

# CLASS STRUGGLE



Political Paper of the Revolutionary Communist League of Britain

Vol. 6 No 10 OCTOBER 1982 MONTHLY

20p

## MASSACRE IN BEIRUT

"Your souls cry out: 'Remember! Our deaths were not in vain, Fight on and make our homeland A nation once again!'"

"The Palestinian camps of Sabra and Shatila are now ingloriously inscribed together with Auschwitz and My Lai - West Beirut alongside the Warsaw Ghetto." PLO.

The whole world has been shocked, revolted and outraged by the bestial massacres carried out in the refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila, and in two West Beirut hospitals, Akka and Gaza. The final toll of death may never be known because bulldozers buried the victims under rubble, but Yassir Arafat has estimated the total at 3,300. 3,300 men, women, children, old people and babies, often whole families. As the PLO representative at the United Nations said,

"The Judeo-Nazis desecrated the day of Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) ... Helpless civilians, mostly women and children, were butchered in cold blood. The men were rounded up, placed against a wall and shot in very Nazi-like fashion."

"Class Struggle" mourns the martyred people of Palestine and with grief and sorrow, anger and hatred, condemns the perpetrators of this evil, the new nazis, the Zionists, their stooges, the Lebanese fascists, and their masters, the imperialists.

To give our readers an impression of the full extent of the Beirut massacre we print below some reports taken entirely from Western bourgeois sources.

\* "Mail on Sunday":

"The main entrance to Sabra looked as it had since the last Israeli bombing when most of the buildings had collapsed.

"What was different was the eerie silence. I walked no more than 10 steps up a narrow alley and came across a pile of eight bodies.

"There was a woman doubled in half with a huge bullet-hole in the back of her head. Her arms, already blackened by the sun and covered in flies, lay on top of a man who was lying on top of two small children.

"Leaning over, covering my nose against the stench, I could see the body of a small child no more than one-year-old covered in blood. Again there was a huge hole in the back of the head."

\* United Press International:

"While Israeli soldiers manned positions overlooking the camps, it was apparent that the rightists methodically rounded up and killed everyone they could find.

Cont. on P.2



The dead amongst the rubble in west Beirut



Demonstrations in Israel against the massacre

## FASCIST ATTACK ON HOMELESS

"Class Struggle" Correspondent

The arrest of nearly 300 claimants in Oxford last month, which involved police posing as DHSS staff, is a dangerous escalation of the state's attack on oppressed people. The claimants were subjected to a police-devised, fascist conveyor belt system. They were strip-searched, photographed and had their finger-prints taken. They were kept in custody, denied legal representation, and interrogated. They were railroaded through specially convened kangaroo courts. The whole operation was conducted with police-state secrecy.

One of the victims described his treatment. "We were all herded into these rooms with the windows boarded. I saw one man in a corner having a fit, but he was left without any medical aid at all." Another per-

son, subsequently not charged, said that on the pretext of a search for drugs, "I was stripped and given a full body search in front of a woman police constable ... I kept asking to call my solicitor and gave them his name, but nothing happened."

As the Oxford Claimants' Union have warned, this attack heralds attacks on other sections of the working class as well. A short while after, a gang of 'Special Claims Control' agents descended on Archway in North London with sinister instructions to follow claimants, wait outside their homes, etc. Suspect categories of claimants include "those who are fit and healthy" - apparently even this is a crime for the working class these days!

Still more significant this fascist aggression against the Oxford claimants builds on the



## MILLIONS SUPPORT HEALTH WORKERS

The health workers Day of Action, September 22nd 1982 saw millions of workers throughout the country take part in the biggest day of industrial action in Britain since the General Strike of 1926. Stoppages took place in virtually every trade, industry and profession, and the protest was particularly strong in Wales and Scotland. Throughout the country the majority of hospitals and ambulance services were on accident and emergency service only. Almost all pits shut, fire stations were on emergency only cover, newspapers did not appear, schools were closed down, dockers, car workers, shipbuilders and engineers struck. In many areas, commercial TV was off the air for three hours.

There were rallies and demonstrations in almost every town and city. Lerwick, the capital of the Shetland Islands saw its first ever trade union demonstration. 120,000 marched in London, in a demonstration that stretched for over 3 miles. 6000 marched in Leeds where the main speaker was Arthur Scargill. In Portsmouth, 2,000 workers at the naval dockyard rose above the "Falklands Factor", and went on strike.

No coal was mined in Wales. At a Swansea rally, Terry Thomas of the Mineworkers' Union said,

"23,000 South Wales miners are on strike today, and 500 travelled to London to demonstrate. Even the media will have to recognise the widespread support for the healthworkers."

20,000 marched in Glasgow. Dundee saw a near total general and three demonstrations, one consisting entirely of Timex workers all in their teens and early twenties. In Edinburgh over a third of the city's workforce was on strike and the figure was higher in nearby Fife and West Lothian. 13,000 marched in Aberdeen.

Strong support also came from the occupied six northern counties of Ireland. Eight demonstrations took place, the largest one being in Belfast.

The Day of Action showed unmistakably the massive support that exists in the working class for the healthworkers. The working class will have to be on guard to ensure that support is not betrayed by the TUC leadership, in the same way that they betrayed the train drivers.



Pickets outside DHSS office in Archway.

policy of 'fishing raids' whereby on many occasions the whole black workforce of factories have been carted away, ostensibly to pin 'immigration' charges on a handful of them, but really in order to terrorise the whole community. In the Oxford raid, 70% of those persecuted were Irish.

As revolutionaries have often predicted, these fascist attacks begin with the national minorities and move on to affect the working class as a whole. The aim is to keep

working people in an abysmal and terrorised position where they can ruthlessly be superexploited as the capitalists grapple with their crisis.

But black and Irish workers have repeatedly shown their determination not to be intimidated by state terrorism. It is vital for wider sections of the working class to appreciate the importance of the political struggle in defence of democratic rights, and to join with and learn from those who are already courageously fighting back.

# BEIRUT MASSACRE

From front page

"Later, bulldozers moved along the narrow dirt roads of the camps, smashing the refugees' houses and piling rubble and dirt atop the bodies in an apparent effort to hide the corpses."

\*BBC:

"I saw mothers holding babies in their arms among the massacred victims. Some had been shot trying to run away while others had been forced to lie down and then shot."

\* "Sunday Express":

"The bodies were everywhere: lying in the streets of both camps, curled up in the houses left standing, cornered in alleys and heaped at the base of walls where some obviously had been lined up for execution."

\* Reuters:

"Today, after the gunmen had left, the Shatila camp was a wasteland of ruined single-storied concrete houses."

"It was almost deserted. A few women wailed over their dead and young civil defence workers with thick gauze masks searched out bodies and started arranging for them to be collected."

"Under a tree in what had once been a courtyard of a small house was a tangled pile of stinking corpses, including those of two children and some women as well as men."

"In a narrow alley, a dead man lay on his side, shot through the head. Flies buzzed around the body and crawled over the congealed blood on his shattered skull."

"In the house next door a middle-aged woman lay spread-eagled on her back in a pool of blood. Many of the corpses were covered by broken concrete and garbage."

"They used bulldozers to pile rubbish on the dead," one woman said."

\* "Mail on Sunday":

"Wandering back out to the main street taking another turning in the maze of one-storey cinder block houses that make up this refugee camp, I walked on some 50 yards where more sickeningly I found two piles of bodies stacked up either side of a wall."

"There were five bodies on one side and six on the other. Identification papers littered on the ground showed them to be a mixture of Palestinian and Lebanese men and boys, some as young as 13 and some as old as 70."

"None had weapons and all were dressed in civilian clothes."

"It looked as though they had been lined up against the walls of the tiny shanty houses and shot at close range. One of the bodies of the younger boys rested on top of a doll."

"The top of his skull had been blown away. It was a most fearful sight."

At the Akka and Gaza hospitals people were recovering from injuries sustained in Israeli land, sea and air bombardments. Patients, doctors and nurses were taken away and shot. One nurse was raped ten times before she was killed. An Irish doctor, Philomena McKenna, who was working at Gaza Hospital is missing."

In this savage massacre, every conceivable brutality was inflicted. Reporters saw a vast number of people who had been mutilated, and had their genitals cut off before or after they had been killed."

## ISRAEL TO BLAME

There is absolutely no doubt that Israel is responsible for this shocking crime. The decision to send the Lebanese fascists in was taken at an Israeli cabinet meeting. This is what Israeli radio said about the operation:

"At sunset the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) completed the encirclement of West Beirut and it can actually be said that control over the coastal axis

from the airport in the South, to the port in the North is total. The intention is that the IDF will not operate tonight to purge the areas of Sabra and Shatila and the nearby refugee camps. It was decided to entrust the Falangists with the mission to carry out these purging operations... The IDF today completed the encirclement of West Beirut. The forces are now controlling all the main crossroads and roads in the city and only houses inside the various neighbourhoods remain to be purged. As noted this task has been entrusted to the Christian Falangists."

The massacre was planned, directed and controlled by Israel, and carried out by Israeli armed, trained and uniformed fascists. They were not, it seems though, the Falangists. Israeli radio pointed the finger at them to inflame divisions in Lebanon as much as possible in the wake of Gemayel's assassination, in order to justify their occupation in the name of "keeping order". The dirty work of slaughter was entrusted to the forces of Major Haddad which were organized, trained and equipped by Israel in Southern Lebanon, and which have carried out a number of smaller massacres in the areas of the south the Israelis have turned over to them since the invasion, areas they are careful to exclude the foreign press from. The forces of Major Haddad - who on his own admission does nothing without permission from Israel - were airlifted to Beirut to assist in the massacre, and the Israelis stood by supervising the operation. Indeed, according to some reports they actively participated. For example, Arafat told "Le Monde" that Israeli infantry commandos played the leading role in the massacre.

