

FACTS ABOUT G. HEALY AND HIS FOLLOWERS

By Simon Pirani (WRP Central Committee)

1. A group of frauds and traitors led by Gerry Healy, Vanessa Redgrave, Corin Redgrave, Sheila Torrance, Alex Mitchell, Richard Price, Claire Dixon, Paddy O'Regan, Jean Kerrigan, Frances de la Tour, Tom Kempinski and others, are posing as the Workers Revolutionary Party. They are publishing a daily newspaper 'News-line' and a weekly youth paper 'Young Socialist'. They were expelled from the WRP in October last year.

2. The group's leader, G. Healy, was expelled from the WRP for (a) sexual abuse of female comrades; (b) physical violence against party members; (c) slandering D. North, secretary of the US Workers' League, as 'a CIA agent'. Healy disappeared on the day that the charges were brought and has not been seen in public since. A recent investigation by the WRP Control Commission, having taken written and verbal statements, showed that Healy had systematically taken advantage of his position of authority in the party to sexually abuse female comrades against their will. Other reports confirmed that, as far back as the beating-up of Ernest Tate, a supporter of the Socialist Workers Party (US) in 1966, he had carried out or ordered violence against members and non-members. As for the slander against North, it was simply a repetition of Healy's accusation against virtually any party member or other socialists who sharply disagreed with him — that they were 'cops' or 'agents'.

3. One convincing proof of the charges against Healy: this man, who has consistently used the British libel laws to silence his political opponents, has not brought a single action against the 'Workers Press' or other newspapers who have repeatedly accused him of 'rape', 'debauchery' and 'violence'.

4. While evidence against Healy seems too strong for him to bring a libel case, his followers have pursued **nineteen** legal actions against the WRP in the capitalist courts. Healy supporters who walked out of party employment have sued for redundancy terms; others have claimed ownership of our residential college; V. Redgrave wound up our printers to secure return of a £29,000 'loan'. These and other cases were aimed at destroying and bankrupting our party, and silencing our newspaper. It is a repeat on a larger scale of Healy's attempts to silence opposition from the 'Socialist Organiser' in 1981 by bankrupting them with a libel action.

5. The traitor Healy has put pen to paper to attack the WRP in scandalous (and barely coherent) language. He referred to the WRP leadership thus: 'The "moral" issues were simply a cowardly, treacherous cover for supplying information about their own party members to the capitalist state. It was a "police job" in which there were no holds barred.' ('Political lessons of the split', News Line, February 8). Healy is a liar. The only people using the capitalist state against WRP members are his supporters, in particular the Redgraves.

6. Healy's supporters explicitly **defend all his actions**. They were opposed to his expulsion from the party; even now they say that everything he did in his life was right. A statement from their so-called 'political committee' denied rumours that Healy, 73, had been pensioned off: 'Comrade Healy sits on every major committee of the WRP - its International Committee, Central Committee, Political Committee and the editorial board of the News Line' (p. 2, News Line, February 23).

7. The 'political committee' claim that our exposure of Healy's vile practices was 'a violent and malicious onslaught on comrade Healy's political integrity.' They claim to have 'successfully smashed this political attack' and 'exposed' the 'counter-revolutionary politics' of the WRP. In fact these liars have **never** answered the documents written before the split by D. Bruce, S. Pirani and A. McLarty opposing their twisted, sectarian politics. They simply defend **all** the crimes against the working class carried out by Healy when he was in the leadership of the WRP, and oppose **all** attempts by the WRP to examine these betrayals.

8. Healy and his supporters **still defend** the News Line editorial of March 8, 1979, written by Mitchell, which supported the **shooting** of twenty-one Iraqi Communist Party members by the Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party regime. This and other cringing praises of the Saddam Hussein government were written to curry favour with its representatives. Healy hoped to get money from them. The Healy group also **still defend** the actions of Mitchell, who instructed News Line photographers to take pictures of demonstrators outside the Iraqi embassy in London who were protesting against the 21 executions. These photographs were then passed on to the embassy, and presumably then to the Iraqi secret police.

