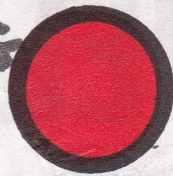


Nottingham Anarchist

★ News ★

SPRING
88



SOLIDARITY
MUTUAL AID
SELF-HELP



INSIDE • OCCUPATION, FASCISM, NCND
• SLAG-OFFS, LIBEL AND MORE.

HELLO

Its still called "Nottingham Anarchist News" because there's still a few hundred covers printed with that title. If these pages were really concerned with news of Nottingham Anarchists, they would be far fewer and consist solely of "Scumbags". But thats not what we want, is it?

This paper is open to all (self-confessed anarchist, or not) who have libertarian views. We welcome contributions in the form of articles, letters, cartoons/drawings, photographs, reviews, press-cuttings or anything else that is printable with an offset litho machine. We would like to see more debate in the paper, so please respond in writing and not just mutter to yourself. Learning is a mutual process: if we've got something wrong, tell us and everyone else. If you're involved in something that you feel we don't cover or give enough emphasis, get in touch and we'll try to remedy the situation.

This issue follows more than four months since the last one. In future we will try to come out every three months. In the meantime there are two other publications with an anarchist influence that you might try to get hold of. The first is Lobster Telephone, a very strange mixture of politics, prose, poetry and pictures. The second is Nottingham Agitator, produced by an organisation called the Anarchist Socialist Group. Serious stuff.

We are printing the article about chemical attacks to stress the international nature of the Iran/Iraq war even without US interference. Much of the positions taken by the left in Britain over the war amount to no more than anti-american posturing without any real attempt to find out what is going on inside the borders. Among the authors of the article are refugees who are in a particularly vulnerable position as regards militant response to the situation in their homelands. Support them. Solidarity.

NOTTINGHAM ANARCHIST NEWS
BOX A
RAINBOW CENTRE
180 MANSFIELD ROAD
NOTTINGHAM

THE GULF

CHEMICAL ATTACK ON HALABJA

The recent massacre in Halabja, the famine in Ethiopia, earlier slaughters in Dresden and Tal-el-Za'ater, Palestine etc. are all one and the same: aiming to destroy the world communist movement and to prolong the existence of the capitalist system.

Of course, capitalism always attempts to disguise the true nature of its actions. Thus the Gulf war is portrayed as being the result of a territorial disputes, religious conflicts and nationalist issues. By considering the situation in Iran and Iraq around the time of the beginning of the war, it should become clear how reality is

twisted and cOhtorted by world capitalism into myths perpetuated daily by the media.

The 1979 revolution in Iran illustrates how world capitalists join hands and share the task of defeating revolution. For example, in Iran the first attempt to disarm revolutionaries was carried out by various, so-called workers representatives (Fediye, Komala, etc.) with the support of the Soviet Union. They tried to convince the people that the time was not ripe for revolution, and that they should lay down their arms. But these attempts were not successful and, despite the strengthening of the military against it, the revolution continued to gather momentum. Towards the end of 1979, and until mid-1980, the state completely lost control over Blujistan and Kurdistan in Iran. Revolutionaries took power in cities such as Sina and Meriwan, which they held for 22 days, killing counter-revolutionaries and occupying one of the biggest military barracks in Iran. They distributed weapons comandered from this stronghold among the people. But eventually, with the help of the organisations above, the state succeeded in crushing the revolution in Sina.

Meanwhile, strikes and demonstrations in the Iranian cities of Ahwaz, Abadan, Asfahan, Shiraz, Tabrez and Teheran were taking a revolutionary direction. Many factories had been occupied and production brought to a standstill. Employers were either killed or fled to Europe. In an iron works in Tabrez, the workers imprisoned the management in one room and soldered all the exits shut. At the same time, strikes in Egypt, Iraq, the Lebanon, Palestine, Turkey and Syria were taking place and the possibility of revolution in these countries was becoming reality. The spread of revolution to Teheran greatly influenced demonstrations and strikes in Iraq and capitalism became seriously threatened. It was for this reason that the Iraqi government decimated Abughreb when the people took up arms against the state.

When capitalism saw that, despite all its attempts to crush revolution, resistance was still strong, it felt it had only one path left to take - that is, to start a war. Therefore, it is clear that Iran and Iraq are in pursuit of a common goal in the war; to wipe out populations in order to destroy revolution. Thousands of 15-20 year old teenagers have been recruited to fight in the war, in all certainty that they will never return from the battlefields. In 1982, 12,000 workers were killed by Iraq for refusing to be conscripted. In 1983, Iraq killed hundreds of demonstrators who were protesting against the war, and they hanged fathers who had refused to grass on their sons who had deserted from the army. These, and many other atrocities, are of the same essence as the slaughter in Halabja, which is no more the first such massacre than it will be the last. Halabja was a town of wide-spread resistance, not only against the war, but also against the Kurdish Nationalist fight. Therefore, it has been the target for such capitalist attacks both before and since the war.

Reform, peace, democracy and war are integral parts of capitalist existence. The strength of democracy and the weakness of the communist movement have given capitalism the power and opportunity to commit such atrocities and hence to prolong its existence.

We are asking no favours from capitalism: our only interest in this society is in its destruction. That is why we do not direct our demands to capital, but to the workers of the world and the communist movement.

DOWN WITH ALL STATES!!

DOWN WITH ALL THEIR WARS, PEACE, DEMOCRACY, FASCISM!!

DOWN WITH THIS BARBARIC AND PUTRID SOCIETY!!!

Box 36
37 Stokes Croft
Bristol
BS1 3PY

SOCIAL INSECURITY

April 11th saw the introduction of the new Social Security cuts. A The day when the screw was turned even tighter on the impoverished and dispossessed. To some, the idea of Anarchists fighting against a reduction in state support seems absurd. But it is an absurd world in which we live. Everywhere the state has built up walls to restrict our freedom: through its property laws, policing and economic system it prevents us making our living together. The cuts in social security are another way of forcing us further into the state system, a way of forcing us into jobs to earn profits for the already obscenely rich, making totally useless commodities, destroying the environment, mortgaging our souls. If the state left us alone, left us to till our own land, run our own industry without the truncheon or taxes, we wouldn't need social security. As it is.....

The day needed to be marked by some protest. The state will continue to march on its way until protest and direct action stop it. That action starts with you and me. It starts when we actually do something rather than continually whingeing and moaning, or building elaborate theoretical models of an imaginary future, or joining political parties.

We decided our bit of direct action would be an occupation of the Restart Offices. The target was chosen carefully; we didn't want to stop any claimants getting their money, but couldn't imagine anyone being pissed-off at not being able to attend a Restart interview. The day started with a bit of leafletting at the lunchtime Civil and Public Servants Association (CPSA) picket of the DHSS office on Shakespeare Street. There were about a hundred people there to make a token protest in their lunch hour. Then we went down to Gordon House - the Restart Office.

The turn out was disappointing. About 10 went into the office while 4 of us leafletted outside and talked to spectators. Quite a crowd gathered as those on the inside hung a banner out of a 3rd floor window and spoke of the iniquities of the SS



through a megaphone. One supervisor in the office became agitated and violent, but disappeared when the occupiers made it very plain to him that they wouldn't tolerate his bullying. After about half an hour or so, the police turned up and, with regard to the smallness of their numbers, the occupiers decided that discretion was the better part of valour and left the building.

Hopefully this protest was the start of many, and if we can overcome the petty sectarianism that dogs our movement the next will be bigger and better. The text of the leaflet distributed on the day is reproduced below.

