LIAISONS INTER NATIONALES

Monthly paper-n°2-March 1970

Correspondence: M-C Gilles B.P.12 - Ixelles 2 - 1050 Bruxelles - Belgium CCP: Bruxelles - 2449.63 This is the second bullstin of LIAISONS INTERNATIONALES.

We have already a little more material than for the first issue, though there is still a let to do.

Anyhow in our opinion, this bull tin is only a means among others, with the advantage of maintaining a permanent contact

What we need especially now is that you write to tell us what you think of our work, if it comes up to your expectation in this field, what we could do to improve it - or merely to confirm your interest to receive this bulletin (some addresses must be out-of-date).

With the Limbourg strikes, we had the opportunity to go out of the limits of this bulle tin by providing friends passing through or who asked it by letter with informations.

We have collected a lot of documents about Limbourg which will be described in our next issue. Friends from BElgium, Holland and France have started a booklet which will try especially to bring out the meaning and the importance of these strikes. It will be published in French and Dutch; do you think it would be useful to make an English translation?

Anyhow we are ready to translate any interesting text and to diffuse it. We are waiting for your suggestions.

Do not forget sending us your publications regularly.

Editeur responsable:
P.Doguet, 28, avenue Nouvelle
1040 - Bruxelles

We have received:

BELGIUM

LIAISONS

B.P.12 - Ixelles 2 - 1050 Bruxelles
or J.Leroi, 1, rue d'Horloz, 4210, Tilleur
one issue : 5 BF - for 1 year : 50 BF (CCP : M-C Gilles,
2449.63, Bruxelles)

issue nr 2: -the added value tax (TVA) as one of the employers' struggle instrument against people, and of big employers against small enterprises.

-informations about the beginning of the <u>Limbourg strikes</u>, about Cockerill-Ougrée, Citroën, Tirlemont sugar refineries, the "Innovation", a bank.

FRANCE

ICO Blachier, 16 bis, rue Labois-Rouillon, Paris 19 CCP: 20.147-54 Paris

special issue, a supplement to issue nr 89 - january 70 The international meeting of July 69 (51 pages) during which was proposed this idea of LIAISONS INTERNATIONALES

Discussions were centered upon the situation of capitalism, the workers'movement in each participant's country, the direction and activity of various groups.

To begin with, a remark from an italian comrade: G.Armaroli: the meeting took place in a mere information

perspective. A comrade from ICO (Paris) answers.
Presentation of texts written before or after the meeting:

-about workers! councils
-organization problems: is it finally necessary to be
organized in political groups?
papers distributed by the "Enragés" of Brussels.

-class struggle in Portugal

Report of the meeting by a friend of Paris (ICO):
-participating groups: Portugal, Italy, France,
Holland, Belgium, USA

-a part of the discussions: class struggle in the countries mentionned above.

- -perspective of the groups in front of that class struggle When speaking of action, do we mean "analyzing and informing without any other intervention, or have we to intervene, that is, to do what workers themselves are doing?
- -present situation of capitalism
- -struggle in under-developped countries.

Councils Communist group of Montpellier

(M.Séguret, 33, Bonnier de la Mosson, La Paillade, 34 Montpellier)

-a sheet about Italy: in front of the starting revolution the Italian bourgeoisie tries fascist methods.

This sheet underlines the differences between workers' action and trade-unions action concerning claims and struggle forms; it speaks about autonomous organization and about middle-class repression

LE MONDE LIBERTAIRE (French Anarchist Federation), 3, rue Ternaux, Paris XI) - printed monthly - 2,5FF

<u>february 1970</u>: The Italian attempts: "charges" against Valpreda - Pinelli's "suicide".

L'Idiot International (2, rue Vauvilliers, Paris I, 3FF) presents a table of the French working movement since 1879, and "elements for a synthetic study of the working movement": chronology from 1718 to 1923 (power, events, organizations), bio-bibliographies, informations about groups.

This supplement may be useful in spite of strange "misprints" (?) such as presenting Revolution Internationale, Pouvoir Ouvrier, Communisme de Conseils... under I.S. heading, and before Guy Debord's signature.

