

Red Action 10p

April 82

THATCHER -

Enemy Of The Unemployed



IF you're on the dole in Thatcher's Britain, waiting for a job that's never going to come, and getting paid a pittance, there's worse to come. The Government is going to tax your benefit, while rich parasites in the City earn enormous fortunes and indulge in massive tax rackets. Ordinary working people on the dole through no fault of their own are being given a kick up the backside by being told to pay tax on the dole, and being called scroungers at the same time!

If you're black, then things are going to be even worse. The government is going to start asking people about their ethnic background, or more precisely, about the colour of their skin.

Overworked and understaffed dole staff are going to be told to make a 'visual assessment' of people's background, or give them a card listing different race groupings. The claimant will then be asked to say which group they consider they belong to.

This check will also apply to black people born and bred in this country. Names and addresses gained from all this will be stored on a computer. It does not take much imagination

to figure out that the police could use this information to nick people, carry out raids, or use for identification purposes, like after last summer's riots.

You may, if you're not black, also say "well it doesn't affect me so I couldn't care less," but the Government has also put the boot in for others on the dole. A new scheme called 'availability testing' is going to be introduced in October.

This is intended to make it even harder to claim benefit by laying down far stricter conditions about the type of work they want to do.

This means that if you refuse to do some horrible, low paid job, your dole may be cut off.

What the Tories really want to do is to force people into taking any kind of job regardless of wages. This would both reduce the unemployment figures and help the bosses by giving them cheap labour.

The Tories have not, of course, asked the filthy rich capitalists who do no work and live off the backs of those who do about their availability for work.

This system, whether it is run by Tory or Labour governments, needs unemployment. This is so workers can be made so scared of the dole that they won't fight for better wages and working conditions.

Mass unemployment and low wages for those in work is the only way that the system can get out of the present crisis.

This is also why dole office workers, and other people like the nurses have been offered next to no pay rise this year - Tory priorities are exactly the same explanation for making the unemployed take any rotten job at £25 a week.

Dole staff and claimants are fighting the same battle and the same enemy, although if you're signing on it may not seem that way. If you're on the dole, then join the Claimants Union - you can get their address through your local Citizens Advice Bureau. Support the work of the Right to Work Campaign.

Smash the race checks by re-

fusing to fill in their ethnic monitoring forms, perhaps occupy your local dole in protest.

Get hold of the union rep at the dole office and demand to know what he or she is doing about these attacks on the unemployed.

And what is left of the welfare state is steadily demolished, unemployed workers



RACE CHECKS THREATEN BLACKS.

must get together and start fighting. In the first place against the attacks, but eventually against a rotten system that has thrown more than three million people out of work.

Bradford Frame-Up

Later this month, 26th April 12 Asian youths from Bradford, will be appearing in court, with the threat of very heavy prison sentences hanging over their heads. The twelve are charged with conspiracy to make explosive substances (petrol bombs) for an unlawful purpose, and making and explosive substance with intent to endanger life and property.

However, the only 'crime' these youths have committed was to organise themselves into a group - United Black Youth League - with the purpose of defending themselves and their community from gangs of racist and fascist thugs. The Police as usual ever so keen to harass and intimidate black militants, decided to crack down on this organisation. Last July, if you remember, was the time that Britain's major cities were ablaze with the riots. It was on 10 July that the police 'found' a crate of petrol bombs on some wasteground.

(Bradford at the time was very quiet, apart from the fascist attacks on the Asian community). The police kept an eye on their 'find' but, surprise, surprise, no-

one turned up the use them. Now the police had a field day - dawn raids, houses ransacked, youngsters dragged away for lengthy interrogation.

After being denied access to solicitors, and two days of intensive interrogation the police got their way. The 12 made voluntary statements, which will be vigorously challenged in court. The trial begins on Monday 26 April, and there will be a picket of the court on that day. The right of these youths to organise the defence of their community must be supported.

On Saturday 3 April there is a national demonstration for the Bradford 12 RED ACTION will be there and we urge you to come along.



Assisting Police with their enquiries -

Eight Anti Fascists Jailed

ON 8 December 1981, eight members of Manchester Anti-Nazi League were jailed for periods of six months to fifteen months for allegedly being in possession of offensive weapons whilst seeking out political opponents in Rochdale.