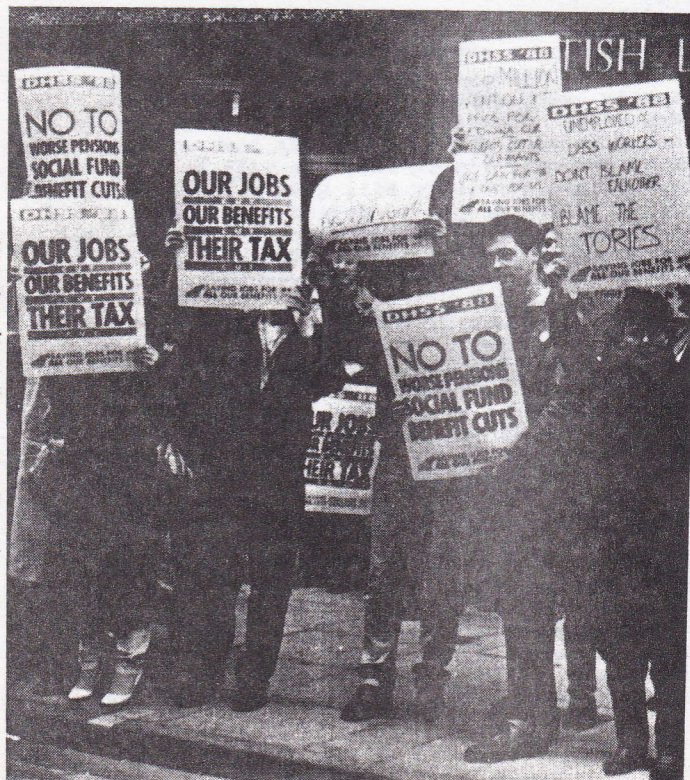
DIVIDE AND RULE

April 11th. The income Support Act becomes effective. It seems to be the governments idea of a second April Fool since many people believe they'll be better off after these attacks.

JUST A FEW OF THE CUTS

- Everyone will have to pay 20% of General Rates.
- Everyone will have to pay all of their water rates.
 - No Dole For under 18s.
 - Reduced rate for under 25s (£26.05)
- Single Payments scrapped - New loan system with only 1/6th of the budget of the previous system.
- Housing Benefit reduced for low paid workers.
- Pensions: reform of State Earning Related Pensions (SERPS) No longer in line with inflation. Estimated to be worth 50% in 50 years.
- Reduced rate for 6 months if you left your job 'voluntarily' or were sacked.

The tactic behind these measures is one of divide and rule. Whilst many will be affected at once (particularly school leavers and low paid workers), others (18 - 25s) will not be affected until they change their claim. These attacks on



C.P.S.A. PICKET IN SHAKESPEARE STREET.

young people are forcing them back into the family. Not only is economic pressure applied, but is backed up with recent threats in legislation against Lesbian & Gays and tighter abortion controls. Each of us is supposed to think "I'm alright, Jack(ie)", or see a sudden increase in poverty as an individual problem.

RESTART

The Restart programme was smuggled in as a way of "helping people find jobs" - they stressed that there was no compulsion to take anything that was offered, but threatened to cut our dole if we didn't attend. Restart is part of the framework for policing the unemployed - it is being used to force us into their cheap labour programmes (CPs, YTS & JTS) and will no doubt be used to force us onto the work for dole programme (appropriately called NUTS) which replaces CPs etc in september.

They shovel us in and out of work like shit. We have no job security, no 'social' security and even our limited housing security is being eroded

Welfare starts off as a cheap way of ensuring social stability, a way of avoiding crime and violence from those who couldn't be exploited in wage slavery at any moment. Of course, even with welfare we still have riots against the brutal policing of our poverty. We still have bitter violent strikes against enforced redundancies. How do they intend to maintain social peace in the wake of even more repression and its inevitable reaction? Easy: 26 new prisons at a cost of £870 millions.

These attacks are not motivated by any maliciousness on the part of the Tories. It is in the interest of the national economy to attack our living standards and increase productivity. The unions and the Labour Party are just as keen as the Tories at maintaining and increasing our exploitation; whether in the governments slavery schemes or in 'proper' wage slavery. Even if you go further left than the Labour Party you only end up with calls for the "Right to Work" - the left wing equivalent of the Restart programme.

EIGHTBACKS

In response to the attacks on us, we need to take large scale action. In other towns there have already been occupations of UBOS, Town Halls and Unemployed Centres in response to cutbacks. Members of Snoopers squads have had photos of their ugly mugs plastered on the walls in the areas in which they operate. Many Dole workers have refused to work with them, and many claimants have helped them to experience first-hand the appalling conditions in the hospitals. Race checks have been halted, school kids have taken action against compulsory YTS. Claimants have offered solidarity (printing, picketing etc.) to various workers in struggle, most recently the NHS workers. All this is only the beginning.

DOLE IS POVERTY.
WORK IS SLAVERY.
ONE SOLUTION - DIRECT ACTION.

CONSERVE ENERGY



BURN A BUREAUCRAT

SANCTUARY

Black activist Viraj Mendis, who has lived in Britain since 1973, has spent nearly 500 days in Sanctuary in a Manchester church to avoid being deported to his death in Sri Lanka. His appeal is expected in the next three or four weeks, and if it rules against him the Home Office are planning to send the police smashing into the church. They will ignore his 15 years residence and the danger he faces in Sri Lanka in order to destroy the Sanctuary movement. Three other Sanctuaries (in Leicester, Bradford and Manchester) have already been successful and two more are rumoured to have started in the last three weeks.



As Viraj explained to us recently, Sanctuary will become increasingly important when the new Immigration Bill becomes law at the end of June. "The Home Office understands the significance of sanctuary, that it is a threat to the trouble-free implementation of racist immigration controls. In the context of the New Immigration Bill the significance of sanctuary is dramatically increased. The new laws will destroy the right of appeal for a whole section of black people. The only defence they will have against instant deportation will be to go into sanctuary".

Viraj went on to explain that the new bill is "a full-blown attack on anti-deportation campaigns. Virtually every successful campaign has had to depend on the time the appeal procedures take to launch a defence campaign. After the new laws come in the only viable response will be sanctuary, because sanctuary will give a breathing space for black people to defend themselves. Fifty black people a week are being deported from Britain. A defeat for my campaign will strike a mortal blow to the Sanctuary Movement".

The Home Office are preparing to deport Viraj to his death to preserve "Law and Order". They continue to maintain that Sri Lanka is a "democracy" and they deported six Tamils there in February. Meanwhile, Amnesty International and the World Council of Churches point out that nearly 20,000 Tamils and Tamil supporters like Viraj have been murdered in Sri Lanka since 1983.

Nottingham Anti-Deportation Campaign, which is currently working on Viraj's case, was set up to re-establish anti-deportation work in Nottingham. While we are building local support for Viraj's campaign we are laying the foundations for future Sanctuary Campaigns in Nottingham. For more details write to: Box A, Hiziki, 15 Goosegate, Nottm. Come and help us mobilize for the national demonstration in Manchester on May 28th.

Nottingham A.D.C.

GET YOUR CLAUSE OFF MY BODY

The effect of Clause 28 on Lesbian and Gays is already being felt. In Bradford, Lesbian groups have been refused participation in the council-sponsored womens festival. In Wolverhampton, the Arena theatre helped produce a video "Get your clause off my body" discussing the effects of clause 28. This video has subsequently been banned from being shown in any council venue. There is also an investigation into who helped make the video, in order to withdraw their funding. This is the first case where clause (section) 28 (or whatever) has actually been quoted in censorship of the arts. There will be many more.

