

FIGHTING TALK

Issue 13

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CLASS NOT NATION

**Anti-Fascist
Action**

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APPEAL FOR INFORMATION

WE URGE ALL OUR READERS TO SEND ANY INFORMATION ON FASCISTS IN THEIR AREA DIRECT TO AFA. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GUARANTEE THE MILITANT ANTI-FASCIST MOVEMENT HAS THE NECESSARY INFORMATION TO SUCCESSFULLY BEAT THE FASCISTS.

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In the fight against fascism in Britain, Anti-Fascist Action has a record that is second to none. Our unique combination of physical confrontation and ideological struggle has produced results time and again.

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Contact your local group for affiliation rates and activities.

AFA CONTACTS

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	Leicester AFA PO Box 320, Leicester LE1 5WS	Glasgow AFA PO Box 797, Glasgow G1 5JF	
	Nottingham AFA PO Box 192, Nottingham NG1 1FJ	Brighton AFA c/o London AFA	
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Bolton AFA c/o Manchester AFA	Colchester AFA PO Box 2457 Colchester CO4 4NQ		
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	Sheffield AFA c/o Black Star, PO Box 446 Sheffield	Southampton AFA c/o London AFA	
	Tyne & Wear AFA 4, The Cloth Market, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE11EA	Surrey AFA c/o London AFA	
	Wigan AFA C/o Manchester AFA	AFA (Ireland) PO Box 3355 Dublin 7, Ireland	
	York AFA PO Box 306, York YO3 7GH	Autonome Antifa (M) Buchladen Rote Straße Rote Straße 10 37073 Göttingen Germany	

IN THE AREA

Welcome to Issue 13 of Fighting Talk, and as usual we start with a round up of news and views from the front line of the fight against fascism.

On Saturday 27th January the annual Bloody Sunday march was held in Leicester. The march is held each year to commemorate the murder of 14 unarmed civilians by British troops in Derry 24 years ago. Each year the march acts as a rallying point for fascists and Loyalists and each year they try to attack or disrupt the march. In the days leading up to the march John Peacock of the BNP had applied to the council for permission to hold a counter-demo which was denied; it was expected that the fash would turn up anyway.

The weather conditions on the day were comical, the previous night 10 inches of snow had fallen, making the roads and pavements treacherous. It seemed any confrontation would end in snowballs at 20 paces! The weather made it difficult for some people to get to Leicester but we still turned out 100 stewards. As the march moved off there were still no reports of fascists in town but the AFA contingent were well placed to deal with any fascist threat. When the marchers dispersed the AFA group retired to a local pub for a drink. This was disrupted when a group of local fascists and football supporters marched into the pub spouting racist abuse and offered AFA outside. The AFA members present had a brief 'discussion' with the fascists and their mates and pointed out emphatically that racism is racism, whoever it is directed at, and will not be tolerated. All in all it was a good day and just goes to show how the fascists are having real trouble in organising a credible street presence these days.

The trial took place in December of four of the 10 anti-fascists arrested during disturbances around last year's James Connolly Commemoration in Edinburgh. Three of the original ten failed to appear in court. The cases against another three defendants, two from Fife AFA and another from Newcastle, who were charged with the lesser offence of 'breach of the peace', were dropped. The state decided to proceed with the charges against the other four defendants who

had defended themselves against an attack from what they believed to be a group of fascists and Loyalists. The attackers later turned out to be a unit of plain clothes police operating in the 'flashpoint' area.

It was clear from the evidence given in court by the two police witnesses who were called (another 14 police witnesses were cited) that the coppers were still smarting from the thrashing they got. The reactions of the police officers who took the brunt of the punishment after leading the ambush on the AFA stewards suggests that they expected a far easier time of it. The prosecution, fearing that they might not be able to sustain the case against the remaining four defendants once the police witnesses were put under pressure, offered a deal whereby the four would be allowed to plead guilty to one charge of police assault or resisting arrest in exchange for the other three charges against them being dropped. This was acceptable to the four defendants and, considering at least one of them was looking seriously at a custodial sentence, it seemed the wisest course of action. Their pleas of guilty to one charge each were accepted although the police looked none too pleased when, in her summing up, the sherrif accepted that there had been a great deal of confusion and that it had been difficult to distinguish between those for and against the march and the police. All four received community service orders ranging between 120 and 240 hours.

It is important to note that a leading member of the James Connolly Society (JCS) has, for reasons known only to himself, been spreading malicious rumours about "AFA doing deals with the state" and has quoted instances where the JCS has refused such "deals". It is interesting that in the instances which he quotes, none of the JCS supporters were convicted of any offence and others have had the cases against them dropped. It

would seem that not only do the state not think its worth offering "deals" to the JCS, they don't even consider them dangerous enough to convict in most cases.

As far as AFA is concerned, we got a good result in Edinburgh, both on the day and in court. The object of militant anti-fascism is not to collect imprisoned martyrs but to keep people out of jail where possible, and for them to continue operating successfully against the fascists. One of those arrested described an exchange with one of the arresting officers on the day: "I had just been charged with police assault, resisting arrest, and breach of the peace, when this copper comes in limping, holding his side and with bruising to his eye, looks at me and says, "You lot gave us a terrible hiding today. I can't understand it because usually 99% of lefties are no problem!" I thought of the 1% that he had just met that day."

In Wigan local AFA activists were having a quiet drink in town when they spotted members of the local 'C18 unit' in a pub. Despite being outnumbered our heroes challenged the fascists to step outside to discuss matters further. The brave Aryan warriors declined this generous offer and pleaded with the pub bouncers to intervene on their behalf. The bouncers refused, and only stated that there should be no trouble inside the pub itself. After hiding inside the pub for ages, the fascists tried to make a break for it but were captured by AFA outside. Several were given a lecture in the finer points of street brawling, while others made good their



Wigan C18 Suicide Squad...

AFA ROUND-UP

escape and returned with reinforcements. These reinforcements were also dealt with in no uncertain terms, and several fled from the scene, but returned later bolstered by members of the local football firm. Deciding that odds of nearly 7 -1 were a little on the heavy side, and content with the nights work, a strategic withdrawal was made at this point. It has since been learnt that the cowardly behaviour on the night of C18's local 'hardman' David Sudworth has led to his reputation being shattered locally. You live by the sword, you die by the sword.

In Manchester over the past 18 months there has been a small number of incidents where fascists and Loyalists have managed to seriously disrupt Irish solidarity events. This has only occurred when the help and advice of Manchester AFA has been deliberately shunned by



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the likes of the Manchester Martyrs Committee and Bolton Saoirse. It should be noted that when we secure the co-operation of groups organising events like these, then it not only ensures the safety of those attending, but can result in significant victories for AFA, as was the case with the 1995 Bloody Sunday march.

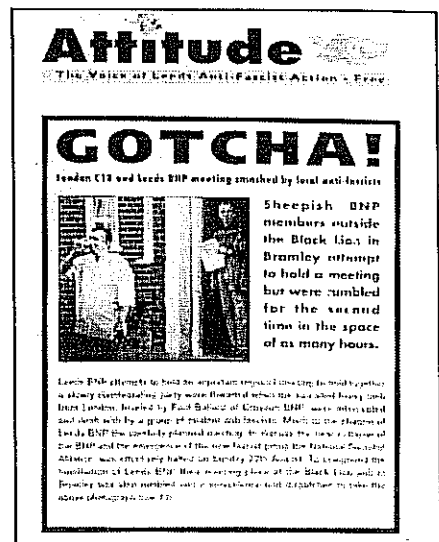
We have therefore been forced to issue an open letter to all groups involved in Irish solidarity work which states that we will no longer consider stewarding any Irish events unless we have been invited at the earliest possible stage to discuss security. Furthermore, our members will not risk injury or imprisonment if the organisation or individuals within those organisations have, like the Manchester Martyrs, consistently ignored security advice over the years. The fascists have been given too many easy victories by

these idiots and sectarians recently. If we cannot stop them organising defeats, then we can at least make it clear to everybody who it is that is actually being defeated and why.

In Bristol, fascist activity has been continuing but sporadic; it seems to go in fits and starts. There have been stickers and graffiti originating from both the BNP and NF; predominantly it has been BNP. There has also been a series of racist incidents including assault, vandalism, intimidation and an attack on a pub which has left it 'closed until further notice'. The attack on the pub followed a change of landlord, the new licensee took an openly anti-racist stand. If all this sounds a bit bleak then it should be noted that all of this activity is taking place in a very small area, in one part of the Fishponds district of the city. At the moment the recently reformed AFA branch has concentrated on collecting information, both on the nature and location of fascist and racist incidents, and where possible the identity of the perpetrators. This activity is beginning to bear fruit. We also produced a leaflet and stickers.

Down in Devon things are quiet; a once flourishing NF branch has virtually collapsed. In fact what's left of this branch has gone over to the National Democrats and has made such an impact on the local population that at the end of last year the ND candidate at a council election in Exeter polled an exciting 12 votes! It is also interesting that Mark Cotterill - formerly local NF supremo, founder of the Patriotic Forum, active Loyalist, and Tory Party member - didn't return from America last year for a court case when he was allegedly assaulted by anti-fascists. We wonder why?

In Nottingham the local AFA group are monitoring a shop called 'VOID' in Hockley which is owned by a long standing nazi. While there is ongoing local fascist activity, including Blood and Honour stuff, because it no longer has the high media profile of a few years ago other anti-fascist groups are winding down. We hear the Notts. Anti-Fascist



Attitude
The Voice of British Anti-Fascist Action & Free
GOTCHA!
London C18 and Leeds BNP meeting smashed by local anti-fascists
Leeds BNP attempt to hold an important meeting...
Sheepish BNP members outside the Black Lion in Bramley attempt to hold a meeting but were clobbered for the second time in the space of a few hours.

Alliance has almost completely folded. Notts Anti-Fascist Action are still going strong and have produced a local newsletter which is available from their address if you send a S.A.E.

Talking of publications, Leeds AFA are still producing their bulletin 'Attitude' (S.A.E. from Leeds AFA, see above) and the latest issue includes a piece on Paul Cox - another so-called 'independent' researcher who occasionally writes to AFA groups asking for information. In this case there is no doubt about his motives, having previously been involved with the BNP and Harrington's Third Way - and Mr. Cox should be avoided like the plague (unless of course you have a particularly infectious variety!)

In south London the fascists have run into some legal problems. While the BNP have been busy making changes to their HQ to convert it into a 'bookshop' (some campaign that, to close it down, eh?), in Croydon local fascist activists spend their evenings cutting the address off the bottom of their stickers to avoid further prosecutions.

And finally, the Birmingham and Wolverhampton branches of AFA have a new address which is: Birmingham/Wolves AFA, PO Box 3311, 25. Howard Rd. East, Birmingham, B13.

AFA STATEMENT

Towards the end of 1995 allegations were made by Larry O'Hara that Leeds AFA was being 'run' by M15. AFA has conducted a thorough inquiry and found there is **NO EVIDENCE** to support this allegation against either Leeds AFA or any individuals in it.

On the other hand AFA has no intention of getting involved in the ongoing dispute between Searchlight and O'Hara and will forcefully reject any moves to drag us in.

If people think they have information relevant to AFA they should approach us first rather than start shouting the odds to people who are not part of the militant anti-fascist movement. It is behaviour like this that raises questions about people's motives.

GERMANY CALLING

The trial of 17 alleged members of Autonome Antifa (M) was originally planned to start on May 8th 1996. It has now been pushed back to August 14th 1996, because the Justice Department can't find a suitable venue for the trial!

Applications to have the trial moved to Gottingen, where most of the defendants live, were refused. The courts reasons were that the defendants are young, "...to be able to expect a little mobility..", the appropriate mood for the trial would not be reached in Gottingen, and that "...uprisings.." could be expected.

