

## PAY FREEZE AND JOBLESS

# TORIES HOLD TWO THREATS OVER TUC

BY DAVID MAUDE

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FROM OUR OWN  
CORRESPONDENT

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This was disclosed by union officials yesterday after a two-hour meeting with management representatives from the four upper Clyde yards.

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He explained that most of the labour force of 1,900 at Clydebank were employed for the time being by the UCS liquidator on completion of ships.

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Meanwhile James Fox, chief executive at the Clydebank yard, said that Marathon would be ordering steel this week for its first contract—a jack-up oil-rig, probably to be used in the North Sea.

Yet the central assumption of the union chiefs' participation in today's talks is the continuation in office of a Tory government whose sole aim is to plan such a defeat.

Before the all-day meeting will be Treasury and other papers whose message is that if the TUC does not help cut its members' real wages, hundreds of thousands more workers will be thrown out of their jobs.

And Heath and his senior economics Ministers can be counted on to spell out another threat: if the union top brass cannot stop pay claims, the government will do it by law.

Even to take part in such talks is a betrayal. Yet not a single Labour 'left' or Communist Party union leader at last week's TUC challenged the General Council's right to engage in them.

And as the 'Financial Times' shrewdly pointed out yesterday: 'The TUC is formally committed to oppose wage restraint, but the wording of the resolution passed at last week's Congress was extremely vague and leaves the TUC representatives free to negotiate if they wish to do so.'

Again—as Workers Press pointed out last Friday—there was complete unanimity between right, left and the CP Stalinists behind this resolution.

This, of course, flows logically from the whole reformist policy of these tendencies since the Tory government came to office in June 1970. Their betrayal of the fight against the Industrial Relations Act has proceeded in step with their betrayal on these economic issues.

At the same time that the March 18 special Congress at Croydon last year voted down industrial action to stop the anti-union Bill, the General Council was sowing illusions in the possibility of negotiating price controls and a cut in the jobless figures with the Tories.

The refusal of 'left' leaders, Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon, to challenge that retreat on legislation went hand in hand with their complete acceptance of the phoney economic perspectives of the right wing.

Scanlon could not challenge right-wing TUC president George Smith's talk last week about the possibility of 'co-operative effort' on economic problems with the Tories because since March this year he has been busily peddling the idea of reduced 'abrasiveness' between government and unions.

But let us look again at the background to today's talks.

The Tory government is committed to entry into the Common Market on January 1, 1973. On Tuesday the Finance Ministers of the enlarged Market agreed in Rome to 'take co-ordinated action to fight inflation throughout the Community'. (See p.2)

This is the clearest possible declaration that the Tories intend in just over three months to push through massive increases in prices, to bring Britain's in line with Europe's, and at the same time settle accounts with the working class.

No doubt the Finance Ministers had some sharp things to say about the determined builders' pay struggle, the big Ford pay claim and the forthcoming battles involving power and local-authority manual workers.

TURN TO PAGE 12

### Navy yard pay strikers seeking wider support



Deptford pickets try to turn a lorry away from the local dockyard depot yesterday

WORKERS at the naval storage establishment at Deptford, south east London, are calling on men at other naval yards in southern England to support their wages fight.

In particular they are asking for solidarity strike action from men at Plymouth, Chatham and Portsmouth establishments.

The 250 Deptford men, all members of the Transport and General Workers'

Union, came out on strike on Tuesday in support of their pay claim and in sympathy with the workers at Rosyth yard.

The 4,000 Rosyth workers have been out for a month after an insulting pay offer from the government.

The 200,000 state industrial workers have been offered an increase which does not bring lower-paid workers within even the

TUC £20 minimum wage.

Deptford shop steward Ted Cope said 70 stewards representing government workers throughout the country met in London on Monday and unanimously called for escalation of the strike.

Another steward, Charlie Bell, said the Deptford men would have to consider picketing southern England establishments if they were reluctant to come out.



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# What we think

# PICKETING AND SLANDER



CIR chairman Leonard Neal

THE ATTACK on building workers' pickets by Commission on Industrial Relations chairman Leonard Neal, is part of the Tory government's offensive against workers' rights.

Speaking on Tuesday night's Radio 4 programme 'It's Your Line', Neal alleged that money from 'dubious sources' was being used to finance flying pickets.

He went on: 'I am not talking about Red gold from Moscow. I am saying it is not trade union funds which are being used. It is money being acquired from other sources and I am not prepared to go any further at this stage.' Neal also claimed that the flying pickets were 'invaders' who were 'miners today, dockers tomorrow and building workers next week.'

The right to picket, like the right to strike, has been won over years of struggle and is essential to the working class. As the economic crisis worsens, Neal's slander is intended to alarm the middle class and create a climate favourable to further Tory

inroads into workers' conditions and attacks on working-class organizations.

There is no doubt that Neal and his masters in the Tory government are encouraged by the capitulation of the TUC and union leaders to the Industrial Relations Act and the government's wages policy. (Neal himself is an ex-T&GWU official.)

The more these leaders back down, the more aggressive the ruling class becomes. Yet some workers' leaders lend themselves to these attacks. According to yesterday's 'Journal of Commerce', this is exactly what Jimmy Symes, chairman of the Liverpool dockers' shop stewards has done.

Symes is reported as having attacked picketing at a meeting of the English Speaking Union in Liverpool on Monday night. Answering the question 'What is your opinion of the methods used by dockers in picketing?' the 'Journal of Commerce' quotes Symes as saying:

'I did not agree with the picketing at Hull, and do not support picketing at all.

I also disagree with violence. All meetings where voting takes place have concluded with assurances that decisions will not result in violence or intimidation.'

Later Symes, a Labour Party member, repeated: 'Picketing is not justified.'

While Symes was lending his assistance to Neal, the 'Daily Mail' was announcing a confidential intelligence service 'to screen Trotskyist militants who apply for jobs'.

A spokesman for the far-right Economic League told the 'Mail': 'If a member-firm approaches us for private information we would tell him what we know. Our purpose is to oppose subversion.'

The 'Mail' also quotes a building executive who said he gave the Economic League a list of 18 building workers who had applied for jobs with his company. 'Within 24 hours they were able to tell me that eight of the men had been involved in disruptions at other sites.'

The cost of living is rising for millions of workers due to the 'fair rents' Act

and will soar still more with entry into the Common Market. Yet the TUC leaders made it clear at Brighton that they are anxious to co-operate with the Tory government.

Under these conditions, workers have a greater right than ever to fight for wage increases. Talk of 'subversion' when workers' exercise their established rights is a clear sign that these rights themselves are under attack.

Neal's suggestions must be rejected and leaders like Symes, who give encouragement to the enemy, must be repudiated.

## NLF supplied for two years -- CIA

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

THE CENTRAL Intelligence Agency believes that the North Vietnamese can continue the war at its present rate for two more years according to reports in the 'New York Times'.

It quoted a high-ranking intelligence official as saying that although the heavy bombing had hit designated targets, it had failed 'to meaningfully slow the flow of men and equipment to South Vietnam'.

The Hanoi paper 'Nhan Dan' claims that over 450 US planes have been shot down over the North since April and that hundreds of airmen have been killed or captured. Another 1,500 planes had been destroyed by guerrillas in the south.

The paper added that Sunday's guerrilla attack on Bien Hoa airport near Saigon, in which nearly 100 planes were destroyed or damaged, was the 'heaviest punishment to the US-Saigon air forces since the start of the South Vietnamese people's offensive more than five months ago'.

Heavy ground-fighting has con-

tinued around Quang Tri, where a group of Saigon shock troops tried to force its way into the citadel. They came under lethal fire from North Vietnamese artillery.

## Kissinger stays in Moscow

PRESIDENTIAL adviser, Henry Kissinger, held his third day of talks in the Kremlin yesterday and is due in London today.

Obviously some important questions were involved in the Moscow talks as Kissinger had been expected to have a day off for sightseeing. After visiting London, he will go on to Paris, where it is likely that a secret meeting will take place with North Vietnamese Politburo member Le Duc Tho.

A deal may have been made with the Kremlin to force the

North Vietnamese to make a compromise peace in return for some US concessions to the bureaucracy on other questions. The calling of a European Security Conference, possible troop cuts in Europe and trade probably entered into the talks.

As the bureaucracy faces mounting economic difficulties, it becomes more desperate to settle differences with capitalist states on the lines of peaceful co-existence. The Vietnamese revolution will be willingly sacrificed to this end.

# Cash crisis will govern EEC summit

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

ALL THE BASIC problems surrounding the enlargement of the Common Market are still left in suspense—even though the Rome agreement to set up a European Monetary Co-operation Fund now makes the October 19 Summit of the Ten possible.

The Ministers of Finance and Foreign Affairs of the six-member and four applicant countries meeting in Rome were under pressure from a number of factors to reach some kind of an agreement. The situation has changed since June when French President Pompidou began to cast doubts on the utility of a summit.

Failure to continue talks and hold the summit would have precipitated an open split in the enlarged European Community even before Britain's entry.

It would have opened the way for a fresh round of currency speculation of the kind which brought down the pound in June.

It would have greatly weakened the hand of the European countries at the International Monetary Fund meeting to be held on September 23 in Washington.

The uncontrollable inflation now sweeping every country, and the strength of the working class which lays behind it, has impressed the Community governments with the need to do something. The hope that some kind of international action can succeed where every government has failed utterly is another symptom of crisis.

The Americans continue with impunity to pump thousands of millions of unwanted dollars into the world market. These dollars, no longer backed by gold since the measures taken by Nixon on August 15, 1971, are convertible into other currencies and no country has yet been able to do anything about it.

The antagonisms between European and American capitalism, which this flood of dollars represents, become more acute every day. Both sides are preparing for an escalation of the trade war with the Japanese forcing the pace.

The haste in reaching agreement did not mean that the deep differences between the European countries on monetary questions had been resolved.

The new Fund will be administered by the central banks and merely replaces existing, less formal arrangements for co-operation to deal with balance-of-payments problems and changes in exchange rates.

The differences between the European capitalist countries are too deep to have been bridged by a get-together after the holidays, in Rome or anywhere else.

# Gun-law patrol against left?

THE ISRAELI demand for international action against terrorism is nothing more than a blueprint for civil war on an international scale.

In the Knesset debate on the Munich shoot-out, premier Mrs Golda Meir stated that Israel would 'smite the terrorists wherever it can reach them'. She added: 'That is its national duty to itself and to peace.'

Opposition leader Menahem Begin—a former leader of the Zionist terror organization Hagannah, which operated against the Arabs and the British under the Palestine mandate—went even further:

'Israel must safeguard the lives of its citizens wherever they are and such precautions do not violate the sovereignty of the nations where the terrorists operate. If there is a need for a special squad to be set up for this purpose, let it be set up.'

Last week Labour leader Harold Wilson put forward a similar proposal, calling for the establishment of special units trained for 'anti-terrorist' operations at British airports.