## IMPERIALISTS

But the Israelis are not solely responsible for the massacre. The Palestinians have rightly pointed out that the responsibility must be pinned on the imperialists, particularly the US imperialists. This is true in both an immediate and a fundamental sense. The Palestinian guerillas were in Beirut to defend Palestinian civilians, who were very often members of their own families. PLO fighters agreed to leave Beirut on the grounds that a multinational force from the USA, France and Italy would keep the Israelis at bay. Once the PLO fighters had gone, the USA reneged on the agreement and withdrew its forces. The Israelis were given a free hand to carry out the massacre. "I accuse the United States and Israel of having planned the liquidation of the Palestinian people." - Arafat.

More fundamentally, the Zionist state was created by British imperialism, which remains a major political, military, economic and diplomatic prop of the Zionist state, and is today kept alive by US imperialism. Whatever words of 'regret' they may speak, Reagan and Thatcher have the blood of Palestinian children on their hands."

## NOT A SIGN OF STRENGTH

The Beirut massacre is a sign of the weakness of Zionism and imperialism, not their strength. It is a sign of their continuing inability to defeat the Palestinian revolution. For 79 days the Palestinians fought against incredible odds in defence of Beirut. Although forced to leave the city, they did so undefeated, having fought the Zionists for longer than any other Arab army, and determined to continue the revolution.

Comrade Yassir Arafat said, "I am leaving Beirut to continue the long march." This comparison with China's revolutionary experience is most apt. Everywhere that the Long March passed it was, in Mao's words, "a seeding machine for revolution". The Palestinian fighters have gone undefeated and in the eyes of the Arab masses they are heroes. Undoubtedly, they will be a major force for revolution in every Arab country that they go to. Arafat said that whilst Beirut was besieged, the hearts of many Arab leaders were "colder than the snows of Mount Hermon". He predicted that a revolutionary volcano would soon melt them. In a recent speech, Al Fatah leader Abu Iyad said:

"Vengeance will come very soon. The Palestinian revolution will find for itself an Arab Hanoi (i.e. a liberated base area) in the near future!"

## PLO WILL FIGHT ON

In a September 20 statement, the Central Committee of the PLO pledged to "avenge the blood of Palestinian civilians" killed in West Beirut. No matter how great the difficulties the PLO will fight on! In doing so, they will inspire freedom fighters throughout the world, such as those of Ireland and Eritrea, who are drawing inspirations and lessons from the Palestinian struggle.

Communists in Britain, whilst deeply mourning for the victims of the pogrom in Beirut, declare their undiminished total confidence in the future of the Palestinian revolution, in its vanguard the PLO, and in the glorious fedayin. The Palestinians will continue their revolution until victory.

## DEATH TO

ZIONISM AND IMPERIALISM!

VICTORY TO THE ARAB REVOLUTION!

VICTORY TO THE PLO!



Yassir Arafat carries a child from a Beirut air raid shelter.



## Important Contribution

From: South London Irish Solidarity Committee

We are writing to thank you for the front page coverage your paper "Class Struggle" has given to the Balham arrests in its September issue.

"Class Struggle" has made a most important contribution to spreading the message of Irish Solidarity work and the truth about the state's attack on those who speak out in support of the Irish people's fight for national liberation.

Your paper shows where genuine anti-imperialists stand in this struggle and is an encouragement to all those striving to build an anti-imperialist movement in this country.

Together we shall continue to work for the defeat of British imperialism! End police harassment and censorship on Ireland! Victory to the Irish People! Troops Out Now!

## Ireland Solidarity in Birmingham

From: Irish Solidarity, Midlands Mobilising Committee

The Irish Solidarity Midlands Mobilising Committee was set up on 5th September in Birmingham to mobilise support for three demonstrations:

1. Manchester Martyrs Demonstration (21st November, 1982) Manchester.
2. Bloody Sunday Demonstration (30th January, 1983) Leeds
3. Barnes/McCormack Demonstration (6th February, 1983) venue to be announced.

The committee has the support of a number of Republican and socialist organisations active on the Irish issue. It will be campaigning in the Midlands in trades unions, the Labour movement, community groups and women's groups to win support for these demonstrations.

Subsequent work will continue on other Irish solidarity events.

Contact us at: The Other Bookshop, 137 Digbeth, Birmingham.

## Irish Prisoners in Britain

From: Troops Out Movement Prisoners Sub-Committee

We wish to draw your attention to the systematic discrimination against Irish prisoners serving sentences in English jails.

The standard practice of the British prison system, as guaranteed by the 1964 Instrument No.388, Prison Rule 31, is that a prisoner should serve her/his sentence in a prison as close as possible to her/his family to preserve family links. The main demand of fifty-four Irish Republican prisoners held in English jails is the right to repatriation - that is, to serve their sentences near their families in Ireland.

British soldiers convicted of offences committed in the north of Ireland are transferred back

WRITE TO: The Editor, Class Struggle, c/o 203, Seven Sisters Rd., London N4 3NG.

to English jails on request. Northern Ireland Office figures state that between 1976 and 1981 twenty-four people (twenty-three of whom were military personnel) were transferred to England. This includes the two members of the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders convicted in 1981 of the brutal pitchfork murders of two catholic farmers from Fermanagh (1976). Seven Loyalist prisoners have also been transferred from prisons in Scotland to Northern Ireland.

In stark contrast to this only four Republican prisoners (Dolours and Marian Price, Hugh Feeney and Gerald Kelly) have been transferred to Ireland. This was after a long hunger strike and brutal force feeding. Frank Stagg and Michael Gaughan were allowed to die on hunger strike demanding that basic right to serve their sentences in their own country - Ireland. And now two Republicans, Mick Murray and Pat Hackett, are on blanket protest.



The denial of the right to prison transfer is not only an added punishment for the prisoners but also for their families. As most relatives live in Ireland, the distance and expense of the journey make frequent visiting impossible.

We believe the Home Office, by refusing Irish Republican prisoners the right to prison transfer (a right that is automatically guaranteed to British military personnel), discriminates against them because of their political beliefs.

We ask you to support the Irish political prisoners' demand for the right to repatriation to Ireland. Press for the issue to be raised in Parliament, in your trade union, women's organisation or community group. Write to the Home Office and Northern Ireland Office about the discrimination against these prisoners.

# Heathfield: black workers on strike

"Class Struggle" Correspondent

After two months 39 Asian and Caribbean workers are still picketing Heathfield's Slough plant in response to a lock-out and dismissal after dropping production levels when pressing a pay claim. While an official strike of all G&MWU members resolved the pay dispute, it was accompanied by management refusal to reinstate the original pickets. In spite of manoeuvres to split the workers by offering to re-employ all but the most militant, the pickets' response was: "We will stay here as long as it is necessary".

So far, the two main contractors - BICC and British Telecom - have been denied replenishment of exhausted stocks. This, with the expense of hiring a scab workforce, is hitting Heathfield where it hurts - in the pocket.

Intimidation of the black pickets includes the daubing of racist graffiti on one of the factory entrances and the sabotage of their transport with locks 'super-glued' and sugar put into petrol tanks. But they are determined to fight on. Their defiance is based on the developing support and unity forged from their stance. Strong support is coming from both Slough's Asian community and the workers and shop stewards' committee at nearby



Ford workers join the Heathfield picket

Ford, Langley. Such unity is essential to counter the attempts to shift the burden of imperialist crisis onto the working class - in particular the black working class - by such bosses' tactics as speed-ups and intimidation. A defiant workforce is not a defeated workforce. Heathfield's strikers need your

support. Support their daily picketline at Heathfields Ltd, Western Road, Slough Trading Estate, Slough, Berks. Although made official by the G&MWU, no strike pay has been received yet and their strike funds need filling up. Donations to Heathfields Dispute Committee, 103 Greenwood Avenue, Hanwell, London, W.7.

## PRISONERS SUPPORT HEALTH WORKERS

Amongst the many acts of support for the Health Workers' Day of Action on 22nd September was one from prisoners in Hull Prison. Deprived of all rights, and facing vicious reprisals when they try to organise, this group of working-class people (some of the most viciously oppressed in the country) nevertheless organised themselves in solidarity. Below we print the prisoners' statement which was distributed by the prisoners rights organisation, PROP.

*We, some of the prisoners of Her Majesty's Prison, Hull, in accordance with the workers' Day of Action in support of the nurses, will be withdrawing our Labour on September 22.*

*We wish to encourage all pris-*

*oners in other prisons to do likewise, to demonstrate their total support for the health service workers by this method.*

*To all trade unionists, we ask, at this time when workers face imprisonment in defence of basic trade union rights, that they consider what their relationship should be to the prison authorities and to the struggle of prisoners for an independent means of representation in the prisons system.*

*Further, we ask them to consider whether any trade unionist imprisoned under the Employment Act is in fact a 'criminal' or a political prisoner, and to raise that demand should such an occasion arise.*

*We wish to express our total support for the legitimate demands of the health service workers for a decent living wage.*

*While we recognise that ours will not be the most important contribution to this cause we hope our actions will show the breadth of support that the nurses enjoy across all sections of the community.*

*We wish to assure workers that any trade unionist imprisoned in defence of his or her democratic rights will receive the fullest support we in the prisons can give.*

*We urge that all trade unionists join the Day of Action on September 22 to support the health service workers and to ignore threats of imprisonment as we in prison will ignore the inevitable reprisals that our action will draw.*

*Yours fraternally,*

*The socially conscious prisoners of Hull*

## Workers Ditch Labour Party

The news that membership of the Labour Party is at its lowest level for 50 years is welcomed by communists. It nails the lies repeated ad nauseum by the Labour Left and most of the Trotskyists that the Labour Party is the mass party of the working class, that it provides a working class audience to be won to socialist ideas. A contemptuous variation on this is that in times of crisis it is to the Labour Party that the working class will turn. The truth of the matter is that during the past three years - years of deepening crisis - there has been a rapid decline of 390,000 in individual Labour Party membership. It now stands at 276,692. An indictment of the claim to be a mass party of the working class is that its present membership is below that of its founding figure of 375,931 back in 1900.