Other recent events in Gottingen show that the real reason for the trial is to finish off the group politically. The justification for the investigation has changed with

the wind. Originally the police talked about 52 attacks over a period of 10 years, then their reasons were potential contact to the "...terrorist organisation Red Army Fraction..". Each of these accusations turned out to be unfounded, and a new justification needed to be found. In the meantime the talk is of demonstrations that were "...a threat to public safety.."- primarily because some of the demonstrators wore masks.

The investigations against the Autonome Antifa (M) are still ongoing. The 14,000 recordings of bugged telephone calls obtained within the last year and book shelves full of files, are apparently not enough! The current situation is that 17 defendants will have to appear in court three days a week on charges of s129, building a criminal organisation. 131 trial dates have already been set for the first year of the trial. The defendants have also been informed that they have to take a second lawyer, and that they and

their lawyers must appear at all court dates in Luneburg, over 500km from Gottingen. The lawyers costs for the first 131 court days alone are estimated at 3.5 million DM, so the anti-fascist activists are also being ruined financially. It is impossible for the defendants to live a normal life, and this can be seen as a sentence before the trial has even begun!

This trial does not just mean severe consequences for the 17 individuals, and is not just an attack on the Autonome Antifa (M), it is also a test case, an attempt to make militant anti-fascist politics impossible. If the state is successful in criminalising the Autonome Antifa (M), then every other legally organised anti-fascist group could be faced with similar repression.

Our comrades in Germany have our full support. AFA is calling on groups and organisations to send legal observers to the trial, as experience has shown that an international presence can make a very real difference to the outcome of such trials. Please contact London AFA if you would like to receive more details of this. We will also publicise the trial as widely as possible.

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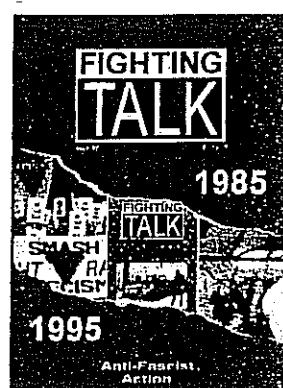
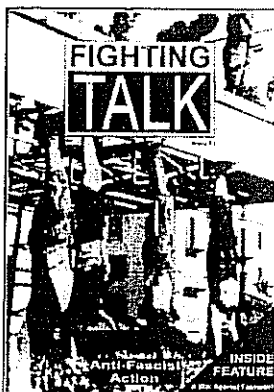
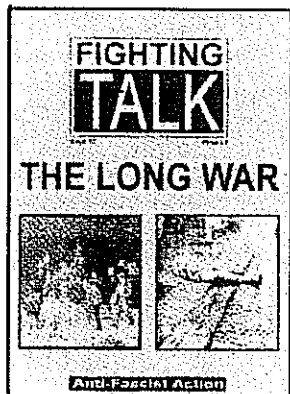
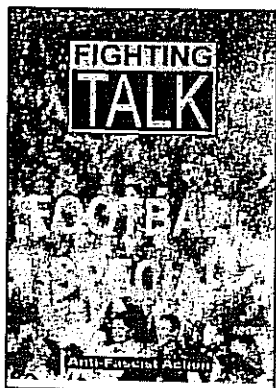
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LEVELLING THE SCORE



TAKING ISSUE

Red Attitude, the fanzine that supports militant anti-fascism, has been selling consistently well at Manchester United. Unfortunately, when it comes to racism and fascism, some of the other fanzines haven't got a clue. The January edition of Red Issue carries an unbelievably bad article on 'Racism in Football' - which was ironically prompted by a racist article in yet another United fanzine 'United We Stand'.

"Since the beginning of man, this fear we call racism has lain dormant and often malignant in the hearts of men and women throughout the world.....It is the public, you and me, who are the true culprits for wringing our hands every time we hear the words 'nigger' and 'yid'.....Now, I may be whistling with a mouth full of sherbert, but if someone calls me 'White' then I assume its because that is exactly what I am. I don't take offence at the word. Similarly, if a Negro is described as 'Black'.....But why worry? It is all part of the ongoing evolution of our species. In a thousand years time, it will be as derisory and implausible as was burning witches in Salem, Massachusetts. So while these terrace dummies shout and generally perform like circus seals, then, simply pity them. For God's sake, don't whinge and wring hands, and tell them they are a 'big problem'..they will think they are important. And they are not....."

The above quotes from the article are not only stupid but also racist - and this was meant to be an anti-racist article? As we know only too well, the 'ignore them and they'll go away' argument only serves to help the fascists because it leaves them unopposed. Red Attitude and Man Utd. Anti-Fascists don't believe in "wringing hands", but if you suggested wringing necks, well, maybe.....

direct response to what happened before and during the visit of Celtic. (see FT No.12). They were well pissed off with the action of people purporting to be Blues fans. The stickers have been going down well and its good to see them springing up around Digbeth, which is the 'Irish Quarter' in Brum, which have been put up by Blues fans on their way to games. Wolves fans have also teamed up with AFA to produce anti-fascist stickers which have appeared all around the ground and in the city centre.

With the European Championships only a few months away the fascists appear to be trying to recruit football firms around the country. Their magazines are full of references to racism at football, including a few rather fanciful claims. The National Socialist Alliance (C18 to you) reckon they stewarded a BNP paper sale at Maine Rd. at the end of last year, and up the road at Old Trafford the efforts of Red Attitude and Man Utd. Anti-Fascists continue to concern the fascists. A 'Man Utd. C18' sticker has appeared - in at least 3 places - and when Man Utd. played Chelsea in October '95, C18 claim " two neighbouring public houses were packed to the roof with neo-nazi Chelsea supporters in view of the promise of Man Utd's lefty rabble showing up. Who true to form didn't." (Putsch). In view of what promise? Its all well and good sitting in a pub and then claiming a victory when no one attacks you, but this sounds a bit desperate to us.

C18 have issued a warning to their supporters to expect internment during the European Championships because "...the Zionists and lefties who now control football in Britain have ordered that any threat of trouble or a Nationalist showing at this tournament must be thwarted." (Putsch). More realistically, Manchester AFA are considering plans for the arrival of German supporters who will be based in Manchester for at least a fortnight in the summer, and they traditionally come with a large fascist camp following.

More details are emerging about the failed fascist attack on Celtic supporters in Birmingham at the pre-season friendly last summer. We now know that a group of Notts Forest supporters travelled to Birmingham to join the C18 contingent. We would appreciate if readers would continue to send in any information about fascist activity at football grounds around the country.

BIRMINGHAM UNITED

The Villa Fans Against Loyalism and Fascism sticker was produced in conjunction with AFA and Villa fans who approached us because of the heightened Loyalist and fascist presence in and around Villa Park. As mentioned in a previous issue of Fighting Talk many people who were arrested in Dublin at the Ireland match were known to us as Villa fascists. Tony Burke, of West Midlands regional NF organiser infamy, seems to be putting himself up as one of Villa's main men! (Laugh, we nearly cried!!).

been distributed. AFA and the Villa fans have had several informal meetings and a lot of positive information has been collated. These supporters are determined to drive these scum out of Villa Park and the pubs in and around



The stickers have been very popular with Villa fans (and nearly one thousand have



Aston. They also realise, like us, that this can't be done overnight, and unlike the ANL, it has to be done by Villa fans. On this basis AFA are proud to work with them on various projects we have up our sleeves for the near future.

The Blues stickers were initiated by AFA supporters who also follow the Blues in

Mission Impossible

Celtic recently set up the campaign "Boys Against Bigotry" with a fanfare of publicity and the launch of a charter called "The Social Mission Statement" which is a pretty unsubtle mix of liberalism and downright patronising bullshit. Even calling it a "Social Mission Statement" sounds like something the Jesuits would come up with for the Third World, rather than a football team based in Glasgow's poverty-stricken inner city. On the face of it the "Boys Against Bigotry" campaign is lip-service to everything from anti-racism and religious tolerance to a quasi-religious brow beating about the clubs 'traditions'.

The campaign is nothing more than a cover for attacks upon the sizeable minority of supporters at Celtic Park who support Irish Republicanism and who have been at the forefront of the campaigns against racism and fascism. Only last week some fans were ejected from the ground for singing an Irish Republican ballad. The club have now stopped playing "The Fields of Athenry" before matches - this is an Irish ballad about starvation during the Great Famine of the last century - and has nothing to do with the present struggle in Ireland.

Security chief George Douglas, Rangers fan and ex-senior policeman, held a meeting with steward supervisors at the ground and instructed them to 'warn' fans who carried Irish tricolours at games that they should put them away or have

them removed forcefully, ejected from the ground and risk having their season tickets removed. So while the club continues to pay lip-service to our 'traditions' and even though Fergus McCann (Celtic's managing director) has stated that the Irish tricolour will continue to fly above the stand at Parkhead as a symbol of the club's origins - he has secretly sanctioned the campaign to remove all traces of Irishness from the terraces.

At a recent meeting of the supporters association, fans voiced their disagreements about the areas of emphasis that the campaign "Boys Against Bigotry" has taken. They were joined in their criticisms at this meeting by the Celtic manager, Tommy Burns, who, it seems, wanted nothing to do with it and who advised Fergus McCann that the whole campaign could be counter-productive if it was simply a reaction to those at the club who are most attached to their Irish roots. Anyone can say they are against "bigotry, sectarianism and racism" but it takes more than words to actually make a difference to the problem.

Celtic Anti-Fascists opposed the film crew who made the "Football, Faith and Flutes" programme screened by Channel 4 at the end of last year. They took their opposition to the supporters, putting out thousands of leaflets which exposed that the film team were out to exploit both Celtic and Rangers fans by portraying the usual stereotypical image of them as mindless bigots. No Celtic Supporters Club participated as a result of our campaign and the producers, Wark, Clements, and Co., had to drag out some young guy (who we understand was paid for his services) to make sure that they got the right 'balance' to their, eventually, shitty broadcast. Just as one person's 'terrorist' is another's 'freedom fighter', the definition of bigotry appears to change accordingly.


Fergus McCann may be party to outlawing Irishness at Celtic Park, and he may say he is against all forms of religious intolerance - but he fails the litmus test himself! McCann has been one of the foremost promoters - in America and Canada - of the anti-abortion movement; a movement which has had the support of the Church, the far-right and business men like McCann. A case of do as I say but not as I do, Fergus!?

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The New Frontier

The growth of White Power Rock in the USA and Canada.

With the proliferation of cross-border co-ordination between fascists in Canada and the United States, combined with the growth of extreme-right influence amongst the youth, Resistance Records has attempted to forge itself as a leading edge within the international neo-Nazi music scene. For some time now, their leadership and organisers have been looking increasingly to European fascist movements as the model around which to base themselves. Britain, being the main English-speaking country has long served as a major influence, particularly in the area of cultivating youth activism within the ranks. The influential success in North America of British fascist bands like Skrewdriver and No Remorse has now been mirrored and capitalised upon in the form of Resistance Records; a producer and distributor of fascist propaganda grounded firmly in the broader fascist networks, similar to that of Britain's own Blood & Honour. Resistance Records organisers have successfully tapped into the hearts, minds and bank accounts of their target audience within a short span of time, exploiting the overall condition of a white backlash currently surging in North America.

In 1992 the Heritage Front, a Toronto-based umbrella group of far-rightists, reached the peak of a massive recruiting drive within the highschools and working class communities of cities concentrated in the area of Southern Ontario. Part of this campaign included the usual propagandising and leafleting, but the bulk of it was orchestrated with the launch of the fascist music scene. Although it was played out relatively low-key at first, its effects were loud and clear. Against a background of racist and fascist attacks taking place across Canada, the seeds of fascist growth were sown.