COMMENT BY JOHN SPENCER

In West Germany, Federal Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has already approved the formation of a special anti-terrorist police unit to act as a federal emergency reserve for all ten state governments.

Trigger-happy West German police recently murdered a British businessman in the course of an anti-terrorist manhunt.

The atmosphere for these measures is being intensified by a huge witch-hunt of Arabs all over western Europe. West Germany is changing its immigration laws to introduce tighter controls over north African immigrants and a manhunt is under way for Palestinian commando supporters.

The German social-democratic government with their British colleagues close behind is proving itself a worthy heir of the Scheidemanns and Noskes who set right-wing military murder squads to kill Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht in 1919.

The question of terrorism was also high on the agenda of the Common Market Foreign Ministers' meeting in Rome. They decided unanimously to take a

joint stand on the topic at the United Nations and strengthen co-operation among their own security forces.

Kurt Waldheim, the UN secretary-general, has himself called for international action against 'increasing terrorism' and the question is certain to be discussed at the session of the General Assembly starting next Tuesday.

The unanimity among the imperialist powers on this issue is a clear indication of the break-up of capitalist stability and the stepping up of gun rule over oppressed peoples and revolutionary organizations.

It elevates the sinister methods long used by the US Central Intelligence Agency to a worldwide system, under the phoney slogan of maintaining law and order internationally.

The spokesmen of big business condemn the 'terror' waged by the dispossessed Palestinians, but glory in the vindictive terrorist so-called counter-measures taken by the Zionists against the wretched refugees driven from their homes to enable the state of Israel to exist.

They support the continuous

## Trade figures deep in the red

BRITAIN'S trade plunged heavily into the red last month with a hefty £193m foreign trade deficit.

This was the biggest deficit since August 1970. As in August that year, the figures were affected by a docks strike.

The Trade Department claimed that the figures were no guide to underlying trends. Figures will be influenced by the dock strike for some months until import and export backlogs are cleared.

'Because of recording procedures', it said, 'August figures showed a much heavier fall in exports than in imports.'

'In the meantime', it claims, 'the monthly statistics will be of little or no value in assessing current trends.'

# 'Zionists try to blacken us'

## PLO's London envoy denies re-call story

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW BY IAN YEATS

**ZIONIST efforts to smear Palestine freedom fighters as international gangsters moved to London on Tuesday.**

Pro-Zionist writer Jon Kimche wrote in the right-wing 'Evening Standard' that the Palestine Liberation Organization's British envoy Said Hammami had been called home because he was too soft.

He wrote: 'The decision had been taken before the Munich shooting and is part of a general "toughening up" of the Palestinian representation in western Europe.'

According to Kimche, a five-man undercover team had been sent to Britain to replace Hammami.

They '... had arrived in London in the midst of the Munich crisis and did not at all like Mr Hammami's handling of the affair.'

In a second exclusive interview with Workers Press the Arab envoy denied he had been ordered to return to the Middle East by the Fatah leadership.

'It is absolute rubbish. There is no truth in it at all,' he told me.

'Evening Standard' reporters were turned away on Monday empty-handed from the PLO's temporary British headquarters at the Piccadilly offices of the Arab League.

Hammami said that Kimche had not spoken to him or any of his staff to confirm the story published that night.

- He denied:
- That Fatah leaders are dissatisfied with his work.
  - That he has been recalled.
  - That five men have been sent to replace him.
  - That the Palestinians are toughening up their line.

He alleged Kimche was deliberately trying to blacken Palestinians in the eyes of the world.

He said: 'He has done it in a very clever way, mixing in some things which are true, for instance that Leila Khaled is pregnant.'

He added: 'I think the impression is growing among English people that the Palestinians are not killers and he wants to give the idea killers are being sent.'

Hammami has had anonymous letters and phone calls—he suspects come from fanatical Zionists — threatening to burn him alive and blow off his head.

Despite Zionist



Said Hammami, PLO envoy, in his London office

hysteria at the slaughter of their athletes the decision to unleash the bloodbath at Furstenfeldbruck airstrip was taken with the clandestine complicity of Moshe Dayan who was in Munich and travelled to the Olympic Village at 7.30 p.m. after arriving through a side entrance at the airport.

Right up to the last, the Arab commandos postponed their threatened slaughter of the 11 sportsmen and they finally died on the American military airfield in a hail of German police bullets.

Every effort has been

made to gloss over whose finger was on the triggers of the guns which mowed them down and the extent of the complicity of the Israeli ruling class.

And a campaign based on accusations of mindless terror has been whipped up to brush under the carpet the real objective for which the Palestinians are fighting — the restoration of their homeland occupied by the Zionists.

Hammami believes Kimche's efforts are calculated to destroy the PLO's mission in Britain.

# What an extraordinary wedding!

## The bridegroom is deported to Algeria

BY ALEX MITCHELL

AT ISLINGTON Town Hall last week, shortly after 1.30 p.m. a black Mercedes pulled up. A man, handcuffed between two Special Branch officers, was hustled into the building—for his wedding.

Mike Sirros was marrying Pauline Conroy at the registry office just down from Pentonville Prison where Sirros had been an inmate for the past four months.

Accompanying the bridegroom were not only Special Branch men with suspicious bulges in their jackets, but also an assistant commissioner of police and a deputy governor of the jail.

There was one electrifying moment when one of the more exuberant wedding guests whipped out a plastic machine gun and began waving it about. After a 20-minute ceremony, Sirros was bundled into the Mercedes and driven back to his cell.

Last Saturday under similar stringent security he was taken to Heathrow Airport to be deported to Algeria.

Sirros's 'crime'? His visa had run out. Why all the heavy security? Was he a notorious criminal? Not at all. There is not a single conviction against him in this country although he had been frequently charged with minor offences—none of which have been proven.

His wife, Pauline, was originally picked up in the massive Stoke Newington arrests last year and charged with bombing and conspiracy offences.

But when the committal proceedings began the police entered a *nolle prosequi*—that is to say they offered no evidence against her and she was discharged.

That was early this year. Since then Miss Conroy has been re-arrested and charged with having possession of a weapon to which she is pleading not guilty.

Sirros was then picked up and held in Brixton prison for remaining in Britain after his visa had run out.

Sirros's lawyers launched an



PHOTOGRAPHS: DAVID WILLS

**Above:** Handcuffed to a Special Branch police officer, bridegroom Mike Sirros, with drink still in hand and wife Pauline on his other arm, is dragged from his wedding reception back to jail. **Left:** Mike and Pauline seen earlier at the reception.

served on the judge, he was again picked up and placed in prison prior to deportation.

Then followed an astonishing series of legal and diplomatic moves in which no less than 14 countries declined to allow Sirros to enter. Sirros's lawyers believe that pressure may have been exerted on these countries to prevent their client from gaining admittance.

A couple of weeks ago, however, he learned that Algeria, one of the last countries to which he had applied, had agreed to grant him residence... but only if he married.

So the wedding was staged at Islington Town Hall last week with a curious set of law men and 'colourful people' in attendance.

Sirros, a social worker, has many friends in the squatting and community action world.

Although no food or drink is allowed in the environs of the

registry office, the guests managed to smuggle in a veritable banquet, including champagne.

To the consternation of the council officials and the police, the lavish reception was suddenly staged.

The police were having none of it.

With handcuffs on one wrist, Sirros was almost dragged from the reception to the waiting limousine. The beautiful people had had their demo—but Sirros was on his way to deportation.

A spokesman for Sirros's lawyers at the North Kensington Neighbourhood Law Centre said yesterday that the actions against the judge, the police commissioner and the policeman would go ahead.

'These actions are not a stunt,' he said. 'Important questions are at stake.'

The preliminary hearings will be held in October.



action for *habeas corpus* in the High Court and won. In releasing Greek-born Sirros from prison, the judges severely criticized Mr Justice Oswald Searight MacLeay for committing Sirros to prison.

When he got out, Sirros took

out a writ against Oswald Searight MacLeay seeking damages for assault and unlawful imprisonment. Writs were also issued against the Metropolitan Police Commissioner and Special Branch officer who had arrested him.

Two days after the writs were



# THE RISE OF THE PRIVATE POLICE FORCE

Part 14 of a series on Picketing by Bernard Franks

Ever since the early Pinkerton operations numerous private hire police forces have been created, ostensibly for the protection of property and finance, but also available for direct policing activity against the organized working class.

Today in Britain 'security' is a multi-million pound industry with more than 20,000 employees in 400 firms. The three largest companies are Securicor, Security Express, and Factory Guards.

**SECURICOR** originated in 1935 as Night Watch Services Ltd. It was formed as a company by the Marquis of Willingdon and Henry Tiarks, the merchant banker, for the protection of penthouses in the Park Lane area.

From the early stage workers were extremely dubious about its existence. Even George Lansbury, the Labour MP called it 'a first halting step to fascism'. The company was re-constituted in 1938 as Night Guards Ltd. concentrating on supplying 'static guards' for houses and other premises.

In 1947 the name was changed to Security Corps, but on an objection by the Home Office that this was too much like an army title, it was shortened to Securicor. The company was taken over in 1960 by Kensington Palace Hotels Ltd, and in turn, through the parent company, bought up the Armoured Car Company, which included 100 American-style armoured vans complete with gun-ports (at one time they had also included shot-gun guards).

According to Thomas Clayton, author of 'The Protectors', the ex-owner of Armoured Vans, Roy Winkelman, left for the USA to join the CIA, £250,000 richer.

Today, Securicor has 13,739 staff operating from 153 branches. It has a network of 35 specially-built strong points throughout the country, 70 short-wave radio masts from which it controls its forces, 738 dogs, and 1,091 armoured security vehicles. A mass of information is filed and catalogued and a data-processing centre is linked via computer terminals to the main branches.

Securicor opened its dog-training section in 1966 under a former Colonial Police officer who had developed the use of the animals and established police dog sections in Palestine, Kenya, Ghana and Mauritius.

Scotland Yard data is unofficially available through the 'old boy' network; easy enough with so many ex-CID men on the firm. Securicor spends £100,000 a year alone on checking-up (screening) its own employees and prospec-

tive employees. In 1971 it made £1m profit.

Clayton states: 'Throughout several changes of name and identity, Securicor has retained a strong army ring, which is now being in some ways modified by the disciplines and ideas brought into the firm by several kinds of policemen, from Scotland Yard, from former colonial police forces and, in one or two cases, from former colonial police forces and, in one or two cases, from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. If one adds to the police and military elements the accountants and technicians, one begins to see the way the new profession of Security Officer is being composed.'

For workers a much clearer insight into the role of the 'new profession' was the revelation that Securicor has its own detective division, including a 'spies for hire' section available to employers. In 1963 the detective division had 20 investigators and according to a Securicor official quoted by the 'Daily Mail': 'All are former CID officers, and have to be used again and again. So it is vital that no one discovers who they are. To make sure of this they stay in their undercover jobs for some time; we have even faked arrests to get them out.'

