

THE MINERS DIG IN

THE IMPRESSION was gained that last week's talks with the miners over a payment for "waiting and winding" time would bring a settlement to the dispute. The miserable 70p offered was quite rightly rejected as derisive.

Unlike some other workers, for example in building, miners are not paid for all the time it takes them to prepare, travel underground and wash before and after completing a day's work. Yet the Pay Board only consider an extra 70p as compensation for this time.

The deadlock now brings the government and the miners on a course for a full confrontation. This time the government has turned the energy crisis into an attack on the living standards of the working class. The three-day working week is not just a way of saving fuel but Mr. Heath's way of teaching workers a lesson and an attempt to turn fellow workers against the miners. However I don't think this will happen because people know that the miner's job is about the most unpleasant way of earning a living. Most know they wouldn't like to work down a mine and think that the miner is entitled to every penny he can get.

Mr. Heath's calculations for his confrontation policy are based on the assumption that he can turn the public against the miners and use the cuts in wages as a method of fighting inflation. Mr. Barber's budget did nothing, in capitalist terms, to tackle this when all the economic pundits were recommending drastic cuts in the circulation of money. But the policy is costing the "country" more than it would have done to pay the miners. One could understand the government sticking to its policy of Phase Three if this policy had not already been made redundant by the price increases in oil.

Michael McGahey, the miners' vice-president, said: "Considering the increased price of oil and the dependence of Britain on its indigenous fuel resources, the miners' wage claim sinks into insignificance compared with the problem that faces the nation over the balance of payments."

While Mr. Heath might carry most of his government with him on his policy of confrontation there are those who would prefer a flexible approach. But Mr. Heath's approach could lead to a General Election which the Tories would probably win. Anyway it is doubtful whether, if they were honest, that the Labour Party would want to form a government at present.

Execute strikers, says vicar



AN ESSEX priest has a gospel for dealing with union militants—shoot them!

The Rev Andrew Halliwell-Smith, Rector of Alresford, near Colchester, gave this advice to his congregation this week.

'In 1940, if a soldier refused to fight unless his pay was increased he would have been shot

ARTHUR MOYSE

'I see no moral difference in the situation now. I would support any government with the guts to put forward the kind of tough regulations needed to save Britain from total calamity.' The Rev Halliwell-Smith described himself as 'slightly left of centre'.

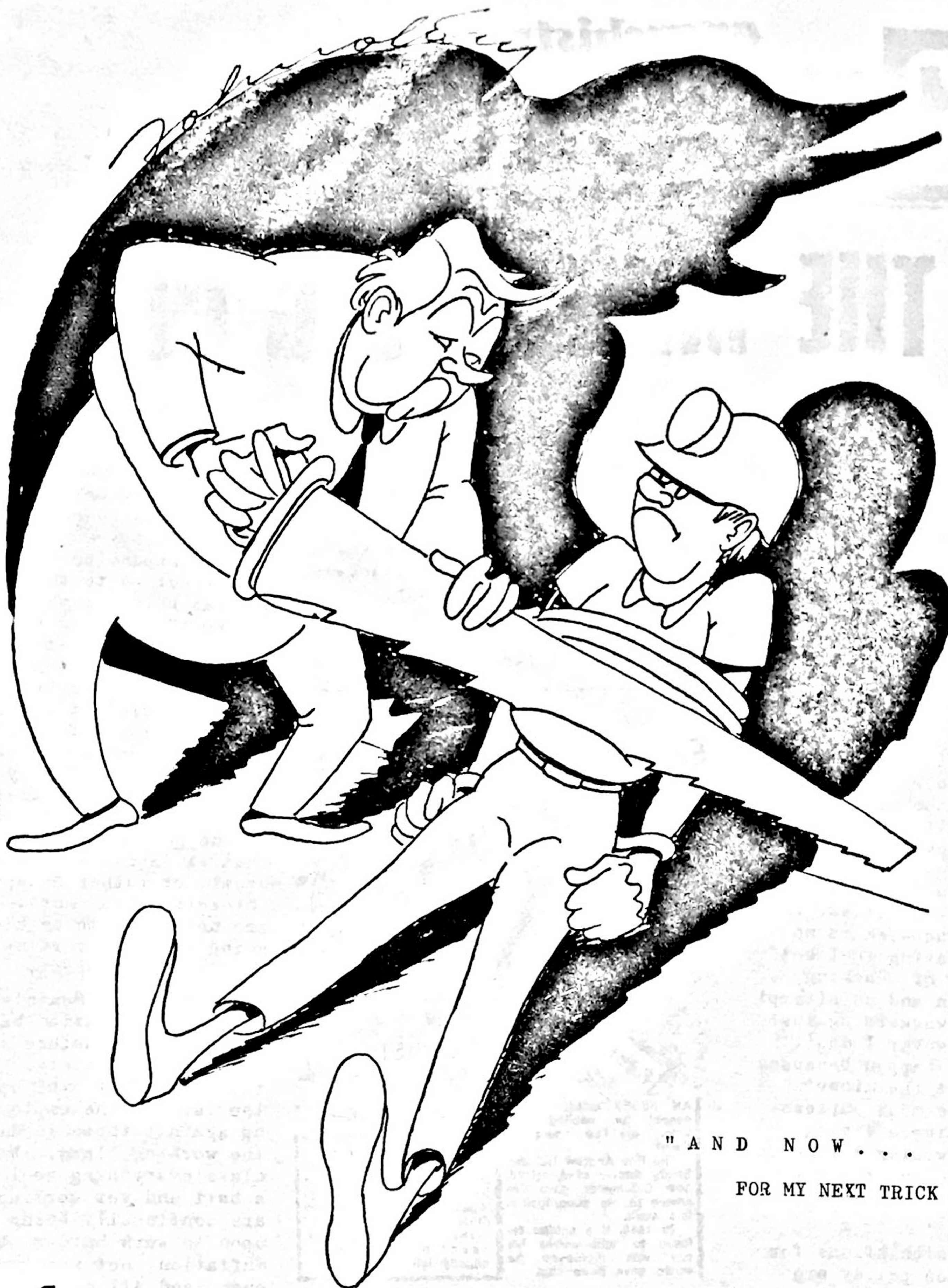
While the effects of the 3-day week will obviously make things hard for many, there is no fear of vast unemployment and hardship that has been the lot of the working class in the past. The fear of authority and poverty is not in the minds of the generations of workers who now mostly form the labour force of this country. Men no longer tremble when the politicians speak of economic doom. However the situation has meant that the Members of Parliament have cut their holiday and are returning to parliament early to debate the issues.

