

YOUNG ★ SOCIALIST

WEEKLY PAPER OF THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS INCORPORATING 'KEEP LEFT'

UNITES ALL YOUNG WORKERS, APPRENTICES, UNEMPLOYED, IMMIGRANT AND STUDENT YOUTH

AFTER SCHOOL: WHAT NEXT?



THE ONLY ANSWER

JOBS DISASTER FACES SCHOOL LEAVERS P 4&5

**JOIN THE
YOUNG SOCIALISTS!
FORCE THE LABOUR GOVT TO RESIGN!**

Split over pay deal cannot be healed

THE deepening split in the trade union movement over the 4½ per cent pay deal cannot be healed.

On the one hand, millions of workers are being driven into conflict with the Labour government's wage-cutting proposals.

Prices are going up faster than ever — April's 1.9p-in-the-pound increase was three times the March increase and the highest for nearly a year.

Food prices — which will shortly show the effects of the record 10 per cent devaluation of sterling in March — are soaring up. So are rents, fuel bills and fares.

This means that opposition to the pay laws must grow.

In the giant Transport and General Workers' Union, the biggest region, no. 1, revolted against Jack Jones and declared their opposition. The film workers' union, the white collar union ASTMS and other conferences have

already gone on record to fight the 4½ per cent deal.

The opposition is being led by the miners. South Wales miners' representatives voted by 138 to 12 against the pay laws. 'I am certain the rank-and-file miner will reject the new policy as ridiculous', stated South Wales NUM president Emlyn Williams.

On the other hand, union leaders both 'left' and 'right' are falling over themselves to accept the deal.

Engineers' president Hugh Scanlon threatened to resign from the TUC negotiating team if his union threw out the pay deal.

'We will not indulge in irresponsible action which can only result in the now minority Labour government being brought down', he said. He is, of course, speaking for himself.

The international bankers, the capitalist class and the millionaires control the Labour government and trades union leaders like puppets.

A team from the International Monetary Fund started looking over bankrupt Britain's accounts in Whitehall last week. They will doubtless demand more attacks on living standards, the smashing of the unions and the decimation of public spending.

Just to keep the terrified reformists on their toes, the City of London dropped the £ sterling below the \$1.80 mark — its lowest ever — last week.

These ruthless profiteers are being driven on by the greatest economic crisis in their history to smash the working class and its living standards. They are using the Labour government to assist them.

(The Financial Times made this clear when they compared Callaghan to a 'Tory prime minister' recently).

Every moment that this rotten bunch of traitors stays in office they will be preparing new attacks on workers' jobs, living standards, and basic democratic rights.

Why should the working class put up with this? Led by the miners, they booted out the Tory government in 1974.

Why should the same treatment not be given to this anti-socialist bunch of impostors?

To suggest that the existence of the Labour government is advancing the struggle of the trade unions, as Scanlon does, disarms the working class movement.

The YS repeat once again: This Labour government must be forced out of office by the full strength of the working class.

That is the way the bankers' and monopolists' bluff can be called. That is the way a new General Election can be prepared, in which the Tories can be soundly beaten, and the Labour Party brought to power, not with Tory policies but with a full socialist programme.

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A shoulder to cry on...
...or a fight

WHEN the Young Socialists marched with the Arab students last Sunday it showed that we have to be united in struggle.

The Palestinians were more angry than we were in some ways. They have faced violence in their own countries and they are prepared to get onto the streets and fight back.

The National Union of Students in Britain hardly does anything. They could do a lot more.

The last day of action was pathetic. The coach that went down to London was half empty.

No real attempt was made to fill it. Many students went and studied because they couldn't see the point of coming out for just one day.

It couldn't achieve anything. They have to do something to get students more grants to meet the increased costs of living — but what?

Its a question really of what a union is for — whether its going to be a shoulder to cry on or to fight.

The question is to bring down this Labour government. You'll have to have a workers' revolution in this country.