REVOLUTION INTERNATIONALE C.Giné, B.P.183,31 Toulouse (OL) 5 issues: lo FF (or 20FF for support) - CCP: 2722.39 Toulouse

issue number 3 - december 1969 (59 pages)

<u>Wildcat strikes and trade-unions</u>: The "treason" of tradeunions is not a result of circumstances. It arouses through the increasing difficulty of capitalism to accept the workers' reformist claims. Creating a revolutionary trade-union or changing leaders would be useless. The form of organization corresponding to the present struggle is the factory committee or the elected and removable strike committee. Revolutionists must contribute to break the trade-unions yoke and have no longer to enter trade-unions.

Class-struggle and organizations : Organization is necessary as much for the class as for revolutionary minorities. A revolutionary organization is separated from the general class organization; it has not to be a leninist-type organization, but it cannot be limited either to mere information; it has to intervene actively, as an organization, in the struggles "to represent the general leading ideas of the movement final goals, as well as of the path leading to them" and the part it has to play will persist until the final disappearance of class contradictions.

The student movement, May especially : two articles, one explaining the student movement as being "the ultimate expression of the universal decomposition of middle-class ethics and ideology" and a social crisis of this class, the other is trying to see its economical origin.

Moreover: -correction of item 7 of the statement of principles.

-about issue number 12 of the "Internationale Situationniste".

GREAT - BRITAIN

SOLIDARITY H.Russel, 53 A Westmoreland Road, Bromley, Kent

We have a number of pamphlets, the summary of which have been given in issue number one. If french-speaking comrades are interested, we have the intention to translate some of Does Solidarity agree ?

-The meaning of Socialism (Paul Cardan) 6d.

-The Workers Opposition (Alexandra Kollontai) 3/.

-Kronstadt 1921 (Victor Serge) 6d.

-From Bolshevism to bureaucracy (P.Cardan) 6d. Znaczenie Socjalizmu (P.Cardan)

-Socialism or barbarism 6d.

-The labour government versus the dockers - 1945/1951 6d.

-The crisis of modern society (P.Cardan) 6d. -The Kronstadt Commune 2/6

-The death of CND

-Paris - May 68 1/.
-The great flint sit-down strike against GM 1936/37 1/.

-The great lint sit-down strike against om 1930/37 -Hungary 56 3/6

-Modern capitalism and revolution (P.Cardan) 3/6

HOLLAND

DAAD EN GEDACHTE (Action and thought)
a review devoted to problems of workers' autonomous struggles.
Write to: Outshoornstraat l', Amsterdam W
Postgiro (Post-Office account): 307.695

- November 69
 1) strike of the strawboard industry workers in the province of Groeninghe.
- 2) Meeting of a support student committee in Utrecht with Mr.Liefaard, president of the socialist trade-union.
- 3) Strike in the cardboard industry and Igor Cornelissen's illusions (Cornelisson is an editor of the weekly paper "Vrij Nederland"). He believes in trade-unions democratization!
- 4) an article about the liberation of 3 German war criminals still in jail in Breda. The article rises against the protest of so-called Dutch anti-fascists, whereas nobody protested when the Ministry of Justice handed over 2 young portuguese political refugees to justice, whereas everybody thinks Dutch soldiers made their "duty" in Indonesia, etc.
- 5) About Roel Van Duyn, once a "provo", a so-called anarchist and a member of the Amsterdam communal council, who sang Tito's Yougoslavia praise in the anarchist review "De Vrije".

Van Duyn says Yougoslavia is practically on the way to Anarchism "as a driver whi is hesitating and is not too sure he will arrive finally". This opinion is obviously based upon the existence of "workers'councils" and upon the fact that students are getting excited, but Roel Van Duyn himself recognizes he could not know if it was really self-government. For "Action and Thought" a country where workers are saying that the time of strikes is over cannot

really know all-powerful workers' councils. A country where you can be imprisonned for political reasons cannot be on the way to Anarchy (such a whish is too crazy).