As anarchists we support the stand being made by the miners and do not begrudge them a penny they can force out of the government. We know how badly the miners have been treated in the past, by both Tories and

Labour, and only now, with oil supplies threatened and increasing in price, is the coal industry being taken seriously. The *Times* now writes that "a cast iron guarantee that their industry was set on a path of expansion would surely be attractive to the NUM, as well as being in the national interest". But in the late fifties and the sixties it was in the same "national interest" to close pits and buy cheap oil. The *Times* did not worry then about the loss of jobs more did the Labour and Tory governments of the day. Now they want more miners but are not willing to pay above Phase Three for them. If the government does not see that it is in the national interest, or rather management's interests to pay more, miners are not going to be kidded into going back on overtime for the "national" interest.

At least Mr. Heath's longing for a confrontation has brought out the class nature and divisions within society. We have the government, the opposition, the law and the employers lined up against those in dispute and the working class. Without that class everything would grind to a halt and yet working people are continually being called upon to work harder, blamed for inflation, not working hard enough, and all manner of things when their skills and hard work keep a minority in power, idleness and in the lap of luxury. The working class by the nature of its position in society as producers of wealth has the power to change the social order of capitalism and the profit motive into a free society, where workers would run and control their places of work and what they produced. Such a society would be based on mutual aid, moneyless and stateless. We would no longer work to benefit a minority but for the welfare and benefit of all of the community who would receive each according to his needs and not what he or she could afford. Perhaps then if coal was still needed we could make the job easier by improved machinery and by reducing the hours worked by sharing out this hard, dangerous and dirty work.

P.T.



"AND NOW . . .
FOR MY NEXT TRICK

In Brief

THE UNSPEAKABLE IN PUR- SUIT OF THE UNEATABLE

Mr. Enoch Powell MP went hunting with the Fernie in Leicestershire over Christmas. He was lent a horse by Mr. Reginald Paget, the Labour MP. The meet was at Mr. Paget's "place" near Market Harborough. Mr. Powell fell from his horse and, according to one member of the Hunt, "certainly showed his guts"!

GOD -- THE PROFIT-MAKER

"When I see a rich man I give thanks to God. What do I feel when I see a poor man? It is that he would be poorer still if there were not the opportunity and the national incentive to people to succeed, to become rich, to make profit." (E.Powell)

QUIZ-TIME

A contemptory journal is rather keen on what it calls anarcho-quizzes. This paper is normally less inclined to such frivolities. However, on this occasion we will unbend a little.