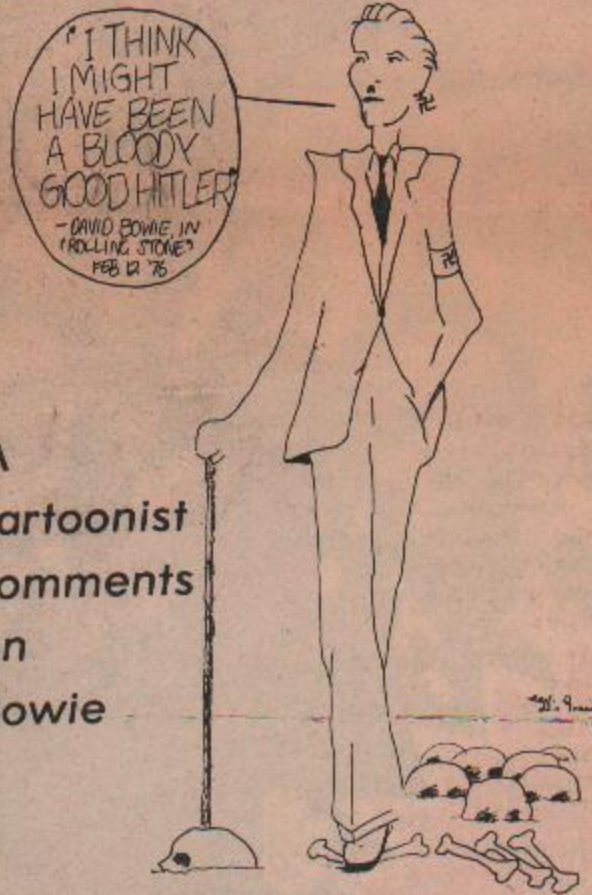
We'll have to get rid of this corrupt system.

You could greatly change education. At the moment in the schools they won't let you discuss politics unless its the kind that they support.

At a school one of our YS members goes to, they take all the daily papers 'The Times', the 'Guardian', and so on but they wouldn't take our paper 'The News Line'.

They try to cut you off from what's really going on.

Mike Hemel YS



A cartoonist comments on Bowie

Union dilemma of Language Assistants

THE language assistant is placed in a most difficult position in school: is he a student, a teacher or a student-teacher?

This precarious status raises the problem of belonging to a union. Should the assistant join the National Union of Teachers or the National Union of Students? Obviously he will not be able to join the NUS if he does not attend College, and this is the case of many an assistant in Great Britain.

On the other hand, it is

doubtful whether he is eligible to join the NUT since he is not a qualified teacher, and he will find himself in the uncomfortable position where he is not backed by any union in his fight for his rights.

We will find an example of this in the London Weighting problem.

This substantial allowance added to the annual salary is paid to all teaching staff and civil servants in London. The assistants are facing the same problems of increasing rents, and the rising cost of public transport, as other employees. And yet, they receive exactly the same amount of money as an assistant in a small northern town, for instance.

We have the right to get the London Weighting, and this

injustice should not exist any longer.

It is in our interest to get together, in order to fight for our own rights.

Assistants are directly concerned with the educational cuts problem. The number of language assistants is going to be largely reduced within the next few years.

As it is absolutely vital for our fellow students to have the opportunity of going abroad as language assistants, it is our task to fight for them, and fight the cuts.

FOR THE LONDON WEIGHTING...

AGAINST THE CUTS...
Rose Abran Romford YS

How much profit are they making?

I AM a YS member from Clapham. I was working from 8.00 a.m. until 4.45 p.m. for five days a week in a leather factory, making suitcases, which was quite a skilled job.

The wage I was getting was only £26. You might think that this was good money, but I was making suitcases of good quality leather, and I can make about 200 suitcases in a fortnight, which would sell for £15 each.

When I thought of how much profit the bosses were making out of me I left the job.

From working in this factory I could see I was getting nowhere.

Listening to other workers sitting next to me, working for years, they told me it was not worth working there. After working there for many weeks I realized they were right.

This is one of the reasons why the bosses are where they are, through exploitation. This very moment thousands of youth must be in same situation.

Ricky Bass Clapham YS



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Post to: YS National Secretary,
21b Old Town, Clapham, London SW4 0JT



FASCISTS BAIT STATE TRAP

POLICE used the most brutal street-fighting technique against an anti-National Front demonstration in Birmingham last Saturday.

Mounted police with long wooden batons charged into demonstrators, mainly West Indian and Asian workers protesting against the Front's extreme right-wing policies.

Foot police operating in threes made arrests like the one shown on the right.

The operation, during which 28 demonstrators were arrested, was described by the West Midlands constabulary as 'completely successful'.

The police are pleased because they have been able to practise their methods for crushing strikes, demonstrations and protests by force.

They need this practice because they know a show-down is coming between the working class and the capitalist state.

The National Front are being consciously used by the police to provoke clashes.

Last Saturday's small Front demonstration — supposedly in support of anti-immigrant Robert Relf, was a clear example.

Thousands of workers came out to protest at the Front's actions — and came under police batons.

The extreme right-wing cannot be dealt with by spontaneous demonstrations of anger or counter-marches

which open the way for police attacks.

They have to be dealt with in the course of the mobilisation of the whole strength of the working class to put an end to this system.



18 ARRESTS AS POLICE BATTLE 200 YOUTH

From Tottenham YS

POLICE arrested 18 black youth in a confrontation outside the New River Sports Centre, Tottenham, last Wednesday.

Police squad cars swooped on a crowd of over 200 youth who were leaving the Centre after a Haringey Schools sports meeting. According to local residents, the arrests provoked a pitched battle.

