WILDCATS IN THE UK!

Regular resistance readers will know that postal workers have been at the forefront of class struggle over the last year or so, with unofficial, wildcat strikes and sit-downs breaking out in offices the length and breadth of the Britain all last year. The posties in Liverpool showed why this is likely to carry on in 2001 when they came out in January over a sacking.

Initially 200 workers at the Copperas Hill sorting office held a sit-in strike (their second in less than six months) in response to the sacking on 15th January. The action escalated with 1000 posties, delivery and processing staff, operating a mass illegal picket on Tuesday morning.

Within two days the strike had spread to offices in Walton, Lark Lane, West Derby and Wavertree and by Thursday all deliveries in Liverpool had come to a standstill.

On Thursday night two posties in Crewe were suspended for refusing to handle mail from Liverpool, leading to a solidarity walk-out there too. Whilst condemning management bullying and intimidation, the Communications Workers Union Branch Secretary in Liverpool asked postal workers in other areas not to boycott re-directed mail, thereby attempting to prevent any escalation of the struggle. National union negotiators were called in and the posties returned to work on January 22nd after assurances were given that the individual disciplinary cases would be “dealt with” and a national review of the application of disciplinary procedures would take place at some point in the future.

What is certain is that the anger which fuelled the actions hasn’t diminished and the solidarity that exists on Merseyside and beyond guarantees this thing isn’t over by a long chalk. Watch this space.

TAXIS STRIKE

275 cabbies recently boycotted Gatwick Airport for 4 hours in a contract dispute with BAA, which may escalate in to an all out stoppage. It looks like this lot mean business, and are fully aware of the muscle that they have. Their spokesman didn’t mince his words saying, quite simply, that their bosses “...are totally relying on us to work for them. If we say no, there are no taxis”. A full on dispute at Britain’s second largest airport. Sounds good to us.

...AND IN FRANCE FIREFIGHTERS FIGHT FILTH WITH FOAM!

Some misguided individuals seem to think that firefighters are cut from the same cloth as the police. Beyond the uniforms and the military discipline, however, nothing could be further from the truth. When it comes to the class struggle the cops are on one side of the class divide, firefighters the other. A recent confrontation in the French city of Lille illustrates this clearly.

During a demonstration for improved working conditions firefighters were faced with the CRS, the much hated riot police. The firefighters responded to their provocative presence with a fusillade of foam, covering the cops with a layer of white goo. The CRS replied with smoke grenades, one of which maimed a demonstrator. Next time the firefighters take to the streets they should maybe think about using their high-powered hoses on the bastards.

LE MCSIKE

Macdonalds Workers in one Paris branch struck and occupied at Xmas and won a pay rise for all Macdonalds workers in France. Similar actions are spreading through the Pizza Hut chain in Paris. See adjacent article for news of Macdonalds Workers Resistance in the UK.

As we go to press an official strike on the London Underground has been declared illegal. The message is clear: to win workplace disputes workers need to take the initiative organise themselves to fight effectively. Fighting through official, legal channels usually guarantees defeat.

The anarchist black bloc parachute regiment encounters some teething problems

Tens of thousands turned out against the inauguration of George Dubya Bush, in Washington, Florida and Seattle. In Washington a large black banner with the words: ‘Class war for a classless, stateless society- autonomous resistance’ was at the head of the anarchist bloc.

More info from www.ainfos.ca
See also www.davos.indymedia.org for more riotous fun!

From ainfos:

‘MacDonalds Workers Resistance (MWR), is a non-hierarchical, independent workers’ organisations, run entirely by McDonalds employees. We hope to unite workers against the company we all love to hate, by countering their propaganda and encouraging resistance. As part of this, the Glasgow (Scotland) branch of the group have produced a workers’ paper called ‘McSues’ (McNews is the company’s rag) which voices our frustration at the dehumanising idiocy of our working lives, but is also a positive attempt to do something about it.

Where we have yet to make contact with other employees, we are writing to local groups with an interest in workplace organising, to request assistance. We would be very grateful to any groups who could possibly get some copies to workers at McDonalds’ restaurants in their area. If you think you might be able to help, then please reply to mwrposse@yahoo.co.uk. We would be delighted to send down a sample copy of ‘McSues’ and to answer any questions you might have.

McDonalds is the epitome of triumphantalist capitalism, arrogant and contemptuous of those who oppose it. It may soon be surprised; the workers united are more powerful than they can powerfully imagine!”

