



★ CORTONWOOD- BLACKPOOL ★ MARCH TO RELEASE THE JAILED MINERS



**STARTS
THIS
MONDAY
AUGUST 19**

**ASSEMBLE:
CORTONWOOD COLLIERY
BRAMPTON
SOUTH YORKSHIRE**

**LOBBY TUC
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 2**

**DEMAND
TUC
ORGANISE
GENERAL
STRIKE!**

The Liverpool to London National March to Release Jailed Miners, by the River Mersey preparing for their four week march.

**● REINSTATE SACKED MINERS! ● SMASH ANTI- UNION LAWS!
● FIGHT PIT CLOSURES! ● NO SCAB LABOUR SCHEMES FOR YOUTH!**



Censorship is attack on basic rights

STATE censorship by Thatcher's Bonapartist dictatorship joined the long list of attacks of basic democratic rights. In an unprecedented move, tremendous pressure was put by the government on BBC governors by Thatcher and Tory Home Secretary Leon Brittan to ban a 'Real Lives' programme.

The programme included interviews with Sinn Fein councillor and Provisional IRA supporter Martin McGuinness, and extreme Loyalist and Democratic Unionist Party member Gregory Campbell. The ban follows from Thatcher's address to the US Bar Association in which she spelt out her plans for censorship of the press over reporting the actions of 'terrorists'.

The BBC's capitulation to the Tory demand was met with an angry reaction from top journalists working on TV news and current affairs programmes who voted for a 24-hour strike on August 7 in protest.

They also voted unanimously for a motion of no-confidence in the governors and for the resignation of chairman Stuart Young, appointed by Thatcher to keep the BBC in line with government directives. He is the brother of Lord Young who was also hand-picked by Thatcher to discipline youth to accept slave labour schemes. His Lordship is the unelected Minister without Portfolio in the Cabinet Office responsible for (un)Employment Matters.

Thatcher is seeking to wipe out any form of opposition or protest against her Bonapartist rule. The 46 per cent wage rises handed out to top members of the civil service, army and judiciary were aimed at making sure they help her in this task.

Civil servant Sarah Tisdall and the GCHQ unions were punished for their refusal to accept the dictates of Bonapartism. Clive Ponting was saved only by a sympathetic jury who were not prepared to sacrifice basic democratic rights. As the masses in Britain and throughout the world rise up in revolutionary confrontations against imperialism, Thatcher can tolerate absolutely no freedom of criticism.

Plans for the next session of parliament include public order legislation giving sweeping powers to the police and denying fundamental rights to demonstrate and protest. Advance notice to the police about demonstrations is to be extended to seven days, while the police will have the right to restrict numbers, length of duration, route, and even ban marches altogether on grounds which are open to wide interpretation.

Redefinition of the common law offences of riot, unlawful assembly and affray will also make arrest and conviction of protesters easy. This week's ban on the BBC programme shows clearly that the Tories are heading towards full-blooded police-military rule where decrees from No.10 Downing Street are imposed by state forces.

But, the more the Tories undermine the basic rights of workers and youth, the more they become determined to resist and defend those rights, as is shown by the decision of the BBC journalists and the 12-month miners' strike.

We call on all youth and workers who want to join the fight against this Tory dictatorship to join the Young Socialists and Workers Revolutionary Party in the fight for the organisation of the General Strike against the Tories.

Join and support the march from Cortonwood to the TUC in Blackpool for the Release of Jailed Miners and lobby the TUC with us on September 2.

FUND

THIS SUNDAY THE Young Socialists commemorate the 45th Anniversary since Trotsky's assassination by Stalinist agents.

But far from being a mournful occasion, the anniversary will demonstrate Trotskyism to be the only revolutionary force able to organise and lead millions of workers and youth in this period.

The Young Socialist newspaper fights for Trotskyism amongst the youth, fighting each week to explain the new developments taking place and how to fight them.

Let's keep Trotskyism out in front by building the Young Socialist. Send your donations to: YS Monthly Fund, 21b Old Town, SW4 0JT.

Print workers win union recognition



On the picket line during the strike

THE SIX young Prontaprint workers from Liverpool, who were on strike for three weeks for union recognition, have won their dispute and held a victory celebration along with other NGA members and supporters last week at the 'Flying Picket', in the Unemployed Centre, Hardman Street.

Along with the NGA and the unemployed activists from the Merseyside Trade Union, Community and Unemployed Resource Centre they fought a determined three week battle and have secured practically all their demands.

Dispute

They were in dispute with Linsweld Ltd., which holds the Prontaprint franchise for the three shops in Liverpool. The Young Socialists went along to speak to the young workers at the flying picket. Elaine O'Brien, who has been elected mother of the chapel (MoC) of the NGA at the shops said:

'We've gone back on the terms we asked for. It could have been resolved a lot quicker if it had not been for the firm's stubbornness.'

'Our wages and conditions have been brought up to the NGA rate

and the firm has at last recognised the union and they have realised that the six who fought for the union have the right to be members of a trade union.'

Elaine also had a few words to say about the support they had received.

'We would like to thank everyone who helped out on the picket line, in particular the unemployed centres at Hardman Street, Kirkby, South Sefton and Speke.'

Redundant

Linsweld Ltd, have claimed they wanted to make two redundancies but when two girls applied to leave the company they made a third worker redundant in what the rest of the workforce believe was an attempt to frighten them from fighting for a union.

One of the conditions which the company had to meet was the reinstatement of Peter Loftus, the lad who was made redundant, confirming the suspicion.

Peter said: 'I am glad to be back. The atmosphere is a bit sour, but you can expect that. I reckon it was worthwhile.'

Steve Owen, another of the strikers said: 'The support we received was overwhelming from people who were not even directly involved. I have been working here for four years and after about 12 months myself, Elaine and Colin Thompson considered joining a trade union.'



Liverpool NGA branch secretary Ray Williams (centre) joins the pickets

'But due to the fact that there were not suitable numbers we felt it wouldn't have the effect so we held back until we got more.'

'Then at one point we got six to join, which is half the staff, so we decided to form the union. I have waited three years, Elaine has waited eight years and Linda five years. A good deal of planning had been made before we made the move to join the union. It has certainly been worthwhile.'

Linda Kenyon added: 'We were promised by the management that they would look after us when the firm got larger but after the opening of the third shop nothing happened.'

'We now feel more secure in our jobs. We hope other small franchise firms will follow our example.'

Colin Thompson said: 'We're happy at the way things have gone. If the employed and the unemployed stand together in all disputes then the outcome would be in favour of the unions.'

Elaine explained their first experience of the unions.

'We had never been in a union and thought we were on our own, which a lot of people think who haven't been in unions before.'

'In our firm it was a classic example of how these small firms work, when someone was replaced, the new person, with the same qualifications was started on a lower rate as opposed to paying a basic rate for a qualified person.'

Low pay

'This is what Thatcher wants, everyone on low pay and keep everyone in small firms.'

Ray Williams, who is secretary of the Liverpool branch of the NGA thanked everyone who had helped and supported the struggle.

'More than anything else what this has demonstrated is that the unemployed can play an important role when fighting shoulder to shoulder with the employed. This is precisely what Thatcher doesn't want, she wants to pit the employed against the unemployed.'

'Even though they were young and inexperienced they still showed they had the courage and belief to take on the boss. They had a capacity for struggle.'

'The other lesson is that youth will respond. When the youth join with older workers they are an unbeatable force.'

Anti-racist struggle goes on - Newham 7

FOUR ASIAN youth who stood trial for defending themselves against a racist attack in east London said they would do the same again, after their court case ended last week.

The four Newham youth — Parvais Khan, Zafar Khan, Bahadur Khan and Moham-mad Hanif — were freed at the Old Bailey after being accused of affray and other charges. Pleas were made for leniency on their behalf.

As they left the court they said they believed what they had done was right and they were prepared to do it again if they had to.

Judge Neil Denison, sentenced all four to do 100 hours community service each, saying they acted under 'extreme provocation' when they became involved in a fight at the Duke of Edinburgh pub in Upton Park in April last year.

Last month three other Asian youth — Rathar Chaudri, Amjand Ali and Jothi Rajappan — in the Newham Seven trial were found not guilty of various charges.

The fighting that broke out between the Asian youth and white

youth followed a series of racist attacks in the Newham area.

Three white youth also had charges against them and were fined £100 each.

During the trial defence counsel Rudy Narayan told the court that the Newham Seven acted in self defence against 'white racist soldiers who were using the pub as a base for war against Asians'.

The judge asked the four Newham youth to help bring to court others still freed who had committed 'more serious offences on the day of racial violence'.

Petition

A 10,000-name petition was handed to the judge in support of the four and he was told by James Wood, defending Parvais Khan and Zafar Khan, that the racial background still troubled the Asian community and the four defendants in particular.

Outside court Parvais Khan said he believed the judge was saying they had been basically right, but the sentence was something they had to do.

'I was brought up to believe a sentence is supposed to make us change our views, but I am not changing mine. I would do the same again,' he said.

The tension in the Newham area was now worse he said, pointing to the increasing petrol-bomb attacks on Asian homes recently.



Some of the Newham 7 demonstrate against their charges

Competitive sport

LAST SUNDAY West London held its Sports Day in preparation for the all London competition to be held in the near future.

Competitors from all corners of the area were there and a fine performance was put up by all.

The results and times showed the degree of competition despite heavy winds and rain. After the races everybody took part in a short meeting where the report was given by Matt Hanlon from the Young Socialists National Committee.

'It is important that every Young Socialist member and youth tries to understand the importance of the developments in South Africa and in the world economic crisis.'

He continued: 'The undefeated nature of the South African masses and of the international working class is a major factor in the crisis facing capitalism.'

'None of the pressing problems facing the South African masses or the British workers and youth can be resolved outside the struggle for power.'

'This requires a revolutionary leadership and that is why this Sunday's anniversary rally of Trotsky's assassination is important for every youth to attend.'

Eric and Frank from Harlesden YS told the *Young Socialist*: 'All the prices have gone up under Thatcher and they are closing down schools and with the GLC gone the Notting Hill Carnival will go.'

'Now Thatcher is really attacking the youth because the cuts will mean fewer clubs, facilities, etc., for the youth.'

Edward, also from Harlesden added: 'All there is for kids to do is hang around on the streets taking drugs, turning to crime because there is nowhere to go.'

'They should do interesting things with all the open space, like build sports centres and grounds.'



Long jump — one of the many events at the West London YS sports day

Campaign continues against attacks on homeless youth

By MICK ENGLAND

FOLLOWING the decision by a High Court judge on Wednesday July 31 declaring illegal the Tory regulations which cut benefits to jobless youth staying in bed and breakfast accommodation, *Young Socialist* examines the effect the illegal Bill has already had, and the campaign being waged against it in Huddersfield and the area covered by Kirklees Metropolitan Council.

