

FIRE TO THE PRISONS

Issue 8/Winter 2010
An Insurrectionary Quarterly

“WE SHOULD NOT BE WAITING FOR OUR EVERYDAY LIVES TO REFLECT ‘1984’, BECAUSE AT THAT POINT MOST OF US WILL HAVE ADAPTED.”



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**WITH THAT SAID:
“WE MIGHT NEED IT”**

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This magazine is free to people currently incarcerated by contacting the prisoner support groups mentioned at the end of the repression chapter. This magazine is also free to other prisoner support or not-for-profit groups who share the outlook of this magazine. We would hope in this case, any money made from selling this publication by these groups would go to benefit various projects and endeavors we may find intriguing...

Special thanks to our proof-readers, both in the empire, and across the country in the bay. Special thanks to those who provided the resources, space, and patience needed for this publication to exist. Special thanks to all those who helped to produce the content in this issue; whether we know you or not. Special thanks to the Big Apple for your Nightlife. Without it we would never be able to go to print.

Agitating till the grave,

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A QUICK BRIEFING

WHAT & WHY

There are some things most of us can agree on. There are some things most of us dislike, but choose to accept. For example: most people hate the police and most people dislike work. Two things most of us can agree on. But two things most of us accept.

Most people dislike the wars in the world. But in response all we do is voice our passive disagreement, “support the troops, and bad mouth the administration at hand. What else can we do, right?”

Most people dislike that there are starving children in the world, while others suffer with obesity.

Some people have to steal food to survive. While others donate to charity and struggle with new diets.

Most people prefer to spend their days with the people they love. Most people end up spending most of their time with coworkers, clients, or bosses.

Most of us have no choice.

If we can't work, we can't eat. If we don't behave, we go to jail. We reserve the serotonin in our minds and the love in our hearts for holidays, vacations, weekends, or drugs.

Most of us accept this, and bite our teeth, until the next moment we can declare as ours.

We don't concern ourselves with what it is that feeds us, we just keep working, as long as our stomachs remain full or there is a roof over our head.

Our job is our key to money, and money is the key to our survival. Otherwise we would be starving and lost. Life is just unfair. So we are told.

We ignore our disconnection from our nourishment, and accept the industrial process that produces our menus.

If our stomachs are full, it is not our hands that produced the ingredients, it is our jobs that satisfied our hunger. Our understanding of nourishment is purely within the system of production the economy mediates. In this case capitalism is what feeds us; at the same time it is also what starves us.

The workplace is one scenario some of us can agree on as a part of our lives we don't enjoy, but are forced to accept, over and over and over again.

Most of us despise our disconnection and dis-empowerment, where our conditions are determined by our role in a global world as opposed to our immediate realities. We choose to distract ourselves from these feelings and conditions, and choose to absorb the numbing opium of sitcoms, or film following a hard day's work. We are too tired to play sports ourselves, laugh ourselves, or experience action or adventure in our own lives, unless we are lucky enough to get paid for it. We watch others do what it is we can't. Whether or not its real, whether or not we are doing it, we are too tired to do this ourselves, and we accept our everyday visual as the boring alternative.

Most of our conversations are filled with the stories of new episodes on television, news of the rich and famous, or those who have it worse. As opposed to new episodes in our own lives.

"The war in Iraq." "Gay marriage."
"Lost." "H&M is having a sale."
"Spare some change." "No, sorry."
"I'll have a copy of the times." "One coffee please." "Thanks for the tip."
"You're welcome."

Everything is pre-determined.
Everything is mediated.

The conditions beyond our control, set forth by the institutions that make up this society, act not only as the medium for our physical nourishment and comfort, but also act as a force in determining our inter-personal relationships. We live harder in second life, and feel less shy on facebook. Our social lives have adapted to our lack of time for them. Our relations are now more measured and more predictable. We are now more connected, through the mediums that make it possible for our literal disconnection.

In the process of nourishing our social desires, we are forced to calculate a self, making the dive in the social cess pool of modern alienation more comfortable.

We constantly strive for our sense of uniqueness, to become an "I", and separate from the "we". We look for this distinction and identity in music, sports, art, spirituality, clothing, etc. We are so alienated from one another, that to reach out into the mass presented before us without an identity, would be like a nightmare where we see ourself in our middle school home room class naked.

Culture makes for a diverse market place.

In a world where you can constantly be surrounded by people and still feel alone, we rely on culture and the market place to help us design our "selves".

In this world, the individual is calculated by the trends of the market place. There is a niche for everyone, and a price tag on all of it. We have our "own" restaurants, venues, channels, drinks, bands, neighborhoods, grocery stores, diets, gyms, workout routines, hobbies, clothing brands, or cars. In our strife for individuality we further our alienation. The "individual" groomed and fostered in the market place helps to further distinct us from one another, only being connected by the next ideas of the marketplace. Under capitalism, in the strife for individuality, we not only further our alienation from each other, we further our alienation from our own sense of sincere desire or self. Our desires are in congruent with valued products someone else produced, as opposed to valued experiences achieved by our own will and possibility.

Even our rebellious urges are subject to a medium, before even being worthy of taking seriously.

In the case of questioning or challenging our conditions, we are forced to seek the approval of the same standards, politics, and sciences that rationalize our conditions to begin with.

We always have our own opinions. We always have our own questions. We'll get drunk and discuss these perspectives or concerns with our friends, but that will be it, that's as far as we go. We are encouraged to flirt with questionable ideas or scandalous questions in the "appropriate" context. Our friends are not the place for a serious dialogue in this world, its the professors that can tell us if we are wrong or right. The questions have all been asked by the social scientists and philosophers of the world is what we are told. Our ideas and questions are something to present to academia, not our everyday conditions. We have to rationalize them to the intellectuals and inside the colleges, before we can even rationalize our ideas to ourselves or the people we care about.

We accept our era as the end of history, because we are told that everything has been done. All the questions have been asked and all the questions have been answered. Our minds are boring compared to the internet, our possibilities are boring compared to special effects. We are at the end of human possibility, and taught as if there is nothing more to learn.

If we do question, if we are not happy, we adapt, under the assumption that we if we don't, we are failures, we have not undertaken the opportunities set before us. Whether or not the opportunities set forth can go far enough to satisfy our ambitions.

Our jobs are our faults if we don't like them. Success is for the kids that paid attention in school. For the kids who could

Culture makes for a diverse market place.

afford college, or choose to stay the whole four years. If we don't enjoy our jobs, we need to regret skipping out on a few classes in high school. If we are not making as much as we want, we chose the wrong profession.

Although capitalism forces us to exchange our time for money, so we can survive, whether or not we like it, if our everyday life is undesirable within capitalism, it is our fault. Capitalism defines opportunity, if our ambitions go beyond its matrix of possibility, we are failures within capitalism.

Are this simply the statements of a cynical personality? Will our questions or critiques be ignored as the obvious? If this is obvious, if these are things we ask ourself, then are they things we are just supposed to accept?

Some have asked these questions as a pre-requisite to experimentation. Some have chosen to "materialize" the frustration that comes with such contemplation per-se. Some do not see conclusion in the means available for so-called "change" as we know it.

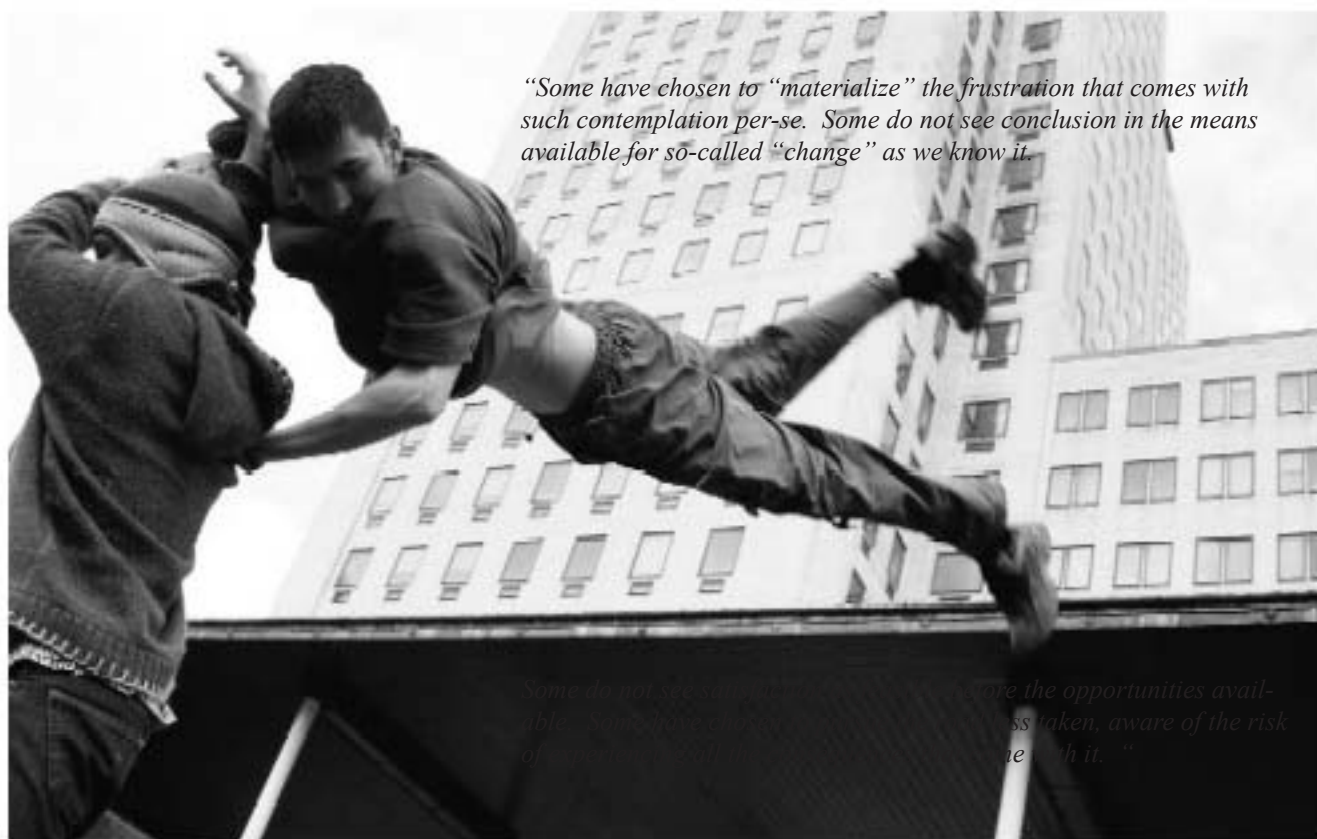
Some do not see satisfaction as feasible before the opportunities available. Some have chosen to pursue the road less taken, aware of the risk of experiencing all the consequences that come with it. Some have chosen to take action in their own hands, whether or not they are granted permission. Some have decided that they are not in control of their lives, and to reclaim them requires going above and beyond the opportunities and mediums we are given to deal with them.

Although some may have asked the same questions or drawn the same frustrations, the same people may be alienated by our reports of violent attacks on institutions or companies cited in this magazine (if you haven't read this magazine before, just start turning the pages). This is something we would like to confront here.

In the realm of everyday life, there are specific situations of violence that we are taught to condone or disapprove of. We see both informal or institutional violence in our everyday lives, or at least on the news. The armed forces, whether

police or military would be an example of institutional violence we are told to accept and condone. There of course is also the non-formal violence we commonly hear of. Rape, torture, or armed robbery being a few. These would be bad forms of violence, or a form of informal common violence we hear about frequently. This unlike the police and military we are told is a negative violence, and distinct. What in actuality determines informal ("bad") or institutional ("good") violence is whether or not the behavior is approved by the existing state. As the state is deemed the only licensed provider of appropriate violence in the process of it sustaining itself and mediating inappropriate violence.

The state in some cases allows instances of non-formal violence like tenants and home-owners defending themselves against burglars, women defending themselves against rapists (in some cases), or stores defending themselves against robbery, and so on. These are acceptable in the eyes of the law (in some cases), and those responsible for enforcing it, the police, military,



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or government. These acts are recognized in some cases as self-defense by the state, and deemed appropriate by its courts. What defines self-defense though? What defines appropriate non-formal violence and not? More importantly who is responsible for defining this?

If a more unique situation was to exist, where the same people we need to defend our lives from were in control of the laws and the prisons that consequence us for violating its standards of right and wrong violence or self-defense, at that point, this sort of self-defense would become a struggle.

At this point, if we felt the need to use violence to defend our lives against regulating forces like the police or military, we are criminals. If we found the need to deal more forcefully with visible institutions responsible for mediating our lives in the process of defending their quality and possibility, if the state approves of the enterprises we are choosing to attack, we have chosen to become an enemy of the state, and run the risk of being consequenced for defending ourselves. Or the more common term used today when self-defense becomes a conflict or struggle with the state, would be “terrorism”.

Our first thought of inappropriate violence or self-defense is “terrorism”. People suicide bombing or sniping soldiers in the Middle East. We ignore the circumstances motivating these desperate displays of violence, because they are conducted against those who are licensed to be violent. In this specific case, those who declare or fund the war, are exempt from judgement because they are entitled to engage in war, they are the specialists in violence, carrying the license of state approval.

“If we are frustrated, if we do not like how we were forced to live, we choose to accept it. Why am I special? Life isn’t fair. The statements we say to ourselves, are the same cited in movies. The statements we ask ourselves when questioning our conditions, leave us adapting and accepting, because acceptance and adaptation make this society function.”

DIFFERENT QUESTIONS NEED TO BE ASKED. ADAPTING AND ACCEPTING LEAVE US WITH A COMPROMISED LIFE.”

We are either too disconnected from “these people” to even feel that it is our place to judge, or we understand that these people hate us (depending on who is reading this), because they are attacking those who are appointed to represent us and protect us (depending on who is reading this). But obviously unconventional violence can be seen in more scenarios than just what the media and state deems as the “war on terror”.

Violence is motivated by a set of conditions; rape or abuse are two examples, occupation or unconsensual mediation could be two others.

Self-defense is usually only thought of as an isolated incident, based on an isolated conflict.

But can self-defense only be justified in the immediate situation? Could self-defense be a consistent battle and struggle to defend our own lives against a forced set of conditions separate our own doing?

If we are frustrated, if we do not like how we are forced to live, we choose

to accept it. Why am I special? Life isn’t fair. The statements we make to ourselves, are the same cited in movies. The questions we ask ourselves when examining our conditions, leave us adapting and accepting, because acceptance and adaptation make this society function.

Different questions need to be asked. Adapting and accepting leave us with a compromised life.

Of course some choose the unique approach, or as some call it, the “conscientious” approach,

adopting the way of activism or politics. If we want change, “we have to accept the mediums to achieve it; working within the system per-se” (is what we are told), whether or not the mediums are determined by the same thing we are looking to change. Writing letters to congress, raising money for charity, or writing about specific issues we have with the world seems to be the conclusions or purposes of the “conscious” minded; the activists or the politicians.

But some, well in fact many people, whether or not they are aware of it, have chosen an even more unique approach to change, or one could maybe say: satisfying their own sense of “justice”.

Some have chosen different paths, some have chosen to not utilize the mediums for change or wait for approval, some have chosen to act on their desires or feelings now, hoping others will support and repeat. Some people are looking to work not with the forces of power, but the forces of themselves and the communities that nurture them. Some people are looking to re-appro-

appropriate their conditions or everyday lives on their own terms. Some are reaching out to those who share the conditions, as opposed to those who mediate it. Some are looking for immediate gratification, not compromise.

Are these people terrorists?

Because the state and media would have us see them this way. More importantly, the state and media hope to have us see these people as separate of ourselves. As specialists as opposed to us. Such an approach is too “extreme” to be accessible to the average person. Because the average person is apparently a pathetic person. Dealing with our conditions directly, on our terms is simply “insanity”. Something to be afraid of when you hear about it, as opposed to inspired.

In that case, is this approach to change or “justice”, when not conducted by the state, a strategy that celebrates terrorism?

Or could these people be us, our friends, our communities: us; or an opportunity to learn new ways to appease our desires and frustrations on our own terms?

Until the police come to our house, or put us in jail, they are defending us. But at any point this could happen. Until we are starving and on the street, we are the privileged ones. But at any point this could happen. If our options are this thin, are we living the way we want to?

There is a social contract signed from birth, where we have to survive a certain way. Otherwise, we will starve or be imprisoned. There may be “rights” with this contract, but if someone else can take them away at any point, what do they matter? If we are not determining this framework, or if we are not happy with the way things are, but have no choice other than to accept it, are we dealing with a case of coercion? Are we being attacked, and just constantly looking to survive it?

Coercion is not a positive word to anyone. We accept formal coercion in the form of armed police, restitutions, jail terms, or bail. We dislike non-formal coercion like blackmail, robbery, or rape. These are some specific examples of where one could experience coercion. In each case, ranging in different forms of intensity, you would be experiencing coercion, in all cases you are dealing with a form of attack. There is an offensive act that leads to us comply with what or who is conducting it. But again, can it go beyond the specific? Can there be an entire system in place built on formal coercion and us adapting to it?

If the entirety of our everyday lives are pre-determined by a system of production and mediation, and our lives are not exactly the way we want them to be, would the forces determining this set up be behaving in a coercive way? If the set up is a process of coercion, then the system determining it would be a system that attacks more or less that which it is regulating. We are forced to accept this, and consequenced if we don't.

Some choose to view the current conditions we are experiencing as a form of attack on our everyday life, and engaging in resistance to it, violent or not, would be an act of self-defense.

We have assumed this outlook.

We report on clandestine violence, illegal occupation of space, or riots because we see this behavior as ruptures in this social framework. We see this as acts of defending lives against an unconsensual arrangement. We will not disagree with the accusation that these acts are violent or “criminal”, but we refuse to scoff or demonize them; on the contrary, we look to recognize them as positive ruptures before the normalcy of this constant attack we experience in our everyday lives. As something that brings us closer to each other, and avenges our possibilities lost before the framework found in this mediated society.

Our intention with this magazine is to present a common enemy, and a common way of dealing with this. We look to nurture learning opportunities for those interested in producing conflict with the current “system” in place. We look to provide examples of others courageous enough to attack that which is attacking them, especially when its not popular in the mainstream papers and blogs, or to avenge someone's memory before a demonizing media. We look to provide examples of people coming together against a common enemy, and fighting it not on its terms. We are a force for agitation in this society, and look to help further an awareness and dialogue that will be in permanent conflict with the conditions created by capitalist society, or civilization as we know it, as long as they are not on our own terms.

As the government isolates such a sentiment as “terrorist”.

We support self-defense, in its most unconventional form.

We consider ourselves a quarterly magazine, but our intention is never to continue. We are not interested in becoming just another news source. We are interested in helping to foster a revolutionary and borderless solidarity among frustrated forces and communities in conflict with the current reality. We are interested in connecting different movements, and identifying unrecognized struggles. We are interested in exposing ruptures in the social framework, and not allowing them to be isolated. We are a magazine for its own destruction. Our content is intended not to be read, but realized. We report to inspire, and write for response. We aren't looking to be heard by academia, the same way we are not looking to be appreciated by journalists. We are discontent people, in conflict with our conditions, and in solidarity with those who share them. We represent no distinct movement, we only wish to present resistance with a common enemy.

As we cited earlier, prison has helped to maintain the social framework as

we know it. In maintaining it, it is also there to prevent us from trying to overcome it. Bank robbery, drug dealing, fraud, or prostitution would certainly be a few of the more common reasons as to why people are imprisoned. These account for the majority of people incarcerated. It is obvious that all of this behavior stems from the same struggle - that being survival under capitalism. Some can't get jobs, some do not want to be limited to their jobs; these are some of the attainable alternatives. In this magazine, those imprisoned (or currently dealing with legal battles or police harassment) we choose to mention have chosen a more unique path in "overcoming" capitalist society. Like the outlaws and criminal entrepreneurs, those cited here have specifically chosen not to accept the means for survival they are granted, and look for gratification beyond the framework we are presented. This also goes for those mentioned who are currently in trouble for aiding other lives or engaging in revolutionary forms of solidarity. We have taken responsibility for being a different voice for those falling under the raining anvils of the state. We want to defend those choosing a different path, and help realize the implications of really "overcoming".

War continues everyday, around the world. It is not just between nations, it is also between classes, races, species, religions, and other divisions produced to keep us apart. Pre-existing social tensions remain as consistent as the social institutions predetermining our existences. The United States is not unique to this. In fact the United States is completely prepared for the fluctuation of this war's intensity, and are active in privately engaging in it.

Specifically, Americans are taught to be infatuated with its "constitution". The vital paper that sanctions the spectacle of this liberal civilization, leading its mass to accept its "imperfections", and feel far superior to its "less" desirable alternatives. Many of those arrested or in jail that we report on here, have fallen into the cracks of information, and made only available to communities of

special-interest, or whomever would currently sympathize with whatever motivations brought forth the "crimes" mentioned. Although the opportunities and possibilities of American capitalism do reflect the same appearance of any "Western Civilization", sentencing guidelines for crime do not. By order of the "constitution", the paper so greatly praised by American nationalists, we are entitled to bear arms or take actions to preserve the "free state". We do not remember the 1941 statute still on the books (nor do we remember that such privileges were only designated to a select few from the start; obviously native and black communities were not part of the constituted new club). Following the industrial revolution, the "Smith Act" was created. This act is a United States federal statute that makes it a criminal offense for anyone to "knowingly or willfully advocate, abet, advise, or teach the duty, necessity, desirability, or propriety of overthrowing the Government of the United States or of any State by force or violence, or for anyone to organize any association which teaches, advises, or encourages such an overthrow, or for anyone to become a member of, or to affiliate with, any such association." This was first practiced in response to the dawn of the American "communist" movement. In 1941, multiple members of the American communist movement were put on trial for violating this act. This helped to indict multiple members of the Socialist Workers Party in Minneapolis at the time, and convict a select few. The evidence against them was primarily based on the rhetoric of political leaders associated with the Communist movement. Excerpts from books by Trotsky and Marx were two examples of evidence used to indict and convict. Once the theories of such thinkers turned into a reality for parts of the world, it became a violation of the "constitution"; a threat to the stability of American culture.

The era of repression has not ended. It is always here, and becomes more visible each time dissent becomes a real threat. If there is a state, there will be repression. The state will always pro-

tect itself, by liquidating anything that threatens its stability by isolating such forces with prison or public deception of them.

We are not utilizing our right to free speech. Whether or not we are putting this magazine out in the United States, a place where literature is not taken seriously. Whether or not we are immediately experiencing the repercussions of being an insurrectionary voice in such a repressive era. It is a risk we always face. Because if literature is taken seriously, if it becomes a threat or significant, by this we mean, if it becomes a reality or largely visible gesture, such a right will and can be revoked.

Of course we all are aware of the "War on Terrorism" and the patriot act. These are simply examples of state opportunism and continuing the inherent tradition of all governments: repression to everything that threatens its own protection.

Once vivisection companies were going out of business from resistance conducted by animal liberation groups, we had the "Animal Enterprise Terrorism" act created. Individuals were going to jail for making people aware of company behaviors, and encouraging people who cared about animal suffering to respond. Individuals were put in jail for years, as soon as campaigns became successful.

The victory of "getting away with it" was becoming too obvious to the police regarding anonymous actions in defense of the earth by "Earth Liberation" groups in the last 15 years. Sentencing a few people "caught" at the dawn of their concerns to "rapist and murderer" like prison terms for crimes where only property was destroyed was not enough. Infiltration and entrapment helped to further intimidate. Groups of people were being arrested for crimes that happened years ago via wire-taps and paid snitches. Infiltration and intimidation helped to spread distrust and deception among people arrested or interested in the cause; humiliating the same communities before on-lookers. Sentencing before the crime even

took place, became possible as the FBI started to create spies to entrap and sentence individuals who were potentially interested in acting in defense of the earth by means of claiming “conspiratorial” intentions. This helped to create a new style of pre-meditated arrests by the state, using the “conspiracy” accusation as the entirety of its evidence. Stopping this movement in its tracks, before even taking its next step.

Raids and indictments are coming out in response to the new momentum of riots in the United States. This is seen as a manifestation of the new “insurrectionary” and “anti-state” forces sweeping Europe and South America as well. Terrorism is no longer seen as the standard “clandestine” actions done anonymously in the night, it can also

be public displays of discontent; riots. Riots are a participatory violence that act as a safe space for discontent. Now they are just deemed as public “terrorism”, if done in direct conflict with the state or its public rituals (Republican National Convention or G20 being two examples).

Even if no evidence exists, a grand jury can always lock someone up for at least a year and a half before even having a case.

When something starts to spread, when something becomes “serious”, the state will be there to stop it. We have seen this in the recent occupations of University campuses in California by students. Students being beaten by police, arrested in mass, and some put in jail

facing insane charges. We see this in Western Canada, as anarchists, aboriginal peoples, and others opposed to the upcoming winter games suffer the wrath of its “security” to come. We see this in Greece as the new “socialist party” begins to isolate and liquidate “anarchists”. They are aware of their potential, as they have continued to foster unrest before the state, since the death of a teenager sparked riots across the country last December ‘08. Millions of people are incarcerated in prisons across the world. Uprisings are frequent and consistent inside prisons, as long as they exist. Without outside resources, these acts will remain isolated, and perceived only as routine.



Therefore we look to connect and foster conflict and agitation towards a common enemy. We want to prevent certain struggles from remaining isolated; while at the same time prevent individuals arrested for engaging in these struggles from being forgotten. We want to present a message both critical and frustrated with the conditions were forced to accept before this civilization, and hope readers will more than sympathize, but actually relate.

This is why we exist. This is why we will continue. But like we said, we hope to not be around forever, because like all revolutionary literature, we will only continue to exist until the current conditions we are frustrated with cease to.



TURNING THE TABLES

IN DEFENSE OF THE EXCEPTIONS

ADVOCATING A REVOLUTIONARY VOICE IN DEFENSE OF THE "COP-KILLER"

By Another Delinquent

Whenever there is an attack on a police officer or force, the spokesperson or commissioner always mentions the courage the police officers had. Apparently it's an understood thing that assaults and attacks on police are an inherent possibility and frequent experience for street officers. We agree with this recognition of courage the police so arrogantly spout. We see this courage as the same one that would manifest in war. Like soldiers in war, the police act as the enforcers of peace and normalcy before our everyday conditions. They are the infantry preserving a stability for reality as we know it. They are the foot soldiers of an institutional fear that maintains our everyday relations and movements. The police are public evidence to the low-intensity social war we experience everyday.

The job of the police is to be at the forefront of mediation for all of us, to let us know that if we behave independent of the norm, we will be further isolated, either through arrest or physical abuse. They realize that they are engaging in a constant war against everything and everyone that looks to disrupt the peace and silence before our current reality. They are the everyday visual for why it is that we choose not to question, but to adapt and survive.

The police realize that most of us appreciate them, similarly to the same way many appreciate god; through fear of what would happen if we chose to not accept them. There are the exceptions though. As some choose to not accept them, the

same choose to not be afraid. As some choose to take the risk of negating God and being damned to an eternity in hell; some choose to negate the police's power, and run the risk of being damned to an eternity in prison.

As the police continue their careers of torment and repression, the anxiety we all feel surviving their presence will certainly lead some to break. Sometimes people choose not to flee the police, but to pursue them. So in some ways, yes we agree that there is some bravery to being a police officer, but we would say the same bravery is true for a bully.

The Hollywood bully we all think of is simply a younger or non-formal version of the police. As the police walk around lashing out on the poor or so called "minorities" in society, they are looking out for the interests of the wealthy or the elite. As the bully walks through school tormenting the ugly or weird, they are protecting the status of the popular and normal. As the police walk around the streets looking for victims to add to their quota, the bully wanders the cafeteria. Knowing nobody likes them, but taking money and causing tears, because they know everyone is frightened of them - just like the police. It's actually quite sad that the police and the bullies of the world would ever take such pride in this sort of courage, but unfortunately in this society, personal power and pride is recognized by your advantage or power over others. Being respected through a common fear is not necessarily a positive thing for most people. In the case of bullies, bosses, politicians, or the police, it is the entirety of their existence.

Similarly to the recent escalation of attacks specifically targeting the police in the United States, the last ten years provides evidence of a common breaking point for the tormented youth of this country as well. Someone is always going to break. Someone is always going to take the initiative of being the exception. The under dog that bit back per se. We've seen this in the case of Maurice Clem-

mons (accused of shooting 4 police officers in a coffee shop in , Lakewood, Washington) or Lovelle Mixon, (accused of shooting four police officers in the streets of Oakland, California on March, 21st, 2009. This came shortly after the Bay Area Rapid Transit police shot a black man named Oscar Grant in the back while he was on his stomach.). Just like we've seen this in the case of 14 year old Elizabeth Catherine Bush in Williamsport, Pa, or Eric Harris, and Dylan Klebold of Columbine, Colorado. As some may trip the bully in front of a large crowd, punch the bully while he or she is not looking, or start a rumor to embarrass the bully, others in some cases have chosen to lose all hope. Some have chosen to bring fully automatic weapons to school, and shoot the bully, and anyone who laughed at the bully's shenanigans at their expense.

Of course we do not consider either Columbine, the Williamsport, PA school shooting, or similar incidents as positive attacks on the current social order. We also would like to add that we do not support these acts, or understand why certain people were killed, and of course we do not like hearing about teenagers dying or killing each other. But we do understand why they happened. We think that the scandal of violent ruptures in American schools, takes a lot of the same forms of civilian defense against the police. Most people hate the police. Most people have just adapted to them. The streets of the world are plagued with the formalized

“How often are we made into suicide reports?

How often did our wallets look like guns?

How often did our appearance seem suspicious?”

bullies of the world; the police. And the possibility of an explosion in tension, is always the case.

Whenever an attack is made on the police, anywhere in the world, it is an act of war. Because our people, our part of this war; the poor, the youth, the discontent ones who the police protect, this society and those who rule it from, are the targets of every officers gun.

How often are we made into suicide reports?

How often did our wallets look like guns?

How often did our appearance seem suspicious?

The bullets of the police are made for us, and they will be used in any moment where we try to stand up to them or the system they protect. Realizing this, would anything other than a smirk of pleasure come onto our faces when we hear about this? Of course there are less violent and more efficient ways to prevent more arrests from being made, and put a dent in the efficiency of the police for a day or two (attacking police communication and operation infrastructure as opposed to the police bodies themselves).

For every dead cop, one of us is protected, one of us is avenged. For every dead officer, fear is driven into the hearts of a thousand others, and for a moment the tables are turned.

It is sad that revolutionaries have been so scared to celebrate. Will we really indulge them with their own sentimentality? Did they do this for Billy Panas or Oscar Grant? Did they shed tears when Sean Bell was shot 50 times in New York? They did not. In fact, any apology was dragged out of them by our resistance to them. We really only hear an apology when we riot. If Rodney King wasn't caught on video, and L.A wasn't in flames, would Rodney have just been another case of “resisting arrest”? If Oscar Grant getting shot in the back wasn't caught on video, would it have been self-defense? If Billy Panas wasn't stumbling with friends when a drunk off-duty Philadelphia police officer shot him in a random outburst of drunken rage, would Billy have just been another one of the “troubled youth”? These are some of the recent police on people murders that have had the privilege to become media frenzies towards the end of 2009. Imagine all the “dead niggers” or “out-of-control youth” the police have murdered in the shadows of this society, that no one was there to witness, that just became statistics.

There is an accountability in this war, and it should be understood, that people are going to break. Some of us can not handle the constraint, and its more important for some to strike back than it is to continue to survive the heat.

If some dare to fight back (whether that is individuals or communities) in any way, it is understood that they may be killed by the cops, or stripped of their livelihood by the justice system the police represent. The police know as well, that some people are not cowards, and some will make it very clear what side of the fence they stand on. Of course these exceptions, the Davids who try to take on the Goliath police forces of the world, will always be made out to sound like demons. Apparently, anyone who shoots police, or really engages in any non-institutional violence against any facet of the current social framework, will be destroyed by the media presenting their case to the world. No longer does this individual

“There is an accountability in this war, and it should be understood, that people are going to break. Some of us can not handle the constraint, and its more important for some to strike back then it is to continue to survive the heat.”

become an inspiration to youths and repressed people across the world to stand up to the police. The individuals become “Terrorists”, the communities become “Dangerous”, and our assumptions and understanding all become routine.

Of course the individual was never acting in self-defense. The news informs us that they were always acting in congruence with their own insanity. We want to say here that we will not bow down to the sacredness the media fabricates for these dead cops.

We will have to be the exception, in our support for the exceptions.

We are saddened by the death of “suspect” Maurice Clemmons; the man who killed 4 police in Lakewood, Washington this last November. We aren’t even positive that this was the man who committed the act. Maurice was killed before even being taken to trial or being heard from directly.

A little history about Maurice:

Maurice was sentenced to 108 years in Arkansas in 1989 when he was 16 years old. His charges were aggravated assault, robbery, and firearms possession. In 2000 he managed to get released 15 years before his original parole date of 2015. Maurice claimed during parole hearings that his “crimes” from when he was 16 were motivated by a need to survive both logistically and socially in his high-crime neighborhood in Arkansas after moving there from Seattle when he was a teenager. Not to mention that he was 16 years old, and more or less given life for crimes where nobody was even killed, we can’t imagine

the deep-seeded resentment towards the police or prison system such an individual would begin to experience.

After 11 years in prison, Maurice returned to his home-state Washington as a 27 year old man. In July 2001 Maurice was convicted of another robbery case, and given 10 years in jail. He made bail 3 years later, on March 18th 2004. The media has told us that it is believed that Maurice allegedly committed other armed robberies since his parole. They also throw in that he “may” have been drug smuggling. Of course on top of those unprovable accusations, they don’t forget to throw in that he was “talking crazy about god”, or thought “he’d been cursed by a devil-worshipper”. What this has to do with murdering police; we have no idea, but apparently its important information to throw in when discussing this man. Its said that six months before the attack, Maurice was accused of “assaulting an officer” and “child rape”. As uncomfortable as it is to never have a conclusion on the accusation of raping a child (considering how vile we find the act), Maurice is dead, and the accusation has now become truth by the media, as it continues to demonize this dead man who can only remain silent.

Its important that we add that Maurice was out on bail, because his friends and family collectively put up the bond on his 150,000 dollar bail, and although he was apparently an awful man, there were people that cared about him. Although we also have no faith in trials, we do find it interesting that they are so important to the spectacle of American “integrity, justice, and freedom”, but when cops are shot, there is no need for them.

Maurice was killed by a cop, when he was pulled over for allegedly driving a stolen car following the incident. Before Maurice was even found, he was the scapegoat murderer of the 4 police officers, and wanted dead or alive. We managed to compile tons of news reports about the situation and failed to find something mentioning that a gun was stolen from the scene of the crime. In fact it seems relatively impractical to steal a gun from the scene of a crime where one wounded officer is shooting at you. Its also obvious that whomever it was who shot the four police, had intended to get away from the scene, making it seem relatively stupid to have a firearm easily connecting you to the murder. But in the reports of the officer who shot him, Maurice apparently had an odd wound visible on his stomach, and was armed with the handgun of one of the officers. Interesting that a man whose been in and out of jail for weapons charges would need to be carrying a handgun from the scene of a crime he was allegedly fleeing from. But as its reported, he fit the description, and during a confrontation, Maurice was shot and killed by an officer during a routine stop in the middle of the night.

We cannot imagine the high-fives and vacation time the officer received for killing Maurice. We imagine every officer in the North West was hoping for the same opportunity to kill him. It didn’t end there though. Killing Maurice was not enough for the police, it was time to get his family and friends too. Darcus Allen who served time with Maurice in Arkansas, was accused of driving Maurice to and from the incident in Lakewood. Prosecution against Darcus states that he was questioned

following Maurice's death, and denied having a relationship with Maurice for some time. Although his original statement was this, and he continues to claim innocence, following his arrest, its now stated (following police custody) that Darcus admits to driving Maurice to the scene, but was forced into helping Maurice. He is currently being held without bail. Five other people have also been accused of aiding Maurice, most of whom are relatives. Although Darcus was denied bail, some relatives accused of providing Maurice with assistance have been released out on bail fees ranging up to five-hundred thousand dollars.

We don't know if it was Maurice who killed those four police, or if the five people accused of helping Maurice did either. All that we have are the statements of the police and the media. We understand that Maurice, although painted as a scoundrel of a human being by the media, clearly had friends and family who cared for him. If friends and family were not only willing to have bailed him out of jail and been there for him his whole life, and the state is correct that his friends and family were there to help him, allegedly being aware of the repercussions, he clearly had people who unconditionally cared for him. Were they also demons?

It is unclear what motivated this act. If it was Maurice though, was it an act of insanity? Or was it an act of revenge for years of police abuse and torment, in prison and on the streets? Could it have been that he was sentenced to 108 years at the age of sixteen by a 1980s southern jury? Could it have been the guards he encountered as a black teenager and man during his 11 year prison term in an Arkansas prison? Could the

PICTURE BELOW:

One of the Police cars Christopher Monfort is accused of destroying.



neighbors accounts of Maurice's living situation be true, when one neighbor mentions the consistent police intimidation on Maurice by the local department? Saying that undercover police were outside his house watching and following him everyday, being so obvious about it that the neighborhood just accepted it as routine. Could his surveillance cameras have been out of a fear that the police were going to attack him one day? We will never know the answers to these questions. But it is important for us to shatter the fear we have to ask them. Its important for us to go beyond the reactionary understanding were taught to have on violence against the police. When understanding the cop-killer he allegedly was, it seems like these questions should also be part of the equation.

Maurice is not an isolated incident. The month prior in Seattle had some frightening moments for the local police. On October 22nd, the same day of a local anti-police brutality march in Seattle, three police cars were set ablaze. It was said that a six foot man wearing a back pack was seen running from the three cars. Following this incident, on October 31st, veteran officer Timothy Brenton was killed in a drive by shooting. At the scene of his death, pamphlets were left citing a recent beating of a fifteen year old black girl by two white officers in a Seattle jail cell. The incident the pamphlets are referring to is when two officers, Paul Schene and Travis Brunner were escorting a 15 year old black girl to her holding cell. In response to the teenager kicking her shoe off at them when they got her inside, the two officers punched her in the face, then threw her against the concrete

wall, then onto the floor. One officer proceeded to punch her in the back of the head three times while the other officer held her on the cement floor. She was then handcuffed her, had her face smashed her face into the floor, followed by being picked up and dragged out of the cell by her hair, The incident was caught on camera, and since the arrest, the "rookie" officer was sentenced to 5 days unpaid suspension, while the other officer faces fourth-degree assault. We have seen this video, and could respond with nothing but tears and anger ourselves.

Since the drive-by shooting, one man was quickly made suspect when he was arrested for threatening an officer following the incident. That man was released on 30,000 dollar bond. Fol-

lowing this original scapegoat, Seattle police questioned a man named Christopher Monfort. While questioning Christopher, police say he tried pulling a gun out on them, and in turn they shot him in the head. It is not cited in original reports, following his arrest, but it now says that pamphlets threatening police and citing prior incidents of police abuse like the 15 year old girl, were also left at the arson on police vehicles prior to the murder of Timothy Brenton.

Christopher, who is half black and half white man, living in a notoriously racially segregated city like Seattle, was someone dedicated to confronting “judicial racism”. He took the “justice program” at the community college he attended, although this class has been known to educate many future cops, it was understood by people that his intention with the class was not to help create his career as a police officer, but to “make a change in society.” Monfort ended up graduating from the University of Washington in 2008, with a degree in “Law, societies, and justice”. Following his education, he applied for a minority-scholars program. For years, Christopher Monfort was active in trying to create a career for himself as someone fighting the system from the inside. Something all frustrated youth are told to do.

Although the officers who shot Monfort in the head claim they found the firearms used in the killing of the officer in Monfort’s house, as well as booby traps and explosives in his kitchen, and the car used in the scene of the killed officer’s death; we do not know if this is all true. We can never know. But if it were true, we choose to ask ourselves, why would someone do this?

Could discrimination by police for being half-black his whole life have driven him to want to help blacks in the American justice system, or brought him to kill an officer and blow up some

police cars? Could it have been witnessing the beating of a fifteen year old as we described earlier? Was Christopher maybe fed up with the bureaucracy and deception of trying to pursue a career in being a “lawyer of the people”? Whatever it was, this or that, whether or not he did it, these are the questions we choose to ask.

Christopher is currently on trial for murder and arson. Although he still claims innocence, as a result of the bullet to the head, he is paralyzed from the waist down.

IS THIS NOT REVENGE?

Like Maurice, Christopher chose to attack the police. In both cases they were shot by police before being able to make a statement. We do not know the truth about whether or not either of them had anything to do with the acts. We do understand the acts though, and choose to draw more unique questions from them.

Will we just accept these acts as isolated situations of insanity? Or will we ask ourselves this: why would anyone want to attack the police? More importantly, why would anyone want to, for once, be on the offensive?

Unfortunately its hard to read about all the attacks on the police that occur. Since 1792, when the first American police force was created, something like 19,000 police have been killed in

the line of duty. Since writing this article, one man tried to add one more to the list.

Raymond Martinez, a young New Yorker died while trying to flee police in Times Sq. on Thursday, December 10th, 2009. He was a rap artist who sold CDs on the street in Times Sq., New York City. When two undercover police approached him for selling his CDs on the street without a Vendor’s permit, he chose to run instead of going to jail. After running a few blocks, in the parking lot of the Marquis hotel,

Raymond pulled out a Mac-10 semi-automatic pistol. He fired two shots and the gun jammed. The bullets broke 2 store windows, but didn’t hit either of the police chasing Raymond. Although his gun jammed, the officers continued to fire, wounding his arm, and killing him with a shot to the stomach. When the officers ran over to his dying body, Raymond continued to struggle, and continues to try and resist the officers. At this point, Raymond’s brother ran up to the officer to hold his murdered brother. Raymond’s brother was arrested as well, but was

released shortly after due to there being no charges. According to mainstream papers Raymond’s brother chose only to comment on his hatred for the police and pain over his brother’s death. Following reports include a statement from NYPD commissioner Raymond Kelly stating that they found a business card in the wallet of Raymond with a hand-written message that said: “I pity the cop that tries to put me in his paddy-wagon”.

