

CLASS STRUGGLE

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NEWMAN'S GUN LAW COMES TO LONDON

by
Brendan Hill

Following their establishment in British occupied Ireland, the use of police death squads under the tutelage of Sir Kenneth Newman has been inaugurated in West London on January 14th. Tragically for Stephen Waldorf, the terrorist gunmen got the "wrong man".

Though guns have become commonplace amongst London's police in recent years, with one in five police being trained to use them and an average of 14 being issued for use in specific incidents each day, the execution attempt on Stephen Waldorf, albeit wrongly identified as David Martin, on Friday 14th January, was the first clear example of an RUC-style death squad in action in London. MP

to the security forces, have been shot dead."

Ireland, like other colonial struggles, has been used partly as a testing ground for British 'counter-insurgency' and policing methods and in this we find a powerful reason for the imperialists to seek to prevent any unity with the Irish people or even close scrutiny of the colonial reality, as witnessed by the panic last month at the

of the imagination be called ordinary members of the public" as two of them were "tainted by criminality". So for such upholders of the "British way of life", past or present "criminal taints" are to be a capital offence.

GET MARTIN CAMPAIGN

Meanwhile the police themselves have sought to divert attention to a "GET MARTIN" campaign.

Every policeman in London has now been issued with a photograph of David Martin (the "wanted man") in an attempt to legitimise their actions and make them respectable.

We must all learn from this execution attempt. If public opinion in favour of such action can be won by the state for execution of the "right" targets then the target will be enlarged to include the oppressed when they rise up and fight back.

It is in the context of the developing class struggles, led by the black and Irish national minority youth that the development of state death squads must be seen.

SCAPEGOATS

To date one policeman, John Jardine, has been charged with attempted murder and another, Peter Finch with attempted wounding. Those charged must be seen for what they are, fall guys for Whitelaw, Newman and the state in general. When they eventually come to trial a conviction is only slightly more likely than a heavy sentence, but that is not the point. The trio of gun-toting thugs who



Stephen Waldorf's car, riddled with bullets. Det. Supt. George Ness headed the team of police assassins and remains part of the 'Get Martin' squad.

Andrew Faulds was spot on when he challenged Metropolitan Police overseer Whitelaw, saying: "The police went out intent not on detaining a suspect but on killing him." Another MP, Robert Kilroy-Silk accurately attested: "The bullet which did the most damage was fired when the man was already disabled and on the ground."

PROPHETIC WORDS

The botchup of this inaugural use of a police death squad in London is a significant setback in British imperialism's internal moves towards introducing the full repressive apparatus of fascism. As Newman himself stated in an interview with "Standard" correspondent Max Hastings last December 3rd, "In West Belfast, if you got the right man, there was no difficulty. It was if you picked the wrong one that there was trouble." The picking of the "wrong man" by Newman's gun gang acts as a timely warning to all that while the death penalty is nominally at variance with the law, steps have in fact been taken to circumvent such niceties as trials.

Readers of 'Class Struggle' will be aware of the growth of RUC death squads in Ireland and as NCCL General Secretary, Patricia Hewitt commented: "The shooting of an unarmed man in London bears a disturbing similarity to a series of recent incidents in northern Ireland when unarmed men, posing no apparent threat

thought of northern Irish and London elected representatives meeting to exchange views and experiences, and of working class Londoners being able to hear the Irish point of view.

COVER UP

Despite the misfiring of their plans on this occasion, and its consequent repercussions, the state and its servants: the government, media etc, are rallying round to cover up as well as possible for their front men Whitelaw and Newman, both of northern Ireland training.

Thus the London evening newspaper "The Standard" on January 18th, tries to shift the blame to one of the victims. "David Martin's girlfriend had admitted she was partly responsible for police gunning down an innocent man for she had been secretly meeting the wanted man." The logic is clear. Slay the right man and all is OK. Just as one of Stephen Waldorf's assailants commented when Susan Stephens pointed to their "terrible mistake": "What the hell do you mean? That's your boyfriend we've just got, isn't it?" In an attempt to rescue the new summary execution policy much of the bourgeois press is concentrating on the "wrong man" question, while some Tory backwoodsman go even further. MP for Plymouth Sutton, Alan Clark stated that the shooting and mistaken identity were "quite understandable" since those in the car could "by no stretch



RUC gunman practicing Newman's gun law in the north of Ireland.

opened up on Stephen Waldorf and his friends, were carrying out a policy already established in Newman's and Whitelaw's previous hunting ground, the north of Ireland. If you want to see the future towards which the British state is directed look to Ireland. Both the repression and the resistance there hold lessons for us that must be learned and learned well.

Police Murder Cover Up



Colin Roach's sister, Pauline, with members of the family.

BLACK PEOPLE DEMAND THE TRUTH

The shooting of a black man, 21-year old Colin Roach, in Stoke Newington police station, in north London, has angered many local black people.

On Wednesday 12th January, Colin was found in the police station having apparently died of a shot gun wound in his head. All that is known is that a man dropped him off at the police station and later went to tell his family of this. Apart from this little is known and the attitude and actions of the police are causing much suspicion:

* Police say that they heard a bang and found Colin's body in the entrance hall. They are "investigating" suicide. Family and friends do not believe Colin would have committed suicide. One friend, Roderick Douglas, said: "He had everything to live for." This was backed up by Tower Hamlets councillor Dennis Twomey, who knew Colin.

* When he heard where his son had gone, Colin's father James Roach, went to the police station. He arrived about 12.15 and was told that he would be given no information unless he made a statement. Finally at 3.00 a.m. an inspector told him that his son was dead - that he had shot himself. The police refused to let Mr Roach see the body.

* Colin's mother had stayed at home. She phoned the police station four times and was not told of her son's death.

* At 5.00 a.m. after Mr Roach had returned home, the police searched the Roach's home and turned it upside down.

Little wonder that local black people reacted angrily as news spread of the latest outrage committed by police! Little wonder that they suspect the police of another cover up!

If this latest incident was not enough by itself, the Stoke Newington police are already notorious for their attacks on black people. The white family were beaten up and their home was invaded by this same police force. Even the judge said the police: "were guilty of monstrous, wicked and shameful conduct" and awarded the Whites £50,000 compensation. Another well-known case is that of the Knight family, beaten up and arrested by police, charged with Grievous Bodily Harm and then acquitted in the court. Local black people are still campaigning to get the police to drop the remaining charges.

Black youth have militantly expressed their anger demonstrating outside the police station, demanding the truth. 25 have already been arrested and a number of police have been injured in clashes. Colin's family and friends are determined to find out the truth too.

The Roach Family Support Committee held a march to demand an independent inquiry, on Saturday January 22nd.

Sinn Fein To Stand For Westminster

Continuing their inexorable rise to a position of all-round leadership of the nationalist community in Ireland, Sinn Fein is set to contest as many as possible of the north's 17 Westminster seats (increased from 12 in constituency boundary changes), in the next general election, which may well be held sometime this year. Building on their position as the established armed defenders of the nationalist people, and their consolidation by the Assembly elections and the Fermanagh/South Tyrone by-elections, the Republicans are determined to expunge the last vestiges of a "mandate" which the middle class and collaborationist SDLP are able to hang on to.

A Sinn Fein meeting in West Belfast on January 11th, made arrangements to immediately begin the work of recharging and building up the Sinn Fein election machine.

Loyalists are assured of a majority of northern Ireland

parliamentary seats because the gerrymandered "state" was created in a structurally undemocratic fashion in order to deny the Irish people the most basic of democratic rights, the right to national self-determination. British imperialism has always gone against the democratic sentiments of the Irish people - in 1918 when Ireland elected a majority of Sinn Fein MPs who formed the first Dail Eireann (Irish Parliament), in 1981 when the people of Fermanagh/South Tyrone elected Bobby Sands, in 1982 when elected representatives of the Irish people were banned from London and so on - and there is no reason to think that they will suddenly change their ways. But with the likelihood of at least three Sinn Fein members being elected to Westminster we confidently expect to see Britain further exposed in the eyes of the world, the Republican movement strengthened and the Irish people's national liberation struggle taking a big step forward.

Greenham Common & The Superpowers

by James Holt.

On New Year's Day, a further stage was reached in the struggle against the siting of US Cruise missiles in the base at Greenham Common, when several of the women protestors scaled the 15-foot high perimeter fence and occupied one of the silos.

For over a year already, the protestors have defied state oppression and harsh conditions by camping out around the site. On December 12th, 30,000 women completely circled the base.

Already, a number of protestors who have been arrested, have refused to be bound over by the courts, and have been held in prison. Whilst in prison, they united in struggle with the oppressed prisoners. The 44 women arrested on January 1st were charged with disturbing the peace under an act dating from 1361. Although this is only a civil offence, they were mostly held in police custody pending their appearance in a

magistrate's court two days later. Here, they succeeded in forcing the court to free them pending a further hearing in the middle of February.

Further steps in the campaign followed quickly. On January 11th, a number of women protestors won specimen cases to establish their right to be entered on the electoral roll, giving their address as "The Peace Camp, outside main gates, Greenham Common." This marked a defeat for local Tories who had tried to disenfranchise them.

The following week on January 17th, about 500 women attended a protest in the Houses of Parliament, and some disrupted a debate. Fifteen were imprisoned by the police, hemmed in behind metal gates in a corner of Westminster Hall.

The Speaker of the House of Commons said that this kind of thing "would be the end of democracy"; if it were encouraged, the Deputy Speaker added: "Our future would be bleak indeed."

The appointment of Heseltine as Defence Secretary, specific-

ally and explicitly because he is considered a smooth-talker capable of out-arguing the peace campaigners was hailed by the Greenham Common protestors as another sign of the impact they are making.

SPIRIT OF STRUGGLE

It is certainly true that if the spirit of resolute struggle incarnated by the Greenham Common women were to become generalised, the future of the ruling class would be "bleak indeed". But far from meaning the "end of democracy", the protest shows impatience with the empty trappings of democracy used to tyrannise ordinary people, the spirit of refusing to accept decisions of life and death taken over people's heads by a handful of oppressors.

But also we can witness an exasperation with the old methods and institutions of protest, tied to elements of the establishment and labour movement bureaucracy, which channel energies away from effective action. The parallel with the Kitson Pickett recently held outside South Africa House is

striking. There too, there were many people, mostly young, who lived the picket, made it their life. People have emerged in the new generation of the 1980s who, seeing no future in acceptance of the system, are prepared to immerse themselves completely in struggle. This is tremendously significant. It expresses the advanced spirit of the age, of the working people who refuse to allow superpowers, imperialists and exploiters to decide their destiny, and aspire to live independently as masters of the world. Women from the North London Irish Solidarity Committee who visited Greenham Common found a readiness to identify with the Irish people's struggle which marks a refreshing break with the indifference encountered on official CND events.