In Huddersfield alone there are over 100 youth living in board and lodging accommodation, and at least 250 in Kirklees.

There have already been three attempted suicides in West Yorkshire, as a direct result of the same regulations.

We spoke to Michael Myers, who is a Housing Adviser for CHAS (Catholic Housing Aid Society) and has been involved in the Kirklees Board and Lodging Campaign from the beginning.

We asked him how the campaign had come about. He explained: 'Prior to the regulations being announced, we already knew something was going on.'

I was so concerned because in this job we already see about 50 young people a week in need of housing. These youth come to us in order to avoid what I would call "Bedsit Squalor".

The new regulations actually force homeless youth to take up unfit accommodation which comes into this category. What we were faced with in the new regulations was the prospect of 100 youth in Huddersfield and approximately 250 in Kirklees being kicked out of board and lodgings after four weeks.

Allowance

This Bill is a two-pronged attack by Thatcher which the other side is that they cut the allowance for unemployed people over 26 years of age to £55 per week maximum for full board.

It is virtually impossible to find accommodation within these limits.

Young Socialist asked Michael what steps were taken to launch the campaign. He told us: 'We wanted to launch a campaign that would reach a wide range of people, not just the ones coming to organisations such as CHAS.'

To do this we contacted all the board and lodging places and then called a public meeting in Huddersfield to get people involved.

'We considered it important to prevent homelessness in order to keep people involved in the campaign. We invited all the local councillors to demand of them that they rehouse the claimants affected.'

The only three who turned up were the Liberals. The Labour councillors used the pretence of reselection not to turn up, but we found out afterwards that there were only two involved in this.

Six claimants attended the meeting, plus officers from the social services and housing. Also in attendance were some of the landladies of bed and breakfast hotels.

From this meeting a link was established with the regional campaign, and a regional meeting was attended by speakers from Tent City in Newcastle.

The meetings had decided on two tasks:

● To pressure councils into accepting responsibility for rehousing all claimants made homeless by the regulations. Michael explained:

This is absolutely necessary to prevent claimants from being forced to leave the area, as this is exactly what Thatcher wants.'

● To launch the campaign itself to get rid of the reactionary laws by whatever means possible.

Referring to the court case brought by Simon Cotton against Fowler, Michael warned that there must be no complacency:

'Thatcher will not be deterred by the High Court decision. She will merely find other ways of pushing through the Bill,' he said. 'The campaign must be enlarged straight away.'

Young Socialist visited one of the bed and breakfast houses in Huddersfield to get the reaction of some of the youth being forced to leave.

Scheme

At Maggie's Guest House in Lockwood we spoke to Diane Lee who is 16 years old and on a YTS scheme doing catering. Diane had lived at Maggie's up until last week, when she moved into a one-bedroom flat because of the new regulations.

She said: 'I earn £28 a week on the YTS and my rent is £20. There was a £50 bond on the flat which I have had to pay myself as I have received no money from the social.'

I am left with £8 a week at the moment, out of which comes gas, electricity, laundry, plus all my living expenses. Even with my rent being paid I will barely be able to manage on £28 a week.'

Diane had spend the last six weeks looking for a place to live, before finally finding a flat. Showing bitterness towards the Tory regulations she said:

'I think it's wrong to be forced out of your home. No one can manage on £28 a week. Most of the places for rent are just bedrooms, for which the landlords charge as much as a rented house.'

All of the eight claimants living at Maggie's Guest House had written letters requesting exemption on various grounds, but only three were accepted.

Julian Hoyle, who had lived at Maggie's for a couple of years had requested an appeal before a tribunal from the DHSS. But they told him the only grounds for exemption were if both parents were dead.

Meanwhile Robert Aspinall, 23, whose parents committed suicide when he was five years old, was told that he could not be exempt because he was over 18.

Survive

Maggie commented: 'While these regulations are supposed to be preventing DHSS fraud, what they actually do is create the conditions where young people have to go on the fiddle in order to survive.'

The Young Socialists welcomes the launch of the National Board and Lodgings Campaign, recognising the benefit regulations as part of Thatcher's onslaught against the youth.

It is part of the Tories' consistent attempts to make the youth entirely dependent upon the Bonapartist state. They are not satisfied with declassing the youth through unemployment.

Thatcher is out to create a demoralised army of youth, ready to be used, through the scab labour YTS, as a strike-breaking force against older workers.

AFTER ORGREAVE POLICE POWERS EXTENDED

SOUTH YORKSHIRE'S police chief, Peter Wright, is demanding a change in the law to make charges of riot stick.

This follows the second successive collapse of the Orgreave riot trial against 79 miners who picketed the coking plant in South Yorkshire last June.

The prosecution dropped their case at Sheffield Crown Court when they offered no evidence against the miners, who were arrested by police fully equipped in para-military riot gear, as they tried to escape police charging into them on horseback.

Wright, one of the key police

BY CHRIS EAMES

chiefs at Orgreave, is recommending a new law similar to the ancient Riot Act, which was repealed by parliament in 1967.

Wright wants the power to tell 'unruly' pickets to disperse and be able to arrest them if they refuse.

But this is exactly what the national riot police force assembled last year did when striking miners stood their ground and defended the basic right to picket other workers for assistance in the struggle to defend their jobs.

The ancient Riot Act of 1714, could be read by a magistrate as a

declaration to 'rioters' telling them to disperse. If they had not done so within an hour they could be arrested.

In his report on the miners' strike the South Yorkshire police chief states: 'It would be conducive of the restoration of good order for the police to use loudhailers or placards advising pickets that the situation was considered disorderly and that persons should disperse.'

This is just what happened at Orgreave, and throughout the miners' struggle.

Instead of a magistrate's order, police chiefs picked up loud hailers and ordered pickets to disperse and issued threats of mass arrests.

There was no pause for an hour or so at Orgreave. Police chiefs gave a formal warning to the miners, then the national riot squad charged.

Wright says anyone who failed to leave after the police order to disperse should be prosecuted.

The police chief calls for the creation of a new offence to outlaw so-called 'violent gatherings'. This, he says, could be applied when three or more people take part in 'violent disorder'.

Advice

Wright's report on the miners' strike is part of the 'advice' from police chiefs that is being used by Thatcher's regime to draw up a new Public Order law.

Gareth Pierce, a solicitor who acted for 11 defendants at the first Orgreave trial, where the charges of rioting were also dropped, has warned that this new law will have been rubber-stamped by Thatcher's absolute majority in parliament by next year.

It means says Pierce that 'parliament will have abolished any absolute right to peaceful assembly in this country'.

Pierce, says that after reading the text of the Orgreave trial and watching a police film of their para-military operations: 'No



The use of horses, roadblocks and ID cards are prominent among the new police powers

body of sane persons after reading that account can contemplate providing more powers to any cross section of police officers such as gave evidence at that trial.'

Pierce states that: 'Orgreave on June 18, 1984, revealed that in this country we now have a standing army available to be deployed against gatherings of civilians whose congregation is disliked by senior police officers.'

'It is answerable to no one; it is trained in tactics which have been released to no one, but which include the deliberate maiming and injuring of innocent persons to disperse them, in complete violation of the law.'

'That day 95 men were arrested and charged with riot and unlawful assembly. If what really happened was that the police had been allowed to declare war on the miners, injuring men and taking prisoners, it is small wonder that any eventual trial capsized for the prosecution.'

'You cannot have the actions of a military junta and accommodate

them comfortably within the legal requirements for trial in a democracy.'

Thatcher has clearly done away with the old form of rule of so-called parliamentary democracy.

Through her handpicked servants in the BBC Board of Governors she censored the 'Real Lives' programme which included an interview with Sinn Fein leader Martin McGuinness, an elected councillor in Derry in the north of Ireland.

Group

During the miners' strike she directed the national riot police force, consulting only with a small group of her handpicked Cabinet ministers, police and army chiefs.

The needs of Thatcher's Bonapartist dictatorship are now in conflict with the centuries old right of trial by jury.

Thatcher's regime clearly intends to back up her 'military junta' with no-jury frame-ups.



Violent scenes from Orgreave — Thatcher intends to make these a regular occurrence

HOO LIVAN THREAT TO INTIMIDATE FANS!

THE NEW football season starts this weekend with one added extra — the Tories' 'Hoolivan'!

Not satisfied with the new laws and powers currently being imposed on football grounds, clubs and supporters all over the country, Thatcher — the self-appointed football 'chief' — has had developed new measures of state control.

The 'Hoolivan's' job, according to last weekend's 'Sunday Times', is to 'identify troublemakers in and around the football grounds'.

This 'van' is a completely customised transit van, fitted with all the latest technological 'gadgets' of the state forces.

A pan and tilt camera is installed on the roof. This also is capable of night vision and being able to identify persons for up to 150 yards.

The camera also has telescopic support which enables it to be raised for up to three feet — supposedly above the heads of any crowds, to enable identification.

Inside the van, three police officers will be stationed who are responsible for operating the controls.

Local

The first is a local police officer who knows the area, and therefore its inhabitants, well. His job is to help and advise on identification of 'ringleaders'.

The second officer is responsible for checking mugshots and photos of known offenders, again to identify them in the crowd. He is known — sinisterly enough — as the 'Commander'.

Officer three 'tracks targets he wishes to video and photograph'.

In other words, several football grounds are now to be watched by three hidden police officers, choosing who they want to pull out of the crowds.

It is a further development of the

flying vans used by the police during the year-long miners' strike where miners were pulled off picket lines, had numbers held up in front of their chests, and were immediately photographed by police, thus building up a whole network of mugshots of pickets.

But the clearest demonstration that the 'hoolivan' is not just confined to football fans is the reference to its work 'in and around football grounds'!

Constant

This means, that not only those attending matches, but even passers by are put under constant police surveillance.

It is not only to be used at football, although this is the pretext in which it has been introduced, but on a far broader scale covering all working class activities including demonstrations and pickets.

The van is to begin its operation this weekend in places such as London, West Yorkshire and Greater Manchester — some of the cities with large working class areas and high unemployment.

Immediately, it will start its life following clubs such as Leeds United, Manchester United, West Ham, Birmingham City, Chelsea and Sheffield Wednesday.

With Thatcher's continuous cries of 'football violence' and 'terrorism', her Bonapartist state intends to create the conditions for panic and state operations against workers, and particularly the youth, as unemployment and anti-Tory hatred erupts.

For Thatcher and her state, it is a case of today the football fans — tomorrow the trade unions, working class communities and organisations.