Since the shooting, street peddlers have been coming together. The police have always represented starvation for them and those who rely on them, as street vendors in New York run the risk of losing all of their merchandise to the police at any moment. The police have always tormented them, bribed them, and pushed them off the streets, hop-

ing to clear the way for a more visually comfortable place like Times Sq. or Soho, two places that act as a crossroads for the international wealthy and elite. For Raymond Martinez, enough was clearly enough.

In the cases of those like Lovelle Mixon, Andres Raya, (a 19 year old ex-marine who shot 2 police officers, killing one and wounding the other, following his return from his time served as a Marine in Iraq. The incident came after he also broke into a school, burning American flags and spray-painting "Fuck Bush" throughout the building. After his original shoot out with two officers, he went on the run. While fugitive, he was shot 18 times during a confrontation with police, who were conducting a stake out with the intention to find him.) Christopher Monfort, or Maurice Clemmons, the frustration was too strong, and the consequences were worth sacrificing for the moment of attempted revenge. In a society that tolerates only the institutional forms of intolerant behavior, not allowing ourselves to feel joy or empathy when we hear of this type of self-defense (that is violence against the police) is simply preserving the normalcy of their brutal existence. How could revolutionaries ignore this pattern, the unique ones who have had the courage to break away from the acceptance of state control? How could we savor even the thought of mourning for these police officers? Such a concern should bring nothing but a vile taste in our mouths. Is this not revenge?

Revolutionaries must be responsible for assuming the role of not mourning the police, but defending the memory and recognition of the individuals who choose to go out, instead of stand down. In all cases, the police represent common frustrations we all feel. In all cases, the actions they conducted are things many dream of, if not every moment, as soon they come face to face with the backseat of a cop car, or the coldness of a jail cell. The institutional power that police or the military hold has only been able to exist through generations of murder and repression.

The social geography of our global era has come about through the same conduct, because the social order of our global era is maintained by the police and militaries of the world. If agitation is something that we look to generalize, the implication of these random outbursts should suggest nothing but excitement. We should be looking out for the families of these individuals, and comforting them, letting them know that they are not alone. Providing financial aid and legal support, and screaming over the voice of the media, to prevent further demonization.

Its sad to know that the police will shatter any solidarity among the street peddlers. We know that they will torment and raid all of their stands to demonize Raymond's memory. To create more division between struggling street vendors, and help to further mediate and maintain a normal market place for tourism and the wealthy. It's the responsibility of the active minority of revolutionary minded folks to be there to shatter such harassment and make sure that his memory is not demonized. It is also their responsibility to ensure that people realize that it is not Raymond fining, arresting, or harassing them - it's the police and the state that produces them.

When someone is killed by the police, due to the institutional power that comes with the uniform, "it is never the fault of the state". All responsibility is projected onto the individual killed for violating a pre-determined social contract were all forced to sign from birth. That is to follow the law, accept your conditions, and survive. Anyone that breaches this social contract is simply suicidal in the eyes of the state or media. We are taught to see the bullet as self-inflicted by the law-breaker, because the police are not people, they are the material presence of the abstraction known as law. There are the exceptions, as we mentioned earlier, like when the police murder and it is caught on tape. Or when the cops get sloppy and the story is just too scandalous, when it becomes too obvious to the public as to who the police represent.

Sometimes they have to sacrifice officers to deceive us into believing in their justice.

Lets of course remember Roger Magana, an officer in Lane County, Oregon. An officer who the police had to sacrifice in 2004 when a serial rapist investigation led police back to themselves. From 1997 to 2003 officer Roger Magana would cruise Lane County, Oregon looking for prostitutes to sexually coerce. Demanding blow jobs and sex in exchange for not arresting them. If they didn't respond to his threats of arrest he would pull out a gun and threaten to kill the women if they didn't respond to his requests.

Throughout his police career, multiple woman contacted the police to complain about being raped or threatened. One woman who called the police on officer Magana was ignored by the Lieutenant at the time, Pete Kerns - she claimed. We're assuming she was ignored because of her assumed occupation: prostitution. The case became too scandalous to be ignored, and after six years, Magana was put on trial and convicted of 52 counts of rape and harassment.

Since then, the officer who ignored the original complaints of Magana's policing has been promoted to the police chief of the Lane County police department. Magana somehow became the exception, but just like all the exceptions were told to look at when accepting the validity of the police and the justice they protect, imagine all the woman who have been ignored. Imagine having a gun pointed at your head and forced to give a police officer a blow job so you won't be arrested or killed. Imagine how often this happens and we don't hear about it. Imagine all the kick backs and blow jobs the poor and struggling are forced to give as they try to survive off the scraps of the market place the police protect and force us to survive in. The police are there to protect this market place, to mediate the relations of it, and preserve its permanence. Prostitutes, street peddlers, convicts, or just discontent people are

If our goals are to generalize resistance and frustration with the common conditions we face in our everyday lives, revolutionaries must be an active voice of support for attacks on the police.

the enemy of police, because they are the enemy of the state and the market place it protects. Revolutionaries are also the enemy of the police, because they look to produce agitation against the social framework the police are responsible for preserving. A solidarity can be found in this.

It is important to shatter the morality and sacredness of these situations, and provide a light of support for the underdog. Revolutionary communities should be listening to these complaints, looking for an opportunity to foster the frustration. The attacks mentioned here, as well as the attacks never reported on, are ruptures in the social framework of a policed society, and are as wide-spread as the police. It's important to recognize the conditions that provoke each rupture and be there to formally connect them as not isolated incidents, but something that naturally generalizes before a similar repression.

We need to be there so people like Maurice, Christopher, and Raymond receive the support they deserve. We need to be there so when the police sacrifice one of their

own to further deceive us into appreciating their justice, we will be a voice for ourselves, our friends, and our loved ones reminding each other that this is what the police do, not one officer. It is a manifestation of their entire reason for existing: to coerce us into accepting them, and what supports and condones them, capitalist society.

If our goals are to generalize resistance and frustration with the common conditions we face in our everyday lives, revolutionaries must be an active voice of support for attacks on the police. We need to be there asking different questions, sharing different feelings, and providing support for the individuals convicted or killed for attacking the police, or those affected by association. We should be fostering memories of the demonized, and the so called murderers. "Folk heroes not murderers" may be a good start. The media and the justice system can not conclude these incidents as another story in history. We must preserve each moment of attack on the social order, and encourage others to understand them from a different point of view.



We can not succumb to the morality of our oppressors. The fight against the state is not pretty. To take on a society built by systematic or militaristic violence, there will have to be a violent force that grows just as rapidly as our mass misery before our everyday life conditions.



WE'LL GET WHAT WE CAN TAKE

A brief chronology of recent events in the California Student-Worker Movement.

**“And we have yet to invent
Anything so pure as the guillotine, an instrument
Known also as the little window. But what shall
We hope to see there?
The marriage of the beautiful
And the trivial? That the sky finally**

Emptied of clouds must now say a new thing?”

-A Participant in the California Events[1]

How does one chronicle a struggle? To locate the precise confluence of events that form a “movement”, to force into linearity the collective memory of masses of disparate experiences, all of this obscures the power of what really happened. It highlights the euphoria of success at the expense of the greater lessons taught by failure. Events, complicated with contradiction, resist analysis and struggle to affirm themselves purely, quite apart from merely political concerns. A movement is more than the sum of its parts. But is there something concrete to speak of? The emergence of a student movement?. Such things satisfy no one at this point...

In the weeks ahead of the start of the 2009-2010 school year, the Board of Regents of the University of California announces a wave of austerity measures, ostensibly in response to the economic crisis in California and the looming state budget shortfall.

Mass layoffs of workers, increased student fees, and larger class sizes are just some of the more egregious steps that the UC governing body intends to push through.

In rapid succession, hurriedly created collectives of students, professors and union activists mobilize in protest. UPTE, the largest union at UC, calls for a one-day strike on September 24th and other groups rush to organize around this date.

In late September, as thousands of students and university workers prepare for a state-wide walkout, a new text emerges, Communiqué from an Absent Future, written by an anonymous group calling itself “Research and Destroy”. Inspired by the student occupations at the New School for Social Research which occurred earlier in the year, they argue that the crisis of education is deeper than merely that of preserving a privileged student-hood. The university, as a crucial site of domination, must be undermined and its functions blocked if its struggles are to have any lasting meaning. “A free univer-

sity in the midst of a capitalist society is like the reading room of a prison,” it states, in opposition to the traditional liberal ideal of an educational oasis free from the repressive contradictions of society.

Clearly placing itself within the larger movement against the privatization of higher education but going beyond the paltry demands of the upcoming official mobilization, they advise that as students and workers

“we must act on our own behalf directly, without mediation. We must break with any groups that seek to limit the struggle by telling us to go back to work or class, to negotiate, to reconcile”[2].

Immediately, students across California begin to buzz with the thought of further escalation beyond that of a simple walk out.

On September 24th, tens of thousands students walk out of classes across the UC system in defiance to the proposed austerity measures. Within this context some participants see an opportunity to push harder.

At UC Santa Cruz, a group splits off from the campus march and seizes the Graduate Student Commons. Fences are ripped from the ground and dumpsters overturned to block possible police movements. The occupiers block the entrances of the building with overturned tables, trip the elevators and attach cable locks to all the doors. Setting up a website, they post a communique which rapidly spreads across the state:

“As undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, and staff, we call on everyone at the UC to support this occupation by continuing the walkouts and strikes into tomorrow, the next day, and for the indefinite future. We call on the people of California to occupy and escalate.”[3]

THE SPECTER APPEARS.

Meanwhile, 60 miles to the North, at UC Berkeley, a much different outcome would emerge from a more ambitious occupation attempt. An ongoing General Assembly, which had begun to take shape over the weeks ahead of the walk-out, announces a campus-wide meeting. Created amid hopes that a new movement might accomplish complicated decision making free of the standard politicking that pocks most student campaigns, its qualities start to rapidly deteriorate. Internal leadership is quickly co-opted by internal factions and student political parties twisting the process to their own political ends. Many participants abandon the process as hopelessly recuperated, more interested in forming endless committees and voting on every possible scenario for what to do next time rather than emphasizing what students can do now, in the moment, in a self-organized fashion. In spite of internal criticism, a massive meeting of the GA is convened in Wheeler Hall, a UC Berkeley auditorium. Some participants, undoubtedly inspired by news of the recent Santa Cruz occupation read the newly released communique over the microphone to the growing body.

Chants of “Occupy, Occupy!” reverberate throughout the auditorium in response. Feeling that the window for direct action is quickly presenting itself, some of those present rush to lock down the doors, while those inside

struggle to have an immediate occupation of the space put up for a vote. External doors are left open for those who wish to leave.

At that moment Ricardo Gomez, a leader of the liberally-oriented on-campus political party CALSERVE, rushed to the stage to denounce the occupation as “undemocratic”. As a later statement about the events observed, what did undermine the power of the room was in fact

“the proceduralism of the leadership [of the GA] which refused to respect the will of the people present. Gomez knew what he was doing: he was consciously destroying the radical energy of the people gathered there. Rather than calling a vote on occupation, he pushed the gullible to tears by insinuating that they had been taken hostage when this was not the case. This was a disgusting and despicable case of the worst form of opportunism, the effects of which are only beginning to be felt.”[4]

Sixty minutes later, three UC police officers were freely allowed to walk in and cut the locks on the doors. The potential for a radical outburst seemed increasingly unlikely even as the occupation by students to the south was moving swimmingly along.

Over the next seven days the UC Santa Cruz administration hesitates to send in the police and for the whole week, nightly dance parties rock from the balcony, attracting hundreds of students from across campus. The copy

machines are expropriated and used to pump out a steady stream of insurrectionary literature thrown to the growing crowds outside. Initially, the students inside hope that their provocation would move other students and workers on campus to seize more university property but this strategy proves a little premature. Eventually,

“we must act on our own behalf directly, without mediation. We must break with any groups that seek to limit the struggle by telling us to go back to work or class, to negotiate, to reconcile”[2].

seeing the opportunity to leave without being arrested and identified, they abandon the occupation.

Over the next two months, participants in both occupations reevaluated their strategies, attempting to locate how and why both experiences came up short. At Berkeley, a slightly less ambitious strategy of direct action would be employed to build up excitement. Called “soft occupations” by some, a term which seems slightly unfortunate, students hold a series of library “study-ins”, sleeping overnight in the Anthropology library, an important student resource on campus that had recently had its hours significantly reduced due to cut backs. Once again, administrators hesitate to send police in and students are able to hold the space through the night before leaving willingly the next morning. Though not technically an occupation, as administrators and police were allowed to enter the space, for some of those present this provides them their first experience in participating in an illegal tactic and proves to be a substantial boost to what they consider possible. Meanwhile, a rapidly different struggle, 5000 miles away, would have a considerable impact on how the movement viewed itself.

THE ACADEMY OF REFUSAL

In Vienna, Austria, striking students of the Academy of Fine Arts march triumphantly into an auditorium by the thousands and declare it occupied, renaming it the “Academy of Refusal”. Among their first publically released statements is a gesture of solidarity to the student struggle in California. Suddenly, what had seemed to be merely a California-centric education movement had become a global student occupation movement. The relationship between Austria and California continued to be mutually supportive as factions from the struggles hold extended

Skype conference calls and exchange messages sharing tactics and discussing strategy, such as the political nature of demands and how to coordinate in the future.

On October 24th, a mass conference gathers in Berkeley to plan a state-wide strategy to fight the budget cuts. Many attendees leave unsatisfied as the usual sects of student politicians dominate the proceedings; but throughout the

“We will ask nothing. We will demand nothing. We will take, we will occupy. We have to learn not to tip toe through a space which ought by right to belong to everyone.”[5]

day, hundreds of students pushing for a more conflictual approach are able to network and coordinate actions for the next months. Shortly after the conference, a separate Berkeley student group, the Solidarity Alliance, puts out a call for a three day strike beginning on November 18th, the day of the Regents meeting, at which the proposed cuts are expected to be passed. Once again, buzz builds around the capacity for conflict.

On Wednesday, November 18th, the student strike spawns occupations, walk outs and mass demonstrations across the state. Occupation of student and administrative spaces occur at multiple schools. At UC Davis, an occupation of Mrak Hall results in the arrest of 52 students, shortly after their release they march back and re-occupy the same building. At UCLA, as five thousand students rally outside the Regents meeting and interrupt the proceedings inside with shouts and civil disobedience, a group occupies

Campbell Hall, renaming it Carter-Huggins Hall, after two Black Panthers assassinated there in 1969. They hold the space until the evening, releasing a statement declaring:

“We will ask nothing. We will demand nothing. We will take, we will occupy. We have to learn not to tip toe through a space which ought by right to belong to everyone.”[5]

At Berkeley, after a rally in Sproul Plaza organized by the official student leadership, a thousand students march around the city of Berkeley. As the march arrives back on campus, a ring of bodies forms around California Hall, the main campus administration building. Immediately a small group of masked individuals begin to crowd around the entrance, attempting to force their way in. The two police officers stationed outside seem overwhelmed and unsure of how to handle the situation. A small projectile is thrown at the door as some administrators struggle to enter the building. Eventually the cops pull back inside and block the doors. At this point, official representatives of student groups, upset that their control of the situation is rapidly escaping them, direct the crowd to sit down and vote on proposals. Many of those present react violently to this idea and chant for the crowd to “tear down the fucking door”. One demonstrator grabs the megaphone from the hands of a student activist and attempts to rally the crowd into doing “what working people have always done to win struggles, to make rich people afraid of you!” Elements of the crowd rush back to the door but the moderators of the meeting have already succeeded in deescalating the energy. A statement put out four days later describes the way the student leadership intentionally re-routed the momentum of the moment to avoid a situation they couldn’t control:

“They [activists] forever need to stand on the edge of the reality that something could pop off, because it is in that possibility that they can control the situation and ensure that things do, in fact, move in their way towards nowhere. When things get hot, the self-elected of the student movement are waiting with their trusty fire extinguishers ready in hand because they know that when people act on their own and valorize their self-interest, their authority crumbles and everyone can see how bankrupt their strategy of social containment actually is. The student activist stutter-steps on the path of nothingness.”[6]

But farther away on campus, another occupation is attempted. Thirty people rush into the offices of Capital Projects, the university investment office, and try to blockade themselves inside. The vice-chancellor of Finance, possibly the most hated administrator on campus, locks himself in his office and calls the police who are able to force themselves inside before the students can fully blockade the doors. They are cited and released. Once again, an ambitious occupation at Berkeley has failed. But during the hour long event a substantial crowd of supporters gathers outside and heartened by a such a strong base of support some elements, left unsatisfied with the recent turn of events, sense this as a major development and call a meeting to propose one last-ditch effort for a building occupation, one which would ultimately become the most combative action in the short history of the movement.

THE TAKING OF WHEELER HALL

Early in the morning on November 20th, two days after the failed attempt to occupy Capital Projects, 41 students surreptitiously gain access to Wheeler Hall a massive classroom building on the Berkeley campus. One hour later, as three people are reportedly pushing over vending machines to block ground-level doors, a group of campus police move in and trap them in a hallway. They are immediately taken to

Berkeley City jail and booked on felony burglary charges. But the majority of the occupiers rush to the upper floors and sealed off the entrances, locking themselves in securely with u-locks, chains and a blockade of metal chairs. They hold the space for nearly 18 hours as a crowd of thousands slowly grows outside.

Throughout the day several masked occupiers appear in a window and read their demands to the students outside who throw food and water to their friends. They demand amnesty for all those arrested throughout the strike. They also demand the reinstatement of recently fired custodians and the end to the eviction of a student housing cooperative.

The Berkeley administration, sensing that events are getting out of hand, call in Oakland police and Alameda Sheriffs who form a perimeter around Wheeler. In defense a three deep line of supporters rings the police line. A pouring rain begins to fall but the crowds continue to grow an eventually the police attempt to push back the crowds to deescalate, but to no avail, the students stand their ground, convinced that if they maintain a constant presence the administration will be forced to allow the occupiers to leave on their own terms.

Fire alarms are pulled in the surrounding buildings, forcing thousands of students to abandon classes and join the crowd. At some point, interactions between the two sides becomes violent with cops pushing through the crowd to get police vans into place for a raid. One graduate student has her hand broken by a police baton, requiring reconstructive surgery. As one particularly large cop beats back a group of demonstrators, one student is seen taking a protest sign and beating the heads of several riot police with its long wooden handle before they push him back and beat him down. Other students rush to his defense and pull him out of the way, allowing him to escape. After negotiations with the occupiers break down due to their unrelenting stance on having their demands met, the administration plans to have the police forcibly go in and then book them in County Jail, but due to the continued threat of a

riot outside Wheeler Hall, they are prevented from doing so. As tensions continue to run high, and the pouring rain dampens spirits, the police are forced to only cite and release the occupiers after the SWAT team moves in and breaks through the barricades. An opinion piece released the next day demonstrates the threat posed by the defensive crowd outside:

“Students who, by all outward appearance, could have been members of sororities or fraternities, demanded to know where bodies were most needed to maintain a strong and impermeable perimeter. Let this be clear: if the students were arrested and carried out, there was going to be a fight. A riot? Perhaps (this much depended on the police). A fight? Mos def.”[7]

Meanwhile, at UC Santa Cruz, hundreds occupy Kresge Town Hall, and vote to take another building. Without knowing their destination they begin to march in an effort to locate the best possible target. Amazingly, the crowd manages to force its way into Kerr Hall, the main administration building. For the first time in the movement, the tactic of occupation is become expanded to that of taking over multiple buildings. At Kerr Hall, students take over the Chancellor’s office and rummage through his refrigerator, eating his food and watching footage from the recent Greek riots on the chancellor’s entertainment system. They hold the space for several days and eventually force the administration to enter into negotiations to allow them to leave without being arrested.

THE AFTERMATH OF NOVEMBER 20TH

Across the state, November 20th continues to be the high point of events, but this by no means fully eclipses the stern student response that appears throughout the Bay Area over the next month.

During the last week of school before finals, known as “Dead Week” on Berkeley campus because most classes are given a break so that students may study for the upcoming exams, a sepa-

rate group retakes Wheeler Hall and declares it an "Open University." Police and Administration agree to let them stay through the end of the week. Poetry readings, teach-ins on the class composition of the university system and dance parties are held every night.

Two days later, on December 12th, students occupy the Business Administration building at San Francisco State and rename it Oscar Grant Hall, after the the young black male shot in the back by police on New Years Day 2009. Huge, interlocking piles of metal chairs are seen stacked in front of the doors. Due once again to a quick mobilization of support outside, the occupiers are able to hold it for nearly 24 hours. A series of small general assemblies spontaneously meet at entrances around the building, discussing how to mobilize defense. But by now police forces have already learned the lessons of November 20th. Correctly anticipating that a militarized stand-off with a large crowd of students would result in a riot, officers from the San Francisco Police break through a ground floor window at 1 AM, when most of the outside supporting crowd had gone home for the night, and arrest the 28 inside along with a small group of outside supporters who refuse to move out of the way. Moving just as swiftly, supporters of the occupation learn from a similar tactic that had been seen at UC Berkeley, that of physically blocking police vans by anticipating their possible movements. For nearly an hour a small crowd gathers in the street immediately outside the campus leading to the police station. Later, a police captain would admit to a local news channel that they were indeed unable to get the police vehicles through the street blockade and were forced to wait out the crowd and hope that the tension would diffuse. Fortunately for them, the crowd quickly lost steam and the police vehicles were able to speed through, leading one to imagine what would have occurred had the crowd stood its ground and kept growing.

One day later, the students gathered in the "open university" at Wheeler Hall are awoken at 5 AM and arrested by campus police, not surprisingly,

breaking their earlier promise that they would allowed to continue the study-in. Some are not allowed to put on their clothes and are loaded into awaiting police buses in their underwear. They are released 12 hours later but charges are later dropped.

The next night, outraged by the arrests, a torch-bearing crowd marches on the Chancellor's mansion, breaking his windows, smashing planters, and hurling the torches at approaching police vehicles. 8 bystanders are cornered and arrested by police and charged with felony attempted arson, burglary, and assault. As they are being held on \$132,000 bail, governor Schwarzenegger releases a statement denouncing them as "terrorists". Once again, a post-action communique would emerge, placing the action in the context of the larger student occupation movement:

"As students, we are supposed to be the embodiment of society producing its own future, but this society has no future; there will be no "return to normal" and we must find ways to inhabit this reality. From Berkeley to Greece and back around the other side, we are in civil war. This is the basis of modern life, and it is high time we illuminate this fact for any who remain confused." [8]

After being held for four days and having their faces paraded on the local news, county prosecutors acknowledge they have no specific evidence against those arrested and release the 8 to their supporters.

Following all of these actions across a time line, it is remarkable to notice the natural escalation of tactics which happens after every action. What is unacceptable, even deemed "undemocratic," one week is suddenly common practice the next. From walkouts, to sit-ins, to occupations, to property destruction, the genealogy of the movement is perfectly demonstrative of how an active minority of participants, acting not as a vanguard but as a material force, and pushing constantly harder, can have an overwhelming effect on the increasingly radical nature of a struggle.

WE ARE THE CRISIS

California, the world's fifth largest economy, increasingly finds itself in a deeper crisis, even beyond that of the general financial crisis now plaguing global markets. Along with this will come further austerity, further repression and further reconstruction of Capital. California can be seen as a laboratory of capitalism, experimenting with economic and political measures which will soon become common place across the US as other states experience budget crises. Public services will be among those first to be cut, and the opportunity this provides us now is to experiment with modes of refusal which also have the potential to be employed by those resiting such austerity.

While those of a leftist orientation would like to think of this nascent movement as the first reaction by the Left to the global economic crisis, to look further one can recognize that much of what has occurred has also been a reaction the response of the Left. As students and workers across the state notice the vapidty and impotence of the official student, union and political effort, self-directed activity has instead begun to show what people are capable of once they abandon traditionally accepted forms of protest and organize on a more conflictual basis. Santa Cruz in particular has been exemplary in this regard, even as some radical elements have struggled to emerge from the repressive control of the official student movement, such as that at Berkeley and UCLA. Any future radical strategy will need to contain these recuperative factions and should strive to mobilize students to act autonomously to demonstrate the power of converging across a set of shared conditions.

To go further, also to be abandoned is the idea of the student as a distinct sociological category and instead recognize the interplay of identity that forms the being of the student. 51% of Americans are former or current college students. What must be avoided is not necessarily student struggles themselves but rather the tendency of student-led movements to either directly or implicitly demand

the protection or furtherance of a privileged student-hood.

But just as California can be seen as a laboratory of struggle so it can also be seen as a laboratory of repression. As the tactics and strategies of the student movement evolve so will those of the police forces. What worked on November 20th in Berkeley as a mode of defense failed two weeks later at SF State when police avoided the possibility of day-long street conflict by moving in at night when most supporters and bystanders had left. Any evolution of tactics will need to have a serious evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of occupation and expand its arsenal to include that of the whole campus. To take the 1968 San Francisco Student Strike as an example, students shut down the campus for five and a half months, resisting police attacks nearly every day. Does limiting the arsenal of the movement to the tactic of occupation impede its ability to adapt? What other modes of refusal can participants employ that have the capacity to generalize? These are just some of the many prescient concerns as we enter the coming semester.

To return to the *Communique from an Absent Future*, a text to which this movement seems fortunately tethered:

“the fact that today the economic crisis precedes the coming political uprising means we may finally supersede the co-optation and neutralization of past struggles”.[9]

To either resign ourselves to defeat for fear of recuperation or hope for the best in spite of our failures will toll the death knell of this new movement; we can only continue to scour the terrain for its wider possibilities and new weapons.

FOOT NOTES

- [1]Joshua Clover, *The Totality for Kids*, 2007, UC Press
- [2]*Communique From an Absent Future*, Research and Destroy, <http://htwewanteverything.wordpress.com/2009/09/24/communique-from-an-absent-future>
- [3]UCSC GSC Occupation *Communique*, www.occupycalifornia.wordpress.com/2009/09/24/occupy-california/
- [4]“UC ‘Student’ Leaders Sabotage Occupation of Wheeler Hall”, www.indybay.org/news-items/2009/09/25/18623229.php
- [5]UCLA Student Occupation *Communique*, www.uclaresists.blogspot.com/2009/11/communique-from-ucla-occupation.html
- [6]*The Bricks We Throw at Police Today Will Build the Liberation Schools of Tomorrow*, included in this issue
- [7]Behind the Privatization of UC: a Line of Riot Cops, George Ciccariello-Maher, www.counterpunch.org/maher11242009.html
- [8]A Torchlit Evening with Birge-neau, www.indybay.org/news-items/2009/12/12/18632362.php
- [9]Research & Destroy, op.cit.





THE BRICKS WE THROW AT POLICE TODAY WILL BUILD THE LIBERATION SCHOOLS OF TOMORROW

“If you’re scared today you’ll be scared tomorrow as well and always and so you’ve got to make a start now right away we must show that in this school we aren’t slaves we have to do it so we can do what they’re doing in all other schools to show that we’re the ones to decide because the school is ours.” -The Unseen, Nanni Balestrini

NOTE

The following article was written by three participants in the events mentioned in “We’ll Get What We Can Take”. The article presents critiques and ideas of and around the UC Worker-Student movement, that stem from direct experiences. It was written only a week after the last occupation was evicted.

Days later, voices in unison still ring in our ears. “Who’s university?” At night in bed, we mumble the reply to ourselves in our dreams. “Our university!” And in the midst of building occupations and the festive and fierce skirmishes with the police, concepts like belonging and ownership take the opportunity to assume a wholly new character. Only the village idiot or, the modern equivalent, a bureaucrat in the university administration would think we were screaming about something as suffocating as property rights when last week we announced, “The School is Ours!” When the day erupted, when the escape plan from the drudgery of college life was hatched, it was clear to everyone that the university not only belonged to the students who were forcefully reasserting their claim but also to the faculty, to every professor and TA who wishes

they could enliven the mandatory curriculum in their repetitive 101 class, to the service workers who can’t wait for their shift to end, and to every other wage-earner on campus ensuring the daily functioning of the school.

Last week, the actualization of our communal will gave us a new clarity. The usual divisiveness of proprietorship was forcefully challenged; cascades of hidden meaning rush onto rigid notions of possession and our eyes look past surface appearances. So now when asked, “who does the university belong to?” we can’t fail to recognize that the college itself was built by labor from generations past, the notebook paper is produced by workers in South America, the campus computers are the output of work in Chinese factories, the food in the student cafe is touched by innumerable hands before it reaches the plates, and all the furniture at UC Berke-

ley is produced by the incarcerated at San Quentin. Thus the university, its normal operation and existence, ought to be attributed to far more than it regularly is. To claim that the school is ours requires our definition of ownership to not only shatter the repressive myth that the college belongs to the State of California and the Regents but to also extend belonging past national and state borders and throughout time. It's clear, the entire university, for that matter, every university belongs to everyone, employed and unemployed, all students and all workers, to everyone of the global class that produces and reproduces the world as we now know it. The school is ours because it's everyone's and the destruction of the property relation, with all its damaging and limiting consequences, is implicit in the affirmation of this truth. It's our university...

...but, as of now, in its present configuration, who would want something so disgusting as a school?

THE POVERTY OF STUDENT LIFE IS THE POVERTY OF CAPITALIST SOCIETY

It's now larger than any conspiratorial plot by Thomas Huxley. In fact, he could have never envisioned the extent to which contemporary class society would transform education as such into another separated activity, detached from the totality of life and devoid of any practical worth or good, while, simultaneously, being in perfect accord with the needs of capitalist production.

Learning is now sapped of all its content, education is but another part of the assembly line in the social factory, and the university itself serves an important function within the reproduction of disjointed life in this divided society. While the collegiate apparatus infests countless minds with the logic and technical knowledge of capital, the illusion is being sold that somehow academic labor is divorced from the world of work. Our apologies, but a term paper is not the production of autonomous and creative knowledge, it is work and

therefore exploitation. It is human activity animated for the sake of capital not for humanity itself. The conditioning and preparation of students for a life crushed by regimented value creation is the essential purpose of the college: to teach the young how to give and take orders. Nothing about the university is neutral; its role in society is clear. The lines are being drawn.

You will always be offered dialogue as if that were its own end; it will die in bureaucracy's stale air, as if trapped in a soundless room. In insurrectionary times, action is the speech that can be heard. -Slogan written on a Digital Wall

Far before last week's events, we've located them in the enemy's camp. Student activist-leaders shamed, begged, pleaded, and finally began to shriek and scream at us when we ignored their megaphone-amplified orders. In their last ditch effort to see their commands followed, they physically assisted the police in blocking us from occupying buildings and protected the outnumbered cops from our punches and shoves. It's obvious they've chosen their side some time ago. These are the idiots who were telling people who tried to break down the door of California Hall on November 18th that they should not do so because "there was no consensus." These are the same fools who sabotaged the attempted storming of the Regents meeting at UCLA and the occupation of Covel Hall, ruining months of self-directed planning, after declaring the crowd had become too "agitated." The Cynthias, who later that day went on to disrupt the occupation of Carter-Huggins Hall. These are the same politicians, who grabbed the megaphone as students marched in to the President's office in Downtown Oakland, prepared to raise utter hell and instead directed them into a dialogue with middle-level administrators, later issuing an order that the crowd must leave "peacefully." Disgusting, yet typical. The only consensus they want is rallied around the social peace and the preservation of the existent institutions and the only alteration they

want of the power structure is their ascent to the top of it. By actively collaborating with the administration and police, by orchestrating arrests, by frittering away the momentum of the angry, they validate the insults we flung at them and they revealed themselves for the "student cops," "class traitors" and "snitches" they are.

For them it's a knee-jerk reaction: challenge their power and they fall back on identity politics. If they don't get their way they cry privilege. When the actions escalate, when we begin to feel our power, the self-appointed are waiting to remind us that there may be the undocumented present – the activist super-ego. Somehow in their tiny paternalistic brains they believe they know what's best for immigrants implying that the undocumented are too stupid to understand the consequences of their actions and god granted the student leaders the wisdom to guide these lost souls. In their foolish heads, immigrants remain passive sheep, black people never confront the police and just enjoy the beatings they get, and the working class always takes orders from the boss.

In pseudo-progressive tongue they speak a state-like discourse of diversity; the groans of the student-activist zombie is the grammar of the dead revolutions of the past. Their vision of race politics ignores the triumphs and wallows in the failures of the 60's movements. The stagnant ghosts of yesterday's deadlocked struggle; they are the hated consequences of the civil rights era that produced a rainbow of tyranny with a Black president mutilating Afghans, Asian cops brutalizing students on campus, and Latino prison guards chaining prisoners. In this same way, the opportunists act out their complicity with the structures of order. When students defy preset racial categories and unify in order to take action on their own behalf, the student cops attempt to reinforce the present day's violent separations and reestablish governance. They fail to recognize that divisions among proletarians are questioned only within the struggle itself and the festering scissions between the exploited can only be sutured with hands steadied by

“Some may ask, “Why have these hooligans come to our campus?” “They’ve come to ruin everything!” the student leaders will say. AND FOR ONCE, WE AGREE.”

combat with the exploiters. Like a scalpel used to reopen stitched wounds, the student activists’ brand of multiculturalism is undoubtedly a tool of state repression.

During the scuffle with the police in front of California Hall on the inaugural day of the strike, one of the student cops asked, “What’s going to happen when we get into the building?” For us, given the social context of the strike, the answer is obvious, for them, even the question is problematic because of the risk it poses to their position of dominance. In the moment of rupture, their role as managers becomes void. Self-directed action crowds out the programmatic. They forever need to stand on the edge of the reality that something could pop off, because it is in that possibility that they can control the situation and ensure that things do, in fact, move in their way towards nowhere. When things get hot, the self-elected of the student movement are waiting with their trusty fire extinguishers ready in hand because they know that when people act on their own and valorize their self-interest, their authority crumbles and everyone can see how bankrupt their strategy of social containment actually is. The student activist stutter-steps on the path of nothingness.

But we hope to turn the mob against them. To seize their megaphones and declare: “Death to Bureaucracy!” Some may ask, “Why have these hooligans come to our campus?” “They’ve come to ruin everything!” the student leaders will say.

And for once, we agree.

WE ARE NOT STUDENTS, WE ARE DYNAMITE!

A movement results from combinations that even its own participants cannot control. And that its enemies cannot calculate. It evolves in ways that cannot be predicted, and even those who foresee it are taken by surprise. -Paco Ignacio Taibo

Many will ask then, why have we thrown ourselves into the ‘student movement?’ We are not students, at least not now and never in the UC system. It is not feasible for us to attend the UC in the first place, either because of the cost or the lack of desire to live the rest of our lives ridden with overwhelming debt.

We have not come to the university to make demands of the Board of Regents or the university administration. Nor do we wish to participate in some form of

‘democracy’ where the ‘student movement’ decides (or is told to do so by student leaders) how to negotiate with the power structure. For us, Sacramento and its budget referendums are as useless as the empty words spewing from the mouths of the union leaders and activists on campus. Nothing about the “democratizing” the school system or forcing it to become better managed or more “transparent” even mildly entices us. No, we didn’t join the student movement to obtain any of these paltry demands.

Last week, we began to attack the university not just because we are proletarians scorned by and excluded from the UC, or that we hope by resisting we may reduce costs and thus join the UC system and elevate our class positions. Our choice to collaborate in the assault on California’s school was driven solely by our own selfish class interest: to take its shit and use it for ourselves. Occupied buildings become spaces from which to further strike the exploiters of this world and, at the same time, disrupt and suppress the ability of the college to function.

Like any other institution structured by class society, the university is one of our targets. We made our pres-

ence in the student movement to break down the divisions between students angry over fee hikes, workers striking against lay offs, and faculty at odds with the administration over cuts and furloughs. These are not separate struggles over different issues, but sections of a class that have a clear and unified enemy. We have come for the same reason we intervene in any tension: to push for the total destruction of capitalist exploitation and for the re-composition of the proletariat towards communism.

And so, ask yourself how could one even go about reforming something as debilitating as a university? Demanding its democratization would only mean a re-configuration of horror. To ask for transparency is nothing but a request for a front row seat to watch an atrocity exhibition. Even the seemingly reasonable appeal for reducing the cost of tuition will leave the noose of debt wrapped snugly around our necks. There’s nothing the university can give anyone, but last week’s accomplishments show that there is everything for us to take. If anything, our actions, as a means in themselves, were more important than any of the crumbs the UC system or the Regents Board might



wipe off the table for us. During these days, we felt the need for obliterating renewal give rise to intense enthusiasm. We felt the spirit irradiate throughout campus and press everyone “to push the university struggle [not only] to its limits,” but to its ultimate conclusion: against the university itself.

...And So It Must Spread

“It is surely not difficult to see that our time is a time of birth and transition to a new period. The spirit has broken with what was hitherto the world of its existence and imagination and is about to submerge all this in the past; it is at work giving itself a new form.” -The Phenomenology of Spirit

The stench that the university emits has become unbearable and students everywhere are reacting against the institution that has perpetually rotted away their being via an arsenal of disciplinary techniques. At campuses across California the corrosion of life is brought to a quick halt when the college’s daily mechanism of power is given the Luddite treatment, and suddenly,

studying becomes quite meaningless. Shamefully, the administration, terrified they are losing control and supervision of the pupils they spent so much time training, turn riot police on anyone ripping off their chains. At UC Santa Cruz, UCLA, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, SF State and CSU Fresno the unlimited occupations display the universal need for free and liberated space. The recalcitrance is spreading. In Austria, students left their occupied territory at the Fine Arts Academy to march on the US embassy in solidarity with the police repression on California campuses. On the same continent, the occupations in Greece have now extended outside the universities into the high schools and even the middle schools. Everywhere, the youth are recognizing the school as a vapid dungeon stunting their growth and, at the same time, they are refusing submission to the crushing of their bodily order. All over, a new generation is seeking the passion for the real, for what is immediately practicable, here and now.

The assaults on police officers, the confrontations with the administration, the refusal of lectures, and the squatted

buildings point the objective struggle in the direction of the complete and total negation of the university. That is, brick by brick smashing the academic monolith into pieces and abolishing the college as a specialized institution restricted to a specific segment of society. This will require the instillation of technique known as learning to be wholly subverted and recomposing education as a generalized and practical activity of the entire population; an undermining through which the student shall auto-destruct.

Going halfway always spells defeat, and so, the spreading of movement is our only assurance against this stagnation. Complete self-abolition necessitates that the logic of revolt spill out of the universities and flood the entire social terrain. But the weapons of normalcy are concealed everywhere and especially within the most mundane characteristics of daily life. The allegiance to the bourgeois family structure and interruptions by holiday vacations and school breaks threaten to douse the fuse before its ignition and hinder our momentum.

“Take out your hairspray and your lighter”!

Tear down the education factory.

Attack the Left and everything that it “represents.”

Attack the new bosses before they become the old ones.

Life serves the risk taker – and we’re rolling the fucking dice!

LET US NOT LOSE SIGHT OF THE TASKS BEFORE US.

We must forcefully eject the police from the campus. Find their holes and burn them out. Block their movements near occupied spaces. Build barricades; protect that which has been re-taken. We need only to look to Chile or Greece to see the immense advantage movements possess once they seize territory and declare it free of police. Blockade the entrances and gates of the campus as the students have already begun to experiment with at UC Santa Cruz.

We must also denounce and destroy the student Left (the recuperative, the parasitic, the “representative”) that seeks to de-escalate the movement and integrate it back into politics. Our venom is not only directed at those who assisted the police in blocking angry students from entering California Hall at UC Berkeley or obstructed the crowds during the Regents meeting at UCLA but also of those who sought to negotiate with the police “on behalf” of the occupiers of Wheeler Hall. It is telling that the police will negotiate with them, because to the cops, they are reasonable. We are not, however, because we seek the immediate annihilation of both the pigs and the activists.

Renew the strikes and extend their reach. Occupy the student stores and loot them. Sell off the computers in the lab to raise funds. Set up social spaces for students and non-students alike to come in and use freely. Appropriate the copy machines and make news of the revolt. Takeover the cafeterias and bars and begin preparing the communal feast. Burn the debt records and the construction plans. Chisel away the statues and vandalize the pictures of the old order. In short, create not an ‘alternative’ that can easily make its fit within the existent,

but rather a commune in which power is built to destroy capitalist society. When faced with a university building, the choices are limited; either convert it to ashes or begin the immediate materialization of the international soviet.