Question: Which Postal Authority has issued a Postage Stamp in commemoration of a well-known libertarian revolutionary? (answer below).

*The Mexican. In 1935, a special stamp was issued, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Revolution, with the portrait of Emiliano Zapata on it.

MAO'S MATE

"On the occasion of your birthday, I have the honour of conveying to you thousands of congratulations and the wish for personal happiness." A telegram addressed to Mao Tse-Tung in connection with his 80th birthday, from General Augusto Pinochet, head of the military junta in Chile.

The Queen is to spend £250,000 to modernise Sandringham House, Norfolk. It will take two years to finish the work and it is thought by some that the Queen will qualify for a housing improvement grant.

SPANISH RESISTANCE

THE DAY AFTER the assassination of Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco, the clandestine anarcho-syndicalist group "Accione Directa" sent out of Spain a statement of its "complete identification with the judgement on the premier of the regime of fascist torturers and assassins who oppress and exploit the Spanish people."

They give a long list of people over a wide political spectrum from the various communist-marxist parties, anarchist & libertarian groups, socialists, the (illegal) trade unions, to the "bourgeois reformist" Assembly of Catalonia, who have been arrested in recent months, arrests which have been followed by torture and sometimes cold-blooded murder.

Among the anarchists & syndicalists they name David Urbano (now detained after having already served 4 years in prison), Oriol Solé, José Luis Pons, Antonio Canestro, M. Angustias Mateos, M. Luisa Piquillen, Emilio Pardinás, Santiago Solé, F. Javier Garriga, Salvador Puig Antich.

"Accione Directa" says "Whatever the activity for the future, the urgent and necessary task must be not to lose sight of the fundamental duty of anti-repressive solidarity. For this we call on all the anarchist comrades of the world, all the revolutionary militants and on international public opinion to support the important anti-repressive battles that are in progress in our country, and which the recent events are rendering more acute, more definite and more necessary in order to avoid fascist revenge... But where revolutionary and international solidarity must be shown urgently is in regard to the court martial to take place early this month (January) to try 3 comrades accused of belonging to the M.I.L. (Movimiento Iberico de Liberacion. In the case of one of these, Salvador Puig Antich, the authorities are demanding TWO death penalties." He is accused of having killed a policeman who was arresting him; the report states that the truth is that he was obliged to act in his own defence, when having been arrested he was dragged into a doorway and brutally beaten by the police with their pistols.

President Thieu of South Vietnam said that the war had restarted. "We have now to fight a war with Vietnamese means, with Vietnamese tactics, and conduct an inexpensive war with means provided by our economy."

Review

WIRYAMU

WIRIYAMU by Fr. Adrian Hastings
Search Press, London. £1.50

(Book dedicated to the missionaries of the Burgos Society and to those who died at Wiriyamu & Chawola and to the new Mozambique, the Mozambique of the future and its leaders.)

"A woman called Vaina was told to stand up. She did so, with her little child Xanu in her arms - a nine-month-old baby. She fell pierced by a bullet. The child disengaged itself and sat down next to its dead mother crying frantically, but no one was able to help it. A soldier stepped forward, and it seemed he was going to comfort it. What a delusion! Before the horrified eyes of the people, the soldier kicked the child brutally, slashing its head open. "Shut up, dog!" he said. The prostrate child was no longer crying. It was dead. The soldier turned around, his boots covered with blood. His companions applauded him. "Well done!" they shouted. "You are a brave man!" that was the start of a macabre game of football, for his companions followed his example. And this way, several children died, kicked to death by the soldiers."

From: The Wiriyama Report

"The Portuguese people are not responsible for Wiriyama. On the contrary, they are intimidated and silenced by the DGS (political police) and the whole system of Caetano's government, just as the people of Mozambique and Angola are.

"It was the voice of Chico that shouted "Kill them all," but the powers that paid him, that provided the weapons, that needed his services were not only the DGS, General Kaulza de Arriaga and Marcello Caetano, but producers of military equipment in France, Germany and Britain, the governments of John Vorster and Ian Smith, the economic empire of Anglo-America. It is with all of them that responsibility lies."

Father Adrian Hastings
Wiriyamu

I am more and more convinced that the Vatican has mobilised its spiritual legions in an all out effort to redeem in the eyes of our "un-christian" world its own sins. The Inquisition and the "Autos da Fe" did also cause quotas of human suffering on those who were not prepared to bow in front of the power of the Church - that ob-

scurantist world-wide institution which, in the past, has given special absolution to tyrants, despots and oppressors of defenceless people.