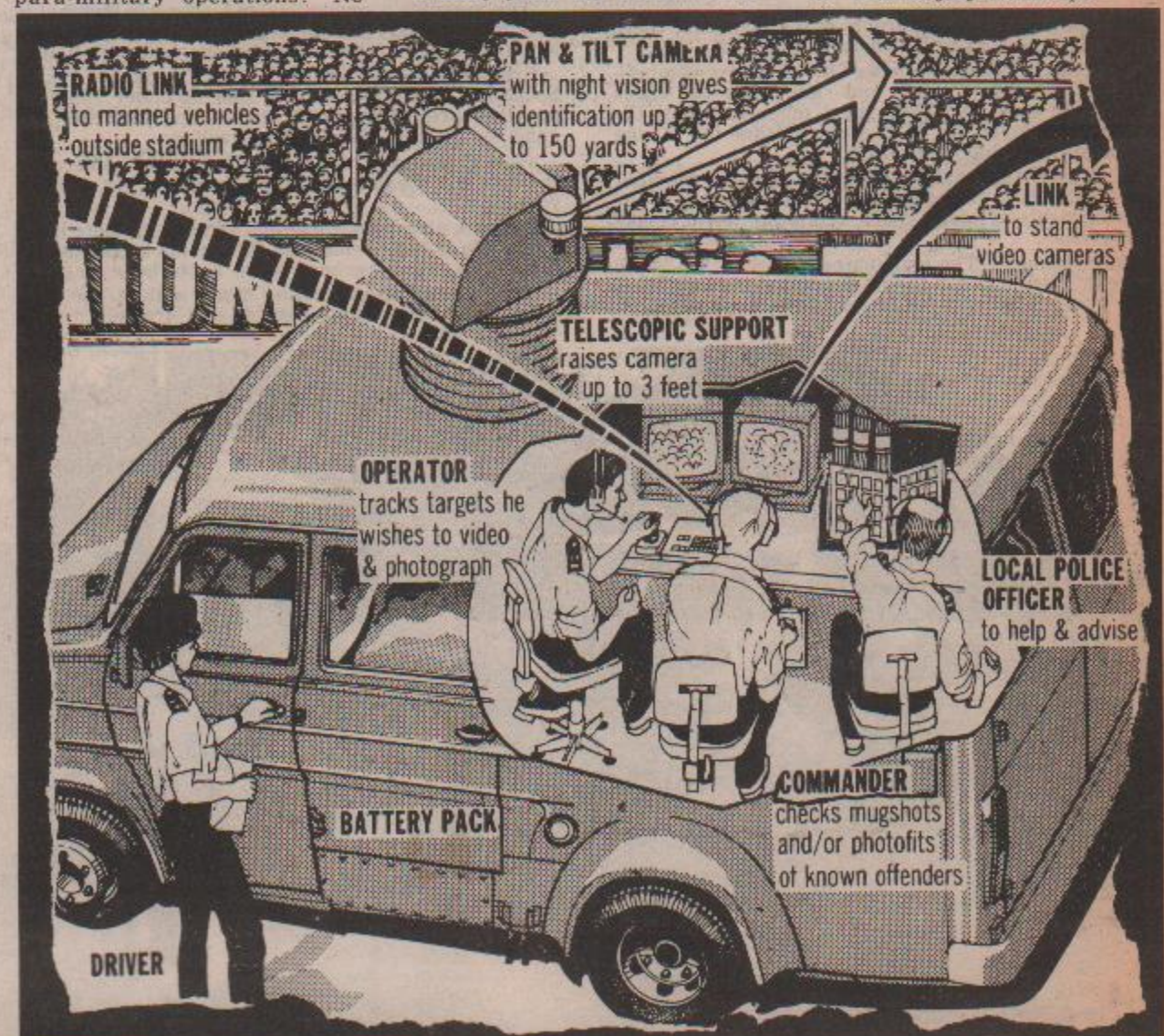


Diagram of Tory 'Hoolivan' from last weekend's 'Sunday Times'

TROTSKY — his life and work

BY LIZZY ALI — Part Three

BANISHED to Siberia for life by the Tsarist government in 1907, Trotsky finally reached Obdorsk in the Arctic Circle.

Although he was able to live freely in the village, escape was considered virtually impossible.

A land-surveyor named Roshkovsky explained the only possible way back — west, along the river Sosva in the direction of the Urals, and then to the mining settlements.

After a few days, Trotsky decided on escape. A local peasant assisted his escape by sleigh and

deer across the Arctic landscape. There were no police or villages on the route, but there was the constant danger of freezing to death in the February blizzards.

Having telegraphed his wife they managed to meet at Samino station. Together they travelled to St. Petersburg and then to nearby Finland where Trotsky contacted Lenin and Martov. Trotsky wrote an account of his escape — 'There and Back', which brought in just enough money to live on.

Trotsky reached London in time to attend a secret conference of Russian Social Democrats (the name still used by revolutionaries at that time). At the Congress Trotsky met the famous writer Maxim Gorky, who was close to

the Bolsheviks at that time, and Rosa Luxemburg whom Trotsky had known since 1904.

Trotsky and Natalia settled for the next seven years in Vienna, the capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Here he founded the newspaper 'Pravda' with his friend, Adolf Joffe.

In working over the lessons of the defeated 1905 revolution, Trotsky developed his brilliant contribution to Marxist theory — the theory of Permanent Revolution.

Whereas socialists had previously believed that the working class in the backward capitalist countries such as Russia would have to undergo a long period of 'democratic' capitalist development before it could take the power itself, Trotsky's theory brilliantly anticipated the events of 1917.

He showed that the capitalist class in the backward countries was totally unable to carry out the tasks the English and French capitalists had carried out in 1642 and 1789 when they abolished feudalism.

Only the working class, backed by the peasantry could carry out these tasks. But once in power, the working class would be compelled to take every possible action to defend its own interests against the capitalists.

Overthrow

The logic of this must be, he argued, that the working class would have to overthrow capitalism. But a revolution breaking out in Russia would, because a world economy had been established, rapidly make it spread internationally.

The years 1906-1914 were hard years of reaction in Russia. Some groups of revolutionaries living in exile abroad became overwhelmed by demoralisation and doubts.

Trotsky at this time did not support either the Bolsheviks or the Mensheviks and attempted once more in 1912 to unite the left and right wings of the Russian revolutionary movement. He believed that the economic development going ahead in Russia would lead to a revival of the revolutionary movement.

On August 2 1914 the unity of the world socialist movement organised in the Second International was shattered. The First World War had begun. Within days almost all the great European socialist parties, led by the huge Social Democratic Party of Germany, supported their 'own' ruling classes.

Within weeks tens of thousands of workers were killing each other on behalf of capitalism. The Second International as a weapon of the united international struggle of the working class had collapsed.



Natalya Sedova in Vienna

Only a handful of socialists stood firm on internationalist principles.

Trotsky was told to leave Vienna almost immediately by the Chief of Police. In Zurich, Switzerland he launched the first major struggle against the imperialist war, writing 'The War and the International', bitterly condemning the German opportunists, and calling upon workers of all countries to unite.

Moving to Paris, Trotsky launched a new Russian language daily paper, 'Nashe Slovo' in collaboration with a small group of French internationalists. Its task was to work for the Russian revolution and to gather together those opposed to the war.

At the Zimmerwald Conference in September, 1915, a handful of socialists opposed to the war met in the Swiss Alps. Trotsky who drafted the Conference's manifesto, wrote:

'It is the task and the duty of the socialists of the belligerent countries to begin this struggle with all their power. It is the task and duty of the socialists of the neutral countries to support their brothers by all effective means in this fight against bloody barbarity.'

Lenin, representing the Bolsheviks at the conference, voted to accept Trotsky's draft resolution in favour of a new (Third) International.

In Marseilles, a mutiny broke out on a Russian ship. The French

authorities seized on the opportunity to blame 'Nashe Slovo' and at the Russian embassy's request, Trotsky was deported to Spain, England, Italy and Switzerland having refused him entry. In Spain, police harassment continued until he was put on a boat for New York.

Early in March 1917, news came through that a new Russian revolution had broken out. Trotsky seized the importance of the fragments of evidence he had received and wrote unhesitatingly:

'We are the witnesses of the Second Russian revolution. Let us hope that many of us will be its participants.'

Arrested

For three weeks Trotsky and his family waited impatiently until they board a Norwegian freighter, only for it to be forced into port in Canada, and Trotsky was arrested by British police, who interned him in a prisoner of war camp for a month.

There he discussed with German prisoners of war until the authorities put a stop to his agitation. Finally he was allowed to board a Danish ship bound for Finland.

Finally, on May 17, Trotsky arrived at Petrograd in Russia. The Russian revolution was in full flood — and he was to play a decisive role in it.



Trotsky with his daughter Nina in France



Trotsky's triumphant return to Russia in 1917

WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

45th Anniversary of Trotsky's Death

Sunday August 18, 3p.m.

The Piccadilly Theatre, Denman Street, W1

Speakers: MIKE BANDA (WRP General Secretary)
G. HEALY (WRP Central Committee)
JULIE HYLAND (YS National Secretary)
VANESSA REDGRAVE (WRP Central Committee)
SIMON PIRANI (WRP Central Committee)
Plus speakers from German, Greek, Australian sections of the International Committee plus Workers League of the United States

Chairman: CORIN REDGRAVE (WRP Central Committee)

In the evening — special showing of the film

'Release Jailed Miners'

Admission £1.50, 50p sacked miners and strikers





RELEASE THE J

Support Cortonwood to

By march leader Simon Pirani

IN MAY and June this year the Young Socialists organised the National March to Release Jailed Miners. Now a second march — from Cortonwood to the Blackpool TUC Congress — is starting this Monday, August 19.

Over a six-week period, sacked miners and unemployed youth marched from Edinburgh, Liverpool and Swansea to London to demand the release of the jailed strikers, the reinstatement of sacked men, no pit closures, the smashing of the anti-union laws and the cheap labour YTS schemes of the Tory government.

Climax

The climax to the march was an inspiring rally of 4,000 people on June 30 addressed by speakers from the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), Young Socialists, women's support groups and Workers Revolutionary Party at Alexandra Pavilion.

Now the Young Socialists, in line with the resolution unanimously adopted at the rally, are organising a second march to Blackpool to conclude in a lobby of the Congress demanding that the TUC organise a General Strike to release the jailed miners and end the Bonapartist dictatorship of Thatcher.

The march sets off from Cortonwood colliery — the start of the 1984/85 miners' strike and will conclude on Monday September 2 outside the Blackpool Winter Gardens.

Even in the short space of two months since the June 30 rally, Thatcher's reactionary regime has moved towards open dictatorship by leaps and bounds.

Nowhere was that clearer than in the government's arbitrary decree to ban the showing of the BBC

TV programme 'On The Edge of the Union'.