One Securicor subsidiary, Complete Security Services Ltd., offered prevention of 'misuse and wastage of time by employees' and of 'laxity of discipline on workshop or stockroom floors'. It added: 'We specialize in preventing this unwarranted sharing of your profits' and listed its services as:

1. The supplying of undercover agents — a man planted among your employees to provide you with a complete appraisal of any unauthorized happenings.
2. The following of vehicles used by employees during the course of their work.
3. The investigating of thefts, frauds and embezzlement.
4. Reporting on any person who may be suspected of causing dissension or inciting employees to disaffection.
5. The screening of prospective employees — a search into their antecedents and background.

The letter from the company's manager added: 'Our agents are carefully selected and thoroughly vetted and their methods of approach, discretion and loyalty are of the highest standard'—as is generally known, one director of the parent company to this firm was Robert Carr before he joined the present Tory government.

Advice and instruction on the affairs of the labour movement is always on tap. Clayton states that employees '... are carefully educated in the attitudes of trade unionism. At Securicor, this side of



Above: Securicor man and police at the Henley Regatta this year.

their training is in the hands of Jim Matthews, a senior trade union official for many years.' Further inside information is available from two board members: Ray Gunter, ex-Minister of Labour in the 1964 Labour government and Lord Williamson, former TUC chairman.



Above: Robert Carr, a one-time director of a security firm.

Clayton claims that the Complete Securities' approach would be 'strictly ruled out today'. What was disturbing the employers was, of course, that the scheme had been discovered, not that it existed.

In addition to its activities in Britain, Securicor operates in Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Borneo, Kenya, Swaziland, Zambia, Uganda, Malawi, Malta, Ethiopia and Norway. It is also the European agent for Pinkertons!

**SECURITY EXPRESS** was established in 1960 in a joint operation by De La Rue International and Wells Fargo. Its first chairman was Sir Percy Sillitoe, former head of MI5. By 1970 the company had 300 armoured vehicles and 1,800 staff. It has links with similar

firms in South America.

**FACTORY GUARDS**, also known as Group 4 Total Security, is a subsidiary of a Swedish firm and was formed in 1952. It developed a cash-transit and a store detective section.

Under the chairmanship of Sir Ronald Howe, former deputy Commissioner at Scotland Yard—previously quoted in connection with the Special Branch—it now has 2,500 employees and over 50 armoured vehicles. Sister companies exist in Switzerland and Japan.

Trading profit in 1969 was £193,224 (Labour Research figures). Clayton says that the division has its own technical advisers on 'bugging' and 'debugging' and the use of eavesdropping and 'Peeping Tom' equipment.

The remaining firms are small, often one-man-and-a-dog operators. Not included here are a further 30,000 employees in various associated industries; locks, safes, burglar alarms, identity systems, etc.

In 1966, the main security firms formed the British Security Industry Association to promote the industry, encourage the development of new security equipment and methods and to improve links with Whitehall and the regular police.

In fact, the fundamental 'security' that this association is concerned about is the protection of capitalist property.

Such protection can be by 'passive' security measures or by more 'active' means, as capitalism thinks fit. The outlook of the Association along these lines can be seen from an article by its honorary secretary Peter Hamilton, also connected with the security company of Chubb, appearing in the 'Security Gazette' in 1971. This was subsequently

obtained and published by 'Labour Research' and various trade union journals.

Hamilton noted Enoch Powell's assertion that there are hidden forces working to destroy the British nation from within and stated: 'If one ignores for the moment the doctrinaire, subversive and the dedicated professional criminal who will always take advantage of any social or security weakness, one is left with the man or woman who for much of the time may behave quite rationally as a student or worker.'

'Suddenly, on some slight provocation, as often imagined as real, they may become violent maniacs burning down their university, destroying their school, sabotaging vital supplies and services, such as electricity, and attacking those who disagree with them. In cases where a claim for more money is the underlying cause, it is still disturbing how quickly a resort to bullying and coercion is made.'

'It may be, for example, that an extra arm will be needed to cope with violence beyond the capability of an unarmed and already heavily-committed police force and to maintain the supply of the essentials of life such as food, water and electricity.'

Remarking on the inadequacy of existing laws he concludes:

'... a passive saboteur is one who uses his position as a purveyor of some social service vital to the community to demand money by threat of withdrawal or actual withdrawal of that service. This man is, of course, the striker, go-slower, or work-to-ruler and although he is a social criminal, his action is lawful even if violence results.'

**CONTINUED TOMORROW**

# THE WAR ON THE TUPAMAROS GUERRILLAS



**The Uruguayan government claimed last week to have broken the back of the urban guerrilla National Liberation Movement — popularly known as the Tupamaros. Of 172 guerrillas who escaped from Uruguayan prisons last year, 126 are said to have been captured and 11 killed.**

Forty-seven-year-old Tupamaros leader Raul Sendic was arrested with a bullet through his jaw. The government also claims to have captured Sendic's deputy, 25-year-old Henry Willy Engler, and another member of the group's executive committee, José Ramon Piedecassas (32).

Events in Uruguay, particularly since last November's elections, have shown the inability of terrorism and revisionism to overthrow capitalism.

At that time a 'Broad Front' movement was established to challenge the regime of the dictator President Jorge Pacheco Areco. This consisted of the Christian Democrats, the Socialist Party, the Communist Party, the self-proclaimed 'Trotskyist' Party of Posadas, and the Revolutionary Workers' Party, (a grouping which proclaims its adherence to the Pabloite 'Unified Secretariat', but which is not actually a member of it) and the 'March 26 Movement of Independents', a group representing the political views of the Tupamaros.

This 'Broad Front' anticipated an electoral victory along the lines of the 'Popular Unity' coalition of President Salvador Allende in Chile. In the event, it was massively defeated and Areco's hand-picked successor — Juan M. Bordaberry — was elected president.

The Front was dominated by the Communist Party. It was the Stalinists who engineered the selection of ex-

general Liber Seregni and Dr Juan José Crottogini as the Front's presidential and vice-presidential candidates — two candidates highly acceptable in bourgeois circles.

## SUPPORT

But the Tupamaros—practitioners of urban violence and kidnapping — also joined the Front. In a statement published in the Unified Secretariat's 'Intercontinental Press' in March, 1971, the Tupamaros declared:

'We do not honestly believe that we can achieve a revolution in Uruguay today by means of elections.

'The present rulers . . . have jailed more than 5,000 workers in a single year because these workers exercised their rights. Such rulers are not going to passively turn the government over to the same workers if they win an election.'

But, the conclusion drawn from this was:

'Nevertheless, we are willing to offer our support to the Broad Front.'

And the revisionists of the Unified Secretariat published this statement without comment!

In the same 'Intercontinental Press' they also justified the decision of the Revolutionary Workers' Party PRT(U) to participate in the Front.

'The position of the PRT(U)', it declared, 'is that a popular front headed by a sector of the national bourgeoisie and committed to maintaining bourgeois property relations can neither win independence from imperialism nor solve the economic and social problems confronting the masses.'

But, in fact, the PRT(U) was joining just such a Front! 'Intercontinental Press' tried to avoid saying that this was happening:

'The PRT(U) is the only group participating in the forum provided by the Broad Front that opposes the forma-

tion of a class-collaborationist popular front.'

This was a deliberate lie. The PRT(U) was not participating in a 'forum' but in an electoral alliance.

This was excused on the grounds that the PRT(U) was 'alert to the danger of sectarianism' and, therefore, was 'doing its utmost to extend its proletarian base by actively participating in the country's living political process'.

Only after the 'Broad Front' was defeated did Joseph Hansen of the Socialist Workers Party in America and an editor of 'Intercontinental Press', make any criticism of the PRT(U)'s participation in the Front—it was, wrong, he said, to ask workers to vote for Seregni and Crottogini.

Hansen does not analyse the electoral defeat so lessons can be learned in order to build a revolutionary party in Uruguay. He simply leaves all that out and expresses the hope that the Uruguayan workers will win within the next five years:

'The Uruguayan workers will hardly wait for a half a decade to go through another experience with a Broad Front. It is much more likely that they will pour into the streets by the hundreds of thousands as they did on November 24—but this time to change the entire system. And they will do it in perhaps less than the ten days that it took the Russian workers in 1917.'

What the Uruguayan workers need is not just treacherous and flabby optimism, but a real leadership that can only be built in struggle against popular frontism and terrorism.

## RIGHT WING

In fact the aftermath of last November's elections has not been an easy progress towards the revolution (quicker than the Russians and without all the bother of building a Bolshevik Party).

Instead it was the right wing which went on to the offensive.

Last March, the Uruguayan Congress lifted the restrictions on civil liberties which Areco had imposed in July 1969, ostensibly to use against the Tupamaros. But following clashes in which two Tupamaros leaders were killed — Alberto Canadan Grajales and Tabare Rivero Cedres—Congress voted 97-21 on April 15 to declare a state of 'internal war'.

This was later extended and, although since called off, tough new security laws meant that most of the sweeping powers of arbitrary arrest and detention without trial remain.

The regime was able to use the adventures of the Tupamaros to launch an attack, not only on them, but on the working class.

Two days after the 'internal war' was declared, a pre-dawn raid was launched by the army on the Communist Party headquarters in Montevideo and seven CP members were shot. Despite a ban on all non-government news accounts, it became known that by April 28 over 1,000 opponents of the regime were in jail.

These killings were followed by a two-day strike organized by the Communist Party. Commenting on this the May issue of 'Intercontinental Press' declared:

'It remains to be seen whether the government's attack on the Communist Party will prod the CP into taking consistent action against the repression.'

Thirty-four years after the Fourth International these self-styled Trotskyists have to 'wait and see' whether the Stalinists will lead a fight against capitalism!

Meanwhile, the right-wing offensive continued. On May 27, 1972, police in Montevideo recaptured two hostages — former Agricultural Minister Carlos Frick Davie and Ulysses Pereira Reverall, the head of the State Telephone Company.

**Above: arbitrary arrest and detention without trial remain in Uruguay**

'Intercontinental Press' called this 'one of the most serious setbacks since the MLN (Tupamaros) was formed ten years ago.'

But more was to come. In June, Minister of the Interior Alejandro Rovira declared: 'We have information that will make it possible for us to destroy the subversive organization.'

The same month a report in the French daily 'Le Monde' said:

'Several cells of the MLN have been destroyed and 100 or so activists and sympathizers have been arrested. In rapid succession, the security forces have discovered three 'people's prisons', a field hospital, an underground shooting range, laboratories for preparing explosives and arms and ammunition dumps.'

## BANKRUPTCY

Yet opportunities to build a revolutionary movement undoubtedly exist in Uruguay.