On August 28, 1992 Toronto's RAHOWA (Racial HOly WAR), a white-power band fronted by one-time Church of the Creator (COTC) organiser and bonehead George Burdi (aka George Eric Hawthorne), played their first underground gig in the city. RAHOWA played again on November 13 at the Roma Restaurant, complete with a COTC Security Legion of 'White Berets' performing the evening's security. The event was scheduled to feature British holocaust-revisionist David


Irving as a speaker. Irving was deported earlier that day, but the event went on to commemorate former Western Guard Party members John Ross Taylor and Jacob Prins for years of 'white racial service'.

The evening was cut short by the efforts of an ARA (Anti-Racist Action) demonstration which stormed the venue. On May 29, 1993, RAHOWA was playing out again, this time in Ottawa at the Boys and Girls Club, where running battles between boneheads and anti-fascists took place after the event was shut down. George Burdi himself ended up busted for assault. As a result, Burdi's bail conditions limit his movements in the United States, but actually do little to impede cross-border activity maintained by strong links that have been built up between Detroit and Toronto. On the night of June 6, 1993 RAHOWA played


(Skinhead Army of Milwaukee) member and failed COTC Reverend. This arrangement allowed them to avoid Canada's stricter hate laws and take full advantage of American liberal free speech rights. The label produced cassette and CD releases of RAHOWA along with a growing line-up of North American fascist bands. A glossy magazine, 'Resistance' is also produced which contains interviews with the bands, news articles, and contacts accessing the broader fascist music and political scenes in North America and Europe. This project was based on the Blood & Honour movement in Britain, founded by the late Ian Stuart Donaldson (of whom a tribute is dedicated in the first issue of Resistance magazine). Blood & Honour was responsible for putting on fascist music concerts across Britain, and even sponsored several gigs in the United States. This concept allows for the spread of propaganda, cultivates the recruitment of white youth to the ideas and concepts of fascism, and funnels extremely large amounts of money directly into the fascist coffers.


In the best interests of the fascists in Canada, 'racial rock' was becoming of interest to the media, creating big headlines. When RAHOWA played a secret Toronto location with the London, Ontario-based Aryan, they gained themselves some airtime on Much Music. Anti-fascists interrupted and shut down a 'panel discussion' with these boneheads at the Much Music building. A 'Racialist Rockline' was set up, advertising their first 'Rock Against Communism' concert, which took place in Toronto's East End. The bill consisted of White Riot, Excessive Force, Aryan, and Max Resist and the Hooligans from the United States. Operated by George Harbottle, the Racialist Rockline was based in Toronto and held together a loose network of boneheads and fash-bands across Southern Ontario and America.

In keeping with the aim of "forging a new destiny for white power music", Resistance Records held a tribute to Ian Stuart, a memorial gig held on September 30, 1994 commemorating the second anniversary of Ian Stuart's honourable death in a car accident. "The Flame That Never Dies" concert was organised professionally at a large venue in Racine,



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in Downsview, Toronto to a pumped-up audience of neo-Nazi boneheads, three of which went on a rampage following the event. One, Jason Robert Hoolans, attacked and beat a Tamil dishwasher into a coma that night, leaving the man paralysed for life.

Burdi's long-term plan was to set up a record label to legitimise 'white power' music in order to lure a wider audience of white youth towards buying into the movement. Based in Detroit, Michigan, Resistance Records was co-founded officially in 1994 with Mark Wilson of Sterling Heights, Detroit; one-time SHAM

Milwaukee featuring No Remorse from Britain, Bound For Glory, RAHOWA, Centurion, Berserkr and Das Reich. Less than 300 showed up to this event, billed convincingly enough as "The Concert Event Of The Decade". Immediately after the concert, Joe Rowan, the vocalist for Nordic Thunder decided to commemorate Ian Stuart's passing in his own special way. Following an altercation in a convenience store, a black man dispatched Rowan to Valhalla with a handgun blast to the head. A video release of the concert is set for release sometime this year, so hopefully it will include some stunning post-concert footage!

A CD release from No Remorse entitled Farewell Ian Stuart has been released by Resistance Records which has caused considerable tensions between North American and British fascists. It was no secret that Paul Burnley, the one-time frontman of No Remorse, had skimmed funds from the profits of Blood & Honour. No Remorse had long been popular in Canada and were flown over to feature at a number of events. Tensions between Blood & Honour, who are now firmly under the control of C18, and Resistance Records have boiled to the surface. The latest No Remorse release, Under The Gods on Nordland Records, has also been released by Resistance Records this year along with a No Remorse 'Best Of' compilation. No Remorse have since reformed under a new line-up without Burnley as a Blood & Honour band, much to spite Resistance Records and widely seen as an attack on their potential domination.

In a bid to reach out to a broader 'white' market in North America, Resistance Records have made it a priority to organise and appeal to the metal scene. At the tail end of 1994, Resistance Records had signed four 'White Power metal' bands, Centurion (Milwaukee), New Minority (formerly Ritual, New Jersey), Berserkr (Oklahoma), and Bound For Glory (Minneapolis). Bound For Glory, a Northern Hammerskin band who formed in 1989, are quite popular on the world-wide scene and even featured in the American Pit Magazine, which caters to the metal audience. BFG's original singer, Eric Banks, was put down for a dirtnap via shotgun blast by a SHARP skin in Oregon early on in 1994.


Other acts signed to the Resistance Records label, many of which were previously signed to Rock-O-Rama, include The Voice (Pennsylvania), Aggravated Assault (Atlantic City), Max Resist and the Hooligans (Detroit), Aryan (London, Ontario) and Nordic Thunder (Delaware). Other titles carried by

Resistance Records but signed to other labels include Extreme Hatred and Eric Owens (both on Phoenix Records), and Celtic Warrior (Di-Al Records) Two aligned American outfits include Das Reich on White Terror Records and Lightning Rod on the MSR label (California). Aside from its numerous dealers in the US, its distributors abroad include Tuono Records (Vicenza, Italy), S.P.E. Records (Gentilly, France), One Voice (Segre, France), FD (Marseille, France), Viking Sounds (Ar Goes, The Netherlands) and Nordland (Stockholm, Sweden).

The main organisation behind Resistance Records in its initial stages was the Church Of The Creator, of which George Burdi was a prominent, second-in-command organiser. Due to a split involving differences of opinions with 'Dr.' Rick McCarty, who took the reins of leadership following the death of Ben Klassen's suicide, Burdi left the organisation with what is said to be a healthy share of its finances. The word is that these funds went into the initial foundation of the Resistance Records project.

Since that initial jump-start, profits from the sale of music CDs have paid for the Resistance magazine, a propaganda organ which boasts a circulation of 13,000. Featuring glossy, full-colour ads for the likes of the Nationalist Alliance and the COTC, while being geared increasingly towards the metalhead audience, Resistance magazine shines brighter than its longer-standing counterparts like the Blood & Honour skinzine from Long Beach, California and the Blood & Honour publications from Britain. Its contents make no bones whatsoever with regard to their fascist beliefs, motives and methods. The veneer of 'equal rights for whites' so espoused by the extreme right in the past to make headway for their organising has been replaced by a more true-to-form fascist face. Burdi's attempts to fire up and agitate his targeted youth-based audience are laid bare throughout the magazine in the form of his pompous writings and reactionary news round-ups.

In most recent developments, London, England's Oi-cum-metal outfit Squadron



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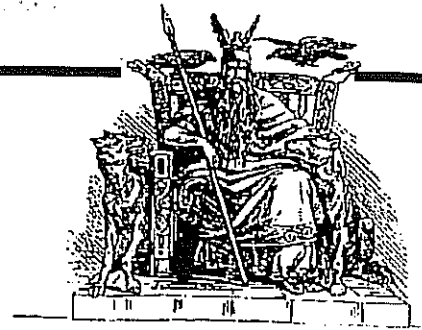
were flown overseas to play two gigs promoted by Life Rune Records in the US, albeit to relatively small audiences. On December 30, 1995 they played in Dallas, Texas by themselves when the much-hyped Berserkr backed out while the opening act, Bully Boys, also bagged it. A 'New Year's Revolution' concert on the 31st, held in Cleveland, Ohio, featured Squadron supported by Max Resist and the Hooligans, Aggravated Assault and Bound For Glory. This gig ended off in a punch-up amongst show-goers. In addition to these shows, Burdi had Squadron slipped across the border for an unannounced show in London, Ontario (just outside Toronto) on January 6, 1996 which featured RAHOWA along with Aryan and Excessive Force. A Project Tribute CD, is a compilation is now being put together by Resistance Records and Phoenix Records featuring Squadron.

At this stage of the game, Burdi is quite certain that he and his cohorts have 'cornered the market' in rallying what he believes to be an inexhaustible wealth of support to the cause.

AFA is in contact with a number of active anti-fascist groups in the USA and Canada. FT will keep readers informed of developments in future issues. We would like to thank Antifa Forum for sending us this article. They can be contacted at:

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A VIEW FROM VALHALLA



Our very own Viking Voyager, Mr. Dan Woinsaker, continues his amazing adventure into the land of the three-headed dung-beetle (C18/B&H/NSA), coing up against long-haired bikers, short-haired scooterists, and mad bombers who got off very lightly, thank you very much officer.

Blood & Honour are now an almost entirely 'underground' movement and claim they turned down an invitation to appear on the recent 'World of Skinhead' TV programme because "...we have our own media in B&H and the NSA (National Socialist Alliance) network, we don't need some media prick asking us questions." (B&H magazine). As well as an international B&H network, there is a fairly regular supply of videos, CDs, merchandise and magazines to cater for the needs of your regular skinhead stormtrooper.

Since the Battle of Waterloo B&H/C18 haven't been able to openly advertise a gig, much to their annoyance, and the security precautions they have to take for their gigs and socials are extensive. The recent gig in the Essex Skipper pub in Harlow being no exception, B&H activists being told only of local re-direction points around the country, and then taken to the main re-direction point, in this case Harlow station. While this obviously requires a deal of organisation, once the drinking begins it all starts to fall to pieces, with an Indian restaurant near the pub getting attacked after the gig.

B&H/C18 are still trying to establish themselves in the north of Ireland, and as the photos below show they're not just putting on gigs.

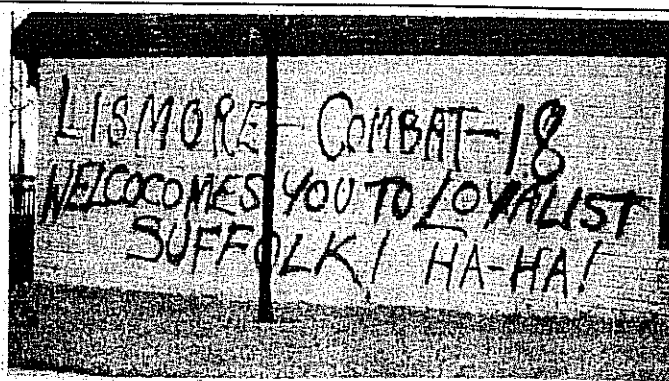
While B&H/C18 continue to promote the new No Remorse line up (without Paul Burnley) it seems not everyone is so enthusiastic. I hear that Resistance Records (the main North American nazi music organisation) - despite agreeing to be interviewed in a recent issue of B&H - still support Paul Burnley and reckon the new band is shit! Talking of Paul Burnley, I was vaguely surprised to spot him drinking in a pub just off Carnaby St. a few weeks ago. This particular pub was one of the ones Ian Stuart used to hold court in when B&H tried to establish itself in London's West End in the late 80s, so maybe he thinks if he follows in the 'great man's' footsteps he might be able to stop his continuing slide into obscurity. Personally, I hope he follows Stuart's footsteps all the way up the A38!

Despite AFA stopping the sale of B&H merchandise in Carnaby St. all those years ago, you still get quite a lot of foreign skinheads wandering about trying to buy Skrewdriver records. Presumably this includes Swedish nazis from Stockholm who can't get their fascist faves from their local shop 'Last Resort' after it was forced to close down after a militant anti-fascist campaign. Nice one.

