

A black and white photograph of a destroyed urban area. The scene is filled with rubble, debris, and smoke, suggesting a recent explosion or fire. The background shows the remains of buildings, with some structural elements still standing. The overall atmosphere is one of devastation and chaos.

325

An insurgent anti-prison zine of social war & anarchy



Prisoners of power

I believe that all prisoners of the world are produced by power and are hostages of power.

Strength, authority, brutality, assassinations, genocide, oppression, slavery, exploitation, destruction, torture, mistreatment, the sadistic delight in pain, racism, violation, money, corruption and abuse are examples of what is power. The same power that's disguised as the absolute truth, as religion, as democracy, as other authoritarian systems, which continue their existence and the government of our lives.

Power is an enemy of solidarity and freedom, that is why it is our enemy. An enemy that we need to fight until it has disappeared, because it keeps us all like prisoners and it is destroying humanity as well as our planet.

Prisons are the power's camps of concentration, exploitation and extermination. They are power's most cruel spaces, where torture, mistreatments and assassinations are their basic principles.

Prisons are the worst environment for the fight against power. The main fight of prisoners is the fight for the respect of human dignity. In prison, they destroy you as a person and they even get away from you any lust for living.

Fighting inside prison is very difficult, but I believe that it is important to fight in those spaces. Fighting inside prison gives you strength to continue living, or at least to die fighting power and defending solidarity and freedom.

That is why I am against prisons, because I am against power.

SOLIDARITY AND FREEDOM FOR ALL THE PRISONERS OF THE WORLD!

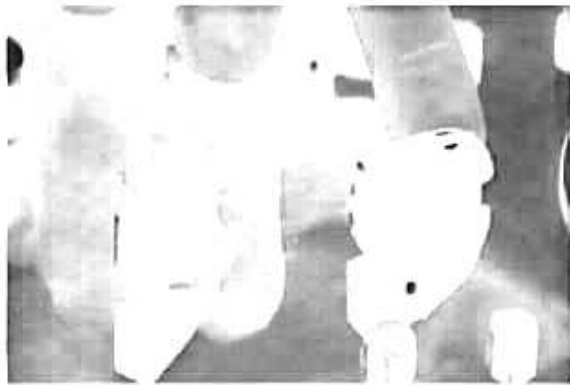
DOWN WITH ALL PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WALLS!

A revolutionary hug

Laudelino Iglesias Martinex

Ex-prisoner of the F.I.E.S isolation units in Spain

REPLICATE ORGANISE RESIST



Welcome to the 3rd issue of 325, an occasional zine of incendiary images & text. Since the last issue we've had a few different problems with the State, and added to the increase in social struggle across Europe, this has meant this issue has come out much later than expected. Most of the information regarding ongoing prisoner and legal situations changes quickly, check out the websites mentioned within our pages for updates and recent developments. If you want to help us out, rob a bank and send us the swag. Riotous thanks to all our contributors, distributors and co-conspirators across the world.

Editorial, June 2006



In a world of dwindling energy resources, ecological collapse and growing total entrenchment of poverty and exploitation, global resistance to capitalism is a reality.

Economic, political and environmental changes are sparking uncontrollable moments of popular revolt. The loss of social cohesion and advanced state of climate chaos means it looks like the best option is to examine with determination what actions we can take, and how to act our dreams in a world where all factors are in transformation.

As people fight for a better life amongst the adjustments of global power, points of breakdown are occurring. The infrastructures of finance and war are unstable, and the bloody role of State and Capital is most acutely revealed in these times of crisis, ruthlessly protecting private interest and hierarchy. We need to be conscious of these moments of collaboration and participation, which are day-to-day occurrences in the 21st century.

As the governments bring forces to bear against the growing international movements of participation and solidarity, our attempts to build a successful anti-market and anti-system critique and practice, alongside the suppression of traditional forms of dissent, assembly and expression, means that many previous leftist methods of struggle and organisation are redundant, along with the world that is rapidly aging with them.

The reformist forces of Capital, as well as the leftist variants, seek to prevent the radical transformation of society. These counterpoints of power and recuperation are failing to prevent, in all areas of society, a general disdain and hatred for hierarchy of all kinds.

The desperate situation of ongoing environmental collapse means there is a direct necessity for attacks on the institutions and conduits of finance and industry, this necessity has never been so vital and urgent. In the relentless operations of the State against the social movements and the Earth, we can see the exposure of its essentially militaristic anti-life qualities; people, animals and all material are the economic components of a social-machine which coerces profit for the already rich.

As State terror increases across the world, as anarchists & anti-capitalists, we need to intensify our activities and our critique immediately. We need to accelerate the spread of information amongst anti-state, anti-capitalist groups and the base population, by letting our visible direct action act as a vehicle of communication and method open to all. At the same time, we must broaden the information gap between the State and ourselves, and that means, of the forms of struggle we prefer; Informal, face-to-face communication, auto-organised structure and direction

appears to us, to be the most effective.

We begin with specific situations of existing tension and struggle, within the conditions of our own rebellion, and act with commitment. This revolt which is more difficult to control, and is beyond the reach of the familiar bodies of suppression and mediation, uses the tools of decentralisation and autonomy, acting within the scope of the larger struggle.

Despite the growing technological control of the State, in these precious few years before automated surveillance by machines is a widespread reality, people are fighting back; taking themselves into conflict with the increasingly unstable dominant powers, acting immediately for the world they want right now. Capitalism and its murderous policy of self-preservation will never tolerate any threat to its power, but we have to overcome seizure with determination and act against the prisons, courthouses, and bodies of finance and privilege.

"Every act of police brutality, every death in detention, every raid and blow only increases our compulsion to arm ourselves for revenge."

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International Resistance News



Here we present some news of resistance and rebellion from the months November '05 to June '06.

June 6, Brasilia, Brazil - Around 300 protestors broke their way into parliament demanding the redistribution of land. They broke open the doors with stones, sticks and a small Fiat car was used as a battering ram. The attack was broadcast live on television. Hundreds of demonstrators were detained. The president condemned the action and accused demonstrators of "committing a serious act of vandalism against the parliament."

June 2, Cuneo, Italy - At night, 2 bombs exploded within 15 minutes of each other, in front of a Carabinieri (Military police) headquarters and college. The bombs were timed to cause possible casualties to police responding to the scene. The anarchist group "20 July Brigade" (date of the murder of Carlo Giuliani) claimed responsibility. No one was injured.

May 29, Athens, Greece - A powerful bomb was placed under a car 200 metres from the house of Greek Minister of Culture, George Voulgarakis. It caused damages but no fatalities when it exploded. Voulgarakis is despised by the anarchists and the left, for cooperating with British secret agents in orchestrating a wave of abductions, torture and interrogations against immigrants in the wake of the 7 July London bombs. He is also linked to a wiretapping scandal which has rocked Greece. The group 'Revolutionary Struggle' claimed the bomb, declaring "We aimed to kill him."



May 28, Athens, Greece - Anarchists use Molotov cocktails to destroy a Greek National Bank.

May 29, Seine-Saint-Denis, France - Around a 100 youths fought with police and set fire to cars and dumpsters, in a suburb of Paris in the north of the capital. There were also incidents in the neighbouring area of Clichy-Sous-Bois, where last year's riots began after two boys died while they were fleeing police. We know the fire will burn again!

May 28, Titnore Woods, UK - At dawn people occupied some endangered woodland to defend it from destruction, in a bid to halt a massive house building and road widening operation. The squatters remain on site, vowing to defend the woods.

May 21, Bern, Switzerland - Incendiary attacks against police headquarters at 11.40 pm in several locations. No police were hurt and the damage was contained. No-one was arrested and there are no leads at present. The centre accommodates the police command and the regional police barracks.

May 18, Barcelona, Spain - German Cultural Institute attacked in solidarity with Aachen 4. A fire bomb was used to damage the 'Goethe' institute, it was placed at the front door of the building and detonated. "Attack to the Goethe institute of Barcelona, dawn of Tuesday 18 we have placed

an incendiary device to the front of the Goethe institute in calle Manso of Barcelona. This action is in solidarity with the anarchist companions Gabriel, Jose and Bart who are in Germany.
[LIBERTAD PARA TODXS
LXS PRESXS!,
[CARCELES
DEMOLICION!, [Y VIVA LA
ANARQUIA!"

May 17, Paris, France

- Approximately 50 prisoners without papers in the detention centre on the street Dunois (Paris) put themselves in hunger strike. They wanted to thus protest against their conditions of retention and the repressive ultra

context which leads to massive arrests of without papers. We point out that the conditions of this centre were denounced for the human rights abuses: arbitrary abuse, overpopulation, insalubrity, violences...

May 8, Athens, Greece - Riots erupted during the European Social Forum march in Athens. For a period of three hours following a 2km route, 2500 anarchists in small groups of 4-500 attacked banks, large department stores, police cars, government buildings, the police headquarters, riot police, riot police buses as well as "Z-team" policemen (motorcycle team). They attacked the US embassy, the Hilton hotel, the Italian embassy, and the riot police guarding the house of parliament. 20 people were arrested 17 of them are charged with multiple felony charges.

May 6, Burgos, Spain - Sabotage in solidarity with Ruben & Ignasi and all prisoners in Spain. 7 'Caixa Sabadell' Banks and their ATMS were destroyed. "Stones against glass and sulfuric acid against the automatic tellers have been the method used this time in order to translate the anger from the words to the facts, in order to transmit to a luminosity and concise message: 'There will be no peace'. The only language that the managers of the terror and the repression are able to understand is one of stones and benzine, the libertarian direct action... An easy language, that anyone who has blood in their veins can do. A language that will always be available for us to use... Salud y anarquia"

May 1, Helsinki, Finland - Riots broke out downtown: "...Alltogether tens of windows were broken, including Ministry of Defense; Confederation of Finnish Industries EK; logging giant UPM-Kymmene; Halonen, a clothing store involved in fur-industry and fast food joint Carrols. A group of yuppies having their lunch in a super-elitist restaurant got their share of class hatred when the window next to which they were sitting was smashed. Even thou there is a lot to criticise in the politics of the precarity/EuroMayDay-crew, we don't mind parades like this. Spontaneous destruction of the property of capital, state and animal abusers by a large group is something we have experienced in Finland not nearly enough" - Insurrectionary Anarchists of Southern Finland

April 15, Parma, Italy - Forza Italia offices smashed up and daubed with red paint and

anarchist slogans. The fascists described the actions as 'methods which do not scare us'.

April 11, Barcelona, Spain

- Letter bomb sent to a Barcelona Judge claimed by the anarchist 'Brigadas de la Colera'. The device was found in a mail room at 9am and deactivated without incident. The sender was written as 'Francisco Ortiz' the name of an anarchist militant who died in the jail of Badajoz 3 years ago. The device was similar to another explosive device that was sent to the offices of the C.I.R.E, an institution responsible for prison labour and affairs, and there was another device sent to the Subdireccion General of the Policia Autonómica of Barcelona. It was of handcraft fabrication, composed from one small amount of explosive, probably dynamite, and had some cables and one battery. "...The package was addressed to the Judge Juan Antonio Ramirez Suner, for his special zeal in persecuting the anarchical and antiauthoritarian dissidence. We remember that Mr. Ramirez Suner has maintained the arrests for 2 months, in 2004, of 4 boys from Hospitalet, has sent in jail various militant anarchists after a manifestation in support of the Italian comrades in the summer of 2005, and now he has made the arrest of Ruben and Ignasi, of which one continuously remains within. We're displaced that the package didn't reach its destination, we'll improve and we encourage all the rebellious ones that they have something in their veins to face the dominion. You'll join us in the equipment of the rage. You will never take us. We are the seated man or woman next to you, with the rage in the mind and a gun in the pocket ' B.C. "

April 15, Haslar, UK - More than 120 detainees in Haslar detention centre, Protsmoth, have gone on hunger strike in protest against arbitrary detention and in solidarity with the detainees in Colnbrook also on hunger strike. In protest at their inhumane treatment by security guards during a No Borders demonstration on Saturday 8th April, over 150 detainees in Colnbrook detention centre went on hunger strike.

April 10, Treviso, Italy - An explosive device which failed to detonate was found next to Army barracks in Treviso. In a claim left at the site by 'Libertarian Group', they denounced the electoral campaign of Italy, the Italian prison system and the Army. Searches of known dissidents in the area by a joint police and army team were conducted, but these have been fruitless.

April 1, Athens, Greece - Anarchists fought police, set bins on fire and attacked a bank and an office of the Hellenic Telecommunications Organization (OTE). A post on Athens Indymedia claimed that these actions



were carried out in response to the deaths of the three prisoners at Korydallos. One person was arrested in the clashes and faces several serious criminal charges. She is facing charges for complicity in explosion, construction and possession of explosives, offending a national symbol, resisting arrest and damages to

property. The young woman is being remanded in custody. At the same time around 50 people got on top of the University of Economics and started throwing rocks and Molotov cocktails.

March 27, Athens, Greece - Bomb against bank claimed by anarchists. The explosion caused damages to the building but no victims. Half hour before the explosion a caller had telephoned a newspaper to announce the outbreak. A square of policemen formed itself around the place and isolated the zone.

March 19, Solomon Islands, South West Pacific - Riots broke out injuring several Australian and New Zealand cops, cars and buildings were set on fire after a corrupt politician was elected. Angry crowds threw stones and other projectiles at the parliament building, in a protest against the election and the Australian domination of the region.

March 16, Paris, France - Anti-CPE protesters clashed with police at the end of a march by several thousand university and high school students in Paris and later outside the Sorbonne university. A kiosk was set ablaze, several shop windows were smashed and cars were set on fire. Police used a water cannon and tear gas against the angry young people who are protesting a proposed labour law, CPE, which would have made it easier to fire workers under 26. The law was amended after substantial popular rebellion.

March 14, San Vicente, Argentina - 3,000 farmers set fire to the city hall of San Vicente and attacked the police station in the northeastern Argentine town during protests that left at least 32 people, most of them police officers, injured. The attack on city hall, which was reduced to rubble, could not be prevented by about 100 police officers in riot gear who fired tear gas and rubber bullets at the protesters but could not stop them. The 400 farmers are demanding the distribution of funds for growers affected by the drought in the region. The farmers accuse corrupt

city officials of having spent the relief money.

March 11, Milan, Italy - 300 anti-fascists set fire to cars and a building in Milan's shopping district after police tried to disperse their demonstration against a fascist pre-election rally. A nail bomb injured 9 pigs and at least 45 people were detained. 25 people remain detained on the charge 'devastation and pillage'. The fascist rally that sparked the two-hour pitched battle was led by the Tricolour Flame, a right-wing extreme group.

March 11 Vancouver, BC- To mark the International Day Against Police Brutality, about 50 people marched down Hastings Street from Victory Square to the cop shop on Main Street. An unmarked police vehicle was pelted with many eggs and a journalist was attacked as well. The Main Street police station was hit with a bunch of paint-bombs and a bottle was thrown at the court building next to the police station.

March 11 Salem, OR, USA- Three newly-constructed luxury homes were vandalized with pro-environmental slogans.

March 8, Barcelona, Spain - Attack with fire against a branch of the Caixa bank on plaza Libertad, in the barri of Gracia. "This action has been done in memory of the dead companion Joelle Aubron after she spent 17 years in prison. We want also want to remember our companions stopped in September 2003 who will be processed shortly, therefore like Sergio L.D., the boys of Hospitalet and Ruban and Ignasi in preventive prison from 9 February... We will succeed, those that make it happen, falls who falls we continue. Viva la anarquia."



March 7, France - Day of action during the widespread protests against the CPE youth employment plan. Students picketed entrances at several of the country's more than 80 universities. The Sorbonne University was occupied for 3 days, before CRS riot police stormed the building and evicted the students. An university administrator said the protesters wanted to turn the university into "a battlefield", not only against the jobs measure "but also against all of the social problems" that France is facing. In Tours, 200km southwest of Paris, several hundred students moved onto tracks at the railway station, stopping trains for three hours. Many workers also went on strike



all over France to protest, and rioting broke out.

March 9, Brazil - 2000 peasants from the international 'Via Campesina' farm workers group destroyed over a million saplings, and wrecked a genetic modification laboratory, in an area 1200km south of Sao Paulo. 15 years' worth of genetic research was ruined, losses amounting to millions of dollars were caused. The raid was timed to coincide with International Women's Day, the majority of the peasants who took part in the sabotage were women.

March 6, Ogoni Delta, Nigeria - Rebels wrecked a large Shell Oil pipeline. Several oil flow stations and pipelines have been blown up by the militants, and it is not clear how long it will take the company to restore production. The armed militants are fighting for control of the delta's oil resources and a restoration of the ruined environment. They have taken a handful of Shell Oil workers hostage and have been able to repel Nigerian army attacks.

March 6 Seoul, South Korea - Some 1,100 riot police clashed violently with people occupying land outside the U.S. Army's Camp Humphreys. Riot police were on hand as about 60 officials served a mandatory eviction notice. The government took control of about 2,000 acres of farmland outside Camp Humphreys in 2005 so the U.S. military eventually could transform the post into its main installation in South Korea. Under an agreement between the U.S. and South



Korea, the base will triple in size by 2008.

March 3, Palestine - Violent confrontations erupted between Israeli security forces and people against the construction of the security fence near the towns of Beit Sira and Abud. Two Border Policemen were lightly wounded when they were pelted with rocks. Four others were wounded as well.

March 3, Tuscany, Italy - An ATM attacked with fire, the action is claimed by anarchists.

March 1st, Zurich, Switzerland - A French Diplomatic car torched in memory of Joelle Aubron. "...For the Captive prisoners of Action Directe, the evening of 1 March 2006 we have burnt a diplomatic car of the French Agency for the International Investments to Zurich: Solidarity to Ibrahim Abdallah and the prisoners of Action Directe. Honor to the comrade Joelle Aubron who is dead."

February 27, Leicester, England - Arson at a Swann Systems warehouse. The smoke and fire caused extensive damage in the tens of thousands of pounds to most of the factory's stock. Swann Systems UK manufactures surveillance hardware and information technology including CCTV systems. Fire blaze!

February 25, Maroussi, Greece - Bomb attack against the Bnp Paribas bank, causing structural damage to the front of the building and cars parked outside.

February 24, Barcelona, Spain - 14 cash points were sealed in the neighborhood of Gracia in solidarity with Ruben and Ignasi, imprisoned anarchists of Barcelona (the '9th Feb' prisoners) "We want to make clear that the arrests of these two comrades isn't an isolated thing, since it's something related to the global (temporary as well as geographically) repressive momentum. All of our support goes to the rest of imprisoned anarchists, the young guys from Hospitalet and Sergio L.D. which are facing trials next week. Zigor, Laura, Diego and Juanra, the 'three of Gracia', etc.. to all people repressed for their daily struggles. Until we're all free. A thousand fists, a unique voice."

February 24, Madrid, Spain - In solidarity with Ruben and Ignasi, the Barcelona 6, and the Aachen 4, 3 bank offices were attacked in Alcobendas. Their locks sealed, as well as their cash points, their windows

smashed and graffitied. "For every prisoner, an answer, for every answer, a smile!"

February 24, Madrid, Spain - Estate agency 'Tecnocasa' and the BBVA bank attacked in solidarity with Ruben & Ignasi. "A kick in the face to all those that say that 'Madrid is dead and nobody does nothing'. Much love!"

February 24, Lugo, Galicia, Spain - Two Catalan banks, a Banco Sabadell and a LaCaixa, were attacked with two Molotov-cocktails. "Not every aggression, kidnapping or murder rests unpunished. We know you're used to it, that you feel rulers of the world in your power and misery. You keep the no-life, you're terrorists that spread fear and destruction all over the world, making business with people's existence to maintain this brutal domination system. You're enemies of the world that attack people and their dreams. So we're going to attack your properties in answer to that, we're going to take your benefits off, destroying them, so you can play no more with them."

February 24, Guadalajara - Demonstration in support of anarchist prisoners. A massive police force surrounds the demonstration. Slogans were shouted such as 'freedom for anarchists prisoners' 'Death to the State, viva la anarquia' 'Down with the prison walls' People were let out the demonstration in small groups of three. A secret police officer who was inside the demonstration arrested one person.

February 23, Barcelona, Spain - A BBVA bank office was attacked in the neighborhood of Clot, in solidarity with the anarchist prisoners in Spain, Italy and Germany, the comrades of September 2003 (Barcelona 6) and Ruben and Ignasi.



if only i could turn



my tears into rage

February 22, Lisbon, Portugal -

Spanish Institute 'Cervantes' attacked with a firebomb in solidarity with anarchist prisoners in Spain and Italy. "To the dawn of Wednesday, 22 February 2006, we have given one full benzine bottle to the Cervantes Institute, calle de Saint Marta, Lisbon... We have not made it in order to scald the cold night, but in order to remember that your culture lies in the cells of 'democracy'.. we will not rest while you torture our family! For the freedom of those who have been arrested in last the 2 weeks in Barcelona (Ruben & Ignasi). And it is at the same time our opinion on the 'Cervantes' process in Italy: FIRE TO THE CULTURE OF THE REPRESSION!"

February 21, Napo Province, Ecuador -

Hundreds of people stormed the Sardina pumping station, 55 miles east of Quito, forcing the closure of the OCP pipeline. They are demanding the release of millions of dollars by the government to the surrounding communities of the impoverished Napo region. Some 24 pipeline workers were kidnapped but later managed to slip away while soldiers tried to negotiate with the people barricading themselves inside the station. Since protests began on Monday at least five people have been wounded, including two policemen, after the insurgents tossed rocks and dynamite at military forces who responded with gunfire and tear gas. In an attempt to restrict further disruptions, authorities have declared a state of emergency in Napo, detaining several people they claim are leaders. Government officials were also pushing for an end to the general strike in the province in hopes of settling the conflict with negotiation. Also, another pumping station owned by Petroecuador, the state oil company, was damaged, forcing it to shut its main pipeline and suspend exports for several hours.

February 20, Tucson, Arizona, USA -

Five homes under construction were destroyed by fire. Authorities suspect the fires were intentionally set. The homes are part of a fast-growing area in Tucson, about 20 miles south of the city's downtown. The homes were in Rancho Sahuarita, a massive development that has been a primary area of recent construction projects. Damage is estimated at 100-thousand dollars for each home.

February 20, Catalunya, Spain -

An explosive was detonated on a satellite signal antenna close to the city of Molins de Rei, which destroyed it. This action was made in solidarity with Ruben and Ignasi.

February 20, Nantes, France -

A group of several dozen people is currently occupying the trees which are on the future site of the E.P.M. (a prison for minors) d'Orvault, near the city of Nantes (France), in an attempt to stop the construction.