This is followed by the threat of the Tories to exclude Sinn Fein from taking parliamentary and local government seats in the UK and Northern Ireland.

The powerful one-day protest strike mounted by journalists, the first complete stoppage of news broadcasting in half a century, showed how not only the whole working class but middle-class and professional people too were inspired by the magnificent defiance of the Thatcher regime by the miners in last year's strike.

The programme has showed millions of people the way in which the Thatcher regime is tightening its grip over every department of the state.

What forces Thatcher daily closer to police-military rule is the resolute refusal of the undefeated working class to give up its basic rights without a fight.

The dropping of dozens of charges against miners following the Orgreave mass picket, for instance, means the regime has to make a complete change in the judicial system to prepare for further legal onslaughts on trades unionists.

Trial by jury has got to be abolished for the Tories to do the job they have to do against the working class.

The role of the Bonapartist state as an instrument of capitalist class repression can no longer be ignored or obscured. It finds its harshest and clearest expression in the jailing of miners.

Sixty men are still locked up for taking part in the miners' strike, for fighting for their jobs and communities — that is the sharp edge of the Thatcher dictatorship's onslaught on the working class.

This government which has miners in jail today will have printers, railwaymen, steelworkers and transport workers there tomorrow.

Indeed the delegates at this year's TUC will have on their agenda the unprecedented legal onslaught against their organisations including the virtual illegalisation of the NUM, the sequestration of its assets and the attempt to



The Edinburgh leg of the national march is greeted by NUM general secretary Peter Heathfield

legally wipe it out of Nottinghamshire.

Also on the agenda will be massive fines on other unions such as the Transport and General Workers' Union, and a battery of legal measures such as enforced balloting imposed under the anti-union laws.

Central to the discussion at Blackpool is how the TUC will deal with treacherous right-wing corporatists, principally the leaders of the electricians' union, who go along with Thatcher's anti-union laws lock, stock and barrel, handing out no-strike deals and 'single union' agreements to any employer that wants them and accepting state hand-outs for postal ballots.

Faced with a government bent on using physical force to wipe out the oldest and most powerful trades unions in the world, the working class can only reply with a General Strike. That is why we are convinced that this will become the most popular slogan in the coming weeks and months.

Our confidence that the working

class in Britain can and must bring down this government with a General Strike is based on the fact that despite six years of Tory attacks and growing unemployment it remains undefeated.

Thatcher might like to wipe out the tremendous historical gains of two centuries of trade union struggle simply by issuing decrees and passing anti-union laws, but it will take far more than that!

Rights

In fighting to defend these rights, the working class has as its most powerful allies workers and the oppressed masses the world over.

In one country after another, they are turfing out imperialist-backed dictatorships and wrecking the profiteering schemes of European and American capitalists alike with resistance to the International Monetary Fund and the demands of the banks.

In the forefront of these struggles are the black South African workers and youth who are now in a life-and-death struggle against

the troops, police and death squads set loose in the townships during the state of emergency.

By the time our march reaches the TUC at Blackpool, South Africa's miners could well be on strike — an action which will strike a blow just as devastating as the British miners' strike, against the City of London and the Tory government.

On our march we will certainly be emphasising that the struggle to organise the General Strike in Britain is one and the same as the struggle being waged by black South Africans for the overthrow of the apartheid regime.

We will, as we did on our first march, carry placards of South African trades unionists such as Andries Raditsela and student leader Steve Biko who lost their lives in the struggle, alongside those of martyred miners David Jones and Joe Green.

Our campaign for a General Strike to release the jailed miners is in total opposition to the cowardly right-wing line of Labour leader Neil Kinnock and TUC leader Nor-

MONDAY AUGUST 19 - MONDAY SEPTEMBER 2

March from Cortonwood colliery to the TUC at Blackpool

- MONDAY AUGUST 19th**
 - 11.00am: Assemble Cortonwood Colliery, Barnsley
 - 11.30am: Rally, Speakers:
 - Tom Hildes (TUC National Commissioner)
 - Simon Pirani (Young Socialist)
 - Jack Brown (TUC National Council)
 - Martha Marshall (Barnsley Women Against Pit Closures)
 - 12.00pm: March
 - 2.00pm: Arrive Thurnscoe Parish Hall for meal
 - 2.45pm: March
 - 3.00pm: Para Danby colliery
 - 4.00pm: March through Wardlaw
 - 4.45pm: Trade union contingents meet at Skirwith colliery
 - 6.00pm: Rally at Red Lion car park, Wetherby
- TUESDAY AUGUST 20th**
 - 9.00am: Leave Wetherby
 - 2.00pm: Para Eberesley Town Centre
 - 10.00am: March via Capheaton Village Club (11.30am) and Sharncliffe works (12.30pm)
 - 1.00pm: Arrive Gillingham for meal
 - 2.00pm: March via South Hensley (2.45pm) and South Emsay (3.30pm)
 - 5.00pm: Arrive Linton for meal
 - 7.00pm: Public Meeting at Linton Miners Welfare including showpage film 'The General Strike'
- WEDNESDAY AUGUST 21st**
 - 9.00am: March from Linton via Hetherington (9.45am), Foston (10.15am), Adwick (11.30am), Pilsner Works (12.15pm) to Pocklington
 - 2.00pm: Campaign in Pocklington
- THURSDAY AUGUST 22nd**
 - 10.00am: March from Pocklington
 - 11.00am: Para Robin Hood, Featherstone
 - 12.30pm: Arrive Haverham for meal
 - 1.30pm: March to Castleford
 - 3.30pm: Para Pyskasset
 - 4.00pm: Para Wharfedale
 - 4.45pm: Arrive Wharfedale Coalfield Club for meal
 - 7.30pm: Public meeting Wharfedale Coalfield Club
- FRIDAY AUGUST 23rd**
 - 9.00am: March from Wharfedale Coalfield Club via Castleford Town Centre (9.30am), Alwoodley (10.15am), Wakefield (11.00am) and Ludders (11.45am)
 - 12.30pm: Arrive Apperby for meal
 - 1.30pm: March to Leeds
 - 4.00pm: Trade union contingents meet at Shaftebury House, York Road for march to Leeds City Centre
 - 7.30pm: Public Meeting, Leeds Trades Union Club, Seabank
- SATURDAY AUGUST 24th**
 - 2.30pm: March through Leeds City Centre, marchers:
 - Harriet (11.00am), Robinson (12.30pm) to Wakefield
 - 3.30pm: Rally in Wakefield City Centre
 - 7.00pm: Social at East Moor Working Men's Club, Jubilee Well Lane, Wakefield
- SUNDAY AUGUST 25th**
 - 10.00am: March via Dewsbury to Huddersfield
 - 7.30pm: Public Meeting, Reception Room, Huddersfield Town Hall
- MONDAY AUGUST 26th**
 - 12.00pm: Arrive at Colton
 - 1.00pm: March from Colton to Middleton
 - 6.00pm: Meet at Langley Labour Club, Langley Estate
 - 7.00pm: Social at Langley Labour Club
- TUESDAY AUGUST 27th**
 - 8.00am: March from Middleton through industrial estate
 - 1.00pm: Campaign at Dewsbury (11.30am) and Wakefield
 - 4.00pm: Meet at Huddersfield, Huddersfield Colliery
 - 7.00pm: Public Meeting, A.M.W.U. Hall, The Crescent, Salford
- WEDNESDAY AUGUST 28th**
 - 8.00am: March from Manchester via Farnworth to Bolton
 - 6.00pm: Meet at Bolton Social Club, Wood Street, Bolton
 - 7.00pm: Public Meeting at Bolton Social Club
- THURSDAY AUGUST 29th**
 - 8.00am: March from Bolton via Horwath to Chorley
 - 7.00pm: Public Meeting, Imperial Hotel, opposite the station, Chorley
- FRIDAY AUGUST 30th**
 - 8.00am: March from Chorley, via the Ribblesdale Power Station to Ormskirk to Leyland
 - 1.00pm: Campaign in Ormskirk
- SATURDAY AUGUST 31st**
 - 8.00am: March from Ormskirk to Preston
 - 1.00pm: Campaign in Preston (10.00am)
 - 7.00pm: Reception and Social at Preston Trade Union and Unemployed Centre
- SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1st**
 - 8.00am: March from Preston via Clifton and Warton to Blackpool
 - 7.00pm: Film and Social at Blackpool Unemployed Centre

- WHAT YOU CAN DO**
- Support the march as it comes through your area
 - Send a financial donation to the march with love
 - Send a financial donation to the march with love overseas
 - Come to Blackpool on Monday September 2 to lobby the TUC

MARCH TO RELEASE JAILED MINERS



- Reinstate sacked miners!
- Fight pit closures!
- Smash anti-union laws!
- No scab labour schemes for youth!
- Demand TUC organise the General Strike!

Monday August 19 - Monday September 2 March from Cortonwood colliery to the TUC at Blackpool

ORGANISED BY THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS

- WHAT YOU CAN DO:**
- Support the march as it comes through your area
 - Send a financial donation to the march
 - Come to Blackpool on Monday September 2 to lobby TUC
- For more details write to: Young Socialists, 21b Old Town, Clapham, SW4 0JT

AILED MINERS!

Blackpool TUC march •



Shop stewards from Austin Rover's Longbridge plant greet the Liverpool marchers

man Willis, who say that since miners 'broke the law', they would not be released under a future Labour government.

The law is Tory class law, and Kinnock has lined up with the Tory dictatorship, grooming himself to take over the reins of Thatcher's violently anti-working class state machine when the need arises.

Leading advocates of the Kinnock-ite policy of collaborating with the Tories, and living in hope of a Labour-SDP coalition, are the Stalinists of the Communist Party.

They viciously oppose any calls for action — whether it is action against the scab miners' officials in Nottingham, the right-wing corporatist unions, or action in defence of steel workers' or miners' jobs in Scotland — on the grounds that it is unwinnable.

And the justification for that is their lying conclusion that the miners' strike was 'defeated'.

On the contrary, the miners delivered huge blows at Thatcher's regime during their strike — as Coal Board chairman Ian MacGregor's report of massive losses showed last week.

Most importantly they made great political gains for the working class, exposing the leaders of the TUC when they collaborated with Thatcher to try and force them back to work.

At last year's TUC, Arthur Scargill won a standing ovation and a huge majority to black coal and respect picket lines. Then most union leaders stood by while massive scabbing continued and the miners were left to face the police-state machine on their own.

TUC leaders acted as messen-

ger-boys for Thatcher and the Coal Board, asking the NUM to accept a deal that had been worked out accepting the closure of 'uneconomic' pits.

But the NUM executive decided unanimously to reject it, revealing to millions of workers the treacherous role of the union leaders.

