

# Attitude

The Voice of Leeds Anti Fascist Action Spring 1994 a mere 20p

## Nazi Terror Exposed



### And all Red Scum!

'MPs on nazi death-list' declared the *Yorkshire on Sunday* on February 13th, 'Leeds MPs on "nazi" hit list' proclaimed the *Yorkshire Evening Post*, the following day. In this exclusive article Leeds AFA, who helped research this story for the local press, reveal the people behind these nazi death threats and a campaign of organised fascist terror in Yorkshire.

The Combat 18 death list is only part of the serious fascist violence which has escalated, particularly in Leeds, during the past nine months. Though some of the attacks of which we provide examples below are opportunistic, AFA firmly believes that many others have been carefully planned and are strictly in keeping with the Combat 18 terror model. This means they are ideologically committed to violent nazi activity intended to threaten and injure all those who oppose racism and fascism.

#### CATALOGUE OF NAZI VIOLENCE

In May and June last year left-wing papersellers in Cross Gates were harassed regularly by BNP supporters. This culminated in an attack by fascists carrying hammers and other weapons. John

Rhodes, Tony MacDonnell, Dave Appleyard, John Simpson, Tony White and other nazi goons launched an assault on AFA activists at Leeds railway station in the summer. Black women were also threatened and attacked by nazis in Leeds city centre at the same time in a number of separate incidents.

In September 1993, as we reported in the last *Attitude*, a number of record shops selling anti-fascist merchandise received death threats, had windows smashed and were daubed with nazi graffiti. Staff at the 'Northern Star', an alternative magazine (now defunct), were physically intimidated and their windows were also smashed on at least three occasions. Bradford BNP members such as Kevin Watmough sent letters to AFA at this time boasting that the nazis were targeting property and individuals [see below].

That Star near  
the Corn Exchange  
that sells 'Anti Fascism'  
T-shirts is an filer

NEW! DYNAMIC!  
AND GROWING!  
"ENGLISH SOLIDARITY!"

Around eight fascists launched a serious attack on two anti-fascists outside the Cobourg pub at the end of October and also threatened an Aids Awareness march in December.

In 1994 the violence and terrorism has actually increased rather than abated. Members of the Anti-Nazi League (ANL) were threatened by 'siege-heiling' nazis on the 15th January and the following week the Socialist Workers' Party (SWP) were the victims of a well-organised ambush by ten nazis, many of whom wore masks or scarves to hide their identity. Three anti-racists were hurt and one person needed hospital treatment after being hit with a weapon. Leeds AFA believes that this attack was planned several days in advance by Kevin Harrison and others and was co-ordinated on the day by Steve Sargent from London, one of the main leaders (along with brother Charlie) of Combat 18. A message was left on AFA's answerphone that evening from C18 gloating about this assault. The following week a student was attacked at home by three nazis who trashed a bedroom and the kitchen before chasing him down the street.

Continued on page 2

**AFA Hotline: 0532 424680** 24hr ansaphone

ANL supporters have since been physically threatened on successive Saturdays by groups of nazis, including Appleyard, Watmough, White [see NaziWatch] and others. AFA has also received unconfirmed reports that a black man was seriously assaulted by Appleyard on Saturday 19th February.

### SURVEILLANCE & DEATH THREATS

This campaign of physical violence has been carried out at the same time as a concerted and reasonably sophisticated attempt by the nazis to gather information on their opponents. This has included names, addresses, telephone numbers and photographs. Fascists have been carrying out surveillance on political meetings and have on occasion infiltrated meetings of the SWP in pubs. Nazis have also been following people home from these meetings and assaulting them. They hope to steal address books, petitions, diaries etc.

Appleyard, White and other nazi thugs have been seen several times trying to gather information on student activists from Leeds University Union. As well as gathering details from notice boards, mail boxes and filing cabinets they have been monitoring the names and academic courses of anti-racists in the student newspaper. Local C18 activists have boasted that they know "lots of info" about various groups, particularly the ANL and this claim appears to have some credence.

### YORKSHIRE COMBAT 18 DEATH LIST

The facts behind the recent 'Redwatch' in the *Combat 18* bulletin which featured the names and phone numbers of over 100 people in Yorkshire, clearly demonstrates the methods used by C18 and the serious nature of their terror tactics.