February 18, Athens, Greece -

Five banks in central Athens and the suburbs of Argyroupolis, Halandri, Peristeri and Nea Smyrni were damaged by homemade devices made with cooking gas canisters. The attacks appear to be carefully coordinated. The explosions occurred at branches of National Bank, Bank of Cyprus, Emporiki Bank and American Bank of Albania, damaging ATM machines, windows and sparking fires.

February 16-17, Berlin, Germany -

Cars set on fire at a subsidiary of French car maker Renault and graffiti

attack on a French cultural centre. German Action Directe sympathisers claimed responsibility for the attacks on French targets in Berlin, in solidarity with AD prisoners, in a letter to the press. "Renault is an inescapable element in France's industrial military structure," the group wrote in it's communique, adding that the defaced cultural centre represented the French state as a "cultural and political" institution. The German group said the action was carried out in "anti-imperialist and communist" solidarity for the liberation of AD prisoners.

February 17, Shropshire, Wales, UK -

Ten thousand pounds of damage was caused to cars at a Shropshire Royal Air Force base after unknown persons set them on fire. There have been up to eight arson attacks at the RAF base at Cosford during the past few months. One of these fires was set near a gas main though it did not explode. Two months ago three other vehicles were attacked.

February 8, Viareggio, Italy -

ATM set on fire in solidarity with the imprisoned anarchists of Lecce, and all detained immigrants everywhere.

February 8, Guadalcanal Plains, Solomon Islands -

The newly established head office of Guadalcanal Plantation Palm Oil was burnt to the ground. The office was established at the request of a palm oil company from Papua New Guinea and local landowners.

February 8, Maranhao State, Brazil -

Indians from the Guajajara tribe in the northeastern state of Maranhao took hostage four workers from the world's leading iron ore miner to press demands for better public health care. This came after they blocked the Carajas to Sao Luis railway earlier that day. The line carries iron ore, manganese, pig iron, soybeans and 1,000 passengers daily to the port of Ponta da Madeira. Last November, Indians invaded a town near the important Carajas iron ore mines threatening to paralyze production, and in early December they blocked an iron ore export railway line in central Minas Gerais.

February 7, Quito, Ecuador -

Ecuador's state oil company Petroecuador stopped pumping oil through the Trans-Ecuadorean pipeline after hundreds of people occupied a pumping station demanding the company be kicked out of the country as well as an end to free trade agreements. The company said it will keep this 380,000 barrels-per-day pipeline shut until the occupation ends.

February 7, Las Heras, Argentina -

Two hundred oil workers armed with sticks, fire bombs and guns broke into a police station, killing an officer and injuring 14 others in an attempt to free a union leader. Five policemen were shot with bullets. Over the



Anti-Monarchy Riots, Nepal

past two weeks they have put up roadblocks in demand for higher wages.

February 18, Ogoni Delta, Nigeria -

Rebels kidnapped 9 foreign workers from a Shell Oil subcontractor after a brief gun battle with Nigerian security forces. They were freed later in the month.

February 5, Val di Susa, Italy - The Olympic torch relay met again with resistance in the Susa valley. A police car was kicked by demonstrators, who tried to put out the flame by throwing a banner on it. Many people in the Susa valley have been attacking plans to build a high-speed rail link between Turin and Lyon, France.

February 4, Chanteloup-les-Vingnes, France - Sixty youths armed with pick-handles attacked a police station and steered a blazing car into its courtyard in this western Paris suburb. They were reacting to the police killing a man from Chanteloup during a robbery in Paris last week. Firemen who came to the station to put out the blazing car were pelted with stones. Eventually, more police arrived and three youths were arrested.

February 3, Athens, Greece - Anarchists use molotov cocktails to burn down a branch of the Greek National Bank.



Anarchists take the Winter Olympic torch Val di Susa, Italy

February 3, Dongshigu, China - Policemen beat and arrested a man who helped villagers file a lawsuit accusing local officials of forcing them to undergo abortions or sterilization. Four hundred villagers reacted by overturning three government cars and fighting hired thugs.

February 2, Dege, Tibet - An animal slaughter house was burnt down by Tibetan nomads. Six people who were suspects were jailed and tortured. One of the six was released after he lost both his eyes after beatings by Chinese prison officials. In the beginning, more than 160 Tibetans were detained after hundreds of people stormed and set fire to the Chinese-owned slaughterhouse. They freed all the animals contained there.

January 30, Osaka, Japan - Homeless people and their supporters resisted an eviction of their self-organised camp in Utsubo Park.

January 30, Rustavi, Georgia - Prisoners tried to stage a riot after the police unit of the Penitentiary Department of the Justice Ministry, started carrying out a search in the prison cells. One prisoner and one guard were wounded.

January 28, Osaka, Japan - Self-Organised homeless people and their supporters invaded the City Hall and staged a brief skirmish with police and officials, demonstrating against a wave of repressive evictions.

January 27, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam - Workers in the city's southern industrial parks and export processing zones have been engaging in spontaneous, illegal strikes without authorization from trade unions. The government has been trying hard to attract foreign investment by offering a cheap and secure labor environment. But increasing inflation and a rise in the cost of living has caused tens of thousands of workers to walk off the job over the past month. The strikes are reported to be spreading quickly.

January 27, Zaabdam, Holland - 40 activists of the action group 'Migrants Welcome' occupy with lock-ons two prison boats being built in Zaandam. The boats are intended for locking up 'illegal migrants' and asylum seekers. The floating prisons, each with 150 two person cels, are built for the Ministry of Justice and the

Rijksgebouwendienst by Ursem Bouwsystemen Ltd.

January 24, Brasilia, Brazil - Six people died in a prison riot in northwestern Brazil and inmates took the penitentiary's director and head of security hostage. The riot in the Agenor Martins de Carvalho prison in the state of Rondonia, which borders Bolivia, started on Monday evening after an armed breakout attempt from the prison's infirmary. One guard and two inmates were killed in a shootout. Anti-riot police units have circled the prison to prevent escape attempts but said storming the prison was out of the question due to the hostage situation.

January 24, Athens, Greece - An anarchist group, 'Anti-State Justice', claimed responsibility for two homemade devices exploding at one of the ruling New Democracy Party's branch offices and at a post office. This was the group's third attack this year. In a phone call to the media they stated that these most recent bombings were in solidarity with three anarchists in jail accused of attacking policemen and stealing their equipment and in support of suspected anarchists involved in a bank robbery in Athens last week.

January 23, Turin, Italy - Workers from Italy's state airline Alitalia are on wildcat strike after their union called off an official 24-hour strike. Hundreds of cancellations of national and international flights have already been made. Workers are against the company's restructuring plan.

January 23, Turin, Italy - A small number of anarchists manage to snatch the Winter Olympic torch from relay runners, at the start of the proceedings. They were arrested, one of them, Massimo had this to say to the court:
 "Monday, in the evening, we were located between the patrols, agents, and carriers of the torch, with the purpose of preventing the passage of the Olympic flame and unmasking in this way its true nature, a point which I will return to. We had a megaphone, flyers, one banner, and flags against the TAV (high speed rail being built in the area). As was foreseeable, the agents responded by trying to push us away. In that moment of confusion, a companion made the spontaneous, athletic, and audacious gesture of seizing the torch and running. There was no violence. I, who until that moment was speaking through a megaphone, took part when I saw that the agents were going after three companions. Then I was arrested. This gesture has been described as 'dishonorable' and 'unqualifiable'. Unqualifiable for me is the hypocrisy that defines these Olympic Games as a peace event and as a brotherhood between peoples. In ancient Greece, during the Olympic games the wars were suspended. Now, not only is the Italian government, in the name of the Italian people, at war in

Iraq and Afghanistan, but one of sponsors of the Olympic Games is the Finmeccanica company, one of the great world-wide tycoons of the production of weapons. But that is not all. For these games they have been building, spending million of euros, gigantic structures of devastating environmental impact. And as far as the talk about the 'Olympic spirit', go ask the Chinese workers about their jobs in the construction yards of the Susa Valley, at two thousand meters, for five euros a day. Or ask the inhabitants of the valley who defend their territory from progress, from money and from the profits that would be made from the destruction of the valley with the project of the high speed train. I vindicate the action of Monday with head held high."

January 23, Jayapura, West Papua -

Two hundred people stormed the parliament building in this capital city. They pushed past police guarding the building, shouting "Indonesian troops get out of West Papua!" Two policemen were injured in the melee. Security forces fired on a group of protesters outside a police station in Paniai in the central Highlands of Papua last week, killing one.

January 20, Zurich, Switzerland -

A bomb went off at the home of a management consultant and a building belonging to a technology company. The action was linked to opposition to the upcoming World Economic Forum set to begin in Davos next week. Demonstrations took place in cities all across Switzerland.

January 20, Quito, Ecuador -

Students destroyed property and attacked police with sticks, stones and homemade bombs. The students were protesting against the proposed Free Trade Agreement of the Americas, and also wanted the government to cancel its contract with the Occidental Petroleum Corporation. About 100 students were detained.

January 19, Athens, Greece -

Revolutionary Liberation Action claimed responsibility for three explosions across the city, with police suspecting a link to a recent bank robbery that left three people injured and one of the robbers in custody. The bombings occurred at a branch of the National Bank in central Athens, a district office of the ruling New Democracy party in Zografou and under a municipal car in Nea Ionia, northern Athens. Before the blasts, anarchists had sprayed slogans reading: "Banks are the true robbers" outside the bank that had been targeted in a robbery a few days before. No one was injured in the attacks, though they caused extensive damage.

January 18, Santiago, Chile -

Bomb explodes at the National Intelligence Agency. The group Leon Czołgosz Autonomous and Destructive Forces claimed the action and wrote in a statement, "...The elections are a cycle of ignorance; they only perpetuate the system of the rich. To combat them, we do



not register, nor do we vote. With this action, we greet the pseudo-socialist president and her refuge of salary criminals. Against them, we confront them. Our attack will be incessant and every time more violent."

January 17, Strasbourg, France -

Thousands of dock workers hurled rocks, logs and metal fences at the European Parliament building. They smashed windows and attacked riot cops as they protested plans for further liberalisation of port services across the European Union. Meanwhile, strikes, pickets and go-slows caused havoc to cargo handling at several EU ports. Police fought pitched battles, charging the demonstrators and using water cannons and tear gas, trying and failing to keep them away from the EU legislature building. Earlier in the day, dockers in yellow vests set off smoke bombs and waved banners saying "Victory to the dockers" during a defiant march through the city center. Accompanied by marching bands, protesters set cars on fire. Police fired pepper gas into the crowds and the port workers returned fire with flares, canisters, glasses and stones. At least a dozen of the body armour clad robo-cops suffered injuries. Over 6,000 workers from all major European ports, including Liverpool, Rotterdam, Antwerp, and Hamburg. Apparently people also came from as far as Australia and the United States to take part in the massive protests organized by several trade unions. While this was going on, workers closed down cargo handling in Antwerp, Belgium Europe's second biggest port and also in Portugal, Germany and Denmark and Sweden. Victory was at hand when the European Parliament rejected the proposed plans to liberalize cargo handling at EU seaports.

January 15, Bayelsa State, Nigeria -

Twenty people, including 13 soldiers, were feared killed as suspected militant youths blew up the Shell Petroleum Development Company's Benisede platform using dynamite, leading to a fire that consumed the boat house and platform. In the previous week four of the company's expatriate staff were kidnapped and taken hostage aboard an oil vessel off the Atlantic Ocean. Recent violence and sabotage in Nigeria has cut that nation's crude oil production by 10 percent. A unit of the Royal Dutch Shell Group pulled hundreds of workers from the Benisede and neighbouring flowstations (Opukushi, Ogbotobo and Tunu) after continued kidnappings and sabotage resulted in a loss of about 220,000 barrels per day of oil production.

January 9, Cagliari, Italy -

In the night a bomb exploded at the Carabinieri station of Vallemorsa in the province of Cagliari. The building was damaged, but did not catch fire.

January 7, Edingburgh, Scotland -

A closed-circuit television surveillance van monitoring the area around a government housing complex in the Pilton area was attacked by a group of youths. They smashed the windows and threw a molotov cocktail at it while two city employees were inside. Two 15 year-olds were arrested in connection with the fire-bomb attack.

January 6, Athens, Greece -

A petrol bomb was thrown at a branch office of the ruling New Democracy party in Exarchia in central Athens, a few blocks away from the local Police Department, causing minor damage. An hour later, a bomb made of gas canisters went off outside a branch of Aspis Bank in the city center, damaging the front entrance and the ATM. Responsibility has been claimed by a group called "Insurrection Flame" in solidarity with three jailed anarchists accused under the anti-terrorist law for an attack against the Greek

QUE LA PEUR CHANGE DE CAMP



riot police and the taking of their riot gear.

January 5, Hong Kong, China - 12 of the 14 WTO Political Prisoners launched an indefinite hunger strike to highlight the injustice of their detention and the free trade policies implemented by the WTO.

January 4, Istanbul, Turkey - Anarchists destroyed a bank ATM, in an attack against money and civilisation.

January 3, Petroupolis, Greece - Anarchists claimed responsibility for placing a firebomb under the car of a Finnish diplomat's car in the city. The bomb exploded at 3am under the vehicle. The car was destroyed and four others parked nearby were damaged. This was one of two co-ordinated attacks on this evening.

January 3, Athens, Greece - Three makeshift bombs went off targeting cars and the New Democracy Party's offices in three different Athenian neighbourhoods. The group "Antikratici Dikeosini" (Anti-State justice) claimed responsibility for the attacks, which were in support of anarchists Kalaitzidis, Aspiotis and Karasaidis, who are held in prison charged with arson and other offences.

2005

December 31, Paris, France - Members of the unemployed people associations and entertainment workers overpowered police officers to enter 'Le Bon Marche' shopping center where they held a demonstration called "the unemployed people's New Year's Eve supper."

December 31, Madrid, Spain - The ALF liberated 28 beagles from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the Independent University of Madrid. The action was undertaken in memory of ELF prisoner Bill Rodgers who was found dead in his jail cell in Flagstaff, Arizona on December 22, 2005.

December 31, Granada, Spain - An explosive device blew up in the sales lot of a FIAT car dealership. The attack was undertaken in solidarity with Italian comrades being prosecuted in the "Operation Cervantes" case. A communique also claimed solidarity with anarchist prisoners in Italy, Spain, Greece and Germany.

December 30, Tehran, Iran - Hundreds of workers from the Miral Glass factory protested 10 months unpaid wages by staging a demon-

stration at the company's factory site and setting automobile tires on fire, closing down the Tehran-Saveh road near Tehran.

December 30, Trikala, Greece - Two Greek policemen shot dead with their own weapons during an escape. Two prisoners had requested a toilet stop, but then seized the officers' weapons and opened fire on them. A massive search for the prisoners, involving helicopters and special police forces, was launched following the attack, but they were not found.

December 30, Gualeguaychu, Argentina - Hundreds of protesters angry over Uruguay's plans to build two major paper mills on the river it shares with Argentina blocked three international bridges Friday. The protesters blocked bridges in Gualeguaychu, not far from the sites of the proposed plants, as well in Colon and Concordia. The bridges are heavily traveled routes for vacationers heading to Uruguay's Atlantic beaches in the southern hemisphere summer, and a key trade corridor for Argentina, Uruguay and nearby Brazil.

December 26, Molland, England - In a second attack on the same meat farm, the ALF liberated 100 wild boar by cutting down 500 meters of the farm's fence.

December 25, Tehran, Iran - Tehran's bus workers went on strike in response to the arrest last week of a dozen members of the Union of Workers of Tehran and Suburbs Bus Company in armed police raids on their homes. Further arrests were made during the strike itself. Around 4,000 bus drivers spent the night at the depot in Tehran's transport Region 6 refusing to run bus lines.

December 25, Queluz, Portugal - Cars and dumpsters set on fire by rioting youths angry about social exclusion and police control.

December 23, Athens, Greece - A bomb went off at the Ministry of Development and Commerce, hours before Greece's parliament passed the budget for the upcoming year. The bombing, reported to be triggered by an alarm clock, was claimed by the group Revolutionary Struggle. It was the second bomb attack on a government building in six months. In June the same group bombed the Labour Ministry in the heart of the city.

December 22, Barcelona, Spain - Anarchists attacked a fur store with incendiary devices causing damage to the door. The action was claimed in solidarity with prisoners.

December 19, Barcelona, Spain - Centre d'Iniciatives to per la Reinsercio (C.I.R.E) attacked with firebomb in solidarity with Italian anarchists and all prisoners everywhere. (C.I.R.E is an institute responsible for forced prison labour in connection with private companies)

December 17, Setubal, Portugal - On Monday night at three in the morning, people attacked the police station in the Bela Vista neighborhood in the city of Setubal. In the attack, molotov cocktails were thrown at the windows of the station and at squad cars parked outside.

December 16, Brockley, England - Animal Liberation Front cut out huge stretches of fencing at Manor Farm, which breeds and kills deer to produce venison. Some 80 to 100 deer were given the chance to run free.

December 16, Athens, Greece - Anarchists in Athens staged five arson attacks in two and a half hours. An automobile belonging to the Church of Greece was among the targets destroyed. 15 cars were burned at three Italian automobile dealerships in Athens. They also attacked a pair of police officers and disarmed them, taking their pistols. Acting on a tip, police raided an apartment, but it had been vacated prior to their arrival. They did recover a police officer's service revolver. At the same time, anarchists in Thessaloniki bombed two Eurobank branches with gas canister devices.



December 13, Hong Kong, China - For a second day, thousands of South Korean farmers clashed with police outside the harborfront conference center. Protesters punched, kicked and tried to break through a police line, and security forces fought back with pepper spray, clubs and shields. The farmers, dressed in matching red vests and chanting, "Down, down WTO," struck police with bamboo sticks and tried to ram through a police road block.

December 12, Athens, Greece

- A homemade explosive device detonated in the middle of Syntagma Square, in front of the Economy and Finance Ministry in the center of Athens. Three people were injured by flying shrapnel and extensive damage was caused in the square. The organisation 'Revolutionary Struggle' claimed responsibility for the attack, stating that it was perpetrated against the government's economic policy. In their statement of claim, the group criticized the Greek police for not acting quickly when a phone warning was made prior to the blast.



December 7, Santiago, Chile - At the Juan Gomez Millas campus of the University of Chile, masked attacked police with firebombs and stones. Propaganda was spread (through shouting, leaflets, banners, and graffiti) indicating that the main reason for this direct action was the upcoming elections which perpetuate exploitation and domination by the rich. Some slogans and graffiti messages used in relation to this direct action: "Because we have nothing, we will destroy everything," "Because the vote only makes the rich powerful, we've chosen violence" and "Against the election of future exploiters."

December 6, Val di Susa, Italy - Angry residents blockaded the major highway that runs through Val di Susa and barricaded streets in the valley town of Bussoleno, acting against the Winter Olympics and the planned 'TAV' high-speed rail link that will destroy much of the environment in the mountains. Workers also went on strike in the nearby city of Turin in solidarity with the struggle. An occupation camp of protesters which was preventing the construction of the railway line between Italy and France was violently evicted by paramilitary police. 20 people were reportedly hospitalized after clashes, including five police officers. Residents of the valley have been demonstrating, blocking roads, and launching strikes against the railway project for weeks, opposing the environmental destruction the rail line could cause. Graffiti messages against the railway line and the police occupation of Val di Susa have proliferated throughout the area. Val di Susa links Turin, host city of the 2006 Winter Olympics, to the Alps, where many Olympic events were held in February. The valley is

already cut up by a major highway and railway, and the proposed high-speed line will plow through a mountain which contains asbestos and uranium.

During a solidarity demonstration in Turin, a railway depot was blockaded, and anarchists attacked the car of the President of the Piemonte region, two police cars, and an Olympics store. In addition, a bank was smashed-up, a bonfire was set in the streets, and graffiti messages were left on walls denouncing the Olympics and declaring solidarity with the resistance in Val di Susa. One cop was injured when he was hit in the head with a bottle. "Extreme left-wing groups, from antagonistic and anarchic-insurrectionist wings are trying to extend the unrest from Val di Susa to Turin, Rome, Milan, and various other cities," said Silvio Berlusconi.

December 6, Shanwei, China - Chinese police opened fire on protesters in the southern province of Guangdong, shooting dead at least two people. Police tried to disperse up to 1,000 demonstrators near Shanwei who were angry because they had not been compensated for land taken by the government to build a power plant. There have been an ever-growing number of riots in China, many of which are focused on industrial developments.

December 6, Val di Susa, Italy - An occupation camp in Italy's northern Susa Valley (Val di Susa) which was preventing the construction of a high-speed railway line between Italy and France

was violently evicted by paramilitary police Tuesday. 20 people were reportedly hospitalized after clashes, including five police officers. Earlier in the day, residents had blockaded the major highway that runs through Val di Susa and barricaded streets in the valley town of Bussoleno.



December 5, Jehanabad, India - Hundreds of prisoners were freed in one of the most audacious revolutionary armed actions India has seen in recent decades. 200 members of the Maoist 'Peoples Guerrilla Army' were involved in seizing the town of Jehanabad for two and a half hours. The police claimed they had faced a contingent five times that size. While the jail was the main target, police facilities and the district administration office also came under heavy fire. The authorities reported that 389 prisoners escaped, including, they said, 119 Maoists and supporters. Along with several police, the guerrillas also reportedly killed two leaders and members of 'Ranvir Sena', an upper-caste private militia set up by local feudal forces. The two 'Ranvir Sena' leaders killed had led many massacres of lower-caste women and children over the last decades in an effort to terrorize the rural poor. Two days before the Jehanabad jailbreak, the PGA had attacked an army training centre in Giridih in the neighbouring state of Jharkhand, seizing as many as 185 firearms. After the attack, police and six companies of the Indian



Central Paramilitary Force accompanied by helicopters swept through scores of villages in the district where Jehanabad is located and the neighbouring districts, considered hotbeds of rebel activity. After ten days of these operations the authorities had not reported any significant gains.

December 2, Seoul, South Korea - Striking workers and angry farmers clashed with police in front of the National Assembly in Seoul. The workers recently began a nation-wide general strike calling for better conditions and more job security for temporary workers. The strike is being observed by only about 10% of the country's labor unions. The farmers have been demonstrating daily in opposition to new World Trade Organization (WTO) endorsed legislation that is expected to devastate small South Korean rice farmers.

December 1, Manama, Bahrain - Rioters burned cars and set off explosives improvised out of gas canisters in the third straight night of unrest since a committee for Bahrain's unemployed began protests against joblessness and to demand an official investigation into the case of Moussa Abdaali. Abdaali is a committee member who was beaten by unidentified men believed to be armed security officials. Rioters attacked police with stones and molotov cocktails before burning two police cars.