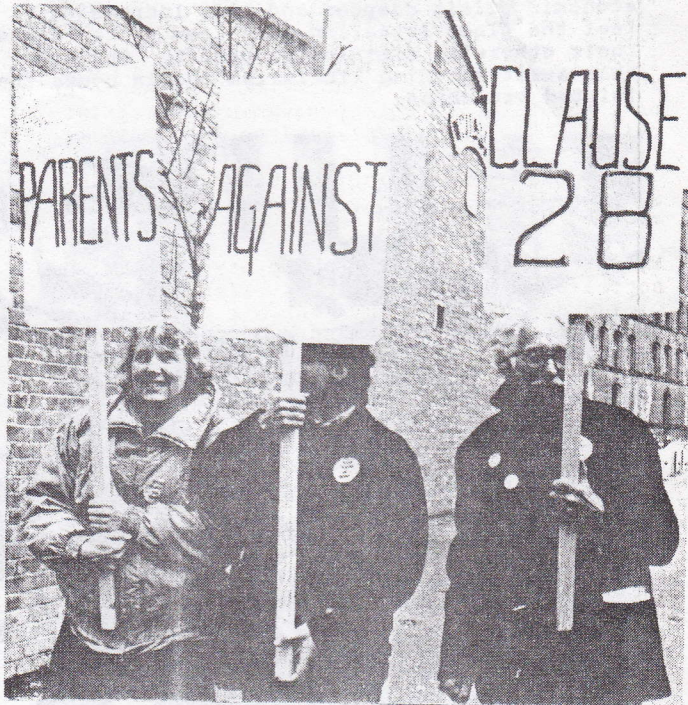
The response of the Lesbian and Gay community to this attack on their lifestyle has brought many out into the streets. The demos have been big, noisy and lively. But the effect on the government has been predictable - none. Hopefully, however, the feeling of solidarity and strength engendered by so many gays and lesbians coming out together will provide a base to fight the implementation of this act. The act is passed, but the fight cannot stop here. Existing networks must be strengthened, new structures built outside the state (national and local) machinery, new alliances forged. Pressure must be kept on local authorities to ensure that they do the minimum under the law and not act as the policemen of a wider repressive morality. The effect of this clause on the lesbian and gay community will depend on the degree of continuing support and



ALL PHOTOS FROM MANCHESTER MARCH.

opposition within that community. The clause is Law, the fight is on.

Much of the campaigning around the clause has been based on the issue of "rights". The following text is the draft of a leaflet prepared by Lesbian and Gay Noise to distribute on the Manchester demo. In the event it proved too long for a leaflet. But it raises interesting points and is reproduced here in the hope that it will generate discussion and debate on the subject. Please respond.



BITE THE HAND THAT FEEDS YOU

What are we fighting for? Listen to our 'leaders', our 'friends' in parliament, in the media, in the various, ever spawning reform groups. Listen to our would-be leaders, the leftists, the RCPs, the SWPs etc. They will tell you what we're fighting for. We are fighting for equal rights, human rights, even gay rights. Well, we are, aren't we?

There is one thing that these people have in common: they all want to recuperate our possible power into their various interpretations of bourgeois ideology.

Political rights are important. They give some freedom to fight the precondition of those very rights - the generality of our oppression. But to confuse the issue of rights with the liberation of our sexuality is exactly what our oppressors want us to do.

What are these gay rights we are defending? Gay men are free behind a locked door, if over twenty-one. Otherwise, we are illegal. Lesbians don't even have this legal nicety. They are not recognised by legislation. The powers-that-be however seem to interpret this as - lesbians are not subject to a particular law, the law in general can be used against them.

We have no right to work, no right to housing, no right to free expression, no right to bring up our children, no right to walk the streets in safety. The 1967 Act merely redefined our oppression.

What are human rights? If such have any meaning, then the foremost must be the right to life. What can this mean when millions die every year from avoidable famine, from the countless murderous wars waged between the various imperialist powers? What is the right to life when

people can be shot with impunity by the police, or die so regularly 'by accident' in the cells? If you want to know about the right to life then don't ask a policeman.

What are equal rights? The right to an equal share in the miserable state of exploitation and degradation the majority endures? Our liberation cannot lie in fighting for the scraps off the table of our oppressors magnanimity. Such a sparse table becomes rapidly more empty as economic crisis deepens and they increasingly feel the pinch (stealing more from us to bolster their otherwise diminishing profit. Out goes that sweet-mouthing liberalism and in comes the jointed truncheon.



What are we fighting for? If we are fighting for the liberation of our sexuality, if we are fighting for the liberation from oppression on the basis of gender, race or sexuality, it is important first to identify our enemy. In whose interest is the division of society against itself? In whose interest is the division of the working class? IT IS THE INTEREST OF CAPITALISM.

It was only since the rise of capitalism (and the bourgeois ideology that serves it) that the nuclear family has developed as an institution. Accompanying this was the development of the concept of exclusive sexuality. That is, the definition of a person as homosexual or heterosexual rather than (as previously was the case) that only the actions of a person were defined. The term homosexual was only coined in the last century.

This didn't happen by accident. It came about because it was in the interest of the ruling class 1) to create and maintain an institution - the family - which would serve as the basic organ of social control and indoctrination, and 2) to define that which was inimical to this idea; to create an enemy, a socially unacceptable group whose frightening existence would serve as a warning to those who might deviate. It is only under capitalism that we are persecuted for what we are; previously we were only punished for what we did.



From all sides it is the agencies of capital that attack us. The police, the church, the government, psychiatry, the family, political parties, the social services etc. They all attack and manipulate us in one way or another.

Especially cynical are those professional liberators, our would be masters, the leftists, the RCPs etc who throng around any group that shows signs of militancy in order to recruit for their own ends. The political party is a bourgeois function and the last resort of capitalism will be to try to disguise itself as communism.

Our enemy is capitalism and those who represent it. If there is ever to be liberation for lesbians and gays it will only come through the destruction of capitalism and and its first weapon, the state. Only through the establishment of the human community, the achievement of communism, can such freedom be found.

As lesbian and gays we have been created an enemy within by the agencies of capitalism. We have no choice back or go under. Our only realistic objective in fighting this bill is to preserve what little political freedoms we have in order to fight that system in which unfreedom is the rule to which a 'right' is a deluding exception.

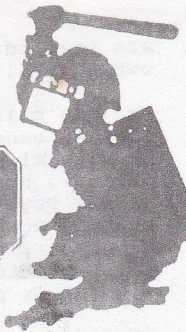
Whether we win or lose this particular issue our true interest must lie in the destruction of capital and the creation of a worldwide community: communism.

To this end lesbians and gays must organise and fight in solidarity with the autonomously organised working class.

Bite the hand that feeds you.



IRELAND



Ireland has been in the news a lot this year. Starting with the rejection of the appeals of the Birmingham 6 against their convictions for bombings that they clearly didn't commit. The judges rejected their claims (and evidence) that their "confessions" were false and were beaten out of them, on the grounds that anyone claiming that the police beat anybody was obviously a liar! The news coverage kept up as a surrendering IRA cell was executed in Gibraltar and the subsequent funerals were interrupted by more death and violence. Never in the twenty years since troops were sent into the North of Ireland has the subject been given such wide coverage. Yet, in spite of all the flag-waving editorials and the huffing and puffing of Tory (and Labour) politicians, the majority of British people want the Troops Out! The Sun, perhaps the most vehemently anti-Irish of all the daily rags ("if these people don't want to live under British rule, they should get out"), held one of its infamous telephone polls on the subject. Not unsurprisingly, the result was tucked away in a small corner the next day: It showed that over 80% of the respondents demanded British withdrawal!!