DISARM THE SUPERPOWERS!

The White House and the Kremlin, representing the sinister forces of oppression which suck the blood of the people whom they hate and fear, are locked in a bitter rivalry for world domination. Their massive arms buildup is an anti-human crime, against which the anger of the

protestors is rightly focussed.

Naturally, the two rivals do what they can to undermine their opponent. The old bureaucratic and sclerotic 'peace movement' (like the traditional protest movement against apartheid) was something which the Soviet Union could quite easily manipulate. But the new trend represented by Greenham Common and the Kitson Pickett is affiliated to the world-wide popular tide of independent struggle for the democracy and self-realisation of the oppressed masses, a trend which totally contradicts everything the Kremlin warlords stand for.

It will be necessary for the anti-nuclear and peace movements to sharpen their understanding of the main task. In our opinion, the key slogan is "Disarm the Superpowers!" They constitute, overwhelmingly, the main source of the imperialist war menace.

At the same time we must prepare to resist superpower domination. The basis for such a struggle is precisely the new-emerging forces which have come to the fore in this country over the past few years, of which the Greenham Common women's movement forms one aspect.

No To British Troops In Lebanon!

By Keith Anderson

Foreign Secretary Pym, on 20 December, announced the decision of the British government to send a unit of British troops currently stationed in Cyprus to Lebanon.

The troops will operate as part of the US-led multinational so-called "Peace Keeping Force", along with France, Italy and others. The United States and other imperialist powers openly instigate, finance, back and cover up for the Zionist state of Israel when it denies the Palestinians their rights and attacks other Arab countries.

Every bomb and bullet used by the Zionists in Lebanon was paid for by the United States. The British imperialists are the most fanatical backers of the US policy in the Middle East, so whilst British troops are to be sent to the Lebanon, Arab governments, including those of Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, refuse Francis Pym permission to visit their countries.

Communists in Britain support the anti-imperialist stand taken by the Arab governments, and

oppose the sending of British troops to Lebanon. There was no question of sending a "peace-keeping" force to Lebanon when the Israeli aggressors were butchering their way towards Beirut. When the Palestinian fighters were forced to leave the city, the imperialist troops came to "keep the peace" (i.e. to maintain the status quo of Israeli occupation), left to allow the foul massacres of Sabra and Chatilla to take place, "rushed" back and proceeded to take part in the rounding up, torture and murder of Palestinians, Lebanese leftists and patriots, and the poor people in general.

Roots of Conflict

As elsewhere in the Third World, the roots of conflict in Lebanon lie in the oppression and interference by imperialism. The logic of the imperialists is to create the problem by committing aggression, instigating massacres and so on, then to send troops to "keep the peace", i.e. legitimise the results of aggression, and prevent the people from fighting back and giving due punishment to their tormentors. According to this

logic, the imperialists have every right to rampage around the world, and the peoples have no right to rise in resistance.

British imperialism created the Zionist state and has no progressive role to play in the Middle East. British troops have no right to intervene in Lebanon or anywhere else in the world, whether that place is Ireland, Cyprus, Hong Kong, the Malvinas or wherever. Communists in Britain say:

BRITISH IMPERIALISM HAS NO RIGHT TO INTERVENE IN THE MIDDLE EAST OR ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD!

'Business As Usual'

In an interview with the Swedish newspaper, "Dagens Nyheter", Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim, Foreign Minister of Algeria, has revealed that his government paid the Soviet Union to send arms to the Palestine Liberation Organisation during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last summer. Ibrahim said that PLO Chairman Arafat approached the Algerian government for assistance and after a late night meeting the Algerian government contacted the Soviet Ambassador to Algiers and handed him a cheque for \$20 million. The Soviet Union then flew light arms to Damascus, which were passed on to the PLO.

This small incident speaks volumes for the real stand and nature of the Soviet leadership. Whilst revolutionary peoples around the world strained every muscle to aid the Palestinians, for the Soviet leadership it was, quite literally, "business as usual".

From then on the fight is total as the Colonel of the paratroopers initiates a campaign to break down the organisation of the NLF and capture or kill the four main leaders. But even at their darkest hour the people are eventually rallied by a small boy with a hidden microphone to answer his call with "We want freedom! We want independence!"

There are many parallels with the present fight for Irish independence and the lessons that the Algerian people learnt about the necessity of meeting imperialist violence with their own guerilla tactics are there for all to see.

Don't miss this film in all its tragedy, inspiration and eventual victory over oppression.

PALESTINE SOLIDARITY

by David Evans

The first conference of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign was held on December 11th, about 8 months after the organisation was founded. This was because of all the solidarity activity which needed to be undertaken during the summer and autumn. But the events of that period in Lebanon really showed the need to get PSC established on a firm footing, and that was the aim of its first conference.

The conference, attended by about 100 people, the great majority PSC members but including some observers from other organisations, opened with a statement by a representative of the General Union of Palestinian Students, who spoke of how bitter experiences made the Palestinians realise the need to take their fate into their own hands, which they began to do by launching their revolution in 1965. Since then, the PLO has come a long way: it has won the support of the whole Palestinian people, inside and outside Palestine. It was mainly in order to suppress Palestinian resistance inside Palestine and thus clear the way for the annexation of the West Bank that the Zionists invaded Lebanon. The GUPS representative thanked the PSC for the work it has done to mobilise people for the Palestinians.

A progressive Lebanese speaker told the conference of how the Lebanese power structure had been composed of the elites of the different communities, headed by that of the Maronites and defended by the Phalangist party. This structure began to crack in the 1970's, under the impact of economic crisis. The authorities were unable to put down the popular non-sectarian movement which then arose by means of the army, and it was this which led the fascists to see civil war as the way by which they could redivide the country on religious lines and restore the old order.

During the conference, those present also heard reports from the treasurer and secretary of PSC, from its trade union group and students commission, and from branches in Brighton, Bristol, Cambridge, Manchester and Swansea, as well as from another solidarity group in Southampton.

The Conference adopted a set of aims and principles which can be summed up as:

1. The Palestinian people have an inalienable right to self-determination.
2. The PLO is the sole legit-

imate representative of the Palestinian people.

3. The Palestinian people have an inalienable right to establish their independent state in any part of Palestine freed from Zionist occupation, on the way towards forming the democratic secular state of Palestine.

4. PSC supports the Lebanese people's struggle for national independence and unity, and against Zionist occupation, Zionism, fascism and imperialism.

5. PSC opposes Zionism, anti-semitism and all other forms of racism.

The constitution adopted by PSC seeks to ensure that it functions democratically, as a real campaigning organisation, laying stress on developing active working bodies, especially branches, and commissions specialising in a particular field of work. A major amendment was made by conference to the original draft constitution to provide for the establishment of a National Women's Committee and for at least 5 of the 15 member Executive Committee to be women. As it turned out, 7 women were elected.

Of course, there were disagreements about some questions, including some important ones, but there was nevertheless a basic commitment to build PSC as a national organisation and to build it as an independent, non-sectarian force, not tied to any party or outside body, and ready to work with any other groups who truly support the Palestinians' just cause. This was particularly important, because another PSC in the early 1970's had been destroyed after it came under the domination of a British sectarian organisation, the so-called "CPB ML". Further, the conference defeated a motion that would have effectively confined the PSC to working in the "labour movement" which would have isolated the PSC from sectors of society such as the national minorities, the women's movement, youth and students, where there are many devoted friends of Palestine.

With Palestine now out of the headlines again, Palestine solidarity activists will be put to the test. We must make sure that PSC grows, establishes new branches and takes its campaigning work steadily forward over the months and years ahead.

A number of amendments which would have altered this principled position in favour of a trotskyite line more "revolutionary" than that of the PLO (and therefore out of step with Middle East realities) were defeated.

FILM REVIEW:

DON'T MISS THIS BATTLE

The film BATTLE OF ALGIERS (1966 French with English sub-titles) is now on at the Gate Cinema, Bloomsbury, London and later will be on tour round the country. The film spans the national liberation struggle of the Algerian people during the '50s, with a short ' coda' showing their final victory over French imperialism in the early '60s. The battle is set entirely in the city of Algiers and is well worth seeing for its evocative photography alone. At the end you feel you have been walking in the narrow steep and winding streets of the Kasbah (the Arab area of the city) yourself.

The people's fight is led by the National Liberation Front (NLF), now the Government party in independent Algeria. Their success in rallying the masses to the cause of freedom is because - like the People's Liberation Army in China earlier in the century - they become totally immersed in and gain the overwhelming support of the population of the Kasbah. As Mao said, they become 'as lips

to teeth' or 'fish to water' in their relationship with the masses. This relationship is won by recognising that the people, on the whole, are devout Muslims, and the earlier scenes of the fight against corruption, drugs and prostitution are a lesson in uniting with the people at a level of understanding that fits the needs of the moment.

Throughout the film the people pray devoutly for deliverance from their oppressors and learn to trust and co-operate with the NLF in, first, guerilla warfare and, finally, in revolution. One of the NLF leaders explains the stages of revolution - from 'terrorist' tactics while building the movement to full-scale revolution when the whole-hearted support of the people has been won.

When the police can no longer contain the bombing campaign of the NLF - and in this connection the role of the women is outstanding - the film gets into top gear when the French government sends in the paratroopers.

Hospital Worker Asks: WHY WERE WE DEFEATED?

"Class Struggle" is very happy to publish the following article which has been contributed by an NHS shop steward. We welcome other contributions from readers on the important issues that he raises.

WHY WERE THE HOSPITAL WORKERS DEFEATED?

Partly this can be explained by TUC treachery but that is only touching on the surface. That misleadership was a reflection of the effects of imperialism on the working class: the limitation of narrow trade union politics and illusions in the Labour Party.

CONCERNED WITH CREDIBILITY

It was obvious from the onset that the TUC Health Services Committee was more concerned with its own credibility, controlling militant trade unionists and trying to minimise the impact of joint union activity. They had no faith in the rank and file's ability. From the onset the campaign was geared to gaining public sympathy, particularly for the nurses, the least militant section of hospital workers. A clearer lead to go for trade union solidarity would have given the campaign a sounder basis. Public support for the low paid could still have been won.