Does this make the Young Socialists hesitant in any way to take the demand for the organisation of the General Strike to this year's TUC? Of course not.

Courage

Not only did the miners demonstrate their courage and resolute defiance of the Thatcher regime, in contrast to the treacherous duplicity of Willis and Co; their strike also showed that not even the most battle-hardened section of the working class could beat this government on its own, or force it to change its mind.

The issue of taking on this government can only be faced by the working class as a whole, in other words a General Strike.

Many workers supporting our campaign may see another Labour government as the successor to Thatcher should her regime be brought down by the working class.

The Young Socialists and the Workers Revolutionary Party express no confidence in the ability of the Labour leaders to solve a single one of the pressing problems facing the working class, whether it be the release of the jailed miners or anything else.

A General Strike would, inevit-



Lambeth council leader Ted Knight and ex-mayor Pat Williams with the Welsh leg

ably, come into direct and violent conflict with the capitalist state. It would raise the question of power: is the working class to run the country or the capitalists?

It would pose in the most immediate way the question of the working class organising the taking of power and creating a workers' state to destroy the armed menace of the capitalist state, nationalise the banks, land and major industries and establish the foundations of a socialist planned economy.

For these tasks, the building of

revolutionary leadership in the Young Socialists and the Workers Revolutionary Party is an urgent and unpostponable task.

Immediately, what is required is the organisation of the General Strike to bring down Thatcher. That is the concern of the entire working class, and that is why we are marching to the TUC with that demand.

We appeal to trades unionists and those in miners' wives' groups, Labour councils, community organisations or any other groups fighting Thatcher: raise the question of

the march in your organisation today!

We demand of the leaders of the Labour Party, Communist Party and all trade union bodies that they support this campaign and help build a united resistance to the destruction of our basic democratic rights and a weapon to destroy the Bonapartist state menace.

Send financial support; join us everywhere along the route; organise massive delegations for the lobby at Blackpool on Monday September 2!

GLASGOW'S JUST 'S'



Instructor Dave Hamilton with pupils

A 'FAIR' SUCCESS!



Malcolm Tierney, TV star, at St Helens fair



Sue Johnson and fans

TRUMMING ALONG

NEW GUITAR COURSE STARTS

THE GUITAR course at Glasgow Young Socialists Training centre is developing into a very popular success.

There are several youth who have recently started the course and *Young Socialist* spoke to the instructor Dave Hamilton.

'Different levels of guitar playing are taught. Whilst some pupils learn the basic chords, others are moving on to more advanced work,' Dave said.

'Some of the pupils ask me to show them chords of a particular song and that helps them to learn and keep them interested.

'I don't want them to be bored strumming a series of chords which might not have any meaning to them, so if it helps them can learn songs. They can learn those of their choice.

'We've also tried guitar parts from songs like "Blue Monday" and "Peaches" as well as blues and rock 'n' roll riffs.

'The course starting now is mainly for beginners, but some of the students are already well on the way to being good guitarists.

'It is great to watch them develop and do things by themselves as well as giving guidance on such things as finger style, lead runs, etc.

'I am really pleased with the way the course has come on since we started. There's little for them to do these days apart from being used as cheap scab labour.

'The Young Socialists Training centre is great for the youth. I'd like to see one in every district of the city.

'We've got seven youth on this course to start with, and they're all keen. However, we're always looking for more youth to come and join. If some of them don't have guitars we can get hold of one to use.

'In other words, if anyone reading this has a guitar they don't use

lying around, you know where to send it!'

Young Socialist also spoke to some of the youth on the course about it and their own experiences of the Tory YTS scheme.

John Coll said: 'We came to the course because we want to learn more about guitar playing and could not afford to pay for lessons. All other guitar courses cost a lot of money.

'I was on a YTS scheme in a butcher's shop,' he explained. 'All I was doing was scrubbing out freezers for hours. It was a joke! I was just being used as a cleaner and learnt nothing about the trade.

'YTS is a con. It's just cheap labour. Training should be for three or four years. What can you learn in a year?'

John Skivington added: 'I already play the guitar, but I want to increase my knowledge of the instrument.

Enjoyment

'I don't know about playing in a band because I just want to know how to play for my own enjoyment. But I suppose it would be good if something more came out of it.

'I agree with what John Coll said — the YTS is a load of rubbish, although it's better than walking the streets. But people deserve better than that. It wouldn't be so bad if they doubled the wages.

'I was on a scheme and everybody got paid off at the end of the year. It's supposed to be semi-skilled, but what I was taught I already knew from school.'

John Revend said: 'There was no union at the place when we asked about it. If you didn't do what you were told you were pushed out.

'Once or twice, in the winter, we did protest when the heating was turned off and the boss had to let us go home.'

● The guitar course is on every Tuesday from 2p.m. to 4p.m. at Glasgow YSTC, 71-77 Tobago Street, Glasgow. All are welcome to come along, watch and join up!



One of Glasgow's pupils gets their chance to take part

St Helen's bazaar raises funds for centres

A VERY successful summer fair was held by the North West Young Socialists last Saturday at the unemployed centre in St Helen's.

The queues started well before the doors opened at noon, in anticipation of lots of bargains, novelties, refreshments, music and a chance to meet the stars.

Scouse

Television star Malcolm Tierney, famous as scouse gangster Tommy McCardle of Channel 4's 'Brookside',

BY A NORTH WEST CORRESPONDENT

was a big pull for visitors young and old.

Together with television personality Sue Johnson he chatted, autographed and joked his way through the afternoon.

No one was disappointed by the wonderful array — everything from cushions and home-grown plants, clothes, refreshments and the cheapest fruit and veg in St Helen's was to be had.

With the latest sounds giving a perfect atmospheric background everyone

thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

A novel idea was the face painting at 10p a time for the toddlers — a very professional job too!

Raised

It was a very rewarding day for the Young Socialists in the North West who organised the fair — a sizeable amount was raised on the day — and everyone went home with a bagful of bargains.

During the fair *Young Socialist* spoke to youth who attended.

Lisa, 16, said: 'If you're on a YTS they'll boot you out when you've finished instead of keeping you on. They should pay more wages.'

Sue, 16, added: 'We should kick Thatcher out — or put her on a YTS. She's just bought a new house. It's disgusting because we have to pay for that. All this while she's closing down schools and old peoples' homes.'

'She's making the rich

richer and the poor poorer,' Tony, 16, added. 'All her friends are millionaires. There should be workers in power, not the Tories.'

Cheryl continued: 'Just because she is Prime Minister she thinks she can rule everything.'

Proper

'Everyone should have the right to a proper job. Youth today are lucky if they get a job.'

'The Summer Fair today was brilliant. We got some cheap stuff and our programmes autographed.'

Photographic competition extended

ALL YS TRAINING CENTRES AND YOUNG SOCIALISTS MEMBERS WELCOME, SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO: 21b OLD TOWN, CLAPHAM, SW4 0JT

YOUNG SOCIALISTS Training Centres is extending the date of its first photographic competition. Nearly all our centres teach photography and welcome any youth wishing to learn the art.

All YS Training Centres and Young Socialists members are welcome to enter the competition and prizes will include a camera.

The rules are as follows:

● All entries must be in by August 31. No entries after that date will be accepted.

● All entries must be accompanied by the name, address and age of the photographer. Entrants must be between 14 and 25 years of age.

● Pictures can only be in black and white and only one entry per person will be accepted.

Any subject can be chosen for the photograph and merit will be given to the most vivid, descriptive pictures.

Subjects may depict living conditions, unemployment sport, Young Socialists activities, etc.

Where to find a YS Training Centre

BRIXTON
21-25 Beehive Place
off Brixton Road
London SW9

NEWCASTLE
30 Lime Street
Byker

LIVERPOOL
100 Gloucester Place
Kensington
Liverpool 6

GLASGOW
71-77 Tobago Street

NOTTINGHAM
4 Commerce Square
The Lace Market

MERTHYR TYDFIL
Wesley Hall
Pontmorlais High Street

MANCHESTER
64 Cambridge Street
Salford 7

I would like to join a YS Training Centre

Membership of Young Socialists Training is 50p per month. Come and sign up any day or evening during the week. Age range 16-22.

I want to join a Young Socialists Training Centre to take part in

..... courses

NAME.....

ADDRESS

..... Amount enclosed

Complete and post to:
Young Socialists Training, 21-25 Beehive Place, Brixton

PICK YOUR COURSES!

AT BRIXTON

- ART:**
Friday 2-5p.m.
- COMPUTING:**
Wednesday 7-9p.m.
Thursday 7-9p.m.
(taken by Peter Gillett)
- CONTEMPORARY DANCE:**
Tuesday 7-9p.m.
(taken by Chris Devanei)
- DRAMA:**
Monday 7-9p.m.
Thursday 7-9p.m.
(taken by Billy Colville)
- DRESSMAKING:**
Wednesday 7-9p.m.
(taken by Jackie Gayle)
- ELECTRONICS:**
Tuesday 7-9p.m.
(taken by Barran Hulme and Roger Maguire)
- HAIRDRESSING:**
Wednesday 7-9p.m.

- JUDO:**
Sunday 5-7p.m.
- MOTOR MECHANICS:**
Wednesday 2-5p.m.
Thursday 7-9
Friday 2-5p.m.
(taken by Phil Penn)
- SINGING:**
Tuesday 7-9p.m.
(taken by Maggie Nichols)
- TYPING:**
Monday 7-9p.m.
Wednesday 1-3p.m.
(taken by Ida Turner)
- WEIGHT TRAINING:**
Sunday 3-5p.m.

AT LIVERPOOL

- DRAMA:**
Wednesday 3-5p.m.
- ELECTRONICS:**
Monday 2-5p.m.
- ENGINEERING:**
Tuesday 2-4p.m.

- JOURNALISM:**
Thursday 6-8p.m.
 - PHOTOGRAPHY:**
Tuesday 2-4p.m.
- ### AT MERTHYR
- COMPUTING:**
Tuesday 11a.m.
Thursday 7p.m.
(taken by John Evans and Steve Chapman)
 - KARATE:**
Wednesday 7p.m.
(taken by Brian Jones and Philip Mehegan)
 - PHOTOGRAPHY:**
Wednesday 3p.m.
Thursday 7p.m.
(taken by Alun Jones)

AT GLASGOW

- AFTERNOON YOUTH CLUB:**
Friday 2-4.30p.m.

- COMPUTING:**
Thursday 7-8p.m.
- DISCO:**
Friday 7.30p.m.
- GUITAR:**
Tuesday 2.30-4p.m.
- JOURNALISM:**
Tuesday 10.30-12.30p.m.
- JUDO:**
Tuesday 1.30-2.30p.m.
Thursday 1.30-2.30p.m.
Sunday 1.30-2.30p.m.
(The Kawamura Kwai Club beginners and advanced welcome, taken by Tommy McDermott, 7th Dan, John Fraser, 6th Dan and James Fraser, 1st Dan)
- TYPING:**
Thursday 11a.m.-12 noon
- WEIGHT TRAINING:**
Tuesday 12.30-1.30p.m.
Thursday 12.30-1.30p.m.
Sunday 12.30-1.30p.m.

