

NOTES

honour the joint return-to-work formula devised at the end of the strike. If the NEP declines to honour the formula, the Newspaper Society will lose moral credibility unless it swiftly expels the NEP from membership.

The new barbarians

Duncan Campbell writes: Little attention on this side of the Atlantic has been given to continuing revelations about the CIA's relentless search for mental and behavioural control techniques. Considerable documentation of 'Project Artichoke', which lasted 23 years until 1973, was authorised for release last summer and has been issued this month.

The most distinctly bizarre item is a 1962 memorandum for the Chief of the 'Contact Division' outlining a plan for the gathering and export from Tanganyika of the gall bladder and 'other

poisonous viscera' of a Nile crocodile. The CIA sought to examine the poisons – prepared to a traditional witch doctor's recipe – to establish their value for assassination or inducing amnesia. The memo outlined the relative merits of exporting the viscera, or sending a live crocodile to the CIA – undercover, naturally, via a US zoo.

A local agent in Tanganyika reported that '(blank) can provide us with the details concerning methods and techniques employed by the witch doctor in preparing the poison'.

In an earlier connected development, the CIA had sought special drugs for use with in problems of 'disposals'. A 'disposed person' was to be kept 'in security until his knowledge of (blank) operations is no longer of value to the enemy'. It was desired to 'cause semi-permanent amnesia for a period of approximately one year'.

Hitler revised

Anna Coote writes: The Press Council has rejected a series of complaints by writer David Irving concerning an investigative review of his history of Hitler published in the *Sunday Times*. The Irving book, published last year, contended that Hitler had no part in the massacre of the Jews, but Gitta Sereny and Lewis Chester examined its evidence and concluded, in Sereny's words, that the book aimed 'to whitewash Hitler by connecting his crimes with the necessities of war and blaming his defeat on treason.'

Irving repeatedly demanded a right of reply to discuss 'new evidence', a demand rejected by the *Sunday Times*. He was particularly concerned about witnesses who had provided evidence for his book and who had been re-interviewed by Sereny: none of whom believed in Hitler's innocence.