All along there were contradictory decision-making processes. At local and to some extent regional level good joint union committees were built despite the traditional rivalry between the individual unions. Also each union had its own decision-making process within its structure. The TUC then would come in over the top of all this, usually releasing its decisions to the media a week before individual unions could get the information to their active members. Time and time again the TUC was told that its stop-go days of action were a

waste of time and that they were only supported out of loyalty rather than active enthusiasm. After the massive day of action in September the TUC began to wind up the dispute. The rolling regional days of action were a fiasco. Most of them were over before effective support outside the hospitals could be mobilised. All the unions should have argued for a mandate for all-out action (with emergency cover) much earlier in the campaign. If the national day of action had been earlier and been followed up by a call for an all-out strike with well organised solidarity action then it may have been possible to force the state to concede a better offer (it was never on to get the full 12% no matter how justified it was.) As it was, the massive support (mainly from workers in nationalised industry and the public sector generally) was misused. Without any economic muscle we needed action outside the NHS.

MOST OPPRESSED

As things turned out the TUC was able to confuse and dilute the militancy that was generated and we were defeated.

It was no coincidence that the hospital workers were so militant, being so low paid and working unsocial hours. Many are women and/or members of national minorities; the most oppressed and very exploited sections of the working class. The problem was that we fought within the narrow confines of trade union politics.

We have to be realistic about the limits of narrow economic struggles; whatever section of the working class is involved. We are no longer in the period of post-war capitalist boom. Today the whole imperialist system is in crisis. It is unlikely that we can win individual economic struggles in such a crisis. Even in the boom

years the effects of successful strikes were quickly absorbed into the system.

Large sections of the working class have enjoyed a reasonable standard of living and access to some sort of welfare state (all be it inadequate). The capitalist system was able to grant that situation because of superprofits gained from imperialist exploitation of the Third World. This situation is the basis of the widespread illusion amongst the working class that the capitalist system is reformable. The motivation to turn the trade union movement into an organisation that really represents the interests of the working class is blunted. The whole bureaucratic nature of the trade unions is a product of imperialist superprofits. Many a good rank and file activist has tried to alter the structure, only to be sucked into an organisation that blunts militancy. More and more time is spent away from the workplace in committees that sow illusions about the importance of the individual. At a national level this goes so far that trade union leaders have a life style and assumed importance that puts them in the camp of the class enemy. Their actions in the NHS and many other disputes bear this out time and time again.

THE LAST LABOUR GOVERNMENT

The other effect of imperialism on trade union politics is that it lays the basis for the perpetuation of the split between economic struggles and politics in general. The working class will get nowhere while it sticks to narrow sectional disputes and does not fight from the point of view of seeing individual struggles as part of the ongoing fight to overthrow the whole imperialist system. This split is most clearly seen in the attitude to the Labour Party. During the last Labour government the trade union leadership



constantly pushed the view that the workers should fight the economic struggle and the TUC would take up the larger issues via the Labour Party and joint TUC-Labour Party bodies. Such manoeuvres helped to further blunt working class militancy. It was interesting that throughout the NHS dispute the Labour Party leaders were forever being dragged out by the TUC to lead demonstrations and speak at rallies. Nationally produced dispute propaganda always stressed attacks on the NHS since 1979, conveniently forgetting Labour's attacks on the whole of the public services during the last Labour government. You got situations like we had locally where we had a chairman of an action committee who was very militant, within trade union confines, and won us a lot of support from non-NHS workers. He went off for a whole week during the dispute to attend the Labour Party conference. Generally there is a big difference between trade union militancy and someone being anti-imperialist. All through the dispute we were being sold the idea that we would have never had to strike if Labour had been in power. The lessons of "the winter of discontent" during the last Labour government were conveniently forgotten.

Generally, of course, the effects of imperialism also explain the chauvinist anti-worker calls for import controls by huge sections of the trade union movement, their support for British imperialism's war against the Irish people and

Argentina, and their contempt for women and black people.

TRANSFORMING THE UNIONS

All that does not mean that the experience gained during the NHS dispute was not important - of course it was. It is important to build on that experience, particularly the joint union organisation that was built in the hospitals.

What, however, is crucial is that the wider issues are taken up so that the trade unions can be transformed into fighting working class organisations.

Croxteth Community School Flourishes

'Class Struggle' correspondent.

"On 20th September Croxteth Community School was opened by parents and voluntary teachers. Councillor Richard Kemp said we wouldn't last six weeks. Wrong again, Richard. It's now six weeks since that opening day and we're stronger than ever. It is Councillor Kemp that didn't last six weeks." So read the opening lines in "Crocky News", put out from occupied Croxteth Comprehensive by parents, teachers and kids. The school was occupied on the last day of the summer term, in the face of threatened closure by the Education Committee.

Today, the parents, organised in the CCAC, have made Croxteth Community School a going concern. Parents and helpers organise both the running of the school and the running of the campaign to keep it open. They also do the cleaning and caretaking, and provide school meals.

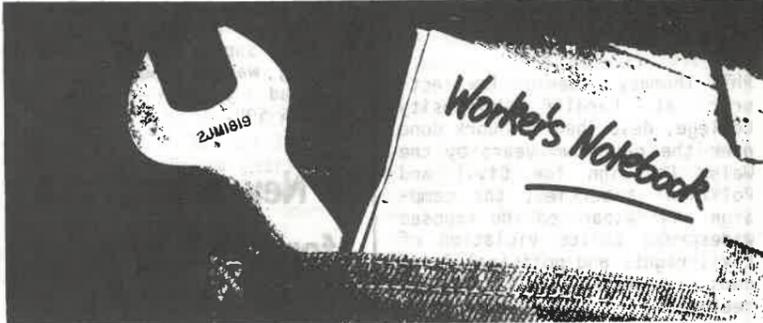
The youth have their say in the school through the School Council, made up of a boy and a girl representing each class.

Volunteer teachers now provide a full timetable for the kids, including computing and engineering.

Pickets are on hand 24 hours a day - and their numbers are swelled each time Manweb officials arrive to try and cut off the electricity.

Truancy officers have been making visits to parents to try to scare them into sending their kids to Ellergreen: but as long as the children are receiving full time education, there's nothing they can do about it.

The occupation is one in the eye for the state, with its policy of education cuts and has won widespread support. 'Class Struggle' supports the fight of Croxteth community for its own school, and wishes the Action Committee every success in its fight to keep it open. It shows what working class people can achieve when they organise themselves in opposition to the British state. Messages of support and donations should be sent to Croxteth Community Action Committee, c/o 45 Finch Road, Liverpool 14.



★ Moves to bring in a two-tier health care system continue. A confidential DHSS/Treasury report has called for a 25% cut in the Nursing Division. This will reduce the influence of the nursing divisions in formulating health care policy. Oxford Regional Health Authority has opted to move towards only providing hospital maternity care for 24 hours around the time of birth. Women with uncomplicated births will have to rely on the much reduced community care after that. A DHSS report indicates that in 58% of the deaths of women during pregnancy and childbirth, in England and Wales, there were one or more factors which could have been avoided. A day case operating theatre at Blackpool's Victoria hospital has had to close because of poaching of staff by the nearby Fylde Coast private hospital.

Overall Britain spends only 6% of its Gross National Product (GNP) on health care. West Germany, Sweden and the USA spend 10%.

★ Health Minister Kenneth Clarke has admitted that only slightly more than half of the patients developing potentially treatable end stage renal failure (i.e. they die without treatment) are able to receive NHS treatment. Approximately 2,500 new patients with this problem occur every year.

★ Nurses living in hospital accommodation will have to spend their hard-won pay increases on increased lodgings cost. Nursing auxiliaries will have to pay £627 (up 57%) and nursing officers £1157 (up 69%).

★ "The Guardian" of 19th January advertises a vacancy for the post of General Secretary in the local government workers union, NALGO. "The salary is £29,421 rising by annual increments to £31,821 per annum". With such fantastic salaries on offer is it any wonder that the union leaders show not the slightest concern for the low paid and the unemployed?

★ Another 2,000 factory jobs were axed in the West Midlands this month. The BSR factory at Cradley Heath closed down, with the loss of 910 jobs. 600 jobs are to go at the factory of brake and clutch makers, Automotive Products at Leamington Spa. And Lucas Girling, part of the Lucas Industries group, is to close its factory at Tyseley, Birmingham, where 550 are employed.

★ As the number of people having to rely on state benefit increases, the DHSS is looking for more excuses to refuse people the benefits they desperately need. Anyone seeking supplementary benefit is disqualified if they have savings over £2500, and that includes the surrender value of life insurance policies. You have to cash in your life insurance policy to get money to survive.

Meanwhile, women with young children who sign on have to prove they have made adequate child care arrangements in the event of being offered a job, otherwise they get no unemployment benefit. They only get it for a year anyway, and are entitled to it through paying National Insurance contributions when they were working. Men with young children don't have this trouble.

★ The number of women working at home for slave labour (as little as 20p per hour) wages is on the increase according to the Low Pay Unit. Mass unemployment and cuts in community and welfare services enables employers to cut their already scrooge wages.

★ More than 70,000 tonnes of fruit and vegetables were withdrawn from sale and dumped, destroyed or fed to animals last year. The Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce organised this using farm support arrangements. Although this was done under an EEC ruling, the system of destroying food to keep profits up was used long before Britain joined the EEC. Besides destroying perfectly good food, capitalism also limits how much is grown in the first place.

★ Sir John Nott, fresh from his role in British imperialism's invasion of the Malvinas, is to become executive director of Lazard Brothers, merchant bankers. His new salary is expected to be more than £30,000.

★ Birmingham City Council's policies are redistributing wealth. Ordinary people will get reduced services and the big companies will be the main ones to gain from a proposed 12% reduction on the rates. BL will gain £576,000; GKN £127,000 and the city's biggest store - Rackhams - will be £73,600 a year better off. By cuts and a policy of privatisation (especially in refuse collection) the council plan to make "savings" of £20 million in the coming financial year. Although householders will pay slightly reduced rates the majority of people will be worse off due to reduced services and education.

Democratic Rights Under Attack

By the Precinct Six Defence Campaign.

On Monday 29th November, in a serious attack on the democratic rights of freedom of speech, a Leeds Stipendiary Magistrate found Chas Andrews, Les Haw and Tony Lally guilty of obstruction of the highway. The three, all supporters of the Precinct Six Defence Campaign, were arrested while selling copies of Fight Racism! Fight Imperialism! (monthly newspaper of the Revolutionary Communist Group), collecting signatures on a petition and handing out leaflets in support of the campaign. They were arrested on 7th August in Lands Lane precinct following a successful march through the city centre, organised by the Defence Campaign. All three were fined £25 each, and two of the three have to pay £30 costs.