The truth is that the comrades went to Rochdale at the request of a female member of the student section of the Socialist Workers Party who was being harassed and intimidated by Nazi thugs at her home in Rochdale and at the bar in which she worked.

In response to a telephone call for help from 'Michelle Mole,' a group of people went to Rochdale in order to protect their comrade from the attacks by fascists. The van in which they were travelling was intercepted by the police in Rochdale and the comrades were

later charged with a very serious offence which was dropped in court but they were convicted of possession of offensive weapons.

One of the main planks of the prosecution case was that they were an organised left wing hit squad - instead of

committed socialists who were prepared to stand up to fascist violence and intimidation. The attitude of some left political parties (SWP and RCP) was that these people were as bad if not worse than the state was alleging. Since the comrades went to jail a defence fund has been set up to look after the families financially and also to help pay the rents of other comrades.

Donations and further information available from Rochdale 8 Defence Fund, c/o Crossroads Bookshop, 1, Newton St. Manchester.

ON the evening of the Anti NF demonstration in Rochdale, a joint picket was held at a cinema showing a film called 'The Rape.' This picket was supported by Red Action, the Irish Republican Socialist Party, Sinn Fein, Manchester Polytechnic Women's Group and the Revolutionary Gay Caucus. The next week Red Action called a picket of the same cinema and we successfully distributed leaflets and persuaded some filmgoers to boycott the cinema. Then on Friday 26 February supporters of Red Action, whilst the police were warning the cinema of possible trouble that evening, due to a Reclaim the Night march, destroyed the screen (whilst the film was being shown) by hurling red paint over it.



MAYDAY IS WORKERS DAY

ASSEMBLE 12 NOON, TOWER HILL FOR MARCH TO VICTORIA PARK.

A VIOLENT SOCIETY

WHO'S TO BLAME —

**SHOCK
REPORT**

YOU can't pick up a newspaper these days without reading something about our violent society. Muggings and street battles regularly hit the headlines in a sensational style that probably does no more than encourage those involved.

But it is when we look at what they call 'political violence' that we see the real paranoia of the media — the TV and press — or rather of the establishment, for the media are no more than their voice.

Think back to last summer's riots, and the alleged involvement of shadowy subversive groups at every trouble spot. Even in the recent case of the primary school in Toxteth, 'extremists' have been accused of being behind the actions of kids of ten or eleven.

Anyone who knows the left in Britain will know that any claim that they are powerful enough to organise such events is laughable; they were spontaneous outbursts, without any definite political aim.

But what should the attitude of socialists be towards violence? Is physical force a legitimate weapon for a movement committed to building a newer, non-violent society? The truth is that if we were in any of the places in the world where socialists are today fighting for their lives the question would answer itself.

that any talk of using all out organised force against the state is romantic nonsense. But when we look at fascist or racist organisations, there is a different picture. They are directly engaged in physical attacks on racial minorities and socialists, and it is not a situation we can afford to ignore.

History has shown us that fascism thrives and grows on the weakness and indecisiveness of its opponents. We say that any group being attacked or intimidated by fascists has the right to organise its defence in any way its members see fit, and that is the duty of socialists to support and assist these struggles.

In the end, the only long term solution to fascism is mass political action. But unless direct action is used to help build such a movement, we may end up being swept off the streets before it emerges.

Red action has been criticised from both left and right for supporting such actions. Such opinions worry us not one iota — experience has shown us that the mind of the fascist is the mind of the playground

'We may end up being swept off the streets'

In Britain, we are to some extent sheltered from systematic state brutality. True, individual cases of police brutality are many and rising, but the state has only used organised large scale violence on odd occasions, the Grunwick picket line, or at Southall in 1979 or Brixton last year.

This is certainly not due to any benevolence on their part, you only have to look as far as Belfast or Derry to see the extent of violence that the British state is capable of when it gets threatened. On mainland Britain, however, the state does not feel directly under threat from political forces and so allows relative freedom.

They are so well in control

bully. If they go away bruised, they don't come back so quickly.

