDAL AND A HOOLIGAN, BUT WOE - BETIDE THE REST OF US.

SCAB CITY.

AS EVERYONE KNOWS NOTTS. AREA OF THE N.U.M. HAS BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF AN ATTEMPT TO FORM A BREAKAWAY SCAB UNION.

PRaised BY DAVID HUNT, MINISTER FOR COAL, FOR THEIR "COURAGE"(SIC) DURING THE DISPUTE, THE RESPONSABILITY FOR THE DEFEAT OF THE MINERS HAS TO BE ULTIMATELY LAID AT THEIR DOOR.

JACK WOOD, THE RETIRING N.C.B. DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH NOTTS. AREA CALLS THEM THE "FINEST MINING PEOPLE IN THE WORLD." SCABS ARE THE LOWEST FORM OF LIFE KNOWN.

AS AN ANRCHIST I'M FORCED INTO A BIT OF A DILEMMA. "UNCLE JOE" SCARGILL WANTS TO CENTRALISE CONTROL IN THE N.U.M. - HIS TYPICALLY AUTHORITARIAN ANSWER TO THE PROBLEM. AND SHORTSIGHTED TOO, WHEN THE BEST THING TO EMERGE FROM THE YEAR LONG STRUGGLE WAS THE WAY IN WHICH ORDINARY PEOPLE RALLIED ROUND AND ORGANISED THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES AND STRIKE EFFORTS. PRESIDENT FOR LIFE INDEED.

WHEN "UNCLE JOE" WAS AFTER TWO SEATS ON THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE T.U.C. HE ARGUED THAT IN REALITY THE N.U.M. WAS A FEDERATION OF 27 SEPERATE UNIONS. NOW HE'S CHANGED HIS MIND - O'PURTUNISTIC ARSEHOLE.

BUT ON THE OTHER HAND WE WOULD NEVER SUPPORT THE NOTTS. AREA - DESPITE THEIR POSING AS THE CHAMPIONS OF DECENTRALISATION AND FEDERATION.

MILITANCY CAN NEVER BE ENFORCED, A TRUE UNION HAS TO BE BASED ON GRASSROOTS AND POPULAR CONTROL. WE MUST EDUCATE, AGITATE AND ORGANISE..WE CAN NEVER DOMINATE.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

CHARLES "TOUGH WORDS" McLACHLAN, OUR BELOVED CHIEF CONSTABLE IS A WORRIED MAN - ACCORDING TO HIS ANNUAL REPORT AT LEAST. DEPITE A RECRUITMENT DRIVE THE FORCE REMAINS UNDERSTAFFED. AND WITH THE FINANCIAL PRESSURES CURRENTLY BEING FELT WE MAY HAVE TO SAY A SAD FAREWELL TO THE "TURDS ON THE BEAT."

"EVENTUALLY I FEEL IT MAY COME TO A STAGE WHERE WE CANNOT GIVE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE PEOPLE THE KIND OF SERVICE THEY EXPECT." HE MOURNFULLY REGRETS.

WELL FUCK OFF TROUT FACE! THE KIND OF SERVICE YOU'VE BEEN GIVING US WE CAN DO WITHOUT.

TIMOTHY WATSON, 19, DENARTH AVE, SHELTON LOCK DERBY, WAS A CONSTABLE - A VERY SPECIAL CONSTABLE HE'S JUST BEEN SENT DOWN FOR SEVEN YEARS FOR BEATING UP AN 81 YEAR OLD WOMAN WITH HIS TRUNCHEON AND STABBING HER REPEATEDLY WITH TWO KITCHEN KNIVES AND ROBBING HER OF FIFTEEN HUNDRED POUNDS. AND ALL WHILST HE WAS WEARING THE UNIFORM WERE SO TAUGHT TO RESPECT!

SEVEN YEARS? SO WHERE'S THE CRACK DOWN ON LAW AND ORDER? OBVIOUSLY IT DOESN'T APPLY TO THOSE WHO ADMINSTRATE IT. PERHAPS THIS IS A CASE FOR THE CLIFTON BOMBER.

SPEAKERS

OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS WE'VE BEEN HOLDING PUBLIC MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY INVITED GUEST SPEAKERS. FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE WHO MISSED THEM WE'VE ASKED THE SPEAKERS TO SEND US A SHORT PIECE BASED ON THEIR TALK. TO BE PRINTED IN YOUR OWN NOTTINGHAM @ NEWS, YOU CAN ENJOY THEM AT YOUR LEISURE.

THIS FIRST ONE IS BY LAURENS OTTER, WHO SPOKE TO US BACK IN MAY. INVOLVEMENT IN THE ANTI-BOMB CAMPAIGN, HE BELIEVES, HELPS PEOPLE TO GAIN AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT SOCIETY IS REALLY LIKE. THE BOMB IS NOT SO MUCH A SYMPTOM OF OUR SOCIETY AS IT'S SYMBOL.

Every system of class rule engenders its own "contradictions" (areas of exploitation, or of marked inefficiency, producing spontaneous resistance) that are symbolic of the deeper ills of society & that are in conflict with the ethic which the society is supposed to embody.

Thus in the early days of "entrepreneurial" & "free enterprise" capitalism, the boom-slump cycle produced obvious injustice & misery in conflict with the "liberty, equality & fraternity" professed to be the basis of the newly democratised society; & acting as a constant spur in the growth of the Labour movement. But the "robber baron" image of early capitalism, though making reappearance embodied in Thatcherite or Reaganite policies, is not how capitalism has been experienced for the greater part of the last fifty years. We live in an age of a corporate & managed form of bureaucratic capitalism, whether it is experienced in state industries or in multi-national combines.

Nuclear weapons are especially symbolic of modern class society for a number of reasons.

And it isn't therefore a case of purely looking at symptoms to argue our case through the illustration of the Bomb.

No country that ever made nuclear weapons (possibly excepting Israel) consulted its people beforehand. Indeed not only did no country consult its electorate (where it had one), but in no case was the nominally sovereign legislature informed. In Britain, Shinwell was Minister of Defence under Attlee & he wasn't consulted. In no country did the money needed for making the bomb appear in the published financial accounts. Most such countries do publish budgets and have to account for money spent. Thus the money spent on the Bomb must have been listed elsewhere (Added, perhaps, to the Health or Educational budgets.)