In Spring last year, nazi activist Tony White went into the 'Northern Star' offices and stole the address book belonging to the editor because he wanted (in his own words) "to find the pakis". Leeds AFA later received a letter from Kevin Watmough and his fellow Bradford BNP cronies boasting about the theft and the fact that C18 now had this address book [below] which had been passed on to C18 by leading Yorkshire nazi Kevin Harrison. [Details in NaziWatch].

A few more things  
for you capitalist puppets  
'Pro fascist Action' is wrong,  
but we got 'em first  
Park nights are coming and  
we're got our valuable supply  
of spy packets. Keep looking  
in B18 suburbs. The address  
book one of our lads nicked  
from N.S. (familiar initials?)  
came in very useful. C18 will  
please.

— Bradford BNP

P.S. Snarey is an ex-patent  
European.

Once Harrison had passed the address book on to the Sargents, it appeared as a Redwatch list in *Combat 18* no.1 under the headline 'Death to the system! And all red scum' [see caption 3]. As well as a number of supposed anti-racist and anti-fascist activists, the death list also features amongst others: four West Yorkshire Labour MPs, Asian activists and Councillors in Bradford, Leeds Councillors, prominent local trade unionists, peace activists, Women Against Apartheid members, members of the Football Supporters' Association, a former chairman of the West Yorkshire Police Authority and even a children's nursery in Chapeltown.

The broad range of individuals and organisations targeted by C18, as a result of Tony White and Kevin Harrison, shows the true nature of their nazi ideas. Rather than being simply a case of hostility

towards anti-fascists, their ideological hatred and violence is directed against ANYONE who does not endorse their nazi world view.

*Searchlight* editor, Gerry Gable said to *Attitude* "The advent of *Combat 18* is one of the most significant and worrying changes in the direction of the extreme-right. There have been sustained campaigns of nazi violence against people and premises in London, the East Midlands, Durham and Leeds. In most places, the police have been taking this seriously but Yorkshire appears to be a blind spot."

### HARD LESSONS

AFA believes that there are several significant conclusions to be drawn from the recent upsurge in nazi violence in Yorkshire:

- 1) It is clear that the nazis have intensified their 'direct action' and ability to gather information on their opponents. Unfortunately, the fascists' confidence has increased because of the failure of certain groups within the anti-fascist movement to treat their own personal security seriously enough:
- 2) The seemingly inadequate response from the relevant authorities to the nazi violence has reinforced Leeds AFA's belief that it is anti-fascists themselves (this includes individuals, community and political groups, whatever name they go under) who are the only people who can actually stop the fascists in their tracks;
- 3) It is time for all anti-fascists to get off the fence and down to the serious business of stopping the nazis growing. This means countering their stupid racist - bigotted arguments and exposing and physically opposing their activities.

**ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!**

# Marching Altogether

An interview with a member of Leeds Fans against Racism and Fascism. LFARAF was set up in 1987 and is widely recognised as the first campaign of its kind in the country.

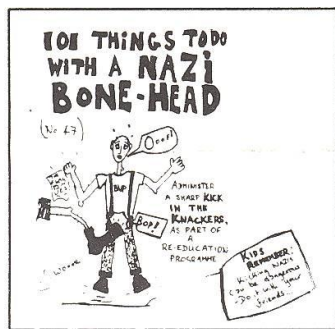
## Why did you start?

The atmosphere at Elland Road was intolerable in 1987. Both the racism in the ground and the fascists peddling their filth outside. The club said that there wasn't a problem and so Leeds Trades Council and AFA produced a report showing just how bad the situation was. The club's response wasn't great and we didn't get any support for our campaign. We had to do all the running ourselves.

people felt outsiders were coming in to leaflet. What we needed was a campaign run by football fans themselves and the fanzine was the best way for us to do this. It gave us a chance to get our people listening to our ideas. We slagged off the fascists but we also talked about issues that affected the fans - all-seater stadia, the club treating the fans badly, etc. The political message in the fanzine was strong but it wasn't about well-intentioned lefties telling people what to think. It was about people that cared passionately about football and Leeds United and wanted to give people the confidence to speak up.



It's worked because we've done more than just campaign about racism. We hope we've made people think about these issues and we've tried to help change the atmosphere down there. The club's improved performance and the signing of Black players has probably done as much to change things.