And while we are on the subject of violence, we should perhaps remind ourselves of where the real violence in society lies. Think of the respectable people in smart suits who sit behind desks and sign papers to cut hospital funds, knowing that every year, people die for want of kidney machines. The sort of people who keep old age pensions too low while thousands die every winter of hypothermia, the same sort of people who cheerfully decide that no new houses will be built while millions rot in slums. That is the real violence we are fighting against — fighting in every way we can.

THE police and the media have pulled off a successful propaganda coup. They have managed to produce — or invent — distorted statistics to 'prove' that their prejudices were sound all along. Black people mug white people.

At a time when the racist 'colour chart' on those claiming dole or Social Security is being introduced and as the equally racist and vindictive Nationality Bill is about to come before Parliament, the British establishment have contrived to 'prove' that these measures are necessary.

According to Scotland Yard, 10,399 London "crimes of violence" in 1981 were committed by blacks compared to 4,967 by whites.

What justification is there for publishing separate figures for people with different coloured skin? It would be more useful to report that 99% of these offences were perpetrated by

males. But that does not suit their purpose.

The fact is that this is no more than a Goebbels-style propaganda exercise.

The establishment own the country and run it as they please. They pull the puppet and purse-strings of Prime Ministers and cabinets. They own big business and the media and pay well those prepared to help them keep their stranglehold.

DISTORTION

They pay their judges to interpret their law in their favour and their journalists working in their media to saturate us with their whims, irrelevances and distortions. They employ their police to uphold their laws and their army to protect their system from would-be usurpers from within the country or abroad.

Their police produced these crime figures so that their media could gleefully throw their 'assessment' at us. Wit-

ness the *Daily Mail* reaction: "Black muggers now terrorising parts of London — frightened and frail white prisoners of urban ghettos."

The *News at Ten* coverage of the story was five minutes the National Front would be proud to use as their party political broadcast. It had 'white victims' and 'black muggers' in abundance together with a white man volunteering to start a vigilante force in Brixton.

The establishment need scapegoats to blame for unemployment, bad housing and all the failures of their system. They are trying to inflame the prejudices of ordinary people — prejudices carefully nurtured by the right-wing media over the years — so as to isolate and terrorise the black working-class.

Yet it was they who brought large numbers of black people here to fill jobs they can no longer provide. Their system has no use any more for what they regard as 'surplus labour' so it wants to discharge as

many people as it can.

Using propaganda campaigns like this, they hope to minimise opposition to their inhuman Nationality Bill as a first step on the way to putting black people in a position where they can be herded at will as they were herded here in the first place.

Listen to Tory MP Ivor Stanbrook: "In the face of overwhelming evidence that instant crime has grown, the government has a duty to reconsider its immigration policy."

REACTION

White workers should beware. If the establishment could possibly hope to build up similar public reaction to enable them to put you in a similar position, have no illusions. They would do so. The perpetual Press campaign against Trade Unions is a step in that direction.

REMEMBER BLAIR PEACH 1946-79

On April 23rd 1979 Blair Peach was battered to death in a quiet street in Southall. The murderer was an officer of the Special Patrol Group. In spite of the massive cover up that fact had to be admitted even by the police.

Blair came to England in 1969 from New Zealand and took his first teaching job at Phoenix School in East London. He remained there until his death ten years later. He was an active member of the N.U.T. and was president of East London Teachers Association from 1978-79. Blair was a committed socialist and dedicated to fighting racism and fascism. It was because of these commitments that he went to Southall on the night that he was murdered. In 1979 the National Front were making a massive effort to win success at the ballot box. They stood candidates in every area possible and the few days preceding Blair's death had seen demonstrations in Islington, Wembley, and Leicester where thousands of people had come out onto the streets to show their opposition to the Nazis. In Leicester the N.F. had been severely routed by anti fascists and the police had lost control of the situation. In Southall they were determined to show who was boss.

