

# UNION CARBIDE KILLS

On December 3rd 1984 the worst industrial accident in history took place at Union Carbide's pesticides factory in Bhopal, India. 200,000 people were affected by a massive leak of poisonous MIC gas. Between 5,000 and 15,000 people died. One year later, with 50,000 people suffering severe health problems and whole communities devastated, the company has failed to face up to its responsibilities.

**Union Carbide has:** \* consistently denied liability \* obstructed claims for compensation \* ignored the demands of the workers in Bhopal \* failed to improve safety standards in similar plants internationally.

**Whose Responsibility?** In May 1982 a report by the Union Carbide parent company criticised the safety of the Bhopal plant. This warning, and protests from unions, were ignored as the company instituted a "cost reduction drive" to increase profits. By the time of the disaster all the safety systems at the plant were inoperative or useless. **UNION CARBIDE ARE RESPONSIBLE.**

**The People's Response** In Bhopal a coalition of groups rallied behind plans for alternative production of safe, cheap and useful goods. In response to Union Carbide's callous decision to close the plant they demanded the company turn the factory and premises over to the workers with a lump sum for investment. Because of international pressure Union Carbide has been forced to enter into negotiations over the future of the plant. **We must increase our pressure on Union Carbide and force them to accept the legitimate demands of the people of Bhopal.**

**Pesticides and Transnational Companies** Pesticides cause 750,000 cases of poisoning every year, of which 14,000 are fatal. Their use is causing irreversible damage to our environment. Bhopal is not an isolated incident. Health and safety controls for both the production and use of pesticides are notoriously inadequate. Since Bhopal nine leaks have been reported in Union Carbide's "Cancer Valley" in West Virginia, the worst leaving 135 people in hospital. Unless effective international controls are forced on transnationals like Union Carbide more "accidents" will happen.

In search of higher profits, transnational companies use racist double standards which result in workers in third world countries being super-exploited while workers here are thrown onto the dole. **The only real challenge to the power of transnational companies comes from workers and communities organising internationally.**

It is in this spirit of solidarity with the people of Bhopal that we are demonstrating in Sheffield — the home of Union Carbide's head office in Britain.

**Demonstration: Sheffield Saturday December 7th 1985.**

**March: Assemble 10.30 am Caborn Corner, Spital Hill.**

**Rally: 12.30 pm Sheffield City Hall.**

**Benefit: Friday December 6th, 8 pm Lower Refectory, Sheffield University.**

**Accommodation available — contact Bhopal Solidarity Group.**

We aim to build widespread support for this demonstration. We are relying on donations to organise the protest. You can help by asking your trade union, community or political group to support and publicise the demonstration, send messages of support to Bhopal and donations to Bhopal Solidarity Group.

For more information contact us:

Bhopal Solidarity Group, c/o Commonground Resource Centre, 87 The Wicker, Sheffield.

# UNION CARRIBE

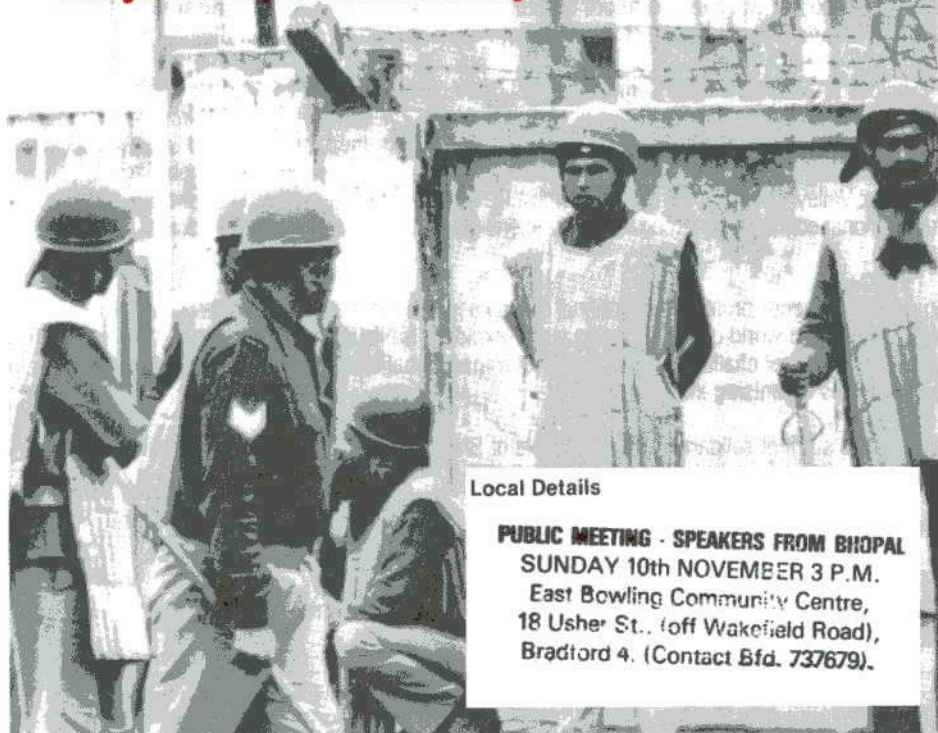
# KILLS

**Demonstration in solidarity with the people of Bhopal**

**SHEFFIELD SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH 1985**

**March: Assemble 10.30 am Caborn Corner, Spital Hill**

**Rally: 12.30 pm Sheffield City Hall**



#### Local Details

**PUBLIC MEETING - SPEAKERS FROM BHOPAL**  
**SUNDAY 10th NOVEMBER 3 P.M.**  
East Bowling Community Centre,  
18 Usher St., (off Wakefield Road),  
Bradford 4. (Contact Bfd. 737679).

Police Guarding Bhopal Factory  
Pietro Gigli (IFL)

Supported by: Sheffield Trades Council, Bhopal Trade Union Solidarity Group, Third World First,  
Bhopal Victims Support Committee, David Blunkett (Leader of Sheffield City Council) ...