Primary Social Sources

The Left in Britain during 1997

A guide to accompany the microfilm collection



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THE LEFT IN BRITAIN DURING 1997

A guide to accompany the Primary Source Media microfilm collection

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THE LEFT IN BRITAIN DURING 1997

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HOW TO USE THE GUIDE

The first step in locating material is to check the list of **Participating Groups**. This contains all the organisations and publications included in *The Left in Britain during 1997*. All newspapers and journals are listed by title and cross-referenced by group name. Descriptions of each title include the year of publication (where known) and group addresses at the time of print.

The **Contents of Reels** lists each group or publication in alphabetical sequence. Where groups or papers have changed their names, it may be necessary to refer to the list of **Participating Groups**. In all cases we have used the present name of the group.

PARTICIPATING GROUPS

This is a complete description of all the groups and papers participating in the 1997 update of *The Left in Britain*.

The following alphabetical list of participating groups and publications will enable easy reference. Each publication title and the first year of its issue (where known) appears in bold and is followed by the group name, address and a brief description. The year each title first appeared in *The Left in Britain* appears in brackets at the end of the description. The microfilm reel on which each publication appears is also listed at the end of the description, in bold. Group names, where different from the publication titles, have been listed separately and cross referenced to the relevant title.

Missing Material

Material for 1997 was unavailable from *Campaign Briefing* and the Scottish Federation of Anarchists. Any available back issues will be included in the 1998 update.

There were no issues of Lobster, The Original Dorril in 1997

Militant is no longer published (Issues 1305-1308 are included here)

Anarchist Communist Federation: see Organise!

Alliance for Workers' Liberty: see Workers' Liberty

Black Flag (1970-continuing)

Black Flag Collective, BM Hurricane, London WC1N 3XX

The causes supported by the Black Flag Collective are described as: "For a social system based on mutual aid and voluntary cooperation - against state control and all forms of government and economic repression. To establish a share in the general prosperity for all - the breaking down of racial, religious, national and sex barriers - and to fight for the life of one world." (excerpt from Issue 206, 1995) [1973] Reel 174

Chartist

Chartist Publications, 18 Southcote Road, London N19 5BJ

The editorial policy of *Chartist* is to promote debate amongst people active in radical politics about the contemporary relevance of democratic socialism across the spectrum of politics, economics, science, philosophy, art and inter-personal relations - in short, the whole realm of social life. "Our concern is with both democracy and socialism. *Chartist* is not a party publication. It is concerned to deepen and extend dialogue with all socialists and with activists from other movements involved in the struggle to find democratic alternatives to the oppression, exploitation and injustices of capitalism and class society." [1992] **Reel 174**

Counter Information (1985-continuing)

C/O Transmission, 28 King Street, Glasgow G1 5QP

"Counter Information is produced by an independent collective based in Central Scotland. Our aim is to assist in the struggle against all injustice, oppression and exploitation." (excerpt from Issue 40) The group aims to present a variety of viewpoints, even if they do not correspond to their own. Their keenness to promote solidarity amongst movements on the left is evident by their continual support of protests and actions of other groups and movements. [1986] Reel 174

Democratic Left see New Times

Fight Racism! Fight Imperialism! (Anti-imperialist paper of the Revolutionary Communist Group) (1979-continuing)
Larkin Publications, BCM Box 5909, London WC1N 3XX

As the title implies, this bi-monthly tabloid presents articles, letters and editorials with a communist flavour on national and international issues. Particularly concerned with the premise of a north-south hemispheric hegemony replacing the cold war east-west division, the paper looks critically at UN and IGO involvement in the third world. A section entitled Prisoners Fightback is devoted to promoting the rights of prisoners and fostering correspondence and other links between inmates and outside society. [1981] Reel 174

Freedom Anarchist Fortnightly (1886-continuing)

Freedom Press, Angel Alley, 84b Whitechapel High Street, London E1 $7\mathrm{QX}$

This journal has been published, with varying frequencies and titles, by Freedom Press since 1886, making it the longest-running periodical in *The Left in Britain* collection. Freedom Press was founded by a group which included the famous anarchist Peter Kropotkin, following his release from prison in France and relocation to Britain in March 1886.

Freedom was the leading English-language anarchist journal until the Russian Revolution of 1917. Anarchism then suffered a period of eclipse, and between 1928 and 1935 Freedom was irregular and infrequent. It resumed regular publication in 1936, when the Spanish Revolution brought about a resurgence of interest in anarchism, and has appeared regularly since then.