Some youth were later released, but nine teenagers — including two girls — were released on bail to appear at Tottenham Magistrates Court on June 11th.

They were charged with offences including possessing offensive weapons, assault on police, threatening behaviour and wilful obstruction.

The two girls were accused of threatening behaviour and causing criminal damage.

Nine juveniles — four girls and five boys — aged between 14 and 16 were reported to the Police Juvenile Bureau accused of threatening behaviour, obstructing the police and insulting behaviour.

There were more incidents at Wood Green police station involving youth who were not outside the Sports Centre.

The police said that ten officers had to have medical treatment after the incident — but only three had even 'slight' injuries. According to the park-keeper, one policeman was 'trodden on'.

Youth in jail

'WE no longer have youngsters down the mines or climbing chimney stacks, but we still have some 3,000 juveniles a year kept in prison or remand', the annual conference of Probationary Officers was told last week.

Speaking as chairman of their parliamentary committee Mr David Mathieson bitterly attacked the government for refusing to act on the issue.

OXFORD POLY AXED BY CUTS

BY CLIVE HILLS

STUDENTS at Oxford Polytechnic face massive cuts in their courses next year.

Over 200 part time lecturers at the Polytechnic will lose their jobs at the end of the present term as part of the continuing clampdown on education spending.

The leadership of the Student Union, composed of Tories and right-wing Labourites have accepted the cuts.

A leaflet put out by them, signed by the Treasurer and Deputy-President-elect of the

Union, applauded the programme of cut-backs and 'wage-restraint'. It claimed that these policies represent 'a solution to our economic ills which can already be seen to be working'.

The Young Socialists believe that education — a basic democratic right — can be defended today only through the struggle to bring down the Labour Government and to build a revolutionary leadership in the working-class and student movement

SPECIAL REPORT

JOBS DISASTER FACES SCHOOL LEAVERS

DISASTER faces thousands of this year's school leavers.

There have never been so few vacancies, so few apprenticeships, so many of last year's leavers already on the dole, such hopeless prospects.

In the London area, once renowned for tiny unemployment figures, it is forecast that one in four school leavers will be jobless next month.

Of the 20,000 youth leaving Inner London Education Authority Schools, it is expected that at least 5,000 will join 2,000 of last year's leavers who have never found work.

The panic scramble for jobs has already started. London Transport's Acton Training Centre got 2,000 applications for 135 apprenticeships — double what they received last year.

An LT spokesman commented that this would 'raise the entry standard'. That's a lot of use to the 1,865 unlucky ones.

'As job prospects worsen, even those with good exam results face a tough search for work', says the London 'Evening Standard'. It adds that 'the immediate future is grim' for un-qualified leavers.

Teachers have given up the line: 'Work hard and you will get a better job'. Pupils are being told to grab the first vacancy they can and hang on to it for dear life.

Alternative

The alternative is £7.70 social security money and a life tramping the streets. Or perhaps working on a 'job creation scheme' digging parks, or cleaning waste.

Ashley Bramall, ILEA Labour chief, will announce on Monday

'Standard'. Those weak in basic skill will get reading, writing and arithmetic lessons.

Others will go through courses on industrial relations liberal studies and technical subjects — supposedly to improve their job chances.

These 'Emergency Measures' are a total fraud. All they show is that the Labour leaders — at government or local level — could not give a damn about school-leavers or their future.

Increase

Firstly: What is the use of teaching youth who can't get jobs 'industrial relations' or liberal studies?

This will not cause an increase in vacancies. It will not stop the general decline in production and cutting-back of work-forces.

Secondly: Where on earth does Mr Bramall think the money will come from to keep hundreds of extra teenagers at school?

He must know that the ILEA, like all education authorities in Britain, is cutting back on equipment, staff and buildings. He must know that further cuts are being called for. He must know that 8,000 teachers are out of work because no school has any money to pay them.

In any case, the reason for the massive upsurge of youth unemployment is the deep economic crisis of capitalism.

The world slump means that every major firm is taking on

who control it can't make money out of you, they will sling you on the scrap-heap.

We have our own set of emergency measures to deal with youth unemployment.

1. Mobilize the working class and trade union movement to force this rotten Labour government to resign.

2. Call an emergency Labour Party conference, decide on socialist policies of nationalizing



Bramall

the banks, land and industry under workers' control and fight the next

General Election on these policies.

3. Build the revolutionary party to prepare to take the working class to power and put end to this crisis-ridden system. Only then will young people control their own lives instead of having them determined by the profit calculations of the exploiters.



YS position on unemployment is c

JULIAN LEACH INVESTIGATES THE PROSPECT

Wandsworth: 96 jobs f



The Battersea dole queue

Super-Humbuggery



THERE is something sick in a society which makes its school leavers face the bleak outlook on the dole', says Hugh Scanlon, AUEW president.