With all this coverage and overwhelming support for Troops Out from even Sun readers, you might think that groups concerned with the situation in Ireland would be having a field day. Not a bit of it: there are no effective functioning groups in Nottingham. The Irish Solidarity Group imploded late last year after a couple of years making principled stands on everything.... and organizing very little. The group, though broader based than most (Trotskyites, Stalinists & Anarchists), was dominated by the adage "we'd rather speak to a dozen committed comrades than thousands of proles of undefined politics". With the demise of this group, what else is there?

Socialist Action: British representatives of the Trotskyist 4th International and self-appointed purveyors of Republican News to the lounge bars of Nottingham. Their Irish counterpart (Peoples Democracy) spends a great deal of time slagging off that paper and its publishers, Sinn Fein. Which makes it all very confusing 'cos to hear Socialist Action talk you'd think they were Sinn Fein representatives in Britain. Opportunism? or Hypocrisy?

Connolly Association: Communist Party dominated. Which probably explains why it is the only local Irish political group for which local folkies Patti O'Doors will do benefits. They have occasional socials and have a passing interest in Irish culture. You can be forgiven if you've



never heard of them, no-one else has either.

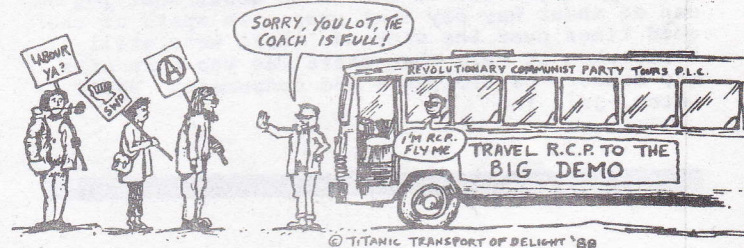
Labour Committee on Ireland: Made up mainly of Socialist Action and other trots - people who spend so much of their time playing conspiratorial games of control in the Labour Party that they haven't really got time for campaigning, but like to belong to an Irish issue group to enhance their radical (sic) credibility. If you like really boring meetings, this is the group for you. You won't be expected to do anything; no one else does.

Trades Council: Has struggled against Trade Union bureaucracy's indifference or open hostility to organize some educationals/events in the past. But the sad verdict is "a waste of time".

Irish in Britain Representation Group: Moribund.

Irish Freedom Movement: RCP front. Prospects?: "You only have to look at them! They go in for triumphalism without winning the victories first". A group to be avoided. Unless you're into radical chic and fuck the politics.

The Irish Freedom Movement showed its true colours at the annual Bloody Sunday demonstration held this year in London. (Bloody Sunday commemorates the day at the end of January sixteen years ago when the British Army shot dead 14 unarmed civilians in Derry.) The demonstration was the largest for some years, and in spite of the usual intervention of a few fascists went off smoothly. The numbers on the march would have been even greater had the IFM been more interested in Irish solidarity than banging their own drum: the Nottingham coach left the Salutation half empty. The IFM/RCP stewards (two officious commissars) refused to let people onto the coach on the pretext that it was full. Obviously not so! Those on the coach were asked if anyone had



any objections to these people getting on the coach - no objections. But our budding dictators had other ideas. Their petty sectarian kindergarten games (and physical bulk) triumphed and the coach pulled away half empty, leaving people behind. But there is more: one of those left behind was a Trades Council delegate, and on the coach was the Trades Council banner! In London the hijack was completed when the banner was carried not on the Trades Union section of the march, but in the IFM/RCP contingent. This probably earned the RCP apparatchiks several merit points from their national leaders, but like all RCP achievements, it was based on a complete lie. The impression was created that the RCP has the support of Nottingham Trades Council for its position on Ireland. It does not. The RCP has support from nobody apart from a duped few who will quickly metamorphose from YUMMIES (young upwardly mobile marxists) to the full-blown YUPPIES once college has finished. In the meantime they create problems for everyone trying to do real solidarity work.

Several people have expressed an interest in re-forming an Irish Solidarity Group. This would start with a limited programme of education/propaganda in order to avoid the problem of burn-out that is common to many campaigning groups. Never has there been a greater need for British withdrawal, never has the ground been so fertile for that demand to grow. An overwhelming majority in Britain and Ireland want the Troops Out. Lets help achieve that. If you're interested contact through NAN for the moment until we sort out a more permanent address.

One date coming up, to keep free in your diaries, is June 18th when there will be an Orange march in (or near) Chesterfield. Hopefully there will be transport for a counter-demo.

Colin.

MAY DAY

TRADES COUNCIL MARCH: 17 banners, 3 (anarchist) flags, 150 people, marching through saturday streets, shoppers staring, occasional wave and cry of support, quiet, duty. Speakers listened to in sullen silence. No heated discussion, no life.

FREE UNIVERSITY: Videos, workshops, discussion, bookstalls, solidarity, agitate - EDUCATE - organise. Participation.

SATURDAY NIGHT: Cram-packed, never-ending. Joan Collins Fan Club fan club enraptured. Hot, sweaty. Dancing to Premi, playing football, clapping hands with Orchestre Jazira. Art, laughter. Older, more sedate folkies, listening. A good time was had by all.

MAY DAY DAWN: Rain stopping, scurrying creatures of the dawn converge on the Forest, bleary-eyed. Improvised Maypole, huge circle dancing, fire eating, clapping hands, stamping feet, bewilderment. 100 people, queue for breakfast. Solidarity, we were there.

PICNIC: Steel band, dance, sun, chat, food, murals, games. Kids, pushchairs, inflatables, ice cream. Rain, huddles under trees. Where were you, politicians?

The May Day 88 group have produced a very good pamphlet "Why celebrate May Day?". There should be a few still available. It costs 50p. Keep your eyes open for it and think about what you can do about May Day next year. In spite of the good times over the weekend, there were still times when it felt that there was too much of a gap between participants and consumers. Don't watch, join in.

are trapped within their own definitions, their own control.

And the main instrument of control is "Normality", except it don't exist apart from in peoples minds, and thus control has to work hard... but it is often given gifts. When people try to fight the system, but do so by setting up their own system, with set expected behaviour, appearance and so on, then they are falling into the hands of control, making themselves easily handled.

My own personal answer to this dilemma is a conscious effort to create anomaly... not to surprise or impress or confuse others, but for the following reasons..

1. To trick and confuse Control, (= "The System")
2. Because I want to.

Enough pretentious sounding explanations.... Rest of this is a report of actions.....

ACTION: Me and my friend walked around the Kingston one way system in the middle of the road in busy traffic, sound of car horns.

ACTION: I collected about sixty old brown banana skins. Arranged them in neat rows on newspaper.

ACTION: I walked around the local town, and still do everynow and then, dressed as a peruvian indian, and feeling like one too, not to attract attention, but just cos I like dressing that way, did it round the house for a long time before I wandered about.

ACTION: Two O'clock in the morning, empty suburb backstreet, reaking of safety. Using a large number of two penny piece sized tiddley winks we constructed on the pavement the chinese characters for "A beach Umbrella".

ACTION: I dressed completely in black and put a two foot high black hat on my head, consisting of a black bowl about eighteen inches diameter and two big fin-like structures side by side vertically on top, either side of a centrally placed plastic alligator about three feet long. I walked the streets at three in the morning. Twice, passing cars screeched to a halt and came round for a second look.