Freedom Anarchist Fortnightly is in newspaper format. Longer and more scholarly articles are published in its sibling periodical The Raven. [1989] Reel 174

Freedom Press: see $Freedom \ Anarchist \ Fortnightly$ and $The \ Raven$

Labour & Trade Union Review (1987-continuing)

No. 2, Newington Green Mansions, Green Lanes, London N16 9BT

Labour & Trade Union Review provides a platform for comment on the Labour Party and the Trade Unions as well as current affairs. Edited by Dick Barry, Labour & Trade Union Review debates the stance taken by all the major political parties on issues of policy and news. This is a well-balanced publication, but with a strong anti-privatisation theme running throughout which culminates in the regular feature, "Trade Union Diary". [1990] Reel 174

Living Marxism (1988-continuing)

Informlnc (LM) Ltd, BM Informlnc, London WC1N 3XX

Living Marxism is a monthly - big mouthed, broad minded magazine that shouts what others don't dare to whisper. [1989] Reel 174

Lobster (1983-continuing)

214 Westbourne Avenue, Hull HU5 3JB

Lobster was first produced in September 1983 through the joint efforts of Robin Ramsay and Stephen Dorril, who met through their mutual fascination with the political causes and ramifications of the Kennedy assassination. Sole editor Ramsay, (Dorril edits an alternative publication called Lobster (The Original Dorril), now commands this exemplary newsletter of parapolitical events and trends. Academically detailed and meticulously footnoted, Lobster is a must for those fervently interested in intelligence infrastructure and covert operations both nationally and globally. [1986] Reel 175

The Marxist (1966-continuing)

F. Huscroft, 116 Woodhall Lane, South Oxhey, Hertfordshire WD1 6EY

In its first issue in 1966 *The Marxist* described its purpose as, "urgent need to bring Marxist thought and analysis back into the British political struggle".

The group states that their aims "can be realised only with ... active participation ... We want *The Marxist* to be a medium for the exchange of views among those engaged in the struggle for socialism". [1992] Reel 175

Militant: see *Militant: the Marxist paper for Labour and Youth*

Militant: the Marxist paper for Labour and Youth (1964-1997)

Militant, 3-13 Hepscott Road, London E9 5HB

In a memoir of his long career on the editorial board of *Militant*, Keith Dickinson reflects on the most memorable moment of his political life - his expulsion from the Labour Party in 1983: "Thatcher and Tebbit attacked us in parliament, calling for our expulsion from the Labour Party, because we were the ones who were leading the challenge against the Tory offensive against working class people. Thatcher saw us as the biggest obstacle in moving the Labour Party to the right.... The right wing of the labour movement remain fearful of our influence. That's because we want to ensure that the working class has leaders who put themselves at the standpoint of the working class, unlike the right wing who put their own political careers first." (excerpt from Issue 1164) [1973] Reel 175

National Union of Students: see NUS Briefing

NUS Briefing

National Union of Students, Nelson Mandela House, 461 Holloway Road, London N7 6LJ

The National Union of Students is a federal association of student representative organisations in universities and colleges. Often included with the *NUS Briefing* are students handbooks, charters, and leaflets on education policy. [1988] **Reel 175**

New Times (1992-continuing)

6 Cynthia Street, London N1 9JF

"New Times is published fortnightly by the Democratic Left to promote campaigns and discussion and contribute towards renewing and developing the politics of socialism: red, green, democratic, feminist, anti-racist and internationalist."

This publication is particularly proficient at networking supporters of the left via its abundant pages of events, contact names and addresses and classifieds. [1992, formerly appeared as *Changes*] Reel 175

Organise! for class struggle anarchism (1988-continuing) Anarchist Communist Federation (ACF), c/o 84b Whitechapel High Street. London E1 7QX

"Organise! is a quarterly theoretical journal published in order to develop anarchist communist ideas. It aims to give a clear anarchist viewpoint on contemporary issues, and initiate debates on areas not normally covered by agitational journals.

All articles in the magazine are by ACF members unless signed. Some reflect ACF policy and others open up debate in undiscussed areas, helping us to develop our ideas further." (excerpt from Issue 36, October-December 1994) [1989] **Reel 175**

Peace News (1936-continuing)

5 Caledonian Road, London N1 9DY

Peace News was founded in 1936 on capital of £6 by a group of North London pacifists who later founded the Peace Pledge Union. Peace News played an important part in the anti-war campaign of the 1930s. In 1940, the height of the London bombings, Peace News could not find a printer or newsagent willing to assist in its production or distribution. The movement into underground and alternative culture began in the late 1950s when Peace News influenced the formation and development of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. Peace News continues at the forefront of the pacifist movement, featuring pioneering personalities and events supporting non-violent action. [1973] Reel 175

The Raven (1987-continuing)

Angel Alley, 84b Whitechapel High Street, London E1 7QX

This is a scholarly journal of anarchist thought, published quarterly (with occasional delays) since 1987 by Freedom Press, who also publish *Freedom Anarchist Fortnightly*.