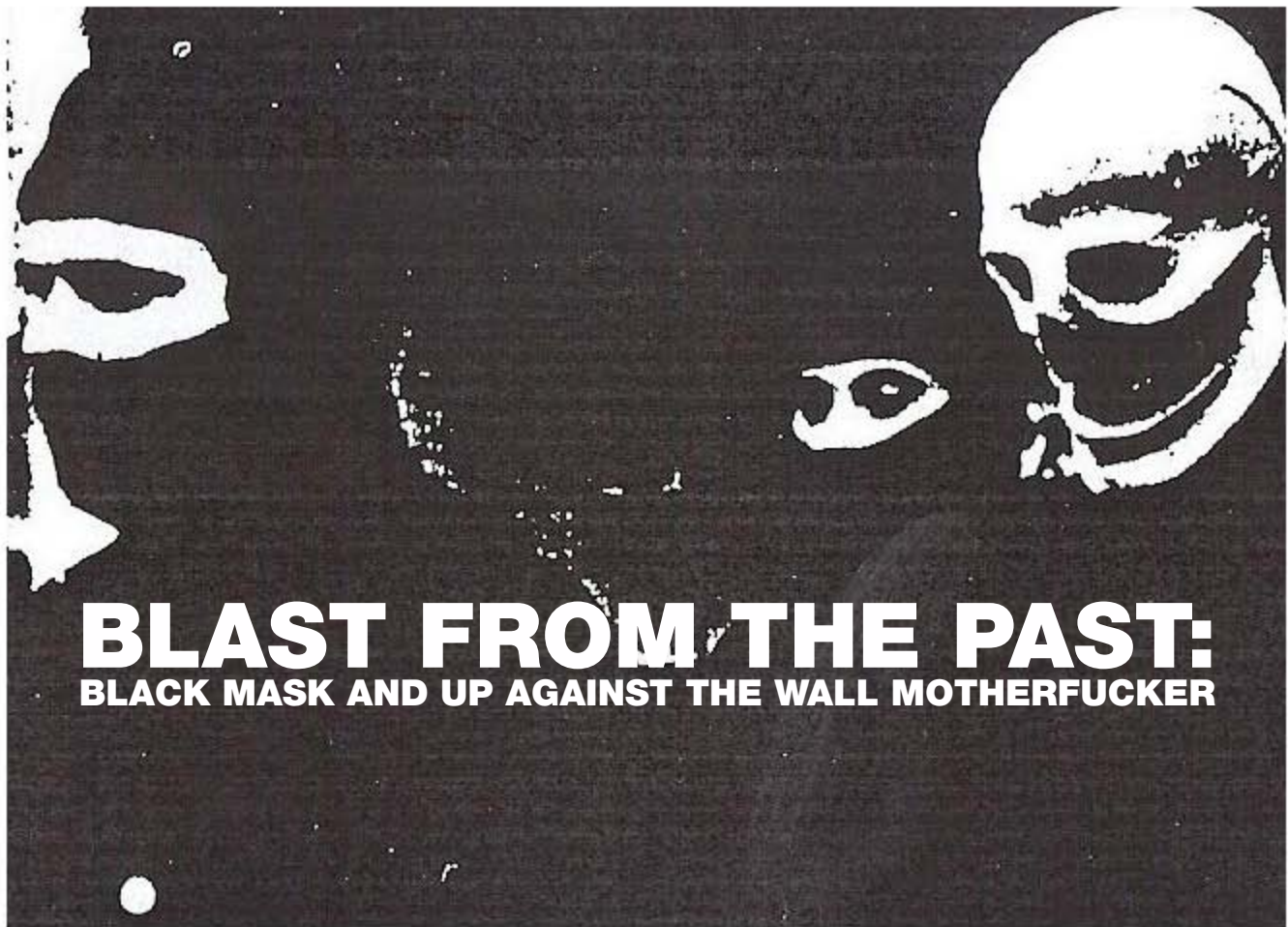
To all waged and unwaged workers – students or not, unemployed, precarious or criminal we call on you to join this struggle. The universities can become not only our playgrounds but also the foundations from which we can build a partisan war machine fit for the battle to retrieve our stolen lives.

And to the majority of the students, from those paying their way to those swimming in debt, all used as collateral by the Regents, who bravely occupied buildings across California and fought the police against the barricades – we say this clearly: we are with you! We stood by you as you faced down the police in the storming rain and defended the occupiers. Your actions are an inspiration to us all and we hope to meet you again on the front lines. In you we see the spirit of insurgent students everywhere.

As our Austrian friends recently told us, “Take out your hairspray and your lighter”! Tear down the education factory. Attack the Left and everything that it “represents.” Attack the new bosses before they become the old ones. Life serves the risk taker – and we’re rolling the fucking dice!

For Anarchy + Communism.

-Three Non-Matriculating Proletarians



BLAST FROM THE PAST: BLACK MASK AND UP AGAINST THE WALL MOTHERFUCKER

THE STORY OF A SMALL UNDERGROUND 1960's REVOLUTIONARY GROUP IN NEW YORK CITY

**"DESTROY THE MUSEUMS.
OUR STRUGGLE CANNOT
BE HUNG ON WALLS. A NEW
SPIRIT IS RISING. LIKE THE
STREETS OF WATTS WE
BURN WITH REVOLUTION"
-October 10th, 1966//NYC**

A handful of young guys and girls, having stalked up from New York's Lower East Side scattering leaflets calling for the closure of the Museum of Modern Art, are stopped just outside the Museum entrance by a whole phalanx of cops and crash barriers. The story had leaked, and the cops, on the ball as ever, had sensed a new and very real type of threat months before anyone else: the cops at least have got it clear just whose side art is on. The director of the museum (largest collection of Dada in the world) out on the steps, wringing his hands, almost in tears, only too anxious to plead: "Why are you doing this? We haven't done anything." The group, unheard of before this, called BLACK MASK. Next, early one morning, black balaclava hoods pulled down to their

eyes, cracked rictus skulls skewered on stakes, BLACK MASK, swollen to 15, marched from Canal Street down Lower Broadway to Wall Street. Throwaways reading Traders in stocks and bones shriek for New Frontiers. "Bull markets of murder deal in a stock exchange at death. WALL STREET IS WAR STREET." The cops and the overdressed corporation errand boys plain dumbfounded; the only people to get really uptight were, predictably enough, alas, a group of straight proles showed up. A relative flop, all in all. Too much sub-Committee of 100 stuff - Grosvenor Square = Genocide Square, etc. In fact all BLACK MASK's early experiments with Provo-type tactics were far more trenchant and original when applied to the culture scene. It was official 'experimental' art rather than official left wing politics that they'd broken out of. And they loathed its guts.

That first year BLACK MASK seized every possible opportunity of fucking up culture. They moved in at a moment's notice and improvised as they went along. They heckled, disrupted and generally sabotaged dozens of art congresses, lectures, exhibitions, and happenings. For a group that hailed Futurism and Dada as its only forebears, this type of shit was diametrically opposed to the permanent, multi-dimensional revolutionizing of immediate experience demanded by all the high points of modern art: See what you can make with a cathedral and a little dynamite. Probably their most notorious escapade was the wrecking of the three day marathon seminar on Modern Art sponsored by the Loeb Student Centre. Howls of "ART IS DEAD", "BURN THE MUSEUMS, BABY", and "POETRY IS REVOLUTION". Tables were kicked over, windows smashed, and scuffles broke out. Larry Rivers was roughed up a bit in the best Futurist manner. The theoretical dimension - "Fuck off, you cunt" - equally worthy of the occasion.

Reaction wasn't slow to follow. In fact it was the one systematic attempt the official avant-garde made to deal with them that allowed BLACK MASK to pull off their neatest single coup. A panel of experts on Futurism, Dada, and Surrealism advertised a 'Trap for Black Mask' throughout the Underground (sic) press: a souped-up panel discussion on the true revolutionary meaning of modern art, a bait to which they imagined, correctly BLACK MASK was bound to rise. They also imagined, far less happily, that their own erudition and wit was such that BLACK MASK could only be put down. Really hard, once and for all. BLACK MASK excelled themselves. They ran off thousands of passably well printed "Invitations to a free party - free sounds,

free food, free booze" - at the same time and same place as the ambush, and handed them out to the hardest bastards they could find in Harlem and the Lower East Side, eight hours before the fun was due to start.

The ambush was riddled like a colander. All night really uptight black and white down-and-outs were hammering on the doors, Intermittently crashing them and furiously demanding their free food, drinks, and women.

The interpretation of Dada was correct by even the strictest academic standards - hadn't Huelsenbeck written, so long before, Dada is a club? All the same, the scandal resulted in BLACK MASK being ostracized right along the line. Artists couldn't understand the politics, politicians couldn't understand the art, and neither could stomach the violence. The group was dealt with by the normal avant-garde techniques of repression: silence in the media, prurient whispers of fascism over the vernissage cocktails. Not that BLACK MASK wasn't pretty damn unrecognizable when it hit in late '66. The two original animators of the group, Ron Hahne and Ben Morea, were kids straight off the streets, not middle class dropouts. Morea had been mixed up with the delinquent street gangs, been on H (heroin) and done a stretch in Sing-Sing before he turned to painting and discovered the Futurists. This background al-

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lowed them to get through to Futurism straight away - to the real Futurism: science, elegance, and violence, the most purely delinquent of all 20th century art spearheads. Not the art of a Soffici or a Boccioni, but the post-artistic way of life of a Marinetti. Marinetti beating up Wyndham Lewis in an all night urinal and hanging him up on some adjacent spiked railings by his coat collar. Marinetti imprisoning a bevy of wealthy culture-vultures in a bell tent, and driving his motorbike over it full throttle time after time. Marinetti, even at the end, at one of Mussolini's galas, kicking over a banquet table on top of Hitler, just to show that he really couldn't give a fuck.

They grasped, almost intuitively, the crux of the 1910-1925 art crisis: that the content of modern art, the vision of a totally re-created world stemming from the first Romantics, was potentially the most vitriolic attack on bourgeois civilization ever made; while on the contrary, its FORM straight jacketed it within a purely reactionary role. Taken literally it is dynamite. Taken culturally it is one of the system's main supports. Kubla Khan can be taken and used as a metaphor, a blueprint, of a real paradise; Kubla Khan can be taken and used as a fantasy, a means of evading the real hell in which we live, a compensation for it. Everything depends on whether it is related to one's own everyday life or whether it is related to the labyrinth of our Byzantine culture, where no road leads to Xanadu. The quick of the 20th century cultural crisis: creativity must break free of all its previous fetters and forms; it must stop being the creation of a separated and imaginary world, and become the transformation of real experience itself. Thus Tzars: 'Life and Art are One. The modern artist does not paint, he creates directly.' This Is why

“What is today the opium of the rebel will tomorrow be the opium of every normal slob in the street.”

BLACK MASK was more advanced than the relatively more sophisticated ‘Rebel Worker’ or the Resurgence Youth Movement’, or, for that matter, the great Marcuse himself. From the start they demanded complete identity of theory and practice and really tried, whatever their fuck-ups, to create an organization in line with this.

At the time, there was only one force with which they could identify: the post-Watts[1] BLACKS. Only the Blacks’ rejection of everything was as high-handed and demonic as their own. Only the Blacks were in a position where they had to really DO something, not just sit on their asses and talk. BLACK MASK, along with the French Situationists, were the only whites at the time who really grasped the revolutionary feeling coming to the boil in the US ‘race’ riots. They understood that there was a really positive content to the looting, arson and tentative gunplay, and sensed the real joy and affirmation in what the whole Left shrugged off as complete nihilism. They quoted a couple of newspaper clippings: ‘At times, amidst the scenes of riot and destruction that made parts of the city look like a battlefield, there was an almost carnival atmosphere.’ ‘New York Times’ 7/16/67 and ‘Said Governor Hughes after a tour of the riot blighted streets. “The thing that repelled me most was the holiday atmosphere... It’s like laughing at a funeral.’ ‘Time’ 7/21/67. One reporter from Detroit described suddenly seeing a huge bunch of gladiators skipping through the rubble. As it passed, a 7 or 8 year old Negro kid poked his head out of the middle. “I am a sex maniac” he yelled, and disappeared among the gutted buildings. What is this if not the consummation of modern art; its death and rebirth: DADA! And what 20th century avant-garde vision of Utopian architecture can hold a candle to the barbaric, almost elemental splendor of Detroit in flames? Playing with fire - purely aristocratic philosophy. Nero

begged by a mob of semi-illiterate teenage “nigras”.

Notwithstanding which they still couldn’t break through the mistrust, on any, except the most personal basis, of the Blacks of ‘67. They were stuck with the whites, and moreover, though they had defined their own goal as a form of action which transcends the separation between art and politics’, they were lumbered with precisely this separation: with the culturally oriented Hippies and the politically oriented New Left.

While they were utterly disgusted by everything about ‘Flower Power’, they recognized that out of the whole white opposition, the dropouts were the group potentially closest to them. They too had rebelled, in however half-assed a way, against the whole of life as it is. BLACK MASK completely agreed with their basic conviction that work was to be avoided at any cost, that the American dream was so much crap and that life should be devoted exclusively to experiment with the perimeters of lived experience - to a new, post-industrial life-style. Stirring up the Hippies meant really laying into the whole ‘Flower Power’ scene. In England, the Black Hand Gang are the best critics of Hippiedom: ‘In the desperate passivity of a ‘groovy’ pad, the hell crawls down the walls and across the floor. The silent circle in the candlelight pretends to be absorbed, without success. The nightmare of consumption consumes the consumer. You don’t smoke the hash, the hash smokes you. The record on the box makes sure that nobody sings or dances... And suddenly the whole non-communication, the sense of being lost in the middle of nowhere snaps into focus: the ‘underground’ is just another range of consumer goods, of articles whose non-participatory consumption follows the same rules in Betsy Coed as in Notting Hill: passivity and through passivity, isolation. What is happening?

Sweet fuck, all is happening. The latest goods and the latest poses are being exhibited, envied, bought and exhibited again. As the Situationists have said, “IT’S ALL A SHOW”. A show that can only go on because everyone pretends to be enjoying it - because everyone thinks that he alone is the total misfit. Conformity is a reign of terror.

The Beatles, Zappa, the Crazy World of Arthur Brown. Shit, the lot of it, products like these mark nothing more than the furthest frontiers yet of consumer society. Its most gratuitous, decadent, and self-destructive products. Its most snobbish pre-release, and no more than its pre-release. What is today the opium of the rebel will tomorrow be the opium of every normal slob in the street. Reynold’s Tobacco Corporation has already patented the brand names of every variety of pot. Twenty Acapulco Gold. Ten Congo Brown. They’ll be in the vending machines, along with the ontology and bubble-gum.’, from ‘Songs of the Black Hand Gang’, ‘Hapt’ 8.

BLACK MASK’s agitation snapped into sharper focus: showing the Hippies that their refusal to work was, however, unconsciously a perfectly accurate assessment of the freedom which could be granted by automation and cyber nation today - the eradication of all forms of involuntary labour - the creation of a society based on free creativity, on PLAY - that their fundamentally Utopian vision could, if only it were taken seriously and no longer etherealized as drug and culture fantasy, but as one of the most highly explosive forces in play today. The Lower East Side was plastered with fly posters and littered with throwaway: ‘WE CONDEMN: Timothy Leary. Not for new ideas but for organized religion. Not for expanding the mind but for limiting the revolution. Allen Ginsberg. For embracing Johnson in the face of death. For giving ‘Time-Life Inc.’ a safe rebel. For leading youth away from revolution.

USCO. For adding new lights to old art. For a new media with the same message.' With Detroit and Newark, BLACK MASK decided to hold street meetings on the Lower East Side. They were a mixed success. They muscled in on local community meetings in Tompkins Square Park, but they were really just too much. The local community leadership was more interested in getting progressively minded College-boy cops to come along and 'help', rather than getting mixed up with a bunch of rabid anarchists. The majority of the Hippies were still grooving on the dreary vision of the 'Barb' and the 'Oracle', and felt much the same way. Specific groups like New York Provo actually went so far as to denounce BLACK MASK to the cops.

At the same time they tried desperately to snap the usual New Left rent-a-crowd militants out of their inertia to get beyond counting assholes. Intellectually, they lashed out at the whole Vietnam and Third World industries, and at the condition of mass hypnosis they sustained. Time after time they plugged the fact that the only effect of issue politics in general -- is to distract everyone's attention away from the terrible fucking state they are in themselves. The whole "Third World" vs. "First World" ratio in misery, has come to be no more than the crudest monopolization of the meaning of the word poverty. Poverty is only allowed to mean hunger, disease, exposure, etc. (Also considered the poverty of imperialistic exploitation or the last remaining pockets of 19th century western industrial poverty) - while the atrocious modern poverty of the over-developed countries - the sexual, pleasure, and general energy frustration produced by a totally self-destructive and anti-life economy or the universal conditions of passivity, isolation, boredom, nausea and general crack-up in every direction - this modern poverty has become something completely intangible.

The idiot Left has allowed the specific objective phenomena of modern social alienation to be passed over in terms of purely subjective neurosis. Practically, they tried to turn demos into riots. To turn everyone on to the complete shit of everything: the cars, the buildings, the goods for sale, every aspect of their immediate experience. To turn them on to the physical excitement

and euphoria of actually fighting it all, fighting it fully, here and now, fighting it with their hands not only their minds. To turn everyone on to the fact that the only possible value, or pleasure today, the only way to really get across to anyone else, to one's self, is to join together to combat the whole of reality.

TURN THEM ON TO REVOLUTIONARY TO VIOLENCE.

BLACK MASK saw themselves as a catalyst: a small, tightly-knit guerrilla unit. It's tactics pre-planned, it's objective to precipitate a state of mass hypnosis into a Reichian outburst of anxiety, anger and festivity. They began to be in and around SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) and were one of the groups most involved in the initial experiment of mobile tactics - the first steps towards any future urban guerrilla - taking place at that time. The first time they were involved practically in illustrating the enormous tactical superiority of small autonomous groups over huge remote-controlled crowds was during the big Dean Rusk demo organized by SDS in November: roving bands blocked the main traffic intersections, took confrontation right off the area designated by the cops, jumped isolated cops they'd lured down side streets, etc.

The 'mill-in' at Macy's (a huge department store) during the Christmas shopping rush was even more effective. Large numbers of people, either alone or in small groups, flooded the store at its peak hour. None of them looked like demonstrators, and they were free to impersonate normal shoppers, floorwalkers, and staff in various configurations. They moved goods around in a business-like way. They soiled, broke, stole, and gave them away. Half-starved dogs and cats were let loose in the food department. A hysterical buzzard flew around the china section, smashing more and more hideous crockery as equally hysterical sales girls either tried to catch or escape from it. Decoys with flags and banners planted themselves in the middle of groups of straight middle-class shoppers

who were promptly roughed up and hustled outside by cops and floorwalkers. Utter chaos... With hindsight, one could say that it was at about this time, winter 67/68 that the whole atmosphere of the States began to change. A long-time underground process began to break out into the open. And, as Burroughs remarks somewhere, whatever it is that has seeped and crawled its way out is enough to make an ambulance attendant puke. Perhaps even 18 months ago it was possible to have some illusions. Not any more, not with suburban housewives practicing in the rifle-range, and with cops patrolling every subway train. America is on the brink of a disintegration unparalleled since the collapse of the Middle Ages. And, in this card house world, its fall will almost certainly flip the rest of the planet over with it: global night and fire.

To specify in terms of the 'avant-garde', the 'youth revolt', or whatever. Politically, the fiasco of the huge Whitehall demos in December (panavision version of the October 27 panto in London) not only spell out the futility of mass demonstrations in general but also that their futility couldn't solely be put down to their tactics. The New Left was reduced to zero. Even the pretense of an avant-garde sub-culture folded up, and really folded up, at much the same time. It wasn't even nihilistic or vapid any more. It just wasn't anything at all any more. Just another commodity, like lilacs or beans on toast. And we all know about the last days of the drug scene - the twilight of the garlanded TWA expense-account shamans, behaviorist luses and Calcutta airport hustlers trying to make the big time; the soft drugs gone about as soft as putty; then the speed scene, and first killings. The West Coast kids are all on speed and most everyone else smacked out just for a bit of peace.

A civilization coming down like the House of Usher and its slow motion fall sweeping all forms of experience into one - 'Because when the smack begins to flow / I really don't care any more / About all the tensions in this town. And all the politicians making crazy

sounds I And everybody putting everybody else down / And all the dead bodies piled up around.' This convergence is a real process and has expressed itself concretely in the formation of the GHETTO. The ghetto: an ambiguous and dialectical phenomenon par excellence. Negatively, it stands for the dissolution of everything. It's no transitional experimental station or enclave: no Tangier, no Big Sur. It's pure hell. One window, one door, four walls. A dead end. The ghetto: the place you go when there's nothing else left to do, when there's nowhere else left to go. The prison without bars. The loony bin so big no one can even see its there. Back rooms and endless nights. Neurosis, inertia. The abyss opens ... The horror, the horror... Yet, at the same time, dissidence becoming conscious, an organizational problem, a problem of actual city space. Isolated individuals gathering into a mob, a mob in a distinctly desperate and ugly mood, and gathering permanently, everyday, so it can't be busted that easily just for loitering. A state of mind claiming its own real space, its physical interplay, and thus, oddly enough, the first step towards a revolutionary concept of the city, of life together: a Heaven built in Hell's despite. The ghettoization of the young white dropout allowed BLACK MASK to grapple, concretely, with this upsurge of a qualitatively different revolt which has been rising clearly for at least 5 years now, a revolt without a name, 'youth revolt', 'dropout', 'new lumpen', what you will. At last this new revolt became tangible: the Lower East Side in early '68 was a potentially revolutionary COMMUNITY.

BLACK MASK - whose real axis was still essentially abstract and ethereal: a magazine - dissolved itself and a hard core of some 20 odd people reformed as the Lower East Side SDS chapter: UP AGAINST THE WALL MOTHER-FUCKER... AND INTO THE TRASH CAN...

The first thing they really got their teeth into was the Lower East Side Garbage Strike. As a metaphor the giant rat-infested heaps of rotting garbage

were a godsend: now no one could, or would, shift the shit out of sight any more. Not only were they up against the wall, they were quite literally in the trash can. From street to street they fired the spread-eagled mounds, drank and danced round them and when the firemen finally arrived (there was a big Firemen's Strike at the same time) climbed on to the tenement roofs (roofs, like sewers are major unpatrolled zones) and lobbed bricks, slates and anything else to hand down on them to cries of 'black-legs'. Unwashed and ragged, dancing, singing, hammering tom-toms, they ferried load after load of muck via the subway and dumped it in glossy uptown Rockefeller Plaza.

They were the perfect catalyst. Numbers grew fast, and as they did, their activity really took off, it became permanent, polymorphic, a revolutionary life-style. They threw off a thousand gags to precipitate the crisis at the heart of the modern ghetto -- its oscillation between groovy zonked-out reservation and a real focused, sensual, communal and aggressive underground - to build up general iconoclasm and agitation in a more systematic manner than anyone before them, ATMOSPHERICS: revolutionary technique designed to exacerbate the contradiction between what people apparently feel and what they really feel: to invert all the symbols and stereotypes in any given area. They 'shot' (with blanks, alas) the 'poet' Keneth Koch as he was giving a reading in a local church to what he actually referred to as his 'congregation'. They lumbered an entire lavatory down to St. Marks Place and held a community 'shit-in' which proved highly popular until a squad of infuriated, blushing, highly Protestant fuzz arrived. This was a perfect symbolical end of a perfect symbolical evening, literally beat it to pieces with their nightsticks. They triggered off militant demonstrations outside the precinct nick every time anyone was busted for drugs (at the same time spacing out the more inane heads and dealers all over town in search of phantasmal deals they had set up). They infiltrated the kitchens of the most fashionable artsy cafes and

bars, spiking the more expensive drinks and dishes with an assortment of drugs, violent emetics, sleepers, or hallucinogens... A couple of the posh hangouts were forced to close down...

They spearheaded the city's first real Hippy riot (during which they fought their way through a throng of cops guarding a squad car in which one of the Motherfuckers was locked, wrenched the lock, freed him, and all got away)... They organized some 400 Lower East Side dropouts in the storming of the Museum of Modern Art for putting on an exhibition 'Dada, Surrealism and their heritage' (heritage being the usual crock of shit; Rauschenberg, Funk et al). Struggling, dishevelled and distinctly unbeautiful people screaming obscenities, hurling paint, flour and smoke bombs at the First Night crowd with the cops defending them. They printed invitations from one of the major ghetto stores offering, at a specified time on a specified day, as many free goods' as their customers could carry away. Fifty of the Motherfuckers set the ball rolling. They had been training in karate for over a year and had further refined their street tactics with hot copies of the National Guard manual 'How To Deal With Civil Disorders' (particularly attracted to the idea of unleashing Alsatians with hand grenades strapped to them). They were terrifying when actually in action. They would break out of the main body of demonstrators like greased lightning, smashing windows, kicking over trash cans and road signs, setting fire to anything that would burn, setting off a series of intersection traffic jams to disperse standard cop dispersion procedure, and then pick them off one by one. They waded in using karate chops, brandishing knives and slashing with bicycle chains strapped to their wrists, screaming:

“UP AGAINST THE WALL I MOTHERFUCKER. They baptized this mercurial street guerrilla, DIAL-A-PIG or IF YOU'RE TAKING TWO STEPS BACK I FOR EVERY STEP FORWARD I TURN AROUND I AND GO THE OTHER WAY.”

Their basic tactic in all of this was sticking their neck right out - then trying to work with anyone attracted to their extremism. In this they hoped to pull the most desperate elements of the Lower East Side together: to create an embryo community. They hustled the bread to set up a 'free store' (a "store" where people can come in and take whatever they want) called the Rathole. Although written off by some since as a mere 'hip Salvation Army' - it in actuality was used as a general coordination and meeting point for both the Motherfuckers (by now 30 hard core with a further 300 in and around) and anyone else who cared to fall by. An experiment in re-occupying a fraction of the land that has been stolen from us. A move to erode the whole system of isolation that is the basis of hierarchical power - a grid system holding itself together by holding us apart - all the objective aspects of which are unified and summed up concretely in the structure of the 'city. Irradiating from this they tried to reinforce the dropout's new belligerence, and to ward off the chill police heat it was calling forth. They tried to infiltrate the local social services, to use them as a front to shelter real militancy which, as it grew in strength, could afford to shatter them and expose the purely repressive role they play. They became embroiled in tenants' struggles over rent strikes and the idea of street and block committees. They helped set up a number of crash pads. They tried to turn hustling - dog eating dog - into more organized libertarian forms of crime, by working out steady illegal supplies of everything from food and medical supplies to actual hardware. Here as elsewhere coherent self-defense proved inseparable from actual aggression.

They stepped up the typical ghetto tension over public use of what are nominally public places, and acted to turn the conversation into a dialogue used in combat zones 'True friendship is made on the battlefield'. Announcements of neighborhood conflict would help to invite those interested in aiding the tension: "Raids on the Fillmore East Theatre are going on at the mo-

ment" once this was announced, 'mobs of long haired gits regularly smashing their way in, reasserted the conflict's aim. In this instance specifically, the theatre became known as "The Warehouse", and was then used as a community center, with free food and drink, music, dancing, drugs, discussions of tactics and organization for resistance, free karate classes, and a space for other revolutionary activities. Moreover, their initial zeroing in on one specific area, far from becoming stultifying, getting them stuck in a blind alley, lead naturally through more and more far-flung connections along a sketchy but thoroughly real national network. The ghetto is fast becoming one of the most vital nerve centers of this feverish doomed society. Crooks, middle class culture dropouts, immigrants, and working class delinquent street gangs all put right on the same intolerable spot. Not only did alliances with other dropout communities all over the States spring up, but for the first time a group of young whites really got across to the Blacks; they were accepted as having identical interests. This coalition reached the point of Eldridge Cleaver offering the Vice-Presidency of the Black Panthers to one of the Motherfuckers - and being turned down. Politics is shit, man, deadpanned the Mothers. Anarchy realized it was black a century before the Third World. And Lucifer, Prince of Morning, right in the dawn of time.

They also closed in on one of the richest sources feeding the ghetto and which any ghetto organization must embrace: the school and university system. They systematically freaked out all the SDS summits they could get to; they wreaked havoc on the various attempts made to bureaucratize the New York Teachers Strike. In both cases they used the same Durruti-like tactics of pulling together the extremists they attracted and then leaving them to organize their own scene themselves. Their most notorious intervention was during the occupation of Columbia. Electricity put out of commission, then some really swashbuckling radio dropout over the university's own broadcasting

system. Successful attempts to involve the local Black and Puerto Rican youth gangs and to take the confrontation right out of its piddling academic context. During actual fighting with the police, they covered the front of the barricades with the choicest items from the university collection of ceramics and old masters, (headline: Policeman Smashes Art Treasure) this finally got them kicked out. Perhaps the most radical aspect of all during the summer of '68 can be seen as their persistent attempt to create a new form of self expression beyond art and politics: a new revolutionary language. In the first place, they started to write in the language of the streets. What, a few months before, had been 'The poverty against which man has been constantly struggling, is not merely the poverty of material goods; in fact, in Industrially advanced countries the disappearance of material poverty has revealed the poverty of existence itself' became 'Your community represents death. You eat dead food. You live dead lives. You fuck dead women. Everything about you is dead. The struggle is for real life...'. From the Situationist SALON down to Skid Row. Form changed along with style. The apparently Puritanical BLACK MASK switched into a stabbing crossfire of grotty leaflets, obscene broadsheets, posters, comics, slogans, spray can graffiti, banners, chants, songs, tom tom tattoos. Sculpture, music, literature, all forms dissolved and regained their unity. Trails of slime and giant footprints meandered through back-alleys. Snakes with propaganda painted along their backs. Dogs and rabbits with similar tags. And the cops trying to round them up, with nets. But even the most inflammatory smut sheet remains trapped within the official definition of 'communication'. The scene, wrote the Mothers, 'is now going through a process of polarization - those who want to continue the media 'blow-out' and those who want to blow out the media'. For communication if it is to have any meaning at all, can only be Inter-change and inter-play between people, a dialogue, while all the mass media, however mixed, work by definition in one direction only. They

are a broadcast, a show, a spectacle that can only be consumed by a passive spectator. Novel, film or symphony, you can't talk back to any of them. And what communication can there be when one can never reply? Sweet fuck all, comrade, sweet fuck all. What passes as communication is in fact the installation of total non-communication, of passivity, isolation and abstraction - the media is the material expression of participation in non-participatory society.

The whole crock of shit comes down to the assumption that communication is a matter of just talking. It's nothing of the sort - it's a matter of acting, of acting together. The Motherfuckers' real importance was that they were trying to create this new revolutionary language. Language as collective action. This is why they got off so much on riots. Riots, probably the first significant breakthrough in mass communication since Marconi (Italian creator of the radiotelegraph). Communication is a group project and adventure - a shared predicament, dangerous, illegal - a world suddenly tense, expectant and tonic, a situation whose outcome depends solely on the verve and audacity of one's own intervention. Riot, like love, gives a brief taste of real surreality: the moment everything totters on the brink, the past and the personality gone, the present and the body found, all the senses called into play. If you want to find yourself, get lost. Violence seemed the only shock brusque enough to snap dissidents out of their trance and its dream syntax: a karate-trained Dadaist commando actually fighting in the gutter is enough to complete the demoralization of any intellectual, whether it's Ayler or George Simmel he's pickled in. 'Revolution in dreams / Revolution in books/ Revolution in cars / Revolution In advertising / But everywhere repression... Your biggest enemy is your OWN ASS / Pick it up / Let it move...' Inertia is the real enemy.

As the summer drew on they entered the realm of revolutionary folklore. Their enthusiasm for any kind of hardware left all but the most rabid Panthers looking sallow. Huey Newton's 'If you

don't believe in Jead, you're already dead' was much quoted - and most of the shooting on the white scene last summer was inevitably Motherfuckers. Not only were they responsible for the sporadic, apparently Hippy rooftop sniping at cops on the Lower East Side, they were also toting the guns and cocktails on the Berkeley and Haight-Ashbury barricades. In September, they blew up the Berkeley water supply as a reprisal raid for Chicago. They were the unknown terrorists who since January have, deep in the country, at the dead of night, been dynamiting California's electricity grid (electricity, the basis of the real power that keeps the machine running... Without it nothing can work... The world becomes black anarchy...). UP AGAINST THE WALL MOTHERFUCKER began to pay for the notoriety: What a good nights work pig did / Got his rocks off swinging clubs after being frustrated all Friday / Arrests a member of UP AGAINST THE WALL MOTHERFUCKER for standing on the street. Charge: conspiracy In the 4th degree. Arrests a girl for protesting his arrest. Arrests a Yippee for standing on the street corner. Charge: disorderly conduct. Arrests 8 people on Sixth Street for trying to block the street to traffic after a kid was hit by a car. Arrests a guy carrying a drum. Arrests a guy for backing up his car after getting 4 tickets. Charge: trying to run over a cop. Arrests a girl trying to put up bail to get out the others arrested. The police are coming down heavy on the Motherfuckers.

By the end of the summer their hard core was up on countless criminal charges, with penalties ranging from 10 days to 10 years - the worst of which was late July when Ben Morea was arrested for having knifed a couple of servicemen, a Marine and an airman. Them, along with some 20 odd other right-minded citizens had cornered 4 of the Motherfuckers in a Boston back alley and laid into them with bricks and clubs. His trial opened in November and is still going on at this minute. There was paranoia the whole time, and there's no paranoia like New York paranoia. The uproar, the filth and neon, the sense of

being trapped. Politics or dope, it feels like they could come and get you at any time. Telephones bugged, with a transmitter picking up sounds all over the apartment. Smoking over the bog seat with one hand on the handle. People scared of even being seen with you. And the Motherfuckers prowling around spitting at every cop they happened to come across on the street. When the heat really began to move in a lot of them split New York City. They traveled from one end of the country to the other. Fucking up things from Alaska to New Mexico, and trying to link the various people they made contact with. Attempts to make a nationwide network of guerrilla cells were put together during this period. Rounded off by the formation of the I.W.W.E. The International Werewolf Conspiracy - trade joke on the I.W.W. - which more or less brings it up to now.

The Motherfuckers are the classic 'left-wing adventurers' - that old alibi of the straight revolutionary, and his dam against the visceral revolt in himself. Acting within a new and completely unexplored theatre of operations - community as opposed to factory organization and strife - and exposing themselves 1000% to police victimization, they have galvanized a vast area of the American scene. They shit on the 'tactical' ruminations of the usual left wing ass holes (only 'adventurers' are entitled to talk tactics) and pop the balloon of the Maoist's straight faced absurdities with the wild laughter of real aggression against a real enemy. And their extemporization has paid off as a catalyst: in the realm of atmospherics they have changed the tenor not only of the whole post-Flower-Power underground, but also of SDS. And there is still a great deal to be done in this field. 'The positive aspects of the major hallucinogens, for example, is still submerged under the sales talk of the '87 psychedelic merchants. Their rudimentary deconditioning, partial ego-dissolving properties and stripping bare of the social structuring of perception - these have still to be appropriated by revolutionaries and put into terms of practical sensual activity' (Marx). But the role of catalyst has its drawbacks, and the group has now reached a turning point. With the International Were Wolf Conspiracy there is both an attempt to grapple with the problems of a large scale decentralized network, and an unequivocal desire to get at least a major part of the whole organization well out of the lime light. Personal audacity is of the greatest possible values in ending this bloody nightmare - is it me or them, that's insane? In parading what one really feels - but putting the finger on oneself the whole time can only end up with the bastards sitting outside your door all day, setting you up for a five year stretch. Some of the least cool Motherfuckers are beginning to disappear from the front line - disappearing to re-appear with a changed name, a changed address, a changed persona. One day a scruffy wild eyed git, the next flashy executive with aerosol DNT in his briefcase, and a week later a mild mannered union official quietly fucking up the union comptometer. The whole vast problem of structuring open and closed organization.

The depersonalization and anonymity of bureaucratic civilization is the jungle of the urban guerrilla.

Obviously violence has an enormous power, but as Reich underlined time after time, a flood of pleasure, anxiety and fury, merely indicates the sweeping aside of the first major level of inhibition, of character and body armor. One's sense of an enormous underlying manic-depressive swing with the Motherfuckers would seem to confirm Reich's claim that the fundamental question is one of re-connecting on a far, far deeper level - on the level of a primordial energy - and let's hope it is a slightly more serene and ineluctable trip. The case of the Mothers raises the question of the aims, imperative, and pitfalls of a revolutionary affinity group. Behind a hard, imaginative, and identifiable front, an occult network of resistance. Along with breaking through to the deepest and most intoxicating levels of our real selves, a non-stop and intelligible harassment of the prevailing organization of reality. War, therapy, community. No part of the project can be separated from the others. But these are practical problems, and they can never be solved on a big table covered with pieces of paper.

THE END.

*Taken from 'Black Mask', by Ron Hahne and Ben Morea.

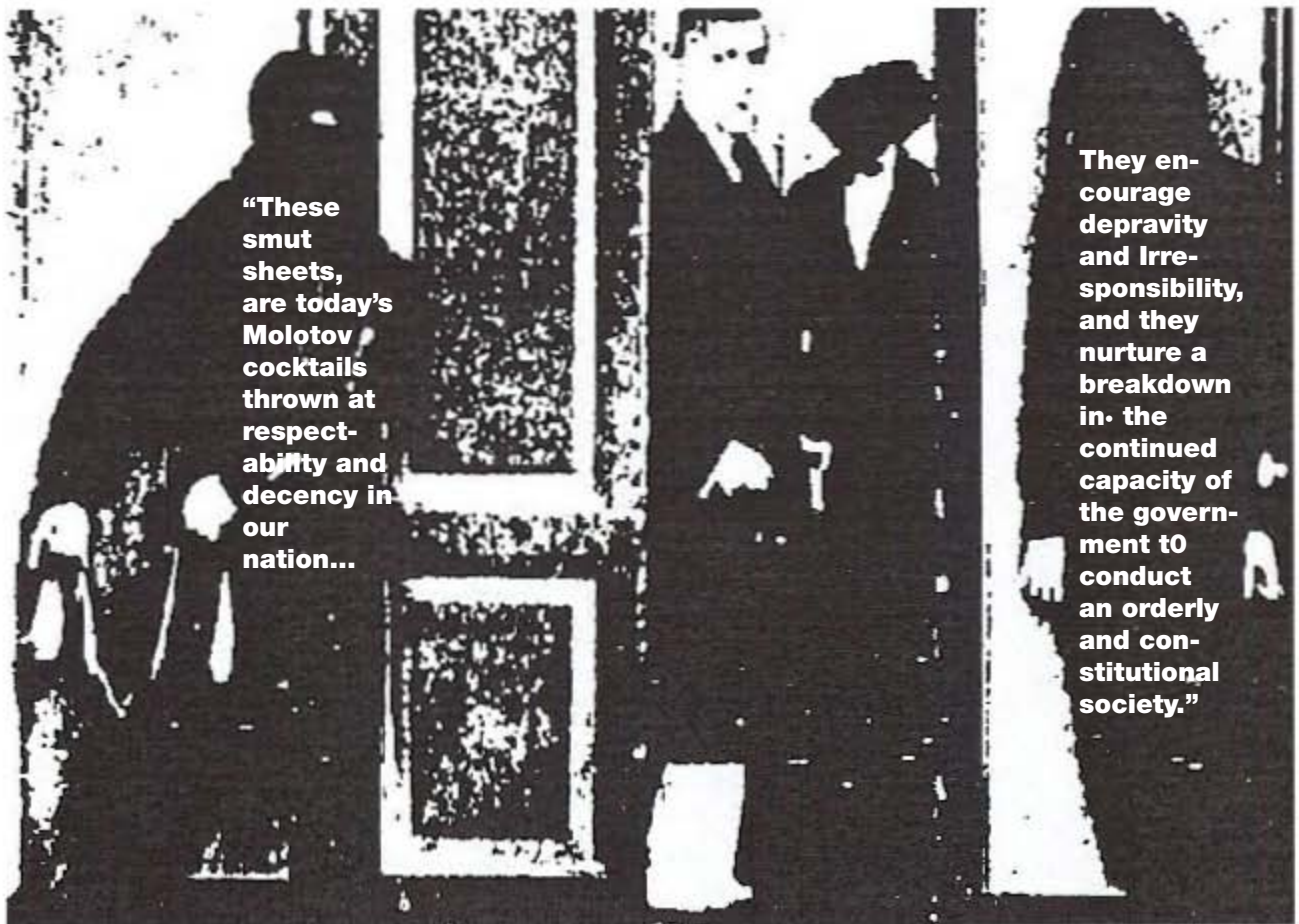
NOTE:

[1]The term Watts Riots of 1965 refers to a large-scale riot which lasted 6 days in the Watts neighborhood of Los Angeles, California, in August 1965. By the time the riot subsided, 34 people had been killed, 1,032 injured, and 3,952 arrested. It would stand as the most severe riot in Los Angeles history until the Los Angeles riots of 1992. The riot ostensibly was a reaction to a long record of police brutality by the LAPD and other racial injustices suffered by black Americans in Los Angeles, including job and housing discrimination.

**PICTURE
BELOW:**


The picture below records seconds before a member of the ruling class at the time, was attacked with a shit-smear blanket by the Motherfuckers. The text included over the picture is from a communique at the time that claimed the action.

**“Full
steam
ahead
through
the shit”
-Nechaev**



**“These
smut
sheets,
are today’s
Molotov
cocktails
thrown at
respect-
ability and
decency in
our
nation...”**

**They en-
courage
depravity
and Irre-
sponsibility,
and they
nurture a
breakdown
in the
continued
capacity of
the govern-
ment to
conduct
an orderly
and con-
stitutional
society.”**



OUR TEARS MAKE THE FLOWERS GROW

ON THE SITUATION IN GREECE
BY KIRILOV

**“FIRE CAN
ONLY BE
ANSWERED
WITH FIRE,**

**VIOLENCE
MET BY
VIOLENCE,**

**AND HENCE THE
PROTRACTED
STRUGGLE IS
THE ONLY
APPROPRIATE
RESPONSE TO
UNILATERAL
TERROR.”**

In a world drenched with images, like swirls of pictures dancing on strings, even that which is in plain sight, directly located within our vision, can become obscured.

Often, only a flash of negativity will allow us to see what is in all that is. The “Broken doors, smashed shop fronts, smoke from the torched buildings, the chaos of the sabotages,” described by the Conspiracy Cells of Fire in an autumn communiqué, is not only “a network of communication beyond and outside the foreseeable,” but also clarifies what stands right in front of us albeit always hidden. It’s the magic of the makeshift explosive that cuts up and collages, with the technique of a high-modernist, the endlessly generated stream of pictorial text called society and thus it makes things understandable; it adds appropriate punctuation to make words readable, and, most importantly, it reveals what everyone already implicitly knew.