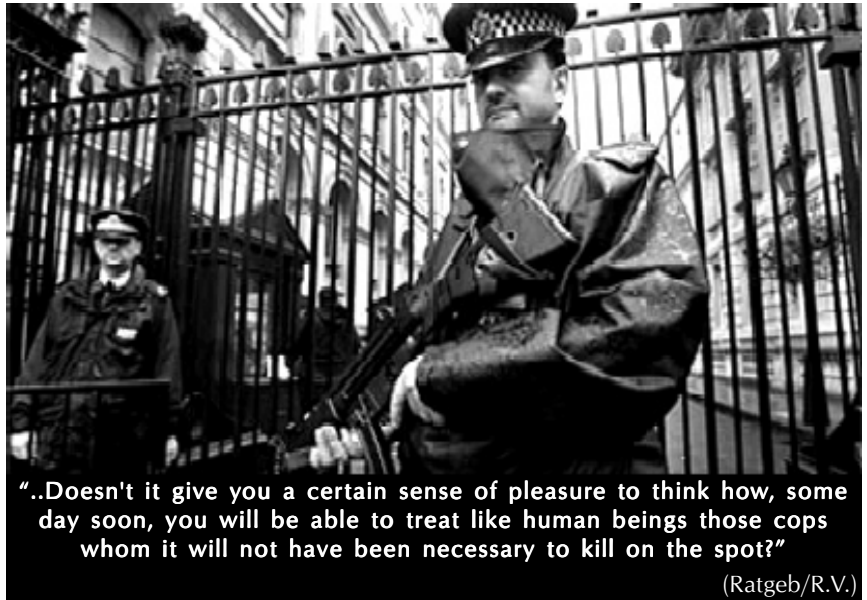
December, Thessaloniki, Greece - Firebomb attack against a subsidiary of genetic experimentation firm 'Dupont' causes 80,000 euro damage.

November 29, Pacific Beach, CA, USA - 7 luxury SUV's set on fire in showroom causing \$167,000 damage.

November 18, Athens, Greece - Four improvised incendiary devices exploded at an American brand car dealership in the Athens suburb of Peristeri. Two of the devices were placed underneath SUVs, subsequently destroying the vehicles. A third vehicle, parked near the SUVs, was also damaged. The other devices were placed next to an electrical generator. An unidentified individual later phoned the Greek newspaper 'Eleftherotypia' and claimed responsibility for the attack. The caller claimed the attack was an act of solidarity towards Michalis Kaltezas, an anarchist who was killed in a police shooting in 1985. This incident occurred on the 20th Anniversary of Kaltezas' death. The caller also stated that the dealership was attacked as a symbol of consumerism and implied the anarchist movement will continue.

November 19, Athens, Greece - A group of approximately 15 individuals wearing hoods attacked the branch offices of three Greek banks in the Monastiraki section of downtown Athens. The individuals smashed the windows of the banks and threw Molotov cocktails inside causing significant damage. An unidentified caller phoned Eleftherotypia and claimed responsibility for the attack. Also on Saturday, a group of approximately 30 anarchists wearing hoods attacked the offices of a local Greek right-wing organization with Molotov cocktails.

November 16, Athens, Greece - A group of anarchists attacked an occupied unmarked police van



"..Doesn't it give you a certain sense of pleasure to think how, some day soon, you will be able to treat like human beings those cops whom it will not have been necessary to kill on the spot?"

(Ratgeb/R.V.)

parked outside the chemistry department at Athens University. The policeman inside managed to escape the van, which was set on fire and totally destroyed.

November 15, Thessaloniki, Greece - A group of individuals threw Molotov cocktails at seven parked cars belonging to a Renault dealership. At nearly the same time, an improvised incendiary device consisting of four gas canisters and one plastic container of flammable liquid exploded outside a supermarket.

November 14, Athens, Greece - A group of around 20 persons came from the Polytechnic School campus located in Zografou and lit the base of a traffic camera on fire after dousing it with a flammable liquid.

November 13, Athens, Greece - A group of 40 individuals wearing hoods and motorcycle helmets used Molotov cocktails to attack a German-make car dealership and a French-make car dealership in Ambelokipi, burning a total of 24 cars. Four additional cars were burned as the group dispersed toward the Exachia area of Athens.

November 13, Athens, Greece - Approximately 70 persons gathered in Ilion and demonstrated against the recent closure of a factory. The protestors spray-painted the walls and windows of several shops and banks in the area with slogans supporting the French riots.

November 12, Athens, Greece - roughly 100 anarchist youths demonstrated outside the French Embassy in downtown Athens. The protestors carried banners and shouted slogans in support of the riots in the French ghettos.

November 11, Athens, Greece - A group of 30-40 individuals wearing hoods and motorcycle helmets threw stones, smashed windows, and spray-painted slogans in support of the French rioters on the walls of the French Language Institute in the Kolonaki area. The anarchists attempted to set the Institute on fire before being thwarted by police.

November 10, Thessaloniki, Greece - Approximately 40 hooded and masked persons attacked the French Institute with crowbars and threw stones, shattering numerous windows.

November 2, Bologna, Italy - A parcel bomb, made up of a battery operated detonator and 50 grams of gunpowder, was sent to the Mayor of Bologna, Sergio Cofferati. The device was discovered and defused by experts before it could detonate. A group calling themselves the "Fire and Fire-related Cooperative" warned of the device in a leaflet.





Jean-Marc Rouillan is a prisoner in France who is serving time for involvement in Action Directe, a militant group behind a series of high-profile assassinations and attacks in France in the 1980s. He and other members of AD; Nathalie Menigon, Joëlle Aubron and Georges Cipriani, were handed life sentences in 1989 for the murder of the former head of the French car giant Renault, and in 1994 for five other terrorist attacks in the 1980s. Aubron was freed from jail in June 2004 for health reasons, and has recently died.

Action Directe was a leftist militant group that attacked symbols of the French state in a similar way to the RAF in Germany, with which it had links. Before it was finally crushed in 1989 after the arrest of its core, it was thought to have been behind as many as 80 attacks, some of them murders.

Valerie C:

I am going to ask a few details, direct responses. How old are you?

Jean-Marc Rouillan:

- 53 years old on the next 30th of august.

: Since when have you been detained?

-February 1987

: How long have you been in Lannemezan Prison?

-I did a first period from 1994 to 2000, and I am back since the evacuation from Arles, 7 month ago.

: In which quarter are you staying?

- I stay in Building A, standard quarter.

: Have you been put in isolation in Lannemezan?

- No, never.

: Currently, how do you fill your days?

- In the morning, I work, I write. I wake up very early. At 10 O'clock, I come down to the phone. The rest of the day I practice sport and I read.

: Today what do you think about the coming examination of your request by the court?

- I don't have any illusion about the system. I think that the political decision to free us hasn't been taken, so no judge will go against the will of the power, so I go there with no illusions.

: How is your health?

- Normally, perfect.

: What does this mean, "Normally, perfect"? You have recently had a check up.

- For one year, the doctors thought I had lung cancer, and eventually, check up after check up, the situation stabilised itself. Then, they expressed a totally opposite view.

: So, now you are considered...

- treated for nothing at all, so normally, my health is perfect.

: Since when are you able to request for a release on parole?

- Since the 26th of February, I have been parole-able, as we say in jail.

: Is it the first time you request it?

- It is the first time. It has been delayed to the extreme limit: the request for a release on parole must be considered within 6 months. I have requested on the 28th of February. The other ones have already been considered, and answered.

: When you say "the other ones" you mean other inmates?

- The other inmates Nathalie Menigon and Georges Cipriani who were arrested at the same time as me. Their requests have already been considered, and answered.

: Negatively-

- They are today in the Courts of appeal.

: What are the conditions for your liberation?

- A home and a job.

: And do you have both?

- Yes. Normally, without accident or an explicit will to refuse without examining my situation, the next commission will defer the examination of my file, since no investigation has been performed about the workplace.

: So, it is not done according to the rules.

-In fact, at the moment, if they follow the normal procedure, they will defer.

: Mr. M was telling me that they first gave a date that then was deferred to September and then changed back to July...

- At first it was scheduled for the 18th of July, but the 18th was a normal commission for small sentences. So with the agreement of the lawyers, it was deferred to September. Eventually, faced with the 6 month deadline, they didn't want to make an exception, they had to consider the request, or at least bring the file to the court.

: Today, what makes you think that the request is not considered properly?

- The only fact is that Nathalie Menigon who was very sick like George Cipriani has been answered negatively on the grounds of political considerations.

: What are these political considerations?

- Disavowal of our political involvement. See the text that I sent to Marseille for the support meeting of the 18th of July*. Since the courts have stressed political reasons for the denial, then it is a collective answer for everyone. We can't imagine how the answer would be positive for some of us and negative for others. The three of us are still considered on the same basis.

: So you think it is definitely a conscious attitude from the courts. How do you explain that this taboo still exists?

- I think that nowadays the taboo is regaining strength. What we could say two years ago about our cases, e.g. that we were waiting for the end of our "security period", etc... etc... is now much more difficult to express. Today, we can clearly state that they have revived the political dialogue we had at the beginning of our detention, i.e. freedom in exchange of an official disavowal with publicity, which means us expressing to the revolutionary movement that all forms of struggle, like the ones we used, are useless and even dangerous.

: And for you, this is out of question.

- This is out of question...

: Why?

- Because we think that the communist position is still valid. Armed struggle has to be done in objective conditions. Maybe these conditions are not here anymore. I have been disconnected, in prison for almost two decades, so I won't say that the conditions are met now; that we have to take arms, no. However, what we did seems to be valid.

: So, There is no disavowal, this famous repentance that they demand?

- No.

: So what is your stance towards what happened? You do not disavow it, but with some distance, how do you see it?

- One has to speak with some distance. History changed a lot. We were fighting at a time when there existed the Soviet Union, the Berlin wall, at a time when the confrontation was totally different from today. It is obvious. Indeed, in order to strengthen their blackmail, the "courts of implementation of the sentence" tell that Action Directe still exists, but it is total craziness. They mix it up with the support movement. The organisation Action Directe hasn't existed for at least 16 years.

: What are your views on the current terrorist attacks? Do you consider yourself as having committed terrorist attacks and what difference do you see between what you did and what is currently happening?

-There is a fundamental difference: we never committed any massacre-type

attack. Our targets were always chosen beforehand. We always attacked people in charge, powerful people in their field. We never touched any civilian. Despite all our bomb attacks, and there were many; there never was any dead or wounded civilian. The only civil complainants we had in court were wounded policeman or the families of General Audran and Mr. Besse**.

: The actual targets.

-So this is a fundamental difference.

: About your motivations as well, because your approach was very, very politicised. Currently we are in a purely religious terrorism, which has nothing to do with what you were doing...

- We indeed don't have anything to do



with religious organisations. The only problem is that today the American and English imperialist forces are aggressive against the Arab world, and thus they reap the fruits of their policy.

: Is this how you read it?

-Yes, yes, and so does the mayor of London!

: So you don't believe that you will get out...

- It will be deferred or denied. I will appeal. I will go to the court of appeal in Pau and then there will be 18 months and our request will be considered again by a commission. The examination of our next request of release on parole will happen exactly during the 2007 French elections.

: A time of changes...

-So, obviously we will defer our requests because they are political and we don't want them to be used politically.

: What do you imagine after you get out? Do you sometimes think about it?

- When you have spent 20 years in jail, in a time that has completely stopped... I think I will be faced with a situation in which I don't know the rhythm at all.

: Do you think you will get back to activism... or maybe have you never stopped?

- I never stopped...

: So you absolutely keep on your struggle...

-I am still a communist activist. I think I will remain so.

: Is violence still something you can put forward?

- Personally, my health is good, but for my two sick comrades, it was already a definitely obsolete perspective. The problem is that they use against us the fact that in 1981 when they discharged us (from prison) we started again. We didn't start again, we have always done it. At that time, when we got out, there was our organisation with dozens of clandestine people. When we found ourselves outside, we very naturally took back our place in the struggle. What is happening today is that the situation has completely changed, our organisation doesn't exist anymore, and there is no armed communist organisation anymore. It would be pure voluntarism to do anything in that direction.

: What arguments do you plan to tell the judge?

- Absolutely none.

: You let your lawyer speak!

-No, not even that. We will listen to what they have to say. I make Mr. Etelin my lawyer out of respect for the court that has never, until now been aggressive towards me. However I won't give any explanation, because I gave the home and the job details, which is what is required from prisoners who request release on parole.

: Does your behaviour inside the jail plays against you?

- No, no, nothing inside can interfere with a release.

: Do you plan to live in Auch if you get out?

- Of course.

: At your mum's place?

- This the town I was born in, I grew up there. I still have roots in this town.

: You expect to stay for a while. Do you have a hope to get out within the next few months?

- Definitely not. After they deny the





: Indeed, the image is very powerful. I have finished. Do you want to add anything?

- No, no, but you will find in our texts some answers to this last question.

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Lannemezan
France

*See www.action-directe.net.

**Both were killed in Action Directe operations, Besse was the CEO of Fiat, and Audran was a French military general.

***French Interior Minister.

release, we can't request a release before 18 months, so it adds up to at least two more years of prison.

: That makes it very long, do you think about a life sentence?

- I think that French authorities are strongly attracted by the American justice.

: What do you mean? I didn't understand.

- By reforming laws like the pleading-guilty one, etc... one can see it also in jail. There is a temptation to make it happen for some prisoners, without telling it.

: This famous life-sentence?

-The real life sentence

: As a matter of fact, the timing of your request is not very good, because Sarkozy*** just re-launched the debate about release on parole. We are in the middle of a period of terror attacks...

- We are not recidivists. None of us has ever been convicted before by a criminal court.

: Do you think this debate will play against you?

- Yes, yes, everything plays against us, there very few positive things. Although the prisoners who struggled with us in Belgium are free, In Germany almost all of them are free, the three last ones should be freed this year. In Italy, the big majority of the comrades arrested there are now free. We sometimes get into brusque situations: For example, the perpetrator of the deeds for which Régis Schleicher is jailed for complicity was liberated 6 years ago whilst he, the accomplice, is still in jail.

: Why do you say that over the past few months we came to a situation that plays against your liberation? How do you explain it?

- Because we personalise a struggle that became an agreement between a far left who gave up its goals and a power that became extremely tougher. We are symbols. It is as clear as that, and in the same time we are these sorts of beasts... A bit like the Roman Empire showed up its defeated opponents. They put a ring through our nose at the end of a chain, and they make us turn a little in front of cameras, saying: "Look how tough they are, look how ferocious they are."

Solidarity demos with Action Directe prisoners

Three gatherings were held Saturday February 25, 2006 in front of the prisons where the militants of Action Directe and George Abdallah, Arab communist militant are detained. All of them should have been released a year ago, after 17 years in prison and more.

A hundred people under snow at Ensisheim and as many at Bapaume, nearly 250 in Lannemezan. There was also a demonstration in Barcelona for the prisoners. Fireworks, detonators, balloons flying over the centers of detention, the three processions reaffirmed the requirement of the release of the prisoners of direct Action and George Abdallah, hostages of the French State.

The supporters collective denounces the eternal blackmail of "repentance for release". In Lannemezan, Charlie Bauer, ex-prisoner, summarizes the situation well: "The State keeps in prison the militant comrades of Action Directe, not for what they did, since the sanction was carried out, but for their ideas. The State asks them to be disavow, to spit on what they were, on what they are still today "

These demonstrations gathered the old ones of Action Directe, militants coming from the Basque-Country, from Belgium, from Switzerland, Germany, Italy, Lebanon and Palestine. Personalities and representatives of the CNT, and other trade-unions, and also people from the political and associative world also attended, as well as many signatories of a petition requiring the release of the prisoners of Action Directe.



Action Directe prisoners

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France

Nathalie Ménigon 2173 j
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Bapaume cedex
France

Régis Schleicher 9484 QI
C.P. Clairvaux 10310
Ville sous la Ferté,
France



"Greetings and solidarity from your comrades..

Do not forget that you are not forgotten. Your rage and spirit is alive and well inside of us all here in the UK. The repression in Italy, Spain and Greece, and the social insurrection in France has fired our rage and anger to new levels of awareness. The time for reactive solidarity and meaningless rhetoric is over, this becomes more obvious everyday. The situation amongst those of us who share your love of what we should be, and not what they would have us be, means that our relationship has changed dramatically. And this is how it should be. No longer must we wait for them to come for us, in the night with dogs and truncheons, reaction is no longer, and never was, a solution.

The fight must be taken to them, on our terms, every minute of every day, in the spirit not only of solidarity, but of pro-active solidarity. We are with you always - in head, in heart and by any means possible,

In love and in rage x"

from a letter to a comrade residing in the cells of the Italian state.

Destroy the Prisons

Breaking out of the Ghetto:

Lessons from the CPE struggle

France was aflame with insurrectionary fervour again earlier this year as over 20 million people made perfectly clear their displeasure at the increasingly repressive social and economic policies of the French State.

saw a spate of anti-police, anti-State violence over the space of 3 weeks following the death of two banlieu* kids who were running, innocently, to escape an ID check by les keufs (cops); these controles are becoming increasingly racist and increasingly common. The most notable uprising is undoubtedly the infamous events of May 1968, which ignited insurrectionary waves all over the world, and whose (situationist)

following is a brief look at the nature of these changes.

One of the most significant aspects of this last uprising, which reflected the events of '68, was the widespread contribution of the student body. They formed the backbone of the entire movement, with virtually every university and a large number of lycee being occupied and reclaimed as space from which revolutionary propaganda was propagated and some sometimes quite complex direct action against the State was planned.

The major tactic employed, along with the use of blockading major roads and train stations, was that of the traditional demo, or manif. Every Tuesday a Greve Generale, or General Strike was called, which, although it did not quite live up to its name- consisting at best of a large proportion of the public sector, but hardly any significant amount from the private sector of the workforce- was still an impressive and formidable spectacle.

From the very beginning of the anti-CPE movement an important and unfortunate split was evident, and nowhere could this be more plainly seen than during the weekly manifis. The split was along the usual lines and is one that is surely doomed to hinder any true insurrectionary movement. On one side there were the 'fluffies'- the reformists, the bourgeois, the left liberals and communists- les pacifistes; on the other were the 'spikies', those committed to real change and those with nothing left to lose, the anarchists, insurrectionists, anti-capitalists and the other disempowered and disaffected enemies of the totality- les casseurs (the breakers).

At the beginning of the movement, and during the first strike/demo, the ranks of les pacifistes formed the majority of those demonstrating against the CPE. The reformist opinions of the majority unions held sway, and the political line emerging from the student unions was equally reformist. There was a small anarchist/insurrectionary/ situationist faction, which made its presence felt amongst the manifis with a scattering of black and black/red flags. The syndicalists, in the guise of the CNT, are still popular in France, although this school of anarchist thought is slowly on the wane as the general anarchist critique comes to terms with industrialism's role within the Totality. Propaganda, the majority of which was also anarchist or coming from an anti-State or anti-Capitalist stance, was rife; being distributed by a



The pretext this time was the introduction of new labour laws, and two in particular- the CPE and CNE, which threaten to 'liberalise' the economy, moving power away from the employee and shifting it into the hands of the employer. This will end the employment rights and the 'right to work' that many of those demonstrating saw their parents and grandparents fight to win on the picket lines of industrial relations during the 60's to 80's.

This widening of the notion of precarity- the shifting of power from the individual to the company, of emphasising in law a company's right to profit over the individual's right to a salary, demonstrates yet again Capitalism's raison d'etre, its wish and ability- its need- to conquer every dimension of social space in the pursuit of progress and profit.

The current shift to the right and authoritarianism under the guise of social democracy has been taking place in France, as in many other 'Western' countries, since the late 1960's. Accompanying civil unrest, as people become more and more alienated and atomised, as Capitalism attempts to transform them from spontaneous social animals into regulated units of production and consumption, has sprung up intermittently during this time. The most recent was last November, which

influence could still be seen amidst the smouldering cars and graffiti which littered France again this year.

These new employment laws, of which there are actually several, mark a new era in the relationship between individual, society, State and Capital in France. The most notorious are the CPE or First Employment Law, and the CNE or New Employment Law. The majority of the anger manifested in the March/April riots was directed primarily at the CPE, which in turn was directed at young people under 26. This law entitled an employer to sack any employee aged 26 years or under, without divulging the reason, at any time during the first two years of their employment. For the first time in many years both the workers' unions and students' unions, both with a strong tradition of organising in France, came out in open defiance to the government, along with the unemployed and otherwise generally disaffected, who also have a strong history of organising- although in a markedly different manner. The nature of this battle set in the social landscape was extremely interesting in terms of the ongoing struggle against all aspects of authority and control, with both sides (a reductionist term, used for simplicity in this context) evolving in a tactical sense within their individual paradigm. The

wide selection of groups covering the student, worker and anarchist/situationist milieux. The general political feeling however, at the beginning of the movement, was definitely reformist. The main critique, the main political question being posed, was on the issue of precarity; people could see that political power was being taken from them by the State under the guise of 'opening up the market' and the general response was that the State must be made to scrap these new laws- that the 'right to work' must be protected.

Amongst the workers and the majority of the students this concept of 'work' was sacrosanct. The notion of a safe, secure job with an adequate salary protected by law, the rights that were bitterly fought for and won towards the end of the last century were the main bone of contention. People saw that the CPE would take away this security and the anti-CPE movement was launched with these criteria in mind: people came out on strike, people occupied their places of work and of learning, in order to demand the right to remain a wage slave! Initially this was as far as peoples' critique went- that the CPE would take away their right to negotiate the terms of their own economic enslavement.

This determination by the leftist workers' unions and students' unions to use only peaceful civil disobedience to convince the government to change the law led to some rather disturbing scenes on the Tuesday of the first strike. There were several reports of students and union stewards/'officials' intervening in situations involving property damage and detaining comrades until they could be given over to the police. Basically, under some sort of twisted sense of social morality and worker ethics the left acted as a proxy police force, doing the State's job for it. There were several reports of this sort of incident taking place, usually occurring when somebody attempted some form of actual direct action, or simply manifested their anger, rage or frustration into any form of action outside of the passive protest deemed sufficient by the reformist left. People were detained and handed to the enemy for throwing stones or for attempting to damage or burn private property, usually under the misguided notion that property damage was in some way harmful to the 'workers'. The author personally witnessed students putting out a fire which anarchists attempted to start in a JCB as a diversionary tactic three times with the reasoning that burning the JCB was bad because it belonged to the workers, because it would put somebody out of a job. Many of the students seemed to be possessed of this mentality, but it was mainly the old guard of the leftist unions, particularly the stewards, with their high-vis vests and walkie-talkies, who were blatantly making the most of their deemed and self-imposed authority during the march.

