

# Red Action

Issue 47 November 1988 20p

## GLASNOST IN THE U.K.!!

### WHAT THEY SAY



They must not complain when we institute regulations similar to those of the British government.

South Africa's President P. W. Botha in a warning to his country's already-censored press about reporting anti-apartheid resistance.

(The ban) looks, indeed suspiciously similar to an earlier scheme promoted by Mr Hurd: the Anglo Irish Agreement. That too was noble in intent, deficient in useful results and because it insidiously undermined the integrity of the United Kingdom, objectionable in theory.

Independent (London) editorial.

Suppression of free speech in South Africa and on the West Bank is now replicated in the North.

Irish Times editorial.

The laws will give (Britain) a distinction shared with no other Western democracy: that of legislated silence and sycophancy at virtually every level of current affairs journalism. Consider the irony: the freedoms recently gained in Gorbachev's Russia are those being abandoned here.

John Pilger, award winning journalist and author.

A classic case of political censorship. The danger is that this will snowball, leading to a newspaper ban next, and massive self-censorship by the media.

Professor Kevin Boyle (Essex University), director of the London based Freedom of Information Body, Article 19.

In just one week the government has stamped out three fundamental rights, the right to remain silent, the right to free expression and the right to belong to a trade union. In just a week it clearly shows how far to the right the country has drifted in the last ten years. The government claims that its ban on Sinn Fein will help defeat 'terrorism'. The IRA cannot be defeated. The IRA cannot be defeated. Nor will the ban unduly effect the electoral ability of Sinn Fein. The working class nationalists who elected their MP Gerry Adams know why they voted for him. The 100,000 nationalists who elected 50 Sinn Fein councillors know why they voted for them. The fact that Gerry Adams is not interviewed on TV will not cause them to forget.

The presence of 30,000 heavily armed British Troops in the six counties provide a daily but none too gentle reminder of why they support the armed struggle.

The ban is not aimed at the IRA or Sinn Fein their ban is aimed at YOU. For almost the last 20 years there has been a war in

Ireland. The IRA and INLA have been fighting a war of national liberation against an army backed by a foreign power occupying the North East corner of Ireland. They regard this as the last phase of the struggle. They will not give up now. The war will continue, but you will know nothing about it. They will tell you who, what, where and when, but they will not tell you why. People need to know more not less. Ignorance breeds acquiescence. The government knows it cannot defeat the IRA but what is being done in your name is not done for your interests but for their interests. That is the real reason behind the ban, because as far as this government is concerned - you - cannot be trusted.

Similarly the ending of a suspects right to remain silent is being dressed up as part of the fight against the IRA. In reality it is a direct attack on the rights of ordinary working class people in England and Wales. The law says that you are presumed innocent until proven

guilty but now in the absence of real evidence you are obliged to incriminate yourself. Your silence will be taken as evidence of guilt. Like the banning of Sinn Fein the government relies on the ignorance of the general public. When Douglas Hurd say most 'fair minded' people would agree with him he simply means the majority who have never been interrogated or charged with a serious offence. The implication is that if you have nothing to hide you have nothing to fear.

That line of thought makes two assumptions, the first is that the police never lie or invent statements, they never fabricate evidence, that they never threaten or intimidate punch or kick, maim or kill, that people in custody know their rights, have access to a solicitor, are neither frightened or intimidated, are not subject to any undue pressure, would not wrongly incriminate themselves or others, feel neither fear nor pain.

If Douglas Hurd's assumptions are correct then the right to silence is indeed superfluous to the

rule of law and against the interests of natural justice. It is in recognition that these have happened, do happen and have always happened, that feudal barons not the national council for civil liberties made King John sign the Magna Carta. If this is an attempt to secure more convictions it will be of little help, statistics show that of those charged 96% make statements anyway. However the acquittal rate is as high as 52% in some London Crown Courts. The real weak link is obviously the Jury system. Juries are obviously "unrepresentative" of the fair-minded people who support Mr Hurd. Expect changes in that direction shortly - all of course in the name of Freedom and Democracy.

The sacking of the four remaining trade unionists at G.C.H.Q represents a further attack on what Thatcher termed as 'the enemy within'.

Paradoxically the only members of a 'Union' even convicted of spying did not belong to an industrial Trade Union but to the 'Cambridge Union'.

## A STRIKE

The P&O strike enters its eighth month with little sign of a settlement. Red Action interviewed Richard, a seafarer based in London organising support for the strikers. His comments show that there is a basis for continuing the struggle but also glaring weaknesses in the way the strike has been led. The strikers cannot simply wish their Trade Union Bosses away and for a 'better' Labour Party, they must take control of and escalate their fight.