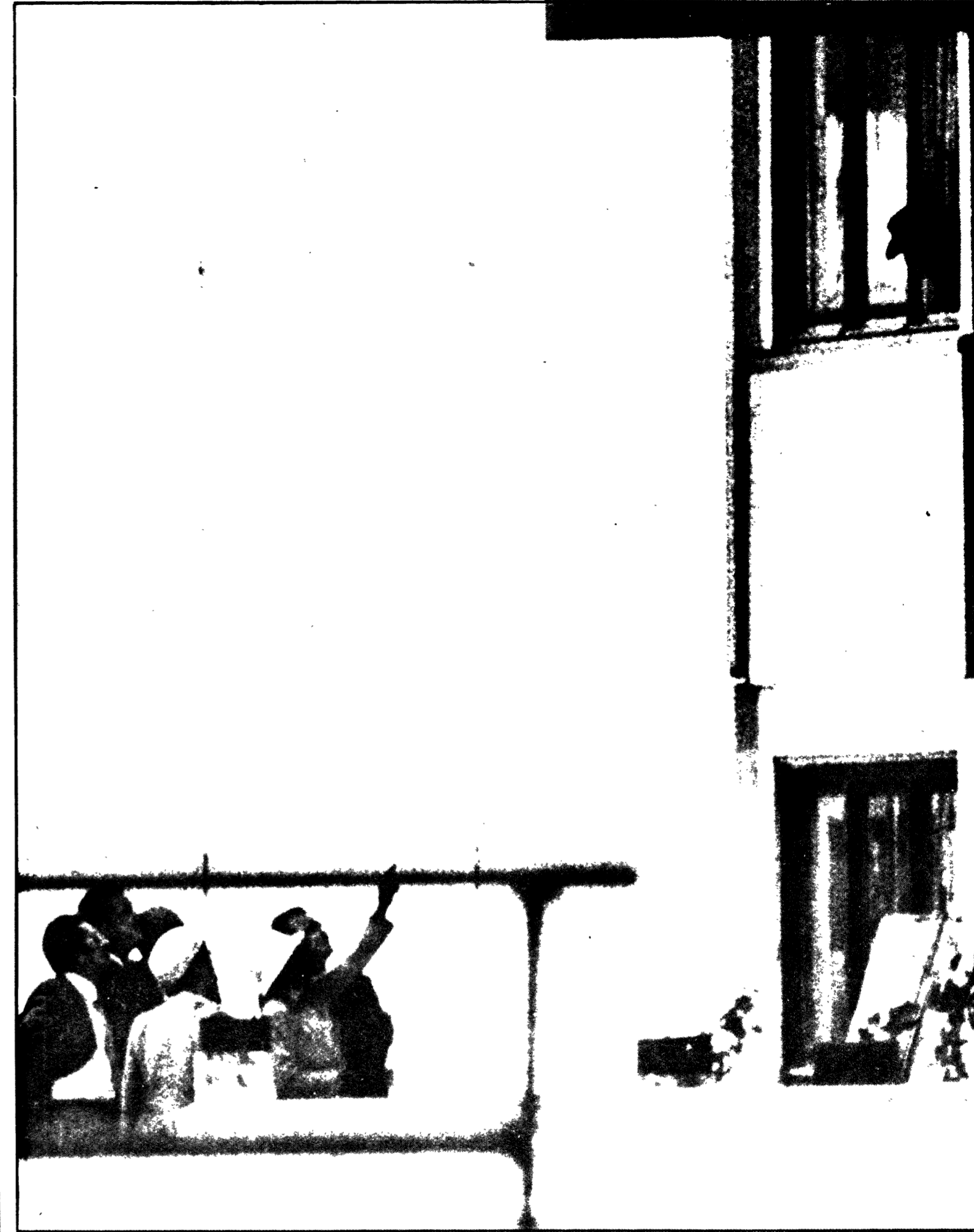
Dominated by a handful of ranchers and landowners, the economy is heavily dependent on exports of meat and wool. There is a foreign debt of over \$600m—an astronomical sum for a country with a population of only 2.8 million. At the beginning of this year the peso had fallen to 700 to the dollar.

In 1971 the cost of living rose by 36 per cent, the budget ran at a 20-per-cent deficit; there was a drastic decline of exports and Uruguay's so-called 'social welfare' system, built up in the boom years just after the war, was close to bankruptcy.

To meet this workers put forward wage claims of up to 40 per cent. They demonstrated in their thousands during last November's elections.

But the dead-end of terrorism and the class-collaboration of the Stalinists and revisionists hold this class back.





# THE DEAD END OF TERRORISM

By John Spencer

The Palestinian masses' desperate fear of a sell-out Middle East settlement negotiated behind their backs underlies the kidnapping of the Israeli hostages at the Munich Olympic games.

The danger of such a settlement, carving up Palestine between Zionism and the reactionary Arab capitalist class, has haunted the Palestinians since the proclamation of the state of Israel. At that time, in 1948, the war between the Arab states and the infant Zionist colony ended with annexation of what remained of Palestine by the Arab rulers of Trans-Jordan and Egypt.

The Hashemite dynasty, grabbed the Palestine Arab

west bank of the river Jordan and Egypt took over the Gaza Strip. The Palestinian people's right to a state was ignored and they were made homeless in their own land.

They were robbed of their homeland by the reactionary Zionist movement which has created a racialist state in which the remaining Arabs constitute a kind of internal colony for ruthless exploitation.

The massacre at Deir Yassin village and a massive terror campaign spearheaded by the extreme Zionist Haganah movement drove more than a million Palestinians into exile after the 1948 war.

They became refugees, living in hugely overcrowded camps in dire poverty, stripped of all their possessions and relying on hand-outs from the United Nations.

The youth grew up in the

camp with a burning hatred of imperialism and Zionism and determined to avenge the crimes committed against their people. They had no trust in the Arab bourgeois rulers who had contemptuously neglected their legitimate demands.

Since 1948, the Arab states have fought two wars with Israel; in 1956 against the joint Anglo-French-Israeli invasion of Egypt, which demonstrated Israel's close ties with imperialism, and again in 1967—known as the six-day war.

## NO PEACE

But between the Zionists and the Palestinians there has never been peace. The Palestinians cannot rest until their right to self-determination is restored and the imperialist excrement that is the Israeli state is destroyed.

No other programme can satisfy the Palestinian people,

for the present state of Israel is directed at the very basis of their existence as a nation. The Jewish colonization of Palestine was encouraged and financed—particularly after the war—by the United States as a spearhead against the Arab revolution.

The founders of Zionism openly talked of the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine as a bastion of Europe against Asia and their successors have carried out this 'civilizing mission' with all the zeal of latterday Kitcheners.

The formula of the Israeli high command is simple: to stamp out Arab resistance wherever it raises its head and reduce the remaining Arab inhabitants of Palestine to second-class status and discourage them from remaining in Israel so as to make room for more Jewish immigrants.

Those refugees who left their

lands in 1948 and 1967 have no automatic right to return. If they do, they return as aliens to find their land has been parcelled out to incoming Jewish colonists. But any Jew in the world has the automatic right to Israeli citizenship and can settle freely in Israel under the Law of Return.

Significantly, the Black September commando at Munich took the name of Birim and Ikrit, two Arab villages whose inhabitants were forced out by the army and have never been allowed to return to their homes. The army for 'security reasons' has overruled a Supreme Court ruling that the villagers should be allowed to return to their lands.

Speaking to her own Labour Party, premier Golda Meir made clear the real reason for the refusal: the main danger was that it would create a precedent. If Birim and Ikrit were restored to their rightful owners, thousands of Arabs would start demanding their lands back—a prospect to terrify any Zionist.

The Palestinian struggle has constantly been betrayed, not only by the Arab governments which have paid lip-service to their cause only to turn round and knife them between the shoulders, but by the Stalinist

bureaucracy which originally supported the formation of Israel and now subordinates the Palestinian struggle to its opportunist relations with the Arab capitalists.

In Jordan the Palestinian commando movement was crushed under King Hussein's tanks and the Hashemite monarch now has his eyes on the formation of a separate puppet state on the Israeli-occupied West Bank of the river Jordan to be manned by his own nominees and remaining under Israeli occupation.

At the same time, the rightward moves of the Egyptian government, gathering speed since the death of Nasser and the accession of Anwar Sadat, pose another threat to the precarious situation of the guerrilla organizations.

In Syria, the Lebanon and Iraq, the guerrilla fighters are reduced to entirely token actions and have been brought more and more closely under the surveillance and control of the governments.

Before the bloody massacre of the commandos in Jordan—which gave its name to the Black September organization—the Iraqi Ba'athists insisted that the liberation fighters move their bases into Jordan.

And since then the Lebanese government, acting under

pressure from Israel, has forced the Palestinians to move their bases away from the border into the northern part of the country.

Repressive measures against the Palestinians in Lebanon have only been restrained so far by the fact that a quarter of the country's population are Palestinian refugees who sympathize with the guerrillas.

## SETTLEMENT

In Egypt the movement is strictly controlled and few, if any, commando operations have been launched from Egyptian soil since 1967. Egyptian President Sadat recently expelled 20,000 Soviet military advisers in what was universally interpreted as a conciliatory move towards the United States.

Provided they could regain the territory they lost in the six-day war, there is little doubt that the Egyptian leaders would settle with Israel in one way or another. Their belligerent speeches conceal a marked distaste for the idea of further war with Zionism.

Significantly, the Arab government, which gives the most outspoken backing to the commandos, is behind the 'front line', Libya, ruled by Muammar Gaddafi, a devout

right-wing Moslem who considers the struggle against Zionism a Jihad (holy war), provides money for the commando groups and many of them are trained by Libyan personnel.

The most vicious Arab enemy of the Palestinians is King Hussein of Jordan, whose predecessor, King Abdullah, robbed the Palestinians of the West Bank to establish the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Abdullah was later assassinated by a Palestinian refugee in Jerusalem.

Leaders of the Palestinian resistance, who range from right-wing nationalists to former Maoists making liberal use of left phrases, directed most of their fire against Hussein after the six-day war.

Their boast that they would march to Tel Aviv via Amman, was an empty one. By inviting a conflict with the well-equipped Jordanian army (financed by the US and composed mainly of Bedouin soldiers with little sympathy for the Palestinians) the leaders of the commando organizations led their men into a trap.

Hussein took the opportunity to butcher the guerrillas in a series of battles culminating in the massacre of September 1970. For Hussein, this was an essential preparation for

coming to terms with the Zionists.

But for the Palestinians, it was a catastrophe. They had been driven into a corner with no means of escape and the combination of political betrayal and the Hashemite bloodbath fed the belief that every man's hand was against them.

The nihilist philosophy of a section of the Palestinian youth, intensified by the cynicism and political bankruptcy of the movement's 'elder statesmen', found its outlet finally in the Black September organization.