This membership decline is mirrored in the erosion of electoral support whereby the Labour Party has failed over a period of 30 years (including 13 in power) to regain the percentage share of the popular vote it got in the 1951 election. The Labour Party's share of the 1979 popular vote represents a mere 27.7% of the eligible electorate when the bulk of the population is constituted by the working class - the very class it is said to "represent". The work-

ing class is learning a lesson that the British Left cannot digest: that the lie that Labour is "for the working class" is shown up every time Labour is in government when its actions are in sharp conflict with the demands and interests of the working class.

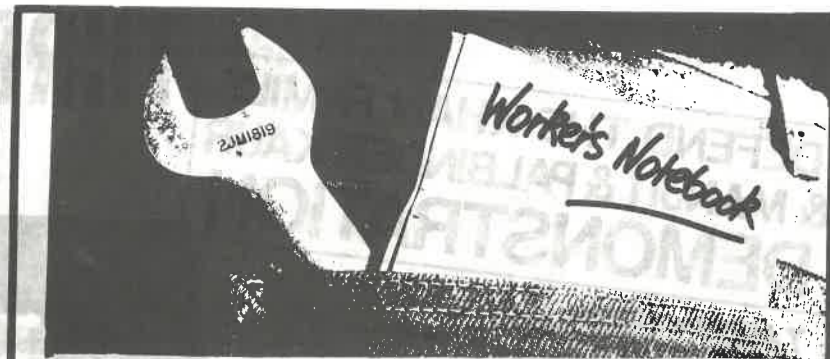
The Trotskyites' tango with the Labour Party shows their refusal to recognise the bankruptcy of the political orientation of lobbying for action by councillors and M.Ps via the state machinery. Constituency Labour Parties (CLP) barely exist in working class communities, given the petty-bourgeois character of the Labour membership with its predominantly white-collar and professional "saviours", let alone organised at the place of work. Far from being active in the struggles of the working class, apart from on a purely individual basis, the politics of the CLPs are taken up with bureaucratic manoeuvrings that exclude a working class audience.

The alternative to the self-delusion of "critical support" or "transforming" the Labour Party is to work, not with other 'leftish' groupings inside that party of British imperialism, but with the emergent revolutionary forces of the oppressed in the task of building a genuinely revolutionary working class party.

## HEALTH WORKERS SUPPORT THE PALESTINIANS

On the Health workers' day of Action, many healthworkers and their supporters gave their solidarity to the Palestinian people. On the Glasgow demonstration pride of place went to a banner reading, "We mourn our massacred Palestinian brothers and sisters". In London hundreds of workers applauded and saluted the banner of Palestine Solidarity, took leaflets to distribute and donated money. The Joint Shop Stewards Committee of Charing Cross and West London Hospitals has passed the following resolution:

"This shop stewards Committee condemns the massacre of hundreds of innocent men, women and children in the refugee camps of West Beirut by Israeli and Lebanese fascist militias. We call on the TUC to demand immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli troops from Lebanon and of all occupied territories, the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights. We support Yassir Arafat's demand for an international tribunal to investigate Israeli war crimes. We reiterate our support for the recognition of the PLO ... as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestin-



The 'Mirror' claims to speak for the interests of working people. Its true position was clearly shown by the 'Sunday Mirror' (19th September): five whole pages, including pictures and the editorial devoted to a car crash victim in Monaco; only one-third of an inside page covering the massacre of hundreds of men, women and children in a refugee camp in Lebanon. Of course, one was a member of a royal family; the others were the victims of imperialist domination of the Middle East.

At least 1,500,000 British children will fail in life - just because they were born poor. They will be trapped in bad housing, suffer from ill health and probably end up on the dole. Those that are lucky enough to get a job will end up in unskilled and low paid employment. That is the conclusion of a report by the National Children's Bureau, called 'Children in Adversity'. The report shows how the crazy capitalist system can do nothing other than squander the potential of large numbers of working class children.

They have already scrapped school milk. Some local authorities are considering scrapping school meals. The capitalist system in the shape of the present government has made it very clear that giving children adequate food is not a priority. But education spending cuts are putting children's lives at risk in other ways, too. These include dangerous electrical wiring, tiles falling from roofs, and metal and woodwork machines without guards. No paper towels in washrooms means that diseases can spread more quickly. Cutting the cost of heating means children sitting in the cold.

The government's 'think tank' ideas on public spending cuts have been leaked by the bosses' 'Economist' magazine:

\* An end to the state's provision of higher education, to be replaced by £12,000 fees for a three-year course. Abolition of state primary and secondary schooling. The latter they admit might prove politically controversial.

\* Big savings if welfare benefit payments (pensions, social security, supplementary benefit) no longer keep pace with inflation.

\* Replacing the NHS with private insurance systems, which would be compulsory. This would save the state £3-4 billion every year. Also big increases for prescriptions and charging to see the GP would be considered.

Of course the think tank was short on ideas on how to cut the £14 billion spent annually on the armed forces. Of course, if they cut that, how would the imperialist state be able to continue to wage war on the Irish people or try and hang onto its colonial plunder of the Malvinas, Hong Kong and so on? The bosses' state needs a well-equipped armed force if it is to hang on to its profit-mad system.

A £70,000 champagne party is being laid on to celebrate the European Parliament's 30th anniversary. Half the money will be spent on a lavish reception for 1,800 guests, including Euro-M.Ps, at the Parliament in Strasbourg. About £10,000 will go on air fares to fly in an 80-piece orchestra to the Parliament. If money can be made available for unnecessary luxuries like this, why can't it be found to pay the Health Service workers?

It's no good relying on the law to get women equal pay. In 1977 two years after the Equal Pay Act came in, women's average pay was only 75.5% of the male average. By 1979 this figure had dropped to 73% and is still only 74.8%.



ian people with full diplomatic status. We will send the largest possible delegation to any marches in the campaign to denounce this act of genocide."

As some of the poorest and most oppressed workers in Brit-

ain, the healthworkers identify with the Palestinian people, and see in this revolutionary movement a natural ally. This type of support shows the possibility for beginning to build a real revolutionary anti-imperialist working class movement.

# THREATENED WITH DEPORTATION!

**DEFEND THE KHAN FAMILY & MANJIT & PALBINDER KAUR DEMONSTRATION**



## THREATENED WITH STARVATION!

### Starved into Repatriation

Over the last few years people have begun to fight back against the threat of deportation by the Home Office. The government has now thought of a new tactic to stop this - by starving people so they are forced to leave. The DHSS is working alongside the Home Office to make sure people leave by refusing them all benefits. This is what is happening in the case of the Khan family and Manjit and Palbinder Kaur.

### The Khan Family

Parveen and Shaukat Khan, along

with their children Imran and Irfan have been under threat of removal for nearly a year. Shaukat did enter this country 'illegally'. However, this was in 1972 before the present Immigration Act was even in force. He was aged 13 at the time and ignorant of the situation. Parveen came in 1980 - and was also ignorant of this. When Shaukat discovered the true situation he applied to the Home Office for a 'pardon'. Instead they declared her to be here illegally as well - by failing to disclose a 'material fact' of which she had no knowledge (that is Shaukat's immigration history). Because of the pres-

sure, Shaukat has gone into hiding, leaving Parveen on her own with two children.

### Manjit and Palbinder

Manjit came here in 1979 to join Santokh Singh whom she had married in India. After a few months she had to leave home with her daughter Palbinder because of family problems. She went to live in the Asian women's refuge. The Home Office have used the family divisions to try and deport them all. They say Santokh is here illegally and, therefore, Manjit is here illegally. We say they should both stay.

### Forced Repatriation of Children

Imran, Irfan and Palbinder were all born here. They are UK citizens and cannot be forcibly deported. However, the Home Office knows that no parent would leave their children on their own, particularly as they are all under three. This amounts to forced repatriation.

### The Role of the DHSS

Parveen and Manjit are now single mothers living on their own with children. The DHSS has not only refused them supplementary benefit, it has also refused them child benefit

- even though the children were born here. In Manjit's case it was actually the DHSS who informed the Home Office about her status. After a long fight for Parveen the DHSS agreed to give her father-in-law some money for the children but none for herself.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

1. Come to the Demonstration on 30th October. Ask organisations to sponsor it and come with banners.

2. Write to Gerald Kaufman, M.P. and to your own M.P. at the House of Commons, London, asking them to act. Send copies to William Whitelaw, Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W.1., and Norman Fowler, DHSS, Alexandra House, Elephant & Castle, London, S.E.1

3. Give money to the "Khan and Kaur Families Defence Campaign". This is essential to help maintain the families.

**NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION & RALLY 30th OCTOBER, MANCHESTER, START 1.30 p.m.** Corner of Moss Lane East and Princess Road in Moss Side, Manchester. Please bring banners.