In the court the defence barrister argued that it was the democratic right to engage in political activities on the streets and to sell newspapers. He challenged the three different police statements of Sergeant Church and PC's Francis and Fletcher which told different 'stories' of the events leading up to the arrests. The only point on which they agreed was that they did not know that the group of youths who had gathered to sell newspapers had been on a march against police harassment organised by the Precinct Defence Campaign - a campaign which had been set up because of police harassment in Lands Lane Precinct and because of police inactivity in the face of mounting fascist attacks. The magistrate dismissed the idea that the police

If You're Black, You're Guilty

'Class Struggle' correspondent.

There has been a lot of debate, research and theories about relations between the police and the black community. Has anything changed? For some police in Lewisham, south London if your black, you're still, guilty.

Three Nigerian students living in Deptford have made a complaint after the police allowed a burglar to go free and arrested them instead.

On Sunday January 2nd, they collared a burglar, a white man, in their flat and called the police. Six policemen arrived questioned the white man, and let him go.

Hakeem Adisa, one of the students, described what happened then: "(The policeman) asked me where I was from, how I came to be in the flat and if he could see my passport." He virtually accused me of being an illegal immigrant. He didn't listen to anything I said, he just called me a liar and a foreigner."

Mr Adisa and his two friends, Mr Babsley and Mr Balogun were then taken to Deptford police station and locked in cells overnight. They were not allowed to make a phone call. The next day, Monday, they were taken, in handcuffs, back to their flat which was searched and they were finally released at 2 o'clock.

To the police, if you're black, you're guilty.

were prejudiced against the campaign. He went on to dismiss the principle of democracy, saying that what he was concerned about was the law and that as those in the precinct were 'tactically positioned', were 'acting in concert' and were, therefore, causing an obstruction as people stopped to listen to what the three were saying.

The campaign clearly does not have the right to engage in legitimate political protest - simply because the police are now free to arrest any protestor who holds views with which they disagree. The democratic right to freedom of speech, is a hard won democratic right which the working class has fought for over the past century. It is clear that this democratic right has to be fought for now as this decision is an attack not just on the Precinct Six Defence Campaign but on the right of all socialists, democrats and progressive people to put forward their political beliefs. The Precinct Six Defence Campaign is to appeal this decision but to do so needs your support as the legal costs of such a fight will be large. Further details from, donations and messages of support should be sent to:

PRECINCT SIX DEFENCE CAMPAIGN
c/o LAP, 59 Cookridge Street,
Leeds 2.



It is one year since Paul Worrell, the black 18 year old boxer, died in Brixton Prison and the first anniversary of his death was marked by a demonstration outside the prison.

Paul had been diagnosed as "schizophrenic" and magistrates had ordered him to be detained under medical treatment. However, he was heavily drugged and locked up in seclusion for 23 hours a day for four months. Then he was found dead in his cell. The police said he had hanged himself.

Paul's family have always questioned this version of what happened and the inquest did not satisfy them either. Nobody has told them how Paul managed to hang himself while he was supposed to be under constant supervision. Nor how he made a rope from a shirt and a towel "twisted together somehow" - the police version. They are demanding that the case is reopened.

Mrs Worrell explained: "We will go to any lengths to clear his name. Even if our requests are rejected again and again, I still won't give up. They said they were taking him into custody to protect the public, and also to protect him from himself, but if, as they say, they failed to do this, then justice must be done."

"I know we're not the only people in this position, and I hope that our fight will go some way towards helping others in the same situation."

Class Struggle correspondents.

After a campaign lasting over one year, the Darr family in Leeds, heard on December 20th that they had won the right to stay. Originally the Home Office planned to split the family, threatening to send Shaukat Darr and his daughter to Kenya and Iffat Darr to Pakistan. Their son was born in this country. The family was also to be divided from Mr Darr's family who live in Leeds.

During their battle, the Darrs were supported by members of Shaukat Darr's union (TGMU) on the buses, and by a number of neighbours who wrote to the Home Office saying that if they wanted to deport the Darrs, they would have to deport them as well.

The Darrs have won the right to stay after a hard struggle. The growing number of campaigns around the country shows the inhumanity and racism of the Home Office and the immigration laws, and the determination of people of different nationalities to fight back.

One of the most blatant examples is the Home Office's threat to deport Mrs Ping Kiu Liu, a frail 77-year old Chinese grandmother. Mrs Ping Kiu Liu came to stay with her grandson, Christopher Ling, after the death of her son who she lived with in Holland. Her case is supported by Joe Ashton, MP for Bassetlaw.

Mahmud Khan of Bradford has continued his campaign against the threat of deportation hanging over him and his family. The Home Office want to deport him, his wife Rukhsana to Pakistan and the future of their four year old son, Mahboob, born in this country, is uncertain. Before Christmas the campaign organised a 24-hour vigil in the centre of Bradford, to win support for their right to stay.

Mahmud Khan, his wife and son have already been taken down to Heathrow by police, nearly put on a plane and Mahmud himself has spent four months in Armlay Jail, in Leeds. All because the Home Office decided to get rid of the family on the pretext that his first marriage was "one of convenience".

HERE TO STAY!



Supporters of the campaign travelled down to London to attend the Appeal hearing on January 13th. At this hearing, the judge overruled the previous tribunal and ordered a re-hearing. Although this is a victory against the Home Office, Mahmud Khan now has to wait for another tribunal. He is however confident that he will win the right to stay!

Another appeal was rejected on January 12th. Mr Ranjit Kumar Chakravorty, a Bangladeshi, has lived in Sheffield for six years and has been offered a job interpreting in the local community. A campaign has been set up to support Mr Chakravorty in his fight to stay and at the hearing his case was supported by 17 local community groups and by the city council.



ROBERT GRIFFITHS

By the Robert Griffiths Defence Committee.

Over one hundred people attended a public meeting in Cardiff on Friday, December 3rd, organised by the Robert Griffiths Defence Committee.

Robert Griffiths, former Secretary of the Welsh Socialist Republican Movement, is facing trial on explosives and conspiracy charges.

But the circumstances surrounding his arrest, interrogation and prosecution have alarmed a growing number of socialists, trade unionists and nationalists in Wales.

The defence meeting was addressed firstly by prospective Labour parliamentary candidate for Cardiff North, Ray Davies. He recounted his experiences of police violence as a striking steelworker, and warned that police and State powers were biting deeply into hard-won political and trade union rights.

Labour county councillor Mick Antinou described the South Wales Police Authority - of which he is a member - as a "powerless con-trick": the police were not accountable in any democratic sense, he pointed out. Councillor Antinou, who is also a solicitor, attacked the use of conspiracy laws against trade unionists, Welsh language campaigners and political dissidents.

Phil Thomas, a senior law lecturer at Cardiff University College, described the work done over the past two years by the Welsh Campaign for Civil and Political Liberties; the campaign has researched and exposed widespread police violation of civil rights and political freedoms in Wales, he told the meeting.

In the chair was Stuart Barber, a full-time NUPE organiser, who condemned the overtly political outbursts of senior police officials, and warned of the threat posed by the massive extension of police and Intelligence Service powers. He also read out a letter of support for the meeting from Dafydd Elis Thomas, the Plaid Cymru MP for Meirionnydd.

All the speakers spoke of Robert Griffiths' contribution to socialist and progressive causes in Wales and internationally, and regarded his case as a crucial test for political liberties throughout Britain.

Robert faces the charges alongside seven other defendants. By the time their case comes to trial, six of them will have spent 12 months in prison on remand.

A statement from the prisoners was read out and acclaimed by the Cardiff meeting, demanding an end to conspiracy charges, abolition of uncorroborated police "interrogations" ("verbals") as evidence in court, and release on bail of the six prisoners.

Basil Gwatidzo from Zimbabwe thought his problems were over in November when Sheffield City Council decided to give him a grant to study in Leeds. But he received a letter during Christmas week telling him to take his family out of the country immediately! Basil is still campaigning to stay!

In Manchester, the campaign to support the Khan family and Manjit Kaur have organised a Day of Action under the slogan 'Stop Forced Repatriation of Black People'. They are calling for pickets of DHSS offices to draw attention to the collaboration between DHSS and the Home Office. The campaign says: "While the Home Office continue in their racist programme to deport black people and to keep their families divided, the DHSS is assisting in a policy of forced repatriation by refusing supplementary benefit and child benefit to suspected "illegal immigrants". Parveen Khan and Manjit Kaur are single mothers living with their children. The DHSS has not only refused them supplementary benefit but also child benefit for their children who were born here, in the knowledge that they have no other means of support."

Other black women fighting deportation include Sarah Jabar, in Newport, South Wales, threatened with deportation to apartheid in South Africa for herself and her children.

Her appeal was heard in Cardiff in early December but no decision has been given at time of going to press.

Meanwhile the campaign has collected over 8,000 signatures in Cwmbran where Sarah lives and surrounding areas. She has won broad support in the community from ordinary people, from one of her son's employer and his wife and even the local MP, Strading-Thomas who is known mainly for his silence on all issues. A teacher of Sarah's middle child has been active in her support and a public meeting was attended by local skinhead youth, friends of Sarah's son.

New Charges for Black People

The new NHS regulations for charging overseas visitors came into effect on October 1st last year. Apart from racist questioning of patients and passport checks which are part of these, black people are now facing crippling bills:

- Mr Joshi, who slipped on ice and broke his thigh, has received a bill for no less than £7,476 for treatment at Bradford Royal Infirmary.

- Mohammed Ishaq suffered an attack of acute appendicitis while visiting relatives here. He had an emergency operation in Leeds General Infirmary and was discharged five days later. His bill is for a mere £93.

This second case is in spite of government statements for example by Lord Elton, Under-Secretary for Health: "There would be no charges for treatment of accidents, emergency cases or infectious diseases."

Now it turns out that you are only counted as an emergency while you are in Casualty. Once you get put in a bed in a ward, you are in in-patient, and get charged accordingly!

HERE TO FIGHT!

Sarah is attending teachers training college in Caerleon and points to the fact that she was already trained in South Africa. Whereas a white South African teacher would not have to retrain, she has been told that her qualifications aren't recognised.

* * *

A march was held in Reading on January 15th in support of Shehnaz Sheikh who is fighting deportation to Pakistan. The march was organised by Friends of Shehnaz Campaign and speakers included Tarlochan Gata-Aura, one of the Bradford 12, Race Today Collective and Satya Soni, a community worker.

Over 100 people attended a public meeting in December and over 1,000 have signed petitions in support of Shehnaz who has lived and worked as a nurse in Reading for three years. Shehnaz was granted indefinite stay in this country in 1980 but the Home Office have chosen to question the validity of her marriage in order to force her out of the country.