In each country creating the Bomb has been done under conditions of extreme secrecy. A number of the country's top scientists, many of its top engineers, hundreds of very highly skilled of all grades & of many trades, have been removed from the normal economic life of the society. They are taken to vast factories whose very existence and purpose is an official secret.

It says alot about the centralised nature of a society, about the nature of control within that society, about the propensity to official secrecy; that a country can assemble such a massive industrial complex, such vast financial resources & can do this not only without the knowledge of the majority of people but without the knowledge of the government ministry supposedly responsible.

Now it happens that the distribution & maintenance of the Bomb requires the same degree of secrecy, so that one who protests comes up immediately against the wall of government "official secrecy". It so happens that this distribution & the necessary secrecy need a centrality of governmental control that lies in marked contrast to the professed opposition to central government spouted by politicians; so protesters immediately counter the contradiction between Tory laissez-faire ethic & M.O.D. planning.

The Bomb is not only the quintessence of violence; its first use was openly racist (a non-white people lay at hand to serve as guinea pigs) & it embodied to the fullest possible extent callous disregard for the sufferings of others. (Japanese leaders were pressing for peace and had sent a surrender request. Furthermore Nagasaki had consistently opposed war & had been placed under punishment by Imperial Edict for its anti-war stance). The manufacture of the Bomb necessitates highly centralised & hierarchical power structures. The ability to command vast capital resources, vast resources in terms of scientists & technicians; & to do this in total secrecy, cooking any relevant published accounts.

In all this the Bomb symbolises the very nature of the society in which we live. When spontaneous protest starts with the Bomb, it is protesting against evils which are endemic in society generally, & the protest inevitably brings the protester greater awareness of the nature of society & into conflict with the underlying structures which the Bomb symbolises.

LAURENS OTTER. JULY 1985.

CAPTION
COMPETITION
No 1



Send your captions
to us at
NOTTINGHAM
ANARCHIST NEWS...

NOTTINGHAM STILL GOES TO MOLESWORTH (+ ELSEWHERE ...)

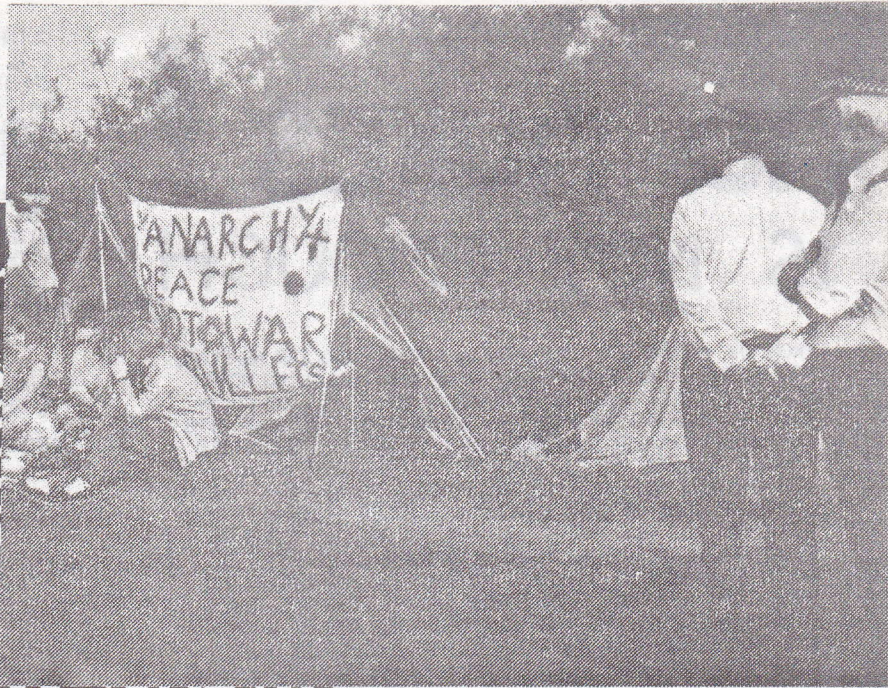
AND THE BEAT GOES ON.....

* JUNE: THE CHANNEL 4 PROGRAMME 'PEACE OF THE ACTION' WAS SHOWN, INCLUDING FOOTAGE OF NOTTM PEOPLE CLAMBERING OVER THE FULL PERIMETER FENCE. THIS WAS NEARLY BANNED BY THE IBA (INDEPENDANT BROADCASTING AUTHORITY), AND ITS SHOWING PROVOKED TOTAL OVER REACTOON FROM LOCAL (TO MOLESWORTH) TORY MP JOHN MAJOR WHO SEEMED TO SUGGES THAT IN FUTURE ALL BROADCAST AND PROGRAMMES SHOULD BE VETTED FOR APPROVAL FIRST..... DIVERSE REPORTS WHO MADE THE PROGRAMME, SQUIRMED A LOT AND SEEMED ONLY TO JUSTIFY WHAT THEY DID BY SAYING THEY MADE RIGHT WING PROGRAMMES AS WELL.