In this same fashion, The Conspiracy Cells of Fire detonated a bomb during ex-prime minister Karamanlis’s last and most important campaign rally set to take place two days before elections. Everyone in Greece was certain Karamanlis would not be re-elected once the votes had been counted, and so, the nihilist guerrilla faction fittingly transformed the farcical campaign rally into a pyrotechnic farewell celebration. The blast symbolized to all of Greece that Karamanlis’s right-wing and scandal-ridden Nea Demokratia party, after its five year rule, had truly collapsed into total disarray. Like salt sprinkled on a wound, the explosion emphasized the defeated party’s inability to control the domestic insurgency that had grown in both quantity and quality in the past half decade - especially after the December insurrection. Almost dancing in the faces of the anti-terror police, the Cells of Fire once again proved that they can only get better with every attack; with each strike they are more confident and with each strike they become more severe.

On October 6, 2009, the Greek socialist party PASOK, led by now prime minister Papandreou, became the new ruling regime, and consequently, inherited the problem of containing an uncontrollable revolutionary surge from the incapable Nea Demokratia party. Far better skilled in the art of state-craft than their predecessors, PASOK immediately instituted a variety of social control mechanisms to accentuate the already present brute force, and often-times counter-productive, repression characteristic of Karamanlis’s previous reign. In addition to the monopoly of “legitimate” physical violence essential to any State, the instillation of corrective disciplinary techniques, the deployment of security measures, and the dissemination of false ideology (but filtered through recuperative discourse unlike Nea Demokratia) quickly became the new weapons of constraint used in PASOK’s recent counter-insurgent strategy. The more refined and subtle methods of governmentality marked the rise of socialist tyranny while, at the same time, reshaped the battleground for the war fought by other means.

Less than a week after taking power, the socialist administration ordered the police to occupy the Exarchia district, perform random stop and search seizures of its residents, and establish checkpoints at all major entrances to Athens’ classically left-wing and intellectual neighborhood. The massive quarantining effort, a literal police swarming in a way never before seen in the country, was justified by the government as a response to a small – in Greek standards – solidarity attack on a bank outside of Exarchia. Neighborhood residents were forced to kneel on the pavement before being subjected to degrading bodily examinations; a tactic which best exemplified the State’s new disciplinary approach aimed at censoring the movement and imposing docility into those who frequent the revolutionary hotbed. The police occupation of Exarchia resulted in the detainment of over a hundred people and became the first instance of the mass temporary arrests that would continue

throughout the fall and winter months. Given the overwhelming State reaction to a relatively minor bank attack, the socialist's inaugural show of force can now be seen as a dress rehearsal for their forthcoming preventive program. Hoping to ward off the lingering phantom of December 2008, the hallmark of progressive containment centered on preemptive security measures intended to block the eventual recurrence of the insurrectionary moment. Thus, similar police occupations and detainment operations took place again before the massive protests expected on the November 17th anniversary of the junta's collapse and again before the first year memorial of Alexi's murder at the end of the first week of December. But while discipline produces order, its complement is a security apparatus that regulates disorder by asserting the probability of the undesirable event, calculating the relations of risk and, lastly, segmenting the population related to the results.

To temper the street-conflicts that would inevitably spur from the upcoming demonstrations, the State conducted several anticipatory sieges on greek universities; the deterritorialized home-bases of revolutionary activity throughout the country. Recognizing the university's constitutionally granted asylum from the police as one of the foremost tactical advantage of the insurgency, the socialists attempted to storm the headquarters of revolt without the use of asphyxiating tear gas and bone-shattering truncheons; a move that intended to somewhat diminish the future need for repressive weaponry in the approaching days designated for street battles. And so, the bloodless conquest began by PASOK collaborating with the deans and rectors of the schools to reconstruct a discourse to shift the perception of the university from a center of the armed struggle and return it to an academic institution. Even the Indymedia servers on campus became an issue of contention when the scholastic value of the network was made a topic of public debate. In their last ditch effort to reclaim the public schools, epidemiologic prevention and

medicalization of social control took an almost comedic literal significance when the PASOK cordoned off universities all over greece under the pretense that the colleges had become infested with the swine flu coincidentally only days before the scheduled nation-wide demonstrations in December. The blatant biopolitical farce was of course motivated not by concern for the health of greek citizens but targeted the specter of the koukoulafori, the prophesized hooded-ones set to maraud the metropolis in the days to come, and aimed at dissipating the masked apparitions before they even materialized.

An important corollary effect of subtle bodily manipulation and preventive security is the consequential marking of those resistant to correction, thus isolating uncontrollable segments to the brutal force of sovereign law. Throughout the past few months, the fine tuning of the State has made violent repression much more acute but, at the same time, more widespread within the distinguishable revolutionary area. The police have gone on a witch-hunt for suspected members of the Conspiracy Cells of Fire and have arrested over half a dozen people, eager to tie them to the clandestine guerrilla group, each time on flimsy evidence. Police persecution also refocused on the heroic illegalist Yannis Dimatriks, who was scheduled for a retrial in December, and huge rewards were offered for the capture of his alleged co-conspirators. PASOK also began new "anti-anarchist" legislation and has gone as far as proposing the very same laws they once denounced as fascist during the Nea Democratia government. Before the socialist victory, the now minister of public order Chrisochoidis referred to the mask laws as "laughable in themselves, besides the fact that they are legally groundless" but now after securing power, PASOK reneged from the left-wing coalition against the draconian regulations and sought to use them to tack 10 years on to the sentences of protesters arrested in a demonstration in Nikea. The judicial system then used terror-enhancement laws to imprison Ilias Nikolaou for 7 years;

an extremely harsh sentence by greek standards as its length is comparable to those handed out here in america during the Green Scare. Although the list of repression seems endless, the blood that soaked the concrete during Alexi's memorial demonstration stands out among the cowardly and incessant violence attributed to the armed mercenaries of law and order. The Delta Force police squad, formed after the December uprising, charged the march on their motorcycles leaving a veteran prisoner of the anti-junta struggle and member of the militant Trotskyist party EEK, Ms. Koutsoumbou in critical condition. During the week of demonstrations commemorating Alexis, the wave of terror perpetrated by the greek police went unchecked by the government and the only opposition came from the stones and molotov cocktails flying from behind barricades with the cadence of machine gun fire.

In any duel, a simple attack can only be defeated by parry and riposte and the same goes for the clash between the State vs. the anti-State. Fire can only be answered with fire, violence met by violence, and hence the protracted struggle is the only appropriate response to unilateral terror. Always in solidarity with imprisoned comrades, clandestine bomb attacks are on the rise and almost every day a newly formed group claims responsibility for the destruction of a symbol of capitalist tyranny. In the streets, the 17th of November demonstrations proved to be one of the largest since the tradition began in the 1970s and the revolutionary anarchist contingent numbered over 4,000 despite any preparations made by the State. Weeks later, after days of vicious barricade fighting and close hand to hand combat with the police during Alexis' memorial protests, the week ended with an equally large demonstration proving that the growing mass of the disobedient refuse to be thwarted by intimidation and repression.

While the greek police worry as to how they will acquire their much dreamt about armored anti-riot tanks, those in struggle should remember that the most

**...the
detonation
symbolized
that life
can spring
from the
void and
announced
clearly that
irreconcil-
able con-
tradictions
can never
be laid to
rest in the
graveyard
of politics.**

damaging weapon to the furtherance of revolutionary movement is the retrograde inertia of democracy – whether representative or direct. Similarly, the first law against partisan warfare is to gain the populations’ “tacit support, its submission to law and order, its consensus – taken for granted in normal times”; that is, instilling the techniques of internal government within the social body, the auto-control of souls and flesh, and the individualization of subjects with the police implanted firmly within. This double movement of capture is of the utmost importance in today’s greece, where the parasitic PASOK, claiming to be anti-authoritarians in office, continually try to leech the rebels’ power to turn cities into a blistering infernos and, thereby, redirect insurrectionary potential into mediated demands set to be appeased in parliament. Considering that our country’s proletariat is largely pacified seemingly though its own volition, the technologies of inner repression should also be of particular interest to the american reader. If we define the ideologically obscure term “radical” as a measure of practical break with the existent order of things, then we can easily judge the undeniably reformist greek socialist party far more radical than at least 70 percent of the american revolutionary milieu. Considering that the greek communist party KKE, the third largest in the country, frequently rattles off partial critique never even put on the table in the States in a situationist discourse so perfect you would swear, its chairwoman, Aleka Papatoufaki was the zombie of Guy Debord, it could be easily asserted that the Stalinists put 80 percent of so-called revolutionaries in the states to shame. Lastly, when the radical-left coalition, constituting a small minority in parliament, is clearly more radical than 95 percent of self-described american revolutionaries, undoubtedly the question must be begged as to what extent do we here in the states go about policing ourselves? How does our perpetual self-regulation contribute to the obliteration of the possibilities of rupture before they have an opportunity to actualize? To what degree are we all complicit in the eternal return of sameness and normality?

JUMP CUT

The Conspiracy Cells of Fire struck again on December 27, 2009, this time placing an even more sophisticated, yet still homemade, explosive in the offices of the National Insurance Company. The blast, heard literally five miles away, not only ripped whole chunks off the building but flattened every car parked nearby. Like a dark amber carnation, the color of deep oxygenated plasma, sprouting from a makeshift configuration of factory-produced steel, the detonation symbolized that life can spring from the void and announced clearly that irreconcilable contradictions can never be laid to rest in the graveyard of politics. The explosion was heard five miles away but could anyone feel it at a further distance? Did we get the message across the Atlantic? How do we respond back? Only through a force equal or greater can meaningful dialogue begin. Our reply may not at this time necessitate the use of dynamite, but what, in fact, is essential is that you/us/we become the post-human manifestation of dynamite. A metamorphosis shattering the boundaries between internal and external, unleashing an affect which pushes tender newborn skin to pierce through the calloused outer-layer of gangrened cadavers and recomposes each appendage of our bodies into organic artillery aimed at everything. A rebirth, in which each of our limbs is fit to strike with an intensity that makes everything stop; the clock, the personnel, the factory, the church. An eyes, hands, and kiss strike. A nobody breathe strike. A strike in which silence is born so that we can hear with crystal clarity the Conspiracy Cells of Fire, this time, answering one of our messages.



THE OLYMPICS ARE COMING...

Since the beginning of this magazine, the 2010 Olympics have been something cited at least briefly in every issue. The 2010 Olympics will be taking place in British Columbia, Canada next February. Although the Olympics have specifically sparked opposition and agitation from misc. revolutionary and native groups, Canada will also be hosting the G8 and Security and Prosperity Partnership in 2010. As the Olympics approach, their most typical effects have already come into play. Before the 4,500 expected Canadian soldiers, 1,800 provincial cops, 5,200 Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and 5,000 private security personnel swarm Western Canada, being the largest domestic police or military operation planned in Canadian history, signs what is to come have already been displaying.

The Canadian police are beginning to escalate repression and let individuals preparing to resist the Olympics know that they are paying attention to them.

One person has been deported for “overstay” following a film screening about the upcoming Olympics. American National Security agencies are actively speaking more and more with the Canadian government, aiding its concern and preparation for potential riots at the upcoming events.

New offices and agencies are being set up at different borders in Western Canada to allegedly help mediate those entering or leaving Canada before and during the Olympic games. Canadians and Americans who have been accused of being critical of the Olympics, or associated with groups resisting the Olympics have been subject to detention, interrogation, and refusal at the Canadian and American borders, even harsher than the typical border experience. Which, may we add, fucking sucks. In fact a brand new 4 million dollar communications office was built 45 miles south of the games. This was solely to host different American Federal law enforcement and emergency response teams during the upcoming games.

Native groups, anarchists, and others

in conflict with the upcoming Olympic games have been subject to questioning, home raids, harassment, deportation, and multiple types of traditional police intimidation. The Vancouver 2010 Integrated Security Unit, or VISU, is the newly designed security unit that has been created to pressure 2010 critics. Their responsibility is to exercise all of these types of intimidation specifically around resisting the Olympic games.

VISU has been making sure to attend public meetings, especially those by Native groups looking to resist the vile gesture of further colonization. They have also been sure to attend meetings held by Vancouver’s east side (the hood) community groups trying to defend neighborhoods before planned developments. They have chosen to make their presence completely visible at meetings, hoping to intimidate those involved.

Months before the Olympics VISU has been visiting the homes or workplaces of individuals associated with the anti-olympic sentiment, as well as their friends or family members if they are unsuccessful with being direct.

Individuals have been visited across Canada, not just in British Columbia; visits in Ontario and Quebec have also been frequent. Dozens of security cameras are being put up in and around the city of Vancouver. Police claim these are temporary cameras that will only be used by a temporary security center. They do mention that the cameras may remain for future “special events” or “traffic control”. Clearly, the concern around the games is helping to rationalize new opportunities in surveillance by local officials under the guise of Olympic security. Vancouver police are beginning to stock-pile non-lethal crowd control equipment that has yet to be used in their country. Similarly to the G20 Summit in Pittsburgh in September 2009, Canadian police are planning to also use the LRAD “acoustic weapon”, which uses deafening tones to clear crowds. Although it should be noted that this was not successful in the case of Pittsburgh, other than simply annoying rioters the same way any incredibly annoying car alarm would.

With all this planned for the upcoming games, private security companies have been recruiting for the Olympics in towns specifically close to reservations. Ignoring the implications of holding the Olympics in British, Columbia, security companies are claiming to provide opportunities for the aboriginal communities of this province. As they plan to hire 5,000 people across Canada to work as private security during the Olympics, they plan for 1,500 to 2,000 of them to be of Native descent. They claim that they will go through an extensive training process, helping those without jobs to acquire skills they can use in the future. While clearly taking advantage of Aboriginal poverty in Canada, they are also creating divisions among native groups in Western Canada. All together the security budget for the Olympics alone is 900 million dollars. But what has been so unique about this 2 year hype of resistance and riot before the 2010 Olympics, is that even before such intense state posturing, action and solidarity continues to be stoic and uncompromising just months before the planned Olympic police state in Western Canada.

Vancouver is also witnessing the development plans the Canadian province hopes to achieve with the upcoming games. Tenants specifically in Vancouver or Victoria are being evicted in mass from their homes, making space for Olympic tourists before an expected hotel scarcity. As people are being forced to leave their homes before the winter just starts to get colder in Western Canada, tenants can go online and see their small tenement buildings being advertised for special Olympic rates. One group of tenants discovered, after being evicted from their 9 bedroom home, that it suddenly was going for \$11,900 for a minimum 2 week stay, or \$34,000 dollars for the full 2 months of the Olympics.

This sort of hyper displacement was expected prior to the games. Although discussed by community groups within the city, the displacement of a large part of Vancouver’s east side (considered the Ghetto by some), has created a 373% increase in homelessness in Vancouver. It is now estimated that 3000 people are living on the streets. Police have handed over 2000 tickets for minor by-law infractions like jaywalking specifically in the East side of Vancouver. This is most likely to drain and intimidate the homeless from feeling comfortable, but alas, clearing apartment buildings and fining are not enough. New laws are being passed as well to help clear the cities of its “scum” or “undesirables”. Just months before the games, the British Columbia’s provincial government passed a law allowing police in Vancouver and Victoria to forcefully remove homeless people off the street and into shelters. They claim the law only entitles them to do this during extreme weather conditions, but considering the timing, it is clear what the intentions are. Once this law was made public, it was a bit too ridiculous to ignore. After a fuss was made, the law was reformed to only allow officers to forcefully remove homeless people off the street, and to the shelter, but they could not force the person to stay. However they could just keep picking them up and taking them there. It is expected that large parts of the city will be shut down for the Olympics, making it

impossible for large amounts of homeless people to stay where they are anyway. The VISU is refusing to reveal what neighborhoods they are closing until its closer to the Olympics.

As notorious officer Bud Mercer is appointed key cop during Olympic security, we can understand what the Canadians are planning. With a resume of repressive police conduct, specifically during confrontations with Native or student groups, we are assuming they want to provide the appropriate face for what is to come. But with everything said here, we want to include some of the things that have happened in the last few months. Resistance continues on all fronts before the upcoming games. Night time actions on corporate sponsors has not diminished whatsoever. Even though Canada plans to put a crown on the few Chiefs embracing the games, it is losing the support of some of the most loyal tribal governments and chiefs, as frustration with the games becomes more and more popular among Native groups across Canada. East side Vancouver fears that the Neighborhood as it’s known will be destroyed and appropriated by the games. Protests of the police are becoming more and more attended and appreciated by the neighborhood as homelessness is rising and police intimidation grows harsher as the Olympics grow closer.

The Olympics are helping to pave the way for a new dawn of surveillance for Western Canada, a more comfortable tourist attraction for the wealthy of the world. Along with being another opportunity to help further spit in the face of the aboriginal peoples of Canada, that unlike the United States, had yet to succumb to the European settlement known as the Canadian government.

Since the Olympics, the G8, and Security and Prosperity partnership meetings were set to take place in Canada. Confrontation and clandestine resistance have been helping to preserve a discomfort for the games, and solidarity for those who are experiencing the repercussions of it across the nation. The rituals of the political elite

will not be tolerated by the excluded, discontent, and revolutionary of Canada. The spectacle of excitement and comfort the public relation projects of these events continue to fabricate are constantly shattered by the gestures of "violent" hooligans in the night, and mobs of hostility greeting every event specifically celebrating the games.

The Olympics are a historical event that celebrates the Nation-States of the world. They provide governments with pride, and hosting countries with funding and opportunities for expansion and development with the influence of the global world. The Olympics celebrate a time for governments and businesses to come together. The Olympics were first practiced at the dawn of Western civilization, and re-introduced into the modern world through the dreams of a French aristocrat. They are a peaceful war of Nations, competing for the place of best and most powerful. They celebrate the standards of capital, and foster the feelings of nationalism. They bring us together to divide us, and help us to further understand our humanity only through borders.

In the case of the 2010 Olympics, there seems to also be an opportunity for enemies of both government and business to come together as well, in riot and resistance, and most importantly solidarity.

We compiled a short list of statements and news clips describing resistance that has happened or is expected to continue happening around the Olympics. Please visit the links included at the end of this article to stay updated with the continued anti-Olympic momentum, or how to help out against the games.

CLANDESTINE ACTIONS

October 22, 2009, Victoria, Canada: Olympic sponsor, the Royal Bank of Canada, has windows attacked.

Communique:
Last night in Victoria, Canada, we at-

tacked an RBC on Cook st. We broke two windows and left into the early morning. We did this because we hate banks, we hate the rich, and we hate the bosses and their Olympics. Solidarity against the torch run that leaves here on the thirtieth!

-Anarchists.

Week of December 10th, 2009, Ottawa, Canada: Five Royal Bank of Canada properties vandalized.

Excerpt from the communiqué:

No Olympics On Stolen Native Land! Starting February 12 the winter Olympics will take place in occupied British Columbia.

To date most Indigenous Nations in British Columbia haven't entered into treaties with the British Crown or the Canadian government.

This means that, according to International Law, most of British Columbia is illegally occupied by the Canadian state...

The Royal Bank of Canada is also a sponsor of the 2010 Olympics.

We say fuck RBC. Due to their sponsorship of the Olympics, and the fact that they are generally heinous, we vandalized 5 RBCs in Ottawa, smashing one of their branches windows in the early morning...

RBCs in Ottawa have been repeatedly targeted with property damage, and we felt that we should also do our bit.

We know that this action is just a drop in the bucket, but we also know that enough drops will fill that bucket up!

-The 'damage to property is violent' collective.

Week of December 10th, 2009, Montreal, Canada: Two Royal Bank of Canada properties attacked in solidarity against the Olympic torch run.

Communique:
The Olympic Torch is in town! Last night, to celebrate, two Royal Banks

were attacked in Montreal. The Royal Bank is a sponsor of the 2010 Olympic games which are a gross display of capitalism, colonialism, displacement, repression, and overall bad taste. We did this miniscule thing in solidarity with comrades on the West Coast of this vast occupied island. Fuck RBC and fuck the Olympics - lets extinguish the colonizer's flame and start some real fires!

October 28th, 2009, Athens, Greece: No statement of solidarity with specifically the 2010 Olympics in Canada was published, but a high explosive bomb was left around 4 a.m. at the Olympic games offices in the Pangrati quarter of Athens. The explosion caused damage to the buildings structure, and to two vehicles parked nearby. The 2004 summer Olympics in Athens caused riots and resistance across the country. Similarly to the security planned for the 2010 Winter Olympic games, the Greek government utilized the same concerns of unrest, as an opportunity to escalate its already existing repression to revolutionary anarchist groups in Athens. In this specific instance, the Greek government started to test out its new anti-terror laws with the support of international government funding, and the little bit of Nationalist support around the Olympic games. Since then, the surveillance and new laws the Olympics helped to rationalize for the Greek state have become the norm of Greek police conduct.

TORCH RELAY DISRUPTIONS

Following a call out by the Native Youth Movement, demonstrations against the torch relay were organized across major cities in Canada that were planning to hold large celebrations greeting the Olympic ritual. Native groups also blocked or refused the Torch from entering certain areas that were cited on the torch path across the nation. Olympic torch relays were unknown until modern times. They have their roots in flame races called lam-

padedromia held in ancient Greece to honour certain gods. But the first torch relay associated with the modern Olympic Games did not occur until 1936 in Berlin. It was organized by the Nazis who believed that classical Greece was an Aryan forerunner of the modern German Reich and was intended to link the modern and ancient Games. The Torch relay helped provide examples of conflict to come, and an understanding that the games will not be welcomed by many across Canada. We included the call out here, followed by a few news clips regarding disruptions of the Torch relay when it entered some of Canada's major cities.

Confront Invasion: Protest 2010 Olympic Torch Relay

For the next 106 days the Olympic Torch will run over our Great Lands. The Olympic torch, a flamed staff that represents white supremacy, is running through Indigenous Nations and Territories, symbolizing their theft and dominance of our Lands and Ways. For 106 days every Indigenous Nation in these Lands has the opportunity to talk to the world about your issues and show Unity between all Nations here who have a common oppressor, and common Invader, KKKCanada ("Canada"). Let us Unite voices and show the World we are a Proud and Independent People who will never Surrender our Lands.

Not only is the Torch running our Lands, they are also going to get Native people to participate in their evil ceremonies. KKKCanada wants the world to think Native people are compliant and even eager to be assimilated into the white way of life.

We call on all Native Nations of the North to show the World we are Strong and Dignified People, the Survivors of a 500 year old Holocaust that has taken 250 million Indigenous lives, whose Lands are illegally occupied and destroyed, who are a People who will never accept defeat.

Ever since their invasion we have resisted. As this is written, indigenous people are blockading roads to prevent destruction. Original people are still

living on the land not dependent on the invading governments for survival, only needing clean land, air and water for sustenance. The goal of the invaders is to make us fully dependent on them to survive, giving us no choice but to live white. When we refuse we are arrested or murdered.

This is a unification call to the Proud and Strong Nations of the North, the Songhees, Kwakwaka'wakw, Nuu-chah-nulth, Halkomelem, Cowichen, Tutchone Tlinget, Inuit, Innu, Mohawk, Six Nation Confederacy, Anishinabe, Cree, Algonquin, MikM'aq, Maliseet, Wabanaki, Siskita, Dakota, Nakota, Stoney, Dene, Gwich'in, Tahltan, Gitsan, Wetsuitan, Haisla, Nisga, Sekani, Dakelh, Tsimshian, Nuxalk, Heiltsuk, Tsilcotin, Secwepemc, Nlaka'pamux, Okanagan, Ktnuxa, St'at'imc, Stolo and all unmentioned Nations.

When the Torch passes through your Lands and communities, this is your opportunity to let the world know what is happening in your land. It's your opportunity to tell them the true story and the real relationship between the Invaders known as KKKCanada and your Indigenous Nation. Let the world know the land and water can never be sold and natural law is more powerful than man-made law.

They fear our Unity.

Plan some form of action when the torch passes your area, stop it or chase them to the edge of your Lands and let the next Nation pick up where you left off.

No Evil Invader Torch on Native Land!

-Native Youth Movement Warrior
Society

October 30th, 2009: First day of Olympic torch run disrupted:

After scandals of a Greek athlete who has been accused of using steroids in the 2004 Greek Olympic games, the torch arrived in the Victoria International airport in British Columbia. The

Olympic torch arrived in a Canadian military jumbo jet. It was first handed to token Indian chiefs who embrace Canada's "Indian Act". An act established by the Canadian parliament in 1876 to help mediate the aboriginal people of Canada. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development are the formal department that administers the "Indian Act". This was established to determine who was and was not native in the eyes of the Canadian state. It was created to determine who is eligible for Indian status and who is not. The process of "affording" native status before the Indian Act requires registering with the Canadian government, and complying with a set of guidelines and standards created by the Canadian parliament.

Once the torch was given to the Chief, and brought in a canoe to a cauldron representing the Olympic games. Following this, the torch was given to celebrity athletes, corporate employees, and "important" citizens to be flaunted around the city. At the same time, hundreds of protestors were coming together to shatter the praise of the torch and what it represented. About 400 people snaked through the streets of Victoria, blocking intersections during Victoria's rush hour. They allegedly used marbles to help fight off police on horses trying to divide the march. Although helicopters, roof-top snipers, and hundreds of police were also there to greet the demonstrators, large portions of the torch run that day were cancelled due to police concerns around the march.

December 11th, 2009: Torch relay disrupted in Montreal.

In Montreal, 200 people came together to hiss, boo, and embarrass the Torch relay as it entered the city. Confetti and literature were thrown onto the crowd there to greet the Torch, which lead police to attack the mob. The group of people forced an hour delay of the relay, due to police concern of a riot. Amazingly, the two and a half hour spectacle ended up being a 30 minute event without a planned finale including fireworks.

“We have this in common. We have a common oppressor, a common exploiter and a common discriminator. But once we realize that we have a common enemy, then we can unite--on the basis of what we have in common...”

—Malcolm X, 1954

December 17th, 2009: Toronto Olympic torch run disrupted.

In Toronto the Torch run was met by 250 people holding a banner saying “No Olympics on Stolen Land” gathered around a 15 foot tall make shift torch themselves. Statements against the Torch run were read in solidarity with Six Nations or native groups struggling against the invasion of the Olympics in their territories. Some protestors infiltrated the crowds of support, passing out information against the games, describing the effects of Olympics and popular disapproval over them specifically by Native groups. Apparently you could hear boos coming not just from the angry mob that had come to criticize, but also among the “supporting” crowd. As soon as the Torch event formally began, the crowd of 250 took to the streets, immediately being chased by the police. As the mob ran hissing and booing the torch event, they were met with a group of riot police. While all of this was going on, the March in Honour of Harriet Nahanee, led by indigenous women, had split off to follow the torch. During this, someone climbed an arch directly opposite of the main stage that was celebrating and welcoming the torch, and hung a banner reading “Gego Olympics Da-Te-Snoon Nishnaabe-Giing Ga-Gmooding” (No Olympics on Stolen Native Land in Anishinaabemowin). The banner stayed up till the end of the festivities. One fight broke out between a speaker against the games and a citizen supporter. Two arrests were made. But the event did not go disrupted as it continued its way across the nation, and according to the mainstream media, the Torch was “blocked”.

CONCLUSION: NO CONCLUSION

By the time this issue is printed, there will not be another issue until the Olympics in Canada are over. As you can see from news clips we compiled here, or in prior issues, attack and conflict have been constant. Revolutionaries around the world should learn from this project against the 2010 Olympics. Similarly to the Mapuche and anarchist struggles in Chile against the entirety of the state, the fight against this year’s Winter games have helped bring groups together to realize a common enemy.

The Olympics are simply a hyper-example of wealth and power in its most vain form. But opportunities to create popular conflict with the institutions of control in society are everywhere at every moment. Its the responsibility of revolutionaries to learn from this project, as the sentiment around the 2010 Olympics has shattered divisions among the discontent across Canada. The No 2010 project was an accessible project of resistance. Unlike most of the charity or activist groups you would expect to jump on the consequences of the Olympic games, resistance to them has not been a specialized or passive task.

There is not one organization fighting the games. There is not one group of people, isolated according to their identity, fighting the Olympics. It is the homeless fighting the police in East Vancouver, refusing to be taken from their make-shift homes or further humiliated by police. It is Native defense of land. It is violence against sponsors in the night. It is theft of Olympic infrastructure and disruption of Olympic

ritual. It is blockades in the streets and highways. It is the shattering of comfort for Nationalism and wealth. It is anonymous and non-anonymous statements of solidarity that transcend a struggle solely based on identity. It is the recognition of a common enemy, yet to be discovered communities and friendships.

Whether or not the Olympics get shut down. Whether or not the police run a blood bath, or the city of Vancouver is in flames; networks of solidarity against the state, that transcend the typical leftist infrastructure, will remain. The build-up to the games has already presented a great deal of resistance. The momentum can only continue to grow.

NOTE

Just a few days before going to print, 8 arrests were made in Ontario, as a result of a group of people trying to blockade a highway to disrupt the Olympic torch relay once again. Those 8 have been released. But resistance and repression continues everyday. Please visit the following web sites to stay up to date:

NO 2010; Olympics on Stolen Land

www.no2010.com

Native Youth Media + Redwire Magazine

www.redwiremag.com

Olympic Resistance Network

olympicresistance.net



THIS WAS NOT OUR BROKENHAGEN:

On the actions against the climate summit cop15 in copenhagen

On the actions against the climate summit "COP15" in Copenhagen

The news we've heard before heading off for the actions against the COP15-climate summit definitely weren't those you want to hear when you plan to make the trouble this city needed.

We all were pretty excited, seeing the need of turning this spectacle from a friendly, green capitalist theatre play by the United Nations into a raging festival of flames and dust.

The city of Copenhagen and the cops installed a new law, the "lømmelpakken", which should make it possible to pre-emptedly arrest people for up to 40 days without any charge. Also the "Schengen-Agreement" got suspended for the time of the summit. This made it possible for the cops of Sweden, Germany and Denmark to control the borders to keep the dreaded "troublemakers" out.

The Danish press ran wild before the summit, creating stories about international hordes of anarchists who plan to destroy the city of Copenhagen completely. The group painted as the face of this anarchist momentum was recognized by its slogan: "Never trust a COP". For more info and the call to actions prior to the event check out: www.never-trustacop.org. The "NTAC"-network dissolved right before the summit, stating that the goal of mobilizing radicals to the summit in copenhagen was accomplished. Also there were rumors that the cops were trying to find out who formed the network so they could be arrested.

When we finally arrived in Copenhagen, fortunately without being controlled at the border, we heard that on Friday the 11th a lot of people were arrested already. When a small demo under the slogan "don't buy the lie" passed the "Hopenhagen" exhibition (the pro COP-15 campaign was called "Hopenhagen"), and more than 60 arrests were made. Immediately following this, whole busses of people were taken to jail and immediately deported.

When we arrived, all we got to know about the next day was that there was going to be an international anti-capitalist block at the big demonstration on Saturday, meeting in the very center of Copenhagen. When the demo was about to start, we arrived after being detained and searched on the way. It became clear that we weren't that many. A black block of about 150 masked people, armed with stones and fireworks was formed in the demo of about 100.000 demonstrators who obviously weren't that happy about us showing up. The general attitude of the big demonstration as a whole was awfully naive, claiming "climate justice" and promoting a "sustainable lifestyle".

We weren't in Copenhagen to find our friends among the international environmental NGOs. Right after the demo started, the small black bloc found its place behind the truck of the so called "radical" Climate Justice Action-Block. After a few hundred meters the Danish Foreign Ministry building was attacked with stones and fireworks. Windows were smashed and we kept walking on in chains. The cops

started immediately to split up the mass demo behind the black bloc and attacked after a few minutes. We defended ourselves and tried to hide in the next blocs. Some fucked up socialists pushed masked and black dressed comrades back towards the cops. A typical gesture of solidarity that can be expected from NGOs or leftists. Since the Danish police borrowed German and Swedish cop cars for the summit, some German police cars -among others- got smashed. So the German comrades felt quite at home. The black bloc disappeared. People changed clothes and headed away from the demo while the cops started to make mass arrests.

After these few minutes of clash some smaller fights with cops occurred around the former-squatted district of Christiania (now its nearly just a touristic place, where people sell and buy drugs). The whole night through the cops controlled the area around Christiania, a few times smaller troops of cops rushed into the district but left again.

Nearly everywhere people were either detained, searched, or arrested. All in all about 900 arrests during Saturday were made. Of course there were some comrades among those arrested, but the majority of those arrested were people that had been arrested during the mass-demo.

The whole week through the cops held to this tactic of arresting as many as possible and acted very violent. On December 14th, the clashes outside Christiania continued. The cops seized the district for hours, and finally they raided the district and made mass-arrests. The night through there were burning barricades and smaller clashes around Christiania, which the cops held occupied for hours after making multiple arrests.

On Saturday and the whole week through a large number of the arrested were held in make-shift jail cells designed like big steel-cages, in which people were put in groups of up to 20. In the late hours of December 12th prisoners tried to escape through the rest rooms. A door was destroyed and some

walls were damaged. All in all throughout the time of the summit the cops made around 1,915 arrests. The biggest amount of them were administrative which means without a suspicion.

Our goals, to smash the spectacle being put up by politicians and NGOs on one hand and reformist activists and political parties on the other hand failed. We think that summits have nothing to do with everyday social war. They choose the battlefield and we join the games. But we also think that searching for escalation under other circumstances can give us strength and experiences. Even if we didn't create the necessary disaster needed against the summit during those days we still stood strong against their repression with revolutionary solidarity. There were a lot of solidarity demonstrations and actions everywhere. In Kiel (Germany) and Berlin comrades attacked the Danish embassies. Even if this wasn't our Brokenhagen it was still an empowering battle.

FOLLOWING THE SUMMIT, SOME ARE STILL FACING REPRESSION

Regarding Denver Anarchist Noah Weiss:

Of the 1,500 arrests made during the COP-15 actions, 7 individuals were kept in prison for weeks after the events. Facing multiple charges ranging from misdemeanors to felonies. One of them was an anarchist from Denver named Noah "Rockslide" Weiss. He was released a shortly before going into print, but weeks after his arrest. Noah moved to Copenhagen a few months before the COP-15 summit for grad school and to organize groundwork for anti-capitalist actions and infrastructure during the summit. He was arrested after police spent months surveilling organizers, following them home, and so on.

The Danish legal system is confusing, but this is how we understand things:

Noah was arrested on the street and has been charged with Violence Toward Police, Destruction of Property, Disturbing the Peace, and Wearing a Mask--in short, two felonies and two misdemeanors. He was originally being held without bail and had little chance of release before his trial. Shortly before going into print, Noah was released and must return to stand trial in March. Since public defenders and pro-bono lawyers are not permitted in Denmark, Noah will have to have a state-appointed lawyer who he'll have to pay unless he wins on all counts. If Noah is convicted of either felony or any additional charges, we are told to expect a sentence of one year in jail (all sentences are served concurrently). For the entirety of his imprisonment, we did not know how he was doing, but from sources, we indirectly heard that he chose to remain strong, get some exercising, reading, and writing done, and remained in good spirits.

To remain up to date with Noah's case building up to his trial in March:

Donation and contact:

supportrockslide@gmail.com
Noah's Support
1065 Lipan St, Denver CO 80204

Also visit:
denverabc.wordpress.com

A huge thanks to Copenhagen ABC and everyone who looked out for our comrade across the Atlantic.

Social war is everyday.

For vengeance, pleasure, and social war!

-Some Unwanted Children of Capitalism // Anarchists from the North.



UPDATES ON THE LEGAL CASES OR SITUATIONS OF THOSE ENEMY TO THE STATE

SOME OF THE BETTER NEWS

KATYANNE MARIE KIBBY ACQUITTED OF ALL CHARGES AGAINST FBI INFORMANT BRANDON DARBY!

Katyanne Marie Kibby is a Texas woman who was accused of sending a “threatening” message via email to FBI informant Brandon Darby. Katyanne was acquitted of all charges this past November. Although comments expressing com-

plete contempt for the snitch Brandon Darby flare all over the internet, and an entire website exists (Brandondarby.com) to expose Brandon Darby to the world for the shameful human being he is, Katyanne fell victim to state opportunism. Her case was another attempt to make an example out of someone for acting out, in this case allegedly by email, frustrations with the state (considering Brandon Darby is an ally of the state). The alleged email reflected frustration with the state’s infiltration of our communities of resistance, and resulting perpetuation of distrust and dysfunction among those in active conflict with everything the state protects.

Katyanne was originally facing 20 years for allegedly emailing Brandon Darby a threatening message after he was exposed as an FBI informant when Brad Crowder and David McKay were both arrested and accused of possessing firearms. The firearms the state refers to are Molotov cocktails allegedly planned for an attack on police cars around the time of the Republican National Convention in 2008. The arrest was made based on Brandon’s testimony about the two.

Katyanne chose to remain stoic and uncooperative during the trial as she stuck with her story, and refused to accept a plea deal, despite reports that the defense provided pages upon pages of evidence of Brandon Darby's embarrassing character and irresponsible demeanor. The prosecution, although pushing for a 20 year sentence, had nothing on the defense's statements, leading to a unanimous not-guilty verdict by the jury.

Reports mention that the FBI stated during the trial that informant Brandon Darby was no longer a use to them, since he publicly claimed responsibility on "activist" websites for turning over Brad Crowder and David McKay to the police. He claims he found it more important to prevent a violent attack on the state, than to protect two young lives. Although most people become FBI informants when selfishly trying to avoid other charges, Brandon claims he chose to work with the state at his own will, in fact voluntarily. With this, one can understand the coercive and cowardly opportunism the state showed when it asked Katyanne to cooperate. The FBI offered Katyanne two alternatives to trial; the first was a plea deal where she would enter a separate trial that can only carry a maximum of four years; the other was becoming an informant, infiltrating specific groups and individuals in Austin, Texas, and New York City. According to Katyanne, she was provided a long list of people, many of which she didn't even know, in New York and Austin, hoping she would assume responsibility where Brandon Darby left off. Katyanne simply said no, and chose to go to trial.

It's scary to hear about FBI attempts to infiltrate our communities of resistance. It's incredible, however, to hear of someone staying strong, even before such intimidation by the Federal government. It's inspiring to hear about someone not backing down, being smart, and not compromising her friends, or even those she didn't know. We send our regards and solidarity to Katyanne, and our utter disgust to the likes of Brandon Darby and his FBI

"handler," Tim Sellers. Disgracing his friends and family was not enough to stop Brandon in continuing to torment our community. The statements and personality of Brandon Darby should be a learning experience for all of us who live in active conflict with the state. More importantly, the behavior and will of Katyanne should be an inspiration to all of us.

To learn more about the case of the Texas 2 (Brad Crowder and David McKay) please visit:
www.freethetexas2.com

To learn more about the egocentric tool box Brandon Darby visit:
www.brandondarby.com

To stay up to date with informants, snitches, and other ways the FBI and state police are trying to infiltrate communities of resistance visit:
www.snitchwire.blogspot.com

OJORE LUTALO RELEASED

Anarchist and New Afrikan political prisoner, Ojore Lutalo, was recently released from prison in Trenton, New Jersey. He served 26 years, most of it in isolation, all in the service of revolutionary struggle and the Black Liberation Army (BLA). Ojore's own words describe:

"serving a parole violation sentence (we received 14 to 17 years) stemming from a 1977 conviction for expropriating money from a capitalist state bank (in order to finance our activities) and engaging the police in a gun battle in December 1975 in order to effect our departure from the bank, and to ensure success of the operation...After my parole violation sentence terminated in December 1987, I started serving a forty year sentence with a twenty year parole ineligibility (I was paroled in 1980, and I have been back in captivity since April 20, 1982) that I have received in 1982 for having a gun-fight with a drug dealer. The overall strategy

of assaulting a drug dealer is to secure monies to finance one's activities, and to rid the oppressed communities of drug dealers."

Ojore became an anarchist in prison after becoming disillusioned with Marxism and reading anarchist texts suggested by Kuwasi Balagoon. His supporters are asking for financial assistance that will allow Ojore to transition more smoothly, giving him the needed time to readjust to the life on the outside that he hasn't experienced since 1982.

To make a donation, checks or money orders payable to Tim Fasnacht can be sent to:

Philadelphia ABCF
Post Office Box 42129
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101

JEFF "FREE" LUERS RELEASED FROM PRISON!

In 2001, Jeff "Free" Luers was originally sentenced to 22 years and 8 months for burning 3 SUVs in Eugene, Oregon. Sadly, only 40,000 dollars in damage was done, and all 3 SUVs were fixed and eventually sold. Following year's worth of attempts to file an appeal, Jeff Luers was finally given a sentence reduction that allowed him to be released after 9.5 years on December 16, 2009. He was originally released for one day on October 20, 2009, but was snatched back by the state the next day. The state claimed there was a mistake, and that he was not supposed to be released until 2 months later. This was an obvious attempt to continue tormenting Jeff while they have him directly under their thumb. On a brighter note though, Jeff is out of prison. He has chosen to remain stoic and uncompromising throughout his time, and not allowed his experience to break him. We want to express our excitement and joy for his release, as Jeff has been a reminder of the courage some can display when overcoming the obstacles

set forth by the state, and resisting the society it exists to protect. An “official” media statement was sent out upon his release. We have included an excerpt from this statement by Jeff, below. We recommend learning more about Jeff’s case and history. His experience helped to mark the dawn of much of the harsh repression in recent years, conducted in the shadows of American justice, against similar cases of eco-influenced resistance. At the same time, his consistency and strength throughout his time in prison should be an inspiration to us all.