This perception was, as always, reinforced by the mainstream media who portrayed any form of physical assertion as the work of the usual minority of rent-a-mob (although interestingly the French media are not as want as their UK contemporaries to use the word 'anarchists' in the pejorative tabloid sense), demonising any tactic outside of those deemed acceptable, ie controllable, by the bourgeois media and the State. Once this paradigm has been created, named and represented (in this case as les casseurs), the concept becomes yet another form of control to be used by



the State, media or any other interested party. Les casseurs were presented as the same 'mindless thugs' who created havoc at the end of last year torching countless cars, businesses and State buildings- an uncontrollable mob from the ungovernable banlieus* with no valid political stance, racaille (scum) according to Sarkozy, for whom the only solution is a taste of the police baton and the prison cell. This interpretation was gladly adopted by the left who took up the chant, 'casseurs, cassez-vous!' (rioters, get lost!) at the sight of any real confrontation with the forces of law and order.

However, at the end of the manif, after a fairly peaceful march with flags and banners waving, and anti-government chants chanted, the police changed their tactics and upped the ante in a move expected by many of us who understand the nature of these games, but a move which seemed to take the majority of students and unionists by surprise. After all had they not just played by the rules- demonstrating peacefully in a peaceful, orderly manner? I refer of course to the inevitable police assault. As is usually the way on demonstrations on the continent, the police were not

even that visible during the march itself, just making their presence felt at any junctions and intersections along the route (although footage viewed later makes it clear that not only was the final assault itself planned, but there was a massive amount of undercover police infiltrated amongst the marchers, all masked up and blatantly there in the role of agent-provocateur, not simply in a observing or preventative role).

So, as people congregated at the end of the march, and slowly started to dissipate, lines of fully tooled-up CRS (riot squad) and BAC (Brigade Anti-Criminelle) appeared around the remaining demonstrators. Then,

after a brief provocative wait and period of taunting on both sides, the inevitable missiles began sailing through the heady afternoon atmosphere. Suddenly the air was full of the dull thud of bricks and shrill staccato laugh of breaking bottles raining down from one side, and the 'zip, zip, zip' of numerous CS gas canisters trailing their graceful arc from the other, all interspersed with the random ear-shattering cacophony of disorientation grenades.

People reacted quickly to this sudden change; some were obviously awaiting this very turn of events, although the amount of people screaming and running around like headless poulets showed that the majority were caught off guard, creating the very situation that les keufs desired- total confusion and the destruction of any form of existing organisation on the side of the demonstrators. However, many produced masks and joined their already covered comrades. Existing street furniture was requisitioned- crowd control barriers, wheelie-bins- and makeshift barricades thrown up, sometimes being set alight, to slow the advancing police lines. This gave people time to adapt to the change in circumstance, to avoid the snatch squads which were suddenly active, to get their bearings and decide whether to join in the

confrontation or to leave the field, safely and under their own volition.

The police soon settled into an obviously well practiced routine, after all they had just manufactured a 'hot' situation where they could put their paramilitary tactics into real-time practice. They would line up 20-30 metres in front of a barricade, lob in a volley of tear gas, wait for the gas to disperse slightly, and advance rapidly up to the barricade whilst sending out snatch squads to mop up any stragglers. In this situation the barricades served mainly to slow the police advance rather than as a device to hold onto a piece of land for any amount of time.

The development of the police tactics during the main 3-4 weeks of the disturbances was particularly interesting. There was a marked change between their approach at the beginning and at the end. At the start of the movement the police tactics could be viewed as 'conventional' continental style- the police kept a low profile during the march, only to turn up at the end and face off the marchers in a head-on confrontation which resulted in classic stylee running battles. By the second week police lines were appearing at the sides in a sort of pincer movement, causing any gathered crowd to disperse quickly and reform elsewhere. By the third week, however, the polices tactics appeared to develop into something more akin to UK style policing. At the place where the march was supposed to end there was the usual concentration of troops; however this time they were not only blocking the direction in which the march was heading, but were already in place in large numbers down the sides aswell. Then, as soon as all of the demonstrators had caught up with the main body, the police also formed up at the rear, surrounding the march by forming the classic kessel, or kettle. Anybody inside the kessel was then refused permission to leave, the police making no distinction between those who were demonstrating and other members

of the public. What happened next I don't know, as our group decided that that was a good time to leave. Luckily there was a Metro entrance inside the kessel which provided a quick escape route, and not a flic in sight- although I'm not sure whether this was an oversight or a deliberate ploy by the police.



Certainly, this development of the tactics of the French police is interesting, and this slow transition towards something similar to UK policing makes me wonder whether there were advisors there from London's Finest.

Another new tactic employed by the police was the use of fluorescent pink paint balls to mark individuals deemed to be 'troublemakers', and there was also the usual plethora of video cameras, both with the officers on the ground and at strategically placed vantage points in first floor windows. Interestingly there was no use of helicopters.

The generally reformist and leftist view held by those comprising the anti-CPE movement did appear to slowly dissipate somewhat during the few weeks of its existence. As previously noted, the critique held by the majority was, at first, largely aimed at the issue of precarity, and was directed toward the end of forcing the government to not implement the new liberalising labour laws, but to instead keep the current ones. In this respect the movement was largely reactive and conservative.

However, as the movement progressed

and matured into its second and third weeks, so did the level of critique. As people actually came into real, direct contact with the true nature of the State in the form of the police/ CRS, and as the masses of street propaganda became more critical of the entire status quo, the general feeling surrounding events became more revolutionary. This change of feeling manifested itself in many ways; it is hard, if not impossible, to actually pin it down to any single criterion or phenomenon. For example, by the second 'general' strike many more students appeared masked-up, a week or more of exposure to police tactics whilst posing as pacifistes convincing them to become casseurs; the influence of the unions appeared to have dwindled; and the voice of the banlieus began to make itself heard, with some kids as young as 11 or 12 just blatantly fronting up lines of CRS and attacking them. The chant on the street also changed to 'pacifistes, cazez vous!'

Another important phenomena were the 'general assemblies'. These appeared to be the main method of mass consensus decision making and were used all over the country, some centred in the occupied universites, some elsewhere. Essentially non-heirarchical in form, some decisions involving thousands of people, from all sectors of the community, were made in this way. A statement of action would be posed, then discussed in small autonomous groups in the assembly and any questions or queries raised against it, if possible the statement of action, or plan, would then be modified to accomodate. Although not perfect, this system worked remarkably well for some of the more rapid decisions that needed to be made and there was something quite exhilarating about participating in decisions made in this way.

Unfortunately, one of the initial strengths of the movement, the students, was also its downfall. After the unions had been bought off with some minor concessions in the law, many of the students who formed the movement followed- conceding defeat whilst attempting to cry victory. But it was a phyrhic victory, if at all. The government delivered its concessions just before the final exams of some students, and with a small change in the law to ease their conscience they held ballot-box elections,



decided to end the strike (the vote was extremely close in some areas, leading to several violent confrontations between those for and against the occupation), and returned to their ivory towers to graduate and perpetuate the very system they had just denounced.

A broad overlook of the unrest shows that a strong similarity can also be drawn with the Thatcherism of the 1980's in the UK. Back then the British government played the same game, destroying community values, dismantling the unions, criminalising dissent and handing power over to the private sector through the privatisation of the economy. Interestingly it was only after one wave of particularly effective strike action by the miners in 1981 caused the Conservative government to back down, that Thatcher asserted herself and the British government finally took off the gloves and changed the British social and economic landscape for once and all in 1984. An analogy can be drawn here, I suggest, with current events in France. Although the last wave of unrest could be argued to be successful from a reformist point of view in that it forced the French government to change the terms of the CPE, the fundamental terms, criteria and goals of the new laws remain- the liberalisation of the economy. And it could be argued that these changes were only forced because of a relatively weak political situation- because of a prime-minister, Dominic Villepin, who has a reputation for being rather soft, effete and ineffectual when it comes to imposing both discipline and his own will.

However, waiting in the wings of French politics we also have Nicholas Sarkozy (Sarko), an extremely authoritarian right-wing politician with an unbridled thirst for power. Sarko was, quite shrewdly, rather quiet during the recent troubles, being quite happy to let Villepin, his arch-rival, take the flak. This Machiavellian solipsist is an expert in the modern political art of media-spin, manipulating the media to ooze slimy charismatic spectacles like those of his contemporaries Blair and Berlusconi. He is also quick to utilise the full power of the state in order to achieve his political ends; he being responsible for the recent zero tolerance approach to tackling crime, the current explosion in new prisons (esp. youth prisons), and the protagonist of the French equivalent of the Criminal Justice Act which virtually wiped out free party culture in France with the brutal suppression of parties and teknivals by the paramilitary CRS. Sarko's seemingly direct approach to politics, i.e saying what he is going to do and doing it without wrapping everything up in rhetoric, has won him the confidence of the French people. He is also standing in the Presidential elections next year. If he wins this election he can be expected to perform the same role as Thatcher, 'modernising' the French state to fit better within the global hegemonic neo-liberal project. If he wins we can also expect the banlieus, where he is a figure of hate, to explode.

In conclusion then: although mainly reformist, these recent events opened lots of eyes, and spread the idea of resistance to the totality of capital and civilisation, not just resistance and reform inside of it. New links were made both in France between students, anarchists and those from the banlieus and between other countries who can all see the product of these forms of policies both in the US and the UK. In effect both sides come out stronger- the police have more practice at urban warfare as do the insurgents, but les casseurs have built many bridges between different forms of struggle. Expect the next round soon

* banlieus- ghettos of high rises and poor quality housing on the edge of the city centre where immigrants and the underclass are dumped to keep them out of the way

Le Manifesto de les Etudiantes et l'autres de 'les emeurtes de 'Ripas' et l'autre villes en France - Mars et Avril 2006:-

- Toppling the Crumbling World -

There is no such thing as a gratuitous act of destruction or violence.

Granted, certain acts are stupid or non-strategic, but all of them express and display a rage and a determination which for many years had seemed to be quelled and tamed.

We want to talk- and more; we want to expand and give depth to the current movement.

We must not repeat the conditions and errors of the previous movements which have failed. We can't separate ourselves from the world that surrounds us; we won't try to establish an impossible, fallacious connection between us and 'the workers': we refuse to be drawn into fulfilling these roles; we won't hide the world that we bring in our hearts; we won't allow the media and the public to stigmatise some 'violent minority'. We refuse to let executive orders and special measures cover us into submission. To do this we must clarify the positions and sides that we have taken.

So what if Villepin has retracted his law- let him! Let him persist today, tomorrow, for weeks- this is what we all desire: to keep the struggle alive, to develop and amplify the discussions that we have started....and finally to make everyone take a position either for or against this world that we are being offered, a world that brings suffering to those who are most vulnerable, to those who can't take anymore of the shit that constitutes their jobs, their bosses, their entire everyday lives. Everywhere, more and more, we can feel support for our cause and for our comrades, both in the air and in the words, in the daily atmosphere and gossip: we sense an inquiry, a growing hunger for change, a secret desire to blow it all up; to destroy it all!!!

We are searching for a place (or places) that could become a rallying point, a place of convergence, where everyone- whether they be strikers, precarious workers, unemployed, activists, anarchists, or anybody else, could meet and share their experiences, their suffering, their hopes, their dreams, and leave with a desire to persevere, to push further, to expand and extrapolate the struggle that has begun.

We want a general strike: the machine must stop, the routine must be broken. We can already see the smiles and the joy beaming from the faces of those who just can't take it anymore- those who are already in struggle. We see the hatred for the union leaders who are proposing yet another day of symbolic strike action. We also see the disgust that they provoke in those who are most angry- whether they be union members or not.

We recognise each other in the streets without knowing each other: we are not anonymous anymore. Without turning the riot into myth, we perceive the concrete expression of our strength binding us together more and more with each and every confrontation.

We don't want leaders or spokespeople. We don't even recognise the ones that already exist. Those who sit at the table with the government will be dis



themselves to be one of our number. We have nothing to negotiate and everything to take. This we now know, now this is more clear, better than ever.

Chirac was elected against Le Pen, his majority was victorious because the voters on the left abstained. Therefore all the laws, decrees and ordinances which have been applied since are illegitimate; as, for us, is the succession of all governments.

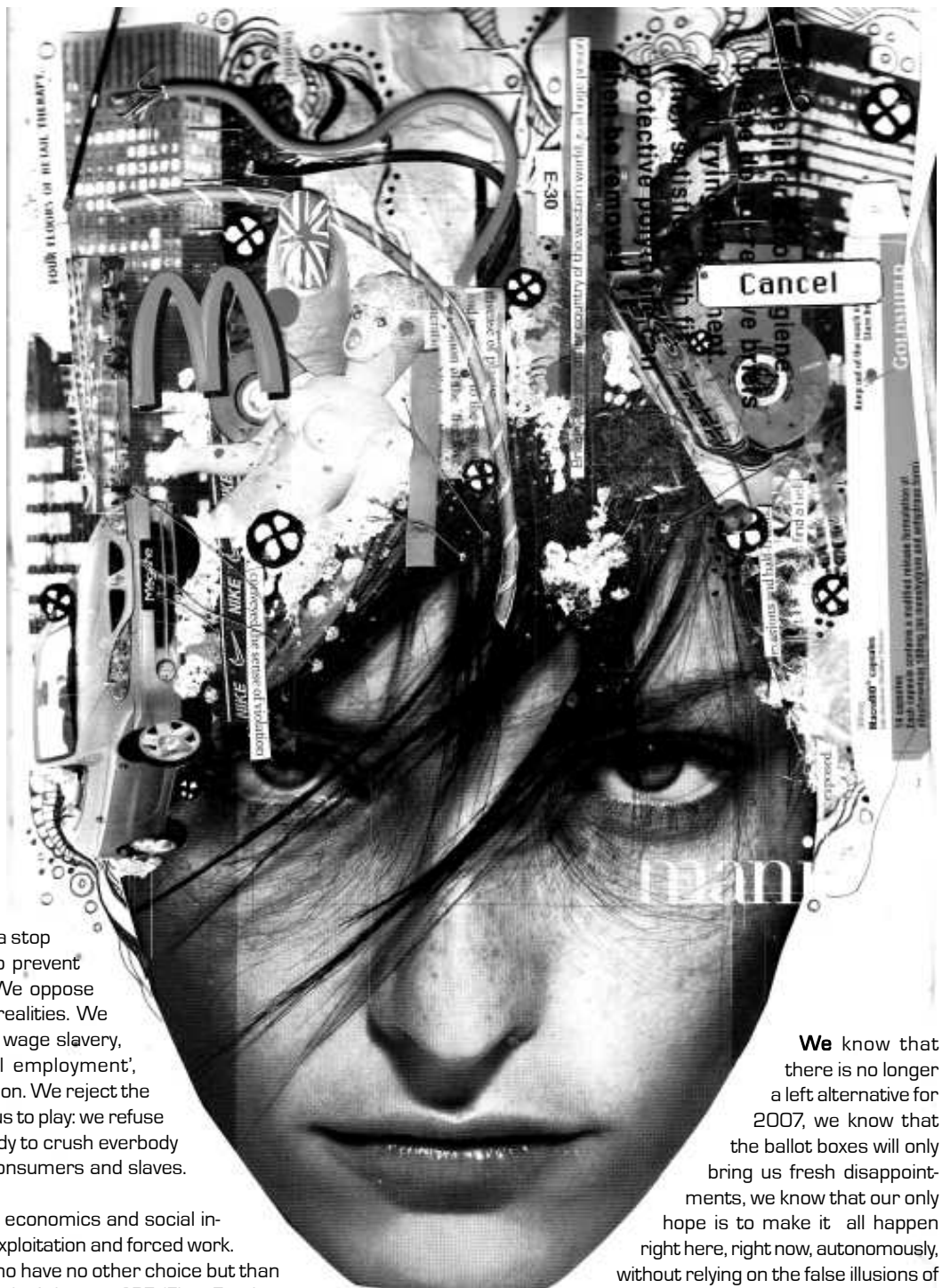
Everything that has been passed: those policies that attack the weakest and the most oppressed (the sans-papiers, the unemployed, those on public assistance), these policies have all generated real grass-roots opposition movements - retirees, the reform Fillon - and, in turn, every exceptional police policy emanating from the state's response to these legitimate protests has become entrenched, has become the norm. We lived through the State of Emergency and the repression of the October-November 2005 riots. We were passive then. This will not happen again.

We want more than just putting a stop to things this one time, to try to prevent each new wave of repression. We oppose the values of this world and its realities. We condemn school and education, wage slavery, industrial society, growth, 'full employment', progress and its trail of destruction. We reject the roles that society wants to force us to play: we refuse to be heartless cynics, winners ready to crush everybody else at any cost, to be passive consumers and slaves.

We are fighting not only against economics and social instability, we are fighting against exploitation and forced work. We know that there are many who have no other choice but than to refuse these conditions. They don't have a CPE (First Employment Law), or a CNE (New Employment Law) to protect them as workers even if they wanted one- they only have the hollow promise of an insecure, precarious contract. The multiplication of the means to force us into work such as the CPE, CNE, RMA, and the monthly controls for those on the dole represent an ideological attack in favour of the 'value of work', of work for work's sake. They provoke a resistance to being enslaved, a resistance to the daily humiliation of those forced to constantly seek work or to actually work for some form of capitalist enterprise, be it public or private.

We must refuse to let them use us thus!

We are fighting for our dignity, trampled and shattered on the altar of capitalist competition and productivism. The continual hardship of making ends meet each month, the impossibility of planning any form of security for the future is now the daily reality that many of us are forced to share. These hardships are the direct consequence of the continuous reorganisation of labour.



We know that there is no longer a left alternative for 2007, we know that the ballot boxes will only bring us fresh disappointments, we know that our only hope is to make it all happen right here, right now, autonomously, without relying on the false illusions of unions or political parties.

We have absolutely no confidence in the media and will do everything we can to expose the lies that they spread. It is by speaking out, by writing on the walls and in the subways, by word of mouth, and by alternative media that we will validate the truth, to make real connections and convergence. We will use our actions, whether they be property damage or fighting the cops, to prove that we have matured.

The movement that we have launched should not stop: those arrested and charged during the last insurrection, and those of last November, and of all the social movements in recent years need our total support and solidarity. By continuing the struggle today, and every day, we will keep up the fight against repression. The cops sent a union member into a coma. We are thinking of him and his community and we are all calling for vengeance.

We will not abandon anyone!!

CZECHTEK

This is a report from the frontlines of last year's Czech teknival, held the first weekend of August 05. It is an updated and elongated version of an article that first appeared the week after teknival in 'Scandaloso', a free party zine produced in English and translated into as many languages as possible where applicable. To get current copies etc, contact >scandaloso24@yahoo.co.uk<

TEK IT UP

The vibrancy of the culture and the beauty of the country have had party-heads coming to CzechTek since 1994.

The culture and music festival has grown from small beginnings; two years ago at the largest CzechTek so far there were around 30-40,000 participants including dozens of sound systems.

From the first the travelling circus of sound systems and artists connected with local youth after a time of revolution and the re-drawing of physical and mental maps across Europe. Teknivals occur as an extension of the age-old festivals and markets where people meet up for days and even weeks for a host of reasons: from sharing ideas and having fun to making money and thickening plots. At their best, teknivals are a powerful expression of common creative impulses. When a teknival ends and people go their separate ways, ideas and action can spread in many directions.

CzechTek 2004 had been broken up by police on the monday in a heavy-handed way. Would this repression of underground culture be stepped up in 2005? In 2006 the Czech Republic joined the European Union. In recent years the EU has worked towards 'harmonising' its policies, especially with regard to the treatment of minority groups such as refugees, immigrants and travellers. Most countries are busy drafting and implementing new laws to better control their populations. Meanwhile, road networks are being extended for the transport of goods to facilitate unchecked 'free trade', with borders opening wider to those who buffer the system, and attempting to close them to those at

the edge of escape. Increased communication amongst the member States of the EU begins with police agencies. Perhaps the Czech authorities looked to their EU counterparts in England, France, Germany, Holland, and Italy when composing their strategy for dealing with tek travellers: show them who's boss with a demonstration of premeditated violence, and then impose harsh laws that garner support from the programmed and pacified majority of the population.

Perhaps foreseeing problems, and hoping to stay one step ahead of the authorities, the organisers of this year's teknival decided to follow a legal route and hire land. While this concession has its merits - giving the authorities one less reason to intervene - their disapproval of possible drug-taking on a mass scale and more simple bigotry against a way of life they perceive as different overshadow such an attempt. The sheer potential size of teknival - its drawing power and the seemingly casual disdain for laws that the authorities hold dear make a threat that may be more imagined than real.

Those arriving for this year's teknival close to its intended start were handed a flyer as they traversed the Czech border. It warned party-goers against a range of offences they might break through attendance. These ranged from selling and buying drugs to illegal camping.

On wednesday night, word of a meeting point for sound systems at 4 am in Plzen was networked. The info quickly spread beyond sound systems to other ravers and also the police. The first vehicles sped off, seemingly forgetting the basics of a successful convoy - driving slowly bumper-to-bumper so that no vehicles can break up the line. And so the germinal party was stretched out along the motorway. Few vehicles made it onto the site near the village of Mlynec, before police barricaded the site, causing an 8km tailback. Not very many police vehicles blocked the convoy, some felt we could have made them move

through sheer force of numbers. However, the raver convoy stayed in one lane of the motorway, enabling further police vehicles to join their colleagues. These secondary vehicles were visible by their lights from a great distance before they had passed the entire convoy. It would have been easy to block them, but we weren't willing to put ourselves and our homes at risk by being the only ones to block the motorway. In the absence of quick communication and decision-making up and down the line, we waited and did nothing.

By morning a section of fence was down and a few more vehicles had gained access before the police once more jumped in and plugged the gap. From the very start people were able to sneak onto site by foot. The convoy was then asked to leave, but this was only communicated to some. Many dispersed of their own accord. Those who remained were met with heavy force. Relatively quickly, police were already amassing large numbers: we saw some 60 vans, 30 cars, a couple of trucks mounted with water-cannons, and an all-terrain vehicle with a satellite dish.

The rest of friday was spent driving endlessly along country lanes only to encounter road blocks, or sitting tight and messaging info back and forth. A storm hit the Czech Republic hard that night, trees fell and blocked roads while the game of cat and mouse with the police was illuminated by an awesome display of sheet and fork lightning.

In a later statement, police claimed that the contract with the landowner had been broken and therefore revoked. In fact the landowner backed up the teknival organisers, and the contract was shown to be legal. A meeting on saturday between organisers and police was followed by a report in the media that the Prime Minister was giving the Interior Minister full power of authority and resources to stop teknival by any means necessary. Police further claimed their reason for the shut-down was that land surrounding the site was being damaged by ravers on foot (a consequence of the police blockade of vehicles). Again, many locals in fact supported the teknival. In one nearby village, the inhabitants drew up a petition asking for the police to grant ravers unimpeded access to site by the original entrance right by the motorway. This would have prevented large numbers of vehicles passing through, though many villagers were still all smiles and waved.