Richard estimates that there are about a thousand out on strike, eight hundred of them in Dover. In a strike that has "split in half" the people of Dover, morale is still good on the picket line. Support has come from other seafarers around the country and a lot from abroad. "They have backed us in Australia and New Zealand quite strongly, the support in Europe has been very good; we had someone come from Germany with two thousand Marks ... In Calais in the early days of the strike they were delaying the ships from sailing, delaying the entry to the port. The French done a fair bit as did the Belgians".

Support has also come from other sections of the working class particularly the miners and to a lesser degree the printworkers. "We've had tremendous support from the miners. The moment we went on strike they stepped right in and got us going with soup kitchens etc." Richard like most working class trade unionists is "for the Labour Party" but for a more "left wing" one. "Benn and Heffer have got ideas and they've been backing us". Richards loyalty to the Labour left is to us misplaced but understandable when most revolutionary groups have only involved themselves in disputes as a recruitment exercise dropping that involvement when they had exhausted the possibilities for new members. The worst effect of this is that other decent working class activists get blanked. Terry French, jailed during the miners strike joined the picket line at Dover and gave the strikers a lift. But recounts Richard "he was told in a quiet way to keep off the picket line because we don't want any trouble". Richard conceded that it was only the newspapers that said Terry French was a "trouble maker". The real trouble

cont.»



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Iran Iraq War Elite Exposed P&O strike analysis

# S.A.S. 'ELITE' EXPOSED

Dear Red Action, last months cover feature on the S.A.S whilst producing a lot of in depth material covering their summary execution of Republicans and civilians killed to tell of the many setbacks suffered by the S.A.S at the hands of the IRA, particularly in Belfast and Armagh.

It is important to remember that the S.A.S are not invincible. Don't take my word for it, just read the following quote from A.F.N Clarke who served in the Paras around Crossmaglen in 1976: "A whole car load of S.A.S got picked up in the Republic in a civilian car in civilian clothes and armed to the teeth. The excuse was that they got lost, well if thats the fuck most the rest of us be like? Cowboys the lot of them; there are some guys I've recognised who have failed our selection tests, so how did they get into the S.A.S? They are a joke.

From their foundation the S.A.S shrouded themselves in secrecy and thus to scrutinise their organisation or real activities is difficult. Names of S.A.S men are not published; neither are their photographs released, and officially the S.A.S serve in regular units or simply appear in the General Army list.

In most countries were the S.A.S intervene they wear Allied Forces uniforms; losses are accounted for by traffic accidents in Hong Kong or West Germany and their bodies are buried in a special plot in the cemetery of St Martins Church, near their Hereford base. Often when a soldier leaves his original regiment, his comrades do not know to where he is transferred, and official records will indicate that he is still

attached to his old regiment. This explains why, in Northern Ireland, the IRA have captured or killed so many soldiers whose official posting did not accord with the presence of any regiment in the country. The Guards Division remains an S.A.S recruiting nest, especially for Irish assignments, in so far as this Division contains one Irish regiment, and until recently Irish regiments were not supposed to serve in their motherland.

The arrival of the S.A.S did not go unnoticed by the IRA. The IRA Chief of Staff at the time, Sean MacStiofain, recalls how his intelligence department concluded with certainty that the S.A.S were operating undercover in Belfast as early as May 1971, and had clearly established that they were "involved in shootings or killings in Ballymurphy, Andersonstown, New Lodge and the Falls Road. Their cars were often given away by the speed with which they were passed through British checkpoints..."



On 23rd October 1971, a 31 year old Brit, David Seaman, revealed at an impromptu press conference in Dublin, that until that day he had been a member of the S.A.S, which he asserted, had been active in Northern Ireland since the beginning of 1971, notably engaged exploding random bombs in order to destroy IRA credibility. He stated he did not wish to be part of it any longer and was ready to "tell everything" very soon about S.A.S involvement. To do so, he thought it useful to go back to the North



to check some facts. In January 1972, his body was found in a ditch, near the border, in county Armagh.

During this time, most S.A.S operatives were organised in small mobile units known as Military Reconnaissance Forces (MRF). The most spectacular example of MRF operations to date remain the "Four Square Laundry" episode.

On 2nd October 1972, the IRA machine gunned a laundry van bearing in large green letters "Four Square" as it drove through the Republican Twinbrook area of Belfast. The driver "Bobby Jones" was killed instantly, along with two agents who were lying on the top roof in a compartment specially designed as an observation post.

"Intelligence was collected in many ways; the 'laundry people' would chat with women and obtain apparently insignificant bits of information, but of great importance when pieced together. Meanwhile, the two agents hidden under the van roof took pictures of the houses, their occu-

pants, the streets and vehicles.