* * *

In Huddersfield, the Josephine Thomas Action Committee has been set up to support Josephine, a black woman from Grenada. Josephine was trapped by the 'returning residents' rule because even though she had lived in this country since 1962, even though four of her children were born here, even though she has medical grounds for wanting to stay in this country, she was away from UK for more than two years and has therefore "lost" her right to stay according to the Home Office!

Many local people think otherwise though, and the Action Committee will continue to fight for Josephine's right to stay, with the support of the Huddersfield Action Committee Against Racism, other local groups and individuals.

* * *

Anthony Brown of Stretford, Manchester is another black person who has fallen foul of this particular clause in the 1971 Immigration Rules. He settled in this country sixteen years ago when he was six years old, and has lived here continuously except for one period of two years and ten months. Anthony was brought up here, went to school and college here and took 'O' and 'A' levels. He was then told if he wanted to go on studying, he would be classed as a 'foreign student' and would have to pay exorbitant fees. He decided to work and study part-time. The Home Office have now refused him a work permit.

All this because when Anthony was thirteen, his father got a contract for a job in Jamaica and Anthony went with the family. None of the family were aware at the time of the two year rule and Anthony returned here in 1976.

Anthony's appeal will be heard in February 1983 and an Action Committee is building local support.

* * *

Muhammad Idrish, a teacher from Bangladesh, is "yet another victim of the discrimination and bureaucratic practices of the Home Office who are seeking his deportation": says the leaflet put out by the Defence Campaign based in Bristol and Handsworth, Birmingham. The campaign says: "During his course (of study) he met and later got married to his wife.

They have lived happily together for the past five years in Bristol. Unfortunately the marriage has broken down.... The only reason the Home Office have for seeking Muhammad's deportation is the failure of his marriage."

"For the past two years he has been employed in West Bromwich as a social worker..... Increasingly the immigration laws administered by the Home Office are being used to intimidate the Asian and other minority groups in Britain...." "The campaign believes the laws are in themselves unjust and the practices discriminatory. They should stop."

* * *

In some cases, resistance to deportation is being organised by groups affected as in the case of Iranian students. In Manchester, the Campaign Against the Deportation of Iranian Students (CADIS) is appealing for support for a general amnesty for students from Iran particularly from students and teachers. The leaflet 'Students Face Death By Deportation' points out that hundreds of students in Britain face death if they are sent back to Iran. The Home Office is collaborating with this: 100 Iranians have already been deported (some of whom have now disappeared) and 900 are at present under threat.

* * *

Another group under threat at present are people who came from Cyprus as refugees from the Turkish invasion. Many of these people lost their homes and livelihoods there and have built a new life for themselves in this country. But the Home Office has now decided to refuse to let them stay.

One family under threat is the Psatharis family who live in Peckham, South London. In November they lost their final appeal to the Home Office. The family came six years ago and the two daughters, Soteroulla and Myrofora are studying here. Mr Psatharis who works as a pleater, said: "We haven't got a home to go to if we are sent back to Cyprus and I will have no work. My future is lost if we are sent back. We are all very worried."

Some Cypriot men are being picked up and put in detention centres to await deportation. Mr Kemal Ahmet Saddic was one of those held in Ashford Detention Centre in December. The Saddic family came here in 1975 after the war in Cyprus forced them to leave their home. But in spite of this and a supposed 'amnesty' for Cypriot refugees, the whole family is being refused refugee status.

Mr George Evgenion of the London Cypriot Community Centre, explained what will happen if they are forced to go back: "The children will not be allowed in school; their father has no job and has been told by the authorities that there is no prospect of work and they have no home."

In December, the anger of the Cypriot community at this unjust treatment led to a picket being organised at Ashford Detention Centre where eleven Cypriots were being held. Mr Saddic had at that time been on hunger strike for a week. On 15th December, Mr Saddic, who is Turkish, was joined by a Greek Cypriot who also went on hunger strike.

A spokesman for the Cypriot Workers Action Group, who organised the picket pointed out that 1,500 people were under threat and demanded: "An End to All Deportations of Cypriot Refugees."

FREE THE NEWHAM 8!

The Newham 8 appeared in court again on December 17th. They already face numerous charges of grievous bodily harm and assault: now the state has charged them with conspiracy. At the hearing, the magistrate agreed that the eight youths should face charges of "conspiracy to fight with persons unknown". (For details of this case see 'Class Struggle' November 1982).

GROWING RACIST VIOLENCE

Around the country, black people are facing growing racist violence. The police have demonstrated time and time again their failure to protect black people. Instead the police themselves treat black people as criminals. Black people are determined to defend themselves and faced with this growing resistance, the police and courts are attempting to criminalise the most active defenders of the black community. They failed with the Bradford 12 and now they are trying to do the same with the Newham 8.

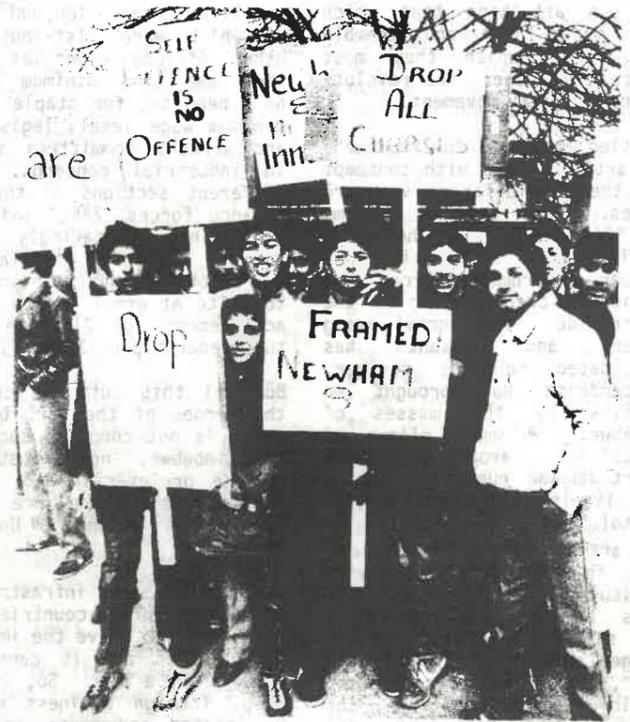
The conspiracy charges are part of this strategy. They cannot be brought simply by the police. The Director of Public Prosecutions has to take the decision to bring these charges. This shows how seriously the state is treating the case, and that this is another political trial round a central issue for black people here - the right to self-defence.

But the Newham Eight Defence Campaign is determined to campaign to free the Eight. A spokesman said: "We will continue to fight the charges. As far as we are concerned, the eight young people are innocent and the charges are false and should be dropped."

In the next month the campaign is hoping to begin to build national support for the Newham 8. The case is unlikely to be heard before July.

LOCAL SUPPORT

Local support has already been built round the slogans: "The Newham Eight are Innocent. Self Defence is No Offence." The court hearing on 5th November was marked by a school strike. One account described this as follows:



"A new chapter in the history of black people's resistance to racism was written on 5th November when thousands of school and college children in Newham boycotted classes in response to the call given by the Newham Eight Defence Campaign. Three hundred youngsters picketed the West Ham Magistrates' Court where the eight were being tried. 40% of the young picketers were West Indian, 55% Asian and 5% anti-racist whites. Girls and boys picketed in equal numbers and kept up a barrage of militant slogans such as: Newham 8 are Innocent! Self Defence is No Offence! Drop, drop, drop the charges! Racism Out! Police Harassment Out!" (from Lalkar, paper of the IWA(GB).)

The account goes on to describe the attempts by the local press to frighten people from supporting the Eight and of one headteacher to victimise a teacher, Mr Satnam Singh, for his activity. Police were called to stop people distributing leaflets at schools and local headmasters wrote to the campaign asking them to stop their "irresponsible" activity.

The article in "Lalkar" goes on: "The most important reason for this successful strike and picket was that it gave a correct slogan at the right time. Black children and parents regularly face racist violence in Britain's schools. It is always more prevalent in the working class areas such as Newham. Yet the authorities refuse even to acknowledge the problem, leave alone tackle it. The Newham 8 had tried to do something about it going out in strength to defend their colleagues under threat. The police tried to teach them a lesson by framing them. So the Newham 8 Defence Campaign asked Newham's black people and anti-racist white people to take a stand on the question of self-defence. And they did. A single leaflet brought out thousands who had never participated in any struggle before."

Another successful picket was organised for the court hearing on December 17th, and the campaign is planning more local and national activity.

The campaign has got off to an impressive start. Based in the local black community with black youth in the forefront, it can rally the broadest support to ensure that the Newham Eight are Freed!

Self-Defence is No Offence!

* * *

COMMUNIST PARTY OF MALAYA

New Year Statement

The following is the text of the New Year statement of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Malaya, which was broadcast by the radio station "Voice of Malayan Democracy".

On the occasion of the arrival of the 1983 new year, the Party Central Committee and Comrade Chin Peng extend their warmest greetings and pay their highest tribute to all Party members, commanders and fighters of the Malayan People's Army, all members of various revolutionary mass organisations, revolutionary comrades and great and indomitable patriots in jail, relatives of fallen heroes and revolutionary families and the people of all nationalities.

In the past year, our Party and army as well as various revolutionary mass organisations launched an unrelenting heroic struggle in the context of carrying out the urgent task

and special programme stipulated in the 28th April (1980) statement, attaining an important victory by again foiling the enemy's large-scale military encirclement and suppression campaign against base areas and guerrilla zones. In the political field, various kinds of deceit, propaganda and policies of the anti-communist and anti-people enemy were exposed, dealing a heavy blow to the Kuala Lumpur and Singapore ruling cliques. In the field of the mass movement, various kinds of struggles were launched against exploitation and repression as well as against imperialist and hegemonist aggression and power expansion. The patriotic and democratic movement continued to develop.

In June last year, our Party Central Committee and supreme army headquarters issued a joint statement on changing the name of the Malay National Liberation Army to the Malayan People's Army and renewed their determination to continue the revolutionary war until victory. The issuing of this statement

had a great bearing on further developing the revolutionary armed struggle and mass movement. The capitalist world's economic crisis is growing worse. The wave of struggle by oppressed nations and peoples to attain liberation and that by people throughout the world to oppose imperialist and hegemonist aggression and power expansion and to defend world peace are gaining momentum.

In the New Year, comrades in the entire Party and army should strengthen their unity and, together with people of all nationalities throughout the country, continuously strive to strengthen and expand the patriotic and democratic united front, develop the revolutionary armed struggle and the revolutionary mass movement, defend democratic rights and the immediate interests of the people, struggle for the establishment of a democratic coalition government, safeguard state security and territorial integrity, oppose imperialist and hegemonist aggression and power expansion and defend world peace.