Mr Scanlon is now spending his time selling the new wage-cutting pay deal worked out between the trades union leaders and the Labour government.

The policies of the Labour government, in line with the requirements of big business are to drive unemployment up in line with the attack on living standards.

This right-wing government would not last long without the support of union leaders such as Scanlon.

If he supports this treacherous government he must accept its policies. If he says different it is pure hypocrisy.

morning 'Emergency Measures' to deal with this serious threat to thousands of youth.

The ILEA Education Committee rubber-stamped the plan last Tuesday.

Headmasters will be told to urge 16-year olds to stay on for further study, or go to Further Education college to 'keep themselves occupied'.

Special college courses have been planned, says the

fewer workers. It has already driven unemployment up to over 1.3 million for the first time since the war.

The British government is bankrupt and the slashing of public spending means even fewer jobs are available.

The Young Socialists say that no school-leavers, this year, next year or any other time, have any future under this capitalist system. If the bosses



CLAPHAM SCHOOL LEAVERS TALK TO 'YS' 'Prospects: I haven't got any, have I?'

'Young Socialist' interviewed Kenny and Robert who leave Henry Thornton school, Clapham Common, on May 28.

'I leave school at the end of next week,' said Kenny. 'Prospects — I haven't got any, have I?'

'Well, I've got a couple of interviews but I doubt if they will get me very far.'

'I am looking for work in carpentry — joinery, building work.'

'I have had an interview with the GLC but out of 40 who got an interview they will only take 8 or 10. That's for the whole of London.'

Usually

'The careers office just ask you what you want to do. Usually they try and talk you into doing something else.'

'They gave me a couple of

companies' names to write to but they never even gave me the addresses.'

'They tried to push me into wood machining which is a totally different trade. All you do in wood machining is feed wood into sawing machines and so on.'

'The other thing they tell you is "Don't worry you can always come back to school." That is if you can't get a job or can't make up your mind what you want to do.'

Kenny saw no purpose in going through more school which would not improve his chances. 'I won't be coming back — things will be even worse than they are now in a year', he said.

'I want to get out now — even though there's not much chance of getting the job that I want.'

'I won't get any dole and you have to accept the jobs they offer you, no matter how bad, if you're on social security.'

Kenny pointed out that there was only one kind of work which did seem short of employees. 'They have all sorts of people coming into the school plugging the army, the navy and the police.'

'We wouldn't join them'.

Written

Robert said: 'I have written to 15 different firms. They have all written back saying "Sorry, this year's vacancies are all taken, we will contact you if the situation changes."'

Robert pointed out that soaring youth unemployment means low wages.

'There's very little going. A friend of ours was so desperate for work that he took a job as a garage mechanic for which he gets 22p an hour.'

'That's about £11 a week — he'd get more money on the dole.'

JOBS FOR SOUTH LONDON YOUTH

For 4,100 leavers



OVER 4000 youth in Wandsworth, South London, will leave school between now and July. On April 9 the careers officers had 94 jobs for them.

Two and a half thousand jobs have been lost in Wandsworth over the last two years. The only new jobs in the area are now office jobs.

Apprenticeships are virtually non-existent.

For a job as a nurse or a physiotherapist several hundred girls compete. For an engineering or building apprenticeship there are a similar number of applicants.

In the hardest-hit area, Battersea, unemployment has risen from the September 1975 figure of 2937 to 3565 this January.

At Battersea North employment exchange, they have ended the system whereby a claimant has to prove that he is looking for work after a month on the dole.

This is an open admission by the authorities that there are no vacancies.

The much publicised job schemes will have little or no effect on youth unemployment in Battersea.

Wandsworth Council plans a 'community industry scheme' but this will provide a maximum of 50 jobs, digging gardens and washing windows — for 4100 school leavers.

The borough will be employing apprentices in the public works department, training in building trades, but

Council offers jobs digging gardens and washing windows

this will provide a laughable total of twenty-five jobs.

Wandsworth Borough's great scheme to employ youth turning stretches of the river Wandle into a canoeist's paradise met a sticky end.

The river was found to be an open sewer!

The 'Sunspot' amusement arcade in St John's Hill, Battersea, is so



Housing conditions in Battersea



The Sunspot club: an influx of unemployed youth

crowded with unemployed youth, that the bingo hall has been cut in half and pool tables have been brought in instead.

Because of the number of unemployed youth on the streets all week, Wandsworth Council wanted Battersea youth workers to open their clubs during the day.

There were only two snags.

1. Not one penny was to be provided for the youth workers' wages or for anything else;

2. The council did not want youth activities laid on — they wanted 'role playing'.

Role playing? It's quite simple really.

The youth club leader has to play boss and you play the applicant for a job.

The mind boggles.