## HYSTERIA

Black September is divorced from the Palestinian masses by its very nature as a secret society. And its actions—like all individual terror—have only played into its enemies' hands. They have enabled the Zionists to whip war-hysteria inside Israel and have undoubtedly alienated hundreds of thousands of Jewish workers who might otherwise have presented a threat to the Zionist rulers.

Yet the terrorist action contributes nothing to the military defeat of Israel, which is even now planning new and brutal punitive raids against defence-

In the Olympic village: left—police run to take up their positions. Right: Head of Munich police and German Minister for Interior discuss with Arabs.

less Palestinian refugees in the surrounding countries.

The Zionists' vast war machine always operates a terror policy more effectively than the Palestinians.

Most important of all, the terrorist actions of the Black September and similar groups cut them off from their best allies—the world working class.

Individual terrorism is the dead end of a bankrupt middle-class leadership attempting—through assassinations and hijacks—to escape the consequences of its own mistakes.

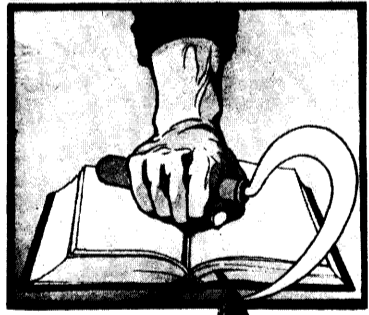
This is no road for the Palestinian masses who are left in misery with only the consolation of the terrorists' individual heroism to console them.

However many lives are sacrificed in this form of struggle, they will not bring any closer the overthrow of Zionism or the restoration of the Palestinians' rights. This cannot be achieved outside the independent mobilization of Arab and Jewish workers to overthrow Zionist rule and establish a secular, socialist Palestine with equal rights for all races.



# A LIBERAL'S VIEW OF POLICE

## BOOK REVIEW



'Scotland Yard—A study of the Metropolitan Police' By Peter Laurie. Penguin 45p.

Mr Laurie (yet another 'Sunday Times' liberal!) spent eight months observing the work of the 'Met'—the Metropolitan police force. He makes no secret of his sympathies and draws a revealing comparison between the work of the Fleet St journalist and the CID man.

Despite the superficially glib account, Laurie expresses a deep concern at the crisis within its ranks.

He sums up the predicament of the 'Met': '20,000 policemen cannot force 8 million Londoners to do anything, and particularly since the low temperature of relationships between the state and individual is one of England's most priceless possessions, it is important that they do not try.' (p.289.)

Hence: 'The real effect of policing lies in its social

symbolism rather than in any mechanical effects which it produces by restraining law-breakers, and is therefore almost impossible to measure.' (p.51.)

Laurie is more concerned with tracing out the difficulties that arise for the police because of increasing social animosity and antagonisms, than explaining exactly this 'social symbolism'.

He points out: 'The rise of large, disorganized, industrialized populations had completely wrecked the Tudor system of policing based on the parish constable.' (p.295.)

He then asserts that the founding of the 'Met' in 1829 'only completed a gradual series of improvements which had begun in 1789 with the establishment of the Thames river police'.

However this 1829 decision followed the repeal, in 1825, of the 'Combination Acts' which had outlawed labour organizations. A new, more flexible, although still authoritarian system of policing was necessary which would not provoke the bloody confrontations which the army and yeomanry did. To disguise this real meaning of their 'social symbolism' Laurie presents the police as primarily a crime-prevention agency.

This comparatively small body has an enormous array of powers at its disposal. 'If the police wanted to—and if there were enough of them—they could find reasons to exercise their power on everyone every day.' (p.91.)

The art of the policeman lies therefore in that wondrous, yet unofficial quality of 'discretion'. The trainee policeman receives only 16 weeks' formal

instruction as compared with three to four years' 'real' education on the 'beat'.

'Discretion' does not exist in strict legal theory, but as Laurie points out: 'Since, in a typically English way, the police cannot be made to enforce the law, no one can in practise prevent them from choosing.' (p.10.)

Laurie becomes vague as to the yardstick of this 'discretion'. Not until p.275 does he admit that '... thumping a prisoner to make him collect his thoughts, manufacturing a fragment of evidence, are all things which policemen deplore, but which are done...'

He is equally coy about the class bias of the police (well-known to strikers, immigrants and youth). On p.128 a traffic policeman complains to him of a maniac in a Jaguar who deliberately ignored warning beacons in a mist on the M4, but who turned out to be 'one of the leading barristers in one of the Inns of Court'.

## DISCRETION

On p.157 a CID constable comments on investigating a break-in about fingerprinting the occupants: "'I could get them up the nick and take their prints with ink, but that's really for slags. You don't want to get nice girls' hands dirty like that. When I go back I'll take them some flowers—I usually do that for the lady losers...'"

Laurie explains the police tolerance of 'porno' on p.293: 'People in powerful positions who want pornography can get it without having recourse to secret and corrupt organizations that have power over

them, and so, to some extent over the state' (there are apparently more in the civil service files and cabinet brief cases than plans to restore British industry's profits!).

'Discretion' thus is exercised to keep the wheels of capitalism turning. By maintaining an appearance of a vigorous fight against crime they 'persuade people to live honestly far more by their existence and example than because they physically remove wrongdoers from society' (p.311).

Laurie attempts to maintain the myth. He hardly mentions the enormous proliferation of private security agencies who guard building sites and empty offices, transport cash and counteract shop-lifting thus covering the gaping holes in the 'appearance' of the police maintenance of law and order.

Similarly Laurie exercises his 'discretion' in not even mentioning the 'Fraud Squad' which the 'Met' is jointly responsible for with the City of London force. Despite its understaffing and ludicrous lack of resources it uncovers more crime in value terms in the City in some years than the rest of the country put together, and there are no 30 years' sentences handed out there either.

Laurie starts his account with the visible manifestation of the police, the foot-patrolling constable and the 'panda' and 'area' cars (Rovers and Triumphs) which tour a pattern of districts. Contrary to the TV image of Sgt Dixon and Z-Cars they do little crime detection.

The effectiveness of the patrolling constable lies in his power to stop and search anyone suspected of carrying

Top: police in action at the 'Oz' Trial demonstration.

stolen property. This produces 'about 40 per cent of the Met's 50,000 crime arrests a year, although only one stop in 20 is fruitful' (p.65).

Laurie avoids the thorny ground of harassment of local youth and immigrants by the 'friendly bobby' on the beat. The 'area' cars respond mainly to their radios, following up complaints or directions from HQ. Laurie hardly mentions the 'Special Patrol Groups' of 130 tough coppers in clearly marked crew-buses who are called in to deal with 'flare-ups'.

## UNDERWORLD

The retiring Chief Commissioner of the Met, Waldron, enthusiastically reported on their use in affairs like the 'Metro' and 'Stephen McCarthy' raids: 'The advantages of having in the force a highly-mobile, self-contained unit have been emphasized during the year.'

The heart of the 'Met' is the CID who protect the gross accumulations of private worldly wealth. Contrary to the Sherlock Holmes image, this has been based largely on close informal contacts with the underworld itself! Laurie found it '... disconcerting to discover that nine times out of ten, when the police disappear into the undergrowth after some spectacular crime and reappear, apparently miraculously with a man who is "helping them with their inquiries", it is because some third party has told them for whom to look' (p.206).

The 'Observer' was more ex-



placit on this relationship. The CID are 'on first-name terms with professional criminals and at ease in their company. They share a fascination with crime and common prejudices: both have a vehement dislike of the social "dissident," the drug taker, the homosexual, long-haired young protesters. They even have a common vocabulary, often flowery and obscene . . . ' (March 5, 1972.)

Apparently detectives are prepared to exercise 'discretion' on minor crimes if they receive the necessary information about larger ones, and, having caught the culprits, they are in turn prepared to do deals if the prisoner will plead guilty. (Laurie points out that the . . . working of the police and courts is completely dependent on a high rate of guilty pleas'. p.216) or if he in turn is prepared to pass on information about others.

Laurie expresses some unease at assessing the efficiency of a CID man by his 'arrest rate' because this means his major activity must be cultivating 'snouts' (informants). In return the 'snout' gets the standard 10 per cent reward on conviction and perhaps sometimes the CID man shares 'the reward in a discreet and gentlemanly fashion' (p.214).

However Laurie was too concerned here to justify the



Robert Mark, Chief Commissioner

police over all to really question these cosy relationships which have since become the centre of so much controversy.

Prof J. Mack, on behalf of the Scottish Home Office, recently researched into the changing crime patterns which have undermined the viability of these informal contacts with 'known' criminals. He pinpointed a hard-core of successful and skilled criminals who get rich and are seldom caught: 'The full-scale criminal networks are responsible for half the major crimes in the country. The heavyweights stay out of prison because they don't take many risks.'

Laurie's crude empiricism is unable to explain the growing crisis. Among other effects, the post-war inflationary boom has raised the vistas of the criminal-lumpen elements as to what they could illegally acquire, and innovated the means to do it—motorways, fast cars, etc. The Great Train Robbery of 1963 highlighted this tendency.

This was closely followed by the 'Challenor affair' which paralleled the earlier 'Sheffield Rhino-Whip' scandal in that policemen faced with the rising tide of crime, simply beat suspects into confessing or blatantly planted incriminating evidence. Laurie comments that Sgt Challenor . . . had spectacularly cleared Soho of protection gangs, as was suggested at the inquiry on his conduct, by wholesale planting of evidence. Nevertheless, he is regarded, I found, by some policemen as something near to a saint . . . ' (p.274).

These events marked a real low-point in their public relations because of their inability to cope with the new social pressures—especially motor congestion (growing worse all the time), the new crime pat-

terns, and the big protest movements of the early 1960s like CND and Anti-Apartheid—in their old ways. The savage beating they inflicted on a large number of Committee of 100 demonstrators in Trafalgar Square in September 1961 highlighted the latter aspect.

In A. Sampson's 'Anatomy of Britain', a senior police officer asserted that one of the two major factors in the revival of police morale in recent years 'was the students' demonstrations (Vietnam Solidarity Campaign 1967-1968) which made people see how much better our police were than those of other countries'.

Laurie is ecstatic on the police handling of these demonstrations, which he describes as 'a big, stupid, and sometimes vicious animal' (p.274). He points out that crowd control is 'the oldest police skill' (p.103) and describes how the police developed their tactics in inflating the number of police casualties and wholeheartedly co-operating with the press . . . a profound change from the traditional police mistrust of journalists'.

In fact the police astutely judged the revolutionary posturing of the International Marxist Group and International Socialist leaders of these bankrupt, confrontationist adventurers, who deliberately misguided the aspirations of so many young people who really wanted to fight the system.

The police were easily able to handle these hollow echoes of the massive demonstrations of the 1930s when the working class had no alternative but to fight unemployment and fascism on the streets because of the treachery of reformism and Stalinism.