Letters congratulating Jeff can be sent to:

Jeffrey Free Luers
c/o Free’s Support Network
PO Box 3
Eugene, OR 97440

For more information on Jeff and his case please visit:
www.freefreenow.org

Statement from Jeff Luers and his lawyer:

“The last 9½ years have been difficult at best. I have witnessed things in prison that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. I have endured hardship and loss. Without a doubt, this experience has changed me. What hasn’t changed is my commitment to environmental and social justice.”

“I would like to thank all the people who have supported me through the years; especially the dedicated few who worked tirelessly to get me out of prison. I look forward to spending time with my loved ones and continuing my education, as well as continuing my activism.”

RNC WINDOW SMASHER JESSE JAMES RELEASED FROM JAIL!

Jesse James Forrey was sentenced in September 2009 to 4 months in jail for property damage to a bank during the 2008 Republican National Convention in St. Paul, MN. He was finally released early on December 1st. Jesse was originally due to be released on November 30th, but was held an extra two days, during which his he was told he may be extradited to California for a separate warrant, and held for up to 3 months waiting to see if the warrant is acted upon by authorities. Fortunately on December 1st he was released from jail, and able to return to his home, friends, and family in California.

Jesse James needs help covering over \$18,000 in legal expenses. Information on how to donate can be found on his support website at:

www.supportjessejames.wordpress.com

JACOB CONROY OF SHAC 7 RELEASED!

Jacob Conroy, one of the SHAC 7, was released from prison on November 6, 2009 after 3 years. The SHAC 7 is six individuals and a corporation, “Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty” who were given sentences varying from 1 to 6 years in prison for promoting an essentially legal activist campaign against Huntingdon Life Sciences, a notorious animal testing company. Of the six, only two remain inside prison now—Lauren Gazzola and Kevin Kjonaas.

To learn more about how to support the remaining two SHAC7 defendants in jail, or about the background and implications of their case, please visit:

www.shac7.com

Don’t forget to write letters of support to Lauren and Kevin. They can receive letters to the following address:

Lauren Gazzola #93497-011

FCI Danbury
Federal Correctional Institution
Route #37
Danbury, CT 06811

Kevin Kjonaas #93502-011
Unit I
FCI Sandstone
P.O. Box 1000
Sandstone, MN 55072

LAST CONSPIRACY CHARGE IN THE SAN FRANCISCO 8 CASE HAS BEEN DROPPED!

News clip:

“In court today, December 3rd, the prosecution dropped the conspiracy charge against Francisco (Cisco) Torres, citing lack of evidence. The defense has argued from the beginning that the conspiracy charges against the San Francisco 8 from 37 years ago had no validity because the statute of limitations passed long ago. The state’s motion to dismiss this count two (conspiracy) tacitly acknowledges the defense arguments which had already led to dismissing the conspiracy charges against Richard O’Neal, Herman Bell, Hank Jones, Ray Boudreaux, Richard Brown, and Harold Taylor. In January 2007, the 8 were arrested for their alleged involvement in the 1971 murder of Sgt. John V. Young at Ingleside station, a thirty year old unsolved crime for which the men were originally charged for at the time, but the charges were dropped by the judge presiding over the case in response to the police torturing confessions out of them.”

Support the SF8 and donate to their legal defense at:

www.freethesf8.org

ARIEL ATTACK SENTENCED TO 11 MONTHS OF UNSUPERVISED RELEASE

Note:

The Democratic Party Headquarters in Denver had eleven windows smashed out with hammers early on the morning of August 25, 2009. The damage was estimated at \$11,000. It was exactly the one year anniversary of the commencement of the 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver. Police reported seeing two vandals who fled. A single arrest was made (the police witness and arrest seems to have been a case of bad luck). That individual, Ariel Attack, was held in Denver City Jail for about 36 hours before a bail hearing and the full \$5000 bail was raised quickly. Since then Ariel was sentenced to 11 months of unsupervised probation. The following article is a statement from her support group following the court's decision. After that is an original statement from Ariel submitted for this issue.

Support team's statement following the ruling:

Ariel Attack Still Livin' at Large!

"Today in Denver, we have cause to celebrate as one warm body became secure in its relative freedom--the sort of freedom that reminds us of what we still must do in order to be free. Yesterday morning Ariel Attack plead to Class 2 Misdemeanor (Criminal Mischief) in return for the dropping of the original Felony charge, and the court set the sentence at 11 months (!?) of unsupervised probation and full payment of \$5,600 restitution, allowing Ariel to stay on the streets and in the arms of friends. This is much better than the possible 2-6 year bit they were facing. The restitution had to be paid in full and up front (by taking out a loan) for the deal to go through.

A year unsupervised is not a bad deal considering the circumstances of Ariel's arrest and their refusal to name the 'accomplice'. In case you're just tuning in, Ariel was involved in an attack against the Colorado Democratic Party Headquarters in August by means of hammers and the resulting media clusterfuck. We feel there has been a lot of luck mixed up in this situation, but we'll publish a narrative of the events so that anarchists out there can see if there's anything they can learn. Look out for that in the next couple of weeks.

Meanwhile, friends close by and far away are feeling the cold grip of state repression, and the struggle continues. There are two Denver-based anarchists facing felony charges and massive legal fees, and we extend our solidarity to Jeff and Noah, along with Carrie and Scott, David Japenga, the RNC8, all of our imprisoned comrades; the list is far too long to finish.

While Ariel's legal battle has wrapped up, we are making one last request for donations to help cut away at Ariel's debt--about \$6,000--and we still have some of these fly Hammer Time t-shirts to move. Friendsofariel@riseup.net to get hooked up.

A brief message from Ariel: "To everyone who has had my back these past months, with everything from letters and cash to screenprinting, fashion advice, words, and all of that intangible "I got your back" stuff, Thank you! And, yeah, it was fun."

Freedom, however, is not something stable on which we can place our feet. It is a struggle we fight day by day. Yesterday was not a shallow victory--there is nothing shallow about the warmth of friends' arms, the taste of good food, the drag of fingernails across skin. Still, this sense of freedom is nothing compared to what we will experience when we destroy the prisons."

The following is an original statement from Ariel for this issue of Fire to the Prisons:

In August, I was taken into custody and charged with an attack on the headquarters of the Colorado Democratic Party with another individual who was never identified. For the curious--I got caught because, no lookout, a cop drove by, and my bike chain fell off all at once. "...allegedly."

After all that bad luck, my traipse through the halls of justice went well. And now that I've made a plea in court to a lesser charge and received eleven months' unsupervised probation as punishment, now the case is closed, I feel some compulsion to address a question that has been put to me many times--the question of why.

Well, who asks 'why' when hooligans trash their school at night or prisoners set their prison alight? It is appropriate to a political target that there must be a message, that the action is not for its own sake but for the purpose of communication and negotiation; such is the nature of politics. Well, politics is something I admit to exist within even while recognizing its destruction as necessary--just as I once existed within schooling. But to the question of why, of messaging, there is no answer I can give that would be as satisfactory as complete silence. Especially considering the silence and anonymity of the missing accomplice. There is an appropriate condition and one that I envy, and wish to return to soon.

There is still the question of blood and defense. The legal process I went through had a far better conclusion than I originally feared, which says little of the benevolence of the system and much about the pessimism I set up in preparing myself for the worst, the choice of a good lawyer who exerted himself toward my freedom and the decisions I made to fuck with the courts even as I navigated them. I was able to assert certain choices throughout the process and I was lucky to not have to compromise. Seriously, I'm fucking tickled that I never apologized to a judge or anybody. But seriously, I had little pressure to do so, I got lucky, and we

need to make space for our comrades to make their own decisions in how they defend themselves (save snitching of course) and support those decisions.

Most of all, I was and remain overwhelmed by the immensity of the support I received from people in the wake of my arrest. I cannot thank you enough, the best I can do is get your back when the state comes for you. On that note, for the amount of attention my case has received in the mainstream media and from anarchists, let's recognize that 11 months unsupervised probation aint nothin and there are so many others facing some serious repression, as I'm sure these pages testify to. So forget about me, and let's make prisons a memory.

Forever onward,
Ariel.

Still get in touch with Ariel's support team for whatever reason, including a fly Hammer Time t-shirt sold for her defense.

Contacts:
friendsofariel@riseup.net
1065 Lipan St / Denver CO 80204
www.denverabc.wordpress.com

ANARCHIST PRISONER CASSIDY WHEELER RELEASED!

Cassidy Wheeler was released from Twin Rivers after nearly 8 years incarcerated. He currently resides with his partner in Portland, Oregon and is in good spirits. Monetary donations can still be sent through paypal to antiracis-tactionstore@gmail.com (please make note its for Cassidy) and cash, checks, and money orders (left blank, please) can be sent to:

Shoelaceton Anarchist Black Cross
PO Box 8085

Paramus, NJ 07652
-or-
ABC Pittsburgh
PO Box 9272
Pittsburgh, PA 15224

Cassidy was sentenced to 99 months for what the state dubbed "armed robbery" and "assaulting an officer" for shoplifting a pair of socks and refusing to be passive when the courtroom cops beat him for cursing the verdict. Despite the screws and Neo-Nazi inmates' attempts to dissuade him, he has remained active throughout his incarceration.

For more information, email:
sabc@riseup.net or
abcpittsburgh@riseup.net

IN TROUBLE

ALFREDO BONANNO AND CHRISTOS STRATIGOPULOS REMAIN IN JAIL!

Alfredo Bonanno and Christos Stratigopoulos both remain in Greek prison after being arrested for an alleged bank robbery earlier this year in Trikala, Greece. Police claim that Christos conducted the robbery, leaving the bank with 46,900 euros. They claim that when Christos left the bank he handed the money to Alfredo in a rented car. Following a citizen's tip, Alfredo and Christos were pulled over near the town Kalambaka, where police say they found the money. Christos, 46, is a respected Greek comrade who was arrested in Italy years ago and sentenced for a similar crime. Alfredo Bonanno, 73, who was recently released for health reasons from an Italian prison is a well known author and

insurrectionary in Europe, and across the world. Some of his more famous writings have been: "The Anarchist Tension" (which was actually a speech that was transcribed and published), "Lets Destroy Work, Lets Destroy the Economy", "Against Amnesty", and most notoriously, a pamphlet he served 18 months in Italian prison for writing in the late 70's called "Armed Joy". As of now, we only know that Alfredo and Christos are currently being held in the Amfissa prison, a prison reserved specifically for individuals like Christos and Alfredo, where "convicts" are held in cells with upwards of 20-50 other people at all times. Since the arrest, Christos has claimed that Alfredo was unaware of the robbery, and that he accepts all responsibility for it. The judge has chosen to continue to prosecute Alfredo anyway.

Obviously the response by the Greek state is tempered by Alfredo's background and associations. As Alfredo is respected and loved by revolutionaries across the world, he is the enemy of governments everywhere. He has been framed and appointed as an "ideological leader" by the Italian government during the notorious "Marini Trial", and penalized for simply communicating his perspective. Christos and Alfredo both, of course, deserve our utmost support and attention across the world. Alfredo specifically deserves our urgent attention considering his health condition. It is unclear as to whether or not the Greek government plans to deport Bonanno, but we're assuming that, considering he was out of jail for health reasons, being arrested for an alleged bank robbery in another country will probably not help a positive greeting back in Italy

We included below the closest thing we have found to a support website and email address for Christos and Alfredo. We apologize to both Alfredo, Christos, and the reader for our lack of up-to-date details or ways to support. Information has been hard to find due to distance and language barriers. We do understand that Alfredo and Christos are able to receive letters addressed to them at:

(Name)
TZAMALA 3
33100 AMFISSA
GREECE

You can send donations to:
Conto corrente postale n° 23852353,
directed to A. Medeot - C.P. 3431 -
Trieste (Italy), with a letter stating
“sottoscrizione arresti in Grecia”

The most important thing to understand here, though, is that two anarchists were arrested for allegedly robbing a bank intending to use the money to help further revolutionary projects. Therefore, they deserve our utmost and unconditional support during these hard times. From the writings of Alfredo, and the statements of Christos and friends of Alfredo, the most important support that can be shown are acts of revolutionary solidarity. We find inspiration for our discontent when hearing about two comrades suffering in prisons who continue to struggle against the state, which is responsible for their suffering. Both have dedicated their lives to fighting against it.

Visit:
www.arobberyingreece.blogspot.com
or
www.aftertrikala.blogspot.com

Email:
smolikas2@gmail.gr

From a letter by Christos to the new Greek “Minister of Justice”:

“I do not wish to tire you with my words, esteemed Minister of Justice, but I say to you directly that if I had the possibility to decide for the prison system personally I would destroy everything or at least close everything. Personally, I have the possibility of dreaming of a different form of social restitution of debt, of so-called justice, that I cannot imagine you would ever be in a position to support.”

From Alfredo M. Bonanno inside the Rebibbia prison, on March 20th, 1997:

“The revolutionary project of anarchists

is to struggle along with the exploited and push them to rebel against all abuse and repression, so also against prison. What moves them is the desire for a better world, a better life with dignity and ethic, where economy and politics have been destroyed.

There can be no place for prison in that world.

That is why anarchists scare power. That is why they are locked up in prison.”

AN UPDATE ON ERIC MCDAVID

Eric McDavid is a political prisoner, currently serving a 19 year and 7 month sentence in federal prison for alleged “conspiracy” charges.” He was arrested in January 2006 after being targeted by an undercover informant who formulated a crime and entrapped Eric in it. Eric was targeted by the state for his political beliefs, and his case is important for everyone who dares to stand up. He is currently filing for an appeal of his sentence. At the point of his arrest no criminal damage has actually occurred. Please refer to back issues of Fire to the Prisons, or visit his web site below for more in depth description of Eric’s case. Included before his support information is the most recent statement from his support group. Its dated January 13th, 2010.

“Dear friends,

Today marks the fourth year of Eric’s incarceration. These are not the kind of milestones we would like to be writing about to you. While other people have been celebrating the New Year, we have been incredibly conscious of the passage of time in an entirely different way. For four years, New Years has served as a reminder to us – as it probably does to

millions of others - of how long we have been separated from our loved one. While others are celebrating new beginnings, we are faced with the real-

ity that, so far, there has been no new beginning as far as Eric’s physical freedom is concerned. Some things remain painfully the same. Eric is still locked away by the state. Please remember that this time of year can be particularly difficult for folks who are locked up. Take a minute to write Eric – or another political prisoner – and let them know that folks on the outside are still thinking of them and supporting them.

Appeal Update

Unfortunately, there’s not a lot of news about the appeal. The government’s response to Eric’s opening brief is currently due on Feb. 1 (they’ve now asked for two extensions). We will let you know as soon as we hear anything more. Once the government files their response, Eric’s lawyer will have two weeks to file his final response (more potential extensions notwithstanding). Once everything is filed it could be more than a year before a decision is made.

How to Help

We recently added a PayPal button to Eric’s website (again). You can find it on the “Help” page: www.supporteric.org/howtohelp.htm Please consider making a donation to Eric’s support fund. Currently the majority of these funds are being used to help his partner cover the costs of going to visit him. These visits are incredibly important to Eric and his partner and are imperative for maintaining everyone’s sanity. They would not be possible without all of the support that Eric has received. Our sincerest thanks to everyone who has donated in the past. If you would like to donate but would prefer not to use PayPal, please let us know and we will send you the details about who to make the check out to and where to send it.

If you cannot donate money, there are other ways you can help. Eric is locked away from his loved ones and his communities and he doesn’t have access to a lot of information. Receiving news from the outside helps him feel a little

more connected to the issues he cares about. If you run across a good article from an independent media source that you think Eric might like, please send it his way. Just keep in mind that Eric is still in the appeals process, and everything he receives is read by the authorities. Even unsolicited mail can result in sanctions against prisoners. Please be prudent with your choice of material.

Our thanks to everyone for all of your support these last 4 years.

Yours,
Eric's Support Crew"

Subscribe to his email support list at:
sacprisonersupport@riseup.net

Please write Eric here:
16209-097, FCI Victorville, Medium II, Federal Correctional Institution, PO Box 5300, Adelanto, CA 92301, USA.

For further information and updates on his case please visit:
www.supporteric.org

SUPPORTING FITTJA 10 IN SWEDEN

A police intervention at a youth center in Fittja, outside of Stockholm, resulted in three nights of unrest. Ten people are now charged with preparing arson; one of them was charged with rioting, as well.

During the last year, riots and arsons have spread through urban areas in Sweden. Youth in poorer communities have started fires, and attacked firefighters and cops on arrival. The unrest is clearly linked to a discontentedness with the situation they face; the segregated cities, the poor living conditions in their areas, the discrimination they face in mainstream society. Wherever they go they carry their areas' reputation with them.

The police intervention at the youth

center happened on Sunday, October 25th. The Tuesday after, one person was arrested, and the following day riot police raided the apartment that person shares with others in Fittja, arresting another nine people. The following weekend, they were all detained, and charged with preparing arson. One of these people was also charged with rioting. Police and media claimed from the beginning that the arrested were "known members of Antifascist Action" who had traveled to Fittja after the unrest began.

Write letters of support to them. You can send letters through ABC, Box 4081, 102 62 Stockholm, Sweden and they'll forward the mail. You can also send messages to abc-stockholm@anarkisterna.com. Remember that everything will be read by the prosecutor.

You can also support them financially:

IBAN SE12 9500 0099 6034 0873 8973
BIC NDEASESS
Nordea, Sweden

MAY DAY FUGITIVE TURNS HIMSELF IN TO BE SENTENCED

Daniel Wilson is currently serving his sentence at the Thurston County Jail in Olympia, WA after pleading guilty to attacking a Bank of America and U.S. Bank branch in Olympia on May Day 2008. After being a fugitive in Canada for several months, he is the last of four arrested on that May Day to be charged and sentenced. Largely as a result of his partner being pregnant with his child, he decided to turn himself in at the Canada-United States border in hopes of clearing up his legal problems, and taking care of his child. He is currently scheduled to be released March 6th of this year, but may face additional time for allegedly vandalizing a pro-life van during a critical mass bike ride in

Olympia in September 2008. He is also being ordered to pay \$15,000 in restitution to US Bank and Bank of America.

Please write Daniel in jail:
Daniel Wilson
c/o Thurston County
Corrections Facility
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW
Olympia, WA 98502

UPDATES ON REPRESSION IN ITALY

Daniele Casalini and Francesco Gioia are two Italian anarchists arrested on June 12, 2007 on suspicion of a Post Office robbery and "subversive conspiracy". They were sentenced to 4 years and 2 months. On October 29th, 2009, the charge of "subversive conspiracy" was dropped. They were both released immediately. Upon their release, they expressed the utmost appreciation for the solidarity and support they had throughout their 3 years of imprisonment.

Leonardo Landi was facing the same charges in connection with the robbery as well as "various terrorist attacks". He was on the run until captured in Ventimilia, a border town between France and Italy. His trial will start on March 5, 2010. It's been rumored that all three anarchists are alleged members or former members of the Il Silvestre collective, a group responsible for publishing the Italian green anarchist publication, Terra Selvaggia (Wild Earth). Leonardo Landi and Francesco Gioia specifically are said to have been the main editors of Terra Selvaggia. They were originally sentenced to 3 years and 6 months imprisonment, and 5 years and 2 months imprisonment, respectively, in 2006, for alleged connection with the activities of the Marxist-influenced Revolutionary Offensive Cells (COR). This was based solely on the evidence that COR had sent Terra Selvaggia a communiqué about its actions anonymously.

On July 3, 2009 during an ROS operation (Special Operation Team of Carabinieri) called Operation "SHADOW", 40 houses across Italy were raided with the charge of "subversive conspiracy". Two Italian comrades, Sergio and Alessandro, were arrested. They are accused of "subversive conspiracy", grand theft auto, and attempting to sabotage public transportation. Both of them are being held at Alessandria Jail, in the special section for the anarchist prisoners.

Write these Italian comrades:

Sergio Maria Stefani
Carcere San Michele
Via Casale, 50/A
15122 San Michele (AL)
Italy

Alessandro Settepani
Carcere San Michele
Via Casale, 50/A
15122 San Michele (AL)
Italy

Leonardo Landi
Carcere Sanremo
Via Armea, 144
18038 Sanremo (IM)
Italy

"OUR FIRE ILLUMINATES THE NIGHT!": UPDATES ON REPRESSION IN MEXICO AS ANARCHIST RESISTANCE CONTINUES TO SWEEP ACROSS THE COUNTRY

16-year-old Suspected Mexican ELF Arsonist Arrested and Released:

On October 27, 2009, a 16-year-old known as "Diego A." was arrested in Mexico for possession of 4 incendiary

devices and other suspicious materials. The police took him into custody, took pictures of him, and discovered he was vegan. They brought him before a judge two days later where it was ruled that there was not enough evidence to send him to a special prison for young men under 18, and he was released to his parents. He is suspected by the police of involvement in at least 6 arson attacks claimed by the Earth Liberation Front, Animal Liberation Front, or "eco-anarchists".

Recently, there has been a wave of eco-anarchist motivated bombings, arsons, and other actions in Mexico. While the Animal Liberation Front has been active in Mexico for a long time, the rhetoric of their communiqués in the past few years reflects broadened horizons of resistance, echoing anti-civilization tendencies. These actions have been impressive quantitatively and qualitatively, signaling that there are definitely a good number of people doing the actions, with or without connection to each other. It is important for the Mexican state to deny this and blame as many actions as possible on the few people they are able to arrest. It is also interesting to note, however, that while the state is attempting to discredit actions by claiming there is no movement behind them, they also unintentionally imply that a small number of people can have a hugely devastating impact. This serves as a testament to the power of individuals that act upon their desire for a different existence. The state has almost always preferred to shift fears of mass revolt to fears of 'lone wolves'. It is the most common way the state has attempted to downplay movements, preferring to excite fear of 'fringe extreme elements' than admit to general sentiments of dissatisfaction within the status quo. It is unfortunate for them that they sometimes have too little of a grip on reality to effectively repress the tendencies they wish to crush.

Since our last issue, we have read that 3 other arrests have been made in response to the continued attacks. Abraham López, Carlos Orozco, and Fermín Gómez were arrested on December

17th, 2009. Unfortunately, whether due to language barriers or not, we have found very little information outlining the details or providing updates of their arrest since we first discovered the news. A statement communicating a need for an international solidarity around the momentum of anarchist resistance in Mexico was sent out across the internet to sympathizers and comrades around the world immediately following the 3 arrests. This is the only message we've seen that cites the arrests. We have included this statement found on December 18th, 2009, signed by the "Coordinadora Informal Anarquista":

"Greetings comrades:

We are sending you a communiqué from the Anarchist Black Cross of the Federal District inviting you to a solidarity mobilization for the comrades Abraham López, Carlos Orozco, and Fermín Gómez; arrested yesterday morning by Federal District authorities.

Although this year has seen an extension of anarchist struggle in Mexico, showing an undeniable qualitative leap in libertarian insurrectional actions, we have also had some defeats, such as the arrest of these young comrades, or the detention of comrade Emmanuel Hernández. All the same we are aware that state repression only demonstrates two things: 1) that insurrectional anarchist antagonism is a concrete reality in Mexico today, abandoning for good, reactionary immobility and nostalgic activism; 2.) that now, more than ever, it is necessary to take precautions and carry out actions carefully, planning our activities well.

Today our imprisoned comrades know that they are not alone, that solidarity has stopped being a dead letter written in lower case, and is now a "DIRECT SOLIDARITY" for our kidnapped comrades. The actions of the comrades of Acción Anarquista Anónima (Anonymous Anarchist Action) of Tijuana, of the comrades of the "Brigada de Eco-saboteadores", and of all demonstrations of SOLIDARIETA' DIRETTA

("DIRECT SOLIDARITY") are for comrade Emmanuel Hernández.

That is why we are calling for an increase in SOLIDARITY to our comrades kidnapped here, as well as in Chile, in Greece, in Italy, in Spain and in all the world.

May the night light up!
Against the State and Capital!
For Anarchy!"

TWO ANIMAL LIBERATIONISTS ARRESTED IN HOLLAND

Two women were arrested in November 2009 in Holland in connection to 5000 mink being freed from a fur farm. For legal reasons, neither of their names are being released at this time. There is rumor of a third arrest in connection with the same case. Messages of support, however, are encouraged and can be emailed to the addresses below.

Anonymous Female Prisoner One: holland@die-tierbefreier.de

Anonymous Female Prisoner Two: dbf-sg@riseup.net

JUSTIN SOLONDZ CAPTURED IN CHINA!

Justin Solondz, wanted since 2006 in connection to an Earth Liberation Front arson at the University of Washington's Center for Urban Horticulture that caused \$7 million in damages, was arrested for manufacturing drugs in Dali City, Yunnan Province, China and sentenced to 3 years. This is considered a lucky sentence in a country that regularly executes prisoners for drug crimes. Justin's American citizenship and warrant in the United States likely lead to this relatively light sentence.

After serving his sentence in China, he will be deported to the United States to face being charged with placing the incendiary devices that caused the arson. He will be the fifth person to face charges for the arson, the others being Lacey Phillabaum (Snitch), Jennifer Kolar (Snitch), Bill Rodgers (Committed suicide before trial), and Briana Waters (Currently serving a 6 year sentence).

Information is currently very limited; no contact information, or information about support and status is available. If you have any of this information, please contact Fire to the Prisons, so we can help spread the world.

GREEK BANK ROBBERS ON THE RUN

Greek officials say they are offering a reward of \$887,000 for information leading to the arrest of the "robbers in black." Identified as brothers Simeon and Marios Seisidis and Grigoris Tsiroinis, they are wanted not only for a 2006 bank robbery but for possible links to anarchist groups accused of domestic terrorism, the Athens newspaper Kathimerini reported. Sources told Kathimerini that forensic evidence has linked one of the "robbers in black" with a 2007 attack on a former judge's private guard and to a later shooting at an Athens police station claimed by the group Revolutionary Struggle.

KEVIN OLLIFF CONTINUES TO STRUGGLE BEFORE CONSISTENT REPRESSION

Kevin Olliff is an Animal Rights Activist who was arrested on April 18th, 2009. He was unjustly arrested on a

three year old protest charge and now faces 10 felony counts. These felonies are multiple counts of: stalking, conspiracy, conspiracy to stalk, and the threatening of a public servant. He is also being charged with a "street gang statute" that, if passed, will add more time to his sentence. These charges stem from legal protest activity against UCLA animal researchers. His bail was set at approximately \$460,000. He did not meet bail and will receive credit for time served, and is currently awaiting trial. Kevin has been a victim of ongoing repression for several years now and needs support. His next court date is January 17, 2010.

For ongoing updates and ways to support Kevin:
www.supportkevin.org

Write Kevin:

Kevin Olliff, #1300931
TTCF 161 D-POD
450 Bauchet ST.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

TWO MEN ARRESTED AND SENTENCED FOR "THREATENING" INVESTORS AND EMPLOYEES OF ANIMAL TESTING LABORATORIES

Two men have been sentenced to a total of three year's imprisonment at Oxford Crown Court on November 12, 2009 in Britain. Robert Griffiths, 59, of Kingfield Oval, Stoke-on-Trent, and Robert Lewis, 62, of Pheasant Road, Trebanos, Swansea, pleaded guilty to offences under section 146 of the Serious and Organised Crime and Police Act of 2005 on October 12, 2009. They were each sentenced to 18 months imprisonment and given a 10 year anti-social behavior order. The convictions relate to a

number of offences across the UK and the United States between January 1st, 2002, and January 27th, 2009, in which threatening letters were sent to companies linked to drug testing on animals, as well as their business partners and employees.

Write them:

Robert Lewis
HMP Bullingdon
PO Box 50
Bicester
OXON
OX25 1PZ
England

Robert Griffiths
HMP Bullingdon
PO Box 50
Bicester
OXON
OX25 1PZ
England

MARSHA P. JOHNSON COLLECTIVE IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE RAIDED

Statement regarding the raid:

“In the late hours of Saturday, October 3rd, while most Bash Backers were out running errands or partying the night away; a fleet of five or so cop cars made their way toward the Marsha P. Johnson Queer Collective (known to many as simply the “Bash Back!” Memphis Squat) on Bruce Street.

Upon arrival, without any announcement to vacate or any eviction notice in tow, two of the cops promptly approached a side window, using their steel flashlights to break through.

With guns drawn; several cops entered the community room adjacent to the

broken window, where two queer youth who had been staying at the collective were making love. They immediately ordered the partially-dressed duo outside, dragging them through the broken window pane.

By this time, several supportive neighbors had began to rally across the street in their defense, screaming things at the cops like “Leave our neighborhood, pigs” and “Leave those kids alone”. At one point, one neighbor, an older person of color, was told if he did not settle down and leave he would be arrested also.

Our next door neighbors who collaborated with the police in the sting, however, began screaming homophobic and racist obscenities and were never asked to “settle down”.

The youth were questioned but refused to give the location of any other house members.

As of today the two youth were released to the custody of their parents without formal charges, while patrol cars have been seen cruising Bruce Street non-stop. The house has not been boarded up yet, and both the locks and our goals remain the same.

Fuck the cops,

-Bash Back! Memphis.”

LONDON G20 RIOTER SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS FOR ATTEMPTED ARSON

A demonstrator at the April 2nd, 2009 G20 summit in London, who tried to burn down a bank in the City of London at the height of clashes with police was jailed on December 1, 2009 for two years. Mindaugus Lenartavicius, a

Lithuanian, was sentenced to two years for repeatedly attempting to set light to window blinds at the Royal Bank of Scotland after a fellow protester had smashed windows. The 22-year-old, who had been staying in a squat on the North Circular Road in Palmers Green in North London, admitted to one count of arson on April 2nd, 2009 this year. Sentencing, Judge Geoffrey Rivlin QC said:

“There is no doubt you helped to turn a peaceful protest into a violent and angry protest.”

Because Lenartavicius’s sentence is more than 12 months, he faces automatic deportation. Welsh told the court the defendant had arrived from Lithuania days before the G20 protest and had planned to return immediately afterwards.

UPDATES ON THE “TARNAC” GROUP IN FRANCE

The Tarnac 9 are nine individuals in France facing terrorism charges for allegedly sabotaging high speed train lines. The principal piece of evidence against them has been their alleged connection to the popular anti-capitalist text, “The Coming Insurrection”.

On November 24th, 2009 a new arrest was made related to the Tarnac case. A statement from their support group discusses the arrest here:

“This morning at 6:30 am, [1] the Anti-Terrorist Police (SDAT) allowed themselves to undertake a new arrest among those “close” to the indicted. Judge Fragnoli almost brought us to tears last week when he boasted in the pages of Liberation that he would proceed in this case with all the “humanity” of which he is capable. This morning he again once showed the finesse that we have come to recognize in him: 15 wise-asses from the SDAT to break down the door and aim their weapons at two chil-

dren, 4 and 6 years old, in their beds. All that just to question someone who had already been arrested on November 11th 2008, based upon the most fantastic elements of the case, which they have had in their possession from the very first day.

Obviously we understand what is at work here. While the two central elements in their accusations, namely the fabrications concerning Julien and Yildune and the witness "X," have largely been swept away by recent revelations, the sad clowns continue their flight ahead, using pretexts that are always more laughable to create a diversion. One notes that it was in fact Judge Fragnoli himself who declared to the journalists that he would not make a reconstruction of the so-called night of sabotage. Thus, he definitively seems to want to cover up what each day a little more seems to have been fakes created by the SDAT. We wish him good luck; he'll need it.

In this pathetic attempt at diversion we once more see what anti-terrorism permits and permits itself. As when, during the last two waves of arrests, friends of the indicted were arrested in broad daylight on the street and forced to submit to 96 hours of observation, pressure, and humiliation. This democracy maintains itself any way it can.

We interpret this new attempt at intimidation as the only response that Mr. Ragnoli could find to the collapse of his case. We bet that the weeks to come will permit us to definitively have done with this farce, and his career."

[1] Translator's note: The day before several lawyers for the suspects and various Left legislators were to speak in front of the National Assembly. In a communiqué, they protested against the use of anti-terrorist laws that have been "diverted against political activists."

On December 18th, 2009, the so called "Tarnac" group was appointed new legal obligations, to help further mediate their release as they are out of jail

under judicial supervision. The most troubling state demand restricted communication among the group. We are not sure, but assume this would be the harshest demand of all. For a group that has been appointed as the authors of a book like "The Coming Insurrection", we're assuming that their comrades are a main source of good in their lives. This is obviously a tactic to further isolate them from each other, and forcefully disrupt the intimacy of the group. A statement regarding the demand, titled "Why we will no longer respect the judicial restraints placed upon us" is as follows:

"Imagine that you have the right to see whomever you like, except for those whom you love; that you can live anywhere except your home; that you can speak freely on the telephone or in the presence of unknown people, but that anything you say can, one day or another, be used against you. Imagine that you can do whatever you like, except for what you hold dear."

For ongoing updates and ways to support the Tarnac 9:
www.tarnac9.wordpress.com

AN UPDATE ON ECO-PRISONER MARIE MASON

Marie Mason was sentenced to 22 years in prison in 2009 for a 1999 attack against Michigan State University in protest of genetically-modified crop research, attacks on luxury houses under construction, and attacks on boats owned by a mink farmer.

Here we included the most recent update from Marie Mason's support group:

"You might have noticed that we've been quiet on Marie Mason's situation since she has entered the federal prison system. Mostly she has been trying to adjust to life at Waseca and get her basic needs met. The good news is that

she was initially assigned a job in the kitchen, but was able to be transferred to a job as a guitar instructor. She recently played a holiday gig inside the prison with her new group!

Unfortunately, Marie Mason's other needs are not being met. Mail delivery has continuously been disrupted. Contact with her appeal lawyer was halted at one point, and he had to intervene to re-establish it. Contact with other lawyers is uncertain. Certain supporters were barred from contacting her, but then allowed to – only to find their communications were still censored or parts of them "lost". Mason's attempts to receive instruction in her chosen spiritual path also seems to be running into problems, and outside organizations have had to be informed regarding the situation.

The worst is her food situation; Mason is vegan, but has been unable to consistently receive vegan meals. She has been buying additional food from the commissary, but this too has caused a problem. There was too much money in her commissary account and therefore a monthly amount has been garnished (since Mason has to pay restitution as part of her plea bargain). This has created a vicious cycle: the prison system is refusing to provide her with vegan food, forcing her to buy food from the commissary; but because there is money in her commissary account to buy the food, they are punishing her for it. Mason is looking at options to get the prison to serve her vegan food. She is vegan partly for medical reasons, and her inability to receive a vegan diet is causing her significant health problems. At this juncture, she wants supporters to be aware of the situation, but NOT to take any action. We also ask that supporters do NOT place money directly in her commissary account, but rather provide any funds directly to her family.

Supporters should be aware that the prison has notified that Mason will not be allowed to use the new email system they are installing (although other Green Scare prisoners can). Addition-

ally that they are implementing a list of 100 people that she can write to; all of these people must be authorized ahead of time. This can potentially limit contact with supporters, making events such as letter-writing nights impossible. We are not sure if this is a system-wide change or one that is more limited; we will post updates on this situation as they become available. However, as of this time (October 19, 2009), anyone can still write Mason, so if you've been thinking about doing so, right now is the time.

Lastly, Mason's appeal is still underway, and details will be posted as they become available."

Keep up to date and support Marie at: [/www.supportmariemason.org](http://www.supportmariemason.org)

Write Marie:

Marie Mason #04672-061
FCI Waseca
Federal Correctional Institution
P.O. Box 1731, Waseca, MN 56093

MAN JAILED WITHOUT TRIAL FOR SABOTAGING ARMS PRODUCER

On January 18, 2009, Elijah Smith, a former British Soldier, was arrested in Brighton, England. He was arrested under the assumption that he had spent the previous night decommissioning the EDO/MBM/ITT factory in Brighton, in an attempt to stop it from providing parts for weapons being used by the Israeli army to bomb civilians in Gaza. Nobody was injured or harassed during their action, which was one of property damage. He and his co-defendants did not resist arrest. A year later and he is still on remand and it looks as if he is likely to remain in prison until the trial actually starts. The trial is expected to take place on May 17th, 2010, by which time he'll have spent 16 months imprisoned already before his trial.

Write Elijah:
Elijah Smith VP 7551
HMP Lewes
1 Brighton Rd
Lewes, Sussex
BN7 1EA, England

BJ VIEHL SENTENCED FOR AN ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT MINK RELEASE!

On November 19, 2009, William "BJ" Viehl faced sentencing for a release of 650 mink in Utah with co-defendant Alex Hall. While the sentencing guidelines for the plea agreement he was seeking originally called for a 6 month sentence, the judge was greatly influenced by the fur farm's owner taking the stand and crying like a baby over his lost mink, saying it was cruel to the "wasted" animals that would not end up as fur coats and that BJ should be charged with animal welfare violations. This case was going to be Utah's first to be sentenced under the guidelines of the "Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act", which adds enhancements for those convicted of causing large amounts of financial damage to animal enterprises. The judge expressed he wished to go well above the guidelines and give a 2 year sentence. The sentencing was postponed to December 11th, when, the argument was made by BJ's defense, a new judge should be sought, given the original one's unwillingness to follow the recommendations of the sentencing guidelines. Sentencing has been postponed again. At the next date, there is likely to be a decision on replacing the judge and sentence. Since the turn for the worse in BJ's plea deal, Alex Hall has stated his intention to take his case to trial. Although BJ has chosen to plea guilty, there is no evidence that his plea deal involved incriminating anyone else, and both BJ and Alex's support groups completely support BJ. As BJ

awaits his sentence, Alex also remains in jail awaiting his trial. Both deserve our utmost support at this time.

Updates on the case:
www.voiceofthevoiceless.org

Support info:
www.supportbjandalex.com

Write BJ and Alex:

William James Viehl
Inmate #2009-05735
Davis County Jail
800 West State St.
Farmington, UT 84025

Alex Hall
Inmate #2009-06304
Davis County Jail
800 West State St.
Farmington, UT 84025

BELGIAN ANTI-FASCISTS SENTENCED TO 12 AND 6 MONTHS

On October 6, 2009, a debate was organized by different fascist student groups at the College of Gent in Belgium. Shortly afterward, four fascists were beaten down and fire was set to several garbage cans, banks, ATMs, and a prison-related construction company. Jürgen Goethals and Gian-Paolo Melis were arrested on October 25th and charged with the fires set. Since then, they were sentenced to 12 and 6 months and are currently out of jail awaiting their prison terms.

SIX SERBIAN ANARCHISTS ARRESTED FOR SOLIDARITY WITH GREEK UNREST

Six anarchists have been held in Belgrade, Serbia by the state since September 5, 2009. They are accused of writing graffiti on the Greek embassy on August 25th and throwing a Molotov cocktail that only damaged a window. The attack is understood as an expression of solidarity with the unrest that has flared across Greece recently. They face "international terrorism" charges carrying the potential for 15 years in prison. Financial support and solidarity is urgently requested.

Support website:
www.asi.zsp.net.pl

You can send a cheque made out to the CNT AIT, with the words "Solidarité Belgrade" on the back, to the following address:

CNT AIT
108 rue Damrémont, 75018 PARIS

TWO INDIVIDUALS SUBJECT TO FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN THE MID-WEST USA

On Tuesday, November 17, 2009, Carrie Feldman and Scott DeMuth of Minneapolis were called before a federal grand jury in Davenport, Iowa. The grand jury is investigating an unsolved Animal Liberation Front action at the University of Iowa in 2004, in which research equipment was damaged and hundreds of animals were liberated and placed in loving homes. Carrie and Scott were subpoenaed in the most recent use of Green Scare tactics in Minnesota, the government's desperate attempt to obtain information about activists, grasp at straws to file charges against them, and disrupt radical animal-rights and environmental movements both above- and below-ground. Rightfully so, Carrie and Scott refused to cooperate and testify.

At the request of Prosecutor Cliff Cronk, District Judge John Jarvey found them in contempt of court and had them taken into custody immediately. Scott was charged with conspiracy under the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act (AETA) two days later, becoming the seventh person charged under this dangerous law passed through shady procedures in 2006. Once he was facing a criminal charge, his charge of civil contempt was dropped and he became eligible for release. Cronk tried to keep him locked up by arguing that his political beliefs and associations make him a "domestic terrorist," but these ridiculous arguments failed and Scott was released after about two weeks. Carrie's situation has been drastically different. She remains locked up in Iowa as the government punishes her for her political beliefs and resistance to the grand jury process. She could be held for the duration of the grand jury--another 9 months. In early December, her lawyer filed a motion to have her released, but it was denied. The decision is currently under appeal.

Carrie is 20 years old and has worked with a variety of projects in the Twin Cities, including Coldsnap Legal Collective, EWOK! (Earth Warriors are OK!), and the Jack Pine Community Center. A former student of the College of St. Catherine, Carrie is currently taking a year off from school and, until her detention, spent her time traveling, doing personal care assistant work for her grandma, and working on activist projects.

Scott is 22 and has been involved in several projects in the Twin Cities, including the Anarchist Black Cross and the Jack Pine Community Center. He is currently a member of EWOK!, Oyate Nipi Kte, and the editorial collective for the Dakota community journal Anpao Duta. He is also a Dakota language student and a graduate student in the Sociology Department at the University of Minnesota.

These two are being targeted because they are committed radical activists who refuse to be intimidated into coop-

erating in the repression of dissent, not because the Feds believe they actually had anything to do with the 2004 University of Iowa incident. Despite the empty nature of the case, the Feds have enormous power to pursue it and Carrie and Scott need our support--financial, personal, and political--at every step of this process. This is one of countless examples of the ways that the State utilizes the court system to subvert and disrupt movements for social change, and we owe it to our friends and our movement to fight this battle.

Grand juries have historically been used to repress dissent and disrupt social movements by intimidating people into abandoning their activism, unjustly incarcerating them and separating them from their communities, and conducting fishing expeditions for information about movements. Despite the government's claims that grand juries are necessary to uphold the law and create a just society, their true purpose has been demonstrated in the persecution of people ranging from journalists who refused to identify their sources to five of the Black Panthers known as the San Francisco 8 to activists involved in the Puerto Rican independence movement to earth and animal liberation activists.