Once back from their tour, laundry lists were compared with previous ones concerning a given family. A difference in the size of men's shirts could indicate the presence of a 'second man', a woman whose husband was gaoled or had been killed who gave men's clothes for laundering or had an extraordinary amount of laundry, could inadvertently give away the presence of an IRA volunteer 'on the run'..." The Kitson Experiment by Roger Faligot.

While one IRA unit ambushed the van, another unit burst into the 'Gemini Health Studios', a massage parlour in Antrim Road, killing two more MRF/S.A.S operatives. The 'Gemini Health Studios' was part of a blackmailing operation with hidden agents to record people in compromising situations in order to get them to spy on the IRA.

ON THAT ALONE, 2ND OCTOBER 1972, THE IRA KILLED 5 MRF/S.A.S AGENTS. THE AUTHORITIES ADMITTED ONLY ONE, THE DRIVER "BOBBY JONES".

Also executed that year was S.A.S captain Dent who was captured along with Sergeant Barry Davies who was shot and left for dead on the Falls Road. Davies survived and was later awarded an M.B.E for "services to community relations in Northern Ireland".

On 14th May 1977, Captain Robert Nairac (whose photo was featured in last months Red Action) was arrested and executed after interrogation in which he admitted he was in an S.A.S unit. Even his commanding officer Brigadier Woodford admitted that Nairac was "doing S.A.S work". Later however, the Army Information services insisted on the fact that he did not belong to S.A.S but to Grenadier Guards - a rather academic distinction since many N.C.O's and officers of this regiment constitute part of "C" Squadron of 22nd S.A.S Regiment. Also killed that year by the IRA was S.A.S man Paul Harman.



People who revere the S.A.S always seem to forget the gunfights that go wrong, like the ambush of Francis Hughes and Dominic McGlinchy in county Derry in 1978. L. Corporal David Jones was killed and Kevin Smyth seriously wounded. In 1982 Sergeant Oram died in a shootout in Derry.

One of Nairac's colleagues, Captain Herbert Westmacott, officially of the Grenadier Guards but in fact S.A.S

was killed by an IRA unit when he tried to storm a house in 1980.

And not forgetting the gunbattle between an IRA 'flying column' and the S.A.S around Crossmaglen in 1985. The IRA unit exchanged over 2,000 rounds of ammunition in a 20 minute shoot out and reported in Republican News of confirmed 'hits'. The British authorities insisted 'no casualties'. In South Armagh IRA volunteers used electronic detectors to locate high frequency radios (ZB 298) connecting the S.A.S in their hideouts with their HQ. The watchers were being watched.



That's not to say that all S.A.S are bad, in fact one of them, Paul Marlowe, an ex-para and S.A.S man gave the benefit of his experience to the movement training volunteers. He was an active member of the Republican Movement from October 1970 until his death in October 1976 which was the result of a premature explosion.

## RED ACTION IN ACTION

On October 4th the new independent anti fascist music organisation CABLE STREET BEAT was officially launched in London. It was a huge political and commercial success. The main band THE MEN THEY COULDN'T HANG were greeted with rapturous applause. A veteran of THE BATTLE OF CABLE STREET BEAT in 1936 warned the audience that as Jews were made the scapegoats for the economic problems of the 30s Blacks and Asians are for exactly the same reasons often the victims of violence today. The problem is escalating he said and with 70,000 race attacks a year the problem is actually far WORSE TODAY. A guide to its political impact can perhaps be estimated by the amount of political items bought. £40.00 worth of C.S.B. fanzines, over a hundred Red Action papers, £100.00 worth of books badges and Tshirts plus £250.00 collected for the P80 strikers at Dover. Apprx £6000.00 was collected in ticket sales.

### CABLE STREET BEAT



#### MERSEYSIDE

The first Cable Street Beat gig outside London was organised by Merseyside Red Action. Even though it was booked for a Sunday there was an excellent response from a cross section of the community. At the time of going to press there was no further details.

#### WELMYN GARDEN CITY P80 BENEFIT

W.G.C. Trades Council and Hatfield Red Action branch combined to put on a highly successful benefit which raised £479.00 for the strikers.

## 'A STRIKE CONTD'

## WHAT IS TO BE DONE

The seafarers dispute around Dover has highlighted the differing levels of support between the Miners and other sections of the labour movement such as the printers and also how essential it is for revolutionary socialists to develop a credible rank and file organisation based on winning strikes not recruiting from them.

The printers a stronghold of Trade Union power enjoyed for many years, a level of organisation which kept them a position at the top of the wage scales. In the Wapping dispute many printers thought they could stand on their own and win and as a consequence defeat produced disillusionment amongst most. For the Miners, right from the start of their dispute, they knew that they had not only to get financial support but also industrial support and at every level amongst the dockers, transport workers seafarers and through the TUC they argued for strike action. The experience radicalised them and radicalised the women that supported them provoking often a total break with the "common sense" beliefs they had before the strike. That is why the women and men of the mining communities readily gave organised support to the striking seafarers. There instinctive solidarity is now a conscious effort in the class struggle.