One Czech man I picked up hitching said he had been taken to a police station and told he could pay his way to safety for Kc1000 (£20). After handing over the money he was beaten, and burned with lighters and matches. He showed me the scars on his arms.





On Saturday morning, with the discovery of an unguarded track through the woods, more freak-mobiles bounced onto site greeted by cheers. When police intervened they were initially held at bay by hastily deployed barricades before once more taking control of access.

Some 6,000 ravers were enjoying teknival when approximately 1,000 police made their move to close down the event at 4.30 pm on Saturday. The brutality of what followed shocked many. Police made a line and showered tear gas and disorientation grenades into the crowd, gradually clearing site over the course of five hours. Individual ravers were randomly attacked by groups of police who wrestled them to the ground and beat and kicked them. Others were hit by CS canisters in the face. Resistance by ravers took the form of a barrage of projectiles, hand to hand combat, and a refusal to immediately concede space to seriously tooled up stormtroopers in body armour. Water-cannons aimed at dance floors pushed back the crowds and surely damaged sound systems.

A Czech internet server, visions.cz, issued the following description: 'There were hundreds of injuries, including cuts, bruises, burnings, broken arms and shock. Many people were in shock still the next day afternoon with red faces from tear gas. Police intentionally damaged cars, electronic equipment and other property. Attack was led with clear intention to cause injuries. People were forced to go to near the highway, which was closed several hours and then the waiting trucks were allowed to go dangerously among the disoriented people. Police confirmed the death of a young man attending the festival. Reportedly he was killed by a truck which left.'

At the time we heard that the police had re-opened the motorway, and while escaping from the site onto the motorway the man was run over by a truck (which had nothing to do with teknival). Photographs since released seem to show the police running over at least one person. Whether these show the same incident is unclear. In the days following teknival the death was the subject of endless speculation and rumours. At one point a second person was supposedly reported dead. Looking at articles on the internet at the time of this rewrite, there is no mention anywhere of at least one person dying. Why? If this death was a result of negligence on the part of the police – which was caused by a response to people dancing and enjoying themselves – the perpetrators are unlikely to be brought to justice.

During the clearing of site, the police line had passed through people tatted down, who thinking the action was over stayed on site. That night, under cover of darkness and with less chance of being filmed, police attacked again. CS gas canisters were thrown into tents and vehicles as people slept, beatings following any attempt to escape.

Although this was the first time someone has been killed at a teknival due to the actions of police - a truly horrible event that many will never be able to forget - violence on this level is not a new phenomenon. Three years ago, a party-goer's hand was blown off in Brittany, France; Dutch police have released dogs onto site; attacks with truncheons and gas have occurred regularly at teknivals across Europe in the last ten years. Taking a wider perspective, police kill people in custody with terrible regularity, and attack minorities on the basis of race or way of life every day.

With no rave to attend, people attempted to park in the local area, where they encountered similar police pressure. Small gatherings still occurred, we can't actually be stopped from making contact. In the aftermath many people and vehicles ended up at Strahov in Praha, and sound systems set up. Disappointment and anger at what had happened was turned into an impulse to be active.

On Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday of the following week thousands of people protested outside the Interior Ministry in Praha. Several sound systems demonstrated with loud music and packed dancefloors, including one 12v rig on a wheel-barrow and another in a rucksack. Much of the music played kept within the bounds of conventions established fifteen years ago or more, though some are seeking to break with the past musically and in other areas of activity also. Over the four days of protest, political interests made their presence increasingly felt, and many sound system people, travellers, and party-goers withdrew

their participation, feeling that their presence was being co-opted for the gain of others.

During this week, police mostly kept out of the picture. With hindsight, it became ever more obvious that they had acted illegally in restricting people's movement, infringed on a legal contract between the teknival organisers and the landowner, and of course essentially murdered a man. Their actions artificially escalated the true nature of the situation, and they acted above the law. Of course, the police heavies are pawns and acted on orders from above. The Czech President criticised the crackdown, but Prime Minister Paroubek said techno enthusiasts were "no dancing children but dangerous people".

Since we left the Czech Republic, there have been further demonstrations, but despite worldwide attention on CzechTek 2005 - mainly due to the level of violence and the international make-up of the party-goers - nothing much has probably changed. Neither the Interior Minister nor the Prime Minister have been forced to step down or felt the need to do so of their own accord. Promises have been made about changes to how the police deal with such situations. Probably more people have been 'politicised', hopefully this will be translated into effective action.

Protests make an appeal to those who hold power and exert authority, the protestors request change through an attempt at 'democratic processes'. As such the authorities determine how much of a threat is posed and whether change benefits the system, and make a decision to either placate the protestors to some extent, or to carry on regardless. Protests vary, from demonstrations - a show of numbers based on reasonable



appeal - to direct action - which ranges from a more concerted effort to exert pressure on perceived wrong-doers and their legislative/controlling agencies, to bypassing 'the system' altogether and living relatively autonomously. Perhaps the key is to be outside the system and attack it at weak points it cannot absorb. To make the jump and stay one step ahead.

Maybe at the political level what happened was a one-off points-scoring political decision, the new Prime Minister's attempt to gain support for his administration with a fresh and breezy display of minority-bashing. However, experience has shown that those in power can more or less do what they like.

For what it's worth, much of the press came out in favour of the ravers, polls suggesting that up to 70% of the Czech public were opposed to the police action. Teknival also brings money into the economy. According to a police statement, the crackdown cost Kc31.35 million (approx. £750,000) of which damage to police property amounted to Kc1.93 million (approx. £50,000).

There is apparently talk among some Czech sound systems of buying land to stage future events; it remains to be seen whether this is a viable solution. Some might say that one of the key aspects of free parties is our intervention to take back space responsibly and put it to better use than chemical farmers, road-builders, industrialists etc.

The events during and after CzechTek 2005 have shown that our spirits cannot be dampened and that our resistance and parties will continue. Hopefully the positive aspects of Czech culture will once more draw people here from all over Europe to get together and party.

* Victims of the police's illegal intervention who want to file charges against the police can contact the League of Human Rights' lawyers on +420 608 719 535 or brno@llp.cz. Witnesses should contact the same address as soon as possible.

* Links:
www.policejnistat.cz
www.czechteknival.freetekno.org
www.llp.cz

- Terry Ordo and accomplices



KONSHUS SOUNDS:

Rather than spend money printing bullshit leaflets that no one reads, Konshus Sounds is committed to putting out Konshus political musik for as long as we can. Our next project is a 15 track CD that will have a 12" also, its themed 'living in a police state' and will be mostly hip hop (with at least one Palestinian group), a couple of ragga tunes, some spoken word and some squat party tinged musik. It's coming out in 2006 with a rewritten version of the 'No Komment' booklet that will be aimed not at 'activists' but at street level heads and distributed at gigs and wherever. Money from the CD/12" will go toward grassroots musik projects in Palestine, a 'dealing with the cops' education initiative in London and future releases of Konshus anti-political and uncompromising musik. We released the 'Fuck The G8' EP which came out in June 2005 just before the G8 summit. It was a coming together of people from the UK Hip Hop scene with people from the squatter/traveller/anarchist scene. 500 vinyl copies were produced (it's still available on the net & in underground outlets) and loads of burnt CD copies went out for free to random kids on the streets of Glasgow & London.

Further info:
 Konshus Sounds
 62 Fieldgate St, London E1
 konshussounds(a) graffiti.net and
 www.konshussounds.com (up soon)



Litmus is a non-profit record label which began in May 2004 with a series of shows on Reverb FM. Playing new, unreleased and experimental music from Brighton, UK. The show launched over 40 local bedroom producers. The profits from live nights and album sales are used to fund free music production and recording workshops. The workshops, which take place weekly in East Brighton are run by Litmus artists and open to all. To date we've worked with a total of 60 acts. Artists can go on to perform at live events (no DJ's! All live sets!) and feature on Litmus radio shows and CD releases. Litmus has a total voluntary staff of around 30. Workshops and open evenings are funded entirely by memberships so if you like the sound of what we do, join! Members receive free CDs, newsletters, e-mail updates and much more for only £10 a year. For a taster, download some tracks from our website or order a copy of the new compilation - "Test 2", which comes out on 23 June - dub, jungle, glitch, gabba, breaks!

Litmus is by the people and for the people. The project's nothing without you so get in touch and get involved!

contact:
info@litmus.org
live@litmus.org
submissions@litmus.org
workshops@litmus.org

www.litmus.org

EUROPEAN ALTERNATIVES RESISTANCE IN THE AREA!

On Saturday 15th April there was a big street parade in Strasbourg. 3000 people from all across Europe united to demonstrate their love of sound-system culture, and against the repression of the counter-culture; the clampdowns on free parties, festivals and squats - and in particular last summer's brutal attack by Czech riot police against the Czechtek tekno festival. United Against Repression! You Might Stop The Party But You Can't Stop The Future!!!!



Since the last issue there has been a lot of repression against anarchists and other rebels across Europe and elsewhere, we are not able to cover it all, but we present here a small selection of the news items that have come to our attention.....

Update on youths from Barcelona charged with Gracia molotov attack -

Last October 4th, three youths were arrested under suspicion of having participated in the petrol bomb attack at the Gracia police barracks. The three youths were brought to court two days after having suffered aggressions, tortures and vexations within the different police barracks they went through. That day, on the 7th, the judge in Barcelona, Mr. Ramirez Suner, decides to let one of them go, a neighbor of Cornell del Llobregat (Barcelona), on bail. The other two were imprisoned based on the self-blaming statements the police obtained from them after having ill-treated them physically and psychologically. A fourth youth was also called to give statement a few days after and was charged but allowed to go until the trial date. The ones imprisoned, from Hospitalet del Llobregat (Barcelona), spent two months in the jail for youths Trinitat (Barcelona) until December 3rd, when they were released with the obligation to sign on in court every week.

During this year three formal complaints for tortures have been submitted, two of which have been put away while the third is still open and we are awaiting for the policemen to give statement. Demonstrations, information talks, gigs and many solidarity actions arrived from around the State and abroad in solidarity with the three youths arrested, this has shown that solidarity has no boundaries and that's why we are still here. At the moment the Barcelona court number 22 is accusing the youths of: damage and public disorder a total sum of 8.5 years in prison and 6.000 euro for damages of the police barracks and urban property. Solidarity has no boundaries. If you are young and rebel you are a target. Salut and Resistance to those who fight & resist every day, Prison bars won't silence our rebel voices.



Basque prisoners suicided - On February 28, Basque political prisoner Igor Angulo was found dead hanging from his cell window in Cuenca Jail at more than 600 kilometers from the Basque Country. He was the only Basque political prisoner in Cuenca. Because of the Spanish dispersal policy before he was transferred to Cuenca in 2001 he was kept in six different jails all around Spain. He was locked in his cell for 18 hours a day. He was tortured when he was arrested in 1996. He is the third Basque political prisoner to be found dead in his cell in the last year and we want to make clear to everybody that this is a consequence of the merciless and brutal Spanish and French governments' prison policy against Basques. Although the official version said he was hanging from his cell window and that he committed suicide neither his family nor the Basque people believe it. The forensic said he was laying on the bed (first contadiction) and his hands were tied by leather shoe laces (forbidden by the prison authorities). His girlfriend was speaking with him through the phone just few hours before his death and they were making plans for the future. He had no reason to committ suicide and the post mortem doesn't provide any proof of suicide. Another prisoner, Roberto Sainz (Bilbao, 1965) felt bad during the morning of Friday the 3rd of March while holding a protest for Political Status in the Spanish prison of Aranjuez (300 miles from the Basque Country). Later on his comrades were told he died from a heart attack at the prison hospital. His lawyers and family denounced medical mistreatment as he didn't get apropiate help. Their funerals and popular protests were brutally attacked by the police. More than 700 Basque Political Prisoners are hostages in more than 80 Spanish and French gaols hundreds of miles away from home. 12 prisoners were killed in the last 20 years and more than 20 relatives were killed on their way to visit them. ETA have not killed anybody as a result of their campaign in the last three years,

12 Basque political activists have lost their lives at the hands of the State. More than 700 Basque political prisoners are kept in 80 prisons all around France and Spain suffering beatings, isolation, medical mistreating, dispersal and denying of most basic rights like studying and speaking in Basque... If the Spanish and French governments are to be considered seriously about their aims towards a political resolution of the conflict they have to change radically their crudel policy against Basque political prisoners and stop treating them as political hostages. Thousands took to the streets to remember the prison dead, but were heavily suppressed by police. Source: Irish Basque Commitee

The case of Ruben & Ignasi, anarchist prisoners in Barcelona - Thursday 9th of February, 3 anarchist comrades were arrested in Barcelona, Spain. The arrests started at 8 in the morning when one of our comrades was coming out of work, he was arrested by balaclava wearing Mossos d'esquadra (a police force belonging to the local government of Catalonia). Later on as another comrade was leaving his home in the center of the city he was also arrested. Later in the afternoon the third to be arrested was released without charges, after being asked many questions about the Italian anarchist movement. For the moment the other two are being charged with arson and public disorder. The charges are related to attacks on the company C.I.R.E. , a public enterprise who's business it is to make a profit from prison labor in the Catalonian prison system, and a sabotage on a Banco Sabadell, a local bank that has been prosecuting a activist for breaking windows in a demonstration. On Saturday the 11th our comrades finally had a bail hearing, where they were told that they would have to wait for trial in prison. This decision will be appealed. As our comrades were leaving the court to be transferred to prison the police attacked the demon-



stration of about 50 of their supporters outside. In the scuffle that followed one of the demonstrators was beaten to point of requiring stitches on his face.

Ignasi has now been released on 3000 Euro bail, more money is needed to secure the legal situation, and solidarity actions are vital in preventing the State burying these comrades alive.

To contact Ruben:

Ruben Masmano Bernel
(Modulo 1 de C.P. Brians)
C.P. Can Brians
Apartado 1000
08760 Martorell
Barcelona
Spain

Funds are urgently needed for the legal cost:
(International Bank account number) IBAN ES52 0182-4209-47-0201518073

(Bank international code)
BIC BBVAESMM

For a full .pdf file in english about the case until now, check out

www.presosalacalle.tk



Basque extradition from London to Madrid - February 27, Basque Inigo Makazaga was extradited to Spain, where he will face charges relating to his political activities while a member of the Basque Students Union. Inigo had been fighting extradition since he arrived in Britain 5 years ago, and he was held at Belmarsh Prison, London. His fiance Ainhoa had arrived at Belmarsh for a normal prison visit with him - to be told he had been extradited several hours earlier. He is currently imprisoned in the central penitentiary in Madrid - awaiting trial. Inigo can be written to there, and cards and letters are much appreciated. All correspondence should be posted to:

Inigo Makazaga
Centro Penitenciaria
Ctra. Comarch 61128791
Soto del Real
Madrid, Spain.

Outcome of the Operation 'Cervantes', Italy - The final hearing concerning the operation 'Cervantes' took place in Rome on February 28. The main charge, 'subversive association' (articles 270 and 270bis) was dropped and all the investigated anarchists, apart from Tombolino (Marco Ferruzzi),

Simone Del Moro and Massimo Leonardi, were cleared. Tombolino was sentenced to 9-year imprisonment (the public prosecutor had proposed 16 years during the previous hearing) and found guilty of having sent a mail explosive device in 2003 that caused a cop to lose two fingers while opening it. Simone Del Moro was sentenced to 6-year imprisonment, the court found him guilty of having carried out an explosive attack against the court in Viterbo in 2004. Massimo Leonardi was sentenced to 3-years imprisonment (the public prosecutor had proposed 12 years for him) and accused of having attacked a McDonald's store. None of the accusations justifying the sentence against Tombolino, Simone and Massimo are proved by reliable evidence. Tombolino and Simone are under house arrest, whereas Massimo was taken to prison. At the moment we don't know his address. The lawyers will appeal.

Court updates of the Lecce 6, Italy - Regular hearings concerning the anarchists investigated in the operation 'Nottetempo' are taking place in Lecce. The jury are wasting a lot of time in discussing bureaucratic questions, and the defence lawyers don't get many chances of presenting any requests in favour of the accused, particularly those who are still in jail. Saverio and Salvatore, two of the accused, are placed on trial in two different closed cages in the courtroom. The trial is a farce. Marina, who is under house arrest, couldn't attend one court hearing because the judicial police failed in taking her to the court. The Lecce anarchists are on trial accused of actions taken against immigrant detention centres, and also for taking part in solidarity actions for Mapuche people in Chile. On the occasion of the trials, anarchists from all over Italy come to Lecce and take part in a great number of solidarity initiatives. A lot of comrades have recently been charged with 'subversive propaganda' (article 272) for carrying leaflets and papers in support of the Lecce 6, others have been charged with a fine of 3,000 euros for blocking the traffic during an action on January 19. Meantime the order of censorship on Salvatore's mail has been removed, but public prosecutor Lino Giorgio Bruno has started a new investigation on conspiracy (article 270bis) against Salvatore and six people who had written to him while he was submitted to censorship. On April 11 there was another court hearing which was to establish the legal status of the priest Don Cesare Lodeserto, who is the ex-director of the immigrant prison San Foca. The defence pre-

sented an appeal to have Marina freed from house arrest, whilst the prosecution argued she be sent back to jail. At the next hearing on April 21, the jury rejected the appeal. Annalisa, who is on bail, could soon be back in prison as the prosecution is seeking her preventive detention. At the end of the hearing on May 5, a proper discussion started. Public prosecutor Lino Giorgio Bruno claimed that the 'subversive association', which our comrades were arrested for, still existed. He added that Salvatore, Saverio, Cristian, Marina were the founders of the association, whereas the other anarchists on trial were simple members. As the hearing finished, seven comrades took their shirts off and showed white t-shirts that all together made the writing LIBERI SUBITO (FREEDOM NOW) on the front and NO CPT (no immigration detention centres) on the back. From inside their cages, Salvatore and Saverio enjoyed the show a lot, which on the contrary was not at all appreciated by the judge.

Other solidarity actions were organised during the week:

May 3. The site of the Red Cross in Lecce was occupied for a few minutes. Banners were hung on the balcony and leaflets were distributed among the employees inside the building and among passers-by outside. The Red Cross is responsible for the management of various detention centres for immigrants (CPT) in Italy. In the evening a number of anarchists interrupted a conference held by Marco Travaglio (a well-known leftist journalist) in Casarano, the town where Marina is under house arrest and from where Salvatore was taken to prison. As leaflets were distributed and a banner was unfold, and one of the comrades explained the reason for the anarchists' action.

May 4. The prisoners in Borgo San Nicola in Lecce were greeted by a noisy group of friends who gathered in front of the prison late in the night.

May 5. Solidarity march in the streets of Lecce.

May 6. Anarchists disrupted a big catholic event in Piazza Duomo in Lecce at the presence of Francesco Ruppi, archbishop of Otranto and boss of Cesare Lodeserto (ex-director of Regina Pacis) and of Angelo Sodano, the pope's right hand. Thousands of little pieces of paper, each one holding a slogan against the church and the CPTs, were thrown among the crowd and in every corner. One of the comrades shouted through a megaphone our anger towards Ruppi, Lodeserto and all the jailers.



The sixth hearing of the trial against the Lecce anarchists took place on May 19. First of all the judge claimed that five people, who had shown T-shirts that all together composed the words 'FREEDOM NOW' at the end of the previous hearing, are banned from attending any future hearing of the trial. Then the first witness, the chief of the Digos (political police) in Lecce, was questioned by the public prosecutor. The latter, who wanted to demonstrate at all costs that the defendants were dangerous to society, tried to make the Digos chief say things that he was unable to articulate, with the result that the officer offered a very poor performance, like a student who hasn't done his homework properly.

The Digos chief went on to claim that anarchy was initially a pacifist doctrine, which became subversive and dangerous after the introduction of the concept of 'affinity group'. The defendants at the trial, said the Digos chief, were representative of the subversive aspect of anarchy, as proved by 24 booklets written by Alfredo Bonanno that had been found in the houses of the arrested anarchists. Alfredo Bonanno, an anarchist comrade who was once identified as the 'leader' of a non-existent organisation, is, the chief of the Digos stressed to underline, a pluri-graduated philosopher ...also graduated in philosophy! When asked by the judge if those 24 booklets were copies of the same text or 24 different texts, the chief Digos was unable to answer. For his part, the public prosecutor revised the illustrative case of the Marini trial, claiming that the latter had unveiled and dismantled a dangerous subversive organisation. It must be pointed out, as the defensive will certainly do at the next hearing, that the Marini trial, in spite of Marini's intention, did not prove the existence of any organisation because the aforesaid organisation was a pure invention of the prosecution. Finally, the jury accepted the appeal of the defence concerning Annalisa, who had once again been put under house arrest. Annalisa was therefore released on bail again, but uniquely for reasons concerning her health and extraneous to the trial. On the contrary, the jury refused the request for Cristian to get permission to work and for Marina to get permission to attend university classes (Marina and Cristian are under house arrest).

After one year from the beginning of the operation, Salvatore and Saverio are still in jail, whereas Marina and Cristian are under house arrest. After each court appearance Salvatore and Saverio are moved to Sulmona and Voghera prisons respectively, but are incarcerated in Lecce for the Trial appearance itself.

Here are the addresses of the Lecce anarchists under arrest since May 12 2005:

Salvatore Signore
Casa circondariale
Borgo S. Nicola
73100 Lecce
Italy

Saverio Pellegrino
Casa Circondariale
Via Prati Nuovi 7
27058 Voghera (PV)
Italy

and those on house arrest:

Marina Ferrari
Via XXI Aprile 29
73042 Casarano (LE)
Italy

Cristian Paladini
Via Don Gnocchi
73100 Lecce
Italy

Anarchist Extradited from Spain to Italy - Francesco Gioia has been extradited from Spain. He was arrested last May in Barcelona after he had escaped from house arrest. Francesco was one of the libertarians in Pisa being accused of 'subversive association' under the infamous article 270 BIS. He's being charged with membership of a Marxist group called Celulas de Ofensiva Revolucionaria (Cells for Offensive Revolution). His trial occurs in early October.

Francesco Gioia
Via Maiano, 10
06049 Spoleto
Italy

Show trial for communist and anti-fascist militants concludes in Paris. - January 12th 2006, Sentence Against SRI, PCE(r) & GRAPO in France:
SRI - International Red Aid
PCE(r) - Communist Party of Spain (reconstituted)
GRAPO - A Militant Anti-Fascist Communist Group

The French Tribunal has made public the verdicts against the 9 militants of the SRI, PCE(r) & GRAPO tried during November and December 2005 in Paris.