Unlike the "petit" jury, which is used to determine guilt in a trial, a grand jury consists of 16 to 23 jurors who are not screened for bias. The purpose of the grand jury is not to determine guilt or innocence, but to decide whether there is probable cause to prosecute someone for a felony crime. The grand jury operates in secrecy and the normal rules of evidence do not apply. The prosecutor runs the proceedings and no judge is present. Defense lawyers are not allowed to be present in the grand jury room and cannot present evidence, but may be available outside the room to consult with witnesses. The prosecutor and the grand jury members may not reveal what occurred in the grand jury room and witnesses cannot always obtain a transcript of their testimony.

Because of their broad subpoena powers and secretive nature, grand juries

have been used by the government to gather information on political movements and to disrupt those movements by causing fear and mistrust. The grand jury lends itself to being used for improper political investigations due in part to the prosecutor's ability to question witnesses without regard for rules that prohibit irrelevant, unreliable, or unlawfully obtained evidence. Those called before the grand jury may be compelled to answer any question, even those relating to lawful personal and political activities. That information has been used by the government as a basis to conduct further surveillance and disruption of political dissent. When used against political movements, the grand jury causes fear and mistrust because persons who refuse to answer questions about their First Amendment political activities, friends and associates may be jailed for the life of the grand jury: up to 18 months. If a witness asserts her Fifth Amendment right to remain silent, she may be forced to accept immunity or go to jail for contempt, which is what happened to Carrie. Even a witness who attempts to cooperate can be jailed if minor inconsistencies are found in her testimony. Such a perjury charge may stand even when the grand jury fails to hand down any indictment for what it was ostensibly investigating.

As if using a grand jury wasn't bad enough, Cronk pulled a conspiracy charge under the AETA out of his bag of dirty prosecution tricks to pressure Scott into giving him the information he wants (and thinks Scott knows). The AETA qualifies interference with and protest of animal enterprises, including First Amendment-protected activities, as terrorism. The AETA is a frightening expansion of an already outrageous and undemocratic piece of legislation, the Animal Enterprise Protection Act. Pushed through Congress by animal industry lobbyists and passed with only a handful of Congress members present, the AETA is a testament to the desperation of animal enterprises in an era of growing popular support for animal rights causes. Matthew Strugar, a cooperating attorney with the Center for

Constitutional Rights, points out that AETA could even criminalize such traditional protest tactics as economic boycotts if they endanger profits for an industry benefiting from experimentation on animals. The AETA is a dangerous piece of legislation whose very existence threatens not just animal rights activists but anyone with an interest in effecting meaningful social change in this society. To date, only seven people have been charged under the AETA. In addition to Scott, they are: California activists Joseph Buddenburg, Maryam Khajavi, Nathan Pope, and Adriana Stumpo (the "AETA 4"); and Utah activists Alex Hall and B.J. Viehl.

The legal battles that Carrie and Scott are fighting are some of the most recent instances of the systemic repression that the State has used to disrupt, weaken, and destroy movements for justice and liberation. Their struggles are thus tied to the struggles of radical activists from many movements and eras. And the outcomes of their struggles will affect all of us for however many more years the Empire will retain its power. We strengthen our movement when we stand in solidarity with those the State has stolen away from us by demonstrating our refusal to allow its repressive actions to destroy our efforts at creating a better world, a world built on liberation for all and mutual aid. We also directly help our comrades when they need us the most.

For more information about Carrie and Scott and to donate to their defense fund, visit www.davenportgrandjury.wordpress.com. You can also join the "Support Scott and Carrie" Facebook group and cause to stay informed and get involved in supporting them. Anyone can host a fundraiser, print and distribute the flyers available on the support website, and talk to their friends and families about the issues and why we all must fight back and stand in solidarity with Carrie and Scott.

Carrie also needs support from folks in the form of letters and books. You can write to her and send her books (she's asked for books on math and science

fiction novels) at:

Carolyn Feldman
Washington County Jail.
2185 Lexington Blvd. PO Box 6
Washington, IA 52353

Some of the information on grand juries came from grandjuryresistanceproject.org and some of the information on the AETA came from aeta4.org. Check out those websites for further information.

STATEMENT REGARDING RAIDS ACROSS CHILE ON DECEMBER 11TH

"At 6am today, Friday the 11th of December, an intense police operation began headed by the 'Bombing Investigation' Division; with squatted social centers and private homes raided throughout the metropolitan region... Until now six spaces have been raided: 3 squatted buildings and 3 private residences, in the areas of Central Santiago, Macul, Renca, El Bosque and Recoleta. Corporate media reports that there are 12 people who are being detained, 8 of whom have been interrogated.

The raids were carried out by armed contingents of the PDI (Investigative Police Bureau) and the Carabineros (The National Police force). At the Sacco and Vanzetti Squatted Social Center and Library, located in central Santiago, 4 comrades have been detained and are being held incommunicado by the BIPE (special department of the investigative police). It appears that the Social Center was defended due to reports of the remains of many broken bottles scattering the streets in front of the building. Well known squats La Crota and La Idea and El Hogar were also raided by strong contingents of armed police. It is reported that the police took computer equipment, bikes, propaganda, and cell phones from all of the squats."

From Liberacion Total:

“We issue a call out for international solidarity! Stay alert, informed, and ready to fight! To our comrades from the social centers and squats: you are not alone, we understand and assume the consequences of declaring ourselves and acting as daily enemies of authority.

The comrades who have had their houses raided and who are detained have faced this difficult moment with their heads held high, standing up as enemies of authority, as a consequence our solidarity ought to be brandished like the threatening weapon it is!

We will smash, liberate, paint, stone, burn, detonate, and communicate... Our offensive and our vengeance will spread like the black plague and echo in their ears, because if you touch one of us, you touch us all!”

To stay up to date with the outcome of these raids, and further repression and resistance in South America, visit:

liberaciontotal.entodaspertes.net
(En Espanol)
thisisourjob.wordpress.com (English)

FOUR ARRESTED AND RELEASED ON CRAZY CHARGES AND BAIL OVER MOUNTAINTOP REMOVAL MINING SITE

On November 21st two people locked down to a massive drill rig in a blasting zone on a coal mining mountaintop removal site in West Virginia. Progress was stopped for the day at the site and resulted in 4 people arrested. Bail was set at \$2000 cash only for each person, all four have the same charges: trespassing, conspiracy (misdemeanor),

obstruction, and littering (thats from having a banner). This action took place on Coal River Mountain which has been a rally point for the area; Blowing up this enormous mountain for our disgusting gluttonous energy habits is the line in the sand. This mountain provides hope and a future to the communities surrounding it, these are the last jobs, the last headwaters to streams. The Nov 21st action is the first of many to come. We will not lose this mountain. Its time to escalate. Fear is in the industries eyes, placing high bails and ridiculous charges.

Monetary support and people are needed, donations to legal fund can be made to:

Climate Ground Zero PO Box 166
Rock Creek WV 25174 (specify legal)

Or online at this website:
climategroundzero.org

DEFEND THE RNC 8!

The RNC 8 are anarchist organizers against the 2008 Minneapolis--St. Paul Republican National Convention who were charged in response to their political organizing: Luce Guillen-Givins, Max Spektor, Nathanael Secor, Eryn Trimmer, Monica Bicking, Erik Oseland, Robert Czernik and Garrett Fitzgerald. Originally charged with terrorism, they now each face two felony charges of conspiracy to riot and conspiracy to damage property. Here's a bit of what's happened in their case over the last several months:

The RNC 8 Will Be Tried Together:

In a significant victory, in December Judge Teresa Warner granted the RNC 8 a joint trial, not the eight or three separate trials favored by the prosecution. The state had wanted to break the 8's solidarity and strain their supporters' resources by having multiple trials. But the judge rightly realized that a single trial makes the most sense.

Part of her ruling inadvertently pointed out the absurdity of the case, noting that “no specific individual or entity is enumerated as a victim in the complaint.”

Both inside and outside the courtroom, the best defense against the state comes through standing together in solidarity. The RNC 8 and their defense committee have treated the case as singular from day one, and are looking forward to standing together as both a trial strategy and a movement-building strategy.

Other Rulings:

Some other pretrial rulings have been less promising. The judge did not require the prosecution to disclose important evidence about RNC informants, such as personnel files. In one case, it seems the state won't need to give information about cops who tried to “adopt a sector” for the first day of the RNC; we found much of the story in an officer's book (see tinyurl.com/RNC-copbook).

The judge also denied a request to suppress evidence from a warrantless search of the van Max Spektor was riding in. Besides not having a warrant, the police drove the van themselves to a police station before searching it out of public view, a highly unusual procedure prompting questions about the validity of the evidence.

Susan Gaertner:

Prosecutor Susan Gaertner happens to be running for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Minnesota. Although we tend to care less about elections, we figured that we'd give Susan a choice: drop the charges, or we'll drop your campaign. Annoying politicians is fun and takes little effort, so we've followed through by regularly showing up outside her events.

Now, political insiders tell us that her campaign is floundering, largely thanks to us. You could help the cause by giving her a call (county office 651-266-3222; campaign 651-645-2010; or email info@susangaertner.com--please

be polite) and asking her to drop the charges on the RNC 8. Bonus points if you say you're a Democratic bigwig with 50K to spare!

We're Getting Ready... For Trial! Come to Minnesota!

If you were at the 2008 RNC, know the RNC 8, or need a road trip, make plans to come to Minneapolis--St. Paul! The snowdrifts should be gone when trial begins, perhaps in spring or early summer. We've packed the courtrooms at every appearance so far, and need to do so at trial, also. Court solidarity is an effective tactic and, just like at the RNC, we seek to counter the state's repressive spectacle with our own theater of resistance.

If the monthly free dinners cooked by the RNC 8 and supporters since last spring are any indication, you'll have plenty of good food and friends while you're here. To stay in the loop, go to our website--RNC8.org--and click "Get Updates" to sign up for our email announcements list, text messages or more.

Finally, please consider donating to the defense fund by visiting:
rnc8.org/donations

You can also send party proceeds or love notes to:
Friends of the RNC 8, PO Box 7475,
Minneapolis, MN 55407.

AN ANATOMY OF STATE REPRESSION: FROM TIN-CAN TO TORTUGA

The first strike for us came far from our home, 347 miles to be exact. Some of us had traveled to the Pittsburgh area in late September to help others who wished to break the scripted reality of orderly dissent with the annual meeting of the G-20. We were working with

a collective to provide an alternative information line for people interested in the protests during the week of the G-20 meetings. To achieve this the Tin Can Communications Collective created software to work with Twitter to provide street coverage of the events. This of course had been done in Moldova, Guatemala, and most notably in Iran to allow people to organize against repressive regimes. These early uses of Twitter for protests in other countries was met with overblown support from the media and the U.S. State Department. Our use of the same tactics and technology used in the United States would find a very different reaction from the media and the State. On Sept.23rd, at approximately 3:00pm, Pennsylvania Police broke into a hotel room of two Tin Can members outside the airport (23 miles from Pittsburgh). When the police were asked for a warrant the defendants were told it was sealed for 30 days with no more explanation. Police spokespeople said they raided a "make-shift protest communications center" in the mom and pop motel. What they actually found and seized were a road atlas, one lap-top computer, two cell-phones and a Radio Shack TRS-Scanner and a refrigerator full of frozen burritos and hummus. The raid lasted for about an hour and included forensics teams. This all occurred in the first hour of the first day of the planned protests, before many had even left the park to march in the street. The two Tin Can members Elliott Madison (42 y/o anarchist and psychiatric Social Worker) and Michael Wallschlaeger (46 y/o anarchist radio producer of "This Week in Radical History") were arrested with 2 felonies and 1 misdemeanor each. If convicted the charges would have them behind bars for up to 15 years. The charges were all related to allegedly using Twitter to communicate that an order of dispersal had been given by the police. The two volunteers were then taken to the FBI office to be processed before going to the Allegheny County Jail for about 30 hours until their \$35,000 bail could be raised.

Exactly a week later, On October 1st 2009, the anarchist collective Tortuga

House (where Elliott, Michael and others resided) was raided at dawn by the JTTF which included FBI agents and NYPD. Approximately twenty agents with drawn guns stormed through the house while more agents waited outside and helicopters buzzed through their Queens neighborhood. This raid, much like the one in Pittsburgh, also had a sealed warrant but this time with no date for the unsealing of it. For 16 hours the State agents went through everything and taking items willy-nilly from the house. The collection of seized items is so absurd it is almost beyond belief: kitchen magnets, posters, needle-point heirlooms, steampunk costumes, fiction books, birth certificates, business cards and IDs, Buffy the Vampire Slayer dvds, stuffed toys, etc. In their search they supposedly found a handful of firecrackers which they used to re-arrest Elliott Madison and remove him from his home during the raid. When asked to see the firecrackers they refused to show him. They also removed Michael from the home using a 2 year-old outstanding parking ticket as the pretense, which was immediately dismissed by the Judge. The reason for these ridiculous arrests at the raid was to remove them from the house causing greater stress for the remaining housemates. In the aftermath, the house was left with broken doors and the residents without any cell-phones, computers, address books and many other cherished possessions. In a sense they were cut-off. This is how state repression works, it seeks to keep you afraid but also to cut you off as much as possible from your community. We decided to fight back and had our lawyer put in a motion to stop the State from going through our illegally seized items without probable cause. There were a number of motions filed from both sides--ours and the state's. At first the judge permitted an emergency injunction until she could weigh the merits of the case, thus preventing the cops from going through our seized personal belongings. This motion and injunction lifted the veil off the secretive house raid and soon there was a minor media sensation. Reactionary rags like the NY Post and Daily News wrote ar-

ticles about the “Queens Terror Raid” and Elliott and Michael names became public. This is another tool of the state, anyone the dares to oppose it is at risk to have their names leaked to the press and their reputations tarnished under the label of “terrorist.” The State went even further by sending 2 FBI agents and a Secret Service agent to visit Elliott’s place of work to try to ruin his reputation. They did not go to ask any questions or investigate a crime but only to spread false information about Elliott and then promptly left without doing any investigation.

So what were they really looking for when they raided Tortuga? That is a good question. From court documents related to the various motions about the injunction we know they were supposedly looking for evidence related to violation of the Federal Interstate Anti-Rioting Act. This law, also known as the Rapp Brown Law, was originally used against the Chicago 8 and their supporters in Seattle (both groups were acquitted) in 1968 and 1969. That was the last time this law was used. So why would Obama’s Justice Department waste time resurrecting this failed 30+ year old law to raid a home in Queens? Until the warrant is unsealed no one but the State knows. How does a needle-point or Buffy DVDs qualify as evidence of breaking the Federal Anti-Rioting laws? The answer is of course they don’t. The whole exercise is an attempt to criminalize anarchist beliefs. The residents of Tortuga are just the latest target of State’s campaign against anarchists.

Despite a preponderance of case law and ample legal arguments the Judge ruled in early November to lift the Temporary Restraining Order, thereby giving a green light for the Feds to go through our stuff. Our lawyers waited for an official statement from the Judge that was over two weeks after the restraining order was lifted. We appealed the lifting of the restraining order and argued that the facts remained unchanged and that the warrant was on its face unlawful (by the state’s own rules) because it was overly broad as evi-

denced by the large and varied amount of things taken from our home. Unsurprisingly, the 2nd circuit Court of Appeals did not grant our motion.

Out of all of this legal maneuvering we did find out that our raid was part of a Grand Jury Investigation in the Eastern District in New York. At this point we do not know if anyone in at Tortuga is the subject of an investigation or not. As far as we know no one else in New York has been subpoenaed to testify at this Grand Jury. Later in November Elliott and Michael’s lawyer attempted to get the sealed search warrant for the motel raid unsealed, as it had already been extended for another 30 days in preparation for their preliminary hearing. The motion was not heard because the prosecution informed the judge that they were withdrawing all charges against both defendants in the “furtherance of justice” and as not to interfere with the on-going federal investigation. A week later the judge again granted another 30 day extension to the warrant claiming the ex-defendants no longer had compelling interest. Our lawyer in Pittsburgh will persist in getting this secret 18-page document unsealed.

November also was the first date for Elliott’s fireworks charge, a City Ordinance violation, which he and his lawyer went to fight. A motion for discovery was presented to the Queens Ordinance Court to be ruled on in December. Eventually the court ruled that discovery was unnecessary because there was no evidence that any violation had occurred. Since the state failed to provide any evidence, even eye-witness testimony that fireworks were found in the house or that they belonged to Elliott, the case was dismissed. Unfortunately, this destroyed another chance for us to get the New York sealed probable cause documents unsealed.

In December the government responded to a court order stipulating the government to give a full listing of items taken from the house, as well as a time-line of when non-evidentiary items were to be given back to the residents of Tortuga. In response, the

government argued that the temporary restraining order and the sheer amount of materials taken from our home did not allow them to meet the time-line set out by the court. The court gave them an extension until January 11th to fulfill the court’s judgment.

So as of today, no one in the house is charged with any crime or violation in New York or elsewhere. We know there is a Federal grand jury investigating something and someone. We also know the State has gone through our personal lives including personal journals, letters to friends & comrades and everything on our computers. We have not received any of our stuff back or even been given a complete list of what they have and what they plan to keep. This is how secret police operate—You are not allowed to see the supposed evidence against you or even know what you are being accused of doing. The state breaks into your home and takes all of your stuff and then looks for enough to cobble together a charge or at least add to their growing files of political undesirables. The government even fails to comply with court orders but there are no ramifications. The courts reject their own laws regarding search and seizures all under the blanket of secret evidence. The residents of Tortuga are left in a limbo of not knowing if we will be charged with anything, whether we will ever get our stuff back, or if we will ever see what was in those sealed documents that allowed the state to disrupt our lives in the first place. We are strengthened by the fact that their intimidation has not worked and their visits to our neighbors, workplaces and smear campaigns in the main-stream press have failed to silence us. We fully expect more shenanigans from the state but we will never apologize for being anarchists.

Visit:
friendsoftortuga.wordpress.com

A STATEMENT FROM PITTSBURGH G20 ARRESTEE: DAVID JAPENGA

“On the night of September 24th I was arrested in Pittsburgh during the anti-G20 demonstrations. During my incarceration my bail was set at a \$500 percentage bond, and within hours revoked and my bail was denied.

Several days later they reinstated and raised my bail to a \$15,000 straight cash bond. When my friends rose to the occasion, raising the full amount in hours, the State took it's sweet time setting up the other conditions of my release. I sat in jail for 20 days as I waited for them to set up a House Arrest Electronic Monitoring System as an extra condition of my bail.

On October 14th I was released from Allegheny County Jail into a house shared with some very supportive friends. As I await trial, a process that could take up to a year, I am not allowed to leave my front door. The few exceptions include going directly to and from a State approved job and appearing in court. As of this writing I've spent 80 days under these restrictive conditions despite being guilty of no crime and being a resident of Pittsburgh with no flight risk. I filed a motion to travel to Michigan in order to spend Christmas with my family. Judge Jeffrey Manning callously denied the motion. I have been subject to surveillance including one confirmed case of the contents of the trashcan in the alley behind my house being photographed and sent to officers in charge of my case. Other forms of surveillance and monitoring are suspected.

At this time I am awaiting trial for a handful of fabricated felony and misdemeanor allegations regarding \$15,000 worth of property destruction to a Citizens bank and surrounding businesses. I had a Conspiracy charge dropped at

my preliminary hearing when State Trooper Boyd Wass failed to include anything resembling conspiracy in his fairy tale that he tried to pass for testimony.

There has been considerable effort to raise funds that have made a large dent on, but not eliminated, my towering legal defense fees. While I hope our efforts will keep from spending anymore time in prison, I have no illusions of a Judges' ability to administer any semblance of justice.

To a world with out prisons, police, or judges.”

-David Japenga, 01/03/10

For more information or to make donations, email freedavidjapenga@hushmail.com and abcpittsburgh@riseup.net.

UPDATE ON SWEDISH PRISONER JONATAN

“Jonatan Stranderg” is 20-year old Swedish man sentenced to 15 months imprisonment after admitting damaging a communication tower used by the Department of Defence, by cutting the cables on a crane used in creating urban sprawl, and damaging a vehicle used in the logging industry.

The following is the most recent update on Jonatan from his support group, “ABC-Orkan”, submitted for this issue:

“Jonatan is in a closed prison far away from his comrades, friends and supporters now. He really needs support. His mood is changing a lot and sometimes it's hard for him to stand the isolation and loneliness. We also would like you all to maybe think of sending him something during these hard days. He won't get a lot visits at this time.

If you send him books, make sure that

there is nothing hand written. Also if you send him CDs they have to be original otherwise he won't get them.

Jonatan is interested in (green) anarchism, anti-civilization theory, indigenous struggles, and things regarding “The Wild”. He likes music of all kinds (from HC to HipHop, Drum and Bass, to Folk...). He would also be really happy about posters and flyers citing outside resistance going on...

There is a new infoblog about revolutionary solidarity and Jonatan in english called: againstthewaiting.blogspot.de

Nothing forgiven - No one forgotten!”

Using the guidelines mentioned above, you can write Jonatan at:

Jonatan Strandberg
BOX 248
593 23 Vastervik
Sweden

This was a message from ABC-Orkan (anarchist black cross group from northern germany), more information on that project can be found at:

noprisonnostate.blogspot.de

REGARDING A SNITCH NAMED CHRISTOPHER BOETTE

From Pittsburgh Anarchist Black Cross:

Christopher Boette testified before a Federal Grand Jury convened to investigate charges relating to an April 25th incident in which \$110,000 worth of damage was dealt to two banks in Washington, DC. It has been erroneously published that he testified in an investigation of the G20 riots in Pittsburgh, PA. At this point in time we have no reason to believe he has provided any information regarding the summit.

Grand juries are convened to ascertain whether or not there is sufficient evidence to indict individuals for specific crimes. The state subpoenas individuals to testify before a grand jury to provide information regarding the specific crimes it was convened to investigate. Therefore, when an individual testifies they assist the state in investigating, and ultimately prosecuting, those crimes. Mr. Boette made this decision in stark contrast to the exemplary conduct of Jordan Halliday and Carrie Feldman, who deserve nothing more than our full support. By providing testimony in a grand jury proceeding and helping to further a state investigation, he has earned the contemptible title of "snitch."

Our position is one of practicality and not of morality and piety. There is no place among those who must struggle against the state and capital for individuals such as Mr. Boette, who treat their involvement within this struggle as a game they can quit when they no longer find it fun. We are disheartened that Mr. Boette is still welcomed at social events and in the communities he turned his back on. We are confused that Mr. Boette can still find friends and supporters, especially in light of his decision to side with the state against them.

The following was authored anonymously by some of his former supporters. We hope that it helps to make a firm statement: that Chris Boette will find himself standing alone, with not even the state which he was so quick to support, behind him. We whole heartedly wish him the worst.

For unlimited distribution:

The following are facts regarding Chris Boette's cooperation with a grand jury in Washington, DC. This document has been put together by folks in Pittsburgh and DC who had been doing support work for Chris prior to his decision to cooperate.

-Chris was informed that the grand jury was investigating conspiracy charges.

The legal definition of conspiracy requires that there be a plan to commit a crime and then an act in furtherance of it.

-Chris provided testimony to the grand jury and the United States Attorney assigned to prosecute the case.

-Chris told the US Attorney who from Pittsburgh he traveled to DC with.

-Chris told the US Attorney that he was staying at the mass housing offered by a church that houses several solidarity projects and has come under flack before for allegedly allowing "violent" protesters to stay there.

-Chris told the US Attorney how he traveled to a meeting, and told the US attorney that "re-decoration" was talked about - which he said he understood to mean property destruction - and at which people decided how to meet up later.

-The prosecutor asked what was at the alleged meeting. Chris replied that there was a map there. The US attorney asked what it was for. Chris said it was to determine where to go. Chris said he wasn't paying close attention to the places being mentioned because he didn't know DC. Chris said it was mostly DC people doing the talking.

-Chris told DC support people who picked him up from jail that he would not be giving out names of people.

-Chris identified people who were at the alleged meeting by at least their first names, including naming people who routinely deal with harassment and surveillance by DC and federal law enforcement agencies.

-Chris identified cities where he saw people at the meeting in the months between the meeting and his testimony.

-Chris told the prosecutor who he traveled with to the alleged action where the arrests took place.

-Chris confirmed knowing people after being presented their photos.

-Chris was asked "Do you know [a specific individual from Pittsburgh] from Pittsburgh?" and confirmed that he did.

-Chris was informed multiple times of his right to confer with consul after every question, and had also discussed his ability to do so with several people in Pittsburgh in the months prior to his

testimony. After his testimony, He later told DC support people that he "didn't know [he] could do that."

-Chris stated to multiple people that he would not testify under any circumstance and never discussed, privately or publicly, the possibility that he might testify with any of the directly affected parties, with only one exception, to the best of our knowledge.

For information on snitches or informants inside and outside of currently active revolutionary communities and struggles, please visit the following website. Please also if you have information or concerns regarding informants, infiltrators, or snitches, please contact the email below this note. We also ask that you send in your information to Fire to the Prisons, so we can include it in this magazine as well. Stay safe.

Website:
snitchwire.blogspot.com

Email:
snitchwire@riseup.net

THE VOICE OF A FUGITIVE: LETTERS FROM DIEGO RIOS

Note:

On June 24, 2009, the Johnny Cariqueo Social Centro was ransacked by the 'Grupo de Operaciones Especiales (GOPE)', Special Forces of the Chilean State, as part of investigations into recent bombings against the government and capitalist institutions. They were searching for Diego Rios because they had found a bag with material for the manufacture of explosives in the house of his mother. The police have not found Diego, and he is now a fugitive.

Since Diego has been on the run, he's been visually recognized via actions of solidarity. His obvious strength before these difficult circumstances, shown in

his clandestine letters are something we thought would be essential to including at the end of this section.

Communiqué claiming an action with fugitive Diego Rios:

“On Monday, November 23, at 11:50 pm, we installed an incendiary device in a slaughterhouse (located in the immediate vicinity of Juan Cristóbal, comuna de Recoleta) activated by an easily operated timer. The objective was not to burn the place completely, but to cause damage to a freezer soiled with death and torture.

We believe that direct action is largely the way to propagate an idea in a practical way, and with an increase of attacks on capital in all its expressions; the state, prison, laboratories, cages, and no end of targets.

Because of this we decided to carry out this action, during the international week of agitation for prisoners, given that we identify authority and the exploitation of the land and its beings as the great common enemy of all the battles of anti-authoritarian insurrection.

We also want to salute and send fraternal embraces to the imprisoned comrades around the world, especially Pablo and Matías, Axel Osorio, Cristian Cancino, Pompo Da Silva and to all those sequestered and tortured for capital, be they human or non-human animals.

Also to salute and send much strength and energy to those comrades at war in Mexico, Spain, Greece, Italy the U.S., and throughout the world, that their attack will be each time more constant and effective against all authority.

As they say, “The earth is not dying, it is being killed and the killers have names and addresses”.

Lastly we want to dedicate this and other actions to those comrades and brothers Diego Rios and Mauricio Morales (we send much affection and hugs, Fuerza Dieguito, may your steps

be firm and your footprints invisible). In our hearts is the seed of insurrection Punky Mauri!

For the propagation of the insurrection and the destruction of this disgusting reality.

-Autonomous cell of the Earth Liberation Front”

Since Diego has been on the run, he has bravely continued to have his voice heard, as he has, on 3 occasions, written clandestine letters regarding his situation that have appeared on the internet. We include those 3 statements here:

Letter #1

“To all the comrades that are in a position of war because they want to reclaim their lives: As many now know, the police entered the home of my mother in the centre of Sanitago where they found two bags with diverse materials for building explosives. Since that moment I have been searched for and pursued by the state and its repressive apparatus. I learned of this by telephone and then hours later learned that the police had gone to the Johnny Cariqueo Social Centre and Libertarian Library (where I live) under the pretext of finding me, and upon not finding me, took all the texts, publications, and propaganda that they could find. So I decided to run. I am not guilty of anything but neither am I innocent... I am simply their enemy.

I don't remember the day or a place when I decided that I could not live a tranquil, peaceful life. I decided to complicate my life to the point of no return... Since then I am a declared enemy of the social order, enemy of society, of all forms of authority and exploitation, be it bourgeois or proletarian. I understood that the fight for freedom is the war of every individual for the reclamation of their lives. It is the refusal to be part of the mass, where someone else thinks for you and tells you how to act. It is the refusal of ideologies, the refusal of numbers and roles charged with a conformism and

passivity that assures the continuation of the system. In the most important moments of growth in my life, and in concrete attacks (material and ideological) that I realized against capitalism, I was always surrounded by people who did not conceive of horizontal organization, it did not just mean a vote, but it was the product of a shared confidence and desire to destroy everything that oppressed us. Within this relationship, I understood that the most effective weapon is this qualitative change; to attempt every day to make the whole of our lives a propaganda of the deed; to discover in our everyday lives that in every destructive impulse we create something that strengthens us. And it is this that today agitates my spirit and affirms my convictions, and consequently makes me proud and dignified. In these days I can't forget to mention the words of a prisoner who said “the anarchists carry prison in their genetics” and perhaps, in some senses this is true. We all know that prison is a possible consequence for those that attack the state and capital; who are not mere revolutionary simulations continuing on with a comfortable and assured life; I'm talking of the ones who believe it is necessary to augment and multiply the attack, taking as much care as possible to not fall into the hands of the enemy. I will avoid prison as much as I can. It is because of this that I accept my mistakes and I make a self critique with the intention of nurturing my insurrectional praxis. Today, I see that the affinity group that decides on action and counts on using the autonomous infrastructure (in all its manifestations) must develop their plans with the utmost security and trust. I stumbled with this mistake, but I believe that anti-authoritarians must be like salmon, and learn after every fall, continuing firmly against the current. I send my love to all my brothers and sisters who are so far away from me now, only you can understand this... And to my enemies that analyze this text, be it to locate me or to write an academic or ideological response, I feel from you a profound disgust for the life I chose and defend. Axel Osorio, Christian Cancino and so many others., by way of these words I send you a warm greeting and

have certainty that many outside do not waste their lives but fight daily for the destruction of what today oppresses them, but I believe not even the prison can stop the fight against power.

For the destruction of all jails and cages. We will make war on Society.”

Letter #2

October 3, 2009

“This is an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.

Many feelings and reasons have led me to sketch out some ideas and post them to the web. Above all, I want to give brotherly thanks and support for all the displays of affection and insurrectional solidarity actions that have taken place recently (and for those to come, why not?). For me and for all those who share the desire to destroy this society of passive slaves, it always pleases, excites, and boosts morale to know about the daring and constant attacks on power being carried out by groups and individuals who—despite the acutely repressive context, anywhere in the world—don’t bow their heads, and continue to put the dangerous force of liberty into practice without hiding under the bed in anticipation of better times.

One inevitably reflects—and many do as yet another act on the stage on which our lives/struggles (an indivisible formula for enemies of the existing order) unfold—that to share and learn about the experiences of others while cautiously intensifying one’s own becomes extremely necessary in order to avoid the errors and desertions that eagerly invite repression. As a result, imagination and historical knowledge become part of an arsenal that can give us a good start to never being stopped; thus, if we are faced with, among other things, a technological/military apparatus, we should fight the conformism and fear within ourselves in the same way that society (and all its moralist, reformist, intellectual, consumerist, etc., expressions) looks to constrain

us. Every day, all of us who confront all forms of authority and exploitation and refuse to be comfortable accomplices should reaffirm the difficult path we have selected and show ourselves that that we are worthy of our chosen objective.

For me, it has already been several months during which I have needed to act with the utmost secrecy, avoiding the investigations of the police apparatus moving behind me, since I am certainly the perfect media excuse with which the Capital-State intends to return false security to and absolute dominance over life, despite being thwarted by so many anonymous shadows, every day, everywhere. I’m sure that the police don’t have the naïve suspicion that capturing me would dismantle some terrorist organization, although it doesn’t surprise me that it figures in their reasoning. They know that no permanent or rigid structure exists behind me, but their attempt to theoretically understand affinity groups and informal organization is not in vain, and I believe that it would be an error to underestimate them. Today they pursue me because they want to immobilize me; with an exemplary punishment, they want to curb the spread of an insurrectional idea that necessarily leads to practice. They pursue me because I practice and promote a way of life that destroys the foundations of the established order, because I am part of a dynamic and diffuse force that grows and asserts that not all of us are resigned to surviving within the submissive routine of exploitation, that we do not accept life as an obligatory and monotonous process that stems from what we are permitted, that there are many who are not seeking dialogue with or concessions from authority, but who instead aim for its total destruction.

If today my will/escape is an expression of how avoidable or vulnerable the system’s control can be, of the various ways of opposing the manipulation of our wishes or the submission of society, then I want to express it openly. In the same way, I reaffirm my free choice to live underground, which does not at all

mean that “I have been staying home,” as I continue to reject what life is under the dominance of economic, political, police, or any other form of power. I remain obstinately zealous about making the totality of life a war against the existing world, which represents a tremendous challenge to all those who decide to confront it. I believe in the necessity and consequences of being a living testament to the negation of this world. It thus follows that solidarity and propaganda by the deed have the same value to me, just like they drive me far from the bright lights of the capitalist spectacle. My mistakes and carelessness brought these circumstances—in which I choose to keep myself far away from everyone I love and everything that forms part of my daily life—upon me; therefore, they have sparked a process of self-examination and personal growth, and they ensure that I now take additional precautions to keep myself out of the clutches of our enemies. Everything has changed for me, but my feelings and potency have only become stronger.

From the distant road I travel, I hope that my words will in some way be a support and an expression of affection to all my comrades and all those inside and outside the prison walls, who are part of the force and energy of inexhaustible conflict.

Finally, I salute all actions that attack power, and with the hope that they continue, I say good-bye.

*Or do you have any doubt, Sub-Inspector Ismael Andrade?”

Letter #3

November 21, 2009

“I do not know prison; I have never been in one, and I just cannot imagine the smell of the air there, or the unbearable walks through its corridors, or much less the loneliness of its cells. Today—on the open road, in secret, leaving no trace—I can enjoy the wind, the night, the rain (which is always a good reason to hide my face), the company of a stray dog, the knowledge that I am

far away from the swine who are paid to hunt me. Today I run far from the city, but it is not only the generous oxygen from the trees that swells my chest, it is also the pride of knowing that I have more brothers and sisters than I can possibly be aware of. But knowing that they are there does not matter; their actions speak to me, they are their actions.

My footsteps no longer have the certainty of a fixed destination, but they are still heading toward the destruction of power, so they have become quicker and more unpredictable; I am carrying all my hatred and contempt for its laws, its authority, its society, and I have no room for guilt or fear of punishment. I have also thrown away the naive idea that freedom is the place that exists outside the prison walls.

For me, freedom is neither place nor permission; it is action, it is the anti-authoritarian meaning that fills each act, it is the nervousness that precedes attack, it is the uncontrollable regard for a comrade, it is feeling alive because you know that your life no longer belongs to capital, but confronts it.

The destination to which the road I now travel leads me no longer matters; there I will find free and wild individuals with whom to attempt revolt, with whom to sharpen solidarity, with whom to support the unbreakable will to blow up the existing order, to destroy every jail and every cell. I do not need to enter a prison in order to feel the anguish of seclusion in my own skin, so I hope that each one of these words arrives loaded with all the force and affection with which they are written, to each one of the comrades captured by the state and by capital, anywhere in the world. Also know that many of us continue to fight the monster that holds your bodies, that we are defending you from oblivion, that no walls will be able to isolate you from all the warmth that we are sending your way—no matter how high or how thick, we will find something to burn.

I and many other comrades living the insurrectional life know that each act/action brings consequences—favorable or unfavorable, successes or mistakes—and we assume responsibility because we take pride in being as consistent as possible. For that reason, I accept and learn from my errors, and I look to share and multiply my experiences of attack, no matter that they look to terrorize us with their prisons and with the agencies after us; we will not be silenced, we will remain concerned and engaged so that our captured brothers and sisters can be with us, so that their struggle can spread and be known, so that we can keep sharing all our affection with them. We do not forget, and we live to urgently wield solidarity against this society of submission and apathy.

Each word of this communiqué looks to destroy the silence that attempts to isolate our captured brothers and sisters; behind the words are lives that insist on doing the same, with something more than words. For each prisoner—for Axel, Cristian, Matias, Pablo, Flora, Marco, Gabriel—for all those who do not submit and who remain ready to go to war: In

every life and in every action, you are also alive and present; you, whose lives exceeded the limits of this world, all of you who died confronting power, we do not forget you, including Matias and Jaime, whose murderers did not even have the slightest courage to shoot face-to-face. I also especially want to remember Johnny Cariqueo and Mauri the punk, with whom I was fortunate to know the happiness of exchanging a few words and gestures, and today I have the pleasure of making sure that their lives continue to confront power. Thank you for teaching us that, against power, the only lost battle is the one not fought.

- Diego Ríos”

A letter was written in solidarity with Diego Rios by Gabriel Pombo Da Silva. Gabriel has been mentioned multiple times in this magazine. Gabriel is an anarchist who along with another, Jose Fernandez Delgado, escaped from the brutal F.I.E.S prison system of the Spanish State in 2004. Gabriel and Jose are now residing in the jails of Germany, after a gun battle with German cops at a checkpoint following their escape. Gabriel is sentenced to 13 years and Jose to 14. Gabriel has been imprisoned for over 24 years, 14 of which were spent in isolation (he is only 40). Throughout his time in prison he has remained an active voice for insurrection and discontent. He is currently on hunger strike during the time that we are compiling this article.

From Gabriel:

“To Diego Rios,

The complicity and affection awakened in me by your letters (communiqués) from underground is inspiring me to write these words. Not just your letters, but your rebellious attitude in a world/society that becomes more uniform and submissive every day . . .

The smell of the air in prison is nothing unusual; prison generally smells like cheap disinfectant, rancid tobacco, and the nauseating sweat of some “piglets” who are allergic to soap or showering.

The only ones here who “perfume” themselves are the guards, social workers, psychologists, and priests. We prisoners are forbidden to “perfume” ourselves, I imagine for reasons of “conformity” or “security.”

Fortunately, the fresh air and the rain (still) know nothing of prohibitions, and that’s why—for one hour each day—I can feel them enter my asthmatic lungs, causing a delicious tickling sensation . . .

Apart from the rain and the fresh air, prison is no more than an architectural construct designed to discipline and control the movements/existences of those taken captive by prison society . . .

SERVING TIME

GRANT BARNES

##137563, San Carlos Correctional Facility, PO Box 3, Pueblo, CO 81002, USA.

Serving 12 years for setting fire to a number of SUV vehicles. The letters ELF were spray painted onto all of the vehicles.

NATHAN BLOCK

#36359-086, FCI Lompoc, Federal Correctional Institution, 3600 Guard Road, Lompoc, CA 93436, USA.

Serving 7 years & 8 months for an ELF arson against a Poplar Tree Farm and an ELF arson against an SUV dealership. Also admitted his role in an ELF/ALF conspiracy.

MARCO CAMENISCH

Postfach 3143, CH-8105 Regensdorf, Switzerland.

Serving 18 years. Ten years for using explosives to destroy electricity pylons leading from nuclear power stations. Eight years for the murder of a Swiss Boarder Guard whilst on the run. In '02 Marco completed a 12-year sentence in Italy for destroying electricity pylons in Italy.

DANIEL MCGOWAN

#63794-053, USP Marion, US Penitentiary, PO Box 1000, Marion, IL 62959, USA.

Serving 7 years for an ELF arson against a Poplar Tree Farm and an ELF arson against an old growth logging corporation. Admitted his role in an ELF/ALF conspiracy. Also recently found in civil contempt for his refusal to answer questions before a grand jury.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

www.supportdaniel.org

MICHAEL SYKES

#696693, Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility, 1728 Bluewater Highway, Ionia, MI 48846, USA.

Serving four to ten years for anti-urban development construction arsons, criminal damage to a utility pole, spray-painting political graffiti, and burning the American flag. Michael has very little support compared to other prisoners serving time for similarly motivated crimes. Michael was arrested when he was 17 years old, sentenced as an adult, and had very little connection with a broader radical community. We have little information on Michael, but we firmly support you writing him. See past issues of this magazine more in-

The only pleasant smell in prison comes from the little brothers and sisters who come to see us, or when everything burns in the fire of a riot. How beautiful, comrade! The smell of the burning mattresses, the smoke filling the cell blocks, the “perfumed ones” terrified and “imprisoned” (what a paradox . . .), and the freed prisoners writing banners, securing positions, turning each tool into a weapon and each burning object into a “Molotov” . . .

Insurrection is beautiful when it breaks out. It is uncontrollable (like freedom) and subversive. In those moments, the prisoner is not a prisoner, and the consequences mean shit.

No matter how long it lasts, insurrection is something that remains etched in fire on the soul. The beatings, the torture, the isolation, the vindictive destruction of your things (photos, letters, books, clothing, etc.) will always be the bitter consequences of defeat, but the images, moments, sounds, and smells of insurrection will accompany you for life . . .

Their system of discipline and control, their administration of torture and slow death will stay on its feet as long they are able to divide us with “privileges and punishments” (like out there), but not when we are united and totally determined.

Other things we experience during insurrectional rebellion are the ties between rebels, the friendships that usually last all your life.

Cast those stereotypical images of prison out of your mind, compa, and—with subversive pleasure—discover freedom (which is nothing other than insurrection) . . .

By losing our fear (which has contaminated us since we were “little ones,” and especially as “adults”), we become great and free, and that is much more than any of them (jailers and politicians) are willing to “tolerate” from prisoners and “citizens” . . .

Let's be insufferable and subversive!

From the dungeons of northern Europe, a freedom-filled embrace for you, Diego . . .