It should be clear that an industrial dispute of political importance cannot be won within the existing laws governing Trade Union action. The tactics for winning were only just being developed in the miners strike. Clandestine sabotage and the physical defence of the picket line will feature in the disputes of the future.

Revolutionary Socialists must provide a credible source of active support and ideas. Red Action by no means claims to have discovered some wonderful alternative strategy that will enable us to wash away Thatcher and the Bosses. The process of class struggle produces the industrial and political confrontations, out of those confrontations the working class begins to sharpen the tools of its organisation and conscious red action.

for the seafarers has since visited them in the form of increasing police harassment on the picket line and the capitulation of the Union leadership to the courts.

The pickets have not been strong enough to stop the sailings and the strategy remains one of avoiding "trouble". Red Action questioned Richard: So really its a token picket, if they chose to stop they stop, if not there's nothing you can do about it - is that right? "Yeah, that's right" he answered. The likes of Terry French and the many other miners who organised to STOP the scabs and STOP the police, know that this token picket and the token efforts of the Labour Party Left cannot win anything for those now on strike.

But the dispute is not over. Nor have the reasons for the strike disappeared. On safety Richard said, "there's one ship, The Pride of Calais, with only five qualified crew to sail the vessel". All over the place "safety and efficiency has dropped completely". This is against the background of Zeebrugge. The strikers are steadfast in their determination not to go back to unsafe ships and low wage conditions.

Richard was to say in the course of the interview, "its the rank and file members that make a union", and went on to assert "it has been the rank and file members that have taken this strike on and kept it going; we're not worried if Sam McCluskie resigns tomorrow, in fact everybody would celebrate if he did". Red Action asked him were there no officials they could trust? "That's right", he replied. The strikers need to take these sentiments a stage further and organise to STOP the traffic through Dover. They have to go pass McCluskie and go pass the legal obstacles and bring about a national strike with support from other sections of workers. Whilst workers remain loyal to leaders and adopt tactics of avoiding "trouble" this will not happen.

# TWO TRIBES GO TO WAR?

## The Gulf War—A Post Mortem.

The presentation of the Gulf war as a primitive localised conflict fought out by two irrational tribes with the high representatives of the western democracies looking on bewildered by the "meaningless slaughter", is a familiar stereotype from years of the reporting in Northern Ireland. In reality, western governments and the economies they manage have been in to up to their necks.

### THE PRINCIPLE

Since the beginning of the century the western powers have fought for control of middle-eastern oil Reserves. The region had been the world's major oil producer since the mid-sixties, currently providing 90% of western Europe's oil, and a large proportion of the giant oil companies profits. As former American National Security advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski said concerning the issues surrounding the conflict, "Access to Persian gulf oil reserves is the principle at stake". Arab governments that have disputed western control of the reserves that lay within their territories have been established or overthrown, as when the Iranian Mosadeq regime was deposed by an Anglo-American coup and replaced by the Shah's dictatorship in 1953. With Libya already a dangerous example, control appeared to be permanently threatened with the overthrow of the Shah in 1979. The clerical regime under Khomeini that emerged from the revolution exploited popular hostility to the traditional imperial interests; and it is these interests that consequently have sought to direct the nature and outcome of the conflict.

### STOCKPILE OF US WEAPONS

The governments of the developed capitalist countries however, were not the only ones to be alarmed at the implications of the revolution. The semi-feudal Arab client-states of the region were fearful of pro-Iranian fundamentalist populations within their own societies, the social base of fundamentalism consisting in the commercial middle-class layers and their exploitation of the discontent of the dispossessed urban poor. This was particularly true of Iraq, and of Saudi Arabia, which came to be its principal financier within the Arab world. Seeing the opportunity offered by the post-revolutionary instability of Iran (where the struggle between clerical and left elements continued after the revolution), Iraq launched the war in September, 1980. The imperial powers (including Russia which had its own discontented Muslim population to worry about) encouraged a war of attrition, regarding it as a useful instrument in bringing to heel a regime that threatened their "vital interests". However, by 1984, it was clear that Iran was winning the war, and threatening its extension to the conservative regimes of the region, all vital oil and profit producers for western companies. Ironically, Iran's initial ability to fight the war depended upon the massive stockpile of weaponry sold by the US to Iran to enable the Shah to police the area in its interests. While the protracted slaughter of the conflict was itself an acceptable method of 'policing', the possibility of a decisive Iranian victory was unthinkable and the facade of 'neutrality' and 'humanitarianism' began to split wide open. Credit and some forms of trade were refused to Iran, but extended on an enormous scale to Iraq, annual food aid from the US alone amounting to 800 million dollars. No protests were made when Iraq began the tanker war in 1984, or extended it in 1986; or when Iraq began the bombing of civilian populations; or began the massacre of its own Kurdish population; or began the use of chemical weapons, banned since 1924; even when Iraq sank an American warship, The Stark, the retaliatory measures were launched at Iran. Finally, came the West's direct military intervention. Britain sent the legendary 'Armilla Patrol', and the US the biggest fleet assembled since Vietnam, to protect tankers carrying Iraqi oil. Iran's navy was at first blockaded and then in April this year, half was sunk and Iranian oil-installations attacked by the US in co-ordination with Iraq's launch-