## How did the idea of the fanzine come about?

We started with a couple of leaflets to test the water and lots of anti-fascists came to help us in that first year. The response from the fans was pretty mixed and we realised that the problem was that

We used cartoons about fascists and football (nominating 'crap haircut' awards being our favourite). 'Dickhead in the crowd' was a way of pinpointing individual racists to shut them up. 'Eric the football hooligan' and '101 things to do with a nazi skin' made regular appearances.

## Has it worked?

Well, the fascists gave up in 1991 as people became more hostile towards them and told them where to go. Inside the ground, the racist chanting has gone, but there's still a lot of individuals there that need confronting. It's getting better but there's more to do.... You still don't see that many Black and Asian faces on the terraces.

## So with the fascists gone where do you go from here?

As I said, there's more to do than just get rid of the fascists. We'll carry on with issue 19. There's plenty more racists to get rid of and besides, the fanzine gives people a chance to write about their club. If we just stopped then in a few years the fascists might get back down there and we'd have to start all over again. It was really hard when we started - fascist thugs can be pretty intimidating, but by being organised we learnt to look after ourselves and they faded away, and long-term work is better than going through that again.



## Merchandise

### T-Shirts

Short-sleeve £5  
(red/white/grey/  
black/emerald)  
Long-sleeve £8  
(white/grey/black)

### Badges

30p

### Stickers

30 for £1

### Magazines

CARF 80p  
Searchlight £1.50  
Marching Altogether 50p  
(Leeds Fans against Racism)  
Intro to Leeds AFA /back

issues of Attitude free!

All cheques/PO's to Leeds AFA.  
Please include a contribution for  
post and packing.

## Forthcoming Attractions

### Friday March 18th.

**KEEPIN' THE FAITH** - A BENEFIT NIGHT FOR LEEDS FANS AGAINST RACISM. THE VERY BEST IN NORTHERN SOUL, SKA AND MOTOWN. AT THE WEST INDIAN CENTRE, SAVILLE MOUNT, OFF CHAPELTOWN ROAD.

### Saturday March 19th.

**UNITE AGAINST RACISM** - A MARCH ORGANISED BY THE TUC. LEEDS AFA ARE JOINTLY ORGANISING COACHES FROM LEEDS WITH OTHER GROUPS. RING FOR DETAILS.

### Campaign Against

## CARF

Racism & Fascism

CARF is produced by an independent non-party political collective which has provided anti-racist and anti-fascist material to the movement for 14 years.

Price 80p or 1 year subscriptions £7.50 from:

CARF, BM Box 8784,  
London WC1N 3XX

## SEARCHLIGHT

THE INTERNATIONAL  
ANTI-FASCIST MONTHLY

Price: £1.50

Subscriptions (1 year)

Individuals £18

Concessions £13

Organisations £26

Send cheques

(payable to Searchlight):

Searchlight Magazine Ltd,  
37b New Cavendish St,  
London W1M 8JR

We would like to thank the following for their support/donations or affiliations over the last year:

Leeds Area National Union of Teachers, Leeds Unison, Leeds University Union, Leeds Metropolitan University Students' Union, University of Huddersfield Students' Union, Zog, Chumbawamba, Searchlight Magazine, Campaign against Racism and Fascism and everyone else in West Yorkshire who's given us a hand.

FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT ANY OF THE ABOVE EVENTS CONTACT LEEDS AFA

## Anti FASCIST ACTION

AFA is committed to physically and ideologically confronting racism and fascism. We are not a protest movement content to shout slogans at fascists from behind police lines. Our aim is to plan activities that will make it as hard as possible for them to operate.

We are a broad-based and non-sectarian campaign, not controlled by or aligned to any political group. We believe that our non-dogmatic approach and ability to use a wide range of tactics has contributed much to our success.

We believe that all communities have the right to and need for self-defence. We offer our support to them and in no way see ourselves as a substitute for community organisation.

## Get Wize! Get Active!

- > come along to our gigs
- > read CARF and Searchlight
- > challenge racist remarks
- > report racist and fascist activity to us
- > distribute stickers and leaflets
- > come and stop nazi marches and paper sales
- > get a speaker for your group
- > Join AFA

Get in touch - we hold regular events. AFA will always kick fascists back into the gutters they crawl out of. But we'd much rather they never crawled out in the first place. It's much easier to stop them when they're still weak. So get involved now!

I/we would like to join Leeds AFA and enclose \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliations: Individuals - waged £5, unwaged £2  
Organisations - Trade Union/Student Union £50  
Community group £10

**Leeds AFA, Box 151, 52 Call Lane, LS1 6DT**