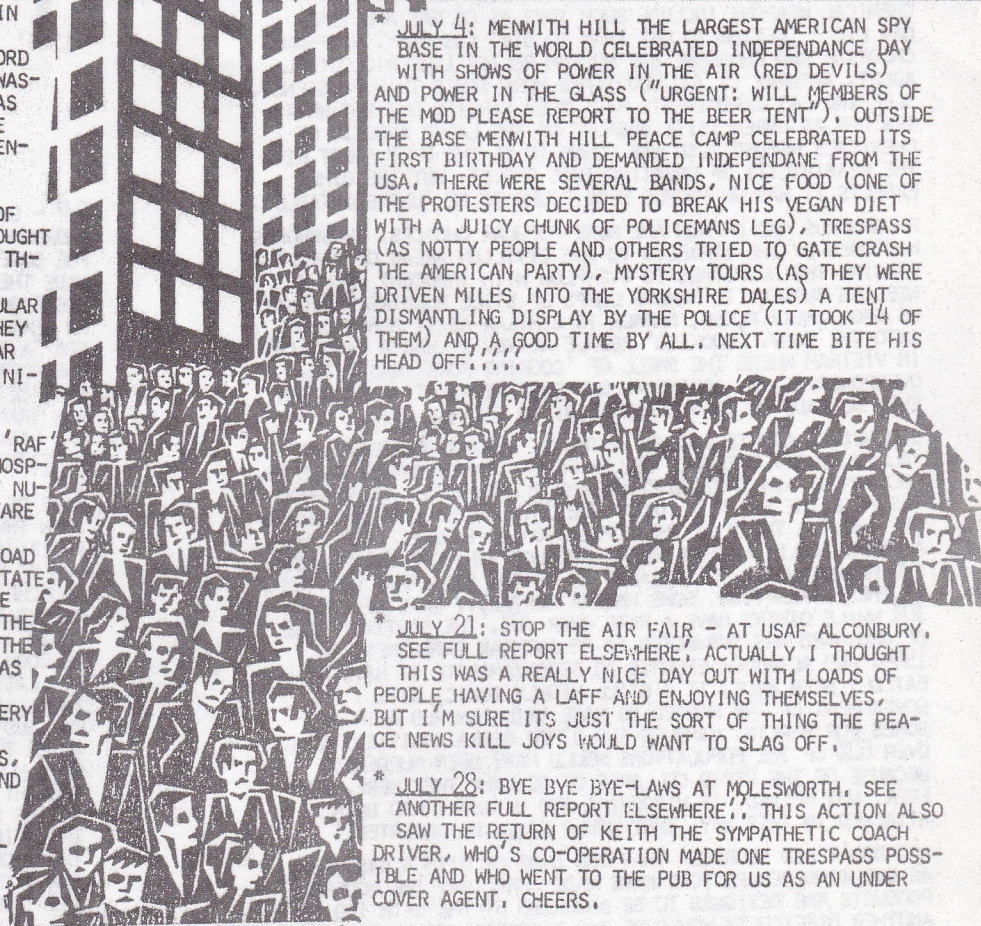
* JUNE 13: CONTRACTORS DAY -IN NOTTINGHAM, TARMAC BUILT THE SILOS AT GREENHAM, ARE BUILDING ROADWAYS AT MOLESWORTH AND HAVE PUT IN FOR THE SILOS THERE TOO, THEIR CONSTRUCTION SITE IN THE BROADMARSH WAS LEAFLETED WHILE THE NALGO WORKPLACE PEACE GROUP TACKLED THE WEST BRIDGFORD DEPOT, LOCAL TARMAC PROTESTED FEEBLY THAT IT WASN'T ACTUALLY THEIR BIT OF THE COMPANY WHICH WAS INVOLVED, THEIR CONCENTRATION CAMP SITE IN THE OLD MARKET SQUARE HAS YET TO RECEIVE MUCH ATTENTION.....

* JUNE: PEACE NEWS REFUSED A STUNNING REVIEW OF THE NEW STYLE COUNCEL ALBUM BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT NO ONE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN IT, OBVIOUSLY THESE MIDDLE CLASS CULTURE SNOBS DON'T THINK IT MIGHT BE OF RELEVENCE TO LOOK AT THE MOST POPULAR PROPAGATORS OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, INSTEAD THEY REMAINED IN THE GHETTO OF OBSCURITY WITH A YEAR OLD SUBSTANDARD POISON GIRLS ONE THAT THEIR MINISCULE READERSHIP ALREADY KNOW ABOUT. **JOKE!!**

* JUNE 30: BY WAY OF A CHANGE.. A TRIP OUT TO 'RAF NEWTON JUST OUTSIDE THE CITY IN LINE FOR A HOSPITAL TO BE USED BY US TROOPS IN THE EVENT OF NUCLEAR DEVASTATION, THIS WAS PLANNED AS A 'WELFARE NOT WARFARE MASS TRESPASS AND PICNIC, BUT THE NUMBERS WERE A BIT FEEBLE. WE MARCHED UP THE ROAD AND THEN HAD A QUICK DASH THROUGH A HOUSING ESTATE AND THE MORE NIMBLE NIPPED OVER A GATE INTO THE BASE. MOD POLICE NOT AMUSED, (CURIOSLY, BOTH THE EVENING POST AND PEACE NEWS CHOSE PICTURES OF THE LONE POLICEMAN VAINLY TRYING TO STOP PEOPLE - AS OPPOSED TO THE MASED RANKS OF UNIFORMS HAVING MORE SUCCESS, IS THIS COINCIDENCE?!) AFTER EVERY ONE WAS CHUCKED OUT SMALLER GROUPS SPENT THE AFTERNOON GOING IN THE BASE AT DIFFERENT POINTS, UNTIL THE POLICE WERE DUMPING PEOPLE FURTHER AND FURTHER DISTANCES, BY THIS TIME IT HAD STARTED CHUCKING IT DOWN SO WE BROKE UK AND ALL COVERS RECORD FOR NUMBERS OF PEOPLE GETTING SOAKED INSIDE A BUS SHELTER,



* JULY 4: MENWITH HILL THE LARGEST AMERICAN SPY BASE IN THE WORLD CELEBRATED INDEPENDANCE DAY WITH SHOWS OF POWER IN THE AIR (RED DEVILS) AND POWER IN THE GLASS ("URGENT: WILL MEMBERS OF THE MOD PLEASE REPORT TO THE BEER TENT"), OUTSIDE THE BASE MENWITH HILL PEACE CAMP CELEBRATED ITS FIRST BIRTHDAY AND DEMANDED INDEPENDANE FROM THE USA, THERE WERE SEVERAL BANDS, NICE FOOD (ONE OF THE PROTESTERS DECIDED TO BREAK HIS VEGAN DIET WITH A JUICY CHUNK OF POLICEMANS LEG), TRESPASS (AS NOTTY PEOPLE AND OTHERS TRIED TO GATE CRASH THE AMERICAN PARTY), MYSTERY TOURS (AS THEY WERE DRIVEN MILES INTO THE YORKSHIRE DALES) A TENT DISMANTLING DISPLAY BY THE POLICE (IT TOOK 14 OF THEM) AND A GOOD TIME BY ALL. NEXT TIME BITE HIS HEAD OFF.....