For further information please contact:

Khan and Kaur Families Defence Campaign, c/o 593 Stockport Road Manchester 12. Tel:061-225 5111

## Baba Bakhtaura: Here to Stay!

Baba Bakhtaura, a well-known and much-loved Punjabi folk singer, has been added to the ever-increasing list of victims of the state's racist campaign against black people. Baba Bakhtaura has lived in this country for three years. In that time he has both earned his living and served the Asian community by singing progressive popular and religious folk songs. Baba is crippled in one of his legs. All his family are settled here and there is nobody to support him in India.

On 7th July of this year Baba was sent to prison for two months by Oldbury magistrates. His "crime" was wanting to stay in this country to earn his living and be with his family.

The Baba Bakhtaura Defence Committee is campaigning for Baba's right to stay here. A

social which they organised on 10th September was attended by over 500 people. The Committee points out:

"The arrest, imprisonment and criminalisation of Baba Bakhtaura is part and parcel of a wider campaign of mass deportation and harassment of black people in Britain. In every town where black people live there are many people who are either being kicked out or being split up from their loved ones. There is hardly any black person who is not directly affected by these barbaric laws. Anyone who is attacked by the state under these laws must be defended."

The Baba Bakhtaura Committee can be contacted: c/o 19A Birmingham Street, Oldbury, West Midlands.

### Defend Halimat Babamba

Halimat Babamba is a 25-year-old Nigerian woman living in Leeds. She has two children, Hakeem who is 3½ and Mustafa who is 5 months and was born in this country. Halimat came to Britain with her husband in 1980. He had been living here for two years before she joined him. Ever since they were married Halimat's husband was violent towards her and this became worse throughout their life in Leeds. He threatened to kill her on many occasions and to take the children from her. She refused to be parted from them, even though her husband tried to make her move out without the children. So, in this desperate situation Halimat and her children managed to get away together to a women's aid refuge to be safe from him.

Since then Halimat's husband has returned to Nigeria and Halimat wants to stay in Britain permanently. She is scared of going back to Nigeria, her children will be taken away from her and both she and the children face the threat of extreme violence from him.

### The Home Office

When Halimat's visa runs out in October 1982 she faces deportation by the Home Office. Jaswinder Kaur, Nasira Begum

Cynthia Gordon and other black women have faced the same threat and have won their right to stay in Britain. Already her husband has tried to persuade the Home Office and the Nigerian High Commission to have her sent back. At the moment she is appealing to the Home Office for permission to stay in this country with her children. Under Nigerian law her husband can take her children from her and she faces the prospect not only of violence from him but of destitution. This woman's future is the responsibility of the British Home Office. Halimat and her children must be allowed to stay in safety in this country.

**SUPPORT HALIMAT IN HER FIGHT TO STAY IN BRITAIN!**

**NO DEPORTATIONS!**

### What you can do

- \* Write to Halimat's M.P., Stan Cohen
- \* Write to your local M.P.
- \* Write to Timothy Raison at the Home Office
- \* Get your Union or community group to support and affiliate to the campaign
- \* Please send donations for the campaign. The contact address is:

"Friends of Halimat Babamba" Box H.B., 59 Cookridge Street, Leeds LS2 3AW.

## NEW SLAVE LABOUR SCHEME

When he opens his mouth the garbage spills out. So, when Tebbit's latest epistle was published in "The Sunday Times", it was bound to bring no joy to his subjects. Tebbit and co. beaver away to bring about the businessman's paradise - high profits, cheap labour and a docile workforce. One element on which he expounded was the government's scheme to drive unemployed youth into special sweat shops to produce cheap components. Cheap components require cheap costs. Therefore, these industrial conscripts would be paid a poverty level wage of £25 a week. Not only is it vicious exploitation of the young people involved but it will serve to depress wage standards generally in the manufacturing sector. This continuing threat to working class living standards is a recipe for an intensification of attacks on democratic rights. This would arise not only out of the planned compulsory nature of the scheme, but also the suppression of the resistance

that it would provoke. Of course, Tebbit would seek allies and he has no further to look than the TUC. Their atrocious record involves backing the Youth Training Scheme after the government agreed not to make it compulsory for all school-leavers and to increase the allowance from £15.

One should not be surprised at the models that Tebbit suggests when he speaks of components "at Korean prices". The capitalist havens of Taiwan and South Korea are two vicious reactionary colonies of Japanese and, principally, American imperialism - each characterised by virulent anti-communism, intense exploitation and extreme repression. The nightmare in this businessman's dream is that such repression has repeatedly drawn forth resistance such as the Kwangju Uprising of 1980, while the threat to the 'social fabric' exemplified by the Youth Uprisings of last summer continues to haunt the ruling class.

## POLITICAL PRISONERS DRUGGED

Last month "Class Struggle" reported how the Home Office had admitted to Lord Avebury that prisoners in British jails had been forcibly injected with Paraldehyde, Largactil and Tuinal. Lord Avebury took up this question after he had been approached by a prisoner, Mr X.

It has now been revealed that Mr X is Eddie Byrne, an Irish prisoner of war, serving a 14 year sentence for conspiracy to cause explosions. Eddie Byrne has now revealed that psychiatric drugs are being forcibly administered to rebellious and politically conscious prisoners in British jails. His statements are confirmed by his solicitor, Alastair Logan. Byrne claims that the forcible drugging of politically conscious prisoners takes place "on an extensive scale". He also says that, "On four separate occasions politically conscious, non-conforming prisoners were committed to mental institutions within days of completing their sentences."

Byrne has been threatened by

prison staff because of his efforts to expose drug abuse and defend the rights of prisoners. In February 1977 he was taken from Albany to Parkhurst Prison and forcibly administered a drug.

"A short time later I developed a state of convulsions and passed into unconsciousness on the cell floor. When I regained consciousness I found myself strapped to a prison bed. Staff informed me that this was for my own safety. Later I slept for 72 hours when the drug effect finally wore off."

"Now," he says, "I am coming under increasing pressure to accept tranquilliser drugs and I feel this could be the beginning of something which could have an extremely detrimental outcome for me."

Eddie Byrne has placed himself in great danger by championing the rights of other prisoners. Once again, we see the vanguard role of the Irish POWs in building the fightback behind the walls in those hellholes of oppression, the British prisons.

repression..



..and re

## Romanies fight back

"Class Struggle" Correspondent

The Romany (or Gypsy) community in Britain is gearing itself up for confrontation with the London Borough of Ealing who have closed a caravan site, put eleven families into temporary housing, evicted others and bulldozed the site.

The Gypsy Council says that the case is one of the worst it has come across. It is calling on travellers from around the country to converge on Ealing to force the borough to provide them with a site. It is also taking the case to the European Commission for Human Rights.

The eleven families, consisting of 18 adults and 36 children, have been placed in just two houses with no heating, furniture or cooking facilities. Their eviction from the caravan site was carried out by bailiffs but watched over by a large force of police. Bailiffs smashed many of the families' possessions.

Ealing Council have always refused to provide a permanent site for travelling people, in defiance of the 1968 Caravan Sites Act. Jim Penfold, Vice-Chairman of the Gypsy Council, says that if Ealing does not mend its ways there will be 2,000 families in caravans moving to the borough in a space of a few weeks.

The families that have been evicted continue to face harassment. When friends brought a caravan containing amenities to one of the houses where 22 people are living in just four rooms, Council officials served summonses for its removal within twelve hours.

Communists support the struggle by the Romany minority for their democratic rights.

# Mohan Pipial Released on Bail

On Tuesday, 7th September, the Precinct 6 Defence Campaign scored a major victory by securing the release on bail of Mohan Pipial. Mohan Pipial had been arrested along with Garvey Harris and Les Haw on Saturday, 21st August and charged with 'breach of the peace'. Despite the minor charges he is facing he was immediately remanded in custody. The police successfully opposed bail for Mohan Pipial three times in Leeds Magistrates Court, in a blatant attempt to prevent him from taking part in protests and activities organised by the Precinct 6 Defence Campaign.

Mohan Pipial was finally released on conditional bail after an application to a High Court Judge in Chambers by solicitor Ruth Bunday. He had been imprisoned on remand for a total of 17 days in Thorp Arch prison. Mohan Pipial is still, however, prevented by his bail conditions from entering Leeds city centre. He is thus still prevented from taking part in the activities of the Defence Campaign.

The arrest of Mohan Pipial on 21st August, with Les Haw and Garvey Harris, brought to ten the number of arrests of black and anti-racist white youth in Leeds city centre in a period of five weeks. The Precinct

6 Defence Campaign sees these arrests as political arrests, as the six youth arrested have all been closely involved in organising protests and marches against police harassment in Leeds city centre. The police have shown that they will not tolerate youth engaging in legitimate political protest in self-defence. Moreover they have shown that any attempt to build a political campaign against police and fascist attacks will be met with mass arrests, brutality and remands in custody. Les Haw and Mohan Pipial have both been singled out and arrested a total of three times. Les Haw, already released on conditional bail is also 'banned' from entering Leeds city centre.

The Precinct 6 Defence Campaign has launched a national campaign to demand the dropping of all the charges against the arrested six youth. The campaign has now compiled a dossier on the arrests of the six and police harassment in Leeds city centre. Copies of this dossier and further information can be obtained from Precinct 6 Defence Campaign c/o LAP, 59 Cookridge Street, Leeds 2. All organisations and individuals are invited to support the Campaign, which also desperately needs money to continue its work.