IRAQI SOLDIERS SALUTE IN FRONT OF BULLET RIDDEN MURAL OF KHOMEINI.

ing of a major land offensive. The contradiction between the West's presentation of its motives, and its real actions is obvious enough. Yet there was a deeper underlying contradiction. While fearing the emergence of Iran as a dominant radical power in the long term, none of the governments deploring Iran as a 'terrorist state' could afford to lose its trade with Iran completely, particularly in view of the possibility of lucrative contracts available in the reconstruction of a more co-operative post-war Iran. Britain's official trade in 1984, for example still amounted to £750 million. The difficulties were most acute in the issues surrounding the arms trade. Reagan aimed to end Iran's progress in the war through an arms embargo. But with Iran and Iraq arms spending running at 10 billion dollars a year, the arms industry of any one country could not afford to lose its share. So various secret or hypocritical strategies ensured that the flow of weaponry continued. The British firm Plessey was allowed to supply a £350 million weapons system, while ICI contributed massive amounts of explosives, despite Tory slogans of 'No deals with terrorists'. 'Neutral' Sweden secretly sanctioned arms sales from the manufacturers, BOPORS. Yet the golded award for hypocrisy must go to Reagan himself, who broke his own arms embargo in the infamous "arms for hostages deal". In the capitalist world where arms are just a particularly profitable kind of product, no single economy can afford its competitors to gain an advantage. This is true despite considerations of ideology or some long-term collective economic and strategic interests. This accounts for the intensity of Reagan's pressure upon his Nato allies for an effective embargo, and for the eventual physical intervention of American Forces. In effect, Iran came to be increasingly ranged against the financial and military might of the developed capitalist world, and not as we were told, of its next-door neighbour. Meanwhile, the propaganda cover for the intervention, the defence of 'freedom of navigation', amounted in practice to the shooting down of an Iranian airliner.

That Iran would eventually sue for peace was inevitable. What are the likely consequences within a socialist perspective? There is first, the possibility of a reactionary fundamentalist dictatorship or 'guided democracy' heavily influenced by the armed forces, which is nevertheless supported by and sensitive to the needs and resources of western capital, such as was established by the recently disintegrated President Zia of Pakistan. Fundamentalism has tended historically to be anti-imperialist, but it is not essentially anti-capitalist. In Britain for example, such companies as BP, Hawley Siddeley, Thorn and GEC are already queuing for contracts which they hope will be issued by a chastened Iranian regime. Second, the war must be recognised as victory for the imperial ambitions of the US, and can be linked to a global strategy of increased military commitment to reactionary forces, as in Afghanistan, South West Africa and central America. The reversal of the 'Vietnam Syndrome', the reluctance of the American public to sanction military adventures abroad, has taken a further step.

### ARM CHAIR STRATEGIES

Is there any positive side to the resolution of the conflict apart from the end to the killing that has already cost over one million lives? One prominent socialist group, the SWP has argued that; "Even with all the forces ranged against Iran, it would still have been possible to defeat imperialism". (Socialist Worker July 23), and talking of the formation of a workers' militia under socialist leadership which would volunteer to continue the war in support of the Khomeini regime. Apart from the inherent incredibility as such armchair strategies, it is more than a bit difficult to see the attraction or logic in supporting a reactionary, economically conservative regime which has used the war itself to build domestic support (remember Thatcher and the Falklands?), and to crush opposition, that of the socialist left in particular, in addition to diverting millions of defence expenditures into private pockets of the powerful. Indeed the only positive feature of the wars outcome may be in exposing the inadequacy of fundamentalist ideology as a solution to the problems posed by capitalist integration and direct imperialist control, which in the Iranian conduct of the war has proved to have been as callous, cynical and corrupt as the forces it claims to oppose.

## RED ACTION ON MERSEYSIDE

If interested in finding out more, getting active in the North West or on Merseyside. There is a grouping of members and supporting members on Merseyside who can be contacted by writing to:

RED ACTION MERSEYSIDE  
P.O. BOX 80  
SOUTHPORT  
PR8 6BH

## SUPPORT RED ACTION



Red Action is an organisation founded by working class people to work for the furthering of the cause of Socialism. Membership is open to all who accept our political principles and pay a weekly subscription. Every member has an equal vote on all Red Action policy and decisions.