(LOCAL) **ACTION:** Me and my mate rob purchased a bag of preserved turnip pieces from a Chinese shop down the Mansfield road. And spent the afternoon round the Victoria Centre, putting them places, like in shoes in shoe shops, in a can of 'Macho' spray for men, and in an 'I love you' cup, among other vessels in a trendy designer gift shop. We gave some to a busker outside "A piece of preserved turnip, for your troubles, my man"

A PIECE OF PRESERVED TURNIP FOR THE OVERTHROW OF SOCIETY..

ANOMALY RISING

ANOMALY RISING

Governments always talk about helping the people or about giving the people freedom to help themselves, but really all they are always about is control. For if they cannot control those they try to subjugate then they are nothing. Actually, they are not much anyway, because they

LIFESTYLE

WHY WASTE MONEY ON A JACUZZI? FOR A ROMANTIC, SENSUAL EXPERIENCE, SIMPLY CONSUME LOADS OF CHICK PEAS AND MARSTON'S PEDIGREE; AFTER ABOUT 5 MINUTES, GET IN THE BATH WITH YOUR LOVER, AND FART ALOT..



HERE'S ONE I'VE DONE ALREADY, HEH! HEH!

SUMA WHOLE FOODS

HIZIKI UGH!

THEN, YOU'VE GOT TO SCRAPE THEM OFF THE CEILING, BUT DONE TO A TURN-M-MM!

© TINATIC ENGINEERING '88 IF YOU THINK THIS CARTOON LACKS POLITICAL CONTENT PUT A TICK IN THE BOX THEN PISS OFF

NCND

WE ASK : WHERE IS IT?

Our suspicions were first aroused by the fact that in the last 12 months, the Nottingham Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament has been notable for - almost nothing! When asked by a NAN reporter for NCND's official view on the latest upgrading of NATO's tactical nuclear weapons (quietly admitted soon after the INF agreement to get rid of cruise missiles), an NCND spokesperson said: "We think they're bad news!" Asked about plans for protests, demonstrations, town-hall burning and mass insurrection, we were told that an NCND contingent would be going to the 'hands round Aldermaston' demo on April 4th. Local plans? "Er... there aren't any."

WHAT???

Time was when not only NCND would've organized activities in the town, but its constituent neighbourhood groups would vie with each other to be first on the streets. The true strength of any movement can be measured by the "localness" of its activities, and the extent to which local groups are prepared to ignore national edicts and do their own thing. The structure of these groups was often highly democratic, with members taking it in turn to do various jobs, and all taking part in the decision making. There was a degree of working class involvement (no, really!) unusual in a basically middle class organization. A few years ago, every town and village you passed through had posters up announcing anti-nuclear activities. Now it seems that all this organization and activity has dwindled away. Of the groups listed on the back of the NCND bulletin, most have long since been disbanded. As for the rest, there is a big turn out for a regular meeting.

HOW IS IT, THEN, that NCND can still afford palatial offices in the very centre of Nottingham?? Simpler yet than LOADS of roubles. Even in the good old days, when people did things, there were always different kinds of peace movement membership:

1) People who payed their subscriptions, subdivided into...

a) National CND members. I don't believe I ever met one, but I certainly pushed loads of stuff through their letterboxes. They never-used to do anything, except maybe go on the annual London bash.

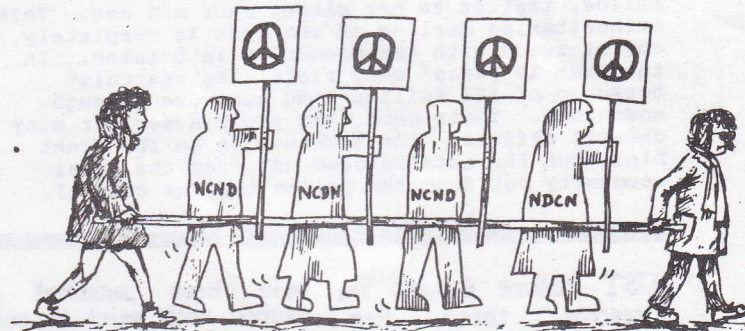
b) Nottingham CND members and neighbourhood group members. More active; would turn out for most events except anything that involved damaging MOD property, eg, fences, tanks, missiles, policemen etc

2) People who didn't pay their subscriptions, subdivided into...

a) Neighbourhood group members. Very active, and therefore soon burnt out because of lack of support from 1).

b) The Headbangers.

The membership (1b) is now active in more fashionable causes, but mostly still belongs to NCND. Just before collapse, it was not uncommon for a neighbourhood group to report a vast, worthless membership of 200-300, which could not be invited, persuaded, cajoled or threatened into doing anything at all. The half dozen or so people (usually of variety 2a) who would still meet regularly to plan events, eventually got fed up and quit, leaving the rest of the group to go on paying their subscriptions towards maintaining the NCND answering machine. Meanwhile, the all too few Headbangers are the only ones still keeping anti-nuclear protest alive. They can still be found at peace camps, or lurking in the shadows around nuclear bases, heedless of the weather, armed with bolt cutters and spray cans.



The decision to deploy new types of nuclear weapons systems in Europe was taken by NATO at Montebello, Canada in 1983, as part of a continuing strategy to use nuclear weapons stationed in Europe for war-fighting rather than deterrence. The new weapons - air and ground launched cruise missiles and 155mm artillery shells - are more accurate, have smaller warheads, and are intended for use the moment the Russians attack. It would be difficult to distinguish their effects from those of powerful conventional weapons. So the threshold at which a conflict on the North German Plain would go nuclear, and lead to an exchange of larger nuclear weapons in Europe, is again dangerously lowered and blurred.

Before the election, the only part of the Montebello decision to get publicity was the scrapping of some 1400 obsolete weapons. When questioned, Thatcher resorted to her usual sneaky trick of lying a lot, and wrote on May 6th, 1987:

"...steps should be taken to ensure the effectiveness, responsiveness and survivability of the residual stockpile (of nuclear weapons). In this context, they (ministers at the Montebello meeting) identified a range of possible improvements. However no decisions were taken at this meeting on specific measures to achieve this."

With the electorate tucked up for another four years, defence minister George Younger, could safely tell the truth on November 10th 1987, when he referred to:

"...the decision taken four years ago at Montebello for the modernisation and bringing up to date of the existing nuclear weapons that are part of the west's armoury against attack. That process is only part complete. It must be completed as soon as possible."

It's good to know that our security is in the hands of people of such integrity! The threat of nuclear war has not been eased at all by the INF agreement; in fact, the situation is worse now than it was when the great resurgence in peace movement activities happened around 1980. But at this critical time when the nuclear arms race is moving into a new phase, the anti-nuclear movement in Nottingham has sunk leaving very little wreckage and, I suspect, the same is true of the rest of the country. I want very much for someone to write in and tell me "Rory, you venomous old piss-artist, you're talking complete shit- again!", but I don't think anyone can. Anyway, my head hurts.

Rory O'Connor

Police car overturned

A police car was overturned in a public car park at Lewdown on Saturday while police officers made a late-night check on a pub in the village.

Police Sergeant Tim Andrews and PC Mark Barlow, from Lifton, returned from the Blue Lion Hotel, to find their locked Panda car on its side, with petrol and oil pouring from the engine. Police believe that youths who spotted the car parked about 50 yards from the hotel overturned it during the few minutes that police were talking to the Blue Lion landlord about licensing matters.