Meanwhile the Labour government was able to proceed with significant technical and administrative changes that prepared the way for the present Tory government. Roy Jenkins, the Home Secretary, reorganized the police into larger units and appointed Robert Mark to the assistant Commissioner's post at Scotland Yard.

The new-style police operations emerged at the same time in the gang-busting moves of 1967-1968 which aimed at preventing the newly-rich thieves from combining legitimate business with intimidation and thus creating a 'Mafia'-type corruption in society.

Clearly the days of the old-style CID and Flying Squad informal contacts and selective prosecutions were being outmoded by the new Regional Crime Squads, backed up by the Criminal Intelligence department (which pools all available information on criminals whether they are under suspicion or not).

Laurie's cryptic observations on the refusal of the Flying Squad to talk to him and the contrasting helpful attitude of Criminal Intelligence can be seen in retrospect to be useful public relations work for the 'necessary changes' in the Met.

'The Times' subsequently carried this forward in its exposure of corruption in the CID which resulted in the imprisonment of Det Inspector Robinson and Det Sgt Harris.

## NO 'SOFTY'

The newly-appointed Chief Commissioner, Robert Mark (who has since proved he is no 'softy' as disgruntled CID elements tried to suggest) used this unfavourable publicity to completely subordinate the CID to the uniformed branch and to put for the first time a uniformed officer—Woods—in charge and to sack Commander Drury and his deputy Morrison from the Flying Squad.

Significantly Laurie devotes twice as much space to the handling of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign demonstra-

tions as he does to the work of the 'Special Branch'. The latter, apparently, shadow each particular political movement, observing the main figures and reading all their publications. (Laurie mentions nothing about infiltration and provocation which periodically comes to light in the labour movement).

They establish 'a network of contacts on the shop floor' (p.200) in each factory doing alleged 'secret work', and these 'microcosms police themselves in their special way once a channel of communication and retribution is set up through contact with the Special Branch man' (p.201).

Laurie is reticent on the collaboration between the Special Branch and employers' organizations. He doubts whether phone-tapping and letter opening is practised as extensively as 'fashionable paranoia would suggest' (p.203). In fact this key work of the police shades off into innumerable other facets. 'The Sunday Times' itself recently revealed the procedure in the police of reporting offences on the part of employees to their superiors in secret, and far beyond the strict terms of reference.

More important is the direct co-operation between the police and their natural allies within the labour movement—the right wing.

## EVICITION

The police evicted the Young Socialists from Labour Party premises on a number of occasions during the mass expulsions of 1964. James Callaghan was the parliamentary representative of the Police Federation for a number of years, and as Home Secretary he refused to allow the 'Younger Committee investigating infringements of privacy' to examine police activities in this field.

The sinister negotiations and discussions now taking place with army chiefs and others to combine operations with Kitson-style measures will become increasingly necessary as the internal police force of the working class—the right wing and its allies—becomes outmanoeuvred.

Robert Mark, the Chief Commissioner, has led the unofficial campaign to get the rules of evidence changed to deprive a prisoner of his right to silence once he has been charged, and Marks has also spoken critically of the jury system.

Presumably a court along the lines of the National Industrial Relations Court is more to his liking.

The new-style police are putting an end to the easy-going procedures of the old CID and want the law to be exercised directly for all to see. We saw the first expression of this during the miners' strike with the wholesale arrests of pickets and the subsequent ruthless harassment and attempted intimidation of dockers in their strike.

This 'tough-line' came unstuck though at Salthley coke depot during the miners' strike when 10,000 engineering workers struck and marched in defence of the miners.

Mayor Rizzio of Philadelphia, Nixon's friend, and the former super-tough cop, declared on seeing this on TV: 'I didn't sleep well the night I saw the police run away'—and he should know! The same spectre frightens Laurie.

He pleads for acceptance of the easy-going empirical tradition of the British 'bobby' at the same time as the highly-paid, motorized, radio-controlled, computerized, hard-hitting élite takes over, tearing from one flash-point to another.

Laurie writes at the end of his book (p. 312): 'The policeman is the state made flesh. In his behaviour he demonstrates the true values of his society . . . '—and for once we can agree with him.

# WORKERS NOTEBOOK

## IN THE TUC TRADITION

There are several traditions connected with the annual Congress of the TUC—many of them appalling for their lack of principle. One of the more obnoxious is the traditional vote of thanks to the press, ceremonially delivered by the general secretary at the end of another week's distortion and misrepresentation of the interests of the working class in the capitalist newspapers.

And always after this piece of hypocrisy comes an even bigger piece of hypocrisy—the reply to the vote of thanks delivered by a journalist from the industrial lobby.

This year, the honour fell to Mick Costello, of the Communist Party's 'Morning Star'. A great opportunity at last for some plain speaking about this offensive practice.

But Costello not only did not condemn the TUC leaders for not speaking the truth about the capitalist press. He accepted the thanks graciously on behalf of his colleagues on the 'Express', 'Telegraph', 'The Times', etc.

To make things worse, he then rounded off his remarks with the obligatory 'funny story', usually called the night

before from colleagues in the bar.

But it was the nature of the 'stories' that really revealed how thoroughly integrated into the bourgeois way of life the 'Morning Star' has become.

Costello told two. The first was blatantly racist. An Irish friend had tried to phone Dublin. When the phone was picked up, he asked: 'Is that Dublin double two double two?'

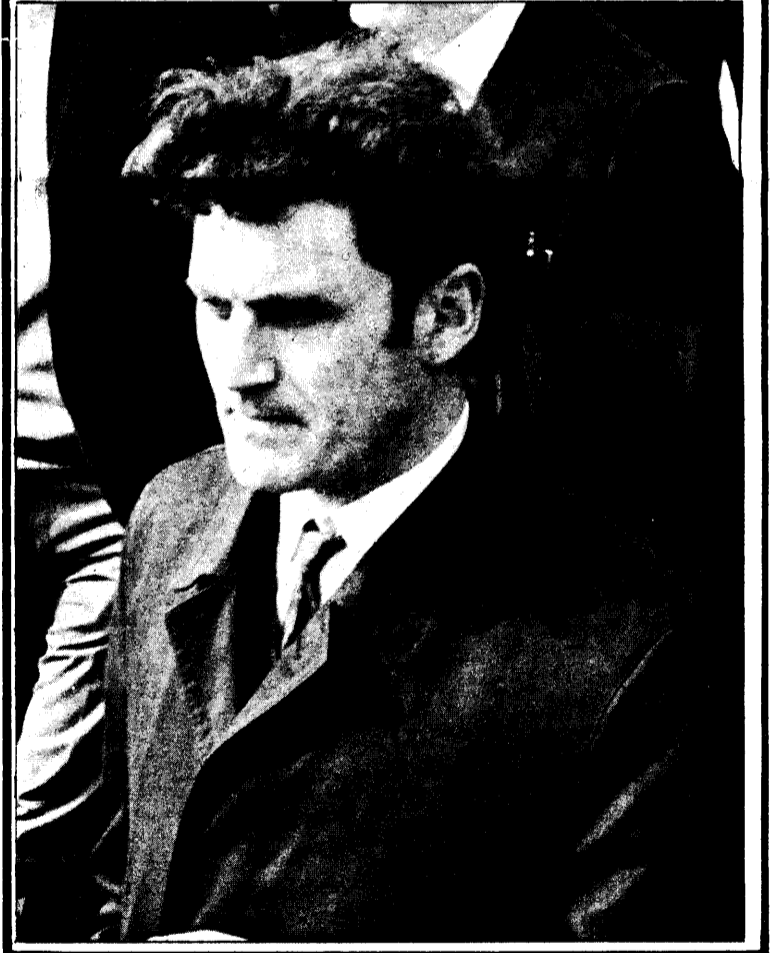
'No,' the voice replied. 'This is Dublin two two two two.' 'Oh, sorry,' said the first Irishman. 'Oh, that's all right,' said the other, 'the phone was ringing anyway'.

The second 'joke' wrote off the whole Irish nation—both working class and bourgeoisie—for political backwardness.

An airline pilot, approaching Belfast airport, said over the loudspeaker: 'We are coming in to land at Belfast in minutes. Please fasten your safety belts and put your watches back 100 years.'

But Costello did make one revolutionary gesture in his speech. He called the assembled trade union bureaucrats 'Brothers'.

Below: CP's Mick Costello



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## SPECIAL ATUA MEETINGS

### CENTRAL LONDON :

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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 7 p.m.

'The crisis of technology and unemployment.'

SHAFTESBURY HOTEL  
MONMOUTH STREET,  
WC2.

Speakers: Roy Battersby (ACTT. In a personal capacity).  
A London docker.

### LIVERPOOL :

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 10.30 a.m.

'Crisis in the car industry. Fight for the right to work.'

STORK HOTEL  
QUEEN'S SQUARE

Speakers: Alan Thornett (deputy senior steward Morris Motors, Oxford. In a personal capacity).  
Mike Banda (SLL Central Committee).

### SWINDON:

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 7.30 p.m.

'Join the fight to force the Tories to resign'

LOCOMOTIVE INN,  
FLEET STREET

Speakers: Tim O'Sullivan (senior night steward, Morris Motors, Oxford, in a personal capacity).  
Member of the Swindon building strike committee. Representative from the Thornycroft (Basingstoke) occupation.

# TV

## BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 4.10-5.30 Show jumping.

7.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.

7.30 NEWSROOM. Weather.

8.00 HILLABY WALKS. The South Downs Way. John Hillaby.

8.30 LOVE AND MR LEWISHAM. Part 3.

9.15 INDUSTRIAL GRAND TOUR. The North East.

9.25 FILM: 'SEVEN SAMURAI'. First of three films by Japanese director Akira Kurosawa. Takashi Shimura, Toshiro Mifune, Yoshio Inaba.

11.00 NEWS ON 2. Weather.

11.05 FILM continued.



Donald Burton as David Foster 'The Man Who Was Hunting Himself', in a new thriller serial beginning tonight on BBC 1.

## BBC 1

9.45-10.00 Along the trail. 12.25-1.25 Cymanfa ganu. 1.30 The herbs. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.00 Show jumping. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Parsley. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.50 Deputy dawg. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.25 Boss cat. 5.45 News and weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.

6.50 TOM AND JERRY.

7.00 TOMORROW'S WORLD. Special edition from the West Country.

7.25 TOP OF THE POPS.

8.00 SYKES. Burglary. Eric Sykes, Hattie Jacques, Richard Wattis.

8.30 EXPERTS IN ACTION. Day of the Big Burn. Fire fighting in British Columbia.

9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS. Weather.

9.25 THE MAN WHO WAS HUNTING HIMSELF. Three-part thriller by N. J. Crisp. Donald Burton, Carol Austin, David Savile, Garfield Morgan.

