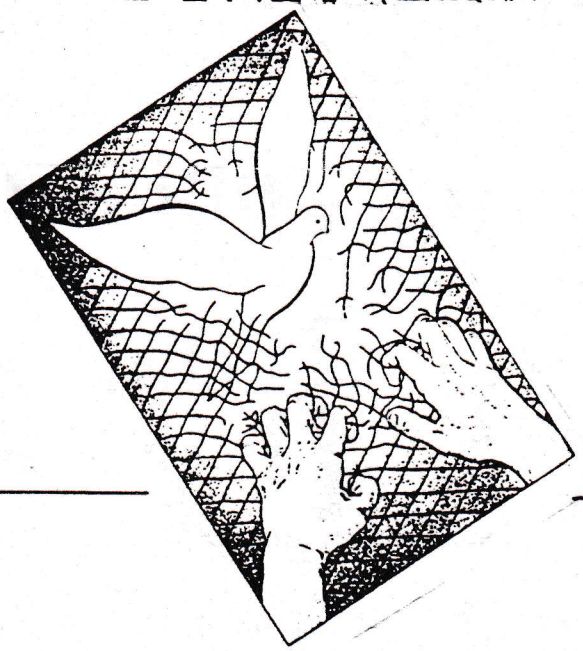
ANARCHIST NETWORK NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1990

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS 18TH OCTOBER.
ANN, P.O. BOX 150, EAST BRUNSWICK, 3057.



UnionStreet

THE NEXT UNION STREET DINNER IS ON 6TH OCTOBER AT 7P.M.

A SLIDE SHOW IS PLANNED IN ADDITION TO THE FOOD AND DRINK.

GOD SAVE THE EMIR OF KUWAIT - BECAUSE I WON'T

The government beats the battle drums,
SLUMP! BOOM! WAR!
The media shrills the battle pipes,
JAILS! STRIKES! WAR!
Big companies bless the marching troops,
WAR! BOOM! WAR!

And a country's youth sail off to fight
For a cause they have been taught
From the lips of their trusted media stars
And the papers they have bought.

And some of them know of the name of the lands
Where the battles will take place
And perhaps they'll learn before they burn
Of the horrors they will face.

"To die for a king is a glorious thing!"
Bleat the slaughtering lambs of war.
And the fate that awaits them and their mates
Decimates the army corps.

Millions of Juliets never know
A future with their Romeo
When governments beat the battle drums,
SLUMP! BOOM! WAR!
When the media shrills the battle pipes,
JAILS! STRIKES! WAR!
When big companies bless the marching troops,
WAR! BOOM! WAR!

- RED BINGHAM

Dear people,

I'm not sure if you recall a decision taken at the Beyond Social Control Conference last year to set up a communications network, but this is the result. Apologies for the time it has taken to get organised but we have had some problems getting a return address for you to send requests and information to. We still don't have one, but two of us are moving to the south coast soon, and the address will probably be there.

For the sake of convenience we decided to give ourselves a name, and have chosen the "Collective Awareness Network" or C.A.N. We must point out that we see ourselves only as a way for anarchist and radical groups to keep in touch, and perhaps informed, and we do not have nor want to have any organisational or advisory powers.

We've decided to send this out despite the lack of address to give you the list of decision and proposals taken or suggested at the conference last year before it becomes irrelevant. The following are those lists of proposals.

ANARCHISTS - YESTERDAY'S PEOPLE

PROPOSALS:
1. Present anarchists as up-to-date.
2. Change from traditional leftist jargon.

REVOLUTION

PROPOSAL: Challenge revolution as an ideal end.

SOCIAL ECOLOGY - PROBLEMS WITH PRACTICE

PROPOSALS:
1. Change the self, then the society.
2. Get away from jargon.
3. Implement social responsibility - individual and collective.

STATE CONTROL

PROPOSALS:
1. Establish independent state research group.
2. Open up police decision making.
3. Independent permanent groups to investigate deaths in custody.

INTELLECTUAL ACTIVITY

PROPOSALS:
1. More practice, Less theory.
2. Equal student say in what is taught ?