If you support our aims but do not wish to become a member, you can become a supporting member. This does not entitle you to vote, but you will receive.

1. A free subscription to the newspaper.
2. A regular internal newsletter that will keep you informed of what is going on in the organisation.
3. Notification of any Red Action activities in your area.

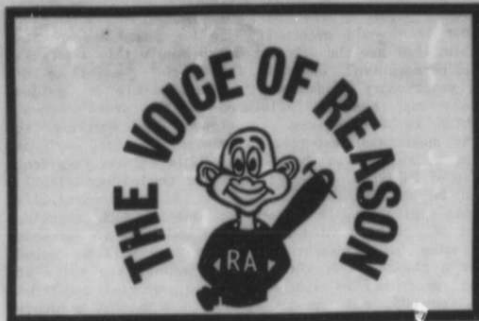
The cost for this is £10 for one year. Subscriptions to the paper are still available separately. The cost is £3 pounds for ten issues. Please remember that producing a paper is a very uneconomic business and we are always very grateful for any donations, and especially gra.eful to anyone who can take extra copies to sell.

All cheques and postal orders should be made payable to 'Red Action'.

P.O. BOX 158  
HATFIELD  
HERTS



IRANIAN FUNDAMENTALIST WOMEN PREPARING TO FIGHT AND DIE TO PERPETRATE THEIR OWN OPPRESSION.



**Sun special**  
on the  
shame of  
THE SUN, Friday, 6  
**Britain**

On Friday October 7th The Sun newspaper published a feature how to spot and cope with racism and bigotry in Britain. It outlined a number of possible scenarios and with the help of the Commission for Racial Equality offered advice on the best way to respond.

The Voice of Reason begs to differ and presents a number of alternative strategies. Here are a few of the gems:

**1. Sun scenario - Job interview**

The racist boss will be curt, dismissive and never shake a black persons hand, claim there are hundreds of applicants and make pointed remarks about 'working well with other people'.

Sun advice - This is a no win situation, but don't lose your cool. Shatter their expectations by arriving early and looking really smart. Everything about you should suggest you don't fit any stereotype that bosses might label you with.

The Voice of Reason - THIS IS A NO WIN SITUATION SHATTER HIS EXPECTATIONS BY LEAVING EARLY AND ON THE WAY OUT CONFIRM HIS PREJUDICES BY BREAKING HIS WINDOWS AS WELL.

**2. Neighbours**

Racist residents said that blacks jumped the housing queue, take the best homes on the estate - and smell. Some send poison pen mail or petrol bombs through the letter boxes.

Sun advice - Try to win them over by discussing things like how terrible refuse collection. Don't irritate them by playing loud Reggae music in the night.

The Voice of Reason - ONE EASY WAY TO DISCOURAGE THIS TYPE OF ACTIVITY IS TO MAKE SURE AND RETURN OR REPLACE ALL OF THEIR PROPERTY, PETROL BOMBS INCLUDED AS QUICKLY AND AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE.



**The Editor of The Sun**

THE SMALL PRINT.

Pat... We know it isn't but we needed the photo and as he well knows fabrication sells the papers.....

**3. Social Life**

Blacks caught in an 'all white' bar will ask for the toilet and be directed to the fire bucket instead closely followed by racist jokes. A racist restaurant will tell a black couple they don't have a table free when it is obvious that the place is half empty.

Sun advice - Never show that you are upset and always appear to be polite and well spoken. If you are told that the restaurant is full find some place else to eat.

The Voice of Reason - LEAVE, BUT WHEN YOU COME BACK MAKE SURE THE RESTAURANT IS FULL (WITH YOUR MATES) AND AFTER HAVING MADE YOUR POSITION QUITE CLEAR MAKE SURE THAT INSTEAD OF YOU HAVING TO FIND SOME PLACE ELSE TO EAT THAT IN FUTURE THEY WILL HAVE TO FIND SOME PLACE ELSE TO WORK.

**4. Public Ridicule**

Louts spit at non whites in the street, call them names and throw beer cans at them, the worst kind carry knives, knuckle dusters, and roam the streets to find someone to victimise. Doc Martin boots, short jeans, short hair and stale drinking festive breath are a dead giveaway.

Sun advice - If you know you are likely to be in a street where race thugs hang around take the family dog with you or get a lift in a friends car.

The Voice of Reason - LEAVE THE DOG AT HOME, NICK A NEIGHBOURS CAR AND RUN OVER A FEW OF THE BASTARDS.