It is comforting to notice that today the Church does not any longer lead people to their "salvation" but is instead busily salvaging its influence and reputation in parts of the Third World (and in the eyes of the emerging new leadership) where less sophisticated people are, due to political and economical reasons, still an easy prey to christian escapist concepts of organised life.

These atheistic remarks are not intended to discredit in any way the author of this new and honest book, Fr. Hastings, the priest who in the columns of The Times accused the Portuguese Army of having committed the horrible crime of mass extermination of 400 men, women and children, almost the entire population of the Wiriyamu village in Mozambique.

It is a pity that Fr. Hastings and other white missionaries insist, after their African experience so vividly documented in this book, in working within the religious framework of the Catholic Church, the same church that motivates spiritually the fascist leaders of Spain, Portugal, and many other leaders of the "civilized" countries... the same church that appoints the chaplains in the Portuguese, South African and Rhodesian armed forces, the same church that gives mass to soldiers before going to battle to kill or to die, the same church that runs fascist schools and orphanages in the Republic of Ireland and that interferes in our sexual and spiritual lives...

Nevertheless, the white missionaries' denunciations of the barbarities committed by the Portuguese colonial forces in Africa and the book Wiriyamu by Father Hastings are most welcome, because their actions are a tribute to their honesty and courage. By putting their freedom and their lives at risk and by braving the authority of their ecclesiastical superiors, they have sided unmistakably with the oppressed people of Africa against their oppressors.

But where their courageous actions fall short in effectiveness is in their decision to remain in the orders and work within a spiritually oppressive institution - the Church - that was in the past and will be in the future another barrier to mankind's emancipation, used by our Western rulers to justify again, on behalf of civilization, the massacre of those daring enough to revolt against all authority.

We should not forget that millions of innocent civilians died in Vietnam and thousands

IN BRIEF

Dear Comrades,

During the Spanish Civil War, General El Campesino became something of a legend. His real name was Valentine Gonzalez, a peasant from Extremadura. Gonzalez's father was an anarchist. Young Valentine followed in his father's footsteps. But after being drafted into the Army, he met a Communist and, late in the 1920s, joined the Communist Party. In 1939, together with many others, Gonzalez escaped to the USSR, where he soon fell foul of the Stalinist State. He was jailed, and for some time, imprisoned in the notorious Labour Camps at Vorkuta. Ultimately, he escaped from the Soviet Union, and about 1950, found his way to Mexico, where he was (presumably) granted political asylum. Both during his stay in the USSR, and afterwards, he was accused by the Stalinists of not being a true Communist, but of being an individualist anarchist. Which was probably true. After settling in Mexico, it appears that he wrote for anarchist papers.

I am hoping that I may be able to write a political biography of El Campesino. Unfortunately, however, I have not been able to find out anything about him following his arrival in Mexico. I do not even know whether he is still alive. No doubt, for obvious reasons, he was forced - at least for a long while - to "lie low". But I would very much appreciate it if anyone could give me any information, however small, (other than his book Listen, Comrades) on Valentine Gonzalez, particularly after 1950.

Yours fraternally,
Peter E. Newell

are still dying in Africa, victims of war waged in the name of Christianity. For this reason, I believe that it is time the soldiers of the State and the soldiers of God deserted their armies and fought instead alongside the dispossessed people. Concluding, I would say that the book by Father Hastings is an excellent (but pricy) acquisition for a libertarian library, because this publication bears witness to the humanistic values defended today by a small minority of priests and religious people, for whom authoritarian regimes are a social aberration to be fought. These "ccmrades" could easily be considered libertarians, were it not for their belief in and association with an invisible and paradoxical God.....and in the particular case of Father Adrian Hastingswith the Liberal Party.

Claude.

A Customs report for 1973 says that officials seized nine tons of cannabis which the Guardian report says was 'disastrous' for smugglers. However, this same report says that cannabis worth between £100 and £330 a pound has risen to £500 a pound. This figure has been questioned.

The Mirror (New Year's Day) reported "Lindsey Davies walked naked into the sea yesterday carrying a placard 'Come on Britain! Take the Plunge'." The Mirror continued: "The news is so depressing," said Lindsey "I decided to make my own protest. If I am prepared to risk pneumonia the Government and the miners and the railwaymen should take a chance . . . I hope they will all get the message." The Mirror's illustration was their usual 50% nudity showing Lindsey's bare backside.

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Evidence suggesting that some members of the Regional Crime Squad kept seized stolen whisky for their own use at Christmas is the subject of investigation at Scotland Yard.

Police in Ireland were seeking a man released from the Maze detention centre in error for another man of the same name.