10.15 NAIRN ACROSS BRITAIN. From London to Lancashire.

10.45 MIDWEEK. Ludovic Kennedy.

11.30 LATE NIGHT NEWS.

11.35 PLACES FOR PEOPLE. The North East of England.

12.00 Weather.

## ITV

11.30 The church and revolution. 12.25 Women today. 12.50 Common Market cook book. 1.15 Bellbird. 1.25 Zingalong. 1.40 Arthur. 2.05 Castle haven. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Cartoon. 3.15 Marcus Welby. 4.10 Nuts and bones. 4.25 Land of the giants. 5.20 Dave Cash radio programme. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.

6.40 CROSSROADS.

7.05 ... AND MOTHER MAKES THREE. Gather ye mushrooms while ye may.

7.35 FILM: 'ONCE UPON A DEAD MAN'. Rock Hudson, Susan Saint James. Adventure comedy.

9.30 THIS WEEK.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 CINEMA.

11.00 THE AVENGERS. Whoever Shot Poor George Oblique Stroke XR40?

12.00 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.

12.15 OVERCOMING LONELINESS.

## REGIONAL TV

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.45 News. 3.47 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 10.59 News. 12.00 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 12.55 News. 1.00 Yoga. 1.25 Odd couple. 1.50 Freud on food. 2.15 Bellbird. 2.30 London. 3.00 Saint. 3.55 Houseparty. 4.10 Twizzle. 4.25 London. 5.20 Sylvester. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.40 Junkin. 7.10 Film: 'Keeper of the Flame'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 11.00 News. 11.10 Guideline. 11.15 Film: 'The Quare Fellow'. 12.50 Weather.

ANGLIA: 1.45 Racing. 3.40 Jimmy Stewart. 4.10 Sean. 4.20 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sale of the century. 7.30 Film: 'The Large Rope'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London.

ATV MIDLANDS: 1.45 Racing. 3.10 Horoscope. 3.15 Women today. 3.40 Julia. 4.10 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Probe'. 8.45 Cartoon. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 11.00 Odd couple. 11.30 Film: 'Press For Time'. Weather.

ULSTER: 1.45-3.45 Racing. 4.00 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 Cowboy in Africa. 5.20 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 Film: 'Right Cross'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 11.00 What's it all about. 11.20 Champions.

YORKSHIRE: 1.45 Ugliest girl in town. 2.15 Bellbird. 2.30 London. 3.00 Corwin. 4.00 Cartoon. 4.10 London. 4.25 Funky phantom. 4.50 Junior showtime. 5.20 London. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'The Long Duel'. 9.00 And mother makes three.

9.30 London. 11.00 Department S. 11.55 Something to sing about. 12.25 Weather.

GRANADA: 12.20 Grasshopper island. 12.35 Galloping to gourmet. 1.05 Joe 90. 1.30 Towards the year 2000. 1.55 Racing. 3.40 I dream of Jeannie. 4.10 News. London. 4.25 Lone Ranger. 4.50 Rainbow country. 5.15 Peyton Place. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. Police file. 6.30 Dave Cash. 7.00 Cartoon. 7.10 Film: 'McMillan and Wife'. 9.00 Mother makes three. 9.30 London. 11.00 Saint.

TYNE TEES: 1.45 Ugliest girl in town. 2.15 Bellbird. 2.30 London. 2.59 News. 3.00 Calling Doctor Gannon. 4.00 Cartoon. 4.10 London. 4.25 Woobinda. 4.50 Junior showtime. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'The Rebel'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 10.30

Sport. 11.00 Police call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 News. 11.50 Division four. 12.45 Revolving chair.

SCOTTISH: 1.45 Racing. 3.10 Horoscope. 3.15 Women today. 3.40 To see ourselves. 4.10 London. 4.25 Lost in space. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Scotland today. 6.30 Dick Van Dyke. 7.00 Film: 'Witness For the Prosecution'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Benny Hill.

GRAMPIAN: 2.30 London. 3.00 News. 3.03 Yoga. 3.30 Survival. 4.00 Cartoon. 4.10 London. 4.25 Elephant boy. 4.50 Junior showtime. 5.20 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Mr and Mrs. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'The Battle of the Villa Fiorita'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 11.00 Spyforce. 11.55 Meditation.

## ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

ABERDEEN: Thursday September 14, 8 p.m. Trades Hall, The Adelphi. 'Victory to the builders. Fight the Rent Act.'

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thursday September 14, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club, opposite New Cross Station. 'For the Tories to resign.'

TOTTENHAM: Thursday September 14, 8 p.m. St Anne's Hall,

Lissbury Road, off St Anne's Street. 'Lessons of the dockers' and builders' strike.'

WILLESDEN: Thursday September 14, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour Hall, High Road, NW10. 'Withdraw troops from Ulster.'

SWINDON: Sunday September 17, 7.30 p.m. 'Locomotive Inn', Fleet Street. 'Join the fight to force the Tories to resign.'

# RTZ: The 'shock' report that wasn't

BY ALEX MITCHELL

RARELY has humbug reached the astonishing proportions embodied in the report on mining companies and the environment. First, a little history:

About 18 months ago a storm of protest broke over the mining exploration activities of Rio Tinto Zinc, the world's largest mining consortium.

In particular the residents of Wales and parts of the northern counties were complaining about the stealthy manner in which exploration permits were being granted and national parks and other beauty spots were being ripped apart by RTZ explorers.

Protests were made to MPs and the press but RTZ, with Lord Byers, the leader of the Liberals, on the board, seemed impervious to the angry clamour.

Then the company pulled a deft stroke. Unexpectedly, RTZ decided to get together with other exploration companies to launch an investigation into their own activities.

Those familiar with the intricacies of bourgeois rule in Britain will recall this tactic. It is used constantly: MPs investigate the conduct of other MPs, police investigate other police.

In the case of the mining companies a leading scientific figure was chosen to lead the inquiry—Lord (Solly) Zuckerman. He became famous for his

attempts to mate Chi-Chi the panda with the Russian An-An. Following this unfulfilled attempt at peaceful coexistence, he left his job as scientific adviser to No 10 Downing Street—and the mining companies job fell into his lap.

Yesterday, his report came out. What's intriguing is that there was heavy speculation as to its contents in Tuesday's press.

Now the only people who had copies of the report were RTZ and its associates. It seems reasonable to assume, therefore, where the 'leak' came from.

Charles Quant of the Liverpool 'Daily Post' wrote in a lead story on page 3: 'Mine probe: Findings may shock RTZ.'

It said: '...I believe that Zuckerman will come out with some unexpectedly tough terms on which mining companies should be allowed, if at all, to operate in areas like national parks and other countryside of high landscape quality.'

People reading Quant on Tuesday will assume that his 'inside' information is based on a scrutiny of the report that 'tough terms' will be applied to the mining companies. But Thursday's paper, which will presumably carry the official version, will show that Zuckerman is proposing far less than that.

Interestingly enough, however, it has been proven through

numerous studies that it is the first version which the public believes.

So we come to the real Z-Plan (the PR boys even gave it a trendy title) which was embargoed for release at noon yesterday.

Does it level stiff criticism at the mining companies? Does it hell!

It simply proposes that the government, the Tory government that is, should set up a code of practice for the mining community. And very helpfully, Zuckerman draws up a draft code:

It contains such 'stringent' measures as this: prospectors must complete their exploration activities on any site within 18 months.

(Considering the fact that this can be easily done in less than 12 months, this is scarcely the sort of regulation which will frighten RTZ et al.)

In conclusion it can be said that Zuckerman, predictably, has not bitten the hand that feeds him... despite what the Liverpool 'Daily Post' would have us believe. His report will be welcomed by the mining companies and by the Tory government which now has a report on mining and the environment—albeit unofficial—which they hope will satisfy public disquiet.

But the point remains: as markets and ore bodies diminish, the private mining groups will march anywhere in search of profits.

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## Last ship leaves Scotstoun but no champagne

THE LAST SHIP from the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders' division at Scotstoun was launched this week. It was a brief ceremony with none of the usual celebrations nor a champagne bottle crashing on the bow.

The 18,200-ton cargo ship, to be named 'Hilla', was built for a subsidiary of Zim Israel Navigation.

A sister ship is due to be launched soon from Clydebank. This will be the last one in a four-ship order placed with UCS before the consortium went bankrupt.

This week's launching was a grim reminder to many UCS workers of the much-vaunted claim by the Communist Party leaders of the shop stewards' committee that they would not let any of the ships leave the yards until guarantees on jobs and the four yards were received from the Tories.

No such guarantees were ever given. And now the Clydeside is paying for these treacherous manoeuvres by the Stalinists by huge jobs losses.

## Buses need cash aid urgently

DISASTER lies ahead for bus transport if the industry tries balancing its books by raising fares, public transport operators were told in Eastbourne yesterday.

The only solution lay in revenue aid—quickly and generously, Mr J. Brooksbank, Director of Finance and Administration to the Merseyside Transport Executive, told the Association of Public Passenger Transport Operators' conference.

During the 1960-1970 period, he said, there was a loss of 31 per cent of custom. Those customers who remained were paying fares over twice as high as in 1960.

Economy cuts which would have to be made would further worsen services.

'So, like a snowball rolling downhill, the destructive force would increase the longer it continued in motion,' he added.

Existing subsidies, though welcome, were inadequate and did not fit into any overall strategy.

'To my mind everything points to one solution . . . some form of revenue aid of passenger transport should be given quickly and generously,' said Brooksbank.

# Scrap our pay freeze if Lynch gets rise



Eire premier Jack Lynch: Expecting a rise

IRELAND'S 55,000 building workers have warned they will try to have their national pay agreement scrapped if a report giving MPs and senior civil servants more pay is implemented.

A committee investigating pay in the public sector has

recommended a £3,000 rise for Prime Minister Jack Lynch and big increases for ministers, deputies, senators and the judiciary.

It would be their first rise for four years.

Recently the unions agreed to a new pact limiting rises to £2.50 a week for the next year. A spokesman for the building section of the Irish Transport

and General Workers' Union said:

'Our members are going to demand an explanation why their earning power has been curbed while alarming increases have been recommended for a selected few.'

He warned that other unions felt the same way and if the report was implemented they would call a special conference to have the national pay agreement rescinded.

## Spanish-Soviet trade deal nearly complete

SPANISH OFFICIALS say trade talks with Soviet diplomats in Paris will soon be completed and will pave the way for concrete diplomatic relations between Moscow and Madrid. The first step will be the opening of a Spanish commercial office in Moscow and a Soviet office in Madrid after the trade agreement is signed.

One of the obstacles in the negotiations has been the Spanish gold reserves which were shipped to Moscow by the Republican government during the Civil War as payment for Soviet arms shipments for the Republican army.

Franco's fascist regime has always maintained that this gold—valued at \$500m—was stolen by the 'Reds' and must be returned.

As a counter in this debate between fascists and Stalinists, 'Pravda' has claimed that the Spanish government should repay a \$50m loan granted by Stalin to the Republic.