**THE STING**

"I regard the Thatcher miracle as a gigantic con-trick. Almost every major indicator-output, unemployment, industrial investment and the balance of payments has performed poorly over the nine Thatcher years taken as a whole. The improvement in productivity unless accompanied by an improvement in production merely redistributes income from those who become unemployed to those that remain in work and now inflation is sneaking back to the 9% she inherited.

The 'Con' has been achieved by the enrichment of part of the community at the expense of a minority, by the skillful but thoroughly dishonest presentation of the facts, by the ruthless use of patronage and the exploitation of an ugly vein of populism in the British people. Wynne Godley, Professor of Applied Economics at Cambridge who in 1981 was only one of 364 Economists who signed a declaration condemning Thatchers monetarism.

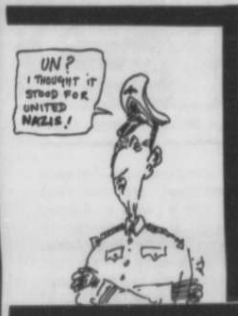
**The Economic League**

It is generally accepted that the Economic League is a dangerously right wing anti-union, anti-working class and anti-democratic organisation. It collects data on Trade Union and Left Wing activists and sells them for a fee to major British Companies who operate BLACKLISTS. A fund raising dinner for the league is the last place you would expect to find a Trade Union leader as guest speaker unless of course it was 'Oily Eric' Hammond the unfortunate electricians chief negotiator. Hammond surley is not the only British Union Leader to have a decent lunch with the league. It just got found out (The Observer 27th March 1988).

**night thoughts**

"One of the great shocks for my generation was to find that great deal of what you were told was propaganda and sheer bullshit for the Empire."

Author James Clavell of "Shogun" fame.



Twenty years after the Civil Rights struggle, where are we? We're back where we started.

Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams MP on the British TV and radio ban on Sinn Fein.

"They tortured and murdered children as well you know. I visited a preserved interrogation centre at the old High School in Phnom Penh. Like the Nazis the Khmer Rouge photographed their victims before and after torture. There are walls and walls of photographs of faces, the faces of people who knew they were about to be tortured, who knew they were probably about to die. When there are faces of little children, it is more than you can bear to look at them. There ideology (K.R.) has not changed in ten years. Can anyone really believe they will not attempt to re-impose it?"

The scandal is that the world does not appear to care. Kampuchea is being punished. The West has not for given the Vietnamese for winning the war against the Americans for humiliating the U.S. The Kampuchians are being punished because the West will not approve or support any action of the Vietnamese because they are still the enemy and because of that many more Kampuchians may die."

English actress Julie Christie who is campaigning with the charity Oxfam to persuade the U.N. to withdraw its recognition of the Khmer Rouge as the legitimate voice of the Kampuchean people, before the protection of the Vietnamese Army is withdrawn.

**"Let them rot."**

Thatcher's typically compassionate comment on the plight of 309 Britons who now languish in Spanish prisons some of them for periods of 18 months or over.

"They charged me for the last night, which I thought was a bit bloody cheeky."

Tory, Sir Walter Clegg speaking of his stay in the Grand Hotel, Brighton 1984, and the early morning call from the provos

"my political ideal for Ulster is not as part of the Union, but as an independent state with dad as the first President."

Rhonda Paisley

"they weren't real people they were Labour supporters"

Bradford Tory Council leader dismissing the thousands of protesters who rallied against the latest cuts in jobs and services.

"My number one hope is that everyone who has a job wants a job."

and

"I hope I stand for anti-bigotry, anti-semitism and anti-racism, that's what drives me, that's what I feel strongly about."

Vice President George Bush already proving himself a worthy successor to Ronald-The Gaffe-r-Reagan. Coincidentally eight of his advisors in the Presidential campaign have been forced to resign over allegations of anti-semitism.

**WE ARE RED ACTION**

RED ACTION IS AN ORGANISATION FOUNDED TO WORK TOWARDS THE ENDING OF THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM OF PRODUCTION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SOCIALIST ONE

**CAPITALISM** The need of capital and labour cannot ever be reconciled. In other words the quest by the employing classes for greater profit, is in eternal conflict with the demands of the working class for higher wages, shorter hours etc. It is in the obvious interest of the employer to keep wages down as low as possible while it is equally obvious that this does not serve the interests of the majority. The two systems capitalism and socialism cannot co-exist, as they are in constant struggle pulling in opposite directions, each in pursuit of its own goals. A victory for one is necessarily a defeat for the other. This is the major source of conflict in the world today. Capitalism is a system which is based on the private ownership of the means of production. This means that the factories, workplaces, natural resources etc, on which we all depend to produce the necessities of life are the private property of a few individuals, who use them to produce not what is most socially necessary, but whatever will make them the most profit. When it suits them, they are able to close down those productive resources, even though there may be great social need for what could be produced on them. Regardless of how rich a country may be in natural resources, capitalism can never provide equality of wealth due to its own inherent limitations. It is obviously impossible for everybody to become a capitalist (employer) and so to function, the system demands the creation and maintenance of an employing class and a working class, or if you like an upper class and lower class. Propping up this system, are the forces of social control—army, police force, civil service etc—all controlled by totally unelected and un-accountable representatives of the capitalist class.