UNEMPLOYMENT U.S.A.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT in America is rocketing. More than 220,000 industrial jobs have been destroyed in the United States since the beginning of the year whilst cut backs on the federally funded job training programme have meant even higher youth unemployment.

Meanwhile, moves by Reagan's right-wing spokesman Utah Senator Orrin Hatch could mean a sub-minimum wage of \$2.50 an hour being established for youth.

The American *Young Socialist* asked youth affected in major unemployment areas their views:

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

ONLY 10,000 youth out of 60,000 that applied for employment have got summer jobs in Detroit.

Those jobs have been cut down from last year's eight weeks to six weeks because of more than \$200,000 in federal cuts according to SYEP officials.

The following are interviews with youth on Detroit's north east and south west sites.

Tony Armitage, 17, does some mechanic work during the summer. He said: 'It's tight for jobs. Everyone is just trying to make a dollar and live right. I've put in applications at a paper factory, marine pollution control, and at the Fleetwood Fisher Body factory.'

Dave Deemer, 17, and unemployed said: 'There's nothing to do in the summer time in the south-west side. I just moved here from Hazel Park and it's the same over there — no jobs and nothing to do.'

'I don't like Reagan's \$2.50 an hour minimum wage. The bosses would make a lot, but we aren't the bosses! I don't like the idea of Coleman Young's police cadets either. It doesn't pay to be a snitch.'

We need real work.'

Martina Guzman, 16, told the *Young Socialist*: 'I'm working as a waitress at a Coney Island restaurant. I only got this job after hunting for a month and a half because I knew someone that worked here.'

'It's aggravating; because they always have an excuse not to hire you.'

'I only make \$2.50 an hour and it depends on the boss how many hours I work. It's wrong. I always have to be ready if the boss calls me to work extra hours.'

'He'll get upset and threaten you. Once he didn't tell me until I was about to leave that he wanted me to work extra. I had a doctor's appointment and he threatened to fire me.'

Anna Guajardo, 15, said: 'I need a job so bad. I've been looking since March for a job. If I had a job I'd get a car and pay for my own education. It's been disappointing looking for a job — you put in an application but they don't call you.'

'I applied for a summer job in school. But all they want you to do is to clean parks — but we want a real job with skills training.'



Left to right: Top, Cassandra, Missy, Anna, Mari, Martina

NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

YOUTH in New York City are facing another summer of unemployment. It is estimated that among minority youth, barely 12 out of 100 have found work.

Static

In the Summer Youth Employment Programme, funding has remained static, creating 41,000 jobs, the same number as last year. Programme officials purposely kept advertising for job applications to a minimum to avoid a rush of jobless youth at their doors.

Mark Johnson, 21, from Brooklyn, New York was one of those

who did apply with the programme but was told there was no more jobs to be had.

He spoke to *Young Socialist* outside the Brooklyn unemployment office:

'I am on unemployment now. Before I was working in a welding factory for about seven months. They laid us off because they said we were going on vacation for two weeks. When I came back I found out they weren't there; they had just picked up and left.'

'I've been trying to find some kind of job ever since. I tried to get a job at the Summer Youth Employment Programme as a counsellor but they told me they we-

ren't taking any more applications. So my mother suggested that I file for unemployment. I need the money for rent, food and just travelling around.'

Advance

'I'm young and I find life is hard. You can see right here that there are a lot of youth applying for unemployment. There are a lot of us that advance in life very fast, like having kids and so on. But we are still just starting out.'

'The bosses put a lot of pressure on us, which is not right. I once worked in a restaurant and the bosses there were always stepping on us.'

GARY, INDIANA

THIS summer there are 3,000 jobs for the youth in Gary which has a minority youth unemployment rate of 60 per cent. The total in the Lake County area is 5,000 which includes not only Gary but East Chicago, Hammond and Merrillville.

The job titles are 'cleaning up' and 'gardening'. In reality it's picking weeds and picking up garbage in city lots.

Theda Beverley, who was on the programme last year, told the *Young Socialist*: 'I have been residing in the city of Gary for two and half years. I worked on the Gary Manpower Summer Youth Programme.'

'They gave every participant a hat and a pair of gloves for those in the "beautification" programme.'

We went out Monday through Friday, 8.30a.m. till noon, cleaning up the streets and the vacant lots and neighbourhood eyesores.

'Everyone in the programme was more than happy to have a job earning their own spending money, but I don't think it was fair that they had us cleaning up garbage and debris. That I feel is the responsibility of the city to keep it clean and maintained.'

'I don't think that our youth should come right out of school for the summer and clean up spring's garbage. If they want the students to have work during the summer, make it more of a positive influence.'

'They should be offered chances to do more positive jobs and to learn skills for the future.'



Nathaniel Meador (left), and Bill Ventley

DAYTON, OHIO

DAYTON unemployment among youth is the worst ever despite official statistics which point to a drop in unemployment locally.

There have been 300 jobs cut from the Summer Youth Employment Programme in Dayton this summer. The jobs available pay only the minimum wage and last for only eight weeks with youth being limited to 20 hours a week.

The unemployment crisis was graphically demonstrated in April when over 11,000 youth and unemployed workers lined up at fairgrounds to apply for a handful of jobs at General Motors that pay

only one-half of standard auto-workers' wages. So far only 30 of those applicants have been given jobs.

The *Young Socialist* interviewed youth working in SYEP programme about the job cutbacks and the proposal for the subminimum wage.

Help

Melissa Ferguson is 16 and is working at the Melissa Bess Day Care Centre. 'I help with little kids. I've been working since January and it's only eight weeks. They

could at least keep us working a week before school starts. I really don't think we are making enough money.'

'I don't think it's right just because we're teenagers to cut our money. I think it's wrong when they say youth can't get summer jobs because their parents make too much money.'

Shalese Henderson, 14, works at the Boys Club. 'I think the SYEP is great. I think the government should help people without jobs. If Reagan was in our shoes, he wouldn't want that to happen to him.'

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

IN PITTSBURGH there are only 3,209 youth that are on the payroll of the Job Training Partnership Programme (JTPA). 840 of those are 14 and 15-year-olds placed in vocational training at five area tech schools and the community college at Allegheny County.

However, this is a drop in the bucket compared to the number of youth who need jobs in the city.

Unemployment figures for youth in the area, which includes Fayette, Washington, Allegheny, and Westmoreland Counties, run at 17.2 per cent for 16 to 19-year-olds and 15.1 per cent for 20 to 21 year olds.

These statistics are based upon those youth who receive unemployment compensation and are considered actively seeking employment, not the thousands who have never worked or have given up searching.

Month

The programme started July 7 and will end August 16, leaving the youth a little more than a month to work. The *Young Socialist* interviewed Bill Vently, 16, from North High, West Mifflin, who is a painter.

'My job is through CETA. I

signed up through the school. This year we work for \$3.35 an hour because they had to change the programme. Last year we worked at the McKeesport High School where we never knew how much we were going to get paid,' he said.

'Forget about working for \$2.50 an hour! \$3.35 is OK but just for the summer. I work eight hours a day now, from 7a.m. to 3p.m. and I'm a painter.'

'People from CETA came over to the school to sign us up. But I think that we should get job training through the unions and get paid union wages when we do the same work.'

Fight against apartheid erupts

By CLAIRE DIXON

DURBAN became one of the focal points of black resistance to Botha's racist regime in South Africa last Thursday when violence erupted.

As the street fighting flared a mass of armed state security forces was sent into the Natal province to try and crush the fighting.

For days lies and distortions about the flare-up in Durban has dripped from the mouthpieces of the apartheid state. They claim it is an expression of 'inter-racial strife' and that 'black mobs have run wild killing their own'.

In reality Durban has a concentration of a better off Indian community. They have refused to join the powerful boycotts of white businesses with the blacks or take part in the strikes against the state of emergency imposed four weeks ago.

For these reasons many of the middle-class Indians are seen as perpetuating the apartheid system. The racist regime has played on this division since last year.

Then the Indians were given representation in the racially segregated parliament, still excluding blacks.

Stooge Indian Cabinet minister Amichand Rujbansi went on television last week to appeal to the law and order Minister Louis le Grange to send police reinforcements to Durban.

Durban was not one of the 36 districts where the emergency powers are in operation.

Another catalyst to black anger was the murder of black civil rights lawyer and leading UDF (United Democratic Front) member Victoria Mxenge last week. She was killed outside her home by hired state killers.

The official death toll up to Wednesday (August 14) had reached over 70 — nearly all blacks.

The Durban area is also the homeland of nearly a million blacks belonging to the Zulu tribe. The actions of the young and old black Zulus have been in stark contrast to the treacherous compromising stand of their representative Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, also leader of the 'Inkatha Party'.

Spears

Waving clubs and spears and chanting Zulu war cries black workers and youth fought with security forces in the Natal district.

They razed to the ground the Phoenix settlement, set up at the turn of the century by Mahatma Gandhi (preacher of non-violence).

Groups of Buthelezi's Party members retaliated by going around beating up young militants, assaulting them with machetes.

Notably Buthelezi went on a ten-day visit as a guest of Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres — head of another notorious racist state, which treats the Palestinian



Youth defiant of the state of emergency demonstrate in force

people the same way the blacks are treated in South Africa.

Peres wants to maintain the closest possible ties with South Africa. He refuses to join the mounting pressure for economic sanctions against the regime — relations between the two racist states come above all else.

The black consciousness organisation, the Azanian Peoples Organisation (AZAPO) said in a statement last week that the ethnic feud is a product of the divide and rule policies which encouraged blacks to despise each other so whites could 'come and pick up the pieces'.

Since the state of emergency was imposed the fighting has continued throughout the black townships and shows no signs of weakening.

In the Eastern Cape reports say the townships are patrolled night and day by troops and police in armoured personnel carriers. The schools lie empty — some gutted by fire and stoning.

The defiant youth, still boycotting the schools, run the streets. Nearly 2,000 have been rounded up and detained. Those caught on the streets are sjambokked (whipped) by the police.

The authorities and press continue to distort incidents. On July 23 two youth were shot dead by police at a school near Zwile township. Many others were injured including four teachers.

The police claim that about 150 youth attacked four policemen with stones near the school, so they retaliated. The mother of one of the

SOUTH AFRICA

youth, however, said he was shot when the police came into the school grounds.