The N.F. had decided to hold an election meeting at the Town Hall in an area which had a large black and Asian community. The community came out onto the streets in protest. Many anti



fascists went to Southall to support the community and for the sake of protecting a few stinking Nazis the police turned out in force including several units of the S.P.G. Hundreds of anti fascists were arrested and almost as many more suffered severe injuries at the hands of the police. It isn't just enough to mourn Blair's death but it is more important to understand why he died. He died because the forces of the State had to prove that they were the masters. That socialism and the spontaneous uprising of an oppressed community is a much bigger threat to capitalism than fascism ever will be. We have already seen from the uprisings of

last summer what the State will do to those who dare to protest. The Anti Fascist movement has gone into decline while the nazis grow. To all those who loved Blair Peach and who knew him and to all those who may not have known him but understand what he died for we say don't mourn, mobilise before it is too late, for the State has already made racism respectable with the Nationality Bill, race checks at Dole offices, hospitals and schools, and allows to go free the fascists responsible for the Deptford fire massacre, the Khan murders and thousands of racist attacks. What we must not forget was that on April 23rd 1979 the police rioted in Southall the ultimate consequence of that riot was the death of Blair Peach.



Southall-April '79



SUBSCRIBE TO RED ACTION

We hope you enjoyed this second issue of Red Action. If you saw the first, you'll see that it is properly printed and typeset, and have more than doubled the amount of copy.

We think there's a place for Red Action. The first issue nearly sold out of a 1000 print run, and we think this one will sell even better.

You can help us by taking out a subscription. That makes it easier for us to budget or plan ahead.

Send us a cheque or Postal Order for £5 and get the next 12 issues posted to your door.

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POLICE FOR HANGING

The police and the press are in full cry for the return of the rope. They are using the killings of two policemen, and Scotland Yard's fraudulent crime figures as an excuse for a full scale law and order crusade.

The death penalty, so the argument goes, is the only way to deal with murder, anything less will not act as a deterrent. This argument comes from very intelligent and aware people, and yet it is clearly wrong.

In America, over 150 people await the electric chair at Raiford prison in Florida. Although there has been no executions there since 1979, it is only a matter of time before there are more. Yet, despite the death penalty, Miami is one of the world's most violent cities.

Here in England, the number of murders actually went down last year.

So what is going on? If the death penalty doesn't deter, and murders are actually getting fewer, who do so many prominent people want it back?

The answer is that it forms part of a general offensive by the far right on British politics. These kind of issues are of no importance for the economic future of this country, and yet they play a key part in getting people to accept the status quo.

The death penalty helps convince people that the state, which has the right to

take someone's life, is an independent body above the normal quarrels in society.

In fact of course it is nothing of the kind. It is noticeable how many people think people who kill policemen should be hanged, but rather fewer think about what should be done to the policemen who killed Blair Peach, Jimmy Kelly, Liddle Towers and others.

It is the sort of issue that makes people think that there are easy solutions to problems — if someone is a murderer, then hang him and that'll be the end of it.

In the real world, things don't work like that. Most murders are committed by people who know each other well, in private homes. The worst time is Saturday night. Suddenly a quarrel takes place and someone is dead.

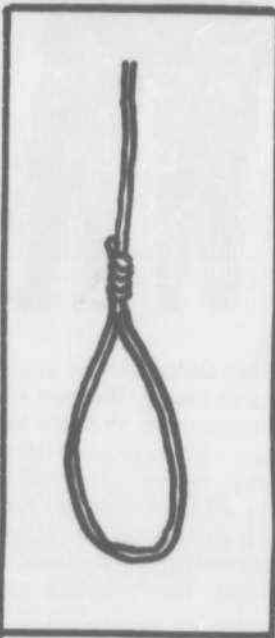
Mostly, people were living miserable lives, perhaps on the dole or in some slum housing, a quarrel develops, and something snaps.

Socialists should fight any attempt to bring back the death penalty — even its backers want it more because of its effect on people's minds than because it will deter murder.

It's the same with the



But what about Police Brutality?



Tory MPs who want to bring back the birch, demand compulsory religious teaching in schools, and oppose abortion. What they want is to turn the spectrum of political debate to the right, to try and create a climate of fear among people that would make them more responsive to Tory ideas and Tory policies.

It is after all, easier to reply to soaring crime rates by demanding stiffer sentences than by curing the roots of crime.

For that would mean getting rid of slums and unemployment and poverty, and the Tories are hardly going to do that.

Oi! What's This About Then?

THE Nazis reckon tomorrow belongs to them, but one thing's for certain, tomorrow belongs to us. *Red Action* reports on the latest Nazi lies.