- Gabriel Pombo Da Silva, Aachen, 11.26.09”

depth information on his case.

BRIANA WATERS

#36432-086, FCI Danbury, Federal Correctional Institution, Route 37, Danbury, CT 06811, USA.

Serving a six year sentence for alleged involvement in an arson at the University of Washington's Center for Urban Horticulture. The facility aided in the DNA mapping of trees, making it easier for forestry companies to produce profit.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

www.supportbriana.org/

JOYANNA ZACHER

#36360-086, FCI Dublin, Federal Correctional Institution, 5701 8th St - Camp Parks - Unit F, Dublin, CA 94568 USA.

Serving 7 years & 8 months for an ELF arson against a Poplar Tree Farm and an ELF arson against an SUV dealership. Also admitted her role in an ELF/ALF conspiracy.

AWAITING TRIAL AND NOT CITED BEFORE

THE OAKLAND 100

Updates on the cases of those arrested during the Oakland riots in January 2009; over the murder of Oscar Grant by the police.

supporttheoakland100.wordpress.com

SUPPORT HUGH AND TIGA

Tiga and Hugh were arrested separately on April 24th, 2009. Snatched from their lives and friends on an unremarkable Friday morning, they were each transported by Indiana State Police to the Pike County Jail in Petersburg, a small town in southern Indiana. Their bonds were set high: \$10,000 for Tiga and \$20,000 for Hugh. Each sat in jail for days before friends and supporters across the country scraped together enough money to bail them out. Certain details of the arrest warrants differ, but their charges are basically the same: two counts of misdemeanor intimidation, two counts of misdemeanor conversion, and one count of felony racketeering.

As we go into print, both are currently facing trial. Please visit the following links to stay up to date with their case:

www.mostlyeverything.net

freetigaandhugh@mostlyeverything.net

TO STAY UPDATED WITH REPRESSION AS IT GOES DOWN

BREAK THE CHAINS

www.breakthechains.info

PRISON ACTIVIST RESOURCE CENTER

www.prisonactivist.org

WRITING PRISONERS: HOW TO

anti-politics.net/distro/download/writingprisonersflyer.pdf

GREEN SCARE

www.greenscare.org

GRAND JURY RESISTANCE

grandjuryresistance.org

GRAND JURY INFO

grandjuryinfo.wordpress.com

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS FEDERATION

www.abcf.net

PRISONER SUPPORT GROUPS

These projects provide free literature and support for people currently incarcerated or facing jail time. The postal information is provided so that prisoners without access to the internet will be able to get in contact and request support. We apologize for only including projects based in the United States; we only have so much space.

SHOELACETOWN ABC

Will send free literature to prisoners, including copies of this magazine.

P.O BOX 8085, Paramus, NJ, 07652, USA

CENTRAL GEORGIA ABC

P.O Box 610, Roberta, GA 31078, USA

NEW YORK CITY ABC

P.O Box 110034, Brooklyn, NY, 11211

HOUSTON ABC

P.O Box 667614, Houston, TX, 77266-7614, USA

MODESTO ANARCHO

Will send free literature to prisoners, including copies of this magazine.

PO Box 3027, Modesto, CA, 95353, USA

UNCHAINED BOOKS

Will send free literature to prisoners, including copies of this magazine.

PO Box 784, Fort Collins, CO 80522

unchainedbooks@riseup.net

unchainedbooks.wordpress.com

BOSTON ABC

Will send free literature to prisoners, including copies of this magazine.

PO Box 230182, Boston, MA 02123

BostonABC@riseup.net

ABC PITTSBURGH

PO Box 9272, Pittsburgh, PA 15224

LEGAL INFORMATION/ SECURITY

SECURITY, PRIVACY, & ANONYMITY

www.security.resist.ca

SECURITY AND COUNTER- SURVEILLANCE

www.anti-politics.net/distro/2009/warriorsecurity-read.pdf

MIDNIGHT SPECIAL LAW COLLECTIVE

www.midnightspecial.net

CIVIL LIBERTIES DEFENSE CENTER

www.cldc.org



REVOLUTIONARY SOLIDARITY

Actions claimed in solidarity with other struggles, arrested individuals, or unrest.

November 1st 2009, Sussex

UK: Revolutionaries across Europe have been going directly to the jail to direct their rage and support their imprisoned comrades. In Sussex, Anarchists caused quite a disturbance at the Lewes Prison in one such action. A communique read: "In the early evening of the 1st November a rabble of anarchists were up at the dirty old prison of Lewes, with some fireworks for the inmates and rage against the prison society. Waving a skull and crossbones banner, the anarchists made a loud presence outside the main gate. Shouting slogans like: "The Passion for Freedom is Stronger than the Prison," and "No Prison, No Border - Fuck Law & Order." The prisoners heard and saw us, and called back, waving, holding up lighters and shouting into the night sky between us which was broken by the boom-crack of our rockets, which illuminated the darkness. Then a second box blossomed towards the stars and another stray rocket found its way under a car before we dispersed. This was for all prisoners in struggle, like Elijah Smith, an anarchist comrade imprisoned in Lewes right now for anti-militarist sabotage against Israeli war crimes."

November 22nd, 2009, Brussels:

A neighborhood police station was set ablaze in a Molotov cocktail attack when violence erupted after dark in a Brussels suburb leading to more than 50 arrests.

This attack was one of several acts of violence and vandalism in the Anderlecht neighborhood, on the western rim of Brussels, which the authorities claim have been organized through text messages. Those arrested in the attacks were aged between 15 and 20, and at least six vehicles were damaged. The violence against the police has been brought on by anger over the mistreatment of detainees in the nearby Forest prison. "These are professional vandals... people who are trained urban guerrillas and who themselves train very young adolescents," stated Anderlecht's deputy mayor Fabrice Cumps. The police stated in the media that none of those arrests were directly linked to earlier Molotov cocktail attacks which caused substantial damage to the police station. Municipal offices in the same building were damaged as well.

November 30th 2009, Milan:

Milan continues to be the site of contin-

ued militant struggle against the treatment of women (and everyone else) locked inside immigrant detention facilities. In an attack on Sodexo (which provides foods for schools, military organizations, and prisons across the world), an action involving arson was carried out in solidarity with all prisoners in Belgium and Italy. According to the communique: "In the detention centers the police rape and Sodexo exploits the immigrants." 5 days earlier on the 25th of November, during the "International Day Against Violence on Women", the cops viciously charged the women comrades who gathered to denounce the violence and rape that immigrant women are subjected to inside the detention centers. According to comrades on the scene, the pretext for the charges was the fact that they refused to take away their banner saying: "The police rape inside the detention centers for immigrants". Several days later in Brussels, the Sodexo head office was attacked. According to a communique released: "Sunday at dawn, with a sledge hammer we smashed about twenty reinforced windows and the main door of the headquarters of Sodexo in rue Charles Lemaire. A 'tag' was left to remind passersby that So-

dexo is a collaborator of the centres of reclusion.” Being that Sodexo operates in many countries throughout the world, the possibilities for solidarity actions against these disgusting acts of rape and torture are endless.

December 2009, Germany:

Since the police murder of Alexis in late 2008, Germany has erupted with actions and riots in solidarity with the insurrection in Greece. Some of the most inspiring and brave attacks include actions against a police stations in Berlin and Hamburg, which were attacked during the night by persons wearing masks. In Hamburg, the police station windows were smashed and a police car was set alight. Another had its windows smashed out. In Berlin, Molotov cocktails and paint bombs were thrown at a federal police office. These actions were claimed through a communique which was posted on directactionde.blogspot.com: “December 6 one year ago, Alexis was struck down dead in Athens. To commemorate him and the revolts that followed, on December 4th, 2009 we attacked the police headquarters in Berlin, with Molotovs, stones and paint. The police are a key element at the helm of the collaboration of European security, whose objective is to destroy social struggles and is responsible for the sentence against Axel, Florian and Oliver as presumed members of militant groups. Our solidarity to all those who are starting to attack the dominion of power and capital who are pouring their rage into the streets and fighting. To be clear - the price will continue to get higher.”

October 30th 2009, Marugán, Segovia:

Animal liberationists remembered the life and death of militant Barry Horne, who died as a result of a hunger strike while in prison. Barry became known around the world in December 1998, when he engaged in a hunger strike that lasted 68 days in an effort to persuade the British government to hold a public inquiry into animal testing. The hunger strike took place while Horne was serving an 18-year sentence for planting incendiary devices in stores in Bristol that sold fur

coats. The hunger strike left Horne with kidney damage and failing eyesight, but it was neither the first nor the last he embarked upon, and when he died of liver failure in 2001, at the age of 49, he had not eaten for 15 days. In the communique, militants with the Animal Liberation Front claim to have released various deer back into the wild: “A few months ago we learned that a company called Venison Deer (www.venisondeer.com) located in Marugán, Segovia, was engaged in raising deer to sell their dead bodies to restaurants and butcher shops. In addition, some of these were used to repopulate hunting grounds and others sent to a hospital in Toledo as if they were just material to be experimented on.

After several weeks of researching the business and numerous evening visits to the farm, the night of October 30th we went to the town of Marugán to return freedom to the deer that the speciesist businessman Javier Martín had stolen from them. For more than three hours we cut the wire fence, and sabotaged the all-terrain vehicle and the electric generator. After having torn down more than half of the fence, we led the deer towards the multiple avenues of escape. We know that at least 50 of them managed to regain their freedom and we think that at dawn many more would realize that there was now no fence to prevent their return to the fields. Anyway, if any were left inside, we will return for them. We frame this liberation as part of the actions in memory of our compañero Barry Horne, who gave his life on November 5, 2001 in a hunger strike for animal liberation.”

Spain, Solidarity with Amadeu Casellas:

Actions continue to happen in solidarity with Spanish anarchist prisoner, Amadeu Casselas, (who has been covered throughout this magazine), as he courageously continues to resist the state from the inside. Amadeu took part in the robbing of banks back in the 1970’s in order to support labor struggles. He was arrested for these daring actions, and in the 1980’s, became a member of the PIS (Prisoners of Struggle). During his incarceration, he went on hunger strike starting on June 22nd,

2008, for a variety of reasons. Amadeu wanted to bring attention to those responsible for torture within Spanish prisons: courts and politicians. At this time, Amadeu had been incarcerated for over 2 decades, which meant according to Spanish law he legally could be freed; however, the state ‘upgraded’ Amadeu to a “third grade” prison which had ‘better conditions.’ This in itself was a small victory, being that the Spanish state carried out the moving after 77 days of hunger striking. Amadeu stopped his hunger strike, but started it up again on April 20th, 2009 after he had received no information about his release. After 82 days on hunger strike, Amadeu then began a thirst strike. His courage to resist his imprisonment and stay true to his revolutionary anarchist ideals is an inspiration to those who struggle for freedom and liberation everywhere. To stay up on his case, visit: www.libertatamadeu.blogspot.com

Solidarity actions have also been undertaken by comrades. In the Spanish city of Segovia, attacks were launched at Television stations and City Hall. A communique posting read: “The action consisted of stoning the windows of COPE and Popular TV, after which city hall was smashed with rocks. Later, the action was claimed via telephone calls to both media outlets, in which we demanded the release of Amadeu Casellas Ramón and that something to that effect is published in the bourgeois media in order to reveal this crime of the state to society . . .Free Amadeu Casellas!”

Another attack was carried out, after a package was detonated that consisted of an envelope containing a ‘low-strength explosive.’ The blast occurred while the General Direct of Juvenile Justice and the Ministry of Justice was in the area. Police came onto the scene after they received a telephone call announcing the presence of the package. An individual was later arrested for this attempted bombing, and is mentioned later in this article.

Shortly after the controlled explosion, an anarchist demonstration demanding the release of Amadeu Casellas took place at the same location.

In September, several knapsacks that appeared to contain explosives were placed at PSOE headquarters in different districts of Madrid, including Aranjuez and Coslada. Each knapsack also contained a written claim demanding that the government immediately free comrade Amadeu Casellas Ramón, along with the clear threat that next time “the fuse will be lit.”

In October, a communique claimed responsibility for various acts of sabotage: “Fourteen machines of all types were sabotaged during the last week in the city of Barcelona. Sugar in fuel tanks, punctured tires, and severed wiring have been the way to act against and mark ACS, a company involved in the construction of buildings such as prisons and police stations.

We know that these actions are small and the damages are minimal compared to the enormous sums of money that drive this multinational company. But the fact of being able to demonstrate that their security doesn’t work, that their property is accessible, and that solidarity in the streets is sufficient motivation for us to continue multiplying our attacks. Freedom for Amadeu!”

On October 5th, unknown rebels in Barcelona acting in solidarity with Amadeu attacked the Catalan Police Force, Mossos D’Esquadra, who are known for their hatred of anarchists and the okupa (squatting) movement. Here is the communique used to claim the action: “On the dawn of Monday 5 of October we decided to attack the Mossos. Amadeu, companion, we are with you. The situation: Carmel, workers district of Barcelona. The urbanistic chaos of the pro-Franco development policy created hundreds of districts like this, all decided by the state. Narrow streets, multiple stairs and drawing up roads without apparent order, with anticipation of that and knowledge of the terrain, it is a perfect scene for an ambush. The method: Containers burn in the street and a call warns the Mossos of the event. With luck a little patrol arrives at the place in 5 minutes. They get out of the car and they approach the containers and a rain of stones falls

on them from a street that is at a level superior, to about 2 meters. The result: Both police agents flee terrified down the street looking for refuge. The windows of the patrol car are broken. The ingenuous security that characterizes them we saw once again cut short. One of the things that we can learn from our Greek friends is that with determination and creativity we can overcome any obstacle.

For the extension of the class struggle. For the destruction of all prisons.”

Another action in October was claimed on Spanish indymedia that read: “October 11, we stoned the DNI office of the national police on Calle Castillejos in Barcelona. Free Amadeu!”

In Barcelona in late October 2009, a group of about twenty people occupied the premises of Radio Catalogne (Av Diagonal, 614) in protest against the silence of the media about the case of Amadeu Casellas. Another numerous group stayed outside the building.

On Saturday, October 24th, a group of people in solidarity stormed the cathedral of Saint-Jacques de Compostelle to unfurl a banner on the balustrade in solidarity with Amadeu Casellas. For over an hour they shouted slogans for his freedom, against the State and its extermination centres until they were expelled by the cops.

Three days later, the solidarity didn’t stop! As demonstrations and attacks against banks and other state/capitalist institutions continued. As one report read, “We wanted to show with stones and hammers that solidarity is not just a word. Amadeu is still in prison. May the solidarity not stop!”

On October 30th, the Greeks got in on the action, as they attacked the Spanish consulate in Thessaloniki. A communique released read: “Imprisoned since the eighties, now for over 25 years anarchist Amadeu Casellas “is paying” the price of his personal decisions. He is accused of bank robberies for financing factory occupations and direct action

The Spanish government, well known for its repressive practices developed to destroy the revolutionary movement that has threatened its social stability over many years, is now trying and is finally managing through propaganda, recuperation and persecution to isolate and control the most active part of revolutionary struggles past and present. That has resulted in many combatants having spent their lives in prison and some have even died there. But behind the bars the battle doesn’t stop. The imprisoned, in spite of the disastrous conditions they put up with, do not cease struggling for their ‘rights’, but above all for their dignity. One of them is Amadeu, who with many hunger strikes and other kinds of protest has shown that for a revolutionary the struggle never ends and continues to exist no matter what the circumstances they find themselves in.

After the acts of sabotage, and the occupations and dynamic demonstrations that have taken place in Spain, we have decided to ‘decorate’ the Honorary Consulate of Thessaloniki with an explosive device in solidarity with anarchist Amadeu Casellas. The hunger strike might end, but the struggle continues. Until the liberation of the last prisoner, right to the destruction of the last prison in the whole world.

International Chamber for the spreading of revolutionary violence.”

On November 1st, anarchists in Guadalupe attacked the offices of the PSOE (Spanish Socialist Party) and the I.U (Izquierda Unida, left coalition) during the same night.

The two headquarters woke up to find their locks blocked with silicone and their façades full of red paint.

The next night, in Ségovia, TV studios and city hall were attacked in solidarity with Amadeu. The communique read: “The action consisted of breaking the windows of Cope and Popular TV studios, then breaking the windows of the town hall. It was later claimed by telephone to the two media attacked, demanding the liberation of Amadeu Casellas Ramon and it be publicized in the bourgeois media to expose this

State crime against society... Freedom for Amadeu Casellas!”

Resistance for the freedom of Amadeu, both by himself inside, and his comrades outside, continues.

On December 17th, Tamara, an anarchist comrade from Madrid, was arrested and jailed in the woman’s prison Wad-Ras, and then later transferred to the Can Brians prison, both in Barcelona. She is accused of having sent an explosive package to Albert Batlle, secretary of penitentiary services of the Catalan regional government.

It was initially reported that a demonstration in solidarity with Amadeu Casellas began in front of a Prison Services Headquarters after a letter-bomb had been detonated by the TEDAX bomb disposal unit. In actuality, TEDAX detonated the explosive inside the building while the demonstration was going on outside, without warning to the demonstrators or the workers in the building.

The building was never evacuated, and the quantity of explosive used in the letter-bomb was apparently so miniscule that no one besides the TEDAX agents involved even noticed its detonation. Much doubt exists regarding the letter-bomb’s capacity to even cause physical injury, much less kill, which means that Tamara’s attempted murder charge is, as usual, totally out-of-proportion with the facts.

Prison Services Secretary Albert Batlle was in his office on the day in question, and a group of demonstrators—including Casellas’ mother—stormed into his office and demanded a meeting with him. At this time, he just so happened to be meeting with Justice Councilor Montserrat Tura, and both were assured that the letter-bomb contained very little explosive material. Neither Battle nor Tura took any special measures in response, and their meeting continued as planned.

The distance between Getafe, where Tamara lives and was arrested, and Barcelona, where she was charged and imprisoned, is some 700 kilometers.

Immediately following her arrest, a demonstration took place outside her original holding unit at the Wad-Ras

prison. Chants and messages of solidarity through these hard times were said to be heard by Tamara through the prisons walls. As Tamara put it, hearing her comrades outside the prison helped her to feel “filled with strength”.

Following her arrest, a call-out for solidarity stated by her comrades was visibly heard across the world. In Santiago, Chile, two police stations had vehicles firebombed outside of them; a communique was issued declaring the act “vengeance for Tamara”. Shortly before this attack in Chile, a Chilean consulate was attacked in Spain. The attack was claimed in solidarity with Freddy Fuentevilla and Marcelo Villaroel, who were recently extradited from Neuquen prison in Argentina, where they were serving a sentence for weapons possession, to Chile, where they are facing state repression and imprisonment for getting caught expropriating money to fund revolutionary activity. The attack was also motivated by the hunger strike of multiple anarchists across Europe, in solidarity with one another against the state. Tamara was also cited in the attack. An incendiary device was left next to a police station in Madrid; claimed as vengeance for the recent escalation in repression. The communique stated that “Repression means attack; let’s destroy the state. Beginning with its guardians”. Two days after her arrest, two banks were set afire in Barcelona; both were claimed as acts of solidarity with Tamara, as well as recent repression in Chile and other parts of Europe. Tamara has not gone forgotten, nor has she become isolated in prison. She is supported through the actions of those concerned enough to take the risk of standing up in her name, and helping to create a momentum for her and others experiencing the same current conditions.

She is accused of acting in solidarity with Amadeu Casselas, another comrade experiencing a similar repression. As the Spanish state tries to ruin our informal networks of support and comradery, anonymous comrades who remain unknown and uncaught, help to

set a precedent, that their solidarity will only continue to be strengthened even before continued gestures of state control.

November 2nd 2009, Barcelona: In the run up to the COP-15 summit, the company Konica-Minolta was attacked and had the windows of its main offices broken. As the communique read: “This is our way of welcoming the preparatory meeting organized by governments and companies in view of the Copenhagen (COP-15) summit. Konica-Minolta is one of the main sponsors of the Barcelona pre-summit that began yesterday November 2nd, and will end on the 6th. During the COP-15 of Copenhagen, as in all the preceding summits, governments and companies will build new and juicy affairs under the cover of durable development and action against climate change. We know their intentions very well: improve capitalism to perpetuate its existence. Now the time of green capitalism has arrived. The forms change, but the repression, the destruction of the Earth, the exploitation of everything possible continues. They talk to us about the weather. Not us. Which means direct action against their lies. Not just here and now. Always and everywhere. ...For anarchy! (Liberación Total)

Note:

The events that happened following this action at the summit in Denmark are cited in the “This was not our Brokenhagen” article in this issue of the magazine.

November 2nd 2009, Brighton (UK): The Royal Bank of Scotland was attacked in solidarity with various anarchist prisoners. The communique read: “We take responsibility for attacking the Brighton HQ of the Royal Bank of Scotland on the evening of November 2nd, 2009. All banks are part of the same system which is destroying everything and has to go. Banks are the most visible manifestation of the exploitation and annihilation of our lives, carried out by state and capital. We

haven't forgotten the role of RBS in the financial crisis and the April G20 where Ian Tomlinson was killed by police, nor do we forgive. We dedicate this action to Yiannis Dimitrakis, Amadeu Casellas, Thomas Meyer-Falk, Alfredo M. Bonanno and Christos Stratigopoulos, anarchist comrades in prison for expropriations who chose to directly attack this system, as well as all other rebels who are in struggle inside and outside the prison walls. We will not stop."

Anarchists.

December 7th, Mexico: A bombing was carried out at the Banamex branch in Coacalco Mexico, destroying the bank's doors and windows. The explosion at a Banamex branch alerted Coacalco police at around 5:45 a.m., and agents found two undetonated butane gas canisters at the scene. The communiqué released after the action read:

"In the early morning of December 7, we detonated two butane gas canisters taped to a homemade explosive made out of dynamite, a fuse, and a delay timer at the Banamex bank branch located in Coacalco, Mexico State. However, due to an unfortunate fault in our device, the canisters did not serve their function. But the dynamite explosive did, and it destroyed part of the infrastructure, all the windows, and the doors of that hateful branch of blood-sucking banks.

We did this: unknown to the state, masked up, with our hands full of vengeance, ready to break the established order and turn it into chaos. We are a result of this system, of this alienating and absurd society that creates its own destruction day by day. We are the ideas of abolition gestating in our minds, turned into direct action.

One year after the death of a Greek anarchist at the hands of the police, we declare ourselves in complicity and solidarity with the struggle of the Greek anarcho-insurrectionalists, whose courage is like Molotov cocktails exploding in the bodies of the guardians of order!

Through our action, we also position ourselves against the COP-15 summit in Copenhagen, Denmark. Global

warming is not a game; it is nothing less than a problem that concerns everyone, a problem about which we have worried, and we decided to do something so that all the people responsible pay for it and pay dearly.

We're also making use of this space to send words of support to the anarchists imprisoned by the Mexican state: Víctor Herrera Govea, locked up and tortured on October 2nd, during the riots resulting from a demonstration that was interrupted by Marcelo Ebrad's riot police in Mexico City, and Emanuel Hernández, under investigation since 2006 and accused of carrying Molotov cocktails during the demonstrations against the World Water Forum. We show solidarity with them through our bombing, because although we have never seen their faces, an idea, a feeling, and our most ferocious instincts for freedom, strength, and resistance unite us as we move forward. We wish them the best!

- Unforgettable Vengeance
Eco-Sabotage Brigade"

November 30th, Tijuana, Baja

Mexico: Anarchists set fire to 28 police trucks in Tijuana. Their communiqué read: "We are not a new organization presenting its beloved acronym to the controlling, foolish mass media. We are not a new guerrilla group, nor are we a new party. We are no Vanguard, nor do we want or try to be one; we do not direct or represent anyone. We represent ourselves, and we therefore take the shape of an affinity group and resolve to self-manage the struggle against everything that oppresses and exploits us. We decide to counterattack, to respond to the death imposed on us by capitalism and the state in their obsession to conquer.

Exactly one week ago, last Monday [November 30], we attacked—with anarchist fire—the fleet of patrol vehicles ready to be delivered to the municipal authorities in the Bulevar O'Higgins parking lot (on the Via Rápida) in the Fortín de las Flores community, near the Mazda dealership and Mega Dulces in that city.

We managed to destroy 28 new patrol vehicles—the 2010 Ford F-150 model pickup (Lobo edition)—belonging to the Department of Public Municipal Security. Six were totally destroyed, and 22 suffered considerable damage, which amounts to millions of pesos in expenses.

This action is not an incident of vandalism, nor is it an "organized crime" operation on the orders of Arellano, Dr. Caro, El Teo, or Muletas; this is an anonymous anarchist action in solidarity with all our prisoners in the hands of the state, for the International Week of Agitation and Pressure in Solidarity with the Prisoners Seized by the Chilean State, and in support of comrade Gabriel Pombo Da Silva's call for a hunger strike as a means of revolutionary struggle for our comrades in prison. Our action is in solidarity with comrade Emmanuel Hernández Hernández (prisoner in Mexico City), Gabriel Pombo Da Silva, Marco Camenisch, Juan Carlos Rico Rodríguez, Sergio María Stefani, Francesco Porcu, Alessandro Settepani, Leonardo Landi, Pablo Carvajal, Matías Castro, Axel Osorio, Diego Petrisans, Amadeu Casellas Ramón, Alfredo María Bonanno, Christos Stratigopoulos, and all the anarchist prisoners of the social war.

May the smoke from our action's insurrectionary flames reach your cells, so you can smell the liberating aroma of gasoline. The cry of each one of your names will echo in the ears of the powerful."

October 3rd - 4th, Santiago

Chile: Anarchists through communiqués claimed the following action: "There are many reasons why we went out to disrupt the order of those who we consider our enemies. During an impromptu tour of the disgusting city, we found bourgeois property, butchers, doctors and bankers, those who protect and maintain their lives through this nauseating system of domination, those who love the monotony of work-consumption, aiming to get just a little power, that's what gives them the tranquility they need to sleep at night. We sabotaged: 4 luxury cars (3 4x4 trucks

and 1 car) had their tires split, 4 luxury cars were scratched with a sharp, metal tool, leaving chaotic designs ruining the expensive paint jobs, 6 meat markets ended-up with the locks on the doors and the padlocks on their shutters sealed with metal pieces and superglue. A psychiatric clinic was left with its doors glued. A "BancoEstado" bank branch was attacked with stones, resulting in two windows and the entry door shattered.

The war has also cost the deaths of many comrades throughout the world, recently it took away our friend Mauri from us, the product of an accident that could have been avoided. Mauri will be remembered as the warrior that he was, loving comrades and desiring the death of enemies, a savage in the war against society, Mauri this is for you and as well as all the actions that are still to come!

For the companion Diego Rios, who 4 months ago made his escape and went underground refusing to fall into the hands of the authority. To him we say, flee, Diego, run and continue to expose the vulnerability of the powerful, from here we embrace every word of your communiqués and with these actions we salute you."

November 2nd, Brighton (UK):

A probation office was attacked with stones and paint. A communiqué claiming the action was posted online that read: "last night we smashed the windows of the probation office on dyke road in Brighton. This was done in solidarity with prisoners everywhere, in every single prison, whether this means being locked up behind bars or being a prisoner in this society of coercion and control which tries to force us into being nothing but slaves to the capitalist system. We are fucking disgusted by this society and its delegates such as the pigs, the screws, the bosses etc. We have smashed these windows and we will do it again."

November 2009, Germany:

After police raided two radical houses (Liebig 34 and Liebig 14), a spontaneous demo took place to show that we won't stand for their actions and intimi-

ation. Around 800 people took part in what was a strong and loud demo that showed the anger of many against arbitrary state violence and oppression. At least 800 participated in the demonstration.

According to a report issued: "We refuse to be intimidated by their tactics. With arrests made, houses raided, and people controlled we must not be afraid to confront them. As the right-wing press labels us terrorists, we must be a positive force striving to save our free spaces and creating a dominant force against their oppression. People all over Berlin are feeling the pressure of state dominance, from the student protests, to workers struggles and the new campaign of hate against the left. We must unite our struggles and strive to create a world free from exploitation."

October 13th, Berlin Germany:

Unknown persons attacked a police station in Lichtenberg; smashing several windows with stones, afterwards they lit smoke bombs, which reached the inner part of the building through the damaged windows. Also they left some caltrops (nail balls) on the streets which damaged the police cars who wanted to search for the vandals - who were then given more time to flee the scene. The police first arrested three persons in the area but had to release them quite fast. Civil cops found a bag in the near of the action containing flyers who had a connection to the ongoing arsons on cars.

The following claim was published recently on the internet: "You keep our comrades Masouras, Hadjimichelakis and Yospus prisoners in Athens. You took Christoph T. And Alexandra R. in general preventive kidnapping, you want to make an example with the prisoners of the first of May, you organized a farce process against alleged members of the MG, therefore we visited you. In solidarity with all the ones who are on our side of the barricade and take action against your social terror-control and your anti-insurrection combatting. A special greeting goes to Alfredo Bonanno and Christos Stratigopoulos, kept in pre-trial detention in Greece. We do not know borders and

we will hit your agencies everywhere"

November 15th, Berlin Germany:

After three posh cars got torched in Friedrichshain, Berlin, as almost every night happens, a young man named Tobias Poge was arrested. The police are accusing him of conducting the two actions. They said he was carrying gasoline for firefighters on himself. Immediately after his arrest, the next morning's tabloid press published his pictures and full name and address, since he lives in a house project, the Liebig 14 (on the corner of Rigaerstrasse) which is due to be evicted.

Since his arrest a posh car got torched in another district and the Social Democrat party got smashed in solidarity with Toby; around the same time seven Neo-Nazi targets (private houses, meeting points, and so on) got attacked in connection with an upcoming yearly demo for Silvio Meier, squatter and Anti-Fascist stabbed to death in 1992 by the Nazis in Friedrichshain

Write Tobias at:

Tobias Poge

Buchungsnummer 3054/09/1

JVA Moabit

Alt Moabit 12A

10559 Berlin

Germany

December 8th, Washington DC:

In solidarity with the ongoing rebellion in Greece, bricks were used to shatter the windows of the Greek Embassy at 2228 Massachusetts Ave NW Washington, D.C. A communiqué posting online stated: "This action was done in solidarity with those who have taken to the streets in Greece on the recent anniversary of the murder of Alexis Grigoropoulos. The recent socialist government has shown through its use of state repression that is no different in character from the right wing government that took Grigoropoulos's life. State power, regardless of who wields it will be used to repress and murder, and we will never be free of this violence until we've dismantled the rule of state and capital, and confront the roots of power and hierarchy wherever they manifest themselves.

December 21st, 2009, Sanitago, Chile: A bomb attack on the “Chilena Consolidada” insurance company cause major damage to the facade of the building. The action was claimed in solidarity with Swiss and German prisoners recently beginning a hunger strike.

Excerpts from the communique:

Through the following e-mail, we want to claim responsibility for the bombing carried out last night against the Chilena Consolidada (a member of the Zurich [economic] Group) building. Said action marks the beginning of the December 20–January 1 international hunger strike for political prisoners called by Gabriel Pombo Da Silva from the prison death camp of Aachen, Germany.

The attack against this company—an exponent of Chilean finance capitalism allied with Swiss capitalist interests—is a gesture of solidarity with Marco Camenisch, revolutionary pris-

oner of the Swiss capital-state. Although words heal nothing, we regret that someone experienced slight hearing trauma, despite the fact that the low-strength charge was designed to only damage the infrastructure of capital.

This is a call to burn black powder and continue the unforgettable offensive. Where there is misery, there will be rebellion. Freedom for all the World’s Anti-Capitalist Prisoners.

-Agustín Rueda Sierra (1) Autonomous Group; Santiago, Chile; Monday, December 21, 2009

1) Agustín Rueda Sierra was an anarchist who was tortured to death by guards in Carabanchel prison when he refused to snitch on his escape companions.

December 21, 2009 Barcelona, Spain: Attack on a real estate agency in solidarity with unrest in Greece.

Communique:

On the night of December 15 to December 16, we attacked a real estate agency at the intersection of Calle Toledo and Calle Constitució in the Sants neighborhood of Barcelona, in solidarity with the Greek rebels.


December 19, 2009, Barcelona, Spain: Bank attacked in solidarity with Greek unrest.

Communique:

In solidarity with the Greek comrades and their revolt, we set fire to a bank in the Poble Nou neighborhood of Barcelona on Saturday night.

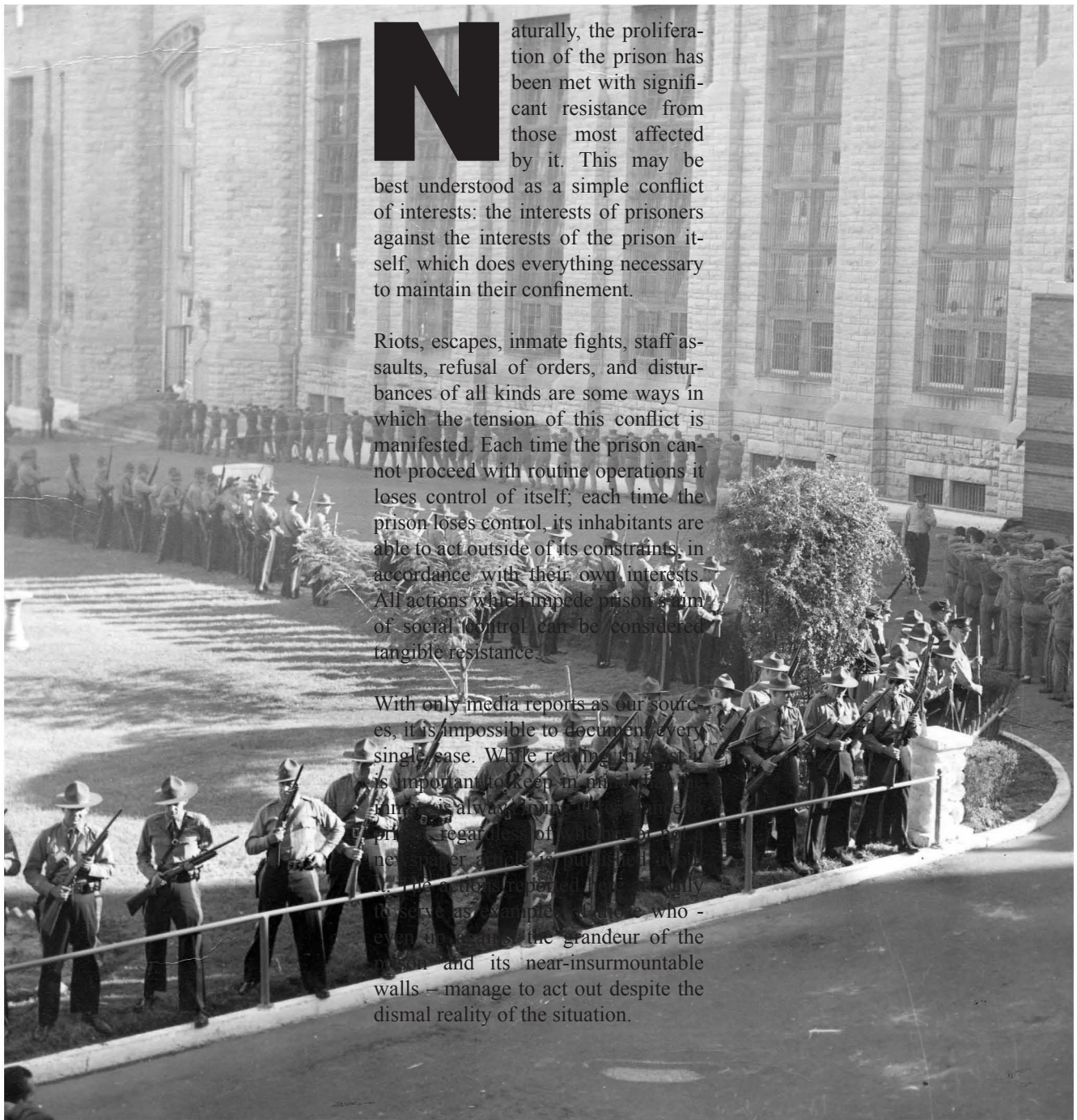
In this way, we show our best weapon of solidarity—direct action—to the many arrested, imprisoned, and judged, in Greece and everywhere. Against this world and its chains. Domination is everywhere, but so is insurrection.

We’ll see you in the streets.



Revolutionary solidarity keeps struggles together when the state and its borders try to keep them apart. Revolutionary solidarity is a strategy of preventing rifts in the social framework from becoming isolated incidents. Revolutionary solidarity is a statement that goes beyond words, it materializes an affinity, and sets a precedent for the need of a conflict to grow. Revolutionary solidarity exists in both comfortable and uncomfortable circumstances for revolt. In both the day and the night. In both visible form, and invisible form. How we would define revolutionary solidarity, is as a project of generalization, where one must creatively produce an evidence beyond words that “we are everywhere.”

A CHRONOLOGY OF NORTH AMERICAN PRISONER RESISTANCE



Naturally, the proliferation of the prison has been met with significant resistance from those most affected by it. This may be best understood as a simple conflict of interests: the interests of prisoners against the interests of the prison itself, which does everything necessary to maintain their confinement.

Riots, escapes, inmate fights, staff assaults, refusal of orders, and disturbances of all kinds are some ways in which the tension of this conflict is manifested. Each time the prison cannot proceed with routine operations it loses control of itself; each time the prison loses control, its inhabitants are able to act outside of its constraints, in accordance with their own interests. All actions which impede prison's aim of social control can be considered tangible resistance.

With only media reports as our sources, it is impossible to document every single case. While reading this history is important to keep in mind that there is always a human element to the prison, regardless of the size of the newspaper article or the length of the news report. The article reports on the events as simple human events who - even though the grandeur of the prison and its near-insurmountable walls - manage to act out despite the dismal reality of the situation.

15 September - Newport, Arkansas, United States - A Crawford County inmate escaped from a transport van while being driven back to the McPherson Unit after a court appearance.

15 September - Raiford, Florida, United States - A Union Correctional Institution officer was stabbed in the chest while extracting a prisoner from their cell.

15 September - Frederick, Maryland, United States - A correctional officer at the Frederick County Adult Detention Center got several stitches above their right eye after being struck by an inmate.

17 September - Adel, Georgia, United States - A Cook County inmate assigned to buff floors instead walked out a side door and into a vehicle waiting to pick them up. They were caught more than a week later in Florida.

17 September - Rolling Meadows, Illinois, United States - Another Cook County inmate escaped custody, this time while being transported to a court appearance. The inmate overpowered the two state attorney's office investigators, disarmed them, ordered them to pull over in a nearby Meijer store. He was caught two days later but left numerous carjackings and two armed bank robberies in his wake.

19 September - Galveston, Texas, United States - An inmate broke out of a secure room at the University of Texas Medical Branch prison medical center by crawling through an air vent using several blankets tied together. He was recaptured five days later more than 300 miles away. This was the inmate's third successful escape.

23 September - Wichita Falls, Texas, United States - A Wichita County Jail inmate stabbed a detention officer four times with a makeshift weapon and assaulted another with his fists during a partial power outage.

27 September - Knox, Indiana, United States - A fire that authorities say was deliberately set forced the evacuation of 80 prisoners at the Starke County Jail. The fire, which allegedly started in a pile of mattresses and other debris, caused one jail official to be treated at the scene for smoke inhalation.

28 September - Olympia, Washington, United States - A corrections officer at the Olympia City Jail was slashed across the face with shards from a broken plastic mug. The injury required three stitches on the left side of his forehead and three stitches on his right lower cheek.

29 September - Norman, Oklahoma, United States - An inmate being booked into the Cleveland County Jail mixed in with a group of prisoners being released on bond and walked out. Unfortunately, they were recaptured 5 days later.

1 October - Manhattan, New York, United States - A three-piece-suit wearing defendant bolted out of an unlocked State Supreme Court holding area on the 12th floor of the courthouse. A court officer even approached him on the 11th floor and addressed him as counselor. Unfortunately, he was caught the next day stepping off a city bus.

3 October - Susanville, California, United States - A 66 year old inmate escaped from the California Correctional Center but was caught later that day.

3 October - Lumberton, North Carolina, United States - A Robeson County Jail inmate assaulted a guard while being taken to see the doctor and ran out the jail door. They were caught 5 days later.

4 October - Brandon, Manitoba, Canada - 27 inmates at the Brandon Correctional Centre refused to return to their cells and instead spent four hours breaking windows and dealing several thousand dollars worth of damage to interior walls that divided the sub-units and an external wall to a fenced area.

4 October - Buffalo, New York, United States - A Erie County Holding Center inmate stole a police radio and climbed to the roof of the facility after a deputy forgot to lock a door. The inmate kept police at bay for more than two hours until they were persuaded to come down.

6 October - Vernon, Indiana, United States - Three teenage inmates at the Jennings County Jail sprayed three jail officers with pepper spray they had taken from a storage closet then took one hostage and

stabbed the two others before being subdued by officers with stun guns.

6 October - Portage, Wisconsin, United States - An inmate attempted to scale a razor-wire lined perimeter fence with newspapers stuffed in their clothes for protection, but cut their hand and fell.

7 October - Yakima, Washington, United States - A Yakima County Main Corrections Facility inmate "went missing" after completing work for the day. They weren't found for over two weeks.

10 October - Las Cruces, New Mexico, United States - Seven "residents" escaped from a half-way house, but were all recaptured within a few days.

11 October - Oakland, Maryland, United States - A Garrett County Detention Center inmate punched a correctional officer in the eye.

16 October - Indio, California, United States - Four inmates escaped from a Riverside County Sheriff's Department vehicle and were recaptured shortly afterwards.

17 October - Green Bay, Wisconsin, United States - Two inmates in the Gulf Pod of the Brown County Jail assaulted a correctional officer.

18 October - Mitchells, Virginia, United States - Culpeper Juvenile Correctional Center inmates took control of their pod, breaking furniture and using it as weapons to break glass and other property and attack guards. It took five hours to regain control.