There are now a few bikers getting involved on the B&H scene. This doesn't come as a great surprise as many of the B&H bands are more rock than Oi

nowadays, and before I got involved with AFA I remember drinking with Bear and other members of the Skrewdriver Security team at a Motorhead gig at the Hammersmith Odeon. Towards the end of last year The Outcasts motorcycle club got a mention in C18's Putsch magazine for attending a previous B&H gig in Harlow (Sept.95). Since then they've been heard talking about their involvement in B&H at several London watering holes. In fact, if my memory serves me well, it was members of The Outcasts who were trying to knock out swastika badges in Norwich a while ago.

On the subject of bikes, I'd like to thank the people who wrote in about fascist activity on the scooter scene. I certainly agree that the Viking Scooter Club from London is worth watching - very dodgy by the sounds of it! Unfortunately it seems the fascist element at scooter rallies goes largely unchallenged - and I would be pleased if someone could let me know if I'm wrong on this point. It is a fact that where there are fascists there are also anti-fascists - so let's hear from all you anti-fascist scooterists out there. The Bridlington scooter rally is an example of the sort of problems you get. Two years ago about 30 fascists caused problems at a 'do' in the evening, hanging up a Celtic Cross banner, sieg-heiling, and threatening the DJ if he didn't play B&H records. Although a lot of people were pissed off by the fascists, because nothing happened, last year saw a much bigger turn out of fascists. It can't be right that large numbers of fascists are allowed to go unchallenged at these rallies.



Left: This picture from the Belfast paper 'Andersonstown News' shows C18 graffiti on the Protestant Suffolk Rd. estate, and says "...loyalists, using the fascist Combat 18 cover name favoured by the UDA, painted up a large slogan near the home of the embattled (Catholic) family."

Right: Celtic Warrior playing a Blood & Honour/C18 gig in the north of Ireland.

As I mentioned in my last column there have been some serious ructions between C18 and the BNP leadership, and these continue to rumble on. The BNP leadership have said they will expel anyone who has dealings with C18 or the NSA, and continue to suggest State involvement in the setting up of these organisations. C18 have countered with a bit of finger pointing of their own, saying; "I doubt that this will be the end of this affair with Tyndall, the man's head will be filled with poison by the likes of Lecomber and he will go on to make an ass of himself again I am sure. Perhaps readers should ask themselves the motives of Lecomber. Perhaps the question should be raised as to why someone equipped with a bomb, on route, by his own admission to detonate the bomb at a communist address received only a paltry couple of years jail. Isn't it odd that Ulster's prisons have people serving life sentences for the same act, yet good ole tony escapes with a virtual slap on the wrist. If tyndall really wishes to uncover people amongst the racistist movement 'doing the enemies work' might I suggest he look in his own camp!" (Putsch).

All good stuff, but given that Sargent and Tyndall appear to be such deadly political rivals what will they make of both being sub-poenaed to give evidence in the trial of Timothy McVeigh - accused of the Oklahoma City bombing. David Irving has also been contacted. While on the subject of court cases, Sargent and Browning's case at the Old Bailey has now been put back to July. Given the level of racism, especially anti-semitism, in some of the C18 publications it is hardly surprising they got nicked, and seeing that it's being held in the Old Bailey means the State wants it to be high profile. Should be interesting.

C18 declared that they are the true face of British national socialism, emphasising their commitment to physical force and anti-semitism as evidence, and despite the fact that they've done fuck all (except bask in the notoriety heaped on them by journalists) they are confident of a glorious future. They boast of international meetings, founding an Aryan homeland, launching a radio

station - all very grand - but will it ever happen? C18/B&H/NSA reckon nothing can stop them, including our good selves. They reckon " AFA are no longer the strong mob of 10 years ago" (The Order magazine) but when you look at what they said about us then - exactly the same as what they say nowadays! - then you know they fully understand the threat that AFA is to them, but for tactical reasons they dare not admit it. It's a bit like the 30 year rule with sensitive government papers.

While The Oppressed have sent out all the right signals by supporting AFA, Sham 69, who never managed to resolve the problem of having a large nazi following in the early days, are still plagued by the Forces of Darkness. Before and after their recent gig in Birmingham fascist skins took the opportunity to carry out a number of racist attacks - particularly on Irish targets. Although I hear the governor of one Irish pub who had his windows put in was keen to pursue the matter on a more personal basis but the fascists wouldn't play.

FRENCH RESISTANCE

Recently AFA has made contact with a group of French anti-fascist skinheads who have pointed out that despite the growth of the French National Front (FN) and Le Pen there are still groups of militant anti-fascists dotted around France. One of the problems seems to be a lack of co-ordination (and perhaps a political strategy), but they are taking steps to improve this. They produce a magazine Sang-Mêlé ('Mixed Blood') which is a mixture of working class politics and music and culture, and in the summer there will be a national meeting called by R.A.S.H. (Red and Anarchist Skinheads) to try and increase the level of co-ordination.

do much. A few SHARP groups are actively involved in anti-fascism, but the RASH movement and Redskins show much more promise. As they explain in their magazine, "In France in 1985, (nazi) boneheads are everywhere. At this time a punk and alternative movement started to develop and got involved in the fight against Le Pen and his 'Vichyist' team. The fight was symbolised by the SCALP groups. A part of this movement then became redskins, to show their determination and their discipline, and involved people from varying left-wing backgrounds. That was when our redskin identity was born, a fusion between British skinhead culture and our punk and alternative scene. This new blood given to the skinhead movement will bring new music and culture - such as hip-hop, rap, ragga - bringing back the movement to its multi-racial and multi-cultural roots, like the British working class skins meeting with Jamaican rude boys in the late sixties. The redskins identity is open-minded musically and culturally."

In the 1980s militant anti-fascist opposition was mainly based around the SCALP groups (Anti-Le Pen Sections), and although a few groups still exist by and large SCALP had collapsed by 1990. It would appear this was largely due to it being based around the 'underground' punk scene and in particular certain bands, and when this 'scene' ended SCALP went with it.

There are a few SHARP groups in France, but like here and in America, some of these groups are 'anti-politics' and don't

While the British media show how the FN has made inroads into the French working class, what they don't show is that the fight is not over. For example, at football, the fascist element at Paris St.

Germain is fairly well known, but who's heard of the anti-fascist outfit at Red Star (another Paris team)? Or, indeed, the Marseille Red Army? The mainstream left-wing parties as usual have failed to build an effective anti-fascist opposition, either backing the ineffective liberal SOS Racisme, or simply ignoring the problem - discussing revolutionary theory in meetings while the fascists attack people outside. It will be difficult for militant anti-fascists to stop the move to the Right in France - but we should give our support to those prepared to try and build the resistance.

The Emperor's New Clothes

In this issue of FT, Sid Martell opens a series of articles into the nature of fascism, how we can define it, and when and where we fight it. This first offering deals with the fundamentals behind fascist thought, and the ideas of Nation and Race.

"They say that there are persons among us who are striving to dismember France. Let us eliminate these inharmonious ideas by proclaiming the death penalty for their originators. France must be an indivisible whole."

The words of Danton, one of the leaders of the French Revolution, and not a very nice man, you might think. The French Revolution is central to the conception of what is now termed the 'nation': "France must be an indivisible whole". Anyone who says it isn't will find their head in a basket. Not so different from what had gone before in many ways, except for one vital difference, the concept of nation, of France, now included everybody that lived there, not just the ruling aristocracy. Any investigation into fascist ideas, must

first deal with the question of 'the nation', as it is the central axis around which fascism revolves.

Before the French Revolution the idea of nation had been an ambiguous one, largely applied to the aristocracy and most especially the ruling monarch. These were the people who were identified as making up the nation, and we can see why: national states had been formed around the need to stop baronial feuding, the monarch being the new figurehead around which the 'national' pact could be formed. It also meant that by ganging up they could then go and beat the shit out of someone else, which they of course invariably did. The warring also had another effect though, on a bigger scale. The unity that was required and called upon during periods of conflict, became the abstracted 'national unity' which continues right up to today. At this time though it really was god, king and country, that is; the monarch was appointed by god, and owns the country, you therefore have a debt of loyalty to him, as he embodies the nation state.

In this country things worked a little differently, as the "English Revolution" of the mid-seventeenth century had seen the infant 'middling class' led by Oliver Cromwell, later to be termed the bourgeoisie, have a pop at the aristocracy and the monarchy, which the latter two groups never really recovered from. With the onset of the Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution the slippery hold on power of the old order faded as quickly as their economic viability and reason for being did. But this left a new problem; as the gulf between rich and poor widened, and the poor were literally driven from the land to work in the newly built 'dark satanic mills', class conflict as we now know it was finally shaped. Benjamin Disraeli, that well known 'Man of the People' wrote a novel, with the

catchy title of *Cybil*, in the 1840s, in which this very question is addressed in the following passage:

"..Two nations; between whom there is no intercourse, and no sympathy; who are as ignorant of each other's habits, thoughts, and feelings, as if they were dwellers in different zones, or inhabitants of different planets; who are formed by a different breeding, are fed by a different food, are ordered by different manners, and are governed by the same laws. You speak of?... The rich and the poor."

When you hear the current arguments, over the idea of 'One-Nation', and 'One-Nation Toryism', remember they're all referring to a passage from a nineteenth century novel. There is obviously, a far more serious side to this. Another stock myth of bourgeois ideology is the 'classless society', and this is bound up with the 'One Nation' idea. The central tenet is that to have no division between rich and poor you basically don't talk about one. That's not quite true, you have council housing and welfare, "Right to buy" schemes, the idea of a meritocracy, and cheap bus tickets for the elderly.

But far more important was the extension of the 'democratic franchise', when we all got the vote, we all became part of the nation. The nation became all the people that lived inside given boundaries. To take us back to the French Revolution, the aristocracy was beaten largely because it had no regard for anyone else's part in the nation, it was the nation. When the French bourgeoisie talked of everybody having a part in, and a say in, the functioning of the nation, all they had to do was don funny hats, give it a bit of "France for the French", and get the guillotines out.

To a large extent the nation concept has done its job well, and even if the Tory Party don't currently talk about 'One Nation', leaving it for Tony Blair to claim that glorious mantle, they still talk about nation. Its intrinsic to the way this society is run, precisely because it glosses over the glaring class distinctions which still exist. But its actually an abstract, quantified only by borders. And its not without its failings, so it needs some help now and again, from its two best mates, imperialism and war.





Punch's view of Western action against the Boxer rebellion in China, 1900.

Imperialism helped to foster the idea of nation in a number of specific ways. The most important was it gave a feeling of national superiority to those in the empire building nation; you had already moved up the social scale if you looked at it in world terms. Being 'British' meant being better than being 'Indian'. The obvious racial connotations of this we can get on to when we deal with how this affects fascism. The paternalistic connotations are far more important in terms of nation. One of the biggest myths of the Imperialist Project was that we were teaching the 'savages' how to be like 'us'. This obviously meant that we were somehow better; the fact that we had cannons and rifles against spears and blow-darts notwithstanding. Rather than worry about the divisions within our own society, we could look at how much better ours was than anybody else's, and be at peace.

As has been argued, war was fundamental to the concept of nations, as it was largely what formed them in the first place. This was the prime mover in the formation of a spirit of 'national unity'. But there's also another aspect to this, the threat of invasion. Let's get this right, no-one, except a fifth columnist, wants to be invaded. Being invaded by someone else's army is not something to be looked forward to. If things are bad now, they'll only be worse if another outfit comes a-raping and a-pillaging through your mist. We can argue the historical merits of this statement, but in most cases can see that an invasion is not normally a progressive act, and tends to be deemed by the mass of the population as not being one.