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The wife of the Israeli President thought that 3,000 copies of Playboy might lift the morale of Israeli troops. The deputy Education Minister of the Orthodox National Religious Party protested. Then the Union of Immigrant Rabbis from Western countries appealed to have the Playboy distribution cancelled. Other orthodox groups in Israel said the magazines would 'impair the moral fibre of our soldiers'. The order was cancelled.

A write filed by James Earl Ray, convicted of the assassination of Martin Luther King, contends that several people conspired in the 1968 King assassination.

Surrey County Council is having to spend an extra £97,000 to provide accommodation for homeless families. 87 families with 137 children had to be given emergency hotel accommodation at a cost of £21,887.

The National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders claims that the prison population could be reduced by a third by the use of community service orders. It costs £40 a week to keep a man in prison, says NACRO, and £140 is the average total cost of a community service order.

The Sunday News of the World wails "Give us Back our Television, Ted" referring to the 10.30 p.m. television emergency close-down. News of the World proprietors have holdings in commercial television.

The Minister of State for Defence gave Ulster as the main reason why fewer people are joining the armed forces. At a joint Services conference for heads of girls' schools (ricketed by the 'Troops Out' Movement) he said up to October 1973 only 27,000 joined as opposed to 43,000 the year before.

C.P. "AIMS"

"Aims of Industry" have been spending large sums of money, inserting advertisements in the national press, in an attempt to prove that much of the current industrial unrest in this country is caused by the Communist Party. I have no wish to come to the defence of the C.P., in order to prove that they are quite irrelevant and that, far from "creating unrest", they, more often than not, attempt to impede the workers in their struggles for higher wages and improved conditions of work; but I do consider it my duty to mention at least some of the sources from which "Aims of Industry" obtain the large sums of money to pay for these misleading, "McCarthyite" advertisements. "Aims of Industry's" leading contributors include: Arthur Guinness & Son, British Leyland Motor Corporation, British-American Tobacco, Guest Keen & Nettlefolds, Rank, Hovis & McDougal, Tate & Lyle (the British Sugar Corporation), Taylor Woodrow and T.F. Firth & Sons. No doubt Mr. Ivens of "Aims" also says: "When I see a rich man I give thanks to God."

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Cancho Panza.

RAZZMATAZZ AT HEATHROW

IN A WEEK that has seen the limitation of the production of bread ('There is no rationing and need be no queues' is the usual government view) we have been provided with a super security circus at Heathrow. An almost combined op by police, airport police and army almost sealed off the airport from prospective terrorists who, it is reported, had possession of Russian rocket missiles which could be used to bring down airliners coming in to Heathrow. The extension of the operation to Windsor Park gave an extra thrill to the patriotic. However, it was disclosed it was not to protect her Majesty (who is anyhow at Sandringham waiting for the builders to come) but the Park gave opportunity for terrorists to position their supposed missile launchers.

The whole episode (or is it a serial?) is so wrapped in mystery or security as some call it that it gives endless scope for tittle tattle, gossip, rumours, official reports, scientific appraisals or a pontification from an urban guerilla-warfare expert (every University has one!) to fill up the doom-laden columns of the Press. It takes one's mind off the crises to dwell on imaginary terrors.

This Operation Stable-Door as one could call it follows the arrival of four (or was it five?) romantic revolutionaries from Santa Barbara, California passing through the Customs with a suitcase full of weapons and trailed by police (of course!) to the assignation. This, following closely on the attempted assassination of the head of Marks and Spencer seemed, in the public mind (which was all that was necessary) to be a lightning response to this useless - and inefficient - attack. Quite obviously it was just the firm closing and padlocking in full public view, of a looted stable.

All it succeeded in doing was capturing four not-very-desperate plotters. For a while there was utter confusion aided by secrecy. An extended period of detention far beyond Habeas Corpus limits was officially justified by the easy statement that the girl was an alien. A rumour (it could be nothing else) that they were anti-zionist terrorists organising a cell in London (a cell already?) was succeeded by another rumour that nothing would be done about them for fear of Arab reprisals.

Then a brilliant mind came up with the story that it was an anti-Moroccan plot, they've been having trouble in Morocco lately. Following this a Moroccan minis-

ter was sent for (or called at) the Foreign Office. End of Moroccan story. But such was the spontaneously organised public indignation of three or four newspapers the D.P.P. decided to prosecute the four.

Meanwhile, a fifth 'member' of the group arrived at Heathrow airport. (No matter what it is, there's always someone turns up late!) Not only was she late, but one of her suitcases (presumably the one with the rocket-launchers) had gone on to Mad Madrid. . . who can blame it? It was decided, national honour or not, this one could be sent back to New York.