If you've been unlucky enough to read the Young National Front's *Bullshit*, you might have laughed your way through the 'Rock Against Communism Section. (Quick history lesson). Rock Against Communism was the NF's answer to the hugely successful Rock Against Racism.

The Nazis managed to put on one (!) gig in London, 'starring' White Boss and Skrewdriver which attracted a small crowd of mass murderers and other such music lovers. After this unsuccessful outing into the world of pop they collapsed, and returned to goose-stepping around the front room to the sound of military marching bands.

The success of RAR in the late seventies included three massive carnivals, hundreds of

local gigs, and a full scale UK tour with the Ruts, Aswad, Upstarts, Stiff Little Fingers and the Specials. It obviously worried the master race, who launched a campaign of attacks on gigs. They couldn't get the music to work for them so they tried to kill it.

But the youth conned by the Nazis into doing such dirty work got a shock when they were bounced out of dance halls across the country. And what better answer to Nazi attacks than when The Specials jumped off stage (at Uxbridge) and led the attack on the siegheliars themselves.

Nowadays, we can only read about their fantasies. Nazis are always claiming that this or that band supports them — but it's all a load of bollocks! They



Whose game is it anyway?

SOCCKER fans like to think they know a lot about their team. In fact we pride ourselves on knowing about past victories and defeats both on and off the pitch! But there is one area we don't usually know much about though, and that's the Board of Directors.

Imagine a football quiz that shows how many companies a soccer director has his fingers in! This type of thing is rarely talked about, why? The truth is that soccer is big business and so its none of *our* business. All we've got to do is keep shelling out what little money we have to keep this scam in business.

Soccer is supposed to be in a crisis, but you can be sure that the scam who run it would ditch it tomorrow if there weren't still money to be had. They blame the crisis on the 'hooligans' who get drunk on the beer they earn millions of pounds from in advertising.

What we want to know is where all this money goes. If things were as they should be, there would be sports fields and sports complexes all over the place, paid for by the money we have contributed over the years. As it is, kids still play soccer without proper kit and very few amateur teams have their own pitch.

That's the real crisis in soccer; the rich want our money and our support but will never return the favour. The sports fields and nationwide improvements in facilities will

only come when we fight for them.

There's another point too. Two pounds to see a first division match is too much if you're on the dole. So why don't clubs offer reduced admission on production of a dole card?

This was a point taken up in Leeds by members of the Anti Nazi League who raised a massive petition at Elland Road, calling for half price admission for the unemployed.

Among other things, it really showed up the local nazis, who were busy muttering about blacks and Jews rather than being concerned about unemployed football fans.

Football is like the rest of society. It is run to suit those who own it. That means that changes will come in spite of those who run things at the moment, because change is not in their interests, they're doing very nicely thank you.

And the next time you hear anyone whining about democracy or law and order or some such, or slagging off 'football hooligans,' just ask them who elected the directors of Spurs, or Arsenal, or Manchester



United, or any other team.

The answer is no one, least of all the fans that pay the bills. In the 1950's, a great England winger, Len Shackleton of Sunderland, wrote a

book about football. Below it was a blank page.

That might explain why Shackleton never played as many times for England as he deserved.

say that Siouxi and the Banshees love to entertain hoards of young Nazis... what rubbish! Siouxi has made a point of condemning fascism publicly.

The Clash and The Specials often feature in the *Bulldog* Top Ten, but there are hardly any other bands who have been so consistently anti racist and anti nazi.

Anyway, jokes aside, the point is this. We all like our own music, but whatever you like, punk, reggae, heavy metal, disco or whatever, just remember that it doesn't fit in to the NF master plan. Fascism, apart from anything else, is about law, order and discipline, and obedience to the boss. NF founder John Tyn-dall, and now fuhrer of his own New National Front had this to say about today's music: "The attack on our mental processes by the throbbing beat of the jungle drum blasting from radios and discotheques that serves to hypnotise millions

into unthinking masses..." (!!!)

However, it must be admitted that a bigger threat to militant working class music comes from the parasites who own the music business. The promoters and record companies who are only in it for the money. Look at trendy Virgin Records. They spent a fortune buying one of the Virgin Islands in the Pacific to build a luxury hideaway and recording studio. They despise the very people they make their money out of. That sort of money should really be used for providing more venues for gigs, cheap rates for the unemployed, and recording facilities for small unknown bands.