No-one wants somebody entering their house and taking the bread from their table, while holding a gun to their head. This is why movements of 'National Self-Determination' are a distinction, in a way, from the concept of nation. On the one hand of course, the word nation is in there, but you're normally being told to accept someone else's idea of nation, and your even more subordinate role in it. It becomes not the fight for the nation, but the fight against the imperialism of another nation. This is why a national independence movement will take on a largely progressive ideology, or at least a wing of it will. You can't talk of the nationalism of the British Government, alongside the nationalism of the Irish Republican Movement, without it being the verbal output of the backside.

The breakdown of imperialism will help lead to the breakdown of the idea of nation, and whilst a country is under imperialist domination, people will naturally want first to rid themselves of the oppressor. That's not to say you can't argue that this is not enough, and that there must be a working class and progressive angle. What should be realised is the mass of the people will be mobilised behind the idea of self-determination, against the threat or imposition of external aggression, and that this, in a basic sense, is entirely valid. The fact that its twisted and usurped by reactionary forces is something we can also recognise, which brings us to the fascists.

What has happened then, since the rise of the bourgeoisie to full prominence, is the investment in this whole mythology of nation. What we can immediately recognise about fascism, is that it is not just invested in the idea of nation, but is so to a virulent and extreme extent. But 'nation' as we can see is not a new idea, its a production of the state, a gloss over the class contradictions with which its confronted. So what does that tell us about fascism? Fascism is a twentieth century phenomena, but is it a political ideology in the same sense as

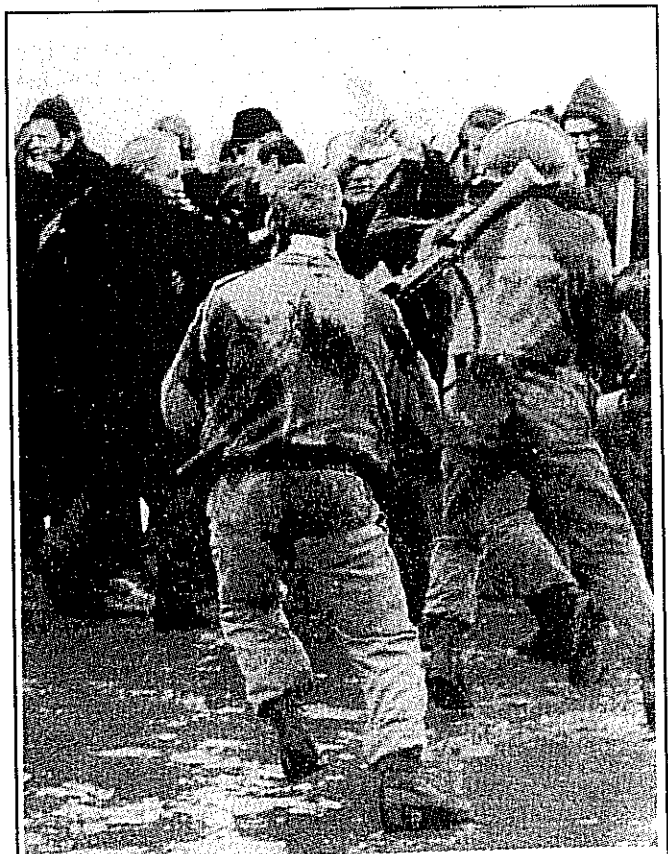
socialism? Can we talk about a fascist ideology? Are we not really talking about a tuned up version of what is already offered in the form of conservatism?

Compare the sentiments of "One Nation Toryism" with those of a certain Mr. A. Hitler :

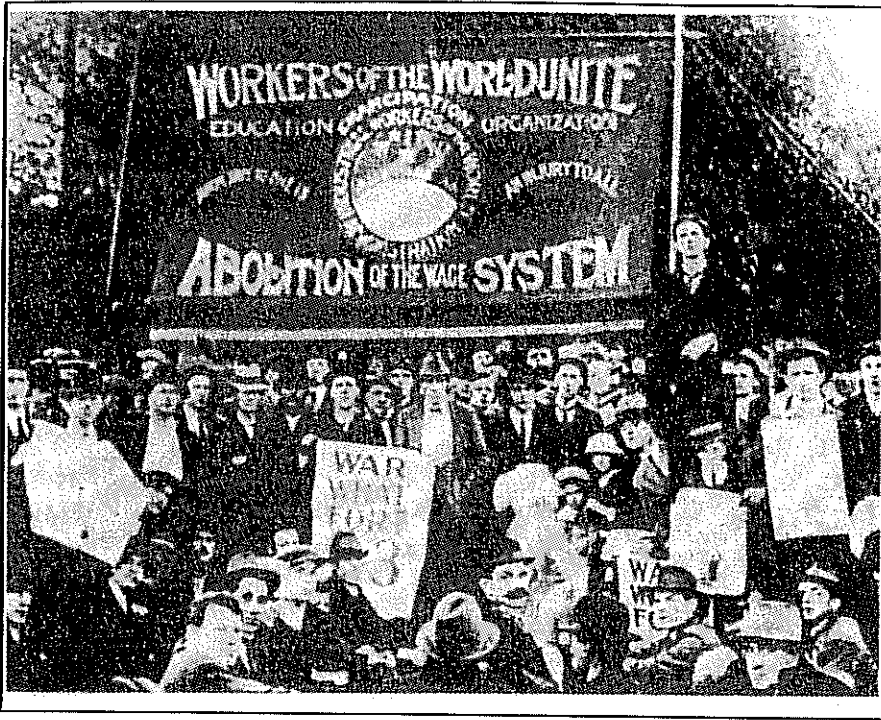
"Of late years the State and nation has had to face the same question on a far larger scale. Fresh masses of people, amounting to millions, were constantly removing from the villages to the large towns to earn a living as factory workers in the new industries."

"Thus a new class has come into being, to which but little attention has been paid, and a day will come when it will have to be asked whether the nation will have the strength by its own efforts once more to incorporate the new class into the general community, or whether the distinction of class and class is to broaden into a rift."

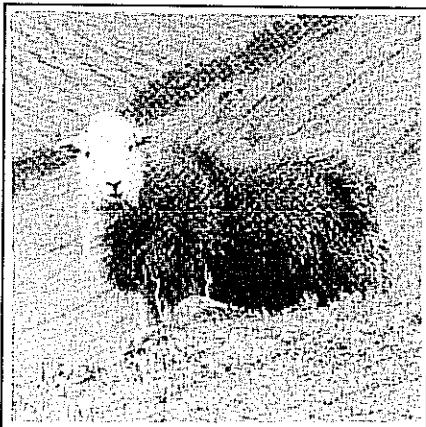
The only difference between Disraeli and Hitler on this question, is that where one offered the option of buying into the nation, the other was more disposed to the 'indivisible whole or you're getting it' methods of Danton, but applied to the working class rather than the aristocracy. Fascists argue that the 'nation' is in decay, that 'the establishment' is corrupt, and that the 'nation' will only be saved



Paratroopers attacking civilians during an anti-internment march at Magillan Strand, 22 January, 1972



by 'the people' rising to take back its national birthright, and 'work together' to make the nation great again. This is what 'National Socialism' meant. Rather than socialism being applicable to the working class, Hitler used the word as applicable to the nation. What he argued was the individual needed to make sacrifices for the nation, i.e. put the nation



BNP leader, John Tyndall

first. Its nothing new. Working together to build the nation, as we've seen, is the same old turd from the same old muck spreader.

Fascism doesn't even get the old dog doing new tricks. To foster feelings of 'national unity', the good old 'threat of invasion' theory is employed. But lacking a definite external enemy, the internal enemy must be looked for - we have already been invaded. The invader for Mussolini was communism. The corrupters of the nation were the 'reds', the 5th columnists out to destroy Italy. For Hitler it was the Jews, although seeing he asserted that they invented communism anyway, its all a bit much

of a muchness. Therefore national 'war fervour' could be induced, and as everybody has an investment in the nation, so everybody was threatened by this new and frightening enemy. In both circumstances the nation is the primary mover, the fundamental. Hitler's anti-semitism was based primarily on the threat he argued the Jews posed to the 'nation', not on racial hatred pure and simple.

The seventies National Front used a sticker, which had a picture of three Asian men wearing turbans, with the words "We want your homes, we want your jobs, we want your country". In the Nineties, the BNP leader John Tyndall reflects on 'One-Nation' in the December '95 issue of their magazine Spearhead:

"Furthermore, its [One Nation Toryism's] concept of what is meant by the 'nation' is fatally flawed. Any post-war immigrant or offspring thereof, if he resides within our borders, pays our taxes and is subject to our laws, is considered a member of this mythical 'nation', which has no identity in ethnic or cultural terms but is merely an aggregate of humans occupying the same living space... We nationalists, by contrast, say: One Nation, yes - the British Nation as constituting members of the British Race! Let that be our community and our family, and let our obligations be to all within it and to none outside it."

British Race? Now there's an ethnic, cultural and historical load of bollocks of the first order. But there's the simple distinction, the nation is a "myth" when we talk about "any post-war immigrant or offspring thereof" being a part of it, but suddenly becomes a "family" and a

"community" as soon as the "aggregate of humans occupying the same living space" are all the same colour. Get rid of the invader in our midst, and we can be a nation again. The fact that the 'invader' was invited in to this country as cheap labour after we had ransacked their land, not being an issue.

Its important to make this distinction, because race isn't used blindly, and without the perception of a threat, could not be said to be a tactic worth employing. If we look at Italy, or at the more complicated events in Spain, and the victory of Franco, we can see that a racial angle was not necessary. The only driving factor in Spain, was the threat to 'National Stability' posed by the revolutionary organisations of the working class. The qualifying factor in Germany, Italy and Spain was nation versus class. These events will be gone into in more depth in the next issue, for now what is important is that to recognise fascism, we must first recognise the importance of the concept of nation to it. When we realise that this is an invention of the state anyway, fascism itself can be said to be not a great deal more.

AFA argues that the BNP are just ultra-conservative, not because we'd like them to be, but because that's what they are. Far from providing an alternative to the old order, they are a manifestation of the old order in a more brutalised form. All the old notions of 'National Superiority', the 'National Interest' etc. are the only things their ideas are based on, and seeing these ideas are already in place, fascism is little more than a utilisation of existing ideologies by middle class fanatics, who feel, and indeed would be, under threat from an organised working class. Its important that we recognise them as such. While the ideology of nation exists within the working class, so will its fascist spin-off.



ANL YRE ARA | Where are they now?

In 1992, motivated by (they say) the rise in political fortunes of the BNP or (we suggest) the number of demonstrators on AFA's march against racist attacks in Bethnal Green, new players temporarily entered the anti-fascist arena. The Anti-Racist Alliance (ARA) used Marc Wadsworth's media connections to present itself as a viable anti-racist organisation. Militant launched its own 'safe' version of AFA - Youth Against Racism in Europe. Eleven years after deciding it was a political liability, the Anti Nazi League (ANL) was relaunched by the SWP.

Four years later ARA has collapsed after tearing itself apart over money - specifically the amount of money being sucked out of the organisation for salaries and 'expenses'. Its final death throes took place at an industrial tribunal in January 1996 where one of its ex-workers took a case against Wadsworth & co. for unfair dismissal, which was 'settled' discreetly out of court before being heard in full. The settlement was for an 'undisclosed sum'. ARA's one 'success' was in convincing large numbers of trade unionists not to involve themselves ever again in anti-racist/anti-fascist activities. The TUC backed ARA with big money. It pushed trade union branches into backing ARA with more money. The money got spent, no worthwhile activity took place. Thousands of pounds were provided to produce an anti-racist exhibition to tie in with the TUC march against racism in 1993 - where is it? The trouble is that its not just the ARA that got discredited, but the whole notion of anti-racism/anti-fascism, to the extent that pro-AFA trade unionists are now finding it extremely difficult to get any kind of serious hearing on the question of anti-fascism.