Each issue of *The Raven* is loosely thematic, a collection of about ten articles on some broad topic such as crime, religion or communication. Contributors include scientists, historians, philosophers and other specialist academics, eye-witnesses of events and opinionated activists. [1989] **Reel 175**

Red Flag (1963-continuing)

Revolutionary Workers' Party: British Section of the Fourth International P.O. Box 134, Nottingham NG1 3QT

The recurring motto "Out with NATO, Out with the monarchy! For the Socialist Republic with the Unification of Britain and Ireland" adorns nearly every issue of Red Flag, which is an affiliation of the Revolutionary Workers' Party under the direction of J. Posadas. Along with a full-page editorial, each issue contains coverage and extracts from international meetings and conferences. Choice topics include: peasant and minority rebellions, IGO actions and policies, and British social and political issues. [1973] Reel 175

Red Pepper (1994-continuing)

Red Pepper, 1b Waterlow Road, London N19 5NJ

"... a bold and attractive voice for the independent minded left, inside and outside of the Labour Party. As a centre for innovative grass roots action and challenging new thinking, *Red Pepper* has broken out of the left ghetto and is unique as a voice for radical politics in the political mainstream." (*Red Pepper* Issue 16) [1994] Reel 176

Revolutionary Communist Group: see Fight Racism! Fight Imperialism

Revolutionary Workers' Party (Posadist) British Section, IV International: see *Red Flag*

The Socialist (1997-continuing)

Militant, 3-13 Hepscott Road, London E9 5HB

The Socialist is the weekly newspaper of the Socialist Party and successor to *Militant* formed to give a campaigning socialist alternative to working class people disillusioned with Tony Blair and New Labour's move to the right. [New] Reel 176

Socialist Standard (1904-continuing)

c/o The Socialist Party of Great Britain, 52 Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UN

"The Socialist Party... is made up of people who have joined together because we want to get rid of the profit system and establish real socialism. Our aim is to persuade others to become socialist and act for themselves, organising democratically and without leaders, to bring about the kind of society that we are advocating in this *Socialist Standard*." (excerpt from Vol. 91, Issue 1084, January 1995) [1989] **Reel 177**

The Socialist Party: see Socialist Standard

The Socialist Workers Party: see Socialist Worker

Socialist Worker (1968-continuing)

Unit 7, Empson Street, London E3 3LT

Founded in 1968, the *Socialist Worker* is the weekly newspaper of the Socialist Workers Party. "The workers create all the wealth under capitalism. A new society can only be constructed when they collectively seize control of that wealth and plan its production and distribution". (*Socialist Worker*, Issue 1425, January 1995) [1986] Reel 177

Spartacist League: see Workers Hammer

Troops Out! (Paper of the Troops Out Movement) (1973-continuing)

Troops Out Movement, PO Box 1032, Birmingham B12 8BZ

The objective is evident in the title: Self-determination for the Irish people. Operating through a national network of branches and a London headquarters, the Troops Out Movement is a campaign organisation open to anyone who supports the two Irelands. The movement does not have a policy of explicit support for any particular organisation in Ireland, or of any particular ideology. It argues that self-determination includes the right to decide one's own tactics and strategy. Since 1977, *Troops Out!* has provided details of national and local campaigns, including opposition to the Prevention of Terrorism Act and to the use of plastic bullets. The journal also supplies analysis, interviews and reviews. [1984] **Reel** 178

Troops Out Movement: see Troops Out!

Voice of the Unions (1963-continuing) 30 Adolphus Road. London N4 2AY

Voice Newspapers were founded in 1925. Since then, various titles have fused to become *Voice of the Unions*. Reporting on political and trade union events, the publication promotes struggles for socialism, freedom, democracy, peace and racial and sexual equality.

Voice of the Unions believe working people in all countries should achieve democratic workers' control of industry and community through an organised mass action rather than through political figures acting on their behalf. [1987] Reel 178

Workers Hammer (1988-continuing)

Spartacist Publications, P.O. Box 1041, London

Workers Hammer is the paper of the Spartacist League, British section of the International Communist League (Fourth Internationalist). The purpose of the ICL is to achieve global communism by class-struggle-centred means that are simultaneously proletarian, revolutionary and internationalist. They seek to promote the principles of Marxism and Leninism as manifested in the decisions of the first four congresses of the Communist International, as well as Leon Trotsky's "Transitional Programme" adopted by the 1938 founding conference of the Fourth International. [1988] Reel 178

Workers' Liberty (1988-continuing)

WL Publications, P.O. Box 823, London, SE15 4NA

Workers' Liberty is a monthly publication with a socialist perspective. It covers issues such as welfare, education and human rights both nationally and internationally. With comprehensive articles and features, Workers' Liberty seeks to provoke debate and educate the reader. [1989] Reel 178

Workers Power (1975-continuing)

Workers Power Group, BCM 7750, London WC1N 3XX

Workers Power is a revolutionary Trotskyist organisation, the British section of the League for a Revolutionary Communist International, which has sections throughout Europe and Australia/New Zealand. Workers Power supports all struggles of working class people against capitalism and supports the struggle of Irish republicans and all people's oppressed by imperialism, the struggle against racism, and for women's, lesbian and gay liberation. Workers Power believes in youth liberation and supports the independent youth group Revolution. Workers Power's overall aim is the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism by the working class, led by a revolutionary workers' party.

Workers Power ... "combine the struggle for a re-elaborated transitional programme with active involvement in the struggles of the working class -- fighting for revolutionary leadership." (excerpt from Issue 174) [1977] Reel 178

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