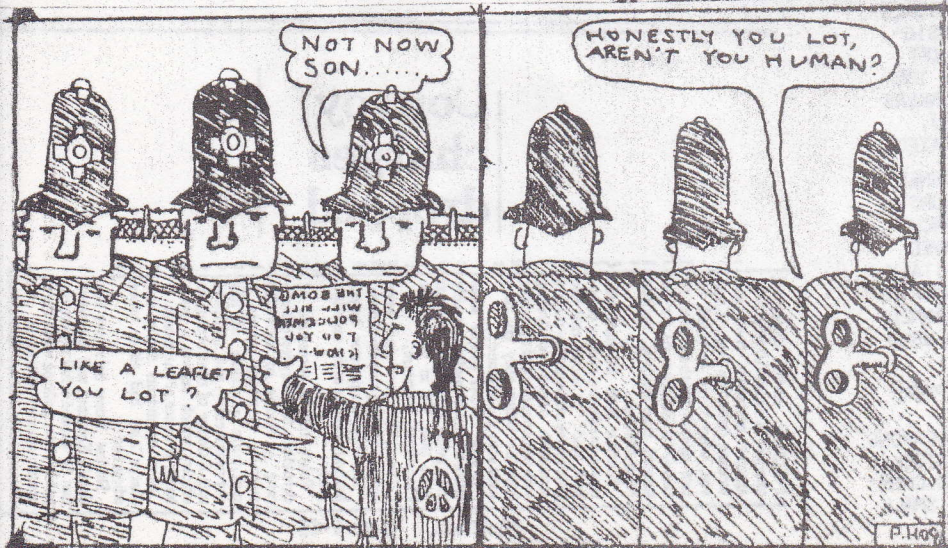
* JULY 21: STOP THE AIR FAIR - AT USAF ALCONBURY. SEE FULL REPORT ELSEWHERE, ACTUALLY I THOUGHT THIS WAS A REALLY NICE DAY OUT WITH LOADS OF PEOPLE HAVING A LAFF AND ENJOYING THEMSELVES, BUT I'M SURE ITS JUST THE SORT OF THING THE PEACE NEWS KILL JOYS WOULD WANT TO SLAG OFF.

* JULY 28: BYE BYE BYE-LAWS AT MOLESWORTH. SEE ANOTHER FULL REPORT ELSEWHERE, THIS ACTION ALSO SAW THE RETURN OF KEITH THE SYMPATHETIC COACH DRIVER, WHO'S CO-OPERATION MADE ONE TRESPASS POSSIBLE AND WHO WENT TO THE PUB FOR US AS AN UNDER COVER AGENT, CHEERS.

* AUGUST 1: P.A.N WOMENS ACTION AT USAF CHILWELL. 155 PINK BALLOONS RELEASED - ONE FOR EACH US BASE IN BRITAIN, A FEW TRESPASSED, WERE HELD FOR A SHORT TIME THEN RELEASED WITHOUT CHARGE.

GENERALLY.... ITS BEEN A HECTIC TIME FOR NOTTINGHAM MOLES AND GENERAL ANTI NUKE DIRECT ACTIVISTS, WITH QUITE HEAVY CASUALTIES OF DETENTIONS AND ARRESTS.. THE ALCONBURY TRIAL HASN'T INTIMIDATED ANYONE, BUT NOTTINGHAM MOLES ARE WELL KNOWN TO THE STATE NOW AND YOU MAY BE CALLED ON TO FILL THE BREACH, AUGUST IS A QUIETER MONTH FOR RECOUPERATION AND REFLECTION. (FOR NOTTINGHAM GROUP ANYWAY, THERE'S AN ANARCHIST WEEKEND AUG 3-4, WOMENS ONE AUGUST 17 ?) EARLY SEPTEMBER WILL SEE ACTIVITY AROUND THE 'BRAVE DEFENDER' CIVIL DEFENCE EXERCISES.

THE NATIONAL ACTION WE SPOKE OF IN THE LAST ISSUE WILL BE ON FEBRUARY 6TH (ANIVERSARY OF THE ARMY INVASION) NEXT YEAR - NATIONAL CND HAVE MADE THAT A COMMITMENT, AND FOR IT TO BE A MASS BLOCKADE. ITS YET TO BE DECIDED/WORKED OUT WHO'LL BE ORGANISING THIS AND HOW - BUT NOTTINGHAM IS PUSHING FOR STRONG REGIONAL INVOLVEMENT,



no nukes! IS NOT ENOUGH

FROM THE AMOUNT OF PUBLICITY/TALK ABOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS, YOU'D HAVE THOUGHT THAT THEY WERE THE ONLY THING WORTH WORRYING ABOUT. WELL THINK AGAIN. BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL WEAPONS ARE BOTH GETTING INCREASINGLY POPULAR WITH THE 'SUPER' POWERS AS PUBLIC OPINION BECOMES POLARISED TOWARDS NUCLEAR ISSUES. EVEN IF A LABOUR GOVERNMENT UNILATERALLY DISSARMED ON THE NUCLEAR FRONT (IE), THEY'D SIMPLY BE ABLE TO SWITCH OVER TO ANOTHER SYSTEM. IN 1980 THATCHER SAID PUBLICALLY "WE HAVE NO PRESENT PLANS TO BUILD UP AN OFFENSIVE CHEMICAL WARFARE CAPABILITY", WHICH STILL LEAVES 5 YEARS, DEFENSIVE CAPABILITIES AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS, EVEN IF SHE WAS TELLING THE TRUTH. IF BIOLOGICAL AGENTS WERE RELEASED, THE RESULT DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY (VIA ECO-SYSTEMS ETC.) WOULD AT LEAST EQUAL THE NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM A MAJOR NUCLEAR EXCHANGE.

CHEMICAL WEAPONS INCLUDE SUCH TOYS AS CS GAS AND TEAR GAS ETC - "BETTER TO ORY THAN TO DIE" (US ARMY, VIETNAM), CHLORINE AND PHOSGENE ARE MUSEUM RELICS (THE BIOLOGICAL AGENT, ANTHRAX IS 200,000 TIMES MORE TOXIC THAN PHOSGENE). SLEEPING GAS EXPERIMENTS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BUT WRITTEN OFF AS UNREALISTIC BECAUSE OF THE LARGE AMOUNTS OF CHEMICALS NEEDED, LSD WAS FOUND TO BE THE ONLY AGENT WITH THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING THIS EFFECT, BUT THE OTHER EFFECTS IT HAD ON PEOPLE WERE FOUND TO BE 'UNPREDICTABLE'.