On paper the ANL and YRE still exist, waiting in the wings supposedly for the next fascist upsurge when they'll ride in like the cavalry again. There's no mention of either organisation in the press of the SWP and Militant now, save for nostalgic references to the 'successes' of their respective outfits. In 1994 it was reported that 60,000 people had joined the ANL (this was before the ANL Carnival), each of them paid to join. This, plus the income from

organisations that affiliated, equals a tremendous sum of money. It is almost beyond belief that the ANL could achieve so little with access to hundreds of thousands of pounds. Even now when their membership has dropped to 10,000, this still makes the ANL a moneyspinner for the SWP.

In a recent pamphlet the SWP gave some clues as to why the ANL had been shelved. "The BNP has been beaten back by mass support for anti-nazi initiatives and organisation" ('Where is Labour going' - Duncan Blackie), and in an article in Socialist Review (Feb.96) they talk about "...the marginalisation of the nazis..."

The reality of the "marginalisation of the nazis" was an electoral defeat for the BNP on the Isle of Dogs on the back of a mass campaign by the ANL, YRE, and the rest of the Left, to rebuild the Labour vote - when it was white working class anger and disgust at Labour which gave the BNP a base to start with. Having compounded the problem the ANL and YRE popped open the champagne and retired from the game.

When the ANL was relaunched the SWP was heavily criticised for abandoning the anti-fascist movement for 11 years and then coming back in and expecting to lead it. This time they are keeping the name afloat (and raising money on the back of it) but winding down 'operations'.

So it is ironic that the 1996 ANL affiliation form should carry a large headline "No Room For Complacency" when they are still unable to prevent their activists from being attacked by fascists. At Morden, in south London, an ANL leafletting team of only 5 had to run to the police for protection when some fascists turned up, while in Birmingham a pub full of SWP got turned over by a handful of fascists after an anti-Asylum Bill rally.

The YRE is also keeping its name going, but like the ANL has seriously wound down its activities. In effect the YRE is the youth wing of Militant, which has gone under various names since the Labour Party shut down the Militant-dominated Young Socialists in the 1980s. Although in some areas the YRE showed a willingness to work alongside militant anti-fascists, their activists were always kept strictly under control by their political 'masters/mistresses' in Militant. Like the ANL, the YRE has failed to take anti-fascism seriously, and so has only ever been able to respond to fascist activities rather than being part of an anti-fascist movement that can set its own agenda.

Once the BNP were no longer making headlines, groups like the YRE and the ANL have deserted the anti-fascist movement again. The fascists haven't gone away, they have their own agenda, and it is the duty of anti-fascists to develop a strategy to prevent them gaining support. This has to be done now, not wait until the fascists are confident enough to make a public move again. The disappearance of the ANL/YRE from the anti-fascist movement only serves to underline the complete opportunism of the SWP and Militant who used anti-fascism to raise money for themselves and try and recruit people to their organisations. Once again they have betrayed the working class constituency they forever take for granted.



Wilds animals or Paper Tigers?

BEHIND ENEMY LINES



FT's Bill Gothrocks takes his regular look into the 'theoretical' propaganda of the Far Right. In this issue, while Beowulf takes a rest, we find that horses, elves, dwarves and even Griffins are coming to the fore...

While reading through the latest crop of *Spearhead* magazines (the BNP leader, John Tyndall's theoretical journal), I couldn't help but noticing a rather equestrian bent on the part of his contributors. But a bent that manifests itself in such strange ways that we might wonder whether this is some repressed element of the fascist psyche. In the December issue, in the midst of an article on 'racial hatred' a woman called Lynda Miller asks us at one point to consider horse breeding and extols the virtues of the 'tolling horse':

"Alexander the Great's horse was a tolling horse. These horses were renowned for their racial purity, stamina and resistance to disease, which was twice that of present day horses. They even had extra hard hooves, which didn't split or wear down. Where is this horse today?"

Iceland apparently. Probably all shot off there to avoid another 'the Great', Katherine the Empress of Russia, who was rather over-fond of a good tolling stallion. Which makes me wonder whether there's any of the 'blood of the Czars' in Ms. Miller's gene pool.

Taking this as a sign I referred back to a previous issue of *Spearhead*, to find someone else slipping into horses in strange surroundings. In this piece, a Mr. R. Walker is arguing that we need a "this far and no further" attitude towards the English Dictionary, as our language is being corrupted by swear-words and the Americans. We ought to go back to the 1950's version and stop there, and to do this we need to edit out all the 'foreign' additions; but we must be careful!

"...imagine leafing through a dictionary and thinking 'Ah, Gymkhana, an Indian word: that must come out for a start' while the word is dear to many English girls who ride ponies."

A strange example isn't it? An even stranger one caught my eye in the January '96 issue of *Spearhead*. Dr. Donald Stevens, in an article addressing "what is wrong with modern teaching methods" brings in the following quote from Tolkein's *The Lord of the Rings* to illustrate his point:

"How shall a man judge what to do in such times?"
"As he has ever judged" said Aragorn
"Good and ill have not changed since yesteryear; nor are they one thing among Elves and Dwarves and another among men. It is a man's part to discern them..."

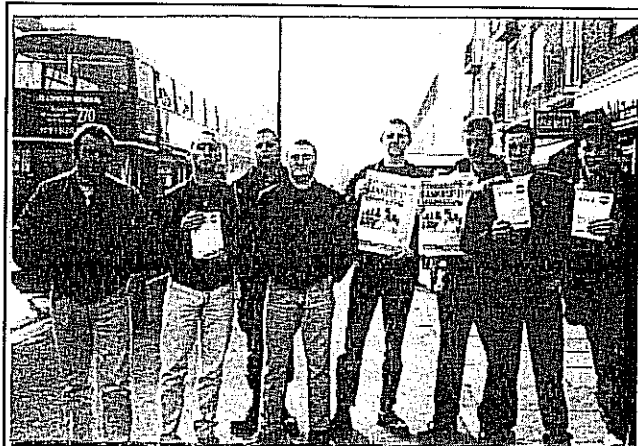
So essentially: what is wrong with modern teaching methods is we don't pay enough attention to the similarities between Humans, Elves and Dwarves. But what about the Hobbits, and the Ents? Reckon I've found a hole in your argument there Mr. Walker.

It seems Nick Griffin, the old political soldier himself, who was last seen heading across fields in Bury St. Edmonds after his bodyguard walked into an iron bar, has re-surfaced in the BNP. Various people from *Searchlight* to *Putsch*, are alleging that he wants to oust Tyndall and take over the BNP leadership. This all seems to be speculation, and Tyndall at least seems to feel comfortable enough to have included contributions from Griffin in some of the recent editions of *Spearhead*. What is clear, from Griffin's own writing, is that he wants to see the "over-moderation" of the BNP halted, and the "lads in boots" brought back into the fold. With reference to the building of the National Organisation we can see a few things of interest with regard to his intentions in the following quote from January's *Spearhead*.

"It will only be slowed by looking for short-cuts, by seeking instant popularity by trimming policies or curbing 'provocative' street activities, by trying to pretend that the Holochoax is nothing to do with us, by denying our ideological debt to the anti-egalitarian pro-white thinkers and heroes of our past, by cutting ourselves off from our roots and from the lads in boots. We must never forget that, at the moment, it is more important to control the streets of a city than its council chamber. If that is the sort of 'unreasonable' attitude that journalists and opponents try to use against us at election times, it shouldn't bother us. For history is made by unreasonable people."

It looks like Griffin is trying to win friends on both sides of the BNP/C18 coin by adopting a 'back to basics' approach. But what with all the MI5 allegations flying about amongst the fascists at the moment, and he himself getting the pointy finger, Griffin might be taking a more direct route by applying for Stella Rimmington's job instead.

In my column in the last issue of FT I mentioned that the NF had changed their name to the National Democrats. But I did notice a letter in *Spearhead* from a J. McAulay who says he's chairman of the NF Steering Committee, so it seems certain elements are still hanging on, and are still threatening to stand candidates. Although they do invite Tyndall to "contact us regarding election seats so as not to clash and split the vote", so they at least want to be a bit more matey with the BNP than the other mob. Either way, for the time-being they're not worth more than a mention. And neither was Anderson's (ND leader) theoretical journal *Vanguard* which was not only boring, but didn't have any mythical beings or horses in it at all, bloody disgrace!



THE STREET ACTIVISTS

Woe betide the nationalist movement that imagines it can do without them.

Picture from the January '96 *Spearhead*. The "lads in boots": controlling the streets or just looking for a good time?

FIGHTING TALK BACK

Dear FT,

Having read the 'War Against Fascism ?' feature in FT No.11, I felt the Germany Calling article implied there was no German resistance to the Nazi regime. Within Germany the members and supporters of the KPD (German Communist Party) were the most consistent and self-sacrificing of all of the opponents of the Nazi regime. It must be emphasised that the average KPD member by 1925 was strongly opposed to the SPD and events such as the Social Democrats banning of the 1929 Berlin May Day demonstrations leading to the deaths of 30 communists only emphasised KPD opposition. The possibility of a united front between the SPD and KPD exists only in the fantasies of British Trotskyite sects.

Although the KPD was the smaller of the two workers parties, in the last three pre-Nazi Reichstag elections the number of KPD deputies increased - in contrast the SPD dropped. The problem for both parties was that the 13 million odd votes they received in all three elections as a percentage of the electorate was declining. Of more pressing importance was the KPD's preparations for underground life and anti-fascist activities. The response of the state to the killings of 2 police captains in August 1931 gave the KPD a taste of illegality and it was revealed how ill-prepared its sections were to carry on the activities under illegal conditions.

No matter what losses they suffered those active communists not incarcerated or dead continued to struggle. Many Reichsbanner and trade union militants awaited the call for active resistance from the SPD leadership - it never came. However the KPD decision to attempt to continue as before, producing newspapers (2 million local and district papers in the first 5 months

of Nazi rule), collecting dues and so forth, laid the remaining members open to arrest. The night following the Reichstag fire (27 Feb.1933) witnessed the arrest of 10,000 communists in Germany. Although we cannot be exact at least 60,000 communists were engaged in anti-fascist activity from 1933 to the end of 1935; of whom 18,243 were prosecuted, tens of thousands held in concentration camps.

Despite such losses and bearing in mind that the SPD membership was more than twice that of the KPD, Gestapo arrest figures for 1936 (KPD-11,678/SPD-1,371) and 1937 (KPD-8,068/SPD-733) show that the KPD was the cutting edge of the resistance, and the Nazis knew it.

Throughout the war communist instructors went into Germany from Sweden and the USSR, many being caught and executed. Within Germany itself separate communist groups were the most active opponents of the then imperialist war. For example, in Sept.1939 a communist group distributed anti-war leaflets in Berlin. Communists such as Robert Ulric, released from a concentration camp in 1936, had by 1938 built up an organisation of 200. By 1940 he had contacted several other active groups in Berlin. Such communist resistance activities were replicated in Hamburg and in Mannheim. In central Germany an anti-fascist group organised in various factories and towns survived the war intact.

KPD members in prisons and concentration camps were acknowledged to have an esprit de corps lacking in other prisoners. Their belief in the future of socialism and their organisation whilst incarcerated kept them strong.

Yours against fascism,

T.B. (Germany)

Dear FT,

I am writing to comment on the article "War and Resistance" (FT Issue 10) written by an AFA member who went to the UN 'safehaven' of Tuzla with the Workers Aid for Bosnia group. While your correspondent's position is that anti-fascists should support "multi-ethnic" Bosnia against the "fascist" Chetnik Serbs, the more recent history of the conflict shows that the Serbs were strong anti-fascists during the (Second World) War, while the Bosnian Muslims and Croats were pro-German. This may explain why, today, Muslim fundamentalists like Hezbollah and the CIA-trained Mojahedin veterans of the war in Afghanistan are fighting for the BiH forces, while Western European neo-fascists support the Croatian HOS army, facts that your writer admits.