MWR
**The Trial Against the Chattanooga 3**

Arrested at a protest at city hall in downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA, finally resulted in convictions of each defendant. They now face 6-18 months in prison. Lorenzo Komboa Ervin, Damon McGee, and Mikial Musa Muhammad, activists with the Black Autonomy-COPWATCH group in Chattanooga, were arrested on for leading a crowd of over 100 Black protesters, irate over the deaths of two Black men killed by Chattanooga police officers. Local officials sought to punish Ervin and the other activists for this with criminal charges. Thus the Chattanooga 3 (C3) case was born. During the trial a police provocateur, only know publicly as “Omar” was encouraged by the Sheriff’s deputies to bring a gun and ammunition into the court, implying that he was part of a conspiracy with the Defendants to disrupt the trial. Omar was never arrested for bringing the ammunition and gun to court, and it now appears that this incident may be the basis of another prosecution, one charging the Defendants with being engaged in a conspiracy to disrupt the proceedings and smuggle guns into the courtroom.

If the prosecutors do so, the C3 would be felony charges for conspiracy (5-8 years in prison), and for bringing firearms into a courtroom (7-10 years in prison). This secret police use of undercover operatives to frame activists is how the Black Panther Party and other organizations were destroyed in the late 1960’s-early 1970’s. We cannot stand by while yet more activists are railroaded to long prison sentences by a Sheriff seeking to justify security measures.

The real possibility of felony charges being filed against the C3 in connection with the police provocateur is particularly serious for Lorenzo. He is an ex-Black Panther political prisoner who served 15 years in federal prison. Under “three strikes and you’re out,” the police provocateur is particularly serious for Lorenzo. He is an ex-Black Panther political prisoner who served 15 years in federal prison. Under “three strikes and you’re out,”

The antifascist was accused of “battery in a public place” with 3-10 years penal servitude. Three of the nine accused antifascist have been sentenced. One of them, Vladimir Futak, active anarchist and member of CSAF (Czech-Slovak Anarchist Federation), has been given suspended sentenced to 4 years with 3 years deferment. Other two guys has given 3 years with 2 years deferment. Two others were convicted of “battery in a public place” with 3-10 years penal servitude. Nine of the nine accused antifascist have been sentenced. One of them, Vladimir Futak, active anarchist and member of CSAF (Czech-Slovak Anarchist Federation), has been given suspended sentenced to 4 years with 3 years deferment. Other two guys has given 3 years with 2 years deferment. Two others were convicted of “battery in a public place” with 3-10 years penal servitude. Nine of the nine accused antifascist have been sentenced. One of them, Vladimir Futak, active anarchist and member of CSAF (Czech-Slovak Anarchist Federation), has been given suspended sentenced to 4 years with 3 years deferment. Other two guys has given 3 years with 2 years deferment. Two others were convicted of “battery in a public place” with 3-10 years penal servitude. Nine of the nine accused antifascist have been sentenced. One of them, Vladimir Futak, active anarchist and member of CSAF (Czech-Slovak Anarchist Federation), has been given suspended sentenced to 4 years with 3 years deferment. Other two guys has given 3 years with 2 years deferment. Two others were convicted of “battery in a public place” with 3-10 years penal servitude. Nine of the nine accused antifascist have been sentenced. One of them, Vladimir Futak, active anarchist and member of CSAF (Czech-Slovak Anarchist Federation), has been given suspended sentenced to 4 years with 3 years deferment. Other two guys has given 3 years with 2 years deferment. Two others were convicted of “battery in a public place” with 3-10 years penal servitude. Nine of the nine accused antifascist have been sentenced. One of them, Vladimir Futak, active anarchist and member of CSAF (Czech-Slovak Anarchist Federation), has been given suspended sentenced to 4 years with 3 years deferment. Other two guys has given 3 years with 2 years deferment. Two others were convicted of “battery in a public place” with 3-10 years penal servitude. Nine of the nine accused antifascist have been sentenced. One of them, Vladimir Futak, active anarchist and member of CSAF (Czech-Slovak Anarchist Federation), has been given suspended sentenced to 4 years with 3 years deferment. Other two guys has given 3 years with 2 years deferment. Two others were convicted of “battery in a public place” with 3-10 years penal servitude. Nine of the nine accused antifascist have been sentenced. One of them, Vladimir Futak, active an...
MAYDAY MONOPOLY

Mayday Monopoly is conceived as a celebration of Mayday in London. People from outside the capital are also welcome, as are events that celebrate Mayday organised along libertarian lines in other areas. Mayday is traditionally a day of celebration [see resistance #1 for more info on the anarchist origins of mayday]. Over the last two years people have begun the process of re-claiming Mayday as a day of celebration for all those struggling against capitalism and globalisation. In 1999 a tube party was held [see resistance #4] and last year a four day festival of anti-capitalist ideas and action [see resistance #14].