PHOSPHORUS AND NAPALM ARE MORE POPULAR CHOICES. PHOSPHORUS WAS USED BY THE ISRAELIS IN THE CIVILIAN AREAS OF BEIRUT CAUSING THE HOSPITALS TO OVERFLOW WITH INNOCENT PEOPLE NEEDING SURGERY TO REMOVE LUMPS OF STILL BURNING PHOSPHORUS FROM THEIR FLESH. NAPALM IS SIMILAR AS IT BURNS DEEP INTO THE BODY, 'COOKING' PEOPLE ALIVE. IT WAS A FAVOURITE IN VIETNAM WHERE THE SMELL OF 'COOKING PORK' WAS OFTEN OVERPOWERING. BY ADDING AN OXYGENATING AGENT, NAPALM CAN EVEN BE MADE TO BURN UNDERWATER; NO ESCAPE.

BIOLOGICAL AGENTS INCLUDE ANTHRAX, BUBONIC PLAGUE, RIFT VALLEY FEVER, Q FEVER, YELLOW FEVER, GREEN MONKEY DISEASE, ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER AND PLenty MORE. THESE GOOD-IES MAKE THE BLACK DEATH OF THE 14TH CENTURY WHICH KILLED OFF ABOUT A THIRD OF THE POPULATION OF EUROPE, LOOK LIKE A COMMON COLD. MODERN AGENTS PRODUCE SYMPTOMS FROM NAUSEA AND HAEMORRHAGES TO INFLAMMATION OF THE BRAIN AND ROTTING OF THE EXTREMITIES. SOME HAVE A MORTALITY RATE OF UNDER 10% WHILE OTHERS HAVE A RATE OVER 70%. THE SCOTTISH ISLE OF GRUINARD WAS SUBJECTED TO AN ANTHRAX EXPERIMENT IN 1944, AND ALTHOUGH EFFORTS TO DECONTAMINATE IT HAVE REPEATEDLY BEEN MADE, IT'S STILL HIGHLY TOXIC. STILL, THE GOVERNMENT OF '44 WANTED TO MAKE 5 MILLION 4LB ANTHRAX BOMBS FOR BERLIN, HAMBURG AND OTHER GERMAN CITIES. WELL OVER 60% OF THE POPULATIONS WOULD HAVE BEEN MURDERED. BECAUSE OF THE RAPID COLLAPSE OF GERMANY THEY WERE, HOWEVER, NOT NEEDED. IF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI HAD BEEN ATTACKED IN THIS WAY, THEY WOULD STILL BE DESERTED.

AND DON'T KID YOURSELF THAT YOU'D BE OK WITH A GAS MASK, AS OUR KIND BENEFACTORS HAVE MADE SURE THAT THE MODERN PRODUCTS ARE DESIGNED TO BE ABSORBED BY THE SKIN TOO. ANOTHER DIFFICULTY WOULD BE THE DISPERSAL TIME. CHEMICALS DEVELOPED IN THE UK LABS AT PORTON DOWN HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO STAY IN PUDDLES FOR WEEKS CONTINUALLY GIVING OFF UNDETECTABLE FUMES. THESE GASES PENETRATE BUILDINGS, THE EARTH, YOU NAME IT (EXCEPT OF COURSE FOR THE NICE BUNKERS WHICH WE'VE ALL BEEN MADE TO BUY FOR OUR BENEFACTORS). PLANTS, ANIMALS, BIRDS, FISH ETC WOULD ALL BE DEVASTATED.

IN 1925, 38 COUNTRIES INCLUDING USA, USSR, AND UK SIGNED THE GENEVA PROTOCOL TO BAN THE USE OF ALL THESE WEAPONS IN TIME OF WAR. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? FUCK-ALL. RESEARCH IS NOT PROHIBITED AND FRANCE, USA, USSR AND UK RESERVED THE 'RIGHT' TO RETALIATE IF SO ATTACKED. SINCE THEN ITALY USED CHEMICALS IN THE INVASION OF ABYSSINIA IN '36, JAPAN DID LIKEWISE AGAINST CHINA FROM '36 - '42. THE UK PLANNED TO USE THEM AGAINST GERMANY, BUT DIDN'T NEED TO. USA USED THEM IN VIETNAM, USSR USES THEM IN AFGHANISTAN.

IN 1972 AFTER A CONVENTION IN WHICH THE SIGNATORIES PROMISED "NEVER IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCES TO DEVELOP, PRODUCE, STOCKPILE, OR OTHERWISE ACQUIRE OR RETAIN BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS" THE USA CLOSED THEIR FACILITIES AND DESTROYED THEIR STOCKS. THE USSR DENIED HAVING ANY. BRITAIN HAS DESTROYED ITS CHEMICAL WEAPONS. THESE ARE HOWEVER ONLY TOKEN GESTURES, SMALL

GLIMPSES OF 'HOPE' THAT WE ARE ALLOWED TO SEE THROUGH THE VEIL OF SECRECY, THE UK STILL ALLOWS THE USA TO STORE THEIR CHEMICAL WEAPONS HERE, AND ANYWAY THEY STILL RESEARCH AND MAINTAIN THE RIGHT OF RETALIATION ETC. THESE TREATIES BASICALLY AMOUNT TO SMALL MOVES IN THE POWER GAMES THAT THESE PEOPLE GET-OFF ON. HOW LONG HAVE THEY BEEN NEGOTIATING SO ERNESTLY OVER NUCLEAR WEAPONS?? - YET THEY STILL TOOK THEM TO THE FALKLANDS WAR... OUR LIVES AREN'T INSIGNIFICANT TOKENS TO BE BARGAINED WITH. IT ISN'T THEIR WORLD TO FUCK-UP WITH THEIR GROTESQUE PERVERSIONS. WE WON'T BE FOBBED OFF WITH THEIR PETTY EXCUSES. ITS TIME FOR US TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE WHERE THEY'VE FAILED SO ABYSMALLY. ITS OUR WORLD, AND ITS ABOUT FUCKING TIME WE TOOK IT BACK.