The racist regime has become so desperate they have banned all mass gatherings at funerals. This, they say, is because the funerals 'have become the focus points for political rallies'.

Thousands of black youth and workers have turned out in force to funerals since this declaration — giving the state a bold answer.

Last Saturday a leading clergyman and anti-apartheid campaigner Allan Boesak was arrested alongside 18 others on his way to a funeral in Capetown.

The funeral of murdered Victoria Mxenge took place on Sunday in King Williams Town. It was attended by thousands of workers and youth.

Offence

The speeches reflected the defiant revolutionary mood of the black working class. Many speakers denounced the government and Zulu Chief Gatsha Buthelezi.

Around and inside Johannesburg there have been several demonstrations against the apartheid system. Many white students have taken part — aware that demonstrating is illegal and an offence.

Television screens world wide showed security police wading in with batons and sjamboks (long whips), hitting out at all and sundry.

Last Tuesday students demonstrated in Johannesburg against the state of emergency.

It is this all-round resistance that drives the regime to more and more desperate measures. Behind the scenes it is clear that the state have a dirty tricks department of specialist killers.

Such right-wing forces were obviously behind the murder of Victoria Mxenge and the attack last week on Winnie Mandela's house.

Winnie Mandela is the wife of jailed ANC (African National Congress) leader Nelson Mandela, who is serving the 21st year of a life sentence in Robben Island.

Winnie Mandela is living in Brandfort — a town hundreds of miles from anywhere, in exile for eight years. She has been sent there so she can be no threat to the system.

Her home was attacked and set on fire two days after friends had been arrested and detained at her house.

The South African Rand continues to lunge downwards, losing its value against the dollar and creating a living hell for the country's capitalist bankers and businessmen.

This week it fell another 4.6 per cent against the dollar. More than nine major companies have ceased trading with South Africa since the start of the year.

Over the last ten weeks \$200million of investments in the country have been withdrawn.

It is in this atmosphere that thousands of black NUM members will be taking national strike action from August 25. They are demanding a 22 per cent across the board wage increase.

The NUM leaders have also called for a boycott of all white businesses and are demanding the lifting of the state of emergency.

The strike action will be catastrophic to the regime. This is why NUM leaders have this week been warning of mineowners preparing a blood-bath in order to break the strike.

They have seen owners buying vast stocks of shotguns and ammunition. They have also approached the army for assistance.

SACU (South African Congress of Trade Unions) has urged all unions, workers and progressive organisations to support the miners.

The solution to apartheid and its violence is not compromise, but the armed struggle and the building of a black socialist republic of Azania.



NELSON MANDELA — serving the 21st year of a life sentence

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I would like further details about the Young Socialists National Schools Conference.

Name.....

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GALVIN DEFIES TORY BAN

By GRAHAM FENWICK

NORAID leader Martin Galvin defied the ban imposed on him imposed by the Thatcher government when he appeared at a funeral in Derry with Martin McGuinness last Friday.

The two shouldered the coffin of IRA volunteer Charles 'Chuck' English for 100 yard in an operation which baffled the army and the RUC.

'Chuck' English was killed when a home made grenade launcher blew up in his face during an attack on a police patrol. Gary, his brother, had been killed on Easter Sunday 1981 when he was run over by an army Land Rover.

Troops checked vehicles moving in and out of Bogside in Derry in an attempt to find Galvin, who is the publicity director of NORAID — the American organisation which raises funds for the IRA.

Attacked

Whilst the RUC's armoured cars cruised through the streets they were attacked by youth pelting bottles, bricks and other missiles.

Galvin donned a disguise before he joined the funeral from the end of Cable Street where English lived. He stood shoulder to shoulder by Martin McGuinness. An interview with McGuinness featured in the BBC documentary 'Real Lives' which was recently banned by Leon Brittan, on behalf of the Thatcher government.

An escort of black taxis formed a road block and mourners linked arms to stop the RUC breaking into the crowd.

Before the march had reached the cemetery, Galvin had melted into the crowd and disappeared.

A year previously, Galvin had appeared at a West Belfast rally where he spoke from the platform. The RUC stormed the platform and Sean Downes was killed by a plastic bullet. Galvin again was able to get away from the RUC.

The RUC refused to comment on why it had been unable to capture Galvin.

Earlier in the day, youth had confronted the RUC, attacking wave after wave of army and police vehicles.

Demonstration

Thousands of Republican supporters joined a demonstration which was marking the anniversary of internment which went through nationalist strongholds in Belfast last Sunday.

A hundred visiting NORAID supporters were given pride of place in the column of marchers. The march passed peacefully through streets which only hours before had been full of youth with petrol bombs confronting British troops.

Last Monday, Galvin said that armed attacks on civilians could not be supported, but continued that such attacks on the military were justified.

Interview

'The Harrods incident concerned me very deeply in the United States,' Galvin said in an interview on independent radio.

'We questioned it internally. There was a statement that it was not policy, that it had not been approved, that there had been warnings given, but they were not sufficient, and I am satisfied that it will not recur.'



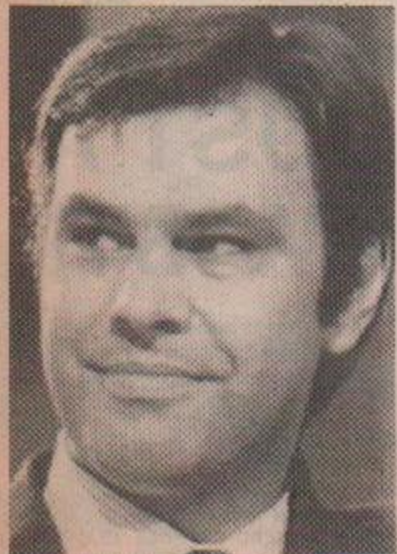
Belfast youth confronted the RUC last Sunday prior to demonstrations marking 15 years of interment



Martin McGuinness — censored by the British government



SPAIN: Youth pulled 'into line!'



Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez

LEADERS of the Socialist Party government in Madrid have warned their own youth movement to stop campaigning against Spain's entry into the imperialist NATO alliance.

The youth movement is being pulled into line before next year's referendum on membership of NATO.

Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez' government is going to campaign for a 'yes' vote despite the fact that it came to office on an anti-NATO platform.

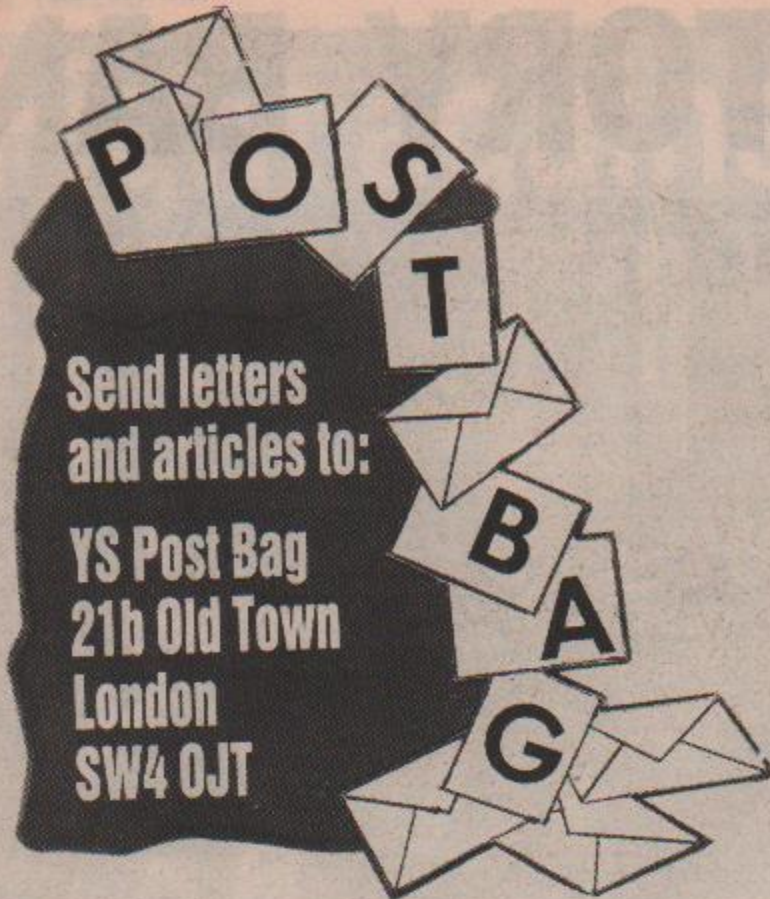
Jose Maria Benegas, a senior party official, told a

weekend conference of the International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY) that young socialists would not be allowed to campaign against NATO membership.

'If a contradiction exists between the party and its youth wing, the former's opinion will always prevail', he said.

Gonzalez last year reversed the party's long-standing opposition to NATO, although opinion polls show that a majority of Spaniards still oppose the imperialist war alliance.

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● LETTER OF THE WEEK ●

A FIGHT TO THE FINISH

I THINK that the abolition of wages councils means that Thatcher is going to pauperise the youth so that her kind can get richer.

This abolition comes in when the judges and generals get 50 per cent wage rises while we get cuts in wages and other attacks.

I used to work on a YTS but I got fed up with it because I only

got £25 a week and also the boss used me as a slave. But now I am working in a supermarket and I fear that I will have my wages cut.

I support the black people in South Africa because they are fighting against racist exploitation in which whites oppress blacks. They have shown us how to fight and we must fight like them. Thatcher won't give us anything.

I hate the police, they attack us youth for nothing. In Crawley they nick you for just being in a large group and now when you don't move on they nick you too. This shows there is no real freedom in Britain.

We must fight Thatcher and destroy her and her kind. This is a fight to the finish.

Samantha Jackson, 18
Crawley

ARM THE SOUTH AFRICAN WORKERS

THE South African regime is bad and the black workers and youth are right to try and break up the racism there. They are made slaves to the white owners.

I think Botha and his puppets will have to be dealt with and got rid of and the South African blacks armed so that they can take on the police and army evenly.

The YTS is also complete exploitation. I wouldn't go on one — it's just slave labour. I know a few youth who went on it and they were just there a year and then sacked.

They are still unemployed and it is a lie that they get trained be-

cause they're still out of work! Youth should fight for a proper job and they must not let fools like Kinnock, who just work for Thatcher, stop them.

Thatcher is trying to run our lives. When she stopped the viewing of that programme on the IRA, what she was worried about is the truth coming out about her job and what British troops are doing in northern Ireland.

She is just trying to get rid of the Republicans so that she can run the country without any trouble.

Alison Wilcocks, 17
Crawley

YS disco was great

THE Crawley YS disco was great because there is not much to do in Crawley. Even though we have two leisure centres, they still cost us a bit.

The disco was good and so was the sound. It attracted over a hundred youth and that made it exciting. It would be good if we had more discos.