6) Relation between the Dutch communist party and trade-unions.

December 69

- 1) occupation of the Werkspoor-Utracht factories: it is one of the scarce "legal" strikes, and the first factory occupation since May 68. Even the bourgeois press seems to have noticed the opposition between trade-union organization and disorganized workers. But it did not understand how tradeunions recovered the movement in order to destroy it. Presently in fact, the press sees the difference between workers' point of view and trade-unions point of view. Trade-unions became the official organs of cooperation with bourgeoisie. In this way, the "success" of trade-unions in this strike (a ten items claim proposed by them has been accepted) is a mere imposture. The press seems to be saying that trade-unions are naive; Action and Thought rather considers it is a real swindle and it is proved by the way trade-unions persisted in having their claims accepted by the workers. Many workers thought trade-unions had only bad leaders and that a democratic trade-union organization would go on representing workers' interests. They said: "At last trade-unions are supporting us". After having been played such a nasty trick -which has been showed up by workers- many are ashamed to be still affiliated to trade-unions !
- 2) An article about Ben Sijes, from the Institute of War documentation, speaking inf an article about Councils Communism: "an estimated member of the bourgeois society".
- 3) polemic against J.R. Evenhuis, who spoke absurdities about the situation in Italy and anarchist trade-unionists, in "Het Parool".
- 4) What Vondeling (a Dutch labour leader > did not say.
- 5) The part played by Domela Nieuwenhuis, a Dutch anarchist dead in 1919, in the 1900 society.
- 6) About the demonstration of the "Socialist Youth" in the nunicipal Amsterdam theatre, against a play "Toller", by T.Darst. Toller wanted to be a workers' friend and died alone because he had understood nothing of workers' struggle. "Socialist Youth" will die in the same way.

January 1970

- -trade-unions positions in Holland
- -reorganization of the Arbeiderspers (belonging to the socialist trade-union) with new forms of joint-management (by a friend who has worked there).
- -Have we to rehabilitate Van der Lubbe ?
- -a bulletin from student of Nimègue (Socialistische Witgeverij Nijmegen, Oranjesgel 42, Nijmegen) about the cardboard workers' strike.
- -a very hot autumn (read ICO number 88). A discussion with Italian commades in order to make their positions clearer.
- -About Munchen Councils republic
- -discussion with the group "Actie Tomaat" about a demo against a playwright.

February 1970

- -strikes in the Belgian Limbourg (according to the few informations received on january 26.
- -Dankert, a socialist deputy, and NATO
- -an article against the group "Actie Tomaat"which claims kinship with Councils Communists.
- *-about the CGT congress in Vitry.
- -Workers' councils in yougoslavia (a criticism of "Arbeidersraad of ondernemersstaat. Macht en macht-strijd in Nederland en in Joegoslavië, Van Genneg, Amsterdam 1969, written by M.Brockmeyer and I.Cornelissen) The article criticizes the part due to Mr. Brockmeyer about Yougoslavia. In the next issue, an article about the part due to I.Cornelissen.
- -about CNV, a protestan trade-union which has criticized remarks coming from the employers.
- -about a congress about workers' councils in Yougoslavia. No worker was present; most participants were managers, with a few trade-union high-priests.

We have presented only a short summary of the last two issues, by lack of time for translating. They will be commented longer in our next issue.

the name of "All power to workers' councils," friends (B.P. 401, Amsterdam) sent us a few papers - especially about the playwright "Toller" (read Action and Thought - december 69) - and a booklet "Arbeiders Macht" (Workers' power) which we shall speak about in our next issue, in the same time as other texts about Limbourg.

ITALY

A.I.A. (Attività Informazioni Anarchiche)
Franco Pavese - Casella Postale 218, 17100 Savona

A few anarchist militants from Savona, who has accepted to print an anarchist information bulletin (A.I.A.) have decided to maintain personal contacts with us and to send every "material" printed by the group of received from other Italian anarchist groups.