STOP PRESS
Getting stuck in... London Red Action will soon be holding a gig with Oi! bands as a benefit for building workers who can't get work because of the bosses blacklist. Militant socialist politics and militant working class music. More Details in next month's *Red Action*.

Join Red Action!

If you agree with what you've just read, why not join us? Or perhaps you'd just like to know about where we stand on other political issues. Alternatively, you might disagree with something in the paper. Whatever, happens, write and let Red Action know

Name

Address

IRELAND'S HIDDEN HISTORY

IRELAND in 1916 was the weak link in the imperialist chain. In the previous 120 years there had been no less than six major uprisings against British rule. Red Action looks at when Ireland's workers rose.

Dublin in 1913 saw one of the longest and bitterest struggles in the history of the trade union movement. The Irish factory owners saw that homerule was a real possibility, and so they tried to smash the unions while they still had the strength of the British state behind them. They were afraid that an independent would lead to a weak Irish state and so help the confidence and aspirations of the working class people.

The bosses declared a lock out. It was violent and bloody and lasted for eight months. With more help from British unions, the dispute could have been won. But even then, union leaders were more afraid of their own members than they were of losing a fight, and their refusal to bring British workers out in sympathy led to the Irish workers getting demoralised, and eventually defeated.



But three years later, James Connolly led the Irish Citizens Army, with some support from the nationalists, onto the streets of Dublin in yet another attempt to free Ireland from the British.

Although they didn't know it, Britain's hour was a hand in most of Ireland. Civil war had broken out in 1922 and red flags were flying in the working class districts of Cork. Irish people were split. Some supported compromise with the British, mainly big businessmen, while the republicans favoured continuing the fight.

Today, Ireland is still a headache for Britain's rulers. The 26 county state in the South is in deep economic trouble with the export drive of the seventies quickly evaporating. And



Their support lay among the small middle class, small farmers, and sections of the workers.

When it came to the crunch, the British were prepared to allow a token, ineffectual freedom to 26 of Ireland's 32 Counties in order to head off any moves by republicans or socialists to turn a struggle into one between classes.

The spectre of Petrograd in 1917 was still strong, and in Britain itself, workers militancy was reaching new heights — even the police went on strike in 1919! The last thing the British wanted was a revolutionary state on their own doorstep.

despite all attempt at crushing them, the nationalist people in the six North Easternmost counties remain unbroken and defiant.

Unemployment is growing both North and South. In the South, two elections in under a year have produced hung parliaments. But the rise of one small group, Sinn Fein the Workers Party, serves only to mislead Irish workers. They should look at how this group sold out the oppressed people in the North, murdering many good socialists along the way.

The crisis on both sides of the border is combining with continuing oppression to create increased polarisation. The

Southern ruling class has been the most confident and secure in Europe since the setting up of the border in 1922, yet they now face riots in the streets and an angry alienated youth who are prepared to support the struggle in the North.

This instability worries the British ruling class too. That is why there are periodic secret talks with the Irish counter parts so as to leave the door open for a future sell out of the war — and the loyalists.



They understand the importance of Ireland. We must also. No matter what we would like to see, we have to accept things as they really are. The truth is that the Irish Republican Army and Irish National Liberation Army are fighting for Irish freedom. Their armalites are aimed at the jugular vein of the British state — the occupied North East corner of Ireland. If Britain were to be forced out of Ireland, then it would be a victory for British workers as well. This is because it would weaken the British state, which is our own enemy.

The defeat of the British would also weaken the Protestant ruling class in the North East, and the Catholic one in the rest of Ireland, it could give Irish workers the chance to finish the job started in 1916.

Ireland is still a weak link in the chain. A fusion of the military war in the North with the economic and political struggles of workers in the South would create a force that would be unstoppable — a movement of workers fighting for the socialist republic.

El Salvador-Reagan's Vietnam

THE butcher of El Salvador is coming to Britain. US president Ronald Reagan, who backs the right wing government in El Salvador, has even said he will address Parliament, presumably so Thatcher can learn a thing or two from him.

El Salvador is a tiny country in Central America, which is

entirely owned by 'Los catorce,' Spanish for the fourteen. This is because just fourteen families own everything in the Country.