Anarchists step up class war in cities

Not much comment is needed on this article: Its here for a laugh. It appeared in the Observer sometime in April (could it have been the 1st?) and is a good example of the gullibility of the press when confronted with Class War's boasting.

Something must be said, however, about Linda Bellos, traitor to her class, race and sex. This authoritarian darling of the left is completely out of touch with the community in Brixton. In the last 10 years' many riots, the anarchist bookshop at 121 Railton Road has come through unscathed. That's more than you can say for many council offices. The bookshop is on the Front Line, but the attacks come not from the local community but from the police and the council.

JUST before 6 p.m. on Tuesday, three fire-bombs were planted in London department stores. No one has claimed responsibility, but Scotland Yard is certain the Animal Liberation Front is responsible.

Its activists are drawn mainly from the ranks of young militant anarchists. Detectives are receiving reports that anarchists have been involved in an increasing number of attacks on politicians, media personalities and business premises. Police round the country have been instructed to keep a close eye on their activities.

Our inquiries have shown anarchists are becoming increasingly involved in attacks such as one by two youths who threw a concrete block through the front window of Neil Kinnock's home in Ealing, west London, on Thursday.

In recent months:

■ Anarchists beat up Brynley Heaven, leader of Hackney Council's housing committee, after squatters on the Stamford Hill estate were evicted.

■ Stars of the *EastEnders* cast were attacked when the Class War anarchist group accused them of being show-business sell-outs.

■ Prominent businessmen's homes and cars were attacked after anarchist publications gave their home addresses.

■ Dozens of estate agents' windows in inner-city areas

have been smashed or daubed with paint or acid. Anarchist groups are planning a campaign to remove 'rich scum' from such areas.

In the last 10 years anarchy, an ideology which advocates that society should be organised without the constituted authority of Government or rulers, has increased its support from a few hundred to a point where many tens of thousands of young people describe themselves as anarchists.

This generation's politically active youth have rejected such left-wing groups as the Workers' Revolutionary Party or the Communists, whom they feel have failed to challenge the Conservative Party.

Our survey found 16 anarchist groups in universities and polytechnics where there were none 10 years ago. The anarchist society at Portsmouth Polytechnic has 87 members and another collective in the town has 30 members.

Unmesh Desai, an organ-



Sells 20,000 copies.

iser of the pressure group Anti-Fascist Action, said: 'Anarchists are young, mostly bright working-class kids who have dropped out from college or who are unemployed. They have gone for the reality of direct action against the state.'

Anarchists are closely associated with the squatting magazine *Crowbar*. Little love is lost between them and Labour councillors, who feel anarchists take advantage of the need for left-wing councils to make government-imposed cuts.

Linda Bellos, leader of Lambeth council, which has an estimated 2,000 anarchist squats, said: 'Anarchists have moved into the black areas and they use the black community as a shield to express their frustration with the police. Anarchy is a luxury that the black community cannot afford.'

It is misleading to judge the influence of new anarchist groups by membership. Unlike the left-wing groups where membership is everything, anarchists by their nature have more supporters than members. Nevertheless there are a bewildering number of groupings.

The most organised is the Direct Action Movement, launched in 1979. It has 200 members and 500 associates, and its monthly paper *Direct Action* sells 2,000 copies. In Scotland DAM plays a central role in organising resistance to the poll tax.

Many of the new groups take their cue from the Animal Liberation Front, whose supporters have undertaken a large number of acts of mini-terrorism against individuals and businesses. These range from glueing up butcher shops' locks, through setting fire to lorries, to putting incendiary devices in 'lores' fur departments, frequently causing hundreds of thousands of pounds' worth of damage.

Many Animal Liberation activists who have been jailed are also anarchists, such as Ronnie Lee, who is

serving 10 years for organising a fire-bombing campaign.

Class War is the best known of the new violent anarchist groups, with a hard core of 1,000 supporters. Its influence over a large number of disaffected youths has



The 'rich' are targets.

come through its brash bi-monthly tabloid *Class War*, which sells up to 20,000 copies (compared with *Militant's* 10,000 and *New Statesman's* 25,000.)

'At first people thought we were just into violence,' said Andy Murphy, a 27-year-old council worker. 'But we have grown our own political theory. We do not call ourselves anarchists any longer. Yes, we want to overthrow capitalism and if that has to be violent, then so be it. We are interested in community politics, for the working class to stick up for itself.'

Class War has been organising an anti-yuppie campaign in working-class areas. Helped by the former Clash guitarist Joe Strummer, it plans a series of 'Rock against the Rich' concerts, and has designated September 10 as National Anti-Yuppie Day.

The police are concerned about the new anarchists. In 1971 the anarchist Angry Brigade came close, despite its small numbers, to blowing up the then Home Secretary, Robert Carr.

According to a Special Branch source, Scotland Yard has assigned six officers full time to monitoring anarchists in the capital.

FASCISM

There is a common assumption on the "left" that fascist groups like the National Front or British National Party pose no threat in Britain today. The argument goes that they NF were smashed by the Anti-Nazi League in the late 70s and, anyway, the Tories have stolen all their policies so they have no base to work from. This shows a deep misunderstanding of fascism and rightist violence. It is true that the NF were resoundingly beaten in electoral terms, but lack of votes does not turn a violent thug into a wimpy pacifist.

The NF's organisation was in tatters, but the thugs are still there. And their politics of hate is being given increasing credibility and legitimacy by the Thatcher government. New Immigration Laws and Clause 28 are just two among many pieces of legislation which enforce "normality" and make virtues out of intolerance and brute strength. Queer bashing has already been condoned in Parliament. This movement of electoral politics to the right provides more, not less, ground for the NF and others to organise right wing thugs.



FASCISTS: NO EASY STEREOTYPES.

The growth of the National Front in Nottingham is a worrying possibility, and the nightmare of them becoming as strong as their "brothers" in Leeds, Liverpool, London and Newcastle, is something that must, and can, be averted.

Some people dismiss the NF here as "no problem". They think that should fascists crawl out of their cess-pit, the opposition would be here to kick them back. Well, maybe that time is now ripe? The pictured flyposter was found a few days before 16th April advertising a "St Georges Day Stomp" at the Narrowboat on Canal Street.

When approached about it the manager of the pub claimed to know nothing of it, the room being booked under a 21st birthday party. He said that he would do his utmost to get in touch with the organisers and cancel the booking. However, the event went ahead unhindered, attended by the expected pea-brained scum upstairs and in the streets chanting fascist slogans. Their less bald counterparts stayed drinking in their usual haunt of the downstairs bar. On top of this, the National Front had held a meeting in the pub the night before. Are the Narrowboat staff/management as innocent as they claim in playing host to fascists? The pub has previously welcomed more enlightened groups, but recently both CND and (apparently after pressure from the brewery on flyposting) SWP have received their marching orders. The Animal Rights Confederation has started having hassles over bookings for meetings they have held for a number of years.



This is a summary of recent events as far as we know them. We only found out by chance. It comes on top of last summer's tendency for groups of fascist sympathisers to gather in the Hockley area. Is there an attempt to organise these youth into a more threatening group? Has anything else been going off? Surely it isn't right that fascists should be organising in our community without being subject to a coordinated monitoring and opposition. For this reason a meeting is being arranged to discuss their goings-on and hopefully start up an Anti-Fascist Group in the city, involving any members of the community wanting to fight the obnoxious opinions of the extreme right. Those opinions, if left, will develop into very nasty action. Do we have to wait until people are being hurt before we wake up to the threat that fascism poses to us all?