They have the intention to sens us (not yet received):

- 1) Letter from Bakunin: a booklet from the Rome anarchist group, dealing with 2 subjects:
 -the class theory, their antagonism, their struggle, their disappearance
 -the problem of organization, better said, of the relation-ship between the vanguard and the workers! mass organization.
- 2) Croce Nera Anarchica (Anarchist Black Cross) nr 5
 Bulletin stencilled in Milan by anarchist groups of Piazzale
 Lugano and devoted to a report about repression in Italy
 especially after the attempts of Milan and Rome.
- 3) <u>F.A.G.I.</u> bulletin (Youth anarchist federation of Italy) The latest bulletin, important because of two assumptions (p 43 and 27) about "Proletariat" and "Tactics and strategy of advanced capitalism on its lines of tendency".
- 4) A.I.A. bulletin number 2 : see above
- 5) Pirelli basis unitarian committee a printed booklet of December 68, reporting one of the first experience of struggle control by the workers.

PORTUGAL

About class struggle in Portugal in 1969 (Cadernos de circunstancia)

This is the text presented at ICO international meeting by portuguese friends - it is an 8 pages booklet, describing the fast development of portuguese economy and especially the spectacular industrialization. Such changes on one hand brought changes in repression -which make decaying the "antifascist front" - and on the other hand, a radicalization of struggles in industry and university; the article gives numerous examples.

For further informations, write to LIAISONS INTERNATIONALES

U.S.A.

NEWS AND LETTERS 415, Brainard Street, Detroit, Michigan 48201 comes out monthly - subscription for 12 issues: 1 doll. one issue: 10 c.

As it is presented in the paper, this is what is News and Letters:

"We are an organization of marxist humanists (...) who are seeking to change our conditions of life in the shops, the schools, the society as a whole. To do this we feel that all of us -workers in the factories, students in the universities(...)- must come together and talk about how we can end speed up and racism in the plants, miseducation in the school; how we can build different human relations by abolishing the division between mental and manual labour

January 1970
-various informations not limited to USA (strike at Citroen-Forest (Belgium), news from Citroën-Paris..)
-an article by R.Dunayevskaya (the author of Marxism and Freedom) entitled "Economism versus Marx's humanism": a criticism of P.Mattick's book "Marx and Keynes, the limits of the mixed economy (Extended Horizons Books, Boston, Mass.)

They sent us too their "Perspectives Report to the National Editorial board meeting of News and Letters presented in a bulletin (35 c.) under the title of The needed American revolution, by Raya Dunayevskaya

First of all it contains an analysis of the american attitude to science, philosophy and objective reality. It is noticed that the petit-bourgeois thought is decading. Maoist thought which is strongly attracting the intellectuals (the article says why) is the greatest danger of the revolutionary movement.

The report compares then 1969 to 1968 from a revolutionary point of view, in France, China, Russia, Czechoslovakia and the U.S.; then it examines the role of black in the revolution, that is, the influence of the 1960's African revolutions upon the communist world, and the part played by blacks in the formation, together with whites, of a new revolutionary class in the US. A long paragraph is devoted to the dialectics of revolution: the revolutionary heritage is twofold: it is philosophy and revolution. Knowledge is a creative power. The task is to make this heritage single, totally philosophic and totally revolutionary. This is where the concrete revolution begins.

The informations and publications mentionned in this issue have been received before February 26th.

00000000

If you receive this issue, having not received the first one, please, write to M-C Gilles, B.P.12 - Ixelles 2 - 1050 Bruxelles - Belgium

600000000

Our next issue will come out at the end of April

0000000000

Money received

Belgium: C.L.712, T.L.50, M.A.40 Canada: J.L.?. 1 canadian dollar

France: J-M.T. 5FF, L-P-G 0.8FF + 20 B F USA: J.K. 5 dollars, N.and L. 1 dollar

that is 1226 BF

Exponses

Mail costs
issue nr 1 334,2
material 45
620,2

that is +605,8 BF

000000000

Minimum subscription: 35 BF, or 70 c.

to be paid by money order or proforably to CCP (Post-Office account): 2449.63 - Bruxelles

0000000