# Imprisoned—for Crossing the Street

On Tuesday September 20th Leeds magistrates imprisoned Les Haw and Mohan Pipial - the original Precinct Two. They were convicted of "threatening and abusive behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace". Les Haw was sentenced to six weeks in prison "because of the gravity of the offences and his previous record". Mohan Pipial was sentenced to three months in a detention centre. Such vicious and heavy sentences for such minor offences are unprecedented.

The Precinct Six Defence Campaign believes that Les Haw and Mohan Pipial are being victimised by the police and courts. Both have been closely involved in organising a political campaign against fascist attacks and police harassment in Leeds city centre. The police have time and again shown their hostility to the campaign. In a serious attack on democratic rights they have made a total of ten arrests of six supporters of the campaign. In their latest attack they threatened to arrest those who were picketing outside the court if they chanted slogans in support of Mohan and Les.

Mohan and Les were arrested on 17 July. They were walking in a group of seven and were about to cross the Headrow when two policemen ordered them to split up. When the youth protested one black and one white youth were singled out, handcuffed and taken away in a police van. Neither were cautioned or told why they were being arrested.

The prosecution mounted a political trial of both youths. Mohan Pipial was asked a series of political questions about his attitude to the police and other questions. The police "evidence" depicted the two youth as part of a group of at least twenty youths who were spitting, shouting obscenities and jostling passers-by.

The Precinct Six Defence Committee will be mounting a vigorous campaign against the victimisation and criminalisation of Mohan and Les. A national demonstration will be held in Leeds on Saturday October 9th to demand the freeing of Les and Mohan and the dropping of the charges against the rest of the Precinct Six. A picket of Leeds Magistrates Court will also be held when the cases of Charles Andrews, Tony Lally and Les Haw take place on 28/29 September.

For further information please contact:  
Precinct Six Defence Campaign,  
c/o L.A.P., 59 Cookridge St.,  
Leeds 2.

Stop press: A successful application for bail, pending an appeal, was made at Leeds Magistrates Court on 21/9/82 and Les is to be released from Armley Jail and Mohan from a Detention Centre in Nottinghamshire.

Every effort will continue to be made to ensure that the judgement against them is overturned.

# Legal Murder

"Class Struggle" Correspondent

Last week I called to see a friend of mine whom I had not seen for a few months. Lydia Navarro and her husband are political exiles from Chile, and when I asked after her elderly father, who had been staying with them, she told me the following story.

When buying her father's airline ticket, she was told that as long as it was a return ticket her father could stay for six months or a year. But as soon as he arrived - in Easter 1981 - the immigration officials started making life difficult. With the help of an M.P. they were staved off for some time. But eventually the officials insisted that Lydia's father must be at Heathrow at 5 p.m. on a certain day in December. If he did not appear there, the police would come to their house in Liverpool and arrest him. It was in the middle of that terrible snowy weather, so the old man - who was weak and ill - travelled to Heathrow by train - and had to return because all the planes were grounded. The train journey, cold and with many delays, made his feeble health worse. Two doctors said he should not travel. Yet the immigration officials insisted that he should make the journey again the next day. He was flown home to Chile. He died on the bus on the way from the airport.

The immigration authorities asked if they could make amends in any way to Lydia; and then deeply insulted her by offering money. But when asked to grant a visa to her sister, the only unmarried family member left in Chile, they refused.

# BRADFORD MARCHES AGAINST RACISM

"Class Struggle" Correspondent



About 700 people marched through Bradford on Saturday 18 September protesting against deportations. The march brought together people fighting deportations around the country, answering the Bradford Joint Action Committee Against Deportations' call to build a united movement round the different campaigns. Apart from those in Bradford - 18 before and now 10 since the Singh family victory - there were:

- \* Pow Yean Leong and Halimat Babamba from Leeds. Pow Yean faces separation from her family who are all here if she is forced to return to Malaysia. Halimat faces separation from her two young children if she is forced to go back to Nigeria.
- \* Babu Bakhtaura, a Punjabi folk-singer has already been imprisoned. The campaign set up to fight his deportation in Birmingham has already won his release from prison and is determined to stop the deportation.
- \* Manjit Kaur from Manchester was on the march. She is fighting deportation jointly with Parveen Khan. Their joint leaflet is headed "Threatened with deportation by the Home Office and starvation by the DHSS". (see separate article)
- \* Supporters of Imam Patel from Ashton-under-Lyme and of Kantilal Mistry from the

same place also took part. The Imam is threatened with deportation in spite of the support from the Muslim community and their need for an Imam in the Stamford Street Mosque. Kantilal Mistry finally won his tribunal in August after a long campaign to stay here. Now the Home Office is appealing against this decision.

Anti-racist groups from London and Sheffield also supported the march.

## The various Campaigns

Speakers at the rally after the march appealed for support for the different campaigns. Demonstrations have been organised for 23rd October in Birmingham in support of Babu Bakhtaura and on 30th October in Manchester for the Khan family and Manjit Kaur. A speaker from the Bradford Joint Committee against Deportations stressed their six demands:

1. Moratorium on all deportations
2. A new amnesty
3. No deportations where British-born children are involved
4. An independent body to run tribunals, etc.
5. Repeal of the 1971 Immigration Act
6. Repeal of the Nationality Bill

The role of Labour governments was condemned by speakers. A speaker from the Labour Party

was noisily heckled with cries of "promises, promises". Other speakers stressed support for individuals under threat and a wider struggle against all aspects of racism. Mahmood Khan himself under threat, chaired the meeting and said that the success of the campaigns depended on mass support: "It depends on you people who have come here today, you are the backbone of the success of these struggles, if we unite and stand up together."

Marsha Singh, from the Asian Youth Movement (Bradford), stressed the continuity of the struggle against British imperialism in India and in this country. He spoke of the songs of struggle which Babu Bakhtaura sung to introduce the meeting. One of these was in honour of the revolutionary martyr Udhav Singh who was hanged in this country. He had assassinated Sir Michael Dwyer, the imperialist butcher who was responsible for the Amritsar massacre in 1919.

Amongst the banners on the march were those of Mahmud Khan Defence Committee; Baba Bakhtaura Defence Committee; Friends of Halimat Babamba; Pow Yean Leong Defence Committee; Bradford IWA; Sheffield Asian Youth Organisation; Bradford Irish Solidarity Committee; Precinct 6 Defence Campaign; Sheffield Women's Liberation; Bradford Women's Action Group, Bradford Trades Council; and various left groups, trade union and anti-racist banners.

# POLICE LOCK UP 12 YEAR OLD



In these words 12-year-old Christopher Marcus told 'Caribbean Times' of his treatment at the hands of Wandsworth police (London). He had been riding a bicycle a few yards from his home when two policemen stopped him and asked him his name and address and who owned the bicycle. When he told them that he was riding it with the permission of a near neighbour they refused to believe him.

One greeted his suggestion that they check with his mother with: "No! Don't tell me how to do my job, son!" and when he then asked them to check with Mrs Pine, the neighbour from whom he'd borrowed the bike, he was manhandled and told, "Right sunshine, you're nicked!"

Christopher had not stolen the bike; he had committed no crime. His offence was to be black, and on the street; that was enough for the police to treat him in this way. Only last year when young black people were complaining of police harassment a London police chief advised them to "keep off the streets!" London's racist police seem to be intent on carrying on their harassment of black people on the streets - black people of any age, not only the youth, are to be criminalised.

"I was put into a police Rover and there were four police officers.... I was called a 'coon' and was talked to in pidgin English - and I don't speak pidgin English. At the police station I was taken through a door marked for prisoners. They undid the handcuffs and I was taken into an interview room. After this I was pushed into a room. It had a bed, a toilet and bars on the window. It was a cell. The door was bolted and locked behind me. I must have been locked up for about two hours and I paced up and down wondering what the time was and when my mother would come and get me out."

When he was released Christopher was told by one officer: "I hope this will not colour your view of the police in the future." How can it do anything else when things like this are the lot of hundreds of black people every week? The distrust of the police among black people is founded in their daily experience of racist state oppression of the national minorities, and will continue to exist until the whole imperialist system of oppression is brought tumbling down.

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# KITSON PICKET: Magnificent Protest Against Apartheid

The non-stop, 24 hour picket of South Africa House is still going from strength to strength having commenced on 25th August. The picket is organised by the City Branch of the Anti-Apartheid Movement and the family of David Kitson, Norma, Amanda and Steven.

David Kitson is a 63-year-old British citizen, now in the 17th year of a 20-year sentence in South Africa for being a member of the Technical High Command of Umkhonto We Sizwe, armed wing of the African National Congress (ANC), and a communist. David is now seriously ill, and the picket is demanding his release and is highlighting the cause of all political prisoners in South Africa.

Thousands of people have attended the picket at different times and thousands more have signed petitions and given other forms of support. They have included trade union leaders and M.P.s, including Michael Foot. But this support has only been won because these forces have seen the self-reliant strength that the picket has built up.

The strongest support has come

from the youth. Many unemployed youth have more or less taken up residence on the picket, and are involved in all aspects of its organisation and administration. One youth has had himself tattooed with the colours of the ANC! On the picket they learn freedom songs and about the anti-imperialist struggle in South Africa and elsewhere.

## LETTER FROM DAVID KITSON

News of the picket has reached the prisoners in South Africa. In a censored letter, David Kitson writes:

"Now everything in the garden should be dug up. Start over in the Spring. It is fascinating to watch the seedlings pop up. Rule of thumb is get them in deep. Only get them the right way up."

Amanda Kitson says, "When my mum reads that out she says David Kitson is not trying to give her a lesson in gardening - he is speaking of the importance of youth in this struggle."