- Belen Lopez: 18 months sentence
- Marcos Regueira: 4 Years
- Fernando Hierro Chomon: 7 Years
- Xaquin Garrido: 5 Years
- Josefina Garcia Aranburu: 5 Years
- Marcos Martin Ponce: 6 Years
- Maria Angeles Ruiz Villa: 6 Years
- Gema Rodriguez Miguel: 5 Years
- Antonio Lago Iglesias: 2 Years

On the sentences, the tribunal has underlined the thesis about 'All are GRAPO' elaborated by the Spanish Guardia Civil and their cohort Judge



Garzon, as he has condemned to sentences of 7 - 6 years self-declared militants of the armed revolutionary anti-fascist organisation GRAPO. At the same time and without regret, he condemns militants of the political communist organisation PCE(r) to sentences of 5 - 4 years, and sentences of 2 years to internationalist militants of the SRI. At the reading of the sentences neither Josefina Garcia Aranburu (she has fractured bones, from ill-treatment during the trial in December 2005) nor Marcos Martin Ponce were present. All the material taken away (computers, printers, books, money, etc.) won't be returned. Much of that material and money was personal and used in solidarity and international relations with prisoners and relatives, nothing to do with the development of the revolutionary armed struggle. Meanwhile, at the National Audience in Madrid the show trials against another 13 militants of the AFAPP, SRI, PCE(r) and GRAPO has continued. Of course, it is not a casualty that Paris has applied such hard sentences around the communist and solidarity movement, Its so the Spanish State can also use the tail of 'everything is armed struggle' in their court rooms. For all these reasons, and now more than ever, we demand an amnesty for these fighters of the popular cause. (Source:SRI)

Fugitive anarchist gives herself up in Amsterdam - On January 16, Italian anarchist fugitive was arrested. Rose Ann Scrocco gave herself up citing personal reasons. She had been on the run after Italian authorities sentenced her to 30 years in jail in her absence. Mrs Scrocco was on the list of the 30 most wanted Italian absconders and was wanted from 1991, for kidnapping, subversive association, homicide and membership of an armed band. The Italian government considered her the link between the most radical wing of the anarchist insurrectional groups and Sardinia's bandits who organised kidnappings. The trial in which she was sentenced was the infamous 'Marini' trial, where many anarchists were locked away on fabricated evidence. More information: www.frameup.tk

Action Directe militant dies - Joelle Aubron, 46 years of age died on the 1st of March from cancer. Joelle Aubron was a militant of the left organization Action Directe. She had been condemned to life imprisonment for participating in the assassination of the director of the Renault

automotive company, Georges Besse. She never denounced her comrades or regretted her involvement in the anti-capitalist struggle. Aubron had been released from a French jail in 2004 because of terminal cancer. Three other members of Action Directe are in jail, condemned to life imprisonment: Nathalie Menigon, Georges Cipriani and Jean-Marc Rouillan.

More suspicious deaths on the hands of Londons policeforce - On January 10th West Yorkshire Police raided a house in Plumstead, South East London, looking for a suspect in connection with the shooting of Pc Sharon Beshenivsky. Allegedly the robbers who shot the Pc have links to the Somali community in the Woolwich/Plumstead area. When the police raided the house, alone inside was Nuur Saeed who was unconnected to the accused but later found outside seriously injured. He fell head first from a second story balcony. He died on January 22nd from a massive brain injury. Another man, Paul Coker died on the floor of a cell in Plumstead police station last year. His mother and sister attended a demonstration at Plumstead police station where several hundred people gathered to express their anger over Nuur Saeed's death. "They are experiencing the same unaccountable wall of silence that the de Menezes family are so angry about. The family of Nuur Saeed have all this to come." Right now they are still coming to terms with the death of a loved one. His friends and the local community are furious.

justiceformuurcampaign@googlemail.com.
www.ufcc.moonfruit.com

Squatters arrested and tortured in Barcelona - In the early hours of Saturday, 4th February, on the streets of Barcelona, the police violently arrested 9 people. Three of them remain on remand in Barcelona prisons. Two of them, Rodrigo Lanza and Alex Cisternas, are charged with attempted murder and the third, Juan Pintos, with conspiracy against the authorities. Rodrigo, Alex and Juan left the home of some friends along with a group of others around 6am on Saturday 4th February after a night of partying. When they arrived at the street Sant Pere mes Baix they came face to face with a city police vehicle, parked outside the "teatro de la Anarko Penya Cultural" (an illegal club under the guise of a squatted social centre but without any connection to the wider squatter movement). Until this moment, the street appeared calm and the police appeared to be

turning a blind eye to the illegal activities in Anarko Penya. The young people tried to enter the building but were refused entry by the people inside. When they tried to leave, the police blocked their way and instructed them to leave by a different route. When they tried to dispute this, a heated argument ensued during which they were subjected to racial abuse by the officers. As things got more heated, the police started to beat them. Three of them were beaten so brutally that they ended up on the ground at which point one officer instructed another to arrest them. By the end of the incident, nine young people had been arrested and one police officer was unconscious on the ground. The officer was moved to hospital where he remained in a coma. The story of what happened to this officer has changed twice, to fit in with the charges against Rodrigo and Alex. The story initially, as reported to the media by Barcelona Mayor Joan Clos, was that he had been hit by a flower pot thrown from a balcony of Anarko Penya. 16 hours later, the police issued a new version of events in which the officer could have been hit by any object thrown from the building. The following day, a police spokesman claimed that the officer had been hit by a stone thrown from the streets by three detained young men. This has remained the official version of events. Clearly, if the first version of events is true, then it is impossible for Rodrigo, Juan and Alex to be the perpetrators, since they were never in the building. It appears that the story changed in order to fit the arrests that were made. When the three appeared in court, their clothes were drenched with blood. One had head injuries and one had both arms broken. Two have received hospital treatment since being detained, but were told by police officers as they went in that if they told anyone where they got their injuries, the officers would wait outside for them and kill them.

RODRIGO ANDRES LANZA
HUIDOBRO
C.P. Jovenes
C/ Padre Manjon 2
08033 BARCELONA
SPAIN

JUAN PINTO GARIDO
C.P. Jovenes
C/ Padre Manjon 2
08033 BARCELONA
SPAIN

ALEX RUBEN CISTERNAS AMESTICA
Apartado de Correos 20
C.P. La Modelo
08080 BARCELONA
SPAIN

www.karcelona.revolt.org

'Barcelona 6' sentencing demands announced - The demands of the State prosecution against the imprisoned anarchist comrades the 'Barcelona 6' have been announced. The 'Barcelona 6' are accused of belonging to an armed anarchist cell that carried out actions in solidarity with people arrested at the European Summit in Thessaloniki in 2003. Inigo has been declared a "trial rebellion" because he is still on the run. Comrade Teo is being tried for a 9 million pesetas fine and a demand of 5 to 10 years in prison. Comrade Roger who is on bail, is being tried also for a massive fine and more than 50 years of prison. The other imprisoned comrades (Rafa, Carol, Igor and Joaquin) are also demanded to pay a fine and some of them are looking at more than 100 years of prison... There is no doubt that this grief is not more than the lynching of our comrades and an attack against the anarchist movement as a whole. We cannot allow them to get away with this and we should mobilize to show our firmness in our convictions and in the solidarity towards our imprisoned comrades!

Contact them:

Carolina Forne Roig
C.P. Avila.
Ctra. Vicolozano-Brieva, s/n
05194 Brieva, Avila.
Spain

Rafael Tomas i Gaspar
C.P. de Topas Ctra. n-630,
km. 314,
37799- Topas (Salamanca)
Spain

Igor Quevedo Aragai
C.P. MADRID VI Aranjuez
Crtra Nacional 400- km 28
Apdo 2000, 28300 Aranjuez
Madrid
Spain

Joaquin Garcias Villacampa
C.P. Navalcarnero. Ctra. Nacional V, km
27,7. 28600 Navalcarnero Madrid. Spain

www.presosalacalle.tk

Spain - White Noise Torture in Langraitz Prison for expressing solidarity - Several days ago, at the disgust at the assassination of the two Basque political prisoners Igor and Baru, I refused to take food in my prison cell and wore a sign around my neck in solidarity and against their deaths which the prison director took exception to. Then because my rejection to take it off, the head screw pulled it off and ordered my immediate removal to an isolation wing, and it has now been a week ago when I was released from it. It was a provisional measure until they decided just what to do the following day however they didn't require such a long time, as ten minutes afterwards I was informed to



pack up my belongings, as the decision was already taken: 'I will be able to carry on with a normal life but it will be only in this Department of Isolation'. I asked to talk with the Director but I was refused by the head of the screws, which had the last word on the matter. The Prison Directors have yet to come forward so therefore I assume that they are legally the persons responsible detaining me in isolation for my actions.

The sanction was not to put me in temporary isolation but to confine me to this Department. There are very special people passing through here, psychologically very deteriorated, its enough to spend one night or several weeks in isolation. You can continuously hear people that cry, that scream, that kick the door because they have soiled the bed or want to smoke, you can hear them being handcuffed and how they go and how others come.

To hear all this going on in the next cell creates a feeling of impotence, a lot of anger but also a lot of tension. Recently they had to take me away with a crisis of anxiety and palpitations. This is the sanction that Langraitz imposes for condemning the assassinations of the Basque comrades, a sanction that I denounce as 'White' noise torture.

A special embrace for Igor & Baru. For your struggle and your commitment.

Jose Banos Andujar
Political Prisoner of GRAPO
Langraitz Prison, Spain.
March 2006

New prison abolition organisation launched in Britain - On the 28 January at seminar held at Conway Hall, London, many former prisoners, activists, academics, health and prison workers came together to begin cooperation on a new campaign against prisons called 'No More Prison'. Calling for the end of prison building and imprisonment, the organisation focuses on the changes we need in society to prevent an industry and culture of mass incarceration. Britain locks up more people than any of country in Western Europe, currently standing at over 88,000 children, women and men. No More Prison wishes to distinguish itself as an abolitionist project apart from the prison reform groups which have been 'entangled with New Labour's law and order project', but No More Prison will be an activist organisation open to all who oppose mass incarceration. It was agreed that it was crucial that group remained as broad based as possible and maximized the participation of current and former prisoners.

www.alternatives2prison.uk.com

Youths attacked by fascists in Swit-

zerland - 5 right wing extremists attacked 3 young people in Lenzburg, on the 27th April. The fascists were four Germans and one Swiss between 16 and 24 years, their victims were three Swiss young people. After being hit in the face, two victims succeeded to escape. But the third has severely beaten and hospitalised. The five extremists have been seized by police and are in detention awaiting trial.

Italy - Fire against squatted social centre 'Red Zone' in Naples - Two fires were set by unknown malicious individuals, destroying all the seats, chairs, computers and equipment of a collective self-organised project. Any materials not wrecked by fire were seized by police. The inhabitants of the squatted project were lucky to escape with their lives. "Anyone, single or group, simple idiot pyromaniac or simple frustrated bundle, must know that the hard work, the enthusiasm and the anger of all will not be extinguished from flames. Our engagement is one to construct a social experience and political will that stretches to join, to combine, to hold tight all those who in our zone are excluded,"

Anarchist arrested for military desertion at an anti-prison benefit in Italy - During an four day anti-prison initiative benefit in Genoa, a patrol of police officers identity controlled Marzio Muccitelli in order to execute an arrest warrant for military desertion. We emphasize that this arrest happens during an anti-prison gathering and in solidarity to the prisoners in struggle. This arrest seems, moreover, to become part of a wide repressive campaign of the Italian State. Marzio has refused for 15 years to serve the Italian army. Currently he is in the jail of Marassi...

Marzio Muccitelli,
Piazzale Marassi 2,
16139 Genova
Italy

2 more anarchists arrested for direct action in Italy - 2 anarchists were arrested in Lucca on March 30th, for attempting to set fire to Forza Italia offices. The men were followed back to their residence by Digos (political police) and captured. They are being blamed for a series of incendiary attacks on banks, ATMS, and electric/telecommunications boxes.

Free Antonietta, Paul and Ivano! - 3 comrades were arrested in Nuoro, Italy, on April 3, accused of 'subversive association' for the attempted attack of 22 March against the offices of fascist group 'National Alliance'. The 3 companions were for a long time followed by Digos that had placed in the car of one of them a bugging device. Other comrades have been denounced and questioned. There was a banner held in the public square, the police tried to snatch it unsuccessfully. "The fascist repression still hits, but we do not surrender! Antonietta, Paul, Ivano! Solidarity!"

Call to mobilize for the trial against the 6 anarchists arrested in Barcelona, September 2003, from Aachen4 prisoner Bart de Geeter - "Since September 2003, 4 of the 6 accused anarchists from Barcelona are on remand. Last month the punishments demanded by the prosecutor for the 6 have been made known. Punishments which go till 117 years, for accusations of being part of a terrorist organisation, unlawful possession of weapons and explosives, Again, anarchists are standing before the court as it was constantly in the last few years and again we have nothing to expect about the possible outcome.

I do not want to stand still by the facts which are clear. I do not want to say again what has been said and written already so many times. It is clear that this Europe is united to wipe out every possibility for subversive action, to keep an eye on every brooding nest where revolutionary ideas are still alive, to cast this system of bourgeois self-satisfaction and save it from a future that endangers its existence.

The question that poses itself is which dynamic can we develop against all this? What can we, honestly and within our possibilities and ideas, make happen so that they do not have their hands totally free? What are our priorities in this reality, not only towards the existent, but also towards imprisoned comrades, towards each other, so that we can wake up in the morning and look each other in the eyes with trust, can look forward?

The minimum is complicity in revolutionary solidarity, even if it is to show our comrades that they are not alone against this state violence. We may not know these comrades, ignore their concrete history and experiences. We can discuss about strategy/tactics and eventually about the trembling word 'violence', but does this stand in the way of the expression of solidarity and affection towards anarchists who stand before this power, courts and prisons, our natural enemies?

Solidarity is one of the fundamentals in the active daily struggle of every anarchist. It is what gets us out of isolation, enriches us, and connects the struggles. All too often this responsibility is left to anti-repression groups, while it is a responsibility of all of us. Everyone

of us has to familiarize him/herself with the techniques of repression, because tomorrow it is one of you who will be locked up, and then you have to know what you can expect from each other. How broader and more diverse the solidarity, how stronger we stand, as well inside as outside of the walls. Think, consult, discuss and act. Blow life in the struggle. It begins with you.

In some months will the trial against the 6 begin. After somewhat 3 years they will appear before the "Audiencia Nacional", the Supreme Court, in Madrid. Now it is the time to prepare, to spread information, to think about what to do. Those who have the chance or the possibility to go to Madrid, make contacts... it is certain that you will be received with open arms by comrades in the South. For all others, let yourself be inspired by the creativity and variety of (direct) actions carried out last years in solidarity with anarchist prisoners.

In the end, this is a call to all those who still carry the anarchist struggle proudly and generously in their hearts. For all those who know that the now does not wait for the future and that all change demands movement. This is for all who feel themselves concerned with this human struggle for freedom which this Europe wants to declare dead and bury under lock and key. This is a call to a movement that knows to honor its prisoners and realizes that we only have each other and that this is our strength in the face of the state.

Let an anarchist storm blow through their castles of justice! Let them know that their systematic repression will not stop this movement of revolt!
Solidarity with all who struggle for freedom and dignity!

Solidarity with the Barcelona 6!
Solidarity with Igor, Rafa, Carol, Joaquin, Roger and Teo!
For Anarchy!"

Bart De Geeter
March 2006
J.VA. Dusseldorf

www.escapeintorebellion.info

Rescat statement on the illegal raid of an activists flat by the Mossos d'Esquadra (regional police of Catalonia) - In the morning of 9th February the Mossos d'Esquadra appeared at Zigos flat, where his partner lived, telling the neighbours they had received a report of a break-in. Four individuals in uniform arrived at 5am asking the neighbours to open the door of the building and they entered the flat without forcing its door (it is not known whether they had the key for the flat or a Skeleton Key). When leaving, they asked the neighbours to go in the flat to see where the

thieves had escaped through (apparently through the kitchen window) and asked them for the telephone number of the person in charge of the flat. They left and left the light on and the door open.

Three days later, the neighbours phoned Zigos father because they thought it was strange that nobody had been in the flat after the facts and that the door was still open. Zigos father, along with the lawyer Frances Arnau, called in the flat and realised about the irregularity of the situation, because nothing had been lifted from the flat, except for a pair of sunglasses, a transport card and a set of keys for the flat. All papers and books with political or alternative social content had been touched and were laying everywhere on the floor, all mixed so that it was not possible to know whether anything was missing or not. The window of the kitchen had been taken off from inside the flat and had been left on the floor carefully. It is obvious that it is completely impossible that some supposed thieves had used it as their way in. All these reasons make us doubt that anybody broke in, but rather they point to an illegal police raid, since it is difficult to understand why the Mossos would leave the flat the way they did (open and without telling the owners), and that nothing valuable is missing. A denouncement has been presented to the Mossos d'Esquadra, but it is being dealt with in a very dodgy way, without any kind of explanation or investigation. Moreover, they have insinuated that the denouncement will be put aside. On behalf of Zigos parents, and with the support of Rescat, we intend to take this denouncement to wherever it is necessary so that the facts become clear and to make this police body assume its responsibility and explain the reasons of this illegal raid.

Rescat (Collective in support of political prisoners) Barcelona, 23 Feb 2006.

European nations aided illegal CIA terror network - 14 European countries - including Britain, Italy and Germany - colluded with the CIA in operating secret prisons and transferring suspects for interrogation, a European rights group said on Wednesday 7 June. A report by the Council of Europe identified a "spider's web" of landing points around the world used by the US authorities for the practice of "extraordinary rendition", the secret transfer of security suspects to third countries or US-run detention centres, where torture and murder routinely occur. "The United States ... actually created this reprehensible network. But we also



believe to have established that it is only through the intentional or grossly negligent collusion of the European partners that this 'web' was able to spread also over Europe," the report said. "It is now clear - although we are still far from having established the whole truth - that authorities in several European countries actively participated with the CIA in these unlawful activities," Dick Marty, the Swiss legislator leading the investigation, said in the report. "Other countries ignored them knowingly, or did not want to know," he said in the report's conclusions. Poland and Romania are accused by the council of running secret detention centres on behalf of the US Central Intelligence Agency. The report lists Sweden, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Britain, Italy, Macedonia, Germany and Turkey as countries "responsible, at varying degrees ... for violations of the rights of specific persons." The document also says seven other countries that "could be held responsible for collusion - active or passive" - Poland, Romania, Spain, Cyprus, Ireland, Portugal and Greece. The report documents 14 individuals subjected to "extraordinary rendition" with alleged European collusion. They include an Egyptian cleric abducted by a CIA squad in Italy and six Bosnians of Algerian origin now held at the US detention camp at Guantanamo Bay. The Strasbourg-based Council of Europe was set up after World War II to promote democracy and human rights across the continent.

New anarchist prisoner in UK - British eco-anarchist, Garfield Gabbard, (founder of the prisoner advice group PAVAN) has been sentenced to 21 months imprisonment for "Affray" (after he jumped onto the bonnet of a car and then kicked a security guard who pulled him off the car, whilst on an anti-vivisection demonstration). For those who don't know Garfield, he is an anarchist punk (in his 40s now) who is involved with a lot of different things including anti-fascism, trade unionism, social justice, squatting, earth/animal lib, hunt sabbing, etc. Previously Garfield has been imprisoned (in the mid-1990s) for kidnapping & beating up a rapist. Then, in the early 2000s Garfield was jailed for setting fire to a police riot van during an anti-capitalist/anti-globalisation protest (1999 N30 protests). Garfield was masked up when he set fire to the police riot van, but another so-called protester decided to take a dislike to Garfield's action and removed his mask, allowing the police to clearly identify him.

Garfield is an outspoken anarchist/activist and someone who is well worth supporting. Last time he was inside he spent a lot of his time trying to drum up, from his own supporters, support for Mark Barnsley and other anarchist prisoners. He is also on trial for allegedly threatening to kill a member of the neo-nazi British National Party.

Garfield Marcus Gabbard, TB4271
HM Prison Moorland (Closed)
Bawtry Road
Hatfield Woodhouse
Doncaster
DN7 6BW
England

Garfield welcomes all letters of support, but is concerned that some of his mail is not reaching him. If you've written to Garfield and not received a reply, please write again.

More fascist murders in Russia - 16th of April, a 19 year old anti-fascist Aleksandr 'Shtopor' Ryukhin was murdered near club 'Planeta Lda', where German punk hardcore band 'Tackleberry' was about to play later in the evening. Aleksandr was approaching club with his friend, when jumped by 6-8 Nazis. There was not any fight, Aleksandr was immediately stabbed in the heart and died before paramedics arrived 30 minutes later. His friend was also wounded to head, but not seriously. The fascists wore special gloves and were clearly prepared to kill. But unlike with murder of Timur Kacharava in November of 2005, fascists were not targeting any particular person. Despite his anti-fascist sympathies and the fact that police discovered anti-fascist stickers in his pockets, it is likely that he was targeted first of all just as a random guest of a punk hardcore concert as he is not a political activist. Such a tactic of indiscriminate terror is also applied against immigrant groups and foreign students. Currently there are no arrested suspects.

Just 3 days before the murder, there was a major fascist pogrom in the city of Volzhk of Volgograd region, known for its active anti-fascist movement. 20-30 people attacked local Roma community, murdering two and wounding at least two others.

7th of April another fascist murder in St. Petersburg made headlines, when student and member of 'African unity', Senegalese Lanzar Samba, born 1978 was shot dead with a shotgun 6 AM where returning home with friends from nightclub 'Apollo'. The murderers left a shotgun with a Swastika written on it at the place of the killing.



Leaks reveal US & UK intelligence agencies trained Greek secret services to spy on both the prime minister and the anarchists! - "The surveillance scandal which was 'revealed' in Greece is actually nothing new. The new fact is that it is coming to confirm with the most loud way that the 'Big Brother', the surveillance police state society in other words, is a regular condition and not an error of the global established regime. The media were shocked and they are still playing the story, mainly because among the list of the 100 tapped mobile phone numbers there were the personal mobiles numbers of ministers, other state employees and of the prime minister himself. Of course the continuous play of this scandal by the mainstream media and the State has another purpose: To hide the fact that the surveillance against society, either through phone bugging or through surveillance cameras or even through 'secret' agents or civil cops, didn't begin before the Olympics and it will not finish now with this 'revelation' as long as there are exploited and exploiters. Whoever is surprised by such 'news' is either unable to understand the social and class war that is going on, or he is on the side of the authority. All these tapped mobile numbers belong to the Vodafone multinational company and it was 'revealed' that the surveillance began a few months before the Olympic Games. The installation of the spy software was done in the software of Vodafone's main servers, and the Vodafone antennas which were used for spying are located around the region of the USA embassy in Athens.

On the same moment the Overseas Security Advisory Council that operates in the USA embassy of Athens is declaring openly its purpose of existence (<http://www.osac.gov/about/mission.cfm>) and continues to monitor the activities of the social resistance movement and especially the anarchists (<http://athens.osac.gov>).

