



By Louis Kirby, the man they called their most unwelcome guest

Inside anarchy headquarters



Pictures by GEOFFREY WHITE

THIS is the inside of Anarchy Headquarters...

On the walls: Posters calling a Docks Committee of 100 public meeting in March.

Another says: "In times like these, you need PEACE NEWS."

Then "Committee of 100" in jumbled letters.

DOVE FLIES

A Radial Walk is announced to a nuclear base. There are foreign language posters. In one a dove flies over Hiroshima.

There is another headed Committee of 100. It says: "The Nuclear State, Return to RAF Marham Saturday, 18th May, 1 p.m."

HALT SIGN

Under it, a ghost hand gives a halt sign.

"Operation Porton" is listed on a big chart—June 29.

And amid the clutter a bill says in big type: Porton Germ Warfare

A MAN with pale blue eyes who was once a housepainter helped direct operations last night "against the authorities," and talked of anarchy.

This was Goodwin-street, London, N.4, in 1963. A 12ft.-square cluttered room on the second-floor of a battered peel-paint building. The headquarters of the Committee of 100.

A duplicating machine churned. Calls to action against the King and Queen of Greece. President Kennedy. And the Porton germ warfare establishment on Salisbury Plain.

"There are four places in a Dormobile leaving Chelmsford for Porton..."

"Hampstead coach leaves Belsize-park 8 a.m. Plenty of places." Near by, professional printing presses turned out thousands of pamphlets with a new theme in their title: "The Committee of 100 Against Tyranny."

Back in 1960, the Committee had the one aim, backed by many sincere people: To outlaw the Bomb.

TOP NAMES HAVE EDGED AWAY

Since then a number of top names have edged themselves away from the National Committee; Bertrand Russell, Vanessa Redgrave, playwrights John Osborne, Arnold Wesker, Robert Bolt.

And since then the ex-painter, Mr. Terry Chandler, aged 23, has become ever more prominent.

Now, he explains: "How many supporters we have depends on what we are doing. There are a wide range of people who join us for particular purposes." For the once pure aim has turned into a vendetta.

THEIR 'PROTEST' IS NOW A VENDETTA



Operation Porton—a card index lists the Committee of 100... leaflets give semi-secret information on the biological HQ.

grey-flowered, contemporary wallpaper as he says:

"I suppose we are something like the pre-war anarchists. We fight against bureaucracy wherever we find it."

Now he is also secretary of the "Save Greece Now Committee." But, of course, he added, he will demonstrate not only outside Buckingham Palace during the State Dinner, but also at Porton and Birch Grove and at the Church of Our Lady of the Forest when President Kennedy goes to morning Mass next Sunday.

Michael Harwood, London secretary of the Committee of 100, chimes in to help explain why they plan to upset the visit of the Greek King and Queen.

'THEY WERE BRUTALLY KNOCKED ABOUT'

He leaves the busy telephoning of instructions for a few moments. A bespectacled man of 25, long black hair, black sweater, unshaven chin, mauve tie, unbuttoned shirt.

Harwood, a barrister, lives with his wife—now expecting a child—in a £3 10s-a-week flat, is one of the only two paid

officials at £10 a week, and it means, he says, "second-hand shoes."

Now he chimes in with Chandler to say angrily: "We sent a group over to Athens as a peaceful protest demonstration. They were brutally knocked about."

Chandler: "And I was kicked out."

Harwood: "We plan a peaceful demonstration. But there will always be people who come along for a punch-up. And we can't stop that. It's not OUR responsibility."

WE SPEAK ONLY FOR OURSELVES

When I climbed the 32 green lino steps into the frenzy, five Committee men were studying the Daily Sketch warning published yesterday which focused attention on the danger and irresponsibility of the planned march on Porton.

"Watch what you're saying now," the planners told each other. And bearded Mr. Peter Moule, aged 27, secretary of the National Committee and the other paid member, said openly: "You are not a welcome visitor."

But Mr. Harwood became vaguely expansive about where the Committee is going NOW.



MICHAEL HARWOOD, aged 25, barrister, London secretary of the Committee of 100. He says: "There will always be people who come along for a punch-up. And we can't stop that."



PETER MOULE, aged 27, secretary of the National Committee. He said at first: "You are not welcome." Later: "The Communist Party send us a lot of stuff."



TERRY CHANDLER, aged 23, ex-painter, secretary of the Save Greece Now Committee, works at Trouble HQ. He says: "I suppose we are something like the pre-war anarchists."

"We are working for a new society," he said. "We are not sure what society, but we want a complete revolution in ideas. We have different ideas about the sort of State we want."

"Our set-up is anarchistic. We are anarchistic in organisation. But although the authorities may believe we are anarchists, we do not say this. In our actions we speak only for ourselves."

Behind a paperwhite face, the brain of Mr. Chandler—"I don't think he ever eats," breathed an admirer—struggled and whirled.

Staring at the ceiling he intoned: "We are trying to introduce our form of anar-

chistic philosophy into many departments."

Abruptly Harwood broke in. "It isn't just Greece," he said. "There's Porton and Kennedy too, you know."

He went on in a rush: "We believe that what we are saying is relevant to everybody. We believe that eventually we will be supported by everybody."

All admitted that many of their activities tally closely with the wishes and the deeds of Communist Party HQ in King-street.

But they denied they got any help from them. "The Party send us a lot of stuff and let us know what they are doing," said Mr. Moule.

A NUMBER OF BANKERS' ORDERS

"We naturally sometimes find ourselves at the same kind of demonstration."

The defection of so many star names has come as a bitter blow to Goodwin-street. "We are not losing our sting," Mr. Moule protested indignantly. "I think we are on the upgrade. Especially at a time like this, with so much doing."

In each of 12 regions all over the country the Com-

mittee of 100 has a cadre of anything from 30 to the London total of 90, which is split into a dozen area groups.

Now they had plans, he revealed, to take over an adjoining room in addition to the one they now rent at £2 a week.

Their money comes from collections at public meetings and donations. "We are backed by people in every walk of life," boasted Mr. Chandler.

"From dockers to professional men. And we get a number of bankers' orders every month, but not enough."

Two raids by the Special Branch were, he said, "a nuisance but nothing more." With a giggle he went on: "They seized hundreds of pamphlets on Porton, detailed maps, and so on. But when their backs were turned we printed another 10,000."

Before the headquarters staff move out to Porton and Birch Grove this week-end, there will be more floods of instructions by leaflet and a grapevine of telephone calls.

"We all EXPECT to be knocked off by the police," said Mr. Chandler. They ought to be!

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Tomorrow: Why the Porton march must be stopped