Other oppressed sections of the working class have also given strong support. For example,

Joe Foley, Secretary of the Catering Workers' Branch of the Transport & General Workers' Union, has been in more or less permanent attendance. This union branch has been built in the teeth of hostility from the union leaderships, and organises some of the most exploited workers in the country. Health workers have also given support.

## POLICE HARASSMENT

The picket has had to face a determined attempt to suppress it by the British police. Innumerable petty restrictions are made at different times: freedom songs are prohibited, people are made to stand on a piece of tarpaulin, people are



STEVE, NORMA AND AMANDLA ON THE PICKET.

station after she had collapsed in her solitary cell. Amanda Kitson said:

"All they have done by arresting my mother, and holding her in jail for three hours, is to strengthen our determination to continue the picket until we achieve our aims... We are sure that the arrests are entirely political. They are trying to take the leaders and the best fighters off the picket. They have waited until the moment when they can pick on the best young supporters, any of our black supporters, and my mother and brother Steve."

The British police are attacking the picket because it is a powerful blow to the apartheid regime.

The South African state is a creation of British imperialism. British imperialism is the largest foreign investor in South Africa, where it makes millions from the enslavement of the black masses of that country. So the struggle against apartheid is in reality a struggle against British imperialism. The actions of the British police show this clearly.

## MAGNIFICENT

The picket of South Africa House is an anti-imperialist struggle based on the oppressed in Britain, and is in firm unity with the oppressed in South Africa. It has very great significance for the building of a revolutionary movement in Britain. We hope all our readers will support this magnificent and courageous protest against apartheid and imperialism.

## WHO KILLED GEMAYEL?

By a member of Palestine Solidarity

Immediately after Bashir Gemayel President-elect of Lebanon, was killed in a car bomb explosion on 14 September, Israeli forces occupied west Beirut, saying they wanted to stop bloodshed and anarchy in the wake of his death. The massacre in Shatilla and Sabra camps followed.

But who killed Gemayel? The facts indicate that it was Israel. Gemayel was leader of the Phalange Party, the only third world party comparable with the European fascist parties of the 'thirties. His forces were equipped by the Israelis who supported him for Lebanese president because they considered him 'their man' who would suppress their opponents.

Before his election, Gemayel agreed to sign a peace treaty with Israel - as Egypt has - but afterwards he met leaders of the Lebanese National Movement and agreed to an eight-point proposal they put forward, which included refusal of a peace treaty with Israel. He didn't want to do this, but the Phalange couldn't rule Lebanon on their own, being supported

by only a minority of Lebanese Christians, themselves a minority of the population. Once he became President, therefore, Gemayel would have had to reach a deal with other Lebanese forces: he was not a mere puppet of Israel, and hoped to follow this up by forming a strong direct tie with the United States.

This was unacceptable to Israel: General Sharon had already said Israel wouldn't accept a Lebanese President who didn't sign a peace treaty with it. Rather than let Gemayel go ahead on these terms, Israel preferred a divided Lebanon, with itself dominating the south, aided by the forces of Saad Haddad, its fascist puppet, the Phalangists running the area north-east of Beirut, and Syria dominating the north and east - in effect, a partitioned country. The Ashrafiyeh areas of Beirut, where Gemayel was killed, has long been a Phalangist stronghold - only they and the Israelis moved there freely.

Israel had the motive and the opportunity to kill Gemayel. It did so, and within four hours of his assassination its assault force was ready to invade West Beirut.

Thus, in a sense, the picket is run by those forces who genuine communists argue will form the base of a real revolutionary movement in this country. This explains the lively, determined, militant and disciplined nature of the picket. It also explains why the Labour and trade union leaders privately attack and slander the picket, whilst being forced to come and give it token support.

forbidden from sitting in chairs and so on. A number of arrests have been made, including that of two people arrested at 1.00 a.m. in the morning whilst sleeping in sleeping bags in a corner of the pavement. They have been charged with obstruction! Steven Kitson has been arrested, and Norma Kitson has been arrested twice. On the second occasion, Norma was only released from Bow Street police

## Ghana Denounces Imperialist Banks

*Recent events have seen a number of oppressed countries in the world approaching the very edge of bankruptcy: Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Zaire, Sudan, etc. In seeking to raise themselves up from poverty the oppressed nations face the bloodsucking banks, with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund at their apex. The following is a statement of the revolutionary government in Ghana, which was broadcast recently on Radio Accra. It shows how the oppressed around the world are organising themselves against imperialism.*

A few days ago, the World Bank predicted that the present deep crisis of the international capitalist economy is likely to continue and even get worse.

The report went on to suggest that the way to deal with the crisis is for countries, particularly the major imperialist powers - the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Japan and Canada - to adopt tight monetary and fiscal policies and restrict public expenditure.

## Collapse

The crisis of international capitalism and measures taken by the imperialist powers to deal with it have resulted in the collapse of many industries and the worst unemployment situation in 40 years and drastic cuts in social services, particularly in Britain and the United States...

The measures suggested by the World Bank and applied by the major imperialist powers do not only deepen the misery of the

poor and the underprivileged in these countries but intensify the exploitation of the peoples of neo-colonial countries, such as Ghana.

The main forms of this exploitation are the imposition of oppressive terms for credit and the international commodities market. What forms will these imperialist prescriptions take in Ghana, a country still in the grip of imperialism?

The present dizzy fall in the world market price of cocoa is an obvious manifestation of the way in which imperialism heaps the burden of prices on to the shoulders of the exploited people. The fall in the cocoa price severely constricts the options of Ghana as far as revolutionary advances are concerned.

The world cocoa price was manipulated to bring down President Nkrumah. The fall in the cocoa price speeded up the adoption of a disastrous International Monetary Fund package by former Ghanaian Prime Minister Busia. This included the usual notorious devaluation, removal of subsidies, raising of prices and reductions in the expenditure on public welfare projects.

The imposition of oppressive credit terms is the method imperialism has perfected. Zaire has run deeper into crisis as it strictly applied each package of IMF recommendations. Today, Zaire's debt stands at over \$4 billion.

Uganda, recently acting on IMF advice, massively devalued its currency, and implemented the

other standard prescription of encouraging the rich to get richer, and pushing the poor deeper into the pits of poverty.

So far, no Third World country has liberated itself economically and politically by following the advice of the imperialist powers and their institutions.

This is hardly surprising - the measures are always aimed at strengthening rather than weakening the control of foreign interests.

## Manoeuvres

Our own experience in Ghana of manoeuvres by imperialism provides graphic proof of the disastrous results of adopting and acting on the advice of imperialist institutions.

Busia toed the line and failed. Rumour of the planned devaluation by former President Limann produced a rush on the banks.

Our revolution, like most modern revolutions, was born in a time of international crisis.

As the world crisis deepens, it becomes clearer that the path of a revolutionary struggle against imperialism is the only way open to the oppressed peoples of the world if they are to achieve genuine national independence and social justice.

The decisive factor is a clear understanding of the question and mechanism of how imperialism operates and the political will to fight to the end.

Forward to the revolution!

## DEMONSTRATE FOR PALESTINE!



People in Britain have joined in the worldwide condemnation of Zionist genocide. A Book of Condolences opened by the London Offices of the League of Arab States and the Palestine Liberation Organisation was signed by thousands of people from all walks of life, including the Secretary of the Central Committee of the RCLB and the Editor of "Class Struggle". Hundreds of people have taken part in vigils and thousands in demonstrations called by different political and Islamic forces.

On Saturday 9 October there will be a national demonstration called by the Emergency Committee Against the Invasion of Lebanon. Palestine Solidarity

is aiming to build a large and militant anti-imperialist contingent on the march. The Revolutionary Communist League will be joining them. We hope that other communists and anti-imperialists will do the same. Look out for details of assembly time and place! At 7 p.m. on October 9th, Palestine Solidarity has a benefit concert at the South Bank Polytechnic, Borough Rd., London, SE1. It will feature African Dancers, Aljabal, Palestinian Dancers, and Kurdish and Latin American singers. Food and drink will be available. Tickets are £2.50 or £1 for unemployed, and are available from PSC, c/o THIS, Oxford House, Derbyshire St., London E2.

# CHINA'S INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY

The following are extracts from the section of Comrade Hu Yaobang's report to the 12th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, entitled "Adhering to an independent foreign policy".



peaceful co-existence among nations today are imperialism, hegemonism and colonialism. True, the old system of colonialism has disintegrated with the successive winning of independence by nearly 100 former colonial countries. Yet its remnants are far from being eliminated. The superpowers that practise hegemonism pose a new threat to the people of the world. In the pursuit of global domination, the superpowers have been contending on a worldwide scale with military power far exceeding that of any other countries. This is the main source of instability and turmoil in the world. The most important task for the people of the world today is to oppose hegemonism and safeguard world peace. Due to the rivalry between the superpowers, the danger of a world war is growing ever greater. However, experience shows that the people of the world, by persevering in struggle, can upset the strategic plans of the superpowers.

Israel for its heinous aggression and atrocities against the people of Palestine and Lebanon. With support and protection from the US hegemonists, Israel has outrageously occupied Palestine and carried out repeated armed aggression against Arab countries, posing a grave threat to peace in the Middle East and the world as a whole. We continue our resolute support for the Palestinian people in their struggle to return to their homeland and to found their own state and for other Arab peoples in their struggle against Israeli expansionism.

and the people's support for the line and policies of that country's Communist Party. Communist Parties should of course help each other, but it is absolutely impermissible for any of them to issue orders or run things for others from the outside. Any attempt by one Party to impose its views on other Parties or interfere in their internal affairs can only lead to setbacks or failures in the revolutions of the countries concerned. As for the practice of one Party compelling other Parties to make their policies serve its own Party and state policies, or even resorting to armed intervention in other countries, it can only undermine the very foundation of the international communist movement.