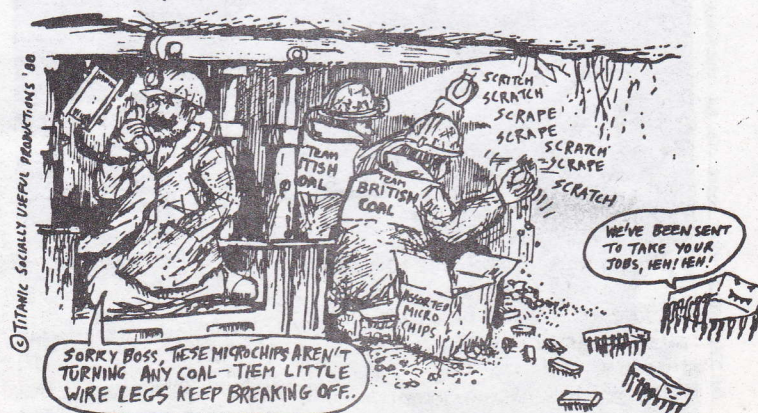
BOOK REVIEW

"ARCHITECT OR BEE?" by MIKE COOLEY
(Hogarth Press. 5.95)

Another book calling for new technology to be "nice", or so I thought as I began to read it, expecting to find the Titanic's deck-chairs tastefully re-arranged. The title "Architect or Bee?" summarizes the choice that faces us: do we control technology, to use it with the creative scope of the architect, or are our choices to be limited as in the repetitive work of the bee, with someone else in charge? The book is short, easy to read, and everything is clearly explained without jargon- engineering, political or sociological.

Mike Cooley has apparently written a lot about technology and its effect on society. As a design engineer, he was working for Lucas Aerospace when mass redundancy threatened, and was in the fight to save jobs. He describes the now famous Corporate Plan, drawn up by workers from the shop floor and drawing office, to turn

Lucas Aerospace to the manufacture of socially useful products (the book lists the desirable attributes of such products). Management - as always - were much more interested in exercising their "right to manage" than in keeping the plant going, even when it could be shown that there was a profitable market for most of the worker's ideas. He also found that union and labour party bureaucracy gave the Lucas initiative little help, because they too, love to be in charge. With no illusions left about either side in the industrial struggle, he is now director of technology for the Greater London Enterprise Board, which carried forward some of the Corporate Plan ideas, setting up technology networks in London which actively involve the community in deciding what should be produced. But Cooley says nothing about the fate of the workers he



left behind at Lucas Aerospace, and I should like to have his version of the outcome of that struggle.

But back to the beginning of the book! In car factories, the hundreds of machining operations needed to make a part like a cylinder block are carried out automatically. All the workers have to do is change the tools when they get blunt. One of them once told me how his job had changed over the years. He used to machine a very complicated helicopter part which had to be done without the slightest scratch, and he was responsible for the entire operation. Now all he did was sit and watch the machine do it all for him. Automation has made such de-skilling commonplace on the shop floor, with the skilled job being broken down, using the infamous Taylor technique, into a sequence of basic, assembly line operations which can be done by lower paid, unskilled workers. Responsibility passes to those who control the assembly line, and all the workers are required to do is an endless sequence of repetitive operations. Taylorism not only removes the responsibility the skilled worker once had for the job, but specifically rejects as useless any suggestion from the worker as to how the job might be accomplished.

Cooley shows how computers are being used to the same effect on the jobs of professional middle management. In brainwork (as in manual work) the skill, experience - what Cooley calls the "tacit knowledge" of the worker is set aside. Examples from engineering design and architecture are quoted to show that, although the tedious, repetitive part of the job can now be done by computer systems, they limit rather than expand the creative options available. If "The designer is reduced to making a series of routine choices between fixed alternatives...", then his job is much easier to control. We don't want any of that nasty, unpredictable human creativity flying around the drawing office, do we? In this way, intellectual work too can be de-skilled, leading (SHOCK. HORROR.) to the proletarianisation of middle management, who have become just as working class as those on the shop floor (GASP!) How I wish they could see this! Although at the end of the book, Cooley points to a raising of working class consciousness, professionals still identify blindly with the cause of management, and are shocked and hurt when, as invariably happens, they get shat on in negotiations with the bosses they loyally supported.

The patriarchal hand of big business can be clearly seen in the hierarchical way technology has developed: witness the computer's operating

system with its secret passwords and arcane procedures known only to a few experts. The socially desirable objectives of the inventor are almost invariably high-jacked and cynically exploited by those who own the means of production, so we never see technology used to its full potential for good. "Who is in control?" is a major issue. But taking control to meet the real needs of the people does not, the book argues, imply a rejection of all new technology; its development should be human-centred rather than profit-centred, repressive and dangerous.

In any project, there is always a danger of hierarchy creeping in, and of control being usurped by commercial interests, trade unions or political parties. Quoting Chinese workers, Cooley says that organizational superstructures are there to be toppled whenever necessary. So don't enter the superstructure, stay at the base and do some toppling! Remember the high degree of centralisation and massive capital investment in new technology under capitalism makes it very vulnerable to strikes and sabotage...

To what extent Cooley is still at the base, being also director of several companies, would be interesting to assess. This is a rather expensive book, but very good if you're interested in prizing the grubby fingers of capitalism from the modern means of production (including publishing!), so get it out of the library.

BOB.



VERY EXPENSIVE. USE
YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC
LIBRARY OR STEAL IT
FROM MUSHROOM.

"THE CULTURE OF TERRORISM" by NOAM CHOMSKY
(Pluto Press 8.95)

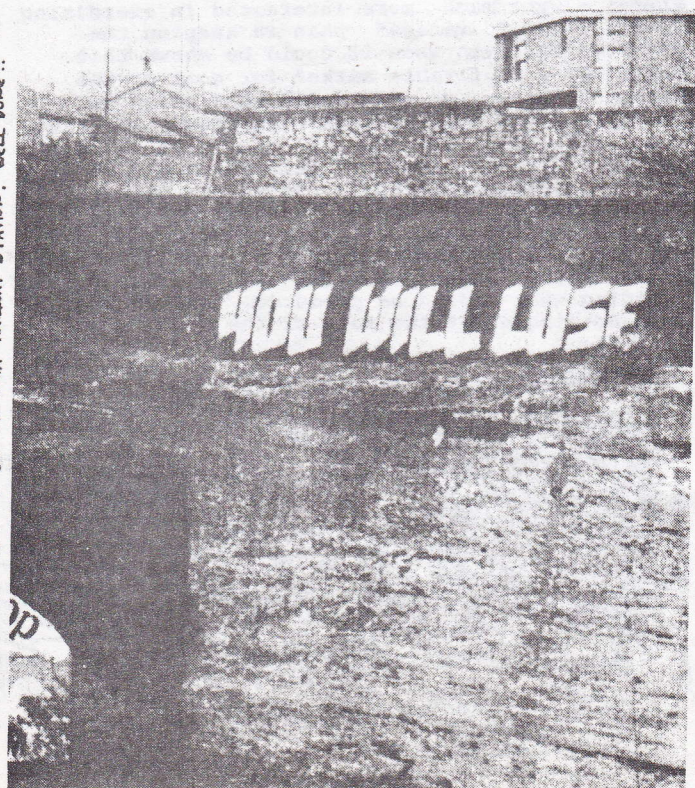
"The Culture of Terrorism" examines the Iran/Contra scandals and the light they throw on U.S. policy in Central America. Chomsky gives a detailed, sickening portrait of a terrorist culture deliberately causing misery, suffering and death through the Central American region, and in Nicaragua in particular.