Support for the Bosnians basically means support for the US State Department. Tuzla, the place visited by your writer, is now the base of American troops stationed in Bosnia. I don't know whether your correspondent thinks the American army, 'heroes' of Vietnam and the Gulf War, are anti-fascists, but that is who is lined up against the Serbs today.

In the Second World War the Serbs formed the anti-fascist resistance in Yugoslavia. Thousands of Serbian civilians were forcibly converted to Roman Catholicism by Croat collaborators. While ethnic-based warfare is to be condemned by anti-fascists, it should be condemned consistently. Therefore anti-fascists have no business supporting any side in the Yugoslav war, especially the fascist-supported Croats and the fundamentalist-sponsored Bosnian Muslims.

Best Wishes,
E.F. (Boston, USA)

FT Reply: The article clearly argued against ethnic cleansing from all sides, and the Serbian 'Chetniks' are supported by fascist groups like C18 (see below, taken from C18's *The Order Magazine*).





'Beats Per Minute-B.P.M.'
 Album - double CD.
 Go Feet Records.

There's probably a few of you Luddites out there who swore that you'd never surrender to all this new technology stuff and acquire a CD player. I did. And I bet like me not only did you end up getting one but you also set about shelling out a small fortune to satisfy your nostalgia, buying brand new, crystal clear copies of all those albums that after years of drunken abuse have been reduced to a noise resembling 'tipples' being put through a blender.

And so we arrive at my latest addition, a compilation of the best of The Beat, which soon had me strutting my funky stuff around the living room accompanied by the incredulous looks of my eight month old daughter. The Beat, of course, were part of the Midlands Two-Tone explosion, a collection of multi-racial groups playing a fierce fusion of punk and ska that became the theme tune to the lives of thousands of working class kids growing up in the early years of the Thatcher regime. Quite simply the records, gigs, and public opinions of these bands did more to promote racial harmony than a thousand ARA initiatives or ANL lollipops ever will.

All the singles and more are included here, from their debut on Two-Tone Records 'Tears of a Clown' through to such classics such as 'Stand Down Margaret', 'Mirror in the Bathroom', and 'Hands Off She's Mine' which were released on their own Go Feet label. After their initial success, chart interest in the group began to wane, and except for a one-off big hit with a cover of the old Andy Williams number 'I Can't Get Used To Losing You', The Beat slipped from public view, concentrating instead on playing in the US where, curiously enough, they had become hugely popular - filling large venues and selling heaps of records - where the heavyweights such as the Specials and Madness had failed.

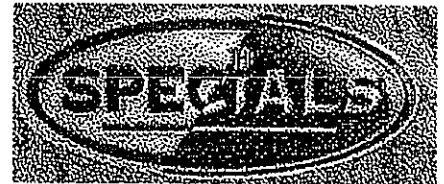
Their popularity in America continued with General Public, formed by Dave Wakeling and Ranking Roger when the group split; while Andy Cox and David Steele were to hit the big time in Britain again as members of the Fine Young Cannibals. This excellent compilation still sounds fresh today, reminding you of The Beat's acute pop sensibility and makes you wonder why they weren't even more successful. There's also a second CD containing a load of dubbed up versions. Good value, great music.

And that leads us nicely onto

THE SPECIALS - 'Hypocrite'
 Single - 7 track CD. Kuff Records.

'Hypocrite' is the first offering from the reformed Specials. The Specials were the originators of the whole Two-Tone movement, and while others were merely happy to jump aboard the ska revival bandwagon, The Specials were always at the cutting edge, always the innovators. Though Jerry Dammers' drive to develop their music and ensure that they never stood still sometimes meant a dodgy diversion into what he described as 'muzak', it also meant that they finished their reign firmly at the top with their sublime put down of Thatcher's Britain, 'Ghost Town', going to No.1 as they said their goodbyes. And there's the rub

This latest offering, a cover of an old Bob Marley number, is quite a lame affair, a piece of pop-reggae that might just get you swaying on a summer's night, with



enough of the amber nectar down the throat, but hardly inspiring. OK, its got a picture of Johnny Major on the front ('hypocrite') and with 7 mixes (jungle, dub included) and at over half an hour long in total its well intentioned and good value at £2. But the absence of Jerry Dammers and Terry Hall speaks volumes, you just know they wouldn't even have allowed it onto a B-side.

Although I have a lot of respect for the lads here, after all they were a group with No.1 records who would dive into the crowd to deal with fascists, and Lynval Golding nearly lost his life when he had his throat slashed for taking a stand against racists and fascists, it is always a mistake to attempt to re-incarnate past glories in this way. It conjures up visions of the Bootleg Beatles, Status Quo, or some old fucker warbling away at Butlin's revivals.

No, The Specials are a memory that should be treasured, to be laid to rest like a long deceased friend and be reminisced over with a tear in the eye and a drink in the hand. This feels like grave-robbing! What next, the Pistols, Jam, or Clash to re-form? Please no! Do yourself a favour, get yourself the singles compilation. Specials '81 R.I.P.

THE OPPRESSED

'Fuck Fascism'
 3 track EP. 7" vinyl.
 SHARP/AFA production.

The Oppressed, the Cardiff skinheads fronted by SHARP 'godfather' Roddy Moreno, have released another blazing attack on the fascists, hot on the heels

another fine slice of buzz-saw guitar and 'oil oil' vocals that kicks all that quasi-heavy metal Blood and Honour bollocks well into touch. The Oppressed represent the positive side of skinhead culture and the coming together with AFA to release this single was an excellent idea, not before time. Buy it!

of their 'Anti-Fascist Oil' EP. 'Sleeping With The Enemy', 'Fuck Fascism', and a reworking of their original plea for unity between black and white, 'Work Together', is

ALL RECORD REVIEWS
 COURTESY OF
 THE CELTIC HAMMER



SKA-BOOM

SKA-BOOM
Leicester, 14th Feb. 96

What a joy to see so many punters shun the predictable Valentine's Day romantic nonsense for a stompin' ska spectacular courtesy of local heroes SKA-BOOM. The gig, widely advertised as an AFA benefit, drew an enthusiastic, high-spirited crowd to the small but buzzing town centre venue. The crowd made the most of the lack of a support band by knocking back the pints and enjoying the vintage tunes spun by AFA's own DJ Agent O who ensured the crowd was fully pumped when the band took the stage. The line-up featured a solid brass section as well as a lively percussionist and the charismatic Murphy Man upfront

who quickly had the crowd performing the customary moonstomp. The tunes flowed thick and fast, hardly giving the sweaty bodies on the dance floor time to catch their breath. Original songs mingled with the classics like The Slickers "Rudy (a message to you)" and "Shanty Town" but the highlight of the night had to be the storming rendition of the Maytals' "Monkey Man" which had the crowd bounding all over the place.

Impressive on the night was the skinhead contingent, proving for all to see that the roots of the skinhead cult lie firmly in the Carribean, not with the ear battering racket of the fat, round, six-foot-underground. Donaldson's of this (and the next!) world.

The band played well over time with two encores including a Valentine's Day special, tongue in cheek, reggae version of Engelbert Humperdink's "Please Release Me". Copies of Fighting Talk sold well on the stall and Murphy (a former SHARP supporter) left the audience in no doubt as to the political nature of the gig. The fash were wise not to have a look considering the heavy AFA presence at the gig. All in all the night was a belting success and SKA-BOOM and AFA have shown that anti-fascist sentiment will figure greatly in the predicted summer ska revival.

SKA-BOOM are willing to perform AFA benefits for local branches and can be contacted via the Leicester PO Box.

ECOFASCISM

Lessons from the German experience.

Janet Biehl & Peter Staudenmaier.
AK Press. £5.00

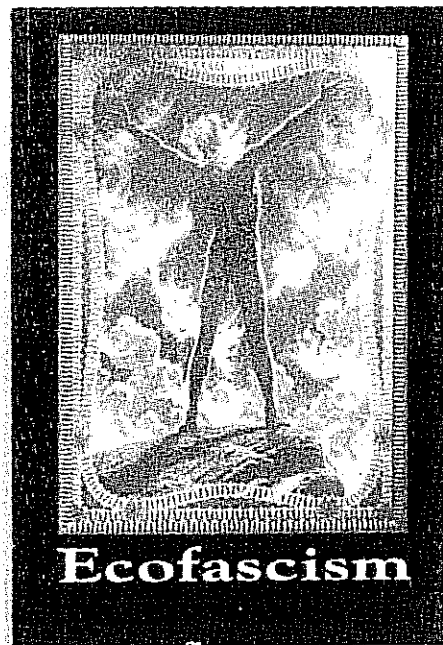
Ecological movements and activists are generally seen as being socially progressive - and many of them are - but there is also a reactionary wing of the 'green movement'. This pamphlet deals with the situation in Germany and traces the development of reactionary 19th century Mysticism, which in turn influenced the 'green wing' of the Nazi Party, and is now represented in modern day nazi groups and even the Green Party.

In the Third Reich, Nazi 'ecological' ideology was used to justify the

extermination camps, and nazi leaders like Hess and Himmler were influential figures in the 'green wing' of the NSDAP. In this country fascist influences can be found in some of the 'New Age' thinking (the sort of garbage David Icke comes out with) although attempts to set up explicitly 'green nazi' groups like 'Greenwave' have met with little success.

The growing mysticism and anti-humanism in the ecology movement poses serious questions about which direction the movement will go in, and the Green slogan "We are neither Left nor Right but up front" is historically naive and potentially disastrous.

At £5 this 70 page pamphlet is expensive and it is a bit academic in its approach, but having said that it is informative and useful for anti-fascists.



Stoned by the Mersey



In the early 1930's the British Union of Fascists tried to become a force on Merseyside - organising several mass rallies as well as smaller local events. As the opposition grew, however, it was only police intervention that prevented a full scale rout. Oswald Mosley's last public appearance in Liverpool ended with him in hospital.

Fascism was backed by sections of the establishment in Liverpool from an early date. In 1928, in her official capacity as Tory Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Margaret Beaven visited Mussolini in Italy, and was photographed with him giving the fascist salute. A huge row broke out in the June City Council meeting when she revealed she had invited him back to Liverpool - but the Labour Party's opposition prevented this taking place.

It wasn't until 1933, when the British Union of Fascists began to take their politics around the country, that Liverpool was directly confronted by organised fascism. In November of that year the BUF held the first of its rallies at the Stadium - a popular boxing hall in the city centre. William Joyce - later Lord Haw Haw of Nazi fame in the Second World War - was the main speaker. Despite this obvious provocation, the Left seems to have more or less ignored it.