China's future is closely bound up with that of the world as a whole. The successes China has achieved in its revolution and construction provide a powerful support to the world's movement for progress and a bright future, and conversely, our successes would have been impossible without the struggles of the people of other countries for a bright future. China has received help from other countries and peoples, and in turn has helped others. In the early years of our People's Republic, Comrade Mao Zedong pointed out: "Our general task is to unite the whole people and win the support of all our friends abroad in the struggle to build a great socialist country, defend world peace and advance the cause of human progress." Integration of patriotism with internationalism has always been our basic point of departure in handling our external relations.

non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence have consistently guided China in its effort to develop relations with other countries. Having suffered aggression and oppression for over a century, the Chinese people will never again allow themselves to be humiliated as they were before, nor will they subject other nations to such humiliation.

Socialist China belongs to the third world. China has experienced the same sufferings as most other third world countries, and she is faced with similar problems and tasks. China regards it as her sacred international duty to struggle resolutely against imperialism, hegemonism and colonialism together with the other third world countries.

The Communist Parties of all countries are equal. Whether large or small, long or short in their history, in power or out of power, they cannot be divided into superior and inferior Parties. Our Party has suffered from the attempt of a self-elevated paternal party to keep us under control. As is commonly known, it is through resisting such control that our independent external policy has won its successes.

Being patriots, we do not tolerate any encroachment on China's national dignity or interests. Being internationalists, we are deeply aware that China's national interests cannot be fully realised in separation from the overall interests of mankind. Our adherence to an independent foreign policy accords with the discharging of our lofty international duty to safeguard world peace and promote human progress. In the 33 years since the founding of our People's Republic, we have shown the world by deeds that China never attaches itself to any big power or group of powers, and never yields to pressure from any big power. China's foreign policy is based on the scientific theories of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought, and it proceeds from the fundamental interests of the people of China and the rest of the world. It follows an overall long-term strategy, and is definitely not swayed by expediency or by anybody's instigation or provocation. Because we have firmly applied the basic principles of our foreign policy formulated by the late Comrades Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai, socialist New China has gained prestige, made friends throughout the world and maintained its dignity in its relations with foreign countries.

During September the 12th National Congress of the Communist Party of China was held in Beijing (Peking). The Congress adopted a new Party Constitution and elected a new leadership. Comrade Hu Yaobang was elected General Secretary of the Party Central Committee. Important speeches were made at the Congress by Comrades Deng Xiaoping, Ye Jianying, Chen Yun and Li Xiannian. The Report

of the Central Committee was delivered by Comrade Hu Yaobang. Entitled "Create a new situation in all fields of socialist modernisation" it dealt with the new situation in the Party and the country, the economy, socialist spiritual civilisation, socialist democracy, foreign policy, Party building and national reunification. In this issue of "Class Struggle" we print extracts from

the section of Comrade Hu Yaobang's report dealing with foreign policy. The documents of the Congress will shortly be available from New Era Books.

The Chinese News Agency, Xinhua, reported a number of messages to the Congress from fraternal parties and organisations, including a message from the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist League of Britain.

We hold that all Communist Parties should respect each other. Each Party has its strong and weak points. Being situated in different circumstances, all Parties cannot be expected to hold completely identical views on the assessment of situations and on their own tasks. Their differences of opinion can only be resolved gradually through friendly consultations and patiently giving each other time. We are in favour of all Communist Parties learning from each other's successes and failures, believing that this will help the international communist movement to grow and flourish.

On the principles mentioned above, our Party has maintained friendly relations with many other Communist Parties. We sincerely appreciate their support and help and are conscientiously learning from their experience whatever can be of help to our revolution and construction. And we wish to establish similar contacts with a greater number of progressive parties and organisations.

The founding of our People's Republic has removed the social causes both of China's submission to foreign aggression and of any possibility of China committing aggression abroad. Frederick Engels said: "A nation cannot become free and at the same time continue to oppress other nations." This is an incontestable truth. We Marxist-Leninists are convinced that communism will ultimately be realised throughout the world. However, revolution cannot be exported but can occur only by the choice of the people of the country concerned. It is on the basis of this understanding that we have always abided by the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. We do not station a single soldier abroad, nor have we occupied a single inch of foreign land. We have never infringed upon the sovereignty of another country, or imposed an unequal relationship upon it. In no circumstances will we seek hegemony.

World peace can be safeguarded, provided the people truly unite and fight hegemonism and expansionism. We have always firmly opposed the arms race between the superpowers, stood for the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons and for their complete destruction and demanded that the superpowers be the first to cut their nuclear and conventional arsenals drastically. We are against the world war being fomented by the superpowers and also against all the local wars of aggression which they instigate or back. We have always firmly supported all victim countries and peoples in their struggle against aggression. We support the Korean people in the struggle to reunify their fatherland. We support the Kampuchean People led by the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea in their struggle against Vietnamese aggression. We support the people of Afghanistan in their struggle against Soviet aggression. We support the African people in their struggle against South Africa's racism and expansionism. We strongly condemn

Here I would especially like to discuss the question of relationships between the Communist Party of China and those of other countries. Our Party develops its relations with other Communist or working-class parties in strict conformity with Marxism and the principles of independence, complete equality, mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

The success of the revolution in any country depends on the ripeness of conditions for it

The main forces jeopardizing

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The five principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual

## REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH IN IRELAND

One in eight of the work force in the "Irish Free State" is officially unemployed, according to figures released in August which showed 160,760 out of work. There are now twice as many Irish workers looking for jobs as there were three years ago, and the jobless level has risen by 26% in the past year alone. The Irish government has cynically taken its cue from the Thatcher government and held out the carrot of jobs for the unemployed providing that the employed take greater cuts in their real wages, i.e. cuts in both wages and social benefits like health care or recreational facilities.

### Youth Defiant

As in Britain, young people have been particularly hard hit by unemployment; people under 25 account for 30% of the total unemployed. But, hard though their lives are, that does not

mean that they are without hope or that they accept their situation. Many know that the root cause of their unemployment is Britain's domination of their partitioned country, a domination which has shaped their country's economy to the service of foreign imperialists.

That is why there is a strong nationalist sentiment among them as was shown by a recent opinion poll among unemployed youths in Dublin - no less than 23% regarded the Provisional IRA as "a good organisation". The significance of this is heightened when allowance is made for the deluge of anti-Republican propaganda in the "Free State" media designed to produce precisely the opposite idea, and the censorship of Republican views - under Section 31 of the 1976 Broadcasting Act, Sinn Fein is specifically excluded from access to the television and radio, and interviews with its

spokespeople are banned.

During last year's Hunger Strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh, youth such as these played a big part in marches and other activities in support of the hunger strikers and they fought back vigorously against the Gardai (police). Thus, the various threads of struggle against British imperialist domination of Ireland are being woven together, making those involved more and more clearly conscious of the necessity of fighting for the Republican goal of an independent 32-county democratic socialist republic. The forces which can drive Britain out of Ireland are gathering strength and the growth of revolutionary forces amongst the unemployed youth in the "Free State" gives an assurance of the continuing vigour and power of republicanism in the fight which still lies before it.

## Nightmare Orange

"Class Struggle" is very pleased to print the following poem, submitted to it by Danny Ryan. Danny Ryan is a veteran fighter for Irish freedom. He lived in Britain for 20 years, and was deported under the "Prevention of Terrorism Act". He now lives in Dublin. His poem illustrates the non-sectarian nature of Irish Republicanism.

The joyless loyalist dour in his shell  
Knows little of heaven, even less of the joys of hell;  
Besashed patriot whose empty little life  
Stirs only to Lambeg Drum and sectarian strife.

His claims to an empire, whose time's long past  
Alone, abandoned flag nailed to the wrong mast.  
Surveys the wasteland, calls this all his own,  
Dreams of past Glory, loyalty to an alien crown.

No Falklands Hero he, unloved, unwanted and unfree  
Servile lackey, unfortunate prisoner of history.  
Expendable, isolated, deadweight and alone  
Mouths frantic loyalty to a foreign throne.

What future now, what's the assembly's role?  
This NIGHTMARE where all are equal, on the dole.  
Sectarianism between Taig and Prod now must be laid.  
The problem's the same, the rent must be paid.

So all that was glory now is past  
Anglo promises now cannot last.  
Can it be only now to Dublin we turn,  
The bitter reality we now must learn.

To hell with past glory and paeans of liberty.  
To survive the path, though thorny, is Unity.  
Reject if we must that crown that does not care  
And with fellow Irishmen take our share.

There's little to pick twist Garret an' Charlie or  
Ian or Jim.  
they are all of an ilk, for freedom is a precious thing.  
Far too much blood has watered the Liberty Tree  
So we'll unite with our neighbours and at last be free.

Now about this Republic, they're rascals all  
If we get together ..... Dawn.

For Tony and Dymphna 21.7.82

# FREEDOM FOR IRELAND



## EAMON BRADLEY: FREEDOM FIGHTER



VOL EAMON BRADLEY

On Wednesday, 25th August a British Army death squad shot down unarmed IRA volunteer Eamon Bradley in Derry City.

Eamon "Broncho" Bradley, a 23-year-old ex-H-block blanket man was walking home, having just left a public bar with his friend Paul "Sammy" McCool, when a Brit grabbed Paul by the arm and ordered him to "stand there." Paul McCool reported, "Broncho was still walking. Next thing there was a shot and it looked to me as if Broncho was shot in the leg because he crumpled up and let out a roar. At that stage the Brit pushed me back and I couldn't see Broncho any more - and then I heard two more shots.