It is a brave, important book. Chomsky is not concerned with simply attacking his own country's ruthless policies but with demonstrating that the voice of dissidence is alive and well in the USA, and has to be nurtured not by hysterical condemnation but through "providing a means of intellectual self-defence against the daily barrage of propaganda" spewed out by the US's ruling elite and compliant media.

His book shows how in Nicaragua and across the globe propaganda hides the reality of the US's "fifth freedom": "the freedom to rob, to exploit and to dominate, to undertake any course of action to ensure that existing privilege is protected and advanced". Chomsky accumulates information from a multiplicity of sources to show the detailed operation of this "freedom" to violently crush the Sandinista revolution. It exposes the use of the Contras as the US's proxy army and how, as with El Salvador, US policy has been to organise and direct a terrorist force to achieve through violence its aims as foreign master in Central America.

This policy is dependent upon a duped, passive population at home, and much of Chomsky's book comprises a detailed, depressing account of how elite opinion and the "free press" are used to deceive and pacify public opinion. For example, during the "debate" about US intervention in Nicaragua, in the the first 3 months of 1986 the two major national newspapers (The New York Times & The Washington Post) carried 85 articles on Nicaragua - ALL were critical of the Sandinistas

IN THE HOLE THAT USED TO BE VICTORIA RAILWAY STATION. WELL DONE!!



and "the overwhelming majority were bitterly hostile". It is this kind of abject compliance that has ensured the growth of the "culture of terrorism" in the USA and confirmed how rooted it is in key institutions, as well as so much of the intellectual and popular culture of the country.

Chomsky confronts the murderous reality of this state terrorism head-on. Not surprisingly he posits no easy way through: but neither is he cynical or defeatist. He sees vital hope in the "domestic dissidence" that forced US state terror underground in the 1980s, and deterred the Reagan administration from making the transition from state terrorism to direct aggression. For Chomsky the Iran/Contra scandals were "a tribute to the popular movements of the 1960s" remaining untamed; and the events show that even in the "largely depoliticised" United States "it is possible for popular action to have a significant impact on policy, though indirectly. That was an important lesson of the Indochina wars. It is understood, once again, by the experience of the 1980s with regard to Central America. And it should be remembered for the future".

Chomsky's brilliant book is written in defiance of virtually the whole compliant intellectual US elite, and is passionate proof of the terrorist state's failure to eradicate free, independent thought. Such independence is crucial to a liberating 'counterculture' which is why, he argues, the US state remains so determined to crush its expression through effective unions, worker self-management, community control and systems independent of private and state power. And Chomsky insists that it is only through such organised and stable communities of solidarity and support that cynicism and the hopelessness of isolation can be resisted.

Despite the prevalence of the "culture of terrorism", the Iran/Contra scandals show that "despite all efforts, the enemy at home has by no means been subdued". It is this "enemy at home" (Chomsky included) who oppose the Reagan administration's brand of "conservatism" - one determined to show that violence pays, relying on violent thugs acting as "enforcers", torturing and killing people until they submit to US will. We recognise that "conservatism" in Thatcherite Britain, and likewise the abject compliance of the "free press" and elite opinion in the manipulation of public opinion.

It makes Chomsky's liberating message all the more vital. The "culture of terrorism" must be resisted, and can be, through a counterculture of solidarity independent of private and state power. Les

UPDATE VEGGIES

Over the past few months, Veggies has been involved in legal hassles with MacDonaldis. Veggies has agreed to make changes in a leaflet they have been distributing about some of the nasty things that MacDonaldis are up to. Apparently its not alright to "Murder and Torture", but its perfectly OK to "Butcher and Slaughter". A direct result of the legal hassle has been the printing of loads more of the offending leaflets which contain much interesting information about MacDonaldis labour conditions, environmental damage, health danger and other areas. MacDonaldis has failed to follow up their previously repeated objections to these parts of the leaflet and must accept that, although (to them) the allegations are unpalatable, they are true. It may be that MacDonaldis solicitors are concentrating their fire on libel suits against the Guardian and Transnational Information Service, but they must know they're on a hiding to nothing with Veggies. The thousands of pounds they are spending trying to intimidate a small organisation is resulting in nothing but bad publicity with absolutely no chance of any financial return.

ISCUMBAGS

Last issue's expose of the RCP had some interesting feedback. "No one says that about the RCP and gets away with it" was one comment. "You should forget about gossip and get on with politics" was another. The fact that we do see domination, hierarchy, bullying and male violence as political issues is one of the many things that separate us from the RCP and other Leninists. The response to the competition to give the Party names of RCP members was enormous but most answers were well wide of the mark. Grant Dyer isn't really Jesus Christ, and with a bit of luck he'll not rise up and walk the streets of Nottingham ever again; Frank Richards real name is not Vladimir Ilyitch Ulianov, no matter how many of you may think so. After much thought, the winners are: Jonathon Frankel-Fryer, Jo Herlihy-Hayes and Richard Wolfenden-Wild. Strange how they're all double-barrelled; it must have something to do with their class backgrounds.

There we were, four people of assorted sex and sexuality, sitting on a cold wall. It was the Manchester Clause 28 demo and we were waiting to return on the Poly bus if there were any spare seats after all the students had been placed. There were seats - four of them, and the cold wait seemed worth it. But as the allotted time drew near, a few moments more, a band of women rushed onto the scene - they knew we'd been waiting and they knew they had places on the women-only coach. These women rushed past us and onto the coach. "But we've been queuing" we protested. "But we're women" was the reply. Like they say, some women use sisterhood like the Masons use brotherhood.

"The Magazine" is an events guide for Nottingham. The collective that staffs it seems very paranoid of their paymasters, the City Council. They will not cover any "political" events and excuse this on the grounds that the Evening Post exists for those wishing to be informed on political matters. Apart from the fact that the Evening Post is a scab paper, does the Magazine really think that it is going to cover Lesbian & Gay events in any unbiased (let alone positive) way? Would that anti-working class rag even mention that May 1st as a day of International Solidarity has its origins in the protests against the judicial murders of Anarchists in Chicago a hundred years ago? Of course not! But both these instances are examples of the Magazine's compliance in Evening Post values. The Magazine completely de-politicised the May Day 88 events by editing out all mention of dissent or protest from the copy they were given. They even contrived to say that 1894 saw a huge crowd with a strong focus, without mentioning what that focus was. To decorate the local churches with may blossom, perhaps? The policy of censoring (or disregarding) the Lesbian & Gay community has resulted in a (temporary?) ban from Mushroom. This can be seen more as opportunism than politics (the pink pound buys a lot of books) on Mushrooms behalf, but is some indication of the streghts of feelings on this issue. Nottingham needs a good listings magazine as an alternative to the narrow ground covered by the Evening Post. "The Magazine" is not it.

It may favour the current ad is the Volkswagen one. I particularly like

it because it was directed by David Bailey and the girl in it is wearing a fur coat. Bailey is always hanging out with those Greenpeace people so it amuses me.



A new image for VW

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Fortunately good food has never been cheaper. For several years Sainsbury's have pioneered a new concept in consumer-choice. We call it **SHOPPING WITHOUT MONEY**. The idea is simple: food is a right, not a privilege. And we know that making millions by selling food, while three-quarters of the world starve, is immoral. All the more so, since those who make food, package it, transport it and sell it are usually overworked and underpaid.

Our answer is quite simple: under the **SHOPPING WITHOUT MONEY** scheme, if you see something you want, just take it. Some might call it shoplifting. We prefer to think of it as you taking back what is yours.



Good food costs nothing at Sainsbury's.

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