(INFORMATION TAKEN LARGELY FROM A LEAFLET WRITTEN BY M GEORGE OF MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY)

A GOOD NIGHT OUT

SWP - GURU TONY CLIFF RECENTLY LECTURED A PACKED PUBROOM ON "WHICH WAY FORWARD FOR SOCIALISM?" ANXIOUS FOR SOME POLITICAL EDUCATION, A BUNCH OF THE CURIOUS MADE THEIR WAY TO THE NARROWBOAT TO HEAR ALL. THE FIRST THING WE LEARN'T WAS HOW TO CHAIR A MEETING - NO ANARCHIC PISSING AROUND HERE - THERE WAS A SHOUT FOR "A BIT OF HUSH" AND EVERYONE OBEDIENTLY SAT DOWN AND SHUT UP.

TONY CLIFF'S PROMISED 30 MINUTES ON THE WAY FORWARD WAS TRANSFORMED INTO A BRILLIANT HOUR LONG SLAG-OFF OF THE LABOUR PARTY. BUT WHAT WAS THE WAY FORWARD? HE MENTIONED THAT TOO - IN HIS LAST SENTENCE - "JOIN THE SWP".

SOME OF US GOT PISSED AND PISSED OFF AND ATTEMPTED TO JOIN THE LIVELY DISCUSSION. WHEN TOLD THAT IT WAS POLITICALLY NECESSARY TO TAKE SIDES, WE ASKED "WHAT'LL YOU DO WHEN THE ANARCHISTS START BURNING DOWN THE CHURCHES?" THE ANSWER TO THIS AND EVERY OTHER QUESTION SEEMED TO BE THE SAME: "SHUT UP" AND "TALK THROUGH THE CHAIR". THOSE WHO DID PUT UP THEIR HANDS AND "TALK THROUGH THE CHAIR" HAD THEIR POINTS TOTALLY IGNORED - AT LEAST HECKLERS WERE REWARDED WITH THE ATTENTION OF INCREASING HOSTILITY.

THE AUDIENCE WERE ALLOWED ABOUT TEN MINUTES "DISCUSSION" AFTER TONY CLIFF HAD FINISHED HIS VIRTUOSO PERFORMANCE. LOTS MORE PEOPLE HAD THINGS TO SAY, BUT THE "CHAIR" BROUGHT THE MEETING TO AN ABRUPT HALT.

SO THE SWP CAN ORGANISE A PISS-UP IN A PUB, AND HOW DO THEY FINANCE IT? CAN EVERYONE WHO'S WORKING PUT £1 IN THE BUCKET? SOMEONE POINTED OUT THAT IF PEOPLE DID THAT, THEY'D COLLECT A FORTUNE, AND GUESS WHAT THE REPLY WAS - THAT'S RIGHT - "PISS OFF".

Convoy charges dropped

POLICE have dropped charges of unlawful assembly against scores of men and women from the Peace Convoy who were arrested by riot squads as they tried to travel to Stonehenge for an annual free festival, writes Nick Davies.

Solicitor Kate Alexander, who represented many convoy members, said: "It shows that the police have realised they made a mammoth mistake in dealing with these people, and the whole basis on which they say they were acting is unsound."

A total of 241 people were charged with unlawful assembly after police in riot gear arrested more than 500 in fields near Cholerton, Wiltshire.

The police have since been accused of using excessive force. Salisbury magistrates began hearing evidence in the cases last week.

Police told a succession of defendants that they were dropping a charge of unlawful assembly - which carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment - and substituting a charge of obstructing an officer, which carries a maximum sentence of one month.

Most defendants denied the charge and had their cases adjourned.

Shadow Home Secretary Mr Gerald Kaufman said last night that he wanted a full debate on public order policing when Parliament returns in October.

BYE-BYE BYE LAWS

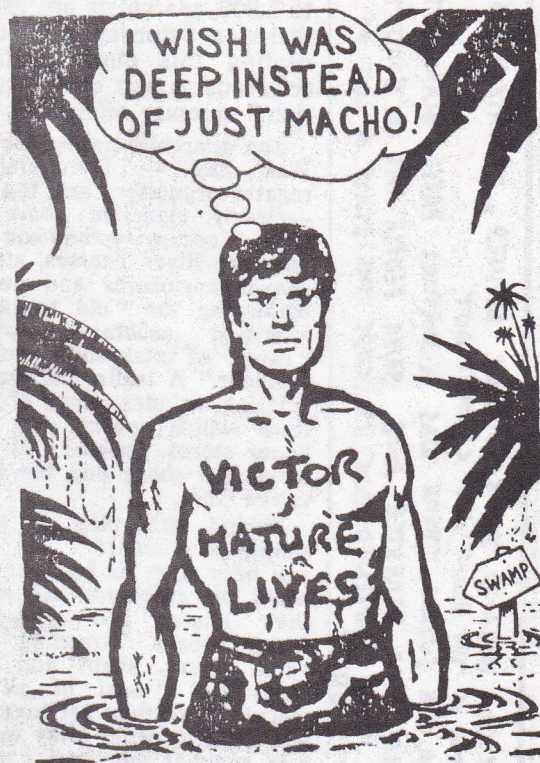
THE AIM OF THIS DAY OF ACTION WAS TO HIGHLIGHT THE ABSURDITY OF THE NEW MOLESWORTH BYE-LAWS BY BREAKING AS MANY OF THEM AS WE COULD, AS SOON AS WE ARRIVED AT THE BASE, ONE GROUP LEAPT OVER THE FENCE TO BREAK THE TRESPASS BYE-LAW, AND AIMED FOR THE HALF BUILT PEACE CHAPEL, THE REST OF US WATCHED AS THEY WERE HAULED AWAY AFTER THEIR DARING ATTEMPT AND THEREAFTER ACTIONS SUCH AS PERMITTING A 'THING' TO ENTER THE BASE SEEMED DULL BY COMPARISON, SO MOST OF US INCLUDING THOSE WHO'D COME DOWN PLANNING NOT TO - ENDED UP TRESPASSING TOO; THOUGH COMPARING NOTES AFTERWARDS WE FOUND WE'D INFACIT BROKEN ALL THE OTHER BYELAWS TOO - SOME BY ACCIDENT, AS THEY'RE THAT DAFT, ONE WOMAN HAD PRETENDED TO BE NANCY REAGAN TO GAIN ADMISSION TO THE BASE (ONE OF THE BYE-LAWS SAYS YOU CAN'T IMPERSONATE ANYONE FOR THAT PURPOSE), BUT THE MOD SAID HER ATTEMPT WASN'T SERIOUS ENOUGH TO WARRANT ARREST; ANOTHER WOMAN MADE A TARZAN-STYLE ENTRY INTO THE MEADOW AREA BY CLIMBING OVER A FALLEN TREE, THIS WAS SHORTLY AFTER LEICESTER PEOPLE HAD MADE AN EQUALLY ACROBATIC ATTEMPT ON THE FENCE WITH THE AID OF THEIR 'SECRET WEAPON' - STEPS WHICH SLOT INTO THE SQUARE HOLES OF THE FENCE AND STICK OUT AT RIGHT-ANGLES.