In the list of the tapped phones there were the names of four comrades from the Antiauthoritarian Movement: Grigoris Tsilimantios, Argiris Mouratidis, Attila Ihtiar and Marina Meintani (who used to be a member of the antiauthoritarian newspaper "Babylonia"). On the 9/02/2006 a demonstration was called by trade unions, political and social organisations, against surveillance and "Big Brother" type society. We participated by forming a block in this demonstration. The march began from the Aristotelous Square and passed from the USA embassy, UK embassy and finished at the local Ministry.

At the moment the demonstration started the protestors tried to destroy a surveillance camera of the police, by attempting to throw down the 12-meter-high pylon on which the CCTV was attached. Immediately the police attacked with a few riot police squads and a new type of chemical which causes dizziness and disorientation. The demonstrators clashed with the riot cops and the attack was blocked successfully allowing the march to continue, even if the attempt to destroy the CCTV was unsuccessful. No arrests took place and there was one injured riot cop. Later, on the way, a Vodafone store was spray painted.

On the same day a similar demonstration took place in Athens as well.

We have already said, and we declare it once more that the real sense of this case is that the parasites of authority, who live by exploiting society and by assaulting the social fighters, must receive a response by the community of all who are part of the social struggles, a response by the people who don't compromise and refuse to sell out their existence and dignity to the mechanisms of authority, to the bosses and to the state. In this category belong the three imprisoned social fighters P. Aspiotis, P. Karasarinis and G. Kalaitzidis, and we will continue to struggle for their final release.

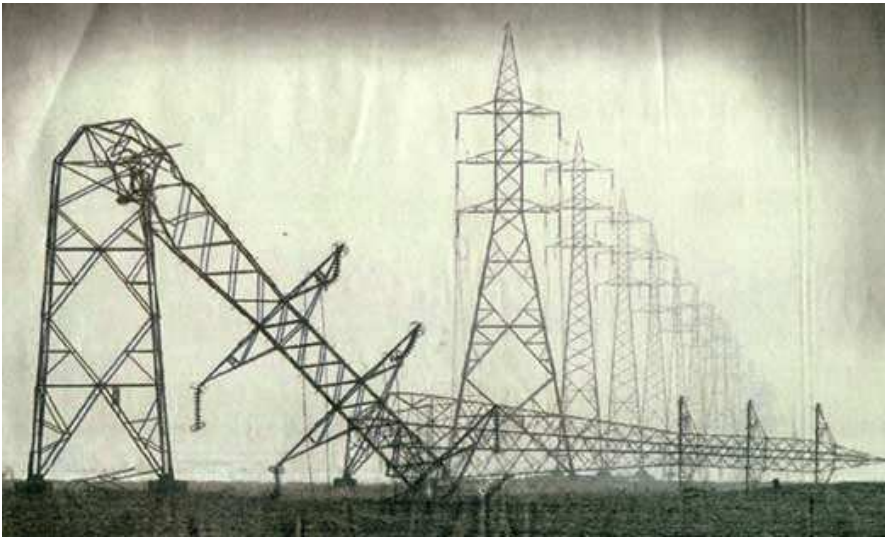
. . . the struggle goes on . . ."

DIGNITY
SOLIDARITY
RESISTANCE

AGAINST THE "BIG BROTHER" POLICE
STATE

Greece, 10/02/06
Antiauthoritarian Movement (Assembly of
Thessaloniki)

'Il Silvestre' collective targetted after attack on power lines - Ten anarchists associated with the group 'Il Silvestre' in Pisa, who produce the publication 'Terra Selvaggia' were arrested on May 4 on the order of public prosecutor Angela Pietroiusti from Florence, who is also leading the infamous 'C.O.R.' investigation is targetting the collective. 5 of the arrested anarchists are held in prison, whereas four are under house arrest. The accusations are: Conspiracy to overthrow the State (article 270bis), possession of explosives and attack against a nuclear power line (an event in September 2005 which saw an electricity pylon in the mountains near Pisa being damaged by explosives). On the same day three anarchists were arrested in Rome on order of public prosecutor Salvatore Vitello. It seems that these arrests are in connection with public prosecutor Pietroiusti's investigation in Florence, but the three are actually accused of stealing a car. The day after their arrest, two of the comrades were given house arrest (no phonecalls, no visits, etc).



Below is a list of all those who have been remanded as a result of the various raids/arrests. Former ALF prisoner, Sergio Maria Stefani, is one of the people who was arrested in Rome and its been confirmed he has been put under house arrests. Matteo Furcolo has been released, but got house arrest. Here's the names and prison addresses:

Costantino Ragusa
Casa Circondariale
via Prati Nuovi 7
27058 Voghera (PV)
Italy

Silvia Guerini
Carcere "La Dozza"
Via Del Gomito 2
40127 Bologna
Italy

Federico Bonamici
Casa di Reclusione
via Nuova Poggioreale 177
80143 Napoli Poggioreale (NA)
Italy

Giuseppe Bonamici
Nuova Casa Circondariale "San Michele"
Strada Casale 50/A
15100 Alessandria
Italy

Benedetta Galante
Casa Circondariale
Contrada Capo di Monte
via E. Novelli n1
82100 - Benevento (BN)
Italy

To contact the group for solidarity, cash aid, etc:

Il Silvestre
via del Coure no1
56100
Pisa
Italy

More arrests in Barcelona for actions against the prison industry!

- On Tuesday the 9th of May four anarchist comrades were arrested in Barcelona. Our comrades Pau, Kike, Javi, and Alvero are being accused of destruction of property and of making threats against the director of prisons in Catalunya and against the boss of the union of prison guards. They are also being accused of possession of material to make explosives even though the searches of their homes turned up nothing!

On the 11th of May the four were released on bail to await trial after passing two days in police custody. They didn't have to post bail to insure their release. Although we are very happy to have our comrades on the outside with us we can't forget Ruben (who was recently denied bail again) or our comrades arrested September 16th 2003 (Barcelona 6). The struggle continues!!!

French school closes to become youth prison and police barracks

- On Wednesday 24 May, the local council of Mantes la Jolie, whose mayor is a close friend of Nicholas Sarkozy- the notorious right-wing presidential wannabe, announced the closure of a school in their area. Not only will this force the local kids into a recently built new school (completed by 'Bouyges', a company behind the ongoing building project of prisons and other disciplinary centres in France, and run along 'reformed' lines- i.e. semi-privatised), but, to add insult to injury, the grounds of the old school and part of an adjoining sports ground are to be used to build a new police station and a CEF, a closed education centre, the current french euphemism for a Borstal (UK slang for a youth prison). And to be built by?? you guessed it - 'Bouyges' and their partners in crime 'Nexity' and

'Carpi'. This is the latest in a wave of new prisons for kids that are springing up around France.

"Terrorist" prosecutions in Magdeburg (Germany) - Update Feb '06

- On 27.11.2002 in Magdeburg, a little town at the former border of East and West Germany, Marco Heinrichs and Daniel Winter were arrested. Since to form a "terrorist association" it is necessary, according to the infamous §129a law, to have at least 3 persons, so a third person, Carsten, was arrested, charged and imprisoned five months later, in April 2003. They were suspected of having committed several fire bombings in Magdeburg: on August 21, 2001 against the Daimler-Chrysler concern (claimed by "Revolutionary Action Carlo Guilian"), on February 18, 2002 against several vehicles of the communication concern Telekom (claimed under the name of "Commando Global Resistance"), and on March 18, 2002 against the local public prosecution office and, almost at the same time, an attempt to burn vehicles of the border police (both attacks claimed by "Commando: Liberation of all political prisoners").

At the end of the summer of 2003, after having been locked up in custody for almost one year, the trial happened against the three young men suspected of having committed several fire bombings (against Daimler-Chrysler, Telekom, against the local state prosecution office and, an attempt to burn vehicles of the border police). They were also charged with "membership of a terrorist association" (§129a) started: Marco got 2,5 years and all the costs of the trial, Daniel got 2 years, and Carsten was acquitted. Following appeal trials Marco is at the moment free, but will have to return to prison soon to finish his sentence (around one and a half years). Daniel will have also to serve a further prison sentence, while Carsten stays free. Details will be available from the ABC.

5,432 immigrants in Greece questioned in massive security sweep orchestrated by MI6

- In July/August 2005 at the request of MI6, 5,432 immigrants were "questioned", 2,172 immigrants were "probed", 1,221 were arrested for "other reasons" (other presumably than terrorism) and six of these were deported. The massive sweep across Greece was carried out by over 1,000 law enforcement units including state security, immigration and counter-terrorism officers. According to the Greek authorities, "The British sent a very long list of individuals seen as being involved in the 7 July attacks". MI6 (the UK's external intelligence agency or Secret Intelligence Service, SIS) had sent a request to Athens about a specific Al-Qaeda operative with a Greek mobile number (a number

which had too many digits and might have been a "cryptographic" code, or simply wrong). A number of other Greek mobile numbers supposedly linked to the suicide bombers of 7 July 2005 were also provided. Also 28 Pakistani men were abducted, held in secret houses, questioned and subjected to torture. Three of the men were interviewed by the Athens News - Gul Nawaz, Mohammed Nazir and Mohammed Munir, who were abducted from their homes in Petralona, Athens.

They were driven to a house where they were interrogated, fed once a day and slept on the floor for between two to six days before being released. Gul Nawaz said: "They covered our eyes by pulling our shirts over our heads. They drove us blindfolded for about an hour and a half - a long time... Two times the policeman hit me. Then I asked for some water and he punched me hard in the face..

Mohammed Munir said: "They questioned me over five days, between one and three hours each time. They asked me lots of questions about London. They hit me very hard on the head." Frangisko Ragousis, a lawyer representing seven of those abducted, said that his clients' testimony shows several foreign, English-speaking agents were involved in the interrogations. Nawaz said one of them was an English-speaking black man.

Javed Aslan, President of the Pakistani Community in Greece, said the men had been physically abused: "There was a dark-skinned British spy who was apparently in charge. One man was threatened with a pistol that was shoved in his mouth, others were hit." The Greek magazine Pro Thema broke the story in December and named the MI6 head of station in Athens as well as 15 Greek EYP agents - the accuracy of the latter appears to be confirmed as the EYP said this endangered "the safety of its agents in the field". Justice Minister, Anastasios Papaligouras, said that law enforcement cooperation with the UK was based on a "1961 law" providing for the exchange of evidence and court records. This appears to be a reference to the 1959 Council of Europe European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (ratified by Greece in 1962). However, this Convention in Article 1.2 says: "This Convention does not apply to arrests". The Convention applies to supplying evidence and records but not arrests and certainly not detention for questioning.

Tony Bunyan, editor of 'Statewatch', commented: "The Public Order Minister confirmed that the 28 men were not part of the massive sweep last summer. It was clearly



a separate intelligence agency operation carried out by EFY at the behest of MI6. If they had been arrested the

questioning would have taken place at police stations where they would have had the right to legal advice and regular meals etc. They were not arrested but abducted by intelligence agents, held incommunicado in secret houses, denied legal advice, and in a number of cases suffered abuse and ill-treatment."

The UK Home Office denies any allegations of kidnapping and torture.

Case against the 'Gracia 3' filed (Spain) - The Spanish National Court has filed today the case against the "Gracia 3". The three youths had been arrested in Gracia (Barcelona) in 2003, for exploding a device in a bank office, after the confession of a youth who had been tortured by police. The 'Gracia 3' also suffered torture at the hands of the pigs. They were accused of being part of a subversive group, but the attorney has asked that the case be filed because of the lack of proof. In fact, according to the collective 'Alerta Solidaria', it is not the first time that the attorney of the Spanish National Court tried to file the case, but the Judge of Barcelona that dealt with it from the beginning persisted. The Supreme Court decided that it was not its competence to sentence the case and took it back to the Spanish National Court, which in turn decided to definitively file the case because of lack of evidence and confessions produced through torture. For more than 4 years that the process has taken, the youths have received much support from the people of Gracia and on 8th April a demonstration was held in the neighbourhood, in which more than 2000 people took part.

USA - 'Operation Backfire' court latest - Extensive repressive attacks have happened against the environmental, anarchist and animal rights movement, and it's not over yet. A 9 year investigation led by the FBI and involving a dozen police forces, paid informants and media complicity, has culminated in wide-spread raids, prison and grand jury subpoenas. In the latest development of this situation, Nathan Fraser Block and Joyanna Lynn Zacher have been denied bail and jailed pending trial. Block and Zacher were arrested Feb. 20 and charged with participating in arson at the former Romania truck dealership in Eugene in March 2001, and with arson at the Biotech facility 'Jefferson Poplar Farm' in Clatskanie in May 2001. Defense lawyers for Block, 26, and Zacher, 28, argued that their clients allegedly were involved in only two of the 18 acts of arson and sabotage covered in the federal conspiracy case, and that they

did not have extensive contact with other alleged co-conspirators. Block and Zacher, who have lived together in Olympia for the past 6 1/2 years, face a minimum sentence of life plus 45 years in prison if convicted on all counts. The 13 'Backfire' co-defendants are scheduled for trial Oct. 31 in Eugene. In an hourlong hearing on Thursday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Kirk Engdall told Judge Coffin that five co-conspirators who are cooperating with the prosecution have said Block and Zacher advocated violence against individuals, and that they practiced using firearms. The discussion of violence happened during secret "book club" meetings that the radical cell allegedly conducted over an 18-month period in four states during which they studied firebomb construction, surveillance techniques, target selection and other topics, Engdall said. One co-conspirator told investigators that Block continuously advocated violence, Engdall said. "He had no moral opposition to killing others," Engdall told the judge. Three co-conspirators revealed that Block and Zacher helped spike 184 trees in the Judy Timber Sale near Cottage Grove in February 2001, Engdall said. The spiking, which is not charged in the indictment, put loggers and millworkers at risk of injury because some of the spikes were hammered deeply and hidden, he said. In making his ruling, Coffin focused on allegations that Block and Zacher endangered people and advocated violence. Coffin said it was fortunate that no one was injured or killed in any of the 18 incidents cited in the indictment. Four 'Backfire' defendants have been released pending trial, six are being held and three are fugitives. Most of the accused are looking at life sentences, in what has been likened to a 'Green-Scare' similar to the communist witch-hunts of yesteryear. Detained activist Bill Rogers, 40, from Arizona, was found dead in his cell on the 21st December 2005, having apparently committed suicide by placing a plastic bag over his head. Bill was a long-time community activist from Arizona where he ran the 'Catalyst Infoshop' book store out of his home. All the accused are charged with serious crimes in defence of the earth and animal kingdoms, crimes where not a single being was hurt, yet they face a lifetime of prison. Many of the defendants are cooperating with the authorities and have informed on their former comrades. As 325 comes out only once a year, and this is a fast-changing ongoing situation, look out for further information, check out:

www.ecoprisoners.org
www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk

Moroccan police burned a Saharawi detainee with benzene -Moroccan police burned a Saharawi man with benzene while submitting him to torture and interrogation in the police station of the occupied capital of the Western Sahara, El Aaiun. The man was transported in emergency to a hospital in the Moroccan city of Agadir (600 km in the north of El Aaiun) where he was put under high medical care. Since the starting of the Saharawi intifada (peaceful popular uprising) last May 2005, two persons were killed under torture, hundreds have been wounded and hundreds detained, including 14 still in custody in different Moroccan prisons.



Cashless societies and consumer surveillance

Smartcards are considered to be the future for credit transactions in a cashless society. They form the basis of modern secure ID cards, because of their ability to store complex amounts of data, such as biometric readings. The ability to fit the smartcard to other devices means that they are really flexible in use. Wireless technology means that they can function from a distance, speeding up time for the fast pace of modern life.

Capitalism has created an environment that is ideal for mass surveillance.

Profiling of consumer habits, location, credit transactions, voice and image recording, within expanding databases, means the individual consumer can be viewed as a point in a network where the relationships between people can be viewed, evaluated, travelled along. Profilers are able to survey the consumption patterns and habits of broad ranges of people, for the purpose of developing markets and understanding consumer opinion and anticipating losses. The State uses it to identify, investigate and consolidate control.

Phones with creditcard smartchips are used in Japan to pay for public transport and consumer items, many have the ability to take pictures, listen to mp3's, check GPS location and surf the net. Police in London are increasingly turning to 'Oyster' smartcards to track criminals' movements. The 'Oyster' 'smart' travel cards, each with a unique identification number, are used by five million Londoners and record details of each bus, subway or train journey made by the holder over the previous eight weeks. The Metropolitan Police said it was a "straightforward investigative tool". 229 of the 243 requests so far made by police to access records were granted, the figures disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act show.

Economic reports from last year suggested the amount spent on cards in the UK was about to outstrip cash, and some analysts assert that 'it is only a matter of time before notes and coins become redundant'. Hong Kong and Malaysia have a smartcard which can be used for travel, ID and other payments, and without resistance, this will become more common in the future. Smart card companies have been recent guests to meetings with the G8. The G8 consider this product essential for poverty struck Africa, in the lucrative privatization of various State health, welfare and social systems.

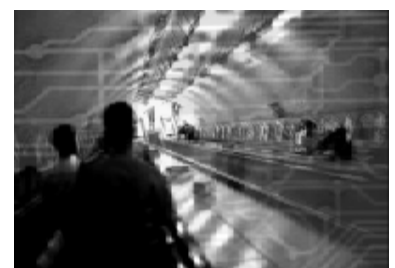


In March 06, the 'Oyster' smartcard travel system used on public transport in London, and which could soon be used to make payments, came crashing down for a few hours. Tens of thousands of pre-pay Oyster passengers in the capital had free journeys in the morning rush hour after a software glitch stopped the smartcard readers working. The fault occurred because the size of a computer file - sent every day with the latest information about which cards had been disabled - had caused the 'Oyster' readers to fail. With 2.3m cards in the system as with any new technology of that size, things will happen like this, there's no computer system in the world which has zero possibility of crashing.

Miniaturization and technological convergence are producing the latest 'must-have' items that perform many roles, and are fashioned for different consumers. As a society of cashless capitalism approaches, egged on by the dictates of multi-national business, transaction payments will force smaller retailers out of circulation, leading to greater market domination by a handful of companies who are well prepared for the end of paper money. The disappearance of capital into the information markets will be accompanied by re-composition of broad sections of the social machine, according to the desires of industry and government. From strikes and riots to glitches, hacking, computer viruses and sabotage; the basis of the economy is always unstable. As computer systems increasingly mirror and organise physical worlds, social chaos is going to become more likely and widespread. This lends us to tentatively see greater opportunities within society for breakdowns in the system, class conflicts and other uncontrollable incidents that lend themselves to rebellion.

The push for vast databases and mass profiling is nothing short of the latest consolidation of progress and hierarchy. The information society is the computerisation of life and its physical basis requires the systematic destruction of the environment.

Destruction of the economic and technological apparatus of capital and industry is crucial in the disturbance of the reigning order and its downfall. The information economy is the database for prison society. We have to destroy the infrastructure and the architects of this terror. We must seize every immediate chance to wreck the social machine. When the system of capital disappears into the immateriality of the information economy, it will remain in a physical form - domination, **but the possibility for its destruction remains.**



Against Society & Culture



Burn the Supermarkets

Short notes from an anti-prisons meeting

Barcelona, autumn, '05



This short text and its points came together in the course of a meeting spread over 3 days, at a squatted social centre in the city of Barcelona. The meeting was attended by various individuals and groups, discussing different aspects of the abolitionist struggle. Prisoner support was a major feature of the discussion, as was how to avoid becoming a reactive force, aiming our struggle at being a pro-active threat to power and hierarchy.

Amongst the people who attended, there were representatives of various Anarchist Black Cross groups from across Europe, The Barcelona support group 'Presos a la calle', also 'International Red Aid, and other individuals and collectives.

INFORMATION AND ITS SPREADING

A) To begin there was an introduction of the different groups and people and small initial debate (different ideas people felt like talking about to maybe raise some questions for further debates)

- It's important to not just keep in mind political prisoners but also "regular ones" in the different aspects concerning information and its circulation.

- Brief introduction about UK's prison system: private prisons, technologies and its use with the goal of more social control, prisons fully integrated into society.

- We must not abandon the "assistance work" in the anti-prison fight. Assisting the prisoners in legal, economic and daily life must not be done in an isolated way, but trying to work in the areas of the one imprisoned (in the neighbourhood, with friends, family and the like) whilst connected to the overall strategy of working for a libertarian society. Criticism of "assistance work" has been always present within the anti-prison groups and amongst the prisoners themselves. People in the meeting talked about respecting the different ways that people feel comfortable working against the prison system. There's a need to tell society about the abuses that happen in prisons, and also there's the importance of the information or thoughts that the prisoners want to get to the people outside.

- It's important to point out why we support prisoners. Prisoner support is made because there's also a support for their fights and ideas, but sometimes not necessarily the means they have used.

- Analysis of the cases where some situations or actions made in solidarity with prisoners seem positive, but sometimes end up having negative effects for the people imprisoned. There are questions about what kind of information is being sent to them, and a point is made to clearly listen to the needs the prisoners have, instead of us thinking "we know what is good for them".

- It's difficult to link political and personal support. Difficult to make the prisoners feel the debates that are happening outside.

- Some "regular prisoners" do not question the critique of prison itself, nor think about the political analysis of situations. But not having political discourse does not mean they do not have a discourse against some concrete aspects of the prison-society, because they are living in a situation where it feels more important to survive, than political action. Through more solidarity between people on the inside and outside, these political questions could start to rise in them.

- In order to enter the social aspects of the prison complex there is no clear and defined methodology. If we wanted to deepen in the political causes of the imprisonment its surroundings are not sufficient in the facility itself. Rebellions need support from the outside, to disrupt the situation beyond the control of the authorities.

- The anti-prison fight must not be fragmented. This fight needs to be raised to other kinds of collectives and political milieus.

B) Discussion on the different proposals about "information and its circulation": Methods broadly used so information is made visible in society as well as in political milieus, and different experiences about that. This may relate to very different situations depending on the country or even the different prisons or prisoners

- Letters are a very important thing and needs to be a regular practice since it is an effective weapon to break isolation.

- Difficulty of making available for prisoners even the prison regulations, as the facility tries to prevent even a basic understanding. The State always controls over the people that visit prisoners. Prisons keep a very close watch on all visits, especially the visits to political prisoners, as they often have security-risk status. In Italy prisoners are divided into political prisoners and social prisoners and only the family can make visits.

- There is a need to make widely available through informing people, how they can contact and keep in touch with prisoners.

- In Italy (and elsewhere) there are demonstrations in front of prisons, so as to have a direct contact with prisoners. There are problems trying to lead a continuous fight with prisoners that stay in temporary prisons (detention centres, CPT's, etc) for immigrants. There has been some success about getting the support of 'non-political' people and this leads to planning more long-term campaigns.