British Trotskyists Slander Zimbabwean Revolutionaries

An article in the October issue of *The Next Step*, paper of the "Revolutionary Communist Party", helps to show up Trotskyism for what it is - a voice of imperialism within the left movement which does the oppressors' dirty work in attacking that which they most loath and tremble from, that which they most aspire to smother, the revolutionary national movement.

Entitled "Betrayal in Zimbabwe", the article reeks with contempt for the revolutionary vanguard forces. Its subhead informs us: "Zimbabwe is on the verge of civil war. Daily skirmishes between government forces and dissidents create havoc in the countryside. And unrest among workers and peasants has exacerbated tensions further. Independence has brought no benefits to the masses of Zimbabwe. A small clique of capitalists around Premier Robert Mugabe runs the country for itself and for foreign capital."

The article then proceeds to fill in the details, paying particular attention to disputes between the government and striking workers and an alleged policy of "divide and rule", which has "exacerbated ethnic tensions between the Shona and Ndebele peoples". The whole article makes it quite clear that the Zimbabwean people need not have bothered to wage Chimurenga, the war of liberation, at all.

Now, we may well ask why this noxious garbage should be spewed out just at a time when the South African racist regime is increasingly baring its teeth against the liberation forces of the region (as in its recent invasion of the independent state of Lesotho); when the British government has immersed itself in secret top-level discussions with Ian Smith with a view to restoring the barbaric colonial regime in Zimbabwe, whose record on 'human rights' Thatcher so nostalgically hankers after? Is this mere coincidence? We don't think so. But first, let's look at the real situation.

a million tonnes, 100,000 tonnes of which were distributed to other African countries. At the same time minimum prices have been set for staple foods, minimum wage levels legislated, and workers committees set up in industrial concerns. The different sections of the resistance forces, ZANLA and ZIPRA are being painstakingly welded into a people's militia, and ... so on. It would be possible to write at great length on the achievements of Zimbabwe under the leadership of ZANU(PF).

But all this cuts no ice with the heroes of the RCP: because there is not complete socialism in Zimbabwe, no dictatorship of the proletariat and, horror of horrors, there are still capitalists around. How can this be?

The economy and infrastructure of Third World countries has been built to serve the imperialist market and it cannot be rebuilt in a day. So, step by step, foreign business has to be limited and restricted and, wherever possible, made to serve the needs of the newly independent country. In the course of doing this, the new Government has to take account of, and use, the contradictions between the different imperialist groups. A policy of no accommodation and no compromise may seem like the only course of action to be taken when viewed from the perspective of West Hampstead. It is a little different on the ground.

Africa, even by third world standards, has suffered unspeakable devastation to its economy and social structure from the period of the slave trade and then direct colonialism. The carving up of its territory according to the dictates of power politics, the cynical colonial use of divide and rule

ialism could partially be neutralised, many of the white farmers, even Smith himself, could be made use of. Very good. Excellent! It wasn't a tidy revolution, it wasn't a textbook revolution, concessions like the 20 parliamentary seats reserved for whites can't be found in any textbook. But the point was to use the breathing space, divide the international enemies, and release the energies of the masses to rebuild the country. And this is exactly what has been done.

If the external imperialists play no part in the RCP's calculations, it will come as no surprise to readers to discover that actual internal conditions do not bother them much either. In the fight against imperialism, many classes and strata unite against the enemy; peasants, workers, intellectuals, some capitalists, all differentiated according to the particular features of the country and the different regions and groupings within it. The national struggle is therefore a struggle waged by a number of classes. After

independence, these forces have to unite their objectives, and then, step by step, build up the political and organisational strength to carry them out. Hence the importance of cooperativism, the institution of workers' committees and the introduction of general education and so on. All of these are in order that the people can win the practical mastery of the country. And we judge a particular leading party or government on the basis of whether it furthers or opposes that struggle.

This is what Premier Mugabe meant when he said: "Although as Mao Zedong pointed out, power comes out of the barrel of a gun, it must be admitted that what comes out first is really political power and, from political power, at a subsequent stage, economic power becomes attainable. Political power is in turn consolidated by economic power. In short we must now employ our entire political power as an independent state and as a sovereign nation to achieve and accomplish our socio-economic objectives." Not bad for a capitalist!

At a time when most streams of Trotskyism (like the SWP and IMG) are folding up into the Labour Party or its milieu, the RCP still pushes a 'hard' line and even claims to take up strong positions against imperialism. Moreover the Trotskyite world view still exercises a persistent residual influence over certain very worthwhile forces on the left. If the RCP were merely armchair theoreticians ranting on, it wouldn't be so necessary to hammer them. But what sickens us is not so much the 'leftist' line of 'no compromises', but essentially the profoundly right wing support which Trotskyism provides for British imperialism, a line that flows from their total lack of confidence in the oppressed peoples.

The trend we identify with is the one which realistically, and without a hint of wishful thinking recognises that the creativity of the masses is a force capable of seizing control over and building their own destiny. This force is summed up in the great Juche idea put forward by the Workers' Party of Korea and finds as a shining example the fighters of ZANU with their slogan: "We are our own liberators." This slogan is like a beacon illuminating the cells of Robben Island, the H-Blocks or wherever oppression is to be found.

Pamberi ne Chimurenga!

Trots Attack Ireland Solidarity Conference

Commentary by James Holt.

There are things in the Brit left which need to be struggled against in the course of building an effective anti-imperialist movement. A Trotskyite organisation called the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP), in the December issue of its journal *The Next Step* refers to the recent Conference on Building an Irish Solidarity Movement; in 'criticising' Comrade David Reed's keynote speech at the conference, *The Next Step* says: "the problem is not to discover who the anti-imperialist forces are, but to develop effective policies to win workers behind the cause of Irish Freedom." This is quite interesting. As far as we are aware, an Ireland solidarity movement necessarily has to be anti-imperialist, and therefore must be focussed around anti-imperialist forces. For communists, the question has always been to base political action on real forces existing in the real world.

The article describes the Conference as having been "organised by the Revolutionary Communist Group". Now this is a blatant lie, as the RCP well know, since they had a number of comrades present. The conference came into being because of the pressure of powerful forces arising out of the contradiction between the weakness of the hitherto existing solidarity movement and the sharp demands of the new situation as British imperialism becomes increasingly vicious in the throes of a desperate crisis. There was a convergence of several trends, among them the RCG who played a very significant role, which is to their credit.

In using the Conference for sectarian point-scoring against the Revolutionary Communist Group, the RCP frankly betray a chauvinist and racist disdain for the Irish people. It is a secret to nobody who was there that the Conference received the backing of some Sinn Fein Cummain, ordinary working class Irish people, and above all, of 20 Irish prisoners of war in British gaols.

The fact that the RCP choose to neglect this trifle is symptomatic of a whole attitude which subordinates the Irish struggle to the demands of what they imagine to be the strategy for revolution in this country, a stand exactly opposite to the communist standpoint. One of their spokesmen at the conference made this plain by stating explicitly that the purpose of Irish solidarity work was, for them, to expose and discredit the British Labour Party and the TUC.

POW SUPPORT

The support of the POWs was far from a token gesture, they played a very active part in the preparation of the conference, overcoming colossal difficulties to do so. In an inspiring contribution to the conference, Helen O'Brien, sister of one of the POW's, stated in a matter-of-fact way, how her brother - whose main direct contact with the outside world is a monthly two-hour visit from her - had devoted almost the whole of this brief and precious time over the last two visits discussing the preparation for the conference.

Moreover the POWs' participation is a very reliable indication of the correctness of the direction taken, because they have a unique way of seeing to the heart of things (as shown by their letters, extracts of which were published in December-January 'Class Struggle'). This fact completely bypasses the consciousness of people like the RCP, but it is no mystery to those who have absorbed the tradition of Asian communism. In 1957, in a brilliant speech delivered in Moscow when it became clear that the Soviet leadership was abandoning its commitment to revolution worldwide, the great Chinese communist Comrade Mao Zedong said: "Their (the reactionaries') persecutions of the revolutionary people will inevitably result in arousing the people to wider and more intense revolution." This is absolutely accurate. The reactionary British government has tried over many years to destroy the Irish POWs as thinking beings through

brutality, solitary confinement, denying them reading matter, and even murder. But the result has been the opposite of what they intended, and this repression has made the prisoners into still more sharp and lucid critics of imperialism.

This is also closely linked with the struggles they have had to wage inside the prisons, where the realities of imperialist society are shown with the gloves off. At first the authorities managed to egg on other prisoners to beat the Republicans, but after a lot of patient work the Irish POWs have forged a strong unity with black and other national minority prisoners, together with English people who have been criminalised by a lifetime of repression in bourgeois society. The POWs now play a vanguard role in the common struggle for prisoners' democratic rights. No wonder, then, that they understand so much about uniting all possible forces, based on the most oppressed, in struggling against the forces of the imperialist state.

These facts, which came across with blinding force to anyone attending the conference, the *Next Step* sees fit to ignore or censor. This is because the facts contradict the RCP's absurd theories which hold that the entire working class is raring to go on anti-imperialist work and that only labour movement structures are holding them back. We for our part recognise the critically reactionary moves by British imperialism at the moment, and will adopt whatever alliances are necessary to defend democratic rights. Far from subordinating everything to a struggle against the TUC, we subordinate everything to the struggle against imperialism. The advances of the worldwide current of national struggles against imperialist oppression will play the determinant role in the downfall of British imperialism, and this current is now closely reflected within Britain itself. We will persist in the correct orientation of "discovering who the anti-imperialist forces are", and building the broader movement only on this basis.



ZANLA fighters during the liberation war.

POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE

Political independence has been won through armed struggle and the country has embarked on the task of building up its economic independence and well-being. The key questions are those of land distribution and food. So far, 14,202 families have been resettled on to a land area of 783,000 hectares and the current planning stage involves another 11,000 families. This work is supported by the creation of agricultural institutes and the initiation of cooperative schemes in the countryside. In 1980 Zimbabwe had to import 15,000 tonnes of maize to feed its people and animals. In 1981 it produced a maize surplus of more than

tactics among its different cultural and linguistic communities, all this created a situation where Herculean energies will be needed to build the new societies of the future. The legacies of this devastation and division still provide extremely fertile ground for neo-colonialism to operate; in southern Africa this is being done directly by South Africa, which is an exceptionally vicious and dangerous enemy.