9. The Healy group **still defend** the completely opportunist way that their guru, behind the backs of the WRP's leading committees, visited businessmen and politicians throughout the Middle East to get money from them on the basis of the WRP's principled support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

10. While abusing the party's support for the PLO, Healy over the past few years virtually forbid party members to engage in solidarity action with those fighting for national liberation much closer to home, in Ireland. While the WRP under Healy sang the praises of Iraq, the Irish Republican movement were slandered in News Line as 'terrorists', 'provocateurs' and constantly accused of 'assisting the Tory state'.

11. Healy's supporters **still defend** his totally unprincipled support for certain 'chosen' labour leaders in Britain. When Ken Livingstone turned his back on the fight against rate-capping and



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the cuts, Healy fought to keep the WRP quiet about it. Similarly, WRP members were exhorted not to criticise right-winger Bill Sirs during and after the 1981 steel strike despite his duplicitous role.

12. While Healy revelled in 'secret' meetings with 'top' leaders, WRP members were told not to take part in Anti-Apartheid, CND and other such campaigns. During the miners' strike, an instruction went out not to participate in support groups (this was defied by many members). As for the struggle for womens' rights and homosexuals' rights, the WRP was totally silent under Healy for reasons which are now obvious.

13. Healy's supporters **defend without any question** the 'Security and the Fourth International' investigation, which replaced political attacks and polemics against other groups claiming to be Trotskyist with claims that leaders of the SWP

(US), Joseph Hansen and George Novack, were 'agents' of Stalin's secret police and the FBI. A WRP commission is to be set up to re-examine the 'evidence' produced: Healy's supporters take it all as good coin despite knowing the corruption of A. Mitchell who organised the 'investigation'.

14. Healy's supporters still defend something their 'political committee' statement calls 'dialectical materialist cadre training'. This is a reference to Healy's mystical and nonsensical version of Marxism, which has been exposed and analysed in articles by WRP members D. Bruce, C. Bailey, C. Slaughter, P. Penn, M. Howgate and others. Many of Healy's leading supporters have admitted his 'dialectics' is rubbish and none except Regan have tried to defend it. But they don't hesitate to foist this travesty of scientific socialist thought on young recruits.

15. Healy's supporters still defend his past frame-ups and expulsion of young comrades like Stuart Carter and Brendan Martin, who devoted their lives to the party, were elected to the Central Committee — and were then thrown out because they dared to disagree with the 'guru'. The WRP Central Committee's first act after expelling Healy was to revoke these expulsions.

16. Healy's supporters also still defend the bureaucratic methods and financial double-dealing used by him in the WRP, including the secret purchase of a BMW car and a £20,000 'emergency fund' kept for his own use.

17. **The WRP Central Committee is ready to take full responsibility for its own role in allowing Healy to get away with his crimes against the working class. Both individually and collectively, we will answer for our part in his regime and in its downfall. We are proud that, due to the firm action of our members against Healy, we were able to expel him. We are now setting about re-founding our party on the basis of the Trotskyist principles for which we all joined it. As Trotskyists we are committed to support every struggle of the working class and oppressed people everywhere. We will not hide our disagreements with others, but neither will we act as narks or finger-men against other working-class organisations as Healy's supporters do; we will work with other working-class organisations on issues on which we have principled agreement.**

A REMINDER

Healy's supporters frequently ask young people to join their organisation. They ask trades unionists and others to speak at their public meetings and conferences or financially assist them. **Remember** their 'guru' is guilty of sexual abuse and mis-use of finance; he has now disappeared from public view. **Remember** these people walked out of the WRP to defend him. **Remember** this twisted sect is prepared to use the courts against other working class organisations, and then label them as 'cops'! **Remember** they defend the killing of the Iraqi 21. They betrayed the principles for which Trotskyists lived and died, and they will betray you as well.