Also it has been possible to shut some centres because of abuses in them (e.g. the infamous 'San Focca' camp was shutdown)

There have been radical stands in some reformist campaigns because people took part in them bringing onboard radical points of view. Activists have gained from already existing realities to radicalize the conflicts.

During the political campaigns against the temporary detention centres of immigrants, some politicians made visits to prisons. Prisoners answered to those visits with protests since they understood that the people who keep them imprisoned were the same that went to visit them to take political profit of the existing climate.

-Questions raised and possible answers that were discussed in the debates

* What kind of information can be made available to the rest of society to make them aware of the prison problem?

- Make relations between the anti-prison struggle and the personal: The conditions, the abuses, the false solution to crime, the immigrants struggle, the private industry, the situation of poor people in prisons, - prisons are a weapon of Capital.

* What is being said in those messages aimed at society to see if they have a real impact?

- We fail to profit from the government's political mistakes that are very visible and obvious, like for example, "the immigrant problem" of Ceuta and Melilla. (Spanish enclaves on the coast of North Africa, where there has been tragic consequences for many Africans attempting to get into EU territory illegally)

* How do we say things? How is language used, who is it aimed at? Is it understandable?

- We have to use a language that is understandable without giving up our own views. People don't feel like using official media because they are not available to us. We should not lose our radical discourse, but neither can we be aggressive.

When we try to make the messages available, we encounter problems. To overcome these problems we can gain from the mistakes in the system's functioning. We need to make information available on a regular basis, because if not we lose the opportunity to reach people. We should be able to talk about prison without always having to tell "the horrors of prison". The use of sarcasm could also be helpful in our critique of prison. For example, someone put out flyers about the situation of temporary immigrant detention centres and subsequent repatriation that used the aesthetics of flyers of travel agencies.

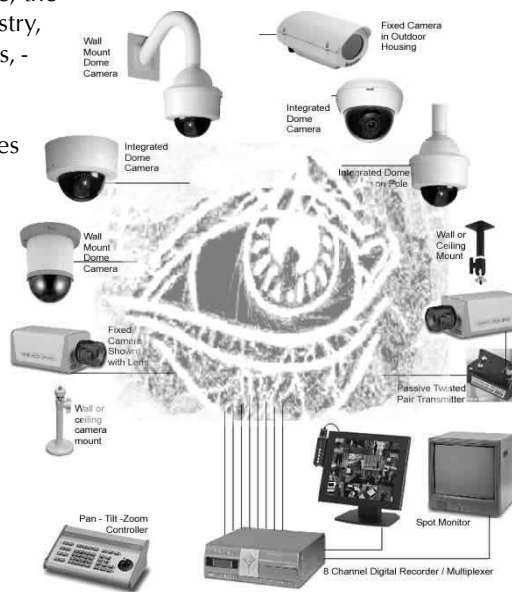
We need to make information more understandable, so people can be aware how prison is integrated into society and in

which way influences its direction and value.

Who is information directed at?

Many times it is at ourselves.

It is difficult to make waves of repression and their causes known to other people and society. Usually there are only campaigns about 'our prisoners'. Information about ongoing campaigns are directed to close people and groups, because making it on a broader level just brings us frustration since our messages are usually misunderstood or just plainly ignored.



Delinquency and its causes are generated by the way social life and system works. There's a direct relationship between poverty, repression and prison. People don't feel like they can sometimes fall into the situation where they too can be potential future prisoners. They don't believe the fact that people are imprisoned due to 'just' economic or social causes. Many people in society don't believe that 'normal' people can be imprisoned.

To obtain solidarity we have to be involved with other groups that focus on other questions. We can't isolate ourselves to a unique struggle. Anti-prison work has to be integrated in other environments.

Information must be made available in different ways depending on the means: posters, public talks... but mostly people think that the information given first hand is the most effective.

In the recent solidarity campaign with Italian prisoners many public talks were given, so as to reach more people with first-hand information. This helped in organising a bigger campaign.

CAMPAIGNS

-As a starting point, some people explained how in Blanes (small Catalanian city) there was some repression involving people of the autonomous movement. They expected harsh repression, but what they didn't expect was not getting support from the outside, feeling completely alone. From this starting point, people talked about the need for mutual aid and sharing.

-Since there will always repression, there is of course a need for effective and immediate solidarity, giving constant information on the causes of repression more than just 'campaigning'.

-It seems that we do campaigns just to ourselves and we seem not to be able to support more everyday problems. If someone's not into the social web that connects to the different support and solidarity groups, those people find it difficult to ask for help.

-We should not define our fight as a reaction or answer to power and repression. We can't have a merely defensive attitude. If we do so, our answer seems to have no ideological content.

-Ask ourselves about the aim of the campaigns we carry and the tools used for it, and what we want to accomplish with them.

-Try to avoid empty incendiary language that is merely empty catchy phrases and rhetoric.

-In the sometimes exhausting work that we lead to get money to finance the campaigns, we sometimes forget what it is for and even the struggle itself.

-Actions must be made understandable. Struggle must break the existent reality, but solidarity can't be isolated and must be long-lasting to be effective.

-There are small groups that 'assume prisoners', but there's no common strategy, and even less coordination. There's a need to create some kind of common solidarity which should be valid to all repressed people.

-Experience of people from the UK: There's an ongoing campaign against prison labor slavery (C.A.P.S). It's a non-reformist campaign fully aware and critical of the prison-society we're living in. This has helped the campaign to have more contacts with prisoners, and even some contacts within the prison-system have come forward to shame the practices of the prison industry. Prisoners are repressed, separated from society and now they're forced into being a source of labour for private profit. Prison doesn't aim for reintegration of prisoners into society anymore; it's just about making money.

C.A.P.S is trying to make visible what's invisible behind the walls. Prisons are located in poor areas, and they use people from those areas to be the prison guards. If prisoners refuse to work, they face trouble. State prisons also have externalized some services. Privatization of prisons is seen as a solution to overcrowded existing prisons.

(N.B new abolitionist group also formed - "No More Prisons")

Regarding the fundraising of campaigns, instead of asking for the money at the entrance (of parties or talks for example), tell people what the money will be used for. This is a way to conscience people that they aren't paying for a service, but donating in solidarity, it's not an entrance fee, and it's a way of helping and aids the transmission of info. This also helps social centers not to develop into places to have events as a way of making capital. A good strategy to carry campaigns is to emphasize some aspects of reality we can really focus concretely on, and use this to accomplish a debate on abolitionism, denouncing enterprises, capitalism and the State.

-It seems counter-effective to individualize campaigns.

-Solidarity networks should focus on avoiding people entering prison, instead of always having to react when it's already too late. We need to be more flexible, dedicated and

persistent. Also, we have to be aware of what actions and methods lead to people getting thrown in jail needlessly.

-There's a need to strengthen our self-esteem and to value the persons that are involved in struggle.

-We must not assume the democratic concept of solidarity.

DIRECT ATTENTION WITH RE-PRESSED PEOPLE

(As you see, there wasn't much talk about this. -[We had covered similar issues in other ways]-)

-Find lawyers which are related to the movement.

-Give priority to the political aspects of the struggle.

-It's important to help and keep in touch with imprisoned people's families, but the family can't be an obstacle to solidarity campaigns if we and the prisoner want to combine our struggle..

END...



Having plundered the third world with impunity for so long, first-world capitalism has now turned its attention to the incarcerated working class in its own prisons, potentially a rich source of exploitable labour. Prisoners are paid around 30 pence per hour, but even these pitifully small wages are seen as fair game by capitalism.

The big talk from government ministers at the moment is about training prisoners in a relevant job opportunity, to give them better prospects on release. Sounds good doesn't it?(!) As one prison guard that wrote to us said, "The only problem is that the Prison Service are more interested in churning out bed upon bed, making more profits for companies like 'Airsprung Beds' and to hell with prisoners. Most staff have read your articles and support what you say, they are disgusted that the Prison Service seem hell bent on using PRISONERS FOR PROFIT TO PRIVATE INDUSTRY", and that, "They are offered false hope and are worked like dogs". Any pretense at rehabilitating prisoners and empowering them with trade skills has been abandoned.

If you write to one of these companies about the issue you will get an answer like this one received from Trew Gates Ltd (who stopped using prison labour last year), "We as a company were proud to be involved in a program of training and helping rehabilitate prisoners to enable them to learn a trade for their re-introduction into society. Many men and women involved in the manufacture of these gates stated that they were happy to be part of the program and it helped to make their sentence pass by easier". While we don't deny that something to pass the time and get you out of your cell might be welcomed, this is low skilled work and is of no benefit to the rehabilitation of the actual individual, instead this replaces education and skill learning which have been drastically cut. These companies try to justify themselves by saying that it is good training and will help prisoners to get a job after release, but all they are interested in is profit, simple as that. The money saved is not reflected in the goods Airsprung or Wilkinson sell to the general public. If big companies like Wilkinson and Airsprung offered a reasonable rate, like say the minimum wage, then you would not see them for dust.

The Prison Service price each product using a formula which has not changed for over 10 years, they work between a break even price and a target price. The sales people very rarely reach the target selling price and usually settle for break even which just covers the cost of materials. There are also a number of instances where the Prison service buy work!! This is a situation where the company is offered a price below break even, if they can



provide long term consistent work. This is exploitation at its very worst with the only benefit going to the company. Wickes Building Supplies used the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) to manufacture gates. The price was

squeezed so low that SPS did not even recover the material cost, they lost about £2 per item and must have lost

thousands upon thousands over the 5 year period SPS did work for them. These losses of course being made up by the tax payer. As you can appreciate this is very attractive to potential customers as it ultimately means bigger profits for them.

The Scottish Prison Service also make garden furniture goods, held at their Faulhouse Depot in West Lothian, which is then sold onto to local sharks, who in turn sell it onto the public for at least double the price. As we heard "there are more fiddles going on than the London Philharmonic. These guys are raking in a fortune. Most of this stuff is touted by the SPS sales manager Anthony Apperly who is responsible for setting up all contacts:

anthony.apperley@sps.gov.uk
phone 01501 773978, fax
01501 771835.

This is the guy responsible for getting the guys to slave away for 30p per hour while the greedy companies get the rewards. I bet he is on a back hander with some of these people giving them low prices as he has a high lifestyle".

Here's what the prisoners themselves had to say: .."I was made to pack cards into plastic slips but found this hard as have Attention Deficit Disorder. Because I could not keep up I ended up on basic regime, 23 hours a day bang up, 1/2 hour visits, £2.50 canteen a week, no association"

.. "I laid fabric for Wilkinson ironing boards but at the time had a medical

Using Tax Payers Money To Subsidise Your Business: The Reality Of Prison Work Camps

issue so would lose a days wage each week as I had to see the doctor. Plus I would get docked if I could not complete an order. I was 300 miles away from home so had to do this work to phone my family" ..

.. "At HMP Lindholme I saw inmates use the toilet and not wash their hands packing mushrooms, spit on them, put bogies on them, kick them about, put flies in the pack then seal them. Also the onions were kept in mouldy conditions then wiped and sealed. I wrote to Asda but got no reply. The mushrooms packed for Asda I would not eat them as health and safety in prisons is not an issue" ..

.. "I have packed food for Asda, parts for Land Rover, packed welcome packs for hotels, nuts and bolts for DIY stores, plus have been punished for not working" ..

.. "I packed cards and put screws in shock kits. We are meant to be getting rehabilitated but we are used like slaves for pittance then we have to shop at Aramark to buy our stuff at over marked prices" ..

Aramark are yet another US import grown fat on the misery of incarceration. Over the past few years Aramark has become ubiquitous, running prison canteens up and down the country. Everything has to be purchased from the prison canteen. This monopoly is another attractive proposition for the ever-greedy forces of capitalism; Although sometimes the "needs" created are false ones - in many prisons it is even necessary for prisoners to buy their own toilet cleaner, and they increasingly have to feed themselves. Contact some of the companies using prison labour and show your displeasure:

- Airsprung Beds. Canal Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8RQ
 penny.edwards@airsprungbeds.co.uk

- Bison Safety Systems. Unit 3, Calendar Business Park, Falkirk, FK1 1XR.

- KDM International. 18 The Havens, Ransomes Business Park, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP3 95J.

- Peter Smith Garden Furniture. Dick Lane, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD4 8JD. Same as KDM.

Contact us with information you find out:

Campaign Against Prison Slavery, PO Box 74, Brighton, East Sussex. BN1 4ZQ, UK

WELCOME TO THE MACHINE

"The machine is all around us, omnipresent and omniscient. It's the camera on the street corner, the chip in your debit card and the number allotted to your child at birth. The machine is without and within. It's in the way we have been trained and domesticated since birth to fit into a mechanical world dictated by capital and the tick, tick, tick of its clock."

— From a Technopolis Flyer.

"In a squatted nursery school in Leeds in the North of England, the eviction of the previous tenants the result of a frenzy of gentrification in the city, around 50 people gathered for a weekend in June 2005 to discuss the latest wave of enclosure by capital — new technologies of control. Despite criticisms that the gathering was (merely) an 'academic conference for anarcho-primitivists', it was attended by a very diverse range of people — from researchers at the Etc Group, to europunks on their way to the G8 Summit in Gleneagles.

The diverse mix elucidated both (unexpected) convergences and (more predictable) tensions in perspective, worldview, desired outcomes, and a critique not only of society and invasive and encroaching technologies but also of the role of activism in confronting these things.

Technopolis came out of a previous gathering in Oxford in February and a collective in Leeds, previously involved in the 6 month squatted project Maelstrom (which had also concentrated on exploring the theme of technology and repression), agreed to take it on.

In some ways it began to seem like a bit of a knee-jerk reaction.

We quickly wondered why we had taken it on — out of duty to an activist movement whose values and methods we are constantly questioning? Out of a desire to find ways of physically impacting these



structures of control bearing in mind personal histories of anti-roads protests, summit-hopping, anti-GM actions, squatting and so on? Because we wanted the time and space to have discussions with people outside our immediate, daily scene about the implication of these technologies to our lives? Because we wanted to discuss the place of these technologies in our understanding of the state we live in and in our struggle? Some of us feel quite strongly that in an activist scene characterized by a fetishising of the Other's struggles (most predominantly those of the global south) that looking at technologies - a struggle very relevant here and one exemplified, historically, by Luddism - is vital to our understanding of how struggles change through the trajectory of capitalism and how we understand our own position in the global capitalist system. In important ways, the repressive apparatus of the West is experienced differently here than it is 'over there' and our methods of resistance must be formed and expressed accordingly. Some of us also felt frustrated by 'stock' reactions and wondered if a gathering like this might produce some new ideas.

Aware that some people wanted discussion and that others wanted more concrete outcomes, we tried to create a mix of information and discursive workshops. Also we wanted to raise the question of how much research you really need to do. Isn't it just a little diversionary? We can tell you right now how technology affects us — how much do you need to understand how a radio frequency works to know that you don't want an RFID chip sewn into your hoodie tracking you everywhere you go? With this in mind, the weekend included a discussion on nanotechnology, a discussion on surveillance technologies, a general discussion on critiques of technology, a discussion on architectures of control (which included a walk around Leeds city centre), a discussion on technology, capital, and class, a history of the Luddites (Leeds having been arguably the most militant third of the 'Luddite triangle') a showing of Das Net (a German film about the cybernetics movement, the Unabomber and the era that created them both), and a talk on sonic weapons (which included a practical session!) amongst other things.

Unfortunately, we tended to skirt around the idea of new actions that could be taken, nor was the question really



explored as to why we should find new responses if the old responses are, in fact, working 'perfectly well' (despite the fact that most people present, including us, seemed to be of the opinion that they are not). There is also the issue of security at these gatherings of course. Only so much can be discussed amongst strangers and acquaintances. The details must lie within the affinity group. The artifice of the formalized discussion also constrains discussion and the ability to break out of certain ways of thinking, particularly if people are hostile to either 'non-productive' discussion or to outcome-focused discussion. Discussion didn't really extend outside of the workshops as we had hoped — over dinner in the garden, for example — indicating a separation of work and leisure.

One of the most revealing comments about Technopolis was made by a woman from Mexico who observed that our conversation was extremely abstract and in particular abstracted from our daily lives. It was different where she came from. Of course, it is no longer our land that is being enclosed; it is no longer possible to stand up to a concrete force to protect a concrete thing. It is our minds, it is our genes, it is our atoms, it is our psychology, it is our knowledge of who is watching us and why or our lack of it. Our ways of talking, thinking and relating reflect the technologies we have to live with.

It is difficult for us to assess the success of Technopolis, as we never organized it with concrete aims and objectives in mind. We can say, however, that some people went away inspired, some people went away frustrated, and that the organising collective went away feeling, well, a bit confused really."



To the Forced Laborers, Irregulars and Deserters of the Western Front



There are no more illusions

The London bombs have shown only one thing: the terror that western governments and capitalists have spread to every corner of the world is coming back. The terrible London explosions have brought a piece of Baghdad, Kabul and Jenin into Europe. Hatred and desperation are no longer confined to remote, exotic margins, but burst from behind the scenes into the very middle of the democratic scenario. The logic of the end that justifies the means (bringing peace to Iraq through genocide) has produced its counterblow. When 1½ million Iraqis have been slaughtered under the pretext of removing Saddam Hussein, would one want to put up any objection to those who blew up fifty-four Londoners with the aim of stopping Blair's murderous politics? If it is acceptable to kill indiscriminately for oil and domination, why shouldn't it be acceptable to kill indiscriminately to free one's land from foreign oppression? What do the professionals of terror have to scold these much smaller carriers of death



for? The exceptional event in London is an everyday reality in Jerusalem and Basra. What these vampires of all consciousness are saying, at bottom, is that one western death is worth more than a thousand Arab deaths. Who is moralizing to whom? Ah now... western values. We have seen them in Abu Ghraib, Fallujah and Guantanamo .

There are no more illusions

Not having wanted or known how to disassociate practically from their warmongering governments, western populations are exposing themselves to bloody reprisals. The war is also here – this is no longer just an anti-militarist slogan. It is a truth as cold as a corpse. They tell us that the next objective may be an Italian city. Yes, it might be. Clearly they are well aware of what the responsibili-



ties of the Italian government are in the slaughter in Iraq, just as they know that it will be some random people at risk of being blown up here as well. "We will never change our way of life," Blair declared after the July 7 bombings. He then added in the middle of August: "We are not having any of this nonsense about it. It's nothing to do with what the British are doing in Iraq or Afghanistan, or support for Israel, or support for America, or any of the rest of it. It is nonsense, and we have got to confront it as that." . All those who oppose the war are attentive.

There are no more illusions

Unfortunately, as Blair claimed, not even the bombs of London have changed the way of life. On the contrary, a wave of racism has spread against immigrants in general and Arabs in particular, with dozens of shops burned and several young men lynched. The Brazilian, Jean Charles de Menezes, who the police gunned down in the Underground because they suspected him of being an attacker, was simply registered in the cold calculation of those lost in the "struggle against terrorism". On the other front, bookshops of Muslim pacifists are searched, books against the war seized as "anti-western", offices of cultural association closed, lists of suspected journalists drawn up. Precisely like after September 11, the most freedom-killing laws against immigrants and dissidents were approved with the usual mass media coverage, Italy in tow.

There are no more illusions

The so-called "Pisanu package" (Giuseppe Pisanu is the Italian Interior Minister) , i.e., the July 27 2005 legal decree n.144, which then became law to all intents and purposes, contains urgent measures for the battle against international terrorism. Through article 270 bis, the following definition of

terrorism is introduced: "Behaviors which are deemed to have the aim of terrorism when they, by their nature or context, could cause serious damage to a country or an international organization and are carried out with the



objective of intimidating the population or compelling public powers or international organizations to perform or abstain from performing any act, or destabilizing or destroying basic political, constitutional, economic and social structures of a country

or a political organization." Then isn't it terrorist to intimidate the Iraqi population with bombings, torture and death squads? On the other hand, aren't demonstrations and strikes generally organized to compel "public powers" to perform or abstain from some act (for example to demand the withdrawal of troops from Iraq)? While state and multinational terrorism is hidden, every form of real dissent, every attempt to destabilize a murderous political, economic and social organization is defined as terrorist.

There are no more illusions

It is obvious which enemies this new law distinguishes. Every immigrant is considered a potential terrorist. If s/he will collaborate with the police in the "struggle against terrorism", s/he will be able to get the permit or residence papers. Otherwise, on the basis of mere suspicion, s/he could be immediately expelled, even if s/he has her/his documents in order. According to a logic of rewards and punishments that spreads from prison to the entire society, the ultimatum addressed to immigrants is clear: either be informers to use or criminals to expel. But the rest is valid for anyone who calls the present social organization into question. Identifying anyone suspected of "terrorism" is now possible through the implementation of coercive hair and saliva sampling, of course, "with respect to the personal dignity of the subject" (article 10), while the punishment for mere possession of a fake passport is redoubled (from one to four years, and able to be increased by a third to a half if one manufactures it for oneself, or is holding it not for personal use). Anyone who violates special surveillance, legal requirements or the prohibition to reside may be arrested, even outside of cases of flagrancy, with a foreseeable punishment of one to five years (art.14). Then, on the basis of mere suspicion, money, shops and goods can be seized. Furthermore, police detention is extended from twelve to twenty-four hours (thus modifying a law enacted after the murder of the anarchist



checkpoints). It is obvious to anyone who does not share the sensibility of a head of state or an interior minister that no police protection is possible against one who, full of hate and desperation, is willing to carry out the simplest military action, striking indiscriminately.

Pinelli in a police station). While the period for archiving everyone's telephone and computer traffic will be lengthened up to five years (with an increase in the amount of many allocated for telephone and environmental wiretapping, in a country that spends a higher percentage to that end than even the United States), it will be necessary sooner or later to show an identification card to use the internet in any business or public location – in short, a mass filing system. The practice of infiltration by judiciary police officers, whose powers are nearly unlimited, is made official. Police tasks are entrusted to the army and even security guards. These are some of the measures that the Right introduces and the respectable Left immediately approved and described as reasonable (when they didn't consider them as actually too limited). As soon as they were passed, in Lombard alone, fifty-two immigrants were expelled in one day.

Against one who is not afraid of blowing himself up – thus, becoming a "martyr", i.e., a testimony – there is no device or apparatus that holds this. All these police measures only serve to show muscle and, above all, to justify greater social control and repress any unconformable thought or behavior. An armored society does not permit criticism. However, the barbarian doesn't come from a terrifying and incomprehensible elsewhere, but flows from the most technological of civilizations. There is no shelter against the only enemy that we don't want to look in the face: our way of life.

There are no more illusions

Pisanu's declarations about the Centers of Temporary Residence (CPTs - Immigration