So the Spanish revolution and Franco's butchering of the Spanish working class is reduced by the Moscow Stalinists—whose Popular Front policies were responsible for Franco's victory—into a bargaining point in the cementing of a counter-revolutionary alliance against the European working class.

A Spanish diplomat stated that the gold question would not hold up the signing of a trade agreement:

'The talks are making good progress and we hope a trade agreement may be signed soon.'

The Franco regime, drawing strength from its alliance with Moscow, has been cracking down on the Basque nationalists and preparing repression against the student movement.

While 'good progress' was

being made in Paris on Tuesday, police arrested three youths in the Basque province on the charge of being members of the separatist organization ETA.

Altogether 70 people have been arrested in the industrial area around Bilbao since the beginning of September and two suspected ETA militants have been killed in a gun battle with the police.

In Madrid university, there is a witch-hunt against those students who participated in the student protests of the last year. The university Rectorate has sent out a memorandum and lists of the names of students who must be refused matriculation this year to Faculty Offices and the various university schools.

This renewed policy of repression is leading to a wave of resignations of those responsible for university authority.

Following the resignation of Rector Botella, three vice-rectors, four deacons, four vice-deacons and secretaries have resigned their positions in the Faculties of Law, Science, Philosophy and Letters and Economic Science. The Head of the Institute of Educational Sciences, Garcia Hoz, has also resigned.

These were the men who presided over the university last year when it was closed for most of the academic year and over final exams which were boycotted by almost all students. The university campus was permanently occupied by police.

## Amin may affect bank profits

LORD ALDINGTON'S bank, National and Grindlays, has recorded a 34-per-cent increase in pre-tax profits for the first six months of this year.

To June 30 profits were set at £6.4m, which has enabled the board to pay out an 8-per-cent dividend to shareholders.

The bank, chaired by Lord Aldington, the head of the Port of London Authority, has substantial interests in the military dictatorship of Uganda.

Indeed, one of the bank's clients in Uganda is none other than General Idi Amin.

The interim report says that recent incidents in the African republic would affect the likelihood of profits.

## Yarmouth textile sit-in

MORE than 300 workers at a textile works in Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, are staging a round-the-clock sit-in to protest against their factory closing.

The factory—Gainsborough Cornard, who do warp knitting for part of the giant Viyella group—closed without warning on Monday they say, putting 340

## Instant price rise

BRITAIN'S biggest instant coffee makers—Nestlé's—forecast yesterday that Britain's housewives will soon be paying more for coffee.

This comes directly after the announcement on Tuesday that the price of eggs could increase by as much as 6p a dozen early next year.

Nestlé's said the world's coffee-growing countries were determined to establish further increases in the price of coffee on international markets, despite strong protests from coffee-consuming countries.

The price of coffee beans has already jumped 25 per cent in the past year.

Referring to the egg price increases, Dame Elizabeth Ackroyd, director of the National Innovation Centre, a former director of the Consumer Council and a member of the Tory Party, said:

'The price of eggs has been low, there's no doubt about it.'

### Socialist Labour League LECTURES

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Development of Marxism through working-class struggle

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Nature of the capitalist crisis

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Historical materialism today

Sunday October 8

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Lister Room

Barking Rd, 7 p.m.

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# NO RETREAT ON BUILDERS' CLAIM

THE THOUSANDS of building workers who will lobby the pay talks today will have one simple message for their union leaders: no retreat on the full claim for £30 for a 35-hour week.

They will have to be on their guard. For yesterday, George Smith, general secretary of the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians (UCATT), said that compromising was not a dirty word. He wanted to negotiate an 'honourable and just settlement'.

For 12 long weeks tens of thousands of building workers all over Britain have shown a real determination to fight.

Despite the union leaders' selective strike and company deals strategy — backed all the way by the Communist Party—300,000 are now out in the first mass action by building workers in 50 years.

They have been unanimous this week in rejecting any compromise of their claim. On Monday 8,000 Merseysiders voted not to go back until their demands were met in full.

A mass meeting of Preston building workers passed a resolution on the same lines.

At Transport House yesterday London builders lobbied a meeting of the Transport and General Workers' Union builders' national committee demanding no retreat on the claim.

Most were from the Camden direct works scheme in north London. They have twice defied attempts by union leaders to send them back to work.

Their feeling was summed up by T&GWU militant Robert Cousins who said: 'We want the full claim, but the union leaders have to go one way or the other

—and I think they're bound to sell us out.

'They were all "left" wing when elected.

'Now we can see them for what they are and they will be swept away by the rank and file. What we want is a total stoppage and a General Strike to throw the Tories out, nationalization of the building industry under workers' control and an end to the lump once and for all.'

Today's talks between the two sides were fixed up at last week's TUC Congress at Brighton and are the first for five weeks.

Yesterday George Smith made it clear he was in favour of a compromise with the employers. He told the Tory-owned 'Daily Telegraph' there was now 'a desire on each side of the industry to end the dispute'.

They were now attempting to negotiate 'an honourable and just settlement'.

These words can only mean that Smith and UCATT leadership are in favour of the proposed deal. It is thought that it only offers an immediate basic rate of £26 a week without any reduction in the working week and also lasts for an incredible 26 months.

A £3 guaranteed bonus would be paid from next May, but the basic rate would stay the same until the following October when it would rise to £28.

Also in October 1973 a cost-of-living clause would be introduced. Then in June 1974 the minimum guaranteed earnings level of £31



London builders yesterday lobbied Transport and General Workers' Union officials and delegates when they met to consider the employers latest offer before today's pay talks. But when the meeting broke, no one would tell the lobby what they decided had happened. Camden builders seen here earlier ran into union leader Jack Jones. 'What are you doing here, what do you want?' asked Jones. '£30, for 35 hours,' they replied. 'You won't get that here,' said Jones.

would come in. The deal would finally expire in November 1974 —26 months from now.

On August 8, attempts to settle a deal giving £3 on the basic rate and a no-strike clause on the guaranteed bonus was

thwarted by a mass demonstration and lobby of 7,000 builders from all over Britain. Any settlement below the full claim now after three months' bitter strike action will represent a gross betrayal.

The union leaders must be told to stop retreating and start fighting. A national strike must be called and the TUC made to organize a General Strike to back the builders, throw the Tories out and elect a Labour government pledged to nationalize the industry under workers' control and without compensation to the construction tycoons and property speculators.

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## WEATHER

It will be cool in the south and east with occasional rain or showers. The north and west will be rather cool and mainly dry with some sunshine.

## SEPTEMBER FUND NOW £255.91

WE ARE now almost halfway through September, but a long way from raising half our £1,750 target. A much bigger effort is still needed to keep ahead in this fight.

While prices and unemployment continue to rise at an alarming rate, Workers Press will continue to expose the treachery of the TUC discussions with Heath.

Our paper must be used to bring trade unionists to the ATUA Conference on October 22 and show that a revolutionary alternative can be built. Workers Press, therefore, is more decisive than ever.

All your support is needed for the fight ahead. Help us raise everything you can for our monthly fund. Take collections at work or wherever you can. Don't let an opportunity pass you by. Post all donations immediately to:

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London, SW4 7UG

## Briefly . . .

**REPRESSION** in Argentina will be stepped up Peronist lawyer Leonardo Franco forecast yesterday. He is in Britain campaigning on behalf of Argentine political prisoners. Several hundred left-wingers and trade unionists have been arrested by the military regime over the past few days bringing the total number of political prisoners to close on 1,500.

**YOUNG LIBERALS** chairman Peter Hain lodged an appeal yesterday against his conviction at the Old Bailey on a charge of conspiracy to hinder and disrupt the 1969 Davis Cup tennis match between Britain and South Africa by unlawful means.

**POWER WORKERS** yesterday continued their strike in protest against paratroopers guarding one of Belfast's main power stations. Ulster Supremo William Whitelaw had talks with his advisers in Belfast on the worsening black-outs after flying back from London.

**BORROWERS** in the Republic of Ireland will have to pay 1 per cent more for loans as a result of increased interest rates announced yesterday by the Irish Banks Standing Committee. Rates on bank deposits will also rise by the same amount, but holders of £25,000 or more will get an additional 1½ per cent.



Gerry Fitt (second from left) leads the SDLP delegation to see Wilson

## SDLP sees Wilson

LEADERS of Northern Ireland's Social Democratic and Labour Party met Harold Wilson yesterday in another effort to find a formula which would enable them to attend William Whitelaw's all-party talks on the future of Ulster.

After saying they were 'determined' not to attend the talks without an immediate end to internment, they announced after Tuesday's meeting with premier Heath that a final decision would not be made until after their talks with Wilson.

Wilson, who is anxious to preserve the Labour-Tory union on Ireland, clearly has the job of 'persuading' the all-too willing SDLP leaders to go along with Whitelaw.

On Tuesday at Chequers Gerry

Fitt and his colleagues had insisted that an immediate end to internment was a pre-condition of their attending the talks, due to take place on September 25-27.

However, their 2½-hour meeting with Heath and Whitelaw on Tuesday produced no pledge whatever.

Whitelaw insisted that the 171 remaining internees were 'hard-core extremists', and that the 'all-party' talks will go ahead with or without the SDLP.

Meanwhile, the right wing Ulster Vanguard organization has threatened to 'bring Ulster to a standstill' if internment is ended.

A Vanguard spokesman said: 'In some cases it may mean that the UDA will attack Roman Catholic areas. We know that this could play into the hands of the IRA as troops will be pulled away from important targets.'

'But Mr Heath and the British government must learn that the Loyalists of Ulster are not to be trifled with.'

**TORY** Monday Club has booked Westminster's Central Hall for a 'Halt Immigration' rally on Saturday. Four Conservative MPs will speak—Ronald Bell, QC, Harold Soref, John Stokes, and John Biggs-Davison. Enoch Powell was invited to speak, but pleaded a previous engagement.

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All this information is absolutely clear, open and available to every one of the union leaders participating in today's talks. It must also be clear to them that the British economy is heading into a major crisis perhaps even earlier than Market entry.

The politics of their participation at Chequers are the politics of coalition.

Having made their peace with the Industrial Relations Act last week, the TUC General Council is preparing to make common

cause with the Tories against the inevitable working-class upsurge as Market entry approaches.

The Tories are well aware of this.

It is not difficult to read between the lines of Tory reaction to the call of former Home Secretary Reginald Maudling for a possible statutory incomes policy.

This is what 'The Times' political correspondent David Wood had to say on the subject yesterday:

'Some senior Ministers, to

whom Mr Maudling's arguments are obviously thoroughly familiar, continued to hold that a statutory policy, except in a desperate economic crisis, could not be carried by the government through the present House of Commons.'

In other words, behind the smokescreen of today's talks the Tories are preparing to hit the working class hard. A 'national emergency' election is not ruled out.

These are the dangers behind the Chequers meeting.