It is in this dangerous situation that Zimbabwe's revolutionaries have to plot their course. On the basis of the masses' armed liberation war, ZANU was able to wage a great diplomatic struggle, crowned by success in the Lancaster House agreements. For a few precious months or years, British imper-

SUMMARY EXECUTIONS

by Brendan Hill

In our last issue we reported on the summary executions of both Republicans and other Irish youth by RUC death squads in County Armagh. Since then further use has been made by British imperialism of this developing murder policy. Not in Ireland alone, but in London, heart of the British state, as well.

Following the low-level response in Britain to the murder of the three IRA Volunteers and young Michael Tighe, the RUC put their hired killers to work again on Sunday, 12th December, when they laid an ambush for the cowardly slaughter of two unarmed INLA members, Roddy Carroll and Seamus Grew. Many features of this murder bear striking similarities to the earlier assassinations. While the RUC claimed that Roddy's and Seamus' car jumped a road block, eye witnesses claim otherwise. Many of the bullets fired in the fusillade which robbed the Irish national liberation struggle of two fine sons, were fired through the side door. Both Roddy Carroll and Seamus Grew were shot three times including, in each case, a single bullet through the back of the head, a classic execution method. It is worth noting here that in typical racist imperialist stance no RUC men have even been criticised, let alone suspended or charged, as was considered necessary in a later London police murder attempt (see front page).

On 27th December the British soldiers decided to join in, and executed 19-year-old Patrick Elliott as he fled from carrying out an unarmed petty robbery at the Red Barn chip shop in Andersonstown, Belfast. The

Brit patrol which appointed itself judge and executioner (they don't bother with such niceties as juries in occupied Ireland, remember) gave no warning but just opened up as if at a scurrying rabbit. The callous racism of the Brits is demonstrated by the way they dealt with Gerry McGirven, a qualified nurse who attempted to go to Patrick's aid. He went to check his pulse, only to be ordered to "Get away from that body". He nevertheless proceeded to examine Patrick's body only to be arrested by the RUC on their arrival. "I was arrested and bundled into the back of a Land Rover where they kept me for over two hours."

A further - luckily unsuccessful - attempt at a summary execution took place two days later near the village of Donagh in Fermanagh. It appears that a Brit terror unit had set up a poorly organised ambush at the site of a land mine to which they expected IRA Volunteers to return. The fully camouflaged terror gang, seeing Kieran Leonard, a well-known local man with a Republican background, coming towards them, took him to be the expected "target". They closed in and Kieran, spotting them, leapt through a hedge, only to be faced with a Brit who opened up, hitting him in the chest. Nine shots in all were heard, some of which were clearly quite indiscriminately fired, narrowly missing local man, Sean Gunn, who was working nearby. Foiled by the presence of witnesses from finishing Kieran off, the Brits instead engaged in a brief orgy of sadism, binding Kieran hand and foot, dragging him - in extreme pain - to a nearby tree and repeatedly kicking him.

To cover their crime the Brits have charged Kieran Leonard with "possession of explosives with intent to endanger life". As Westminster MP and Sinn Fein elected Prior Assembly representative, Owen Carron, said in response to this Brit terrorist outrage:

"It appears that Kieran Leonard was shot as part of a shoot-to-kill policy. The fields that he was crossing were a normal short-cut. He was shot because he was a member of a well-known republican family and because he was in the wrong place at the wrong time. I have no doubt, however, that when the case comes to court Kieran will beat the charge which is being used by the British to cover up their attempted murder."

Summary execution is now once again established as a definite policy of British imperialism in Ireland, having claimed to date the lives of unarmed IRA Volunteers, Eamon Bradley, Gervais McKerr, Sean Burns and Eugene Toman, catholic youth Michael Tighe, INLA Volunteers Seamus Grew and Roddy Carroll, and young Patrick Elliott.

Tried and tested in Ireland the policy was applied in London on Friday, 14th January. The narrow parochial attitude of "it can't happen here" stands exposed. If we fail to stand up against death squads in Ireland then we deserve to be condemned as the racists we would thus be and can claim no right to protest at similar state actions in Britain. As Karl Marx repeatedly pointed out, it is in the absolute interests of the British working class to make "common cause" with the Irish people.

Lambeth Tories Attempt Censorship

Following reports in the South London Press and on Thames News concerning an attempt by Conservative councillors to ban the South London Irish Solidarity Committee from the use of Lambeth Town Hall, SLISC issued the following statement:

In an attempt to ban SLISC from using facilities at Lambeth Town Hall Conservative Councillor, Peter Davis, has launched a campaign of censorship and slander against supporters of Irish self determination in South London. In this Councillor Davis is jumping on the bandwagon of recent press hysteria over the invitation by Steve Bundred and 26 GLC councillors, including Ken Livingstone, to elected Sinn Fein representatives, Gerry Adams and Danny Morrison, to come to London. Peter Davis is trying to use this to pressurise Lambeth Council leader, Ted Knight, into denying SLISC supporters their right to hold meetings in Lambeth Town Hall.

Peter Davis is not alone in his efforts to censor and silence SLISC and its supporters. SLISC has had nine supporters arrested on the streets of South London in the last year - all for 'obstruction of the highway'. These arrests are an attempt by the police to censor SLISC by harassing its supporters and denying SLISC the use of the streets. Six of the nine cases were dismissed, three are under appeal. SLISC has fought to defend its democratic rights of free assembly and free speech against this police harassment and has succeeded in retaining these rights. SLISC now finds that the police campaign to deny SLISC its democratic rights on the streets of South London has been joined by Conservative councillors attempting to deny SLISC the right to hold public meetings in Lambeth Town Hall.

It is no surprise that members of the Conservative Party should

seek to deny our democratic rights when that same party has always denied the right of the Irish people to determine their own future. British 'democracy' is one that has always ruled, and will always rule, the Irish people with terror and trample on their democratic rights, in particular their right to self-determination. Since 11 November 1982 seven men have been shot dead and two seriously injured by RUC and British Army 'shoot-to-kill' squads. British 'democracy' sees no crime in murdering Irish people in cold blood.

The British government bans elected Sinn Fein representatives from coming to London to tell Londoners the truth about British terror in Ireland. Now Lambeth Tory councillors are trying to ban SLISC from holding public meetings in Lambeth Town Hall. SLISC is encouraged to see that Labour Council leader Ted Knight has said 'we have no intention of closing the facilities to SLISC'.

SLISC has wide support in South London. Hundreds of people sign our 'Victory to the Irish People! Troops Out Now!' petition every Saturday at SLISC street meetings. Our public meetings are always well attended and the Committee itself has affiliations from a number of local political organisations and individuals. SLISC supports the legitimate democratic right of the Irish people to determine their own future. Like any people denied this fundamental democratic right the Irish people have the right to attain self-determination by any means open to them. SLISC calls for the immediate withdrawal of British troops from Ireland and Victory to the Irish People!

For further information contact SLISC at BM Box 4835, London WCTN 3XX.

BRIT SAVAGERY IN MALAYA

By Keith Anderson

The recently released Cabinet papers for 1952 (released under the 30 year rule) confirm that the "headhunting" of Malayan Communists and patriots was official British Army policy. At the time, the Communist newspaper "Daily Worker" published a photograph showing a Royal Marine commando holding the severed head of a captured Malayan guerilla.

Following the publication of the photo questions were asked in the House of Commons and the British authorities in Malaya scrambled to "justify" this barbarous policy on grounds of "military necessity". The Cabinet minutes record that:

"British troops in Malaya were at present authorised to decapitate bandits (the imperialist term for Malayan freedom fighters) who had been killed and to bring their heads back for purposes of identification... The High Commissioner in Malaya had strongly urged that this authorisation should not be withdrawn since he thought it militarily important that the police should be able to identify as many as possible of the bandits killed in these operations."

This is the authentic voice of imperialist barbarism that will resort to any savagery to protect its profits and super-profits. Malaya was (and is) of great strategic and economic importance to the British imperialists, and was at that time Britain's single biggest US dollar earner. In 1938 Malayan trade exceeded that of all of Britain's 17 African colonies combined and was more than half the total trade of the then Indian Empire. To quote a Colonial Office communication to the Foreign Office of 5 April 1948 (Foreign Office File F0371/55178/10/48):

"Malaya is far and away the biggest dollar earner in the Empire... When Malaya derives no tangible advantage whatsoever from staying within the Sterling area, the effect is made worse when it is borne in mind that, apart from the question of War Damage Compensation, the Malayan government have had to shoulder the enormous burden of rehabilitation without any assistance from His Majesty's Government. Furthermore, there is at present a widespread feeling in Malaya - and I am not at all sure that it is not partly justified - that His Majesty's Government, by controlling the price of tin, has hitherto denied to the Malayan government and producers the benefits which should rightly be theirs. We have here the germ of a powerful and dangerous secession movement in Malaya, which is the bulwark of our whole position in South East Asia and indeed in the whole of the Far East..."

Thirty years later, the Communist Party of Malaya and the Malayan People's Army are continuing the struggle against British imperialism, vivid testimony to the invincibility of a risen people!

Year Of Karl Marx

1983 is the year of Karl Marx! March 14th is the 100th anniversary of the death of Karl Marx, Great Leader and Teacher of the International Proletariat. To mark this occasion the next issue of 'Class Struggle' will be a 12 page issue containing a number of articles showing the continued applicability of Karl Marx's life and work to revolutionary work in Britain and the cause of revolution throughout the world. (N.B. This 12 page issue replaces the 12 page issue originally announced for February.) Other articles on the life and work of Karl Marx will appear in 'Class Struggle' during the rest of 1983.

Gunboat Diplomacy

With the dispatch of the Navy, armed with Bofors guns, the British government has once again embarked on the road of force to settle an international dispute, this time with Denmark over the question of fishing rights. As with the Malvinas dispute, British imperialism eschews the path of negotiation in favour of the path of war. Several years ago, Britain sent gunboats to Iceland to stop her from enforcing her territorial limits, and now Britain sends gunboats to enforce its own arbitrarily declared limits. The only consistency is that of British imperialism consistently defending its own reactionary interests.

Britain attempts to glorify its war with Argentina, a third world country and its "standing up" to Denmark, a country of 5.5 million people, as part of some "glorious" "maritime heritage". In reality it is simply the action of a bully who picks on the weak but fears or toadies to those more powerful. Sweden is a much smaller country than Britain but it fearlessly chases out Soviet submarines when they dare to intrude. In contrast Soviet factory ships continually come to plunder British waters and loot the seabed and the British government does nothing whilst raising a hue and cry over Denmark.

British workers and fishermen have no quarrel with the workers and fishermen of Denmark, but with the big British fishing monopolies.

Friends In Korea

On 22nd December 1982 500 people attended a meeting in the Korean capital of Pyongyang to inaugurate the Korean Committee for Friendship with the British people. Yang Hyong Sop, President of the Korean Academy of Social Sciences, was elected Chairman of the Committee.