Fast on the heels of this brilliant coup comes the Razzmetazz at Heathrow (too bad if they arrive at any other airport. But then terrorists always fly by the best airlines.

* * *

This scenario for prompt, firm action is superimposed upon the other script of the emergency crisis confrontation. There are certain situations where government and authorities can do very little, all they can and do do is to increase their own powers and put on a great show of action for action's sake. Action that will do little to solve the problem, but succeeds in shifting blame, entertaining the public, and making matters worse.

J.R.

WAR GAMES

IN AN EFFORT to overcome the lack of success of its recruiting campaigns the US Army is spending more than £25 million on luxurious new barracks in Colorado, Oklahoma and Texas. They will provide spacious quarters for male and female GI's under the same roof. Civilians will be employed to look after the housekeeping!

* * *

Since the signing of the peace agreement in Paris a year ago more than 56,000 people have been killed in Vietnam, according to figures issued recently in Saigon. In the same period 120,000 people have been wounded.

T.P.

GREEK CONCENTRATION CAMPS

A CONCENTRATION CAMP for political prisoners has been re-opened by the Greek government on the island of Yaros (or Yura as it is named in some reports). The camp was erected on this rocky, waterless island in 1967 but it was closed at the end of 1968 after international protests when a Red Cross report revealed how bad the living conditions were.

At the end of last month an initial group of about 25 political prisoners were secretly deported to the island. Among these are believed to be a number of students involved in the incidents at Athens Polytechnic in November when students and workers barricaded themselves in the building to protest at the arrest of 5 people after riots at the memorial service for former Premier Papandreu. Slogans such as "Freedom" and "General Strike" were painted on the walls of the Polytechnic. An illegal radio station broadcast calls for the revolutionary overthrow of the government. Martial law was introduced by President Papadopoulos to quell the disturbances which he blamed on "anarchists who exploited the naivety of some people". Eventually the barricades were removed by tanks and a number of people were killed.

However, the government's "weakness" in the face of the popular revolt angered the Army, and President Papadopoulos and his cronies were swept from power by another military coup. Although Lieut.-Gen. Gizikis assumed the presidency, the driving force behind the coup consisted of Col. Demetrios Ionnides, commander of the military police who are notorious for their brutal "interrogation" of political prisoners. Clearly, Ionnides is well pleased at the re-opening of the concentration camp on Yaros.

2,200 years ago the Greek philosopher Zeno anticipated the ideas of contemporary anarchists with his anti-State and anti-authoritarian ideas and yet, today, the Greek people are still struggling to overthrow the tyrants who deny them control of their own lives. The various rulers of Greece have engaged in elaborate public relations exercises to change the tarnished image of the regime -- we must ensure that they do not succeed. We can aid the struggle for freedom in Greece by publicising and protesting on the streets about the imprisonment and torture of those who are sacrificing their lives and limited ability to resist the dictatorship.

Terry Phillips

MAKHNO INTERVIEWS LENIN

In Spain the Communist Party is compelled to pay tribute to the memory of a great anarchist fighter, Buenaventura Durruti. But in Soviet Russia everything possible is done to extirpate the memory of just as great an anarchist revolutionary, Nestor Makhno. Monstrous slanders of the vilest sort are spread about him by the Soviet authorities even now, 17 years after the historic struggle waged by him on the revolutionary fronts of Ukraina.

The difference is due to the simple fact that in Spain the anarchists are incomparably stronger than in Soviet Russia of 17 years ago. They are stronger not only in point of numbers, but by their realistic approach to problems of organization and revolutionary reconstruction.

The portions of Makhno's interview reprinted here are of great interest now in connection with the leading role played by the Spanish anarchists in the present struggle. Lenin's ideas of anarchists were highly unjust even in relation to the Russian anarchists of that period (and Makhno pointed it out to him in description of the role of the Anarchists in Ukraina), but they sound as a sheer anachronism when applied to the present day. And with all that the communists of all factions (Trotzkyites included) are guided by those outworn ideas in their attitude to the present day anarchist movement of the world.

There is another point to be noted in this connection. In the course of this interview (it took place in the summer of 1918) Lenin paid high compliments to Makhno. Lenin was not given to personal flattery and there was no reason why he should have indulged in such in regard to a rank and file revolutionary such as Makhno was at the time of the interview. The tribute was heartfelt and was based upon the direct impressions given him by Makhno.

But only 7 or 8 months later Trotzky was thundering (not without Lenin's blessing) against Makhno, branding him in his infamous circulars sent out to the army as a "counter-revolutionist and bandit".