The youth workers, whilst anxious to lay on facilities for the unemployed, were not prepared to start up a farce like that for no pay.

In any case the reason why

youth could not get jobs, was not because they did not know how to behave at an interview, but that there were no jobs available, the social workers said.

HOME working by women and young girls has increased staggeringly. Exploitation rates of a couple of pence per skirt or blouse are paid. Total earnings of £6 or £7 are common.

Shops full of sewing machines for home working are now a common sight in Battersea.

Housing in the area is also deteriorating — the Doddington estate, parts of which can only be compared to Alcatraz, was built below the flood level.

Consequently it suffers from flooding and also from back flow in the sewers into flats and garages, because the pipes used were too small.

**2,000 march
through London**

LONG LIVE ARAB REVOLUTION!



SLOGANS on the demonstration were: 'Free Palestine! Down with Zionism!' Young Socialists shouts of 'Long live the Arab revolution! Forward to the world revolution! Victory to the PLO!' were taken up by many marchers.

OVER 2,000 Arab workers and students marched through London last Sunday demanding a free, democratic, secular state of Palestine.

They called on workers everywhere to unite against Zionism and imperialism. They emphasized the need for an armed struggle to free Palestine.

A meeting at Hyde Park was addressed by speakers from the Arab and British labour movement, and by representatives of Iranian, Pakistani, Chilean, Cypriot, Yemeni and Jewish student organisations.

Hussam Alraway, president of the General Union of Arab Students, condemned the state of Israel as a racist regime — this was made clear in the recent repression on the West Bank.

At the same time as the Israeli army was killing Palestinian people, Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, was in the country shopping for arms.

'This is why we say that the struggle of the Palestinian people is the same as the struggle of the people of South Africa and Zimbabwe.'

Speech

Greetings from the Young Socialists and Workers Revolutionary Party, brought by YS national secretary Simon Pirani, were warmly applauded and his speech was interrupted several times by cheering and chanting.

A loud cheer went up when he condemned the Syrian troops in the Lebanon and warned that: 'They will attempt to impose peace' at the cost of thousands of Palestinian lives.'

He pledged that the YS and WRP would carry out their

pledge of solidarity by building the revolutionary party to smash capitalism in Britain.

Some of the young marchers told 'Young Socialist' why they were calling for a free Palestine.

Mohsen (18) from Brooklyn Technical College, Birmingham, said: 'The Labour government are capitalist. They will always be against the rights of the Palestinian people.'

Samia (19), a student at Imperial College, London, said: 'We are marching to tell the people of the world that there is a nation without a home. They are living in tents and caravans. We want to get our land back.'

A 15-year old Egyptian student said: 'In Lebanon it is a question not of Christian and Islam but left-wing and right-wing.'

'The left wing are the Moslem majority — the right is represented by the Christian president.'

Referring to the Arab leaders who have betrayed the Palestine struggle, she said: 'I think every one of them is a bastard and I only have faith in one of them — Gaddafi of Libya, who has not accepted any compromise with Israel and believes in the destruction of the state of Israel.'

A.A. Hussein, a student at the University of Sheffield, said: 'I support very strongly the people in southern Africa who are fighting racism. The revolution has started there and the youth are the nucleus of it.'

Why we support the Pa

IMPERIALISM has always denied the Palestinian people the right to live and work in their own country, to national self-determination.

Arab workers and students protested in London, and all over the world, last weekend, to commemorate the setting-up of the state of Israel 28 years ago.

The British government's Balfour Declaration, in 1917, opened the way for the establishment of the State of Israel on May 14 1948, carved out of the Palestinian Arab homeland.

The imperialists have promoted Zionism, not out of any concern to help the Jewish people, but in order to have a base against the Arab revolution. Zionist colonisers drove half a million Palestinians from their homeland in 1948, massacred villagers and seized farms.

Scattered

To this day the Palestinians are scattered in refugee camps. The racist Israeli regime treats Palestinians as third-class citizens.