I think the miners were right to strike and I supported them all the way. The fight to release jailed miners is good, even the two who supposedly murdered a taxi man taking a scab to work. They were fighting for their jobs and the scab being driven to work was fighting against them.

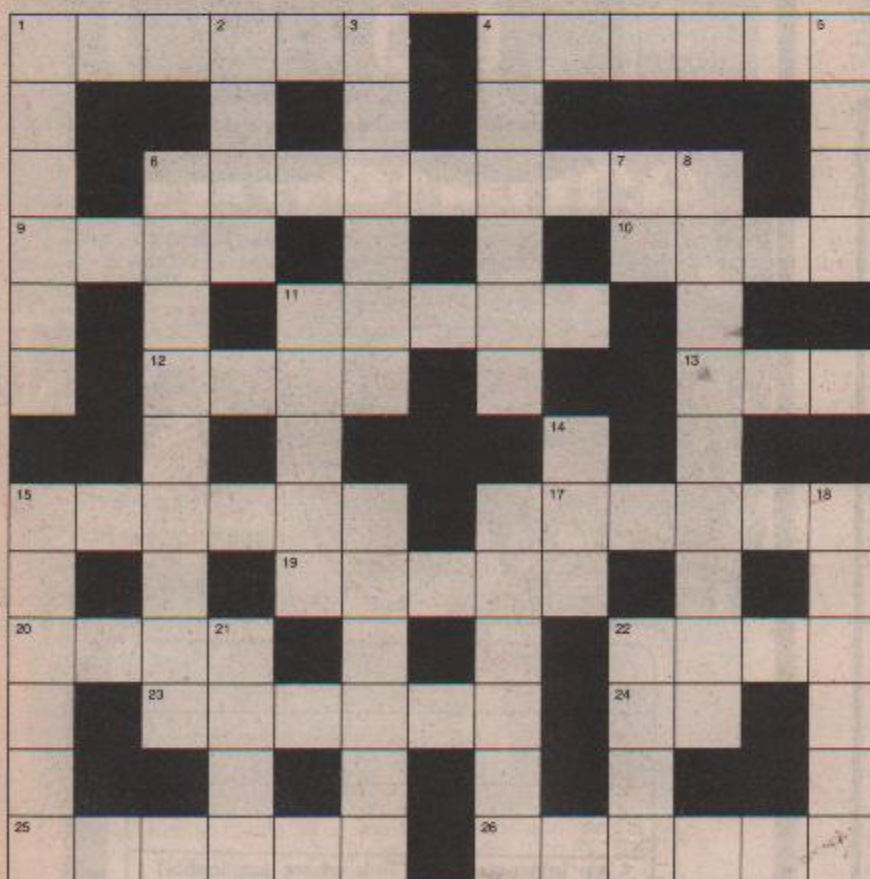
The miners' strike was about lives and we must fight for the release of the jailed miners.

The national march for their release must be supported and I support the Young Socialists for that.

The police are the henchmen of Thatcher who in the miners' strike beat up whole communities. They also attack the youth and anyone who hates Thatcher.

Stuart Haek, 19
Crawley

YS CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. There isn't one of these for youth under Thatcher
4. Made enormous discoveries on evolution
6. Charming
9. Donkeys do this
10. Witnessed
11. Light meal
12. Empty of all matter
13. Sinister branch of the army
15. Cope
17. Film star, Richard, who died recently
19. Difficult (slang)
20. Girl's name
22. Lukewarm
23. Finishing
24. Not off
25. The oppressing class
26. Rail strike will disrupt these

DOWN

1. Grope about
2. Grotesque
3. Boy's name
4. To the point
5. A word which is an object
6. To rouse by shock
7. You and me
8. Operation of the senses
11. Common Asian name
14. Man
15. Person who turns wheat into flour
16. Accompanies drinking
17. Brilliant
18. Irish female group
21. Against
22. Passage which completes and rounds off a musical composition

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 6. Pleat. 7. Tool. 8. Lei. 10. Our. 11. Led. 12. Lemon. 13. Prim. 15. Co. 16. Rye. 17. Devon. 18. Rugged. 19. Omit. 22. Table. 24. Ransack. 25. Demonstrator.
DOWN: 1. Learning. 2. Italy. 3. Bald. 4. Stilton. 5. Roam. 6. Prosper. 9. Undertaker. 14. Wed. 15. Cod. 16. Remnants. 17. Develop. 20. Press. 21. Snare. 23. Beer.

We're sick of Maggie

I AM sick of Maggie because she is trying to dominate us like in the issuing of these identity cards for football.

We will have to have these cards soon and they won't just be for football fans but so that Thatcher can restrict anyone she doesn't like.

Thatcher hates the Irish as well and she was scared of the truth coming out when she stopped that programme on 'terrorism'.

I support the IRA because, not only am I Irish, but because the British government and its soldiers are trying to smash the Irish people

so she can use them as slaves. That's what the IRA are fighting about.

In South Africa it is the same because Britain has a lot of money in there and if the racist government is destroyed by the workers and youth then Britain will lose a load.

The South African blacks are fighting against whites who oppress them.

I think the Crawley YS disco, which I went to was great.

Sean O'Hara
Crawley

YTS IS JUST A WASTE

YTS to me is a waste. What I've heard from friends on them is that you do too much work and there is not enough money. I wouldn't join one because I would rather get a job.

I think the abolition of dole for 16 to 18-year-olds is bad. I know a lot of people that are on the dole and they can't help it.

YTS is there to make us cheaper and give more money to the rich people and not to the poor.

Live Aid was a good thing but it didn't solve the problem. After a few weeks, people are still starv-

ing. What is needed is a revolution.

I think the police beat people up and arrest them for nothing. You get done for little things like smoking when under age. The police are there to protect the law, but it is Thatcher's law.

Thatcher just helps people with rich jobs and exploits us. She has just bought a house that cost a bomb.

Julie Kin

Lively YS disco



Youth from all over Crawley raved it up at the Young Socialists disco there last week, dancing the night away to the sound of G.B.'s sounds

BY GRAHAM FENWICK

THE CRAWLEY Young Socialists branch held a successful disco last Saturday at a community centre in the town.

More than 150 youth turned up for an exciting evening's dancing to the latest sounds. The disco unit (G.B.'s Disco) played a great range of music and the lighting system really livened up the evening.

The *Young Socialist* spoke to some of the Crawley youth who had congregated into the area of Broadfield.

They spoke of their anger towards the police, Thatcher and apartheid in South Africa and why they supported the miners' strike and black workers and youth in South Africa fighting the apartheid state.

Glen Lindup, 17, said: 'The Tories' attempts to abolish housing allowance for unemployed youth is really bad because it means that young people will become dossers.'

Apply

'People also apply for all kinds of jobs but never get any. That's because Thatcher is trying to get the rich richer and the poor poorer.'

'The judges are getting pay rises,' Glen continued. 'That is also bad because the working class don't get rises unless they come out on strike.'

'The government shouldn't close

down hospitals and schools. They are cutting back on all the necessities and spending money on nuclear weapons. The Health Service should be given more money so it can operate.'

'Unemployment will go up under Thatcher and the miners will probably strike again because both Thatcher and the miners haven't given up. There should be a General Strike to get her out!'

Blames

'Thatcher is a nasty piece of work,' Andrew Hanson, 18, exclaimed, 'because she blames us young people for soccer violence.'

'Firstly, most of the time the police start it by just wading into a crowd and secondly, the youth and the old ones are bored and have nothing to do because of the cuts on basic things. This all helps cause football hooliganism and it's all the government's fault.'

'The same in the miners' strike happened because the police invaded towns and started the trouble by charging them with horses.'

'The police start the trouble and it's always blamed on the working class, especially young people. Then they print that the miners started it and the knights in shining armour came to save the day!'

'When reading the "Sun" you have to read it backwards because they turn the stories upside down.'



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PALESTINIANS WILL NOT YIELD

'Generation after generation . . .'

DR SWEE CHAI ANG recently led a six-man British volunteer medical team to Beirut, funded by Medical Aid for Palestinians.

In the Lebanon, they found 30,000 homeless, 638 dead, 1,500 missing and over 2,000 wounded — but it was the revolutionary courage of the Palestinian people which really struck the team.

It was Dr Swee's first time in Lebanon since 1982 and the team went to Haifa hospital in Bourj-al-Barajneh camp, to try and convert it to a proper hospital.

'I was very upset when I returned to the camps,' Swee said, 'because the state of destruction was worse than 1982.'

'Shatila was shelled beyond recognition. Ninety per cent of houses were destroyed in Sabra also.'

But despite the continuous threatened attacks on the Palestinians they will not give in, Dr Ang emphasised.

'Our main achievement was to remind the people of the camps that small as we are, the people of Britain have not forgotten the people of Bourj al-Barajneh, Sabra and Shatila.'

'I brought with me greeting cards from 24 families of mining village, Hemsworth in Yorkshire. None of these miners have met Palestinians in their lives.'

'I gave the cards to the General Union of Palestinian Women but their office has been bombed so they haven't got a board to display them.'

'So they built a wall where they put drawings of the martyrs, and they pasted the cards on the wall.'

'I told them about the miners' women who supported their husbands and sons on strike for the whole year, and the Palestinian women understood instinctively.'

Equip

Whilst in Lebanon the team helped to build and equip theatres and hospitals and treated more than 100 people daily.

The Gaza hospital in Sabra-Shatila is in dire need of work after continuous bombings by the Zionist forces.

'This will be the third time Gaza will have to be reopened within a matter of three years. I met an administrator of the hospital and he said 'never mind Swee, we will wash the floors and we will paint the walls and we will build it again'.'

Dr Swee explained that this typified the mood of resistance amongst the Palestinian people.

Some Lebanese workers had left the Amal and joined to fight with the PLO, she explained.

'For me British patients and Palestinian patients are the same. I can see the state of the National Health Service in Britain now. I can see old age pensioners who have worked every day of their lives without a day off and now they have to wait four years just to have a hip replaced.'

'That, I think, is criminal and violent. It takes a different form, you can see a bomb and a shell or a broken building.'

'But it's very difficult for people in Britain to see how they are deprived of what should belong to them and I think this subtlety is an even bigger form of injustice.'

'If the people of the camps were to be here in Britain, I know which side they would be on, and I've also no doubt that the progressive people in Britain know which side to take in this conflict.'

● The above excerpts were taken from an interview with Dr Swee Chai Ang by Penny Bloor of News Line on August 9.

Medical Aid for Palestine is appealing for donations. Please write to MAP, 8 Durweston Street, London W1H 1PH. Telephone: 01 486 1492.



Young Palestinian children show the courage and determination of the PLO liberation fighters in their victory salute