Was it that Lenin's famed perspicacity failed him in respect of this man Makhno? Or did the Communist Party proceed so rapidly in its dictatorial course that the criterion of revolutionary integrity changed radically in about 7-8 months? A counter-revolutionist was no more one that fought the reactionary forces but one that dared to look for solutions of his own without taking the last word of the Party as the ultimate truth.

The portions of the interview reprinted here were taken from Makhno's book "Revolution and Counter-revolution in Ukraina". The first volume was issued several years ago and was translated into several languages. The second volume dealing with the early period of German occupation and Makhno's wanderings in the various parts of Soviet Russia appeared recently in the Russian language. (the other volumes will follow soon.)

Makhno makes his last preparation for his underground work in Ukraina. Sverdlov, the first secretary of the Communist Party, who took some interest in Makhno's preparations arranges for him an interview with Lenin. After having plied him with questions as to his intentions, plans of work and the attitude of the peasantry to the occupationists, Lenin passes to a general discussion of the anarchists.

MAKHNO'S STORY

...."Turning to Sverdlov, Lenin said: Anarchists have something of the self-denying heroism about them, they are always ready for sacrifices; but withal they are myopic fanatics, they ignore the present for the far away future.

But then, asking me not to take it as a personal reflection upon myself, he added: You, comrade, I hold to be a man belonging to real life, responding to the living actualities of the day to day struggle. Were even one third of the Russian anarchist-communists like you, we, communists,

would be ready to go in for certain agreements with you and work together for the benefit of a free organization of producers. (Ed. note: emphasis is ours)I shot back at him: Anarchist-communists hold the interests of the revolution near to their heart. And that shows that in this respect they are all the same.

— Well — said Lenin, smiling thereby — We know the anarchists no less than you do. Most of them think very little about the present. But for a revolutionist not to think of it, not to define his attitude toward it is more than shameful. Most of the anarchists think and write about the future, without understanding the present: this is what separates us, communists, from them.

Having spoken his last phrase, Lenin rose from his chair and, pacing up and down the studio room, he added:

— Yes, yes, the anarchists are strong by their thoughts of the future; but in the present they are uprooted, pitiful, and that is so because their empty fanaticism prevents them from establishing any links with that future.

Sverdlov turned in my direction, saying — You can hardly deny that the remarks of Vladimir Ilyitch are quite correct.

— Did the anarchists ever realize their lack of roots in the life of this "present". They never even think of it — said Lenin, taking up the thread of the same conversation.

I answered to them both, saying that I am only a semi-literate peasant and am hardly capable of taking up Lenin on this involved idea about anarchism which he had just expressed to me.

But — I said — your statement, comrade Lenin, that the anarchists do not understand the "present", and are not linked with it in a real sense is basically wrong. The anarchist-communists of Ukraina gave too many proofs of their close ties with this present. The struggle of the revolutionary peasantry against the Ukrainian Central Rada (the petty bourgeois, chauvinistic government of Ukraina during the first period of German occupation) was taking place under the ideological leadership of the anarchist-communists and partly of the Russian social-revolutionists. You bolsheviks were conspicuous by your absence as far as the villages were concerned.

— Almost all the agricultural communes and cooperatives in Ukraina were created by the initiative of the anarchist-communists. And the armed struggle of the working population of Ukraina against the counter-revolution as a whole and the expeditionary armies of Germany and Austro-Hungary in particular — wasn't all that started by anarchist-communists? True, party interests dictate to you the policy of ignoring all that, but those are facts which you yourself cannot refute.

—You, I suppose, know well the number and the fighting ability of the revolutionary columns of Ukraina. Well, a good half of them fought under anarchist banners. All the commanders of those columns, the very naming of whom would take away so much of our time, all of them are anarchist-communists.

—All that tells quite convincingly how much you, comrade Lenin, erred in stating that we anarchist-communists are helpless, pitiful in the "present", although we do like to think about "the future". What I told you now is above any doubt and it points to a conclusion opposite to the one you arrived at. It tells that we, anarchist-communists, are deeply immersed in the "present", that we work in it and seek to find through it a road to the future, of which we keep on thinking in a very serious manner...."

THIS ARTICLE is reprinted from VANGUARD, a libertarian communist journal, published in New York in the 1930s. The interview appeared in Vol. 3 No. 5, December 1936.

were misled in 1848 and which are still resorted to with the hope of misleading them. Let us have the courage to recognise that Well-being for all henceforward possible, must be realised. When the workers claimed the right to work in 1848, national and municipal workshops were organized and workmen were sent to drudge there at 1s.8d a day!"