The Palestine guerrilla movements, principally the Palestine Liberation

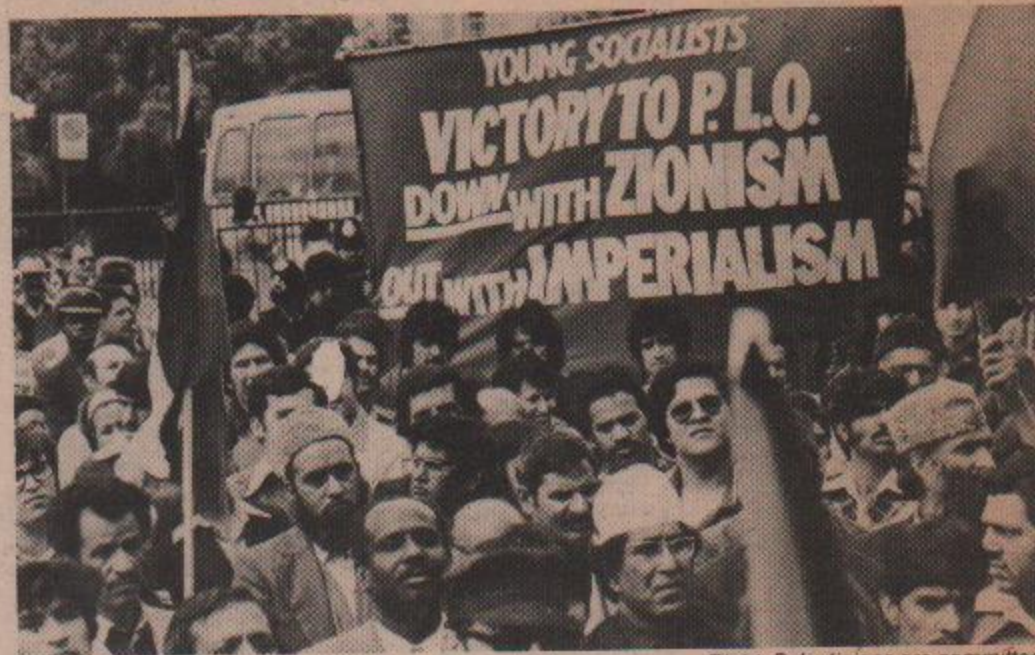
Organization led by Yasser Arafat, are committed to armed struggle to destroy the Zionist state.

The Young Socialists unconditionally support their

other Arab nations; and from the Moscow Stalinists.

The aim of the Arab leaders — in the 1956 Suez canal conflict, in the 1967 Six Day war, and the 1973 October war — has been to

This resolution, while calling for Israel to give up invaded territory, established the right of the racist Zionist state to exist, and to suppress the Palestinians.



Young Socialists banner on last Sunday's demonstration.

Right: Palestinians are committed

fight to destroy the imperialist-backed Zionist state.

Their struggle can only be resolved by the creation of a democratic, secular, socialist Palestine and by driving imperialist interests out of the Middle East.

The great danger to the Palestine struggle against imperialism comes from two quarters — the bourgeois rulers of Egypt, Syria, Jordan and the

defend their own economies, their own oil revenues.

In 1967, the Zionist backed by US imperialism, invaded the Golan Heights in Syria, the West Bank of the Jordan river, and marched through the Sinai desert right up to the Suez canal.

When the war was over the Arab nations — except for Colonel Gaddafi's Libya — supported the treacherous United Nations resolution 242.

In the 1973 oil war the Arab armies regained large sections of the invaded territory. All the might of the oil-producing states such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt was brought to bear against imperialism in the oil embargo.

But the Egyptian Sadat regime was content to get a few square miles of the Sinai desert back in exchange for the freedom of the Palestinian people.



Killing on the West Bank

17-YEAR-OLD Lina Nabulsi died of two bullet wounds during a riot like the one in this picture.

Lina, the eighth Arab and first girl to die in the anti-Zionist riots in the occupied West Bank of the Jordan, was chased into an apartment by a soldier while hundreds of youth were stoning the Israeli forces.

Relatives said she was highly intelligent, a nationalist, and

had returned from a visit to London only a few days ago.

Israeli officials said that Lina was killed by a 'ricochet' bullet — but a soldier is being questioned.

A local merchant, Sayed Ali Masri, told reporters he was threatened with shooting 'If I did not shut-up, when he spoke to soldiers about Lina's death.

Hundreds of young Arabs demonstrated outside the home of the dead girl last week

shouting 'Palestine is Arab' and 'Killers'. Two were injured by gunfire when Israeli troops dispersed the crowd.

Lina Nabulsi died because she fought against the Zionist occupation of her homeland.

The past few weeks have seen mass demonstrations and riots throughout the West Bank against Israeli occupation.

Every life sacrificed will make young people there more determined to fight to the end.

Palestine revolution

The Moscow Stalinists have never fought for the freedom of the Palestinian workers and peasants. They too supported the partition of Palestine and the continued existence of Israel to

dictatorship of Suleman Franjeh has begun a policy of slaughter against not only the thousands of Palestinians who have been driven from their homeland into Lebanese refugee camps, but against Lebanese Arabs as well.

The Falange has attempted to 'divide and rule' by turning a large minority of Christians (over one third of the population) against the Arab workers and peasants.

The Syrian regime has shown their true colours in the Lebanon. A force of 16,000 Syrian-officered Al Saiqa and Syrian regular troops invaded the Lebanon last month, supposedly to bring the two sides to a settlement.