This year there are plans to celebrate Mayday by playing a game of Monopoly on the streets of London on the 1st of May. Hopefully this will take the form of lots of autonomous actions, separate yet interconnected, which express our opposition to the monopoly that capitalism has over our lives. Here are some ways in which you can get involved:

ORGANISE AN AUTONOMOUS ACTION

Look at a monopoly board and consider the possibilities: housing, debt, railways, privatised utilities, prisons and above all streets. Possibilities: housing, debt, railways, privatised utilities, prisons and above all streets.

The Krypton 85 factor

In 1977 BNFL was instructed to capture atmospheric discharges of Krypton 85 at its THORP plant in Cumbria, which can cause fatal skin cancers. Every year since then it has claimed that there is no available technology to achieve this and that it is diligently trying to rectify this. It now transpires that BNFL dissuaded Japanese Nuclear Fuel from fitting this technology to a new plant under construction, as this would compromise their claims (lies?). They then corroborated their stories that capturing Kr85 was less acceptable than releasing it, and that there is no appropriate technology available. So, the people of Japan will soon be able to enjoy this deadly substance just like we have for years. Both the Japanese and British industries have similarly appalling safety records and a penchant for prevarication (lying!).

And some people have started on the Monopoly theme already!

15 people stormed a meeting of Tower Hamlets Healthcare Trust in late January as part of an effort to stop a local clinic, the Barkantine, being sold to Berkeley Homes, a bunch of bloodsucking developers. Officials were given a Monopoly game board before being showered with toy money!

Mayday 2000

Trafalgar Square. Witnesses needed to help in case for violent disorder.

Anyone who was in the square during the time we were held under the section 60 order. Preferably anyone who was not arrested, to help build a picture of the conditions in the square. Witnesses would only be required to tell their own version of the days events. Your account could help make a difference to a possible prison sentence. If you feel you can help please contact Tim Green, at Bernberg and co. 0207911 0166. Or phone Sean on 07939303223.

Anarchist Dayschool

April 7th. Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London. 10am - 5pm

Topics: Revolutionary Anarchism: past, present and future.

Against Parliament. Against the State. Anti-capitalism and Class Struggle.

More info from London AF

The Philippines after 3 days of massive street protest following the collapse of an impeachment trial for corruption. Unfortunately for Filipinos he was replaced! He had spent his two and a half years in office embezzling a fortune, reminiscent of Marcos before him. Joseph Estrada was ousted as president of the Philippines after 3 days of massive street protest following the collapse of an impeachment trial for corruption. Unfortunately for Filipinos he was replaced! He had spent his two and a half years in office embezzling a fortune, reminiscent of Marcos before him. Estrada may be tried, or like Marcos he may somehow escape the country to live it up while the poor of The Philippines continue to go hungry.

One Down...

Kabila is dead, long live Kabila! Laurent Kabila president of the D.R.Congo, was apparently assassinated by a lone bodyguard, who was then conveniently also killed. Nobody believes this. Did his enemies or his allies kill him? What is certain is a general lack of concern at his demise. Fellow leaders condemn [with one eye on their own backs no doubt] but don’t mourn. Congolese turned out for his funeral in large numbers, though few were displeased, mourning was merely prudent. Unfortunately a new Kabila was found for president. His future depends on whether the Congolese and Zimbabwean armies back him, while the people just hope the madness will stop.
Take precautions when going on demonstrations and don’t take cameras, booze or drugs. If you’re nicked give your name and address then say ‘no comment’.