**SOCIALISM** It is impossible for us today to say exactly what a socialist system will be like, as when it happens there will be millions of others involved in shaping it. However there are some features that would have to be present in any society, before we would be willing to consider it as socialist.

**PUBLIC OWNERSHIP** Only when all of the major productive resources and industry are taken into public ownership, will it be possible for the democratic will of the majority to ensure that they are at all times employed in the most socially useful manner. This will result in a massive increase in production and wealth.

**CONTROL OF SOCIETY** All those who occupy positions of power and authority will be elected by those they represent and subject to recall.

**FREEDOM AND EQUALITY** All will be expected to contribute to production and all will receive equal reward and have equal rights, irrespective of sex, race or creed. The state will provide adequate facilities to cater for the needs of the elderly, sick, handicapped, nursing mothers etc, who will all receive a full wage. All questions or personal morality will be free from state interference. Abortion and contraception will be legal and provided by the state. There will be freedom of worship for all religion, but no church will be allowed to interfere in state matters.

**INTERNATIONALISM** The capitalist economic system is linked up internationally, therefore the struggle to overthrow it is a worldwide one. All workers everywhere have the same interests. It is impossible for socialism to exist in isolation in one country, as the power of international capitalism would crush it.

**NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD TO SOCIALISM** Socialism cannot be achieved through the parliamentary system, because the real power in society lays not with elected MPs but with rich industrialists and the leaders of the armed forces, police judiciary etc. The present structures cannot be reformed they must be overthrown. The Labour Party does not try to end capitalism, but merely give the workers a better deal within it.

**UNION STRENGTH. WE SUPPORT ANY PICKET LINE IN DEFENCE OF WORKERS LIVING STANDARDS.** We support a strong organised rank and file movement within the unions. Union officials should be supported as long as they represent their members correctly. But rank and file unionists must reserve the right to take action independent of the officials when necessary.

**TOTAL OPPOSITION TO RACISM AND FASCISM** We opposed any movement or ideology which attempts to divide the working class on grounds of race, sex, or creed. We recognise the need to oppose fascist organisations, both ideologically and physically on the streets.

**THE IRISH NATIONAL LIBERATION STRUGGLE AGAINST OUR OWN RULING CLASS** We support the right of oppressed people the world over to fight back. We unconditionally support the right of the revolutionary armies The Irish Republican Army, and the Irish National Liberation Army, to engage in armed struggle to free their country from British rule. We draw great inspiration from the principled and courageous manner in which they conduct their struggle, and from the way in which they have integrated cultural and class expression into their political movement.

**THE "COMMUNIST" STATES** The regimes in countries such as Russia, China Cuba etc, are used as examples to try and prove socialism undesirable. In our view, although these countries have planned economies, they cannot be described as socialist. We contend that socialism cannot be implemented from above by an unaccountable ruling elite. Public ownership, freedom and democracy are all essential features of socialism and in their absence it cannot exist. We support the right of the people in these states to overthrow the leadership and implement socialist policies. At the same time however, we recognise the difficulties that states such as Nicaragua—and others past and present—face, from capitalist backed mercenary armies, military intervention, and economic sabotage, which make immediate transition to a socialist system impossible. While these states remain progressive, we will continue to support them.

**THE ORGANISATION** Traditionally, the structure of revolutionary socialist groups in this country, has been one where the leadership is made up of a small group of self selected academics and intellectual, who wield absolute authority over the membership. Such a structure fails, firstly because there can be no true democracy in such a set up, and corruption soon sets in, and secondly because those leading the organisation are so far removed from the realities of working class life, it cannot relate properly to that class. A revolutionary socialist organisation must be composed of and led by working class people. It must recognise that no leadership is immune from corruption and be truly democratic in its internal structures. It must be ready to work in a non sectarian manner with other socialist and progressive groups. It must present socialist politics in a manner in which working class people can identify with in their life and their work and their leisure. It must be consistent, principled and above all honest in its politics. Only then will it begin to be able to relate to the working class, most of whom today are cynical if not hostile towards the revolutionary left. We recognise that a revolutionary working class party is necessary if capitalism is to be overthrown. We are not that party, neither are those groups which claim to be it. We will work to keep alive a tradition of working class militancy, until such time as enough militants can be brought together to form that party.