23 October - Santa Bárbara, Santa Bárbara, Honduras - 79 escaped inmates set fire to a prison, a public market and a cultural center before authorities were able to stop the riot and capture 76 of the inmates. Three others remain at large.

25 October - Mount Olive, West Virginia, United States

A pair of inmates escaped from a work camp just outside of the Mount Olive Correctional Facility by climbing over a chain-link perimeter fence. They remained free until they turned themselves in on November 7th and 9th, respectively.

29 October - Somerset, Pennsylvania, United States

Two Somerset Correctional Institution correctional officers were assaulted when they tried to intervene in a dispute between two inmates.

29 October - San Francisco de Macoris, Duarte, Dominican Republic

Prison inmates knocked down part of a wall, threw stones, destroyed several cells and set fire to mattresses and bedding to demand the removal of security supervisor, whom they blamed for physical mistreatment, and to demand better food than the jail normally gave them. Officials said that at the time when some of the inmates were delivering their requests, many of their fellow-prisoners were attacking the guards, grabbing and throwing stones from a wall they knocked down.

31 October - Clearwater, Florida, United States

An inmate attacked his two attorneys during a visitation at the Pinellas County Jail.

31 October - Carthage, North Carolina, United States

An officer at the Moore County Detention Center was assaulted by an inmate and treated for a fracture and cuts to the right side of his face.

2 November - Clovis, New Mexico, United States

A Curry County Adult Detention Center correctional officer was stabbed.

4 November - Shirley, Massachusetts, United States

An inmate at the Souza Baranowski Correctional Center pulled a homemade weapon and slashing on their escorting officers in the throat and stabbed another in the cheek. Two other officers re-

ceived minor injuries before the inmate could be contained.

12 November - Camden, Tennessee, United States

A Benton County Jail inmate scaled the perimeter fence and took off. Unfortunately, they were caught later that day.

13 November - Gastonia, North Carolina, United States

An inmate punched a Gaston County Sheriff's Office detention officer in the face after being told they had to go see the jail doctor.

14 November - Russellville, Alabama, United States

A Franklin County Jail inmate walked off of trash detail. They were recaptured three weeks later over 500 miles away.

15 November - Iowa City, Iowa, United States

Two separate attacks on correctional officers occurred at the Oakdale Medical and Classification Center.

17 November - Peoria, Illinois, United States

Two Peoria County Jail inmates cut a hole in the ceiling of their cell, carved a hole in the concrete block roof, stood on a stack of books and got to the roof. From there, they used a rope fashioned from bedsheets tied together to rappel to the ground. Unfortunately, they were both apprehended within two days.

17 November - St. Louis, Michigan, United States

The attention of 11 inmates, armed with homemade knives, shifted from each other to the correction officers on duty in the lunchroom at the St. Louis Correctional Facility. Three officers were injured in the fight, with two being taken to a nearby medical center.

18 November - San Antonio, Texas, United States

An inmate managed to escape the Bexar County Sheriff's custody in leg shackles and even managed to lead deputies on a short foot chase before being recaptured.

21 November - Warren, Maine, United States

For the second time in a month an inmate escaped the Bolduc Correctional Facility. They were caught two weeks later.

22 November - Little Rock, Arkansas, United States

An inmate stole a Pulaski County Sheriff's van and took off while being moved from a satellite center to the main jail. A week later they were recaptured.

24 November - Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

A Hamilton Wentworth Detention Centre was broken out of a hospital by two gunmen who then led in a Ministry of Correction Services vehicle. Three days later all three were captured.

24 November - Albany, New York, United States

Three days after their arrival, an Albany County Correctional Facility inmate tried to kick out a half-inch thick, three-layer window in their cell but is subdued before they were able to.

26 November - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

An inmate being held at the Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility became the first to escape in the history of Philadelphia's newest and largest prison. After obtaining an unauthorized pass for access to the visitors' room they changed into a light-colored T-shirt and pair of dark pants, they got through two sets of controlled double doors and a dozen jail employees before walking out the visitors' lobby. They were found 3 weeks later just outside of the city.

27 November - Bridgewater, Massachusetts, United States

A prisoner escaped from the Bridgewater Correctional Complex after learning of they had been indicted on further charges before prison officials. They were free for over a month.

29 November - Inex, Kentucky, United States

Three Big Sandy Federal Prison guards were assaulted during a routine cell search.

30 November - Huntsville, Texas, United States - An inmate being transferred from the Estelle Unit brandished a loaded gun, handcuffed his two escorts and relieved them of their weapons. He jumped from his wheelchair, which until now he claimed he needed for mobility, and took off on foot. The inmate was caught a week later.

2 December - Ridgeville, South Carolina, United States - A Lieber Correctional Institute officer was stabbed multiple times by two inmates.

4 December - Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico - Gunmen drove a van through the door of a local jail and opened fire, killing two police officers and setting free 23 inmates.

4 December - Conyers, Georgia, United States - Fire sprinklers from three dorms in the same Rockdale County Jail pod were deliberately set off within five minutes of each other.

5 December - Lafayette, Louisiana, United States - A Lafayette Parish Correctional Center inmate on work detail hopped into a sheriff's office truck and drove off, but was rearrested two hours later.

8 December - Greeley, Colorado, United States - An inmate attempt an escape at the North Colorado Medical Center by fighting off nurses and deputies with a towel bar.

9 December - Carson City, Michigan, United States - Five inmates on work detail at the Carson City Correctional Facility assaulted an officer and took off in a transport van. All the inmates were recaptured after a 70 mile chase. The corrections officer sustained a pitchfork stab wound and multiple upper body wounds that were a result of blunt force trauma.

9 December - Chattanooga, Tennessee, United States - An inmate who had recently escaped from the Moccasin Bend Mental Psychiatric

Hospital but was re-arrested was found with a concealed deadly weapon in a courtroom.

10 December - Colfax, Louisiana, United States - A Grant Parish Detention Center overpowered a guard while being transported to a nearby hospital and drove off in a sheriff's office vehicle, but was caught later that afternoon.

10 December - Kokomon, Indiana, United States - A Howard County Jail was assaulted as they tried to give an inmate their medication.

13 December - Atlanta, Georgia, United States - A three-alarm blaze broke out in a housing unit at the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, the cause of which is still under investigation.

14 December - Pinckneyville, Illinois, United States - An inmate of the Pinckneyville Correctional Center held a prison employee hostage for 72 hours before being shot and killed.

15 December - Bartlesville, Oklahoma, United States - Two Washington County Jail detention officers were tased by an inmate after one of their tasers was wrestled away from them.

20 December - Prince George, British Columbia, Canada - A fire was deliberately set in the Prince George Regional Correctional Centre.

21 December - Charlotte, Tennessee, United States - Two inmates attempted to escape from the Dickson County Jail by throwing bleach in two correctional officers' eyes and taking their keys and radios. Both inmates were apprehended in a hallway on the north side of the building.

22 December - Waterloo, Iowa, United States - An inmate was placed on escape status after they failed to return to work at the Waterloo Work Release Facility. Later that week they were recaptured.

22 December - Somers, Connecticut, United States - A Northern Correctional Institution officer was taking an inmate out of their cell for a return security check when the inmate turned and punched the guard, slashed them with the weapon and continued fighting until other guards stepped in.

24 December - Decatur, Georgia, United States - Two DeKalb County Jail officers were assaulted during a routine cell inspection.

25 December - Nacogdoches, Texas, United States - An inmate stabbed a Nacogdoches County Jail detention officer in the head with a ballpoint pen and fought with two others trying to subdue him as he tried to escape.

29 December - Represa, California, United States - A Folsom Correctional officer had their neck slit by a homemade weapon, warranting 68 stitches across their neck, jaw and ear.

29 December - Vicksburg, Mississippi - A burning mattress forced deputies to temporarily move 16 Warren County Jail inmates from a second floor cell block.

30 December - Warrenton, Virginia, United States - A Fauquier County Sheriff's deputy was shot in the leg and another stabbed in the face by an inmate awaiting a hearing at the county courthouse.

“Prison is the ideal kind of death for the state because it eliminates in mass those who the state finds to be enemies, but otherwise could only physically kill in very small numbers.

More or less: prison is the state's alternative to death”



ANARCHIST RESISTANCE

“...one of those young fanatics.

Who knows no doubts, who fear nothing, and who realize that many of them will perish at the hands of the government but have nevertheless decided that they will not relent until the people rise. They are magnificent, these young fanatics, believers without God, heroes without rhetoric.

October 24th, 2009,

Chicago, IL: “Anti-capitalist activists” dropped at least five banners denouncing capitalism and the bailout of large banks from bridges throughout Chicago. The dropping of the banners happened to co-inside with the passing of a boat filled with bankers during a tour that crossed under the bridge. The bankers were in town for the American Bankers Association national convention. Banners read “Capitalism Is A Sinking Ship,” and “Fuck Capitalism.” Some less revolutionary banners also were seen with slogans such as “Assholes Bankrupting America,” “Jail ‘Em Don’t Bail ‘Em,” and “People Not Profit.” While we applaud the actions of anyone who acts in conflict with our class enemies

- why bother “speaking truth to power” with activist slogans? Especially when there are so many other things one can drop while bankers are passing right below you! Living in major cities, a banner drop can actually be heard, and should be a tactic of propagandists everywhere.

July - October 2009, Santa Cruz, CA:

According to an anonymous post on Santa Cruz indymedia, vandals took responsibility for attacks against various surveillance cameras located throughout the downtown of Santa Cruz. According to the communique, the actions were carried out from the months of July up until October.

As the communique read: “Thirty cameras had their cables cut, rendering them inoperable. This was done as an act of resistance against increasingly pervasive surveillance technologies. Modern technologies have perfected social control to a point never before imaginable, allowing the transformation of the entire urban space into an open-air prison. The police are clear about the fact that they wish our communities to live in fear. Recently, cops and bureaucrats have advocated installing additional surveillance cameras in downtown Santa Cruz. We will continue to resist this totalitarian re-engineering of our world.”

October 19th, 2009, Poitiers, France: A group of youths wearing

black clothing and hoods interrupted a street parade, and “started destroying everything in sight.” In what police described as an organized attack, the youths shattered store windows, damaged several banks, and spray-painted anarchist slogans on government buildings. Rebels even fractured a plaque commemorating Joan of Arc’s interrogation, by scrawling in Latin “Everything belongs to everybody” on a stone baptistry. “We will destroy your morbid world,” stated one sprayed-painted on a wall near the city’s landmark Notre Dame Cathedral.

November 3rd, 2009, Brigend, UK: A solidarity action in Scotland against eco-destruction was claimed. The communiqué reads: “In the early hours of Tuesday, November 3rd, Anti-Opencast activists visited Apex Drilling based near Bridgend. They are integral to the expanding opencast monster and are currently active at Mainshill in Scotland. Cameras were disabled, containers and vehicles had their locks glued, windscreens were etched with ‘No opencast,’ wires and pipes were cut on heavy vehicles, fuel systems were contaminated, anti opencast graffiti sprayed all over the compound and the main site gate locked shut. This company and others will be repeatedly targeted until they are put out of business. No compromise in defense of mother earth.”

Open-cast refers to a type of mining that uses a method of extracting rock or minerals from the earth by their removal from an open pit.

November 5th 2009, Chile: A bombing at the “BancoEstado” branch in Chile took place, which is located in the Recoleta municipality of Santiago. The explosion resulted in significant damage to the windows, as well as other damage. In addition to the infrastructural damage, the device caused a fire inside the bank.

November 11th 2009, Santiago, Chile: A bomb exploded outside a Banco del Estado branch in Santiago, damaging the windows, ac-

ording to Chilean authorities. The attack was similar to other blasts that have also been directed at the “Banco de Credito y Inversiones” branch inside a Marriott hotel in Santiago’s affluent Las Condes neighborhood that shattered windows and wounded a security guard. That attack was followed by a communique from an anarchist group that stated, “The tranquility of the world being built by defenders and administrators of this order of hunger and servitude has ended.”

The message also criticized the Marriott’s management for not heeding a telephone warning to evacuate the building, said to have been delivered 15 minutes before the explosion. Calling the attack a “conscious act, charged with libertarian content,” the group vowed to carry out more bombings. “Today we bomb this building, tomorrow there will be others. Attacks of this kind will continue, will expand and will intensify.” Chile has experienced 102 such bombings since 2004, most of them involving low-power, homemade explosive devices. No one has died in the incidents.

November 10th, 2009, Washington DC: “Queers Against Assimilation,” targeted the Human Rights Campaign HQ in Washington DC. The group targeted the HRC because of their corporate backers and connections to governments - not to mention their pro-assimilation attitude and assimilation efforts to limit the insurrectionary potential of queer discontent in a hetero-normative social order - making them the enemy of all those seeking liberation. The communique read: “HRC headquarters was rocked by an act of glamdialism last night by a crew of radical queer and allied folks armed with pink and black paint and glitter grenades. Beside the front entrance the inscribed mission statement now reads a tag: “Quit leaving queers behind.”

Just like society today, the HRC is run by a few wealthy elites who are in bed with corporate sponsors who proliferate militarism, hetero-normativity, and capitalist exploitation. The sweatshops (Nike), war crimes (Lockheed Martin), assaults on working class people (Bank

of America, Deloitte, Chase Bank, Citi Group, Wachovia Bank) and patriarchy (American Apparel) caused by their sponsors is a hypocrisy for an organization with “human rights” in their name. The queer liberation movement has been misrepresented and co-opted by the HRC. The HRC marginalizes us into a limited struggle for aspiring homosexual elites to regain the privilege that they’ve lost and climb the social ladder towards becoming bourgeoisie.

Last night, Obama spoke at the HRC fund raising gala and currently the HRC web site declares, “President Obama underlines his unwavering support for LGBT Americans.” The vast amount of organizing resources the HRC wastes on their false alliance with the Democratic party leaves radical queers on the margins to fend for themselves. Our struggle has always had to resist the repression of conservative tendencies in government and society to gain liberation in our lives.

Most of all we disagree that collective liberation will be granted by the state or its institutions like prisons, marriage, and the military. We need to escalate our struggle, or it will collapse.”

For more information on militant and confrontational groups of queers building the fight back, check out Bash Back! at: bashbacknews.wordpress.com

November 18th, 2009, Chile: A Chilean group claimed responsibility for an attack against Servipag, a bill paying service. The communique read: “At around 2:30 a.m., the Black Anti-authoritarian Cell evaded the state’s guardians once again. Armed and ready to destroy the daily routine that reigns over society these days, we began our action, heading to one of the properties located on Calle Pajaritos in Maipú that keeps civilization in order every day by supplying it via bill payments and motor vehicle taxes.

Organized, two of us entered: jumping fences, avoiding security, and drenching the walls, ground, sign, and metal gate with gasoline. Jumping the fences again, two comrades were waiting for us outside with two paint bombs and three Molotov cocktails; we sprung into action, and the property went up in

flames. Before disappearing from the scene, we dropped leaflets that read: “For the destruction of all ideologies imposed by power, so that words turn into fire and chaos reigns over this cowardly, submissive society.”

November 15th, 2009, Barcelona, Spain: A Spanish group claimed responsibility for an attack against the Center for Advanced Security Training. The communique read: “We paid a visit to the Center for Advanced Security Training in Barcelona. The result was a fire in an electrical junction box, leaving the entire electrical system out of commission. This is our message of absolute contempt to all security forces, state or private, because we sincerely despise all authority. For all the comrades in prison, and against all the walls of oppression.”

November 29th, Geneva Switzerland: The social peace of more than 3,000 protesting activists was shattered during talks by the World Trade Organization (WTO), when anarchists in black blocs began attacking hotels, shop windows, and setting fire to parked cars. Swiss pigs answered back with violence of their own. They shot tear gas and rubber bullets at the rioters. As long as capital exists, there can be no peace. Activism is a praxis for those who seek to manage this system of misery and exploitation, not destroy it.

The pictures used for opening and closing this section is from the WTO in November.

December 17th, 2009, Washington DC: A post on anarchist-news.org claimed responsibility for an attack on the PNC bank. The communique read: “Gleeful, adventurous children fell upon a PNC Bank in downtown Washington, DC on 15th and L St NW, breaking the windows with a loud crack! Pow! Boom! The message: Everybody knows, PNC bank, you fucked up. Blah blah blah, gentrification, blah blah blah, imperialism, blah blah blah, bailout.”

“For the destruction of all ideologies imposed by power, so that words turn into fire and chaos reigns over this cowardly, submissive society.”





NATIVE CONFLICT

UNDER REPORTED ACTIONS OF INDIGENOUS AND “THIRD” WORLD STRUGGLES.

“Decolonization is always a violent phenomenon... the proof of success lies in a whole social structure being changed from the bottom up...”

Decolonization is the meeting of two forces, opposed to each other by their very nature.”

-Frantz Fanon

As the “first world” scrambles to retain its comfort and superiority before a failing economy or more and more frustrated population, the “third class” of the “third world” continues to struggle to survive as unrecognized citizens of a global society.

Capitalist society looks to claim and profit from every facet of life and land; constant development is inherent to capitalist society. It’s trajectory moves only in a direction of constant expansion, under the veil of progress. Expansion and imposition is indispensable to both power and profit; two of capitalism’s most defining features.

In a global era, all life that looks to exist outside of the capitalist framework must be dealt with as an enemy of capitalist society. This is dealt with either through a process of recuperation, where this “enemy” is manipulated through coercion, in order to serve the interests of profit

and expansion. Or, through a process of liquidation.

Living in the “first world”, it is hard to feel connected to everyday life struggles of the kind mentioned after this introduction, but the fight for safe, self-sufficient, or free communities is one that we see all the time, in different ways, across the world,

From the Brooklyn projects to the Brazilian rainforests.

We all face the same enemies. And they all stem from the same enemy: civilization as we know it.

In a global world so mediated by information technology, industrial production, and a global economy; native communities act as evidence to possibilities of living differently, as our bodies find very little hope outside of the current system.

Migrant communities or lower caste villages in the third world provide examples of how the excluded organize in defense of their collective

livelihood, overcome the social divisions between them and limitations before them, set forth by global capital.

There is an inherent conflict between a global economy looking to expand, and communities looking to remain autonomous.

We hope this section has helped in the past, and continues to help shine a light on such inspiring conflict

We could only fit a few reports that caught our attention, but struggles such as these are historic-happening now and will continue to exist until civilization as we know it dies in its plundering tracks.

Latin America, October 12th, 2009: Indigenous people took to the streets of Latin American Monday in protest of the colonization and genocide brought on by the conquest of the New World by Columbus.

Columbus Day is celebrated as the Day of Hispanic Heritage in Latin America, but protesters marked the holiday as a reminder of the atrocities Spanish conquistadors wrought on indigenous people throughout the region.

In Guatemala City, 19-year-old demonstrator Imer Boror was murdered by police and several others were wounded as Mayan indians blockaded entry points into the capital; protesting the government's extractive mining industries.

In Columbia, whole villages of indigenous people marched out, joining larger demonstrations, in protest against the government's environmental policies and ongoing violence between paramilitary and government forces.

The Venezuelan government has even tried co-opting the movement by sponsoring the day of resistance and protest, while the government continues to deal in oil which polluted many native communities.

In Panama, native peoples closed the Panama/Costa Rican border for several hours in the morning, in protest against dams and mining operations on their lands.

Bangladesh, October 31st, 2009: Two people were killed and 100 were hurt, as workers rioted in Bangladesh over unpaid wages.

Local pigs, who tried to contain the crowd of 15 thousand with rubber bullets, as workers attacked them with stones and rocks and blocked streets with barricades. Workers were demanding three months of back pay from the owners of the garment factory in which they worked, who had recently shut down the plant. Several police were hurt in the fierce battles. These clashes were the most severe since the global downturn began to affect the output of apparel factories. As the global recession gets worse, bosses are shutting down factories and fleeing before paying workers. Forty percent of Bangladesh's industrial workforce is employed in the garment sector.

Jordan, November 15th, 2009: Violent riots erupted in Jordan recently, as Rakhri Kreishan died after slipping into a coma; the result of a severe beating to the head by police officers. Rioters blocked traffic on highways at certain points in the night, attacked police property and vehicles, and shot at police. Maan, the area in Jordan where the riots broke out has a history of clashes with authorities. This began in 1989, when violent protests broke out after a national economic crisis caused a rise in commodity and fuel prices. Riots also recently broke out after the similar death of Hai Al Tafeileh in est Amman, also beaten to death by the police.

Bagua, Peru: December 2nd: Awajun and Wampis people held employees of the Canadian mining company IAMGOLD hostage. According to the indigenous people, the company did not have any authorization to enter their territory. People in these territories are attempting to halt and stop all mining going on across their lands - by any means necessary.

Cancun, Mexico, November 24th, 2009: Indigenous Mayans were arrested after setting up a road-

block just south of Cancun. During the night, communal farmers blocked the main highway leading to Cancun after they learned that the government would only pay half of the reimbursement money that they promised to pay out after crops were ruined due to lack of rain during this year's monsoon season. Police brutally repressed the protestors, and arrested 228 people.

As indigenous groups in support of those detained by the police wrote: "We mention also that these actions of the peasantry are a product of the evident inequality and the contrasts that exist in the state of Quintana Roo which receives a great deal of investment in the north, in the tourist zones and we see that there are no development projects for the mayan communities that live in the same conditions as they did five hundred years ago while these communities are owners of the natural resources of the state."

Brazil, October 29th, 2009: Guarani communities continue to reclaim their lands even as they face more and more evictions, disappearances of teachers, and arson attacks on villages. On October 29th, over 50 Guarani People occupied the headquarters of the FUNAI, Brazil's Federal Authority of Indigenous Affairs, in the southern state of Rio Grande do Sul. The move to occupy was decided upon after FUNAI's failure to publish a report about the Gurani's traditional lands.

The Mapuche struggle in Chile refuses to rest: Mapuche people, mentioned in previous issues of Fire to the Prisons, have wages on ongoing struggle for their lands against the Chilean state. Anarchists in Chile have also offered their solidarity time and time again, understanding a common enemy in the colonial state and capitalism between their two camps. Anarchists often show their solidarity violently in the street as the attack property and the police, and in solidarity actions. Recently, the Mapuche released a 'Declaration of War' with the Chilean state on Oct. 20, the same day that two trucks belonging to the El Bosque forestry corporation were intercepted by CAM (Mapuche

Communities in Conflict) and set on fire in the province of Malleco.

The declaration, much more than a symbolic gesture, comes at a time of increasing violence against Mapuche children and youths, particularly over the past three months, when Mapuche communities began reclaiming illegally occupied lands in the region of Araucania.

Repression against Mapuche communities has been brutal. In one case, a group of military police were caught on film beating a Mapuche youth who was trying to find some information about a member of his community who was arrested a week earlier. According to Aporrea, the beating “stopped only when other police shouted that the press was there and they were being recorded.” Felipe Marilan Morales, a ten year old boy was shot in the forehead after the failed eviction of Mapuche from the estate of La Romana, one of dozens of privately-owned estates scattered on Mapuche lands. There is thus little reason why the Mapuche would wish to declare war on the Chilean state - and why anarchists would declare them allies and comrades.

Actions in solidarity with the Mapuche people have been vicious and ongoing. On November 11th, the Marriot Hotel was bombed. The communique posted read:

“We understand that the existence of those who dominate within society, be they bourgeois or bureaucrats, is directly related to the existence of the state. It is they who shape it, they who reproduce and reinforce it, strengthening and extending social relations based on authoritarianism and the domination of millions of people. It is they who think of themselves as “illuminated,” they who see themselves as protected by the existence of the state. As a concrete example, we can mention what is happening today in Mapuche Territory: brutal repression and harassment by the Chilean state against the weichafes, with the sole intention of defending the interests of those who dominate.

Attack. This is the maxim chosen by countless groups in this social war.

We attack the physical spaces where the daily life of the exploiters takes place. We attack the planned centers of economic and military occupation in the territories we inhabit. We attack the simulated perfection of the violent world they represent.”

On November 19th, a bombing was carried out at the Banco Ciudad in Argentina. The communique read:

“We attacked a Banco Ciudad (in Bernardo de Irigoyen) on the morning of the 16th in order to show our hatred toward the Argentine state for having captured and locked up (comrade) Chilean political prisoners Marcelo Villarroel and Freddy Fuentevilla—imprisoned in unit N 11 in Neuquen—in its extermination chambers since March 2008.

We reject all oppression and injustice committed against the Nation of Mapuche People, in the same way that we also reject the resignation of the new metropolitan police chief Eugenio Burzaco, who was advising Jorge Sobisch, then governor of Neuquen, on security matters when the police repression that ended the life of Carlos Fuentealba was ordered. We hate UCEP (Public Space Control Unit)! Disband it now!”

Actions by and in solidarity with the Mapuche continue in Chile - the war is still on.

Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico, October 31st, 2009: Mexican indigenous farmers took over a UN over in Chiapas, in order to demand the release of three jailed leaders. The leaders were arrested by authorities, who charged them with drug and weapons trafficking. Native farmers claim that the state is in fact only clamping down harder on “social struggle.”

“ATTACK.

This is the maxim chosen by countless groups in this social war.”

STAY UP TO DATE ON GLOBAL NATIVE STRUGGLES

INTERCONTINENTAL CRY
www.intercontinentalcry.org

SURVIVAL INTERNATIONAL; THE MOVEMENT FOR TRIBAL PEOPLE'S
www.survival-international.org



THE MURDER OF IVAN KHUTORSKOY AND UPDATES IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST GRASSROOTS FASCISM EVERYWHERE

This section is dedicated to the life of Ivan Khutorsky, who was murdered by Russian fascists this last November. His murder was following 3 other attempts by fascists to kill him. One of which was earlier this same year, resulting in multiple stab wounds. An article is included here describing the events, as well as a brief description of his history as a courageous and inspiring enemy of grassroots fascism in Russia, which holds quite possibly the most powerful and dangerous fascist movement in the world. Although in the states, fascist rhetoric or ideology flares so commonly in the mainstream, many of us find distinctions between fascist tendencies in the rhetoric of mass media or politics, and so called “Neo-Nazis”, simply based on the uniform. In Russia though, the state is far less concerned about distancing itself from the efforts of grassroots fascists, considering that in all cases of the state, fascists are there most unique supporters. Unlike the police, fascists take a pride in grounding a stabile context for the state to rule, or preserving the overall status quo, but without pay. The only difference is this. Ivan’s bravery and courage will not go forgotten. He is an inspiration to people, of all interests, everywhere. He will live on forever in our contempt for fascism, in all its forms.

NEWSCLIP REGARDING THE DEATH OF IVAN KHUTORSKOY

November 16th marks the death of a very well known and committed Russian anti-fascist. Ivan Khutorsky was known among the punk and anarchist scenes in Russia as being an extremely dedicated anti-fascist, as well as one of the founding member of Russia RASH (Red and Anarchist Skinheads). He was considered a friend by every major

punk or antifa group, including members of the apolitical and patriotic Trad skinheads in Moscow, despite his anti-authoritarian stance.

According to Russian Antifa sites and articles written by people who knew him, Ivan had been attack three times before the most recent, and fatal, attack. In 2005 he was attacked with a razor-blade, and recieved a large cut on his head. Footage of this captured by CCT-

Vs was later used in a documentary on anti-fascism in Russia called Ordinary Antifascism. The second time, later that same year, Ivan was attacked at his own home, receiving multiple stab wounds in his neck from a sharpened screwdriver (a popular weapon among Russian neo-nazis) and several blows from a baseball bat. Miraculously he survived. The third time, in January of 2009, was during a street fight where he received a near fatal stab in his stomach.

Friends of Ivan are not sure why Ivan went back to his house the evening that he was murdered. Because of his involvement in the anti-fascist movement, and his notoriety as a competent mixed martial arts fighter, fascists viewed him as an important, and dangerous, part of antifa. His address had been posted on several neo-nazi websites. According to some reports, Ivan was shot twice in the head.

The headquarters of a nationalist youth front, Young Russia, was attacked by friends of Ivan in solidarity in solidarity with him and his family. Around 80 anti-fascists took part in the attack, and none were arrested.

The situation in Russia has become a window to the future of a fascist future. There is an estimated 85,000 neo-nazis in Russia, one of the highest concentrations in one country in the world. Violent assaults against immigrants have sharply risen ever since the 90's. Twenty-one people being murdered in 2006 and over 100 murders in 2008. This, of course, does not include the attacks and murders that happen to anarchist and anti-fascist individuals. The kids in Russia are literally on the frontlines in the fight against fascism. Simply passing out anti-racist literature or going to a punk show could land someone in the middle of a brutal street fight, or worse. To show solidarity with those Russia means to completely destroy fascist elements whenever they rear their ugly heads, before they have a time to create a foothold.

SOME UPDATES FROM THE GLOBAL STRUGGLE AGAINST GRASSROOTS FASCISM

MAN IN BULGARIA SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS FOR ALLEGEDLY KILLING A FASCIST IN SELF-DEFENSE

On December 28 2007 Australian born Paul "Jock" Palfreeman intervened in a racially motivated street fight in Sofia, a city in Bulgaria, that ended in the death of a neo-nazi. According to Jock's statement and the statement of two security guards, a group of neo-nazi football hooligans were chasing two Roma males when Jock stepped in. Jock was then chased and attacked by the fascists. It was at this point that Jock began swinging a knife he carried for self-defense. Two of the neo-nazis were struck by the blade, and one, Andrei Monov, later died due to blood loss.

Jock was sentenced to 20 years in prison on December 2, 2009. Bulgaria has high racial tensions between Bulgarian nationals and Roma (gypsy) people. Taking this into account, along with the fact that the nazi that was killed is the son of a distinguished psychiatrist, there is no doubt that this a purely political case. Furthermore, the evidence used by those against Jock has been inconsistent. Solidarity with Jock and everyone who takes a stand against fascist violence!

The Federation of Anarchists of Bulgaria have shown their true colors in this matter by releasing an official statement claiming that Palfreeman is guilty and that they do not support him.

More information at:
www.freejock.net

CONFRONTING ANTI-IMMIGRATION FASCIST FRONT GROUPS IN THE USA

The police once again make their alle-

giances known when they used chemical sprays and handcuffs on several anti-fascist protesters at an anti-immigration rally in Austin Texas during October. The National Socialist Movement (NSM) has become one of the loudest, and still hilariously irrelevant, neo-nazi groups attempting to latch on to the wave of anti-immigration through the US, and it was them who had organized this rally that was met by anti-racist and anti-fascist counter-demonstrators.

According to a police report by Austin police, a group of around 30 antifa demonstrators met the fascists with thrown objects, including tomatoes and cups of Jell-O as they pushed their way up to anti-immigrant speakers. As tension rose, members of ARA broke the sound system being used by the NSM, before being attacked by police. Austin police chief Paul Phillip said his officers did the right thing.

A similar rally was organized by the NSM in Phoenix Arizona, which was also met by heavy community resistance. According to several sources, including the Phoenix New Times, around 200 anti-fascist demonstrators, including 150 anarchists, indigenous groups, and queer groups, met the 60 members of the NSM and 100 members of the Phoenix Police force in the streets.

Police did a good job of creating a buffer between the nazis and anti-fascists, which ultimately served the interests of the NSM. Despite this, however, anti-fascist demonstrators were able to take advantage of banners and other objects to obstruct the view of the police as objects were thrown at the fascists.

While there wasn't any physical confrontation between anti-racist community members and the neo-nazis, the NSM was forced to pack up early due to being out numbered and out-yelled.

No one was injured at the demonstration, however a car full of nazis was at fault for a car accident that happened as they were leaving, which left one nazi with a broken leg.

ANTI-FASCIST RIOT IN GERMANY

The youth front group for the German Nationalist Party, NPD, known as Junge Nationaldemokraten held a march in October of 2009. Originally the march was supposed to be comprised of 600 neo-nazi youth, however, when more than twice that number showed up, the Leipzig police stalled the beginning of the march in order to check ID's and wait for more pigs to show up. Neo-nazis became impatient and began attacking police.

Meanwhile, a counter demonstration was taking part in another part of the city that was made up of anarchists and other community members totaling over 3,000. Mostly peaceful, the march became violent as anarchists began confronting and scuffling with the police.

The march ended with three burned out cars, including a bus that a group of neo-nazis rode in on, four injured police, including police chief, Horst Warwzysk. There was no actual confrontation between antifa and neo-nazis, however the sheer number of people that mobilized in opposition to fascism is something that needs to be taken into account. Any act of resistance to fascism, whether against its institutional or grassroots form, should be celebrated.

HOLOCAUST DENIER, DAVID IRVING, FORCED TO CANCEL THE MAJORITY OF HIS AMERICAN SPEAKING TOUR

“To David Irving and all aspiring white-power, anti-immigrant, queer-bashing, racist pigs - give it up! We will fight you on the streets and on the internet until you are swept into the dustbin

of history.”

These were the words that appeared on the hacked website of Holocaust denier and Neo-Nazi “historian” David Irving. Not long afterward, various anti-fascist groups from New York and New Jersey confronted Irving and his band of nazi scum in a hotel outside of Wayne, New Jersey. Contrary to the usual tough and macho neo-nazi talk, when a member of ARA bumped into three fascists in a secluded bathroom, including Alex Carmichael (a self-described “next Hitler), the nazi turned tail and called the police.

The group of anti-fascists then proceeded to enter the hotel chanting “This is OUR community! Fascists out! Fascists out,” before being forced into the parking lot by the police. This did not deter them, however, as they proceeded to bang on the windows of the room where David Irving’s talk was taking place. Antifa members even called out attendees by name, letting them know that they will no longer be able to hide behind the police and the anonymity of the internet.

This event proved successful as Irving eventually called it quits, and the police escorted the terrified fascists out of the hotel.

A week later, this happened to Irving and his fascist dogs in Illinois, as a group of black-clad anti-fascists physically disrupted a speech being given at Edelweiss Restaurant in Norridge. Several people were arrested in Norridge, however all of them are out with disorderly conduct charges.

In New York, David Irving’s planned lecture at the double tree hotel in Times Sq. was met with the utmost hostility.

Following extensive research to actually find where his speaking gig was happening (considering David will make multiple fake events to confuse those hostile), it was finally discovered that his real event will be in the Double Tree. As him and his supporters stupid-

ly began their vile conversations, it was not a long wait until a mob of angry anti-fascists stormed the floor. As soon as they entered, one of his followers cowardly shut the door, but not quick enough to evade some of the oncoming projectiles being thrown their way. Shortly after the confrontation began, some of the hotel’s security, as well as some of his followers began to engage the angry mob. Realizing their weakness, the police were called, and the mob stumbled out, while fighting off security and followers the whole way. Following a game of cat and mouse with the police, only a few remained to stand ground as a voice against the event. As a result of the first conflict, and the threats of those who stayed after, even with the heat rising, the hotel was forced to tell David the event could not continue, and if it did, they would actually call the police.

No one was arrested.

“Yo”

“What?”

“Why do you bury Nazis (or cops) six-feet-under?”

“Why?”

“Cause deep down...”

They’re good people...”

THE STRUGGLE AGAINST FASCISM, IS THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE STATE

It almost seems like yesterday but days turned into years and finally years began approaching a decade. The United States invaded Iraq and the international left responded in outrage. Bureaucrats called for mass mobilizations and city streets around the world were flooded with protestors. At every demonstration, in any city, one could be sure to find the same placard held above some protestor's head displaying a caricature of that abominable tyrant George W. Bush donning the brown shirt, iron cross and a tiny moustache. The mainstream anti-war movement declared US aggression illegal, an overt violation of international law, while the left cried fascism and quickly likened the 43rd president of the united states to the german furher. At the mandatory rallies convening before every demonstration, a speaker would religiously recite the death toll of Operation Iraqi Freedom much like every made for TV documentary on the History Channel (The World War II Network) repeatedly recounts the number of lives lost as a result of the rise of the Nazis in Europe. On many occasions, protestors dragged empty coffins throughout the streets to symbolically rearticulate the inevitable price of war.

The comparisons of Bush to Hitler undoubtedly loses its strength when considering that the former didn't leave office, fearing coup d'etat, by a fatal self-inflicted gunshot wound but instead ceremoniously handed his power over to the next democratically elected incumbent. After the pre-scheduled eight years and without climax, the "totalitarian" regime fell without a bang and the left, exhibiting that its memory is not much better than the typical American citizen, forgot all about the fallen despot. Today, only the far-right equates the current president Obama with the leader of german national socialism thus proving the emptiness and irresponsibility of the earlier fascist allegations. In fact, what is most damaging about carelessly hurling these far-flung accusations is that they leave the brutal oppression continually perpetuated by modern progressive democracies without reproach and, furthermore, imply, the equally if not more hideous, possibilities of non-fascist governments, tolerant police and democratic militaries.

Most importantly, labeling the State or one of its vestiges as fascist always neglects the far more crucial fact that fascism is that of governance as such. In other words, fascism is the very form of liberal democratic rule. Liberal democracy can only be established and ensure its continuance by constantly suspending the rights and laws that give it legitimacy, and, by remaining in this permanent state of emergency, the State repeatedly reveals the necessary totalitarianism at its foundation. In the same way that the underlying fascism of government is often overlooked, the left fails to notice its ritual of abstract body counting, which implicitly separates sacred life from the profane, only reinforces the humanist individual and drags with it the violent forces of sovereignty and power essential for its construction. If society is not completely annihilated, totalitarianism will always serve as its basis and subtly traverse all the discourses and truths it produces, the practices it sanctions, and the subjects that ensure its existence,

By continually reverting to its exceptional or fascist form, the State clearly shows that its real essence lies solely in its self-preservation and the relentless warding off of its own destruction. In other words, the government can be fundamentally defined as a strategic relation continually blocking the insurrectionary moment. The State is counter-revolution and counter-revolution is the State. Thus, it comes as no surprise that the Italian government openly utilized fascists in their strategy of tension against revolutionaries during the 1969-1981 insurrectionary sequence. In greece, where social revolution is again placed upon the table, it has become commonplace to see the fascists of Golden Dawn during riots hiding behind police waiting for the perfect moment to swing their engraved knives at insurgents.

Death to fascism must always mean death to the State. Only by murdering the State can we finally rid ourselves of fascism. Finally, it is of no shock that the neo-nazis who killed Ivan Khutorskoy were on the Russian government's payroll.

Let us not mince words, death to fascism!

ETC.

News That Matters Further Research Shout Outs Links

ATTACK!

These web sites act as a helpful source for the news reported on in this magazine.

AMOR Y RESISTENCIA:

Reports from the global social war.
amoryresistencia.blogspot.com

MAKE TOTAL DESTROY:

A Shameless Riot Porn Blog
maketotaldestroy.blogspot.com

THIS IS OUR JOB:

Insurrectionary missives and tidbits from the Spanish-speaking world, translated into English
thisisourjob.wordpress.com

SOCIAL WAR CHICAGO:

Violence is the fundamental truth of politics.
socialwarchicago.blogspot.com

325:

Insurrectionary News and Publishing from the UK
325.nostate.net

SOCIAL RUPTURE

socialrupture.blogspot.com

BASH BACK NEWS:

“Not Gay as in happy.
But queer as in fuck you”.
bashbacknews.wordpress.com

AFTER THE GREEK RIOTS:

Updates and analysis of unrest in Greece.
occupiedlondon.org/blog

DIRECT ACTION IN GERMANY

directactionde.blogspot.com

FIRES NEVER EXTINGUISHED

firesneverextinguished.blogspot.com

LIBCOM

libcom.org

SOCIAL WAR IN GREECE

greeceriots.blogspot.com

THIS IS OUR EMERGENCY

likelostchildren.blogspot.com

OUR WAR:

Insurrectionary News from South America
ourwar.org

WHENUA FENUA ENUA VANUA

Revolutionary Anti-Colonialism and Anti-Capitalism.
uriohau.blogspot.com

ACTIONS INTERESTING TO ANARCHISTS

action.anarchistnews.org

‘TIL IT BREAKS: DENVER SOCIAL WAR

itbreaks.wordpress.com

BITE BACK:

News in defense of animals.
directaction.info

NAELFPO:

News in defense of the earth.
elfpressoffice.org

ONLINE WRITING

Arsenals of read-for-free texts.

PROLE
prole.info

INSURGENT DESIRE
insurgentdesire.org.uk

SITUATIONIST ARCHIVE
nothingness.org/si

ANTI-POLITICS LIBRARY
anti-politics.net/distro

BUREAU OF PUBLIC SECRETS
bopsecrets.org

THE ANARCHIST LIBRARY
theanarchistlibrary.org



BOOKS

Recommended for reading in book format, either somewhere you really like or somewhere you really hate.

ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN

By Fredy Perlman
Available in book format from Red and Black Press.

THE COMING INSURRECTION

By the Invisible Committee
Available in book format or online at: tarnac9.wordpress.com/texts/the-coming-insurrection

SOCIETY OF THE SPECTACLE

By Guy Debord
Available in most bookstores.

AT DAGGERS DRAWN

Available from Eberhardt Press.

PUBLISHERS

Keeping print culture alive; somehow.

ELEPHANT EDITIONS:
Insurrectionary Publisher out of the UK
alphabetthreat.co.uk/elephant-editions

HALIFAX ANARCHIST DISTRO
myspace.com/dissenthalifax

MODESTO ANARCHO
modestoanarcho.org

LITTLE BLACK CART
littleblackcart.com

WARRIOR PUBLICATIONS
warriorpublications.com

EBERHARDT PRESS
eberhardtpress.org

**“FORWARD
EVERYONE!**

**AND WITH ARMS AND HEARTS,
SPEECH AND PEN,
DAGGER AND RIFLE,
IRONY AND BLASPHEMY,
THEFT, POISONING, AND FIRE,**

**LET US MAKE...
WAR ON
SOCIETY.”**

NO.



**EVERY
THING
MUST GO.**