By October 1934, however, when the BUF held their second rally at the Stadium, a local Anti-Fascist Committee had been formed - of Communist and Independent Labour Party members, local branches of the National Unemployed Workers Movement, and some members of the Labour Party. In opposition to the rally, the AFC planned a march from just outside the town centre (Islington



Above: Unconscious Blackshirt - carried by 2 other Blackshirts - knocked out by missile on fascist march (Liverpool, Oct 1936). Below: Liverpool Daily Post 12.10.1936

FASCIST PARADE ARRESTS

LIVELY STREET SCENES IN LIVERPOOL

EIGHT PERSONS IN CUSTODY; THREE POLICEMEN INJURED

SIR OSWALD MOSLEY AND ORGANISED OPPOSITION

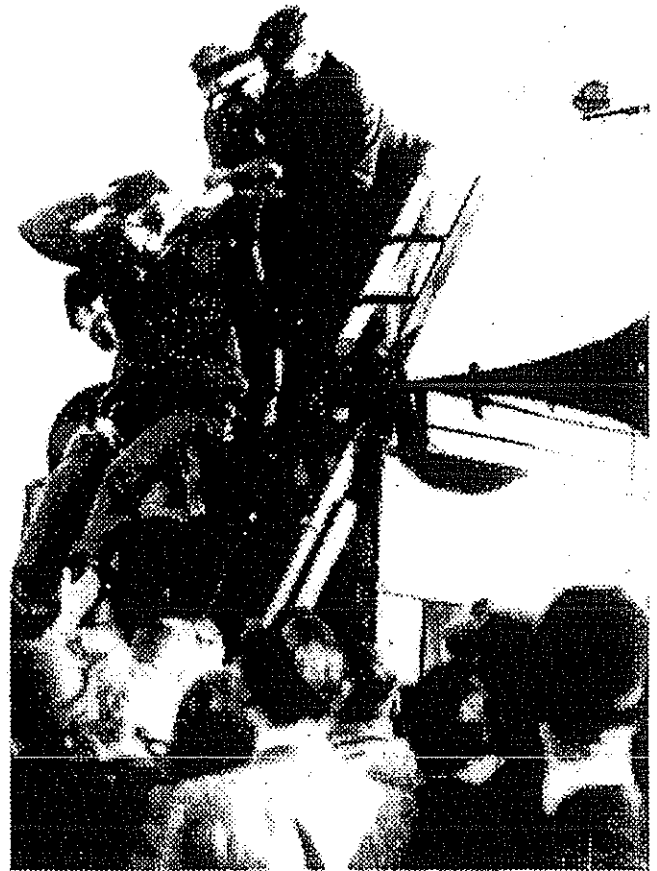
Square), through town and past the Stadium. The police banned the march, but not the fascist rally.

Despite this, several hundred demonstrators turned up - but the police blocked attempts at marching, then dispersed the crowd. All streets to the Stadium were blocked by police, and no-one without a ticket was allowed near. This police action wasn't totally successful: during the rally there were frequent interruptions and 20 people were thrown out.

In 1935 there were no major fascist mobilizations but there were smaller meetings, where fascist armoured vans doubled as speaker's platforms. At one such meeting in Bootle (north of Liverpool) in June, a crowd of 500 gathered at Church View. When a blackshirt was seen to strike a 'half-caste' child stones were thrown and fighting broke out - during which a woman, Frances Evans, collapsed and died. The crowd chased the van to the fascist headquarters on Strand Road, where every window was put in.

In October 1936 - one week after Cable Street - the BUF got police permission for a military style march from the Adelphi Hotel (near Lime St. Railway Station) to the Stadium. 300 blackshirts assembled in full uniform. By this time the opposition had hardened. A huge crowd had gathered along Lime St. Fighting broke out when a fascist armoured van knocked over an elderly man and mounted police were sent in. Mosley had originally intended to take the fascist salute at Lime St. and lead the march. The strength of opposition prevented this. In the event he went to the Stadium by car, arriving 20 minutes late.

All along the march route the fascists were attacked by a constant hail of bricks. At least one fascist was knocked out and had to be carried (see picture). Many attempts were made to break into the column. At Lime St, St. John's Lane, Whitechapel, Exchange St. East, and at the Stadium anti-fascists tried to stop the march. The strong force of police prevented this, though two coppers were on the ground at one point. Police also secured the area around the Stadium, dispersing the



SIR O. MOSLEY STONED

FASCIST LEADER TAKEN TO HOSPITAL

SUFFERING FROM CONCUSSION AND PUNCTURED WOUND

WILD SCENES AT WALTON MEETING: MANY ARRESTS

Walton, Liverpool Oct 1937 - above, Oswald Mosley speaking on van - right, Mosley carried off van after being hit by stones. Left Liverpool Daily Post 11.10.1937

gathering crowd after individual blackshirts were booed. After the meeting the coaches carrying the departing fascists were attacked with bricks and bottles. Twelve anti-fascists were arrested - two were jailed for two months, the rest fined.

In October 1937 - a week after mass opposition to fascism erupted in Bermondsey - Mosley came to speak in Walton (north Liverpool) on some vacant land near the Queen's Drive. An hour before Mosley was due to speak the Communist Party had already organised a public meeting on the same piece of ground. By the time the fascist armoured van arrived, the police had to clear a way through a hostile crowd of 10,000.

When an electrician started to erect a microphone on the van roof, cries of

'Down with Mosley' and 'We don't want fascism here' changed to volleys of bricks and stones - smashing the van's windscreen. G.C. Balfour - the district BUF treasurer - got up to speak and was hospitalised after being hit by a stone. Mosley arrived soon after by car and climbed onto the van. After giving the fascist salute, and before he'd spoken, he was also dropped, by a stone hitting his left temple. Lying on the van roof, he was hit again, on the back of the head, and knocked unconscious. Mounted police immediately moved in and attacked the crowd, clearing the area.

Mosley was taken to Walton Hospital. The rumour was that he was unconscious for 30 minutes and needed three stitches. He was kept in for five days. 14 people were arrested and several fined.

GOTCHA!



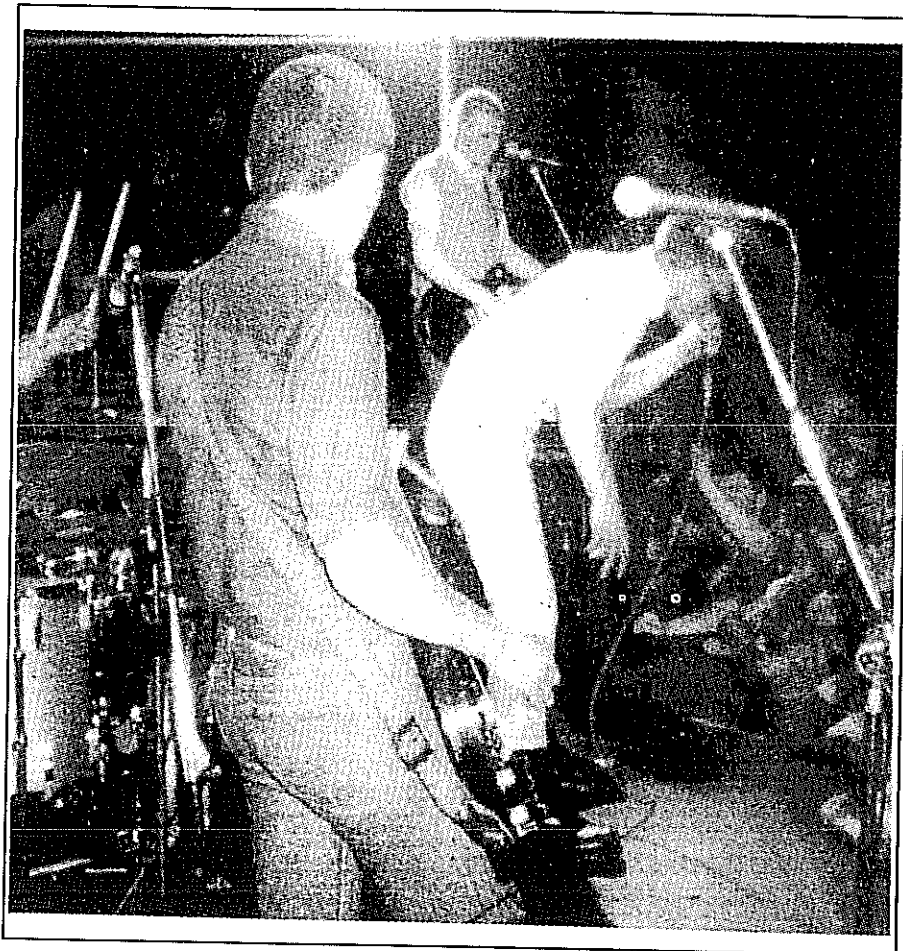
This was the last public appearance of Mosley in Merseyside. His wounding marked the end of fascist activity in the area. The policy of 'No Platform' had become a reality - and Merseyside anti-fascists are proud that it remains in force to the present day.

The BNP last stood in Liverpool in the 1983 General Election in Walton and polled 343 votes. The leaders claim they were driven underground by left wing extremists in the mid-80s

Liverpool Echo October 1993

Much of this information comes from 'Genuinely Seeking Work: Mass Unemployment on Merseyside in the 1930s' by members of Merseyside Socialist Research Group.

THE OPPRESSED



Following the successful release of The Oppressed's 'Fuck Fascism' EP by AFA, which will hopefully inspire other bands to take a similar positive stand against fascism, we asked front man Roddy Moreno to explain a bit more about the band.

Roddy: The band was formed in 1981 by 4 Cardiff skinheads, but broke up in 1984 because the violence got out of hand. We reformed in 1994 to record the 'Anti-Fascist Oi!' EP and will retire for good after our 15th anniversary in March 1996.

FT: Why did you approach AFA with the 'Fuck Fascism' EP and not some other anti-fascist organisation, or produce it independently like you did with the 'Anti-Fascist Oi!' EP?

Roddy: We couldn't find a British label for the 'Anti-Fascist Oi!' EP so it went out on a Spanish label. We didn't want to make a profit so we received 20% of the pressing which we gave away. When we wanted to do the 'Fuck Fascism' EP we chose AFA because it takes direct action against fascism. Other organisations seem to do too much talking and not enough fighting.

FT: Do you think Oi! bands should have done more in the 80s to win people over to anti-fascism, like Blood and Honour was doing for the fascists?

Roddy: Yes. The Oi! scene's biggest mistake was ignoring the boneheads. Most bands back then thought if you ignored the problem it would go away - history has proved them wrong. We never

had no problem with the fascists because we told them to "fuck off" right from the start.

FT: Tell us about SHARP (Skinheads Against Racial Prejudice) - why you got involved and what were its objectives?

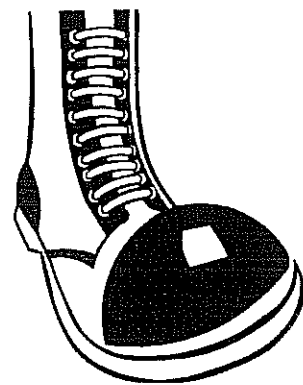
Roddy: SHARP was started in 1988 by some New York skins who were pissed off by the way the US media was portraying nazi boneheads as skinheads. They produced leaflets explaining the original multi-cultural roots of the culture, how it sprang out of a mix of British working class mods and the Jamaican rude boys they mixed with at blues parties. While I was on a trip to New York in 1988 I came across a leaflet and thought it was a good idea so when I got home I set about spreading the word. The objective was simply to alienate the boneheads. They had been hiding their race hate behind the skin scene/Oi! scene, so by displaying the SHARP attitude ordinary skins made the boneheads stand out like a sore thumb. Anyone who saw 'World of Skinhead' on Channel 4 will know that SHARP was successful, as one East German skingirl put it, "before SHARP we thought all skinheads were racist. Now of course we know better."

FT: Any amusing anti-fascist anecdotes?

Roddy: If anyone remembers Cardiff's Violent Storm - 4/5ths of who are now in Valhallaahahaha! - they should know what a bunch of two faced wankers they were. When in Cardiff they would rehearse with a black rock band. They pretended to be simply a Welsh nationalist band. When most of them were killed the black rock band even had a minutes silence for them. It just goes to show what real cowards these wankers were.

FT: And finally...

Roddy: A massive "nice one" to AFA/Fighting Talk for working with us when most people steered clear. As we always say "Fuck fascism before it fucks you!" Cheers.



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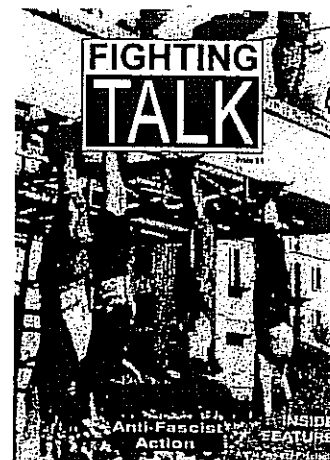
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