FEBRUARY: 10th Campaign Against Arms Trade Strategy Day, 10.30am-5pm, Jackson’s Lane Community Centre, 269a Archway Road, London, N6 02072810297
12th The Big Blockade! Start mobilising to blockade the Faslane submarine base, where the government is desperately hanging on to its nuclear weapons, 7 am at Faslane on the Clyde, near Glasgow. The Big Blockade Team, Scottish CND, 15 Barrland St, Glasgow, G41 1QH. 0141 433 2859 www.gn.apc.org/tp2000 Faslane Peace Camp 01436-820901 faslanepacemail@hotmail.com
27th Day of action to highlight Construction Safety Campaign to highlight recent doubling of deaths on building sites. London Hazards Centre 020-7794-5999 www.lhc.org.uk
27th Organising at work public meeting about organising in the workplace. 7.30pm Wood Green Green Labour Club, Stuart Crescent, London N22 http://hsg.cupboard.org
MARCH: 3rd fascist National Front will be staging a demonstration at Nottingham prison, Perry Road. There will be a counter demonstration meeting at 11:30am (provisional time) Forest Fields Recreation ground (park and ride) Gregory boulevard/Mansfield Rd.
More info: NAFPA/veggies.org.uk Phone: 07949312668
8th International Women’s Day will celebrate the second Global Women’s Strike. Contact International Wages for Housework Campaign, Crossroads Women’s Centre 230A Perry Road. There will be a counter demonstration meeting at 11:30am (provisional time)
15 International day of protest and solidarity against police brutality. COBP c/o The Alternative Bookshop, 2035 St-Laurent 2nd floor, Montreal, Quebec Canada, H2X 2T3 www.tao.ca/~cobp/index
17th Anarchist Bookfair in Gent, Belgium 10 a.m.-8.p.m. Details from Autonoom Politiek Infocentrum, Burgstraat 3, NL-6701 DA Wageningen www.bos.nl/homes/infocen
18th Countryside Alliance march. The Urban Alliance is organising opposition. For more info: www.geocities.com/urbanalliance/
APRIL: 1st (April Fool’s Day) till May 1st (May Day) International Month of Pie-rect action against Capital and State – Dessert the State in the Lead up to Mayday. Upload your photos, favourite recipes and pieing tips to the site www.dessertstorm.org

MUMIA MUST LIVE! Radical US journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal is still on death row and faces imminent execution. Regular meetings and activities in London and elsewhere. For more information contact Mumia Must Live!, BM Haven, London, WC1N 3XX or e-mail: mumia@callnetuk.com

And if you like resistance check out these...
Organise! for revolutionary anarchism. Magazine of the Anarchist Federation. By far the best mag going (isn’t, biased?), giving in depth reporting and analysis from the class struggle.
£1.50 an issue/subscriptions £3 from AF c/o 84b, Whitechapel High St, London, E1 7QX
Black Flag Legendary anarchist mag. £1.50 issue/E6 a sub. BM Hurricane, London, WC1N 3XX
Counter Information Free anarchist newsheet reporting on struggles from around the world. Transmission, 28 King St, Glasgow, Scotland, G1 5QP
Direct Action If revolutionary unionism is your thing read the paper of the Solidarity Federation (Anarchic-Syndicalist). £1.50 issue/E5 sub. PO Box 29, SW PDL, M15 SHW
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Freedom Bookshop: 84b Whitechapel High St (in Angel Alley) London, E1 7QX

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☐ I enclose £3 for a year’s subscription to Organise! magazine.
☐ I am interested in the Anarchist Federation and would like more information.
☐ No, I can’t be arsed to get involved, but I’ll send you a large wad of dosh.

Name: ..............................................................
Address: ...............................................................

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Who are we?
We are an organisation of class struggle anarchists aiming to abolish Capitalism and all oppression to create a free and equal society. This is Anarchist Communism. We see today’s society as being divided into two main opposing classes: the ruling class which controls all the power and wealth, and the working class which the rulers exploit to maintain this. By racism, sexism and other forms of oppression, as well as war and environmental destruction the rulers weaken and divide us. Only the direct action of working class people can defeat these attacks and ultimately overthrow capitalism.

As the capitalist system rules the whole world, its destruction must be complete and world wide. We reject attempts to reform it, such as working through parliament and national liberation movements, as they fail to challenge capitalism itself. Unions also work as a part of the capitalist system, so although workers struggle within them they will be unable to bring about capitalism’s destruction unless they go beyond these limits.

Organisation is vital if we’re to beat the bosses, so we work for a united anarchist movement and are affiliated to the International of Anarchist Federations.

Join the Resistance
The Anarchist Federation have members up and down Britain fighting for the kind of world outlined above. We take part in everyday struggles which affect us all, such as industrial disputes, strikes and supporting prisoners. We are active in environmental struggles, anti-racism and against government attacks on our community.

For more information on anarchism, the Anarchist Federation and fighting back contact:
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84B Whitechapel High Street
London E1 7QX
Phone 07946 216 890
www.afed.org.uk
e-mail anarchistfederation@bigfoot.com