They survive because Reagan is supplying them with arms to help them suppress the popular guerrillas, who are trying to overthrow the regime, get rid of los catorce, and set up a democratic society.

When Reagan said he would address Parliament, there was

an outcry. This wasn't because of El Salvador — it was because he jumped the gun and announced it before Thatcher could do so. This made Thatcher seem like a mere puppet of Reagan. Labour MP also whined about not being consulted. One even went on TV and moaned about 'parliamentary procedure' and such like. Not one word about the massacres of peasants in El Salvador.

Red Action thinks it is disgraceful that this man is coming to England. However a Reagan welcoming committee has been set up to let him know what British workers think of him and his policies. Perhaps also to let the brave people of El Salvador know that they have not been forgotten.



REAGAN RECEPTION DEMO

u.s. embassy — june 7th.5.30

parliament — june 8th.1pm

RED ACTION IN ACTION

ROCHDALE

On Saturday 27 February '82 60 NF scum marched for a mile in Rochdale. The march was deliberately kept secret by the NF leadership and James Anderton of Greater Manchester Police. Red Action was contacted by Rochdale ANL and asked to support a counter demo. Red Action arranged a coach and mobilised supporters to oppose the Nazis.

As usual the police had to drag the Nazis out of the pub so they could march. The usual Nazis from Manchester and a gang of local skinheads was the best the Front could pull out. Red Action and Anti Nazi League supporters harassed the march and one youth was arrested. However the large police presence backed up by the Tactical Aid Group was used to stop us getting near the NF march and rally. The Police even planted two 'demonstrators' with us but they soon disappeared when we told them who they were. Red Action then took up positions in the town centre where the fascists usually sell, and gave out over a thousand leaflets. Groups of Nazis began to straggle into the town centre but quickly disappeared when they found out that we were staying for the afternoon. They returned in a large group and when they were charged they fled to the security of their lackeys in the police station. We finished distributing our leaflets and were heading back to our coach when three Nazi scouts came to see where we were. Unfortunately for them they came too close and Red Action supporters dealt with them leaving one of them looking rather dishevelled in a crumpled heap. Red Action returned to Manchester.

GLASGOW

The recent Troops Out Movement march in Glasgow was supported by over 1000 people including five flute bands. It passed through areas where Loyalist support was supposedly strong, but it met with little opposition. The rally after was addressed by a Peoples Democracy councillor from Belfast. A social took place the night before the march where Red Action comrades had the chance to talk to Glasgow comrades. The Red Action comrades, who had travelled from Manchester, received a warm welcome.

HARROGATE

About twenty Red Action supporters took part in a demo to oust NF leader Brons from his job as a lecturer at the college of further education. Nearly 500 people marched through the town, opposed by about 40 Nazis from Leeds. The march ended in a picket of the main college building where Brons has taught for 11 years. He is obviously aware of the danger he faces, for he is always escorted home by some NF students who have enrolled at the college.

Following reports that Brons was lecturing elsewhere, Red Action led people to another building where they met the fascist gang and totally routed them. Steve Gaunt, the local NF organiser, had to flee to the protection of the police, and a number of fascists met with unfortunate accidents.

However two members of the Anti Nazi League were stabbed by a well known Leeds Nazi whose identity, however, is known to anti fascist activists.

ISLINGTON

NF Nazis are still trying to control Chapel Market. Recently, over thirty hoodlums were imported, mainly from South London, to try and frighten off the Anti Nazi League. But it didn't work! The ANL stayed! The following week, only eight nazis showed up, and a massive ANL presence meant that they daren't put in an appearance and so scuttled off with their tails between their legs.

Even when they do manage to have a presence at Chapel Market, they don't actually sell any of their poisonous rubbish. Years of patient work by the ANL, often in the face of hostility from local left wing groups, has shown up the nazis for what they are, and most local people want nothing to do with them. The last time a nazi stood for the Council, he got only 50 votes!

BRISTOL

Red Action is expanding! The latest city to set up a group is Bristol, where a number of people were fed up of local left wingers doing nothing about nazis or Ireland. On one occasion, several leaders of one party came down from London to give the Bristolians the line. It didn't work, and one who insulted Red Action comrades in London by calling them individual terrorists received a pint of beer over him.

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