The Syrian intervention has been backed 100 per cent by the United States, Russia and the Israeli Zionists. The Israeli premier boasted last week that the Syrians had killed more Palestinian guerrillas than the Israelis had ever been able to do.

Now banker Elias Sarkis has been appointed Lebanese president with full Syrian backing — and their armies have been turned against left-wing workers and the Palestine commandos.

clear in a series of aggressive statements that they were prepared for a nuclear showdown in the Middle East.

They armed Israel with the H-bomb.

Today they are doing their utmost to use the Arab bourgeois leaders as a battering-ram against the Palestine struggle.

Detente

In line with the world-wide policy of 'detente' the Soviet leaders support this policy.

The Young Socialists believe that no amount of wheeling and dealing by the treacherous nationalists, the imperialists and the Stalinists can defeat the Palestine liberation struggle.

The Palestinian people are fighting because they have their country to win and nothing to lose. They have shown the same steel determination which smashed American imperialism in Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Angola.

We say no deals should be made with imperialism. No confidence should be placed in the Arab bourgeoisie. The workers and peasants can and must win a socialist, democratic, secular Palestinian state.

The greatest assistance that the Young Socialists can give to that struggle is not in words. It is in building the revolutionary party in Britain to smash this rotten capitalist regime which has always backed imperialism and Zionism to the hilt.

Statements

Syria and the United States can only impose a 'peace' settlement in Lebanon in one way, by drowning the Palestinian people in blood.

Last year, American imperialist leaders made it



to armed struggle

maintain the 'balance' in the Middle East. This is the meaning of peaceful co-existence.

The Lebanon is the latest flashpoint of struggle in the Middle East.

The civil war has already claimed 20,000 lives.

It is not a war between Christians and Muslims as the western Press make out.

The CIA-backed Falange



Emotional scenes at Ulrike Meinhof's funeral

ULRIKE MEINHOF: How did she die?

BY PENNY BLOOR

ULRIKE MEINHOF, a leader of the West German Baader-Meinhof anarchist group, was found hanged in her solitary prison cell in Stuttgart where she was held for four years.

It was Sunday May 8th the anniversary of the defeat of Nazism on May 8th, 1945.

The Justice Ministry originally stated that Meinhof committed suicide, hanging herself by tying a strip of towelling to the window frame.

Her body was discovered by prison warders at 7.34 a.m. on May 9th.

There are some extremely odd circumstances surrounding her death which have led thousands of Germans to ask: Did she really commit suicide?

- The ministry statement on her suicide was released at 7.38 a.m. — four minutes after her body was discovered.

- There was no window frame from which she was supposed to have rigged the neck-breaking towelling — and the grating would have been far too narrow for such towelling to be threaded through it.

- There was another puzzling aspect to the death. Each of the four Baader-Meinhof defendants had to remove the only light-bulb from their cells and hand it to the warder each night before retiring.

Blouse

But when Meinhof's cell was opened on Monday in the presence of a lawyer, the light bulb was still there.

- When she was found in the morning, she was wearing a new blouse and not the one she had been seen with on the day of her death.

- Defence lawyers could not get hold of Meinhof's body until 48 hours after her death, by which

time it was too late to conduct a post-mortem to reveal anything.

Meinhof's co-defendant Gudrun Ensslin says she spoke to Meinhof about 10 p.m. on Saturday night through the cell windows and she seemed quite normal.

Her sister said that she had told her she would never commit suicide.

West German poet and writer Erich Fried said that the Baader-Meinhof trial was being staged under Nazi-like conditions.

The government has spent millions to erect a fortress court at Stammheim for a show trial.

It is under constant army and police surveillance and everyone going in and out — judges and lawyers included — are physically and electronically searched.

Isolation

Meinhof has spent most of the past four years in isolation and under constant harassment by prison officials.



Ulrike Meinhof

At one time it was suggested that she undergo brain surgery to 'cure' her 'anti-social' behaviour.

Last weekend she was buried in West Berlin amid scenes of extraordinary emotion and tension.

More than 4,000 sympathisers went to the cemetery to mourn her death, while more than double that number of police stood in the background.

Many mourners wore masks or painted their faces to confuse political police taking photographs.

They carried posters vowing to avenge her death.

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RECRUITMENT DRIVE BEGINS

THE 'Young Socialist' sales drive began in south London last week.

Campaign teams will take the drive to all parts of the country during the summer months, to increase circulation and

BY JULIAN LEACH

win hundreds of new YS members.

They will concentrate on building new branches.

The South London team met success at Henry Thornton School, Clapham, where the paper sold hand over fist and school-leavers were interviewed

about the appalling job prospects they face.

Fifteen new members were signed up for the Young Socialists outside the school gate in one dinner time.

Youth we met asked us about the article on Wandsworth that we are putting in this week's paper (see centre pages).

Experiences

Many came up to us and asked to put in articles about experiences in many cases of police harassment.