Chinese Journals

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FREEDOM FOR IRELAND



WHERE ARE THEY NOW? THE ARCH CRIMINALS OF BLOODY SUNDAY

Eleven years ago, on the 30th January 1972, British paratroops carried out the cold-blooded and pre-meditated murder of 14 peacefully-demonstrating Derry citizens.

Every anniversary we honour the names of the 14 innocent victims of this bloody British outrage, the 14 human beings whose lives were suddenly and brutally shot to pieces by British imperialist bullets.

"Bloody Sunday" was a calculated and carefully planned massacre by the British military machine. It was primarily the plan of Brigadier (as he was then) Frank Kitson, to put into practice the techniques he had worked out in his notorious book 'Low Intensity Operations'. The plan was eagerly welcomed by Kitson's immediate superiors, and careful reading of press reports of Bloody Sunday, and of subsequent 'enquiries' shows about half a dozen names as the main organisers and perpetrators of the slaughter.

Were these men demoted, reprimanded, dismissed from the army, tried for murder ... or what sort of punishment, for behaving like pathological killers?

Well, let's see.

The most senior officer, in charge of all 'Northern Ireland' operations, was Lt. Gen. Sir Harry Tuzo. After one year he was promoted in the 'Honours' lists from KCB to GCB. In 1976, further promotion to be the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander in Europe. He 'retired' in 1979 at the age of 62, and is now

Master Gunner, St. James Park.

The next most senior officer was Maj. Gen. Robert Ford, who was directly in charge of the plan. He knew exactly what was intended, and just before the Paras opened fire he was heard by press reporters to give the command: "Go, get 'em, Paras!" The following year he was promoted to be Commander of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, the training school for future officers, and appeared in the 'Honours' list with a CB. In 1976 he was promoted to Lt. Gen. and became Military Secretary at the Ministry of Defence - a post where he had control of promotions to the most senior army appointments. In 1978 he was further promoted to a full General, and became Adjutant-General at the Ministry of Defence, and by now he had received 'Honours' promotion to KCB. In 1980 he became Colonel Commandant of the SAS, a post he still holds.

He officially 'retired' in 1981, and became Governor of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea - a stone's throw from SAS HQ. Like Tuzo, he was promoted in 'Honours' to GCB and is now Sir Robert Ford.

The next most senior officer was the criminal-in-chief who planned and organised the massacre - Brigadier Frank Kitson, son of a Vice-Admiral. He had become the leading 'expert' of the ruling class on 'counter-insurgency' operations after a life-time career of colonialist imperialist wars against the people of Kenya, Malaya, Cyprus and Oman. His

book 'Low Intensity Operations' published in 1971, was the result of a year's special research by Kitson under the auspices of the Ministry of Defence. His instructions were to make a blueprint for future 'counter-insurgency' operations in Britain, and 'Bloody Sunday' was a deliberate and cold-blooded first 'testing-ground' for his theories. He was 'honoured' with a CBE after Bloody Sunday. Soon after, Kitson was appointed to be the Commandant of the School of Infantry, at Warminster, where he was able to instil his vicious teachings into the minds of the infantry regiment.

In 1974 he did another Ministry of Defence sponsored army study course at the Royal College of Defence Studies, developing further his 'counter-insurgency' techniques, and writing a new book ('Bunch of Five') about his various 'campaigns' in Kenya etc. In 1976 he was promoted to Major General and appointed General-Officer-Commanding the 2nd Division of BAOR. In 1978 he was appointed Commandant of the Staff College at Camberley, where he was able to spread his techniques to the 'bright' and upcoming middle rank officers destined for promotion to senior positions.

In 1979 he was promoted to Lt. General and soon after became the Deputy Commander of United Kingdom Land Forces (UKLF) at the army home HQ at Wilton, near Salisbury. He was also included in the 'Honours' lists, being given a KCB, and so becoming Sir Frank Kitson. In July 1982 he was promoted to

the rank of a full General, and became Commander-in-Chief of UKLF.

The next name to be noted is Lt. Col. Maurice Tugwell of the Paras, who was on the HQ Staff at Lisburn in charge of "Information Policy" - which means that he was the expert in distortion, lies and black propaganda. (He had started his 'career' in propaganda when he was the Paras' "Intelligence Officer" in Palestine many years ago.) He was decorated with a CBE and promoted to full Colonel. In the next few years he continued, in his role of misinformation (and interrogation and torture) 'expert', lecturing abroad (Canada), and also as an 'Instructor' at the Imperial Iranian Armed Forces Staff College in Iran, in 1973, under the Shah.

In 1975, he was promoted to Brigadier, and given a mysterious posting in Nottingham. Then, like Kitson, he did a Ministry of Defence sponsored period of "research", which was almost certainly continuing to develop his black propaganda and interrogation techniques with special reference to "internal security" operations.

Then he was suddenly shown as having 'retired' in April 1978, but even more mysteriously he reappeared in the Army lists in 1980, still a Brigadier, but having lost two years in seniority. He is not shown as having any particular Army appointment, but we suggest that readers bear his name in mind, as we forecast that he will come

into the news again in some particularly nasty role.

The final name we wish to mention is Lt. Col. Derek Wilford, who was the Commanding Officer of the Paras who actually carried out the Bloody Sunday murders. He was in fact a SAS man - and still is (once a SAS, always a SAS). He was rewarded with an OBE and moved to an important "security" post in the Ministry of Defence in London. From there he went on special postings to Australia and Nigeria, and in 1978 became a Staff Officer at SHAPE (Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers in Europe). Then he did another Ministry of Defence sponsored course and was promoted to a full Colonel in 1980 and given a Staff Officer post at the HQ of the army South-West District. In September 1982 he was reposted to SHAPE as the "UK Army Representative on AFCEM organisation Review". We would guess that he is involved in the planning of "Special Forces" (SAS etc) operations.

Let no one have any illusions - a 'shoot-to-kill' policy has been operative in the six occupied counties of Ireland since Bloody Sunday, (and now in London!) but the spate of such killings during the past year shows that the SAS have been given a completely free hand to rampage and murder without restraint.

Men like TUZO, FORD, KITSON, TUGWELL and WILFORD will eventually answer to the people for their crimes.

CHINA ON BLOODY SUNDAY

The Bloody Sunday massacre of 30 January 1972 aroused condemnation around the world. On 8 February 1972 China's main newspaper, "The People's Daily", published an authoritative article entitled 'Firmly support the just struggle of the northern Irish people'. We reprint it below:

Of late, the people of northern Ireland have waged a massive struggle for their democratic rights. The British government, however, resorted to armed suppression, resulting in serious bloodshed. The incident has aroused profound indignation among all peoples of the world, the British people included. We Chinese people pledge firm support for the just struggle of the northern Irish people.

The national question in northern Ireland is a product of the policy of national oppression practised by the British ruling class. Ireland became completely independent in 1948 when it proclaimed its separation from the British Commonwealth. Britain, forced as it was to recognise the Republic of Ireland, refused to incorporate the six northern counties into the Republic and continued its rule over the northern Irish people. Hitherto the northern Irish people have carried on an unyielding struggle against national oppression and for their democratic rights and national independence. The British government's intensified suppression of the northern Irish people in recent years has met with their ever stronger

resistance.

On the Indo-Pakistan question, the British government has assumed the posture of justice, and talked profusely about so-called respect for "the wishes of the people" and of trying to find a "civilised solution". Actually they took sides with the Indian expansionists who have dismembered Pakistan by armed aggression. People question your glib talk about "the wishes of the people", and ask why don't you respect at all the just wishes of the northern Irish people for their democratic rights? You have made a hullabaloo about "civilised solution", but why do you act so barbarously, slaughtering the northern Irish demonstrators and continually sending troops and police to carry out armed suppression on a larger scale? The fact that the British government has played a trick in Rhodesia, the fraud of sham "independence" to maintain the enslavement of the Zimbabwe people by the white racist regime of Ian Smith, has completely revealed the hypocrisy of imperialism. Now, the bloody suppression of the northern Irish people by the British government once again unmasks its so-called "civilisation".

The northern Irish people are not isolated. Their struggle has won sympathy and support from the British and Irish people. People all over the world also stand on their side. The northern Irish people are sure to overcome all obstacles and win new victory in their unremitting struggle.

Heavy Blows for Brit 'Security' Forces

Since "Class Struggle" last went to press, the Republican forces have dealt a series of well-planned and executed blows at Britain's varied "security" forces in the north east of Ireland.

On Monday, 6th December an INLA active service unit staged an extremely effective attack on a British army drinking hole, the "Droppin Well Bar" in Ballykelly. A bomb, estimated as being of between 15 and 30 lb, was strategically placed next to a pillar supporting the Bar's heavy concrete roof. The resulting devastation claimed 12 British soldiers and 5 collaborators.

Two weeks later, on Monday, 20th December, the IRA in North Armagh carried out the execution of a 44-year-old catholic UDR soldier in Armagh City. In the statement claiming the action, the IRA - with biting irony - said:

"He ran through one of our road blocks and was called upon to halt.

"He put his hand in his pocket as if to produce a gun and one of our Volunteers shot him in self-defence."

Come January 5th an RUC man was shot in both arms by IRA Volunteers in Derry City. The very next day saw the IRA's reply to the recent murderous activity of the RUC when two members of an RUC "Divisional Mobile Support Unit" (read 'death squad') were shot dead by IRA Volunteers

in an ingenious and courageously set up ambush in Rostrevor, County Down. The active service unit, using a car they had commandeered the previous month, parked outside the local Post Office in the village square to attract the attention of the RUC squad. The RUC duly took the bait and sent one of its number to investigate. The IRA opened fire, wounding him, and then turned their attention to his two colleagues in their unmarked car. The one in the back went first and the other was shot down attempting to flee from his just desserts on foot. Their duty done, the Volunteers coolly drove off to abandon their vehicle at nearby Warrenpoint, scene of the devastating action when 18 British soldiers

had their "peace keeping role" terminated in tandem with the timely execution of Mountbatten.

In the week prior to this issue's press date, IRA actions have continued with the execution of Loyalist Judge William Doyle, a catholic by religion, on Sunday, 16th January. Then on 19th January the IRA in Derry executed 39-year-old RUC reservist (i.e. part-time hired gunman) John Olphert.

The British imperialists' hirelings are not having an easy time of it at all lately. With Sinn Fein announcing its intention to stand candidates in as many areas as possible in occupied Ireland in Britain's next General Election, the ballot, bomb and bullet seem to be taking their combined and related toll of British prestige and personnel.

**NATIONAL
DEMONSTRATION
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