ALL THOSE WHO TRESPASSED WERE DETAINED FOR 10 OR 12 HOURS, WHICH NOT ONLY GAVE US A CHANCE TO DRY OUT FROM THE DAY'S RELENTLESS RAIN BUT ALSO TO ADD A NEW NAME TO THE 'SILLY POLICE NAMES FILE' - INSPECTOR FECTOR, WE WERE HELD FIRST IN PORTACABINS ON THE BASE, WHERE GAMES WERE PLAYED INCLUDING HOPSCOTCH, ROUNDERS, MARBLES, JUGGLING, AND CHARADES AS WELL AS THE MORE TRADITIONAL NVDA GAMES, BEFORE BEING RELEASED - SOME OF US VERY LATE AT NIGHT - WE WERE DRIVEN TO HUNTINGDON AND CHARGED WITH TRESPASS UNDER THE BYE-LAWS, (I DON'T SUPPOSE ITS BREAKING A BYE-LAW, BUT IT WAS GOOD FUN TALKING ON THE POLICE RADIO WHILE WE WERE UNGUARDED FOR A MOMENT IN THE VAN).

QUITE A FEW PEOPLE HAD A GOOD THOUGH WET DAY OUT AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHY THEY WERE TAKEN TO THE TOILET AFTER FIRST GIVING THEIR NAMES, ANSWERS PLEASE TO INSPECTOR FECTOR.



MEN



WE ARE MEN AGAINST SEXISM IN NOTTINGHAM. WE AIM TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST MALE INSTITUTIONALISED SEXISM - WORKING TOWARDS A MORE CARING, EQUAL AND BALANCED SOCIETY, TO CALL ON MORE MEN TO OBSERVE AND QUESTION THE WAYS IN WHICH WE OPPRESS WOMEN, AND TO PUT AN END TO THE VALUES PREDOMINANT IN A MALE CENTRED SOCIETY: COMPETITION, MACHISMO, UNCARING REMOTENESS, GREED, AND EXPLOITATION - THE SYSTEMATIC VIOLENCE BY WHICH MEN PRESERVE THEIR SELFISH INSTITUTIONS. WE AIM TO SEE THE DOWNFALL OF SUCH INSTITUTIONS, AND THE CREATION OF NEW WAYS OF LIFE IN WHICH MEN'S WILLS, GOALS AND BEHAVIOUR ARE IN HARMONY WITH THE REST OF NATURE.

WE ARE CALLING UPON MEN TO DEMONSTRATE OUTSIDE PRIVATE PORN-SHOP ON CARRINGTON STREET ON 10TH AUGUST AT 12:00 NOON. PORN IS AN ASPECT OF MALE VIOLENCE DEGRADING TO WOMEN'S SEXUALITY AND DISTORTING OF MAN'S SEXUALITY.

VIOLENT PORNOGRAPHY IS THE THEORY
AND RAPE IS THE PRACTICE

PORN CASTS AN IMAGE OF WOMEN AS PLIABLE SEX-OBJECTS - A VIEW WHICH FILTERS INTO MALE BEHAVIOUR. RAPISTS AND MOST MEN GET TO BELIEVE THAT WOMEN SHOULD HAVE NO RIGHTS NOR CHOICES, THAT 'PROPER' WOMEN DON'T SAY 'NO' OR 'FUCK OFF' OR 'LEAVE ME ALONE' TO MEN. THE IMAGE OF MALE SEXUALITY THAT IS CAST IS NO MORE REALISTIC OR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TRUTH THAN IS THE IMAGE OF WOMEN'S. MEN DON'T HAVE TO BE VIRILE SEX MACHINES DOMINATING AND BEING IN CONTROL, WE CAN BE CARING, GENTLE AND OPEN, AND WE MUST, BECAUSE THE LONGER MEN SPEND THEIR ENERGIES IN MUSUNDERSTANDING AND PUTTING DOWN WOMEN THE LONGER WE KEEP OURSELVES IN CHAINS WITH CLOSED MINDS, LOSING TIME AND ENERGY WE COULD USE TO GROW AND LIVE FOR OUR OWN LIBERATION. THINGS WILL NEVER CHANGE IF MEN DO NOT ACKNOWLEDGE THESE FACTS. ALL MEN - AND EACH MAN READING THIS - MUST LOOK AT THEMSELVES AND ATTEMPT TO ERASE THEIR OLD VALUES OF A TRADITION OF VIOLENCE, HATE AND RAPE.

GOT TO LEARN. GOT TO GROW.

NEXT FREE MASINS MEETING:- AUG 13 CONTACT 622987

THIS ARTICLE APPEARED IN "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH" ON JULY 3RD. BEFORE THE EVENT THERE WAS MUCH PRESS COMMENT; THE SUN TIED IT IN WITH A POSSIBLE IRA ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF ONE PRINCE ANDREW, THE YORKSHIRE EVENING POST REPORTED THAT LOCAL FIREMEN HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO FIT ANTI-RIOT GRUBS TO THEIR ENGINES, A MOVE NOT EVEN TAKEN IN

Young anarchists set to make a splash at Henley

NORTHERN IRELAND. THE FIREFIGHTER REFUSED & THREATENED STRIKE ACTION IF THE PLAN WAS CARRIED OUT. AFTER THE EVENT THERE WAS A VIRTUAL PRESS BACKLASH. 43 PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED AND SOME PEOPLE HAD A GOOD TIME. NOT MUCH HAPPENED BUT IT COST THE STATE A LOT OF MONEY AND WORRY.