"When I saw him again he lay crouched on the ground, not moving. Three Brits were standing in the car park bringing their weapons down as from the firing position. The Brits left him lying there, concerned only to rope off the area and keep people away.

"They didn't try to administer first aid or get an ambulance. Bobby Sheerin, the barman, came on the scene and ordered an ambulance and covered Broncho with a coat."

Interviewed by 'An Phoblacht/Republican News', Bobby Sheerin, the barman at the Shantallow House where Eamon and Paul had been playing cards, reported that: "In the alleyway between the pub and the bookies I could see a man lying crumpled up.

"When I tried to go down the alleyway to help him a Brit stopped me. When I explained I was trying to help a man who was possibly injured, the Brit said to me 'mind your own fucking business'. I went round the other side of the pub but was stopped by another Brit.

"Then Sammy (Paul McCool) called out, 'Bobby, they've shot Broncho!' At this point I forced my way past the Brit and went down to Broncho, lifting him up, but he was already dead, half the back portion of his skull was missing."

The Brits and their servile lackeys the RUC were full of themselves after the murder of Eamon Bradley and the arrest of 32 Nationalists on the word of an informer, but had the wind knocked out of their sails by the vigorous response of the youth who took to the streets to fight imperialism, and by the appearance of four IRA Volunteers prior to Eamon's funeral.

As 'AP/RN' reported, "Suddenly, the crowd broke ranks. Four uniformed and masked IRA Volunteers - three carrying revolvers and one giving commands - took position alongside Eamon's coffin and fired a three-volley salute to their fallen comrade.

"Loud and peeling cheers followed, now a traditional gesture from the nationalist people, reflecting support for the armed struggle, defiance against British imperialism and respect for those who have given their lives. As suddenly as they had originally appeared, the volunteers then faded into a protective sea of people which closed around them."

At the funeral the next day veteran Derry republican Sean Keenan delivered the oration:

"Eamon Bradley was a dedicated Volunteer of the Irish Republic-

an Army, totally committed to the struggle to remove British troops and Britain's imperial domination of Ireland. Eamon had no illusions of the severity and the dangers of that struggle. As a soldier, as a blanket man, he had first-hand experience of the viciousness and ruthlessness of the enemy and yet their ferocity never cowed him but lent strength and determination to his belief in a new Ireland."

Sean Keenan also hailed the brave and resourceful people of Derry when, to great and jubilant applause, he proclaimed:

"I must pay tribute to the risen people of Derry at a time when events such as last week have been perpetrated against our people. You have turned out in your thousands to pay homage to Volunteer Eamon Bradley but also to shout defiance to our enemy. Republicans are more determined now, in spite of the snake-in-the-grass informer who tried and thought that he could break the Republican Movement in Derry.

"Today we will throw the message back in their teeth - that the fight goes on and we will be victorious!"

"Class Struggle" salutes the memory of Volunteer Eamon Bradley, and extends its condolences to his family and friends, to his comrades in the Derry Brigade of the IRA, and to the nationalist people of Derry.



THIS wall mural in Derry to the H-Block hunger-striker Eamon 'Broncho' Bradley, assassinated by the British army.

## Message from Hunger Striker's Mother

"Class Struggle" is very pleased to be able to print the following message from Mrs Peggy O'Hara to the Irish Solidarity Movements in Britain. Mrs O'Hara is the mother of Patsy O'Hara, the fourth of the prisoners of war who died on hunger strike last year in the struggle to win political status. Mrs O'Hara sent the message (for distribution) to the Glasgow Irish Freedom Action Committee (GIFAC) on 23rd July of this year.

To all who gather in my son's name I want you to know that it is a great source of consolation and pride that you should choose to remember and commemorate the first anniversary of the deaths in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh. It softens the bitterness in my heart to know that there are some people in England and Scotland who know enough of Irish history to make them understand why my dear son Patsy and his comrades had to die on Hunger-Strike. Patsy's suffering and death and my suffering with him has given me a free mind and an open eye which helps me to bear an aching heart. I realise that the mass of the British working class are as oppressed as the people of Ireland though in different scenarios.

Repression in Britain itself is nowadays more secretive, subtle and sophisticated (they haven't even used plastic bullets yet), but the politically unaware masses are so brainwashed that they are blind to the real causes of their misery. It is bad enough to be a slave but to be in love with your slave-master is the final degradation. That thought came to me as I recently watched the adulation poured on Prince Charles with his income of millions every year. The sight of the jobless and the dispossessed cheering and flag-waving, not knowing where their next day's dinner was coming from

was to me a very depressing sight.

It brought to mind that chapter in Irish history when in 1848 Queen Victoria came to visit Ireland, after she and her overlords had contrived and engineered the genocide of the Irish people, letting two million die in the guise of what is called the 'potato famine'; when the boney, wretched beings who were the survivors lined the roads as her coach passed by, waving and bowing to her. Yes, we still have those kind of poor slaves in Ireland too. But my son and his comrades refused to be a slave and the powers-that-be in England don't let his kind of people live.

I loathe to mention the name of Maggie Thatcher and I'll say no more, for my thoughts of her are unspeakable. As for the Hierarchy of the churches, they are very much a part of this charade that poses as democracy. I am mindful at this moment of Cardinal Hume who accused my son and his comrades of committing suicide, but he told the lambs that were led to the slaughter in the Falklands that it was a "just war". In my mind their deaths were morally closer to suicide. The only "just war" is where people fight to drive a foreigner oppressor off their own native soil. My son was part of this "just war" and for that I make no apology. I hope Patsy's memory will go on being a source of inspiration to those who are striving to create a better kind of society in this world and to those who are fighting for the freedom of Ireland.

Yours in solidarity,  
Peggy O'Hara  
Derry

# BUILDING AN IRELAND SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT

The current stage of the war between the oppressed Irish people and British imperialism is in its 13th year. This war has seen a steady stream of brutalities directed against the Irish people, including 13 unarmed civilians murdered on Bloody Sunday in Derry in 1972, the murder of 14 people (7 of them children) by plastic bullets, and the blinding and maiming of hundreds of others, plus the brutal murder of 10 hunger strikers last year. The British state has established concentration camps where it has interned people without trial, or sent them via no-jury courts. And there is the daily misery, harassment and oppression that is a part of foreign rule.

Throughout this period the Irish people have fought back courageously, but with very little support from the British working class movement. Indeed, the Labour and Trade Union leaderships have been bitter enemies of the Irish people. Attempts to build an Ireland Solidarity Movement have tended to degenerate into liberal pressure groups

trying to make the ruling class be "more reasonable", rather than militant anti-imperialist organisations that direct their work to the real friends of the Irish people in this country, the working class and the oppressed.

### WIDESPREAD SUPPORT

Over the last year, the North and South London Irish Solidarity Committees have found that widespread support exists amongst the working class for the struggle of the Irish people. Many thousands have signed a petition calling for self-determination for the Irish people and the immediate withdrawal of British troops. Successful public meetings, street meetings and demonstrations have been held.

### VITAL SIGNIFICANCE

The struggle in Ireland is of vital significance for the British working class. Karl Marx pointed out long ago,

"After occupying myself with the Irish question for many

years I have come to the conclusion that the decisive blow against the English ruling class ... cannot be delivered in England but only in Ireland." (Emphasis in original)

Firstly, the struggle of the Irish people undermines the main enemy of the British working class, the British imperialists. The national liberation movements of the oppressed nations are the main force in the world fighting against exploitation and oppression. And the Irish people's struggle brings that advanced form of revolutionary struggle - people's war - right into the heart of Western Europe where it holds a dagger to the throat of the British ruling class. Every day the heroic struggle of the Irish people and their Republican leadership gives a powerful lesson to the British working class on how to fight British imperialism: a lesson that is already clearly being learnt by the most oppressed sections of the working class, in particular the youth led by the black youth.

The North and South London Irish

Solidarity Committees have been meeting success in their work precisely because they direct themselves to those oppressed sections of the working class who see the British state and the British ruling class as their enemy, and who take heart from defeats inflicted on that enemy.

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Building on that success, and noting that principled solidarity committees are springing up around the country, the two Committees are calling a one-day National Conference on "Building an Irish Solidarity Movement" on Saturday, 20th November. It has already received a number of sponsorships, including those of the Revolutionary Communist League, Revolutionary Communist Group, Wolfe Tone Cummann of Sinn Fein, Plaid Cymru MP Daffyd Ellis Thomas, Irish POW Gerry McLochlainn, Glasgow Irish Freedom Action Committee, South London Troops Out Movement, Bradford Irish

Solidarity Committee, Tyneside Action Committee on Ireland and Mosquito Press. Speakers will include relatives of Irish prisoners of war, Alastair Logan, solicitor for Irish prisoners of war, and David Reed, author of "The Communist Tradition on Ireland". There will be sessions on solidarity with the Irish Revolution, Prisoners, the Prevention of Terrorism Act, Police Harassment and Democratic Rights. There will be opportunities for different points of view in the solidarity movement to be debated, and for local reports. The Conference Organisers expect it to be a major step on the road to building a principled solidarity movement in Britain, which is in itself a vital step in building a revolutionary working class movement.

The Conference is from 9.15-5.30 at Caxton House, Archway, London N.19. Delegate's fee is £2.50 or £1 for unwaged. For further details please contact: NLISC, BM Box 4835, London WC1N 3XX.