Others were leaving school next week and asked what our policies to defend jobs would be.

At the notorious Labour exchange in Brixton unemployed youth bought the paper and signed up for the YS.

The Young Socialists will be campaigning around the schools and labour exchanges throughout the summer.

Three continental youth conferences this year



THE Founding Conference of Revolutionary Youth last November: since then the International Youth Committee has made important strides forward.

THE International Youth Committee of the Fourth International will hold three Regional World Delegate Conferences in November - December this year.

The Conference will bring together delegates from factories, unemployed youth, students, school youth, peasant youth, and will discuss: 'War, slump, and the world struggle of youth against imperialism'.

They will be held in:

1. Western Europe;
2. South East Asia and Australasia;
3. The Americas, North and South.

Since its founding conference in London last November, attended by delegations from 18 countries, the work of the IYCFI has expanded and nine of its sections now publish their own youth papers.

The Conferences will aim to assemble youth from many countries where there are no sections now. The great struggles now developing against imperialism in country after country open up the greatest possibilities.

A Rally will be held in the course of each conference to mark the 40th Anniversary of the first of the Moscow Trials in which thousands of Trotskyists and communists were murdered in Stalinist Russia.

A completed version of the documentary on Trotsky's life will be shown.

A Manifesto will shortly be issued by the International Youth Committee calling the conferences.

YS members may shortly look forward to the publication of the International Youth Committee's Bulletin.

This will carry regular reports from every section of the world and provide a vital link between the Young Socialists in Britain and all the revolutionary youth movements throughout the world.

Young Socialists Rallies

- DEFEND JOBS, WAGES, BASIC RIGHTS!
- NO TORY PAY LAWS!
- FORCE THE LABOUR GOVERNMENT TO RESIGN!
- BUILD THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS AND 'YS'!

WEST LONDON REGION YS

Sunday June 6th
Queen Elizabeth College,
(next to Holland Park School),
Shepherds Bush W 12.

YORKSHIRE REGION YS

Sunday June 6
The Herringthorpe
Leisure Centre,
Rotherham.

SOUTH LONDON REGION YS

Sunday June 13th
Blackfriars Settlement,
14 Baylis Road, SE1
(near Waterloo Station).

WESTERN REGION YS

Sunday June 13
The 'Enterprise',
Parsons Street,
Bedminster, Bristol.

NORTH LONDON REGION YS

Sunday June 20th
Community Centre,
Ingestre Estate,
Burghley Road NW5.

SOUTHERN REGION YS

Sunday June 20th
Kingston Boys Club,
Hampton Road, Kingston.

SCOTTISH REGION YS

Sunday June 27
Upper Larkfield
Tenants Association Hall,
Gourock.

NORTH EAST REGION YS

Sunday June 27th
Burnside School,
High Street, Wallsend.

EASTERN REGION YS

Sunday June 27
Charing Cross Centre,
(The Three 'C's'),
Norwich.

EAST LONDON REGION YS

Sunday July 18th
The Central Hotel,
Barking Road, East Ham.

MANCHESTER REGION YS

Sunday July 18
UMIST Student Union
building,
Sackville Street,
Manchester 1.

DISCOS in the evening after all rallies

WHIT MONDAY OUTINGS

NORTH LONDON YS
Whit Monday
May 31st
to MARGATE

SOUTH LONDON YS
Whit Monday
May 31st
to BOXHILL DISCO
on the way back

WEST LONDON YS
Whit Monday
May 31st
to MARGATE DISCO
in the evening

SOUTHERN REGION YS
Whit Monday
May 31st
to BRIGHTON DISCO
on the way back

EAST LONDON YS
Whit Monday
May 31st
to MARGATE DISCO
in the evening

For details of all outings ring us on 01-622 7029



Leicester Federation Five-a-Side Tournament

TEAMS from all YS branches in Leicester took part in last Saturday's tournament at Victoria Park. These pictures are from the Highfields Unknowns v Virdees United match

SOUTH LONDON TOURNAMENT

TEAMS from Tulse Hill, Clapham, Brixton, Stockwell and other areas took part in last Sunday's South London YS Five-a-Side Football Tournament.

A rally afterwards was addressed by Yvonne Davis of the 'YS' Editorial Board. There was a very lively discussion on the police, profiteering, how we can overthrow the capitalists, the preparations for dictatorship and the need to build the YS.

£200 fund

COMRADES, the position on our fund is not changing.

We have £102.47 in hand and less than two weeks to go to the end of the month.

We have announced our summer recruitment campaign to win thousands of school-leavers, unemployed youth, young workers and students to the YS. If we are to carry out this campaign we must have our monthly fund.

Every area should fight to collect extra donations and send them straight to 'YS' FUND, 21b Old Town, London SW4 0JT.