WORK

PROPOSALS:
1. Award restructuring.
2. Our own agenda for awards etc.
3. Look closer at occupational health.
4. Talk to people we work with.

THERE IS NOW A RETURN ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 172, BUNGENDORE, NSW 2621

BEYOND SOCIAL CONTROL CONFERENCE

JUNE 10-11 1989

MILITARY CONTROL

PROPOSALS:
1. Non-violent action.
2. Self-love and respect.
3. No alliances with military groups or countries
4. More positive input about anti-bases, and anti-military, not just negative.

REPRODUCTIVE ENGINEERING

PROPOSALS:
1. Spread information.
2. Support FINRRAGE.
3. Form a group to monitor what is happening in Australia.

ECOLOGY

PROPOSALS:
1. Form co-operatives for ethical investment.
2. Join ranks between radical groups.
3. Look into disempowerment of grassroots people in radical groups.
4. Invest ethically ? (This proposal debated hotly.)

ANTI-RACISM

NO PROPOSALS

MEDIA

PROPOSALS:
1. Look into Community Arts / Co-operatives for Arts.
2. Be rational with the media.
3. De-mystify the media.
4. Look at censorship of public media.
5. Look at complete deregulation of media.
6. Look at alternative media: Microfiche, use faxes to empower alternative views.

HILTON BOMBING

PROPOSALS:
1. Support campaign against frame-up of Tim Anderson.
2. Use alternative media to do this, inter- and intra-state.
3. Meetings: 391 Sussex St. Monday nights, 6.30pm

PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF CONFERENCES

1. Less academia at conferences.
2. Talk to audiences, don't read.
3. More discussion time.
4. Open meeting.
5. Buy food for conferences that agrees with ideals.
6. Set up our own communication networks and infrastructures.
7. Include discussions of animal liberation, and homosexuality.
8. Organised exchange of views over what is happening in other states.
9. More action, less talk.
10. Not so many things all at once.
11. Problems with architecture.
12. Papers in advance for people who want it, commonsense talk on the day.
13. Incorporate analysis of power.

All these proposals are suggestions made at the Beyond Social Control Conference by those participating, and are not necessarily the views of C.A.N. or the organisers of the conference.

Hope to be able to write to you again soon to inform you of return address. Meanwhile, good luck with all your projects/ plans whether personal or collective.

sincerely,
C.A.N.

P.S.: If you do not intend to file this letter, please recycle it.

10 PO Box 150 C Brcno.

CHRIS SMITH.
PO Box 208
ALBERT PARK, 3206.
10/9/90.

I am writing about the cartoon printed on the first page of the Sept, '90 Anarchist Network newsletter. Without wanting to get too serious, I'd like to make a few little comments:-
(1) the cartoon trivialises and misrepresents a complex theory/strategy /practice
(2) one wonders why the theory/strategy/practice must be trivialised or misrepresented
(3) the means is the end / the end is the means - some people want to act today within the papameters they want for tomorrow
(4) there is no violent solution to the violent society
(5) **no one** imagines that the power the state controls will disappear - however, some people argue that non-violent action undermines the states' sources of power, as well as empowering the people, encouraging involvement and focusing attention on the real conflict - that between values and emotions
(6) those who imagine they can confront **and** overcome the military power of the state (even with the backing of the majority of the populace) **must** be kidding themselves
(7) I've always thought there's something perculiar about the adherents of a violent overthrow of the state - a dream of guerilla/terrorist/popular liberation fighter - it reeks of TV and boys own adventure
(8) the really hard work of social change or revolution is slow - educating ourselves and others, changing our own and others values and feelings, empowering each other, encouraging each other - and there's no place in the social classroom for a gun-toting guerilla
(9) have violent revolutions really succeeded, or simply replaced one tyranny with another?
(10) those who make half a revolution dig their own graves.

salud y (non-violent) anarquia

Chris.

FROM:-
P.O. BOX 150
EAST BRUNSWICK

3057

SPLUDER
45 MILLER STREET
NORTH PHILADLY

3068