This fetish of 'work for work's sake' is currently accepted by most of the Left. Karl Marx in the Gotha Programme gave as the aim of the revolution "From each according to his abilities, to each according to his needs".

In Cuba, that newest experiment in Socialism, there was the 13th Workers' Congress in November last. Granma features it in its issue of Nov. 25th and headlines on its masthead "The Economic Battle is Fundamental, and it can only be won with the greatest participation of all our workers." On page 7 it revises Marx with the headline or appalling mistranslation "That each contribute according to his ability, that each receive according to his work" is a principle, an inexorable law in the construction of Socialism". Shades of Animal Farm!

Mr. Heath has burnt down the house of the six-day week. It will probably not interfere with vital production of the necessities of life but it will interfere with the distribution of those metal and paper tokens which it is necessary to have to exchange for those necessities. We can savour the delicacy of our increased leisure but is it necessary to burn down the house to do that?

Let us insist on the right to live.

Jack Robinson.

Sabotage!

THE GOVERNMENT'S decree on a 3-day working week is intended to turn public opinion against the miners. However, it is stimulating retaliation from some of the Government's own clerical workers. A circular issued by the Civil Service Department last week threatened to cut the pay of these workers if they did not cut their lunch hours in order to make up time lost when offices close early through lack of lighting. (Most offices are closing at 3-3.30 on the 2 days a week when electricity is not available, because it is too dark to work.) The high-handed circular from the employers resulted in angry responses from rank-and-file union members and the union leaders we were forced to extract a hasty apology from the employers.

Militants are refusing to shorten lunch hours or rearrange working times in retaliation at the Government's sabotage strategy. T.P.

SPANISH RESISTANCE FUND
c/o T.P. & P.T. at
FREEDOM (84B Whitechapel
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CORBY ANARCHISTS, Discussion
mtg. first Friday every month
at 7 Cresswell Walk, 7.30 p.m.

LIVERPOOL ASA contact May Stone
C.32 Summerfield, Tower Hill,
Kirkby, near Liverpool.

LONDON ASA phone 226 0817 for inf.

INDUSTRIAL NETWORK - W. Allin,
c/o 9 Wood Road, Manchester 16

IRISH LIBERTARIAN SOCIALIST FED
write New Earth, 112 Thomas St.
Dublin 8.

SOME LONDON ANARCHISTS meet socially
Sundays 7.30 at Finch's
The One Tun, Goodge St. W.1.
(Don't ask at bar.)

BELFAST NINE DEFENCE COMMITTEE
88 Roslyn Road, London, N.15

STOKE NEWINGTON FIVE SOLIDARITY
COMMITTEE is at 54 Harcombe Rd
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GIOVANNI MARINI DEFENCE COMMITTEE:
Paolo Braschi, C.P. 4263,
20100 MILAN, Italy.

THE RELEASE MARTIN SOSTRE COMMITTEE
(U.K. group) 83A Haverstock Hill,
London NW3 (tel. 586 2038). Trying to raise a
£5,000 Fighting Fund to assist appeals and combat his ill-treatment in prison. Donations to above address.

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SATURDAY 12 Jan. Picket & leaf-
letting in solidarity with im-
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Spanish Resistance: Iberian Air-
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Further details phone Terry
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door. (See below).

In Support of Political Prison-
ers: ANARCHIST CABARET 2 & 16
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Feb. CABARET OF THE MINORITIES
"Gay Chansons". All perfs. at
83A Haverstock Hill start 8 p.m.
sharp. Doors open 7.30 p.m.

MENTAL PATIENTS UNION as from 12
Jan. meets every Sat. 2 p.m. at
The Robin Farquarson Hse, 37 May-
ola Rd. Clapton E5 (tel. 986 5251)
Open to all mental patients & ex-
patients. Meeting followed by
coffee & work group. "MPU News"
no. 3 avail. shortly, price to
non-members 10p + post.

LONDON SCH. of NONVIOLENCE at
Crypt of St. Martin in the Fields
Trafalgar Sq. Mon. 14 Jan. Portu-
guese Colonialism in Africa; Wed.
16 Jan Alternative Law and Order.
6.30 - 9 p.m.

New York: LIBERTARIAN BOOK CLUB
1974 Lectures: Alternate Thurs-
days 7.30 p.m. at Workmen's Cir-
cle Center, 369 8th Ave. (SW cor-
ner of 29 St.) Admission Free.
Feb. 14: IWW N.Y. Branch "LIP
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Sam Dolgoff "The Spanish Col-
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