It's jolly revolting weather

ANY tightening of security at the Henley regatta which starts tomorrow will not merely be another sign of the times. Up to 1,000 anarchists are expected there on Saturday, bent on disrupting this most English of occasions as part of a "bash the rich" summer offensive.

The anarchist newspaper CLASS WAR has — fortunately for regatta organisers and the police — clearly signalled some likely tactics: occupying the main bridge over the River Thames, attacking canvas enclosures and generally employing the "old tradition of anarchist sabotage" with a "range of makeshift tools and weapons." A leaflet currently circulating includes a map of Henley town which marks out banks, liquor stores, jewellers and other up-market shops and the Conservative Club.

Behind this plan is a very simple argument: "The bosses will only start to feel our attack when we turn our attention to their homes and recreations," which means "trashing" their cars, houses, shops and restaurants and "most of all those places where they get together in silly hats to while away the care-free summer months."

What is unusual about this particular exposition of anarchist thinking is that the text is not littered with four-letter expletives and is not accompanied by crude drawings of the Prime Minister or senior police officers with bloody axes protruding from their skulls.

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For, since it first appeared two years ago, CLASS WAR has found a ready market for such violent imagery and an unashamed declaration of war on society. During this short time the paper has become the leading mouthpiece of an incipient movement of revolt among the rootless, disaffected young and on the fringes of the peace and animal rights campaigns. Lest panic should now break out among the middle classes, it should be said that these are early days: the movement is small and may burn itself out. But the indications are rather that it will continue to gain adherents. It certainly cannot be dismissed entirely as some sick joke by rebellious teenagers.

The Henley outing is the latest in a series of "direct action" initiatives. The anarchists' first came to public notice in the Stop the City demonstrations, four attempts in 1983 and 1984 to bring the City of London to a halt, to prevent which the police arrested nearly 1,100 people. Since the last of those efforts nine months ago, the anarchists have sought to broaden the scope of their activities: some joined the Molesworth "peace camp" and then attached themselves to the hippy convoy which fought the police at Stonehenge.

One of the anarchists' most

important areas of operation has concerned animal "liberation." They have been involved in raids on laboratories, in attacks on premises owned by meat and fur traders and among hunt saboteurs. As the magazine GREEN ANARCHIST argues in its current issue, "true liberation will only come about with anarchy... Direct action is the key to animal liberation." The Government, it believes, cannot infiltrate animal groups run on anarchist lines: "There is no doubt we have the bastards on the run now and nothing is going to stop us."

Nor has football violence escaped the anarchists' attention. At a time when National Front involvement with football fans has been widely discussed CLASS WAR is preparing to do its best to help matters along. A recent article

PETER SHIPLEY on the 'bash the rich' season

said: "There's some brilliant things that happen at football like rucking the police and looting from shops but it's time to go a step further, like thieving off the rich instead of each other, hitting the bastards where it really hurts."

And during the spate of demonstrations and walk-outs by school pupils in the spring, the anarchists criticised the main organisers of the protests, the Militant Tendency, and distributed leaflets exhorting children to "smash" the "compulsory indoctrination" which passed for education and to rebel against all forms of authority.

All these issues will be on the agenda when CLASS WAR holds a national rally in London later this month. The circumstances which will have brought people to that gathering are varied.

The roots of the anarchist revival lie first in aspects of post-punk youth culture. It would be an absurd and cruel generalisation to suggest that the tastes and styles of young people today harbour a unique rebelliousness. What is significant is a sense of pessimism and despair, a resentment and dissatisfaction which pervades some of the current subcults. The mood is harsh and quite different from the 'sixties with its middle-class fun radicals.

Today's bleak fatalism is expressed through music more often than formal political activity. There are, however, various bands, such as the New Model Army, the Redskins and the Exploited, whose lyrics carry an overtly social or political message. The issues are familiar — unemployment, drugs, urban decay and fear of nuclear annihilation, and the sentiments are profoundly anti-Conservative. By despatching the singer Billy Bragg on tour

recently, the Labour party hoped to capitalise on the trend. But nihilism and suspicion of authority, including all politicians, offer fertile ground of anarchists and within the limits of their resources they have made the most of exploiting it.

Secondly, the anarchists have gained from changing political fashions. They have advanced where the Marxist Left has withdrawn. Several Trotskyists groups have changed gear to follow the Militant Tendency into the Labour party. And groups left outside, such as the Socialist Workers' Party, which was so successful in the 'seventies, have stagnated. The disciplines demanded by Marxist-Leninists and their ceaseless in-fighting and manoeuvring do not have the same attraction for the punk generation.

Single-issue campaigns which are not controlled by a single party organisation have greater appeal today and they are very compatible with anarchist methods, in which autonomous local groups take whatever action they see fit as part of a decentralised national network. The peace movement was such a model and the catalyst in changing the face of protest.

Anarchist influences in the disarmament lobby go back a generation and many of the present anarchists had their first experience of political activity on a peace demonstration. But having been roused to action on this issue, many anarchists are becoming impatient with the ritual nature of marches and camps, and sceptical of the non-violent tradition which has been one of the hallmarks of British anarchism. An article in a Nottingham anarchist journal, for example, suggested looking into ways of wrecking factories and arms contractors' property.

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Whatever acts anarchists may perform in the future their movement is likely to remain fragmented. Apart from CLASS WAR, the main national voices of anarchism include FREEDOM, which is run by a collective that generally represents the non-violent, more intellectual strand of the movement, and BLACK FLAG, a link with anarchists and revolutionary terrorists overseas. The Direct Action Movement, a member of the anarcho-syndicalist International Workers' Association operates mainly from Manchester, and there are scores of smaller magazines published by anarchist groups—STUFF IT, in Bristol; TEAR IT DOWN, from Nottingham; and CARELESS TALK, in Stoke-on-Trent.

In the hierarchy of political violence the anarchists are not yet a major force. But if the movement continues to grow it will require a more considered response than just a firm smack of the authority it so despises.

Peter Shipley is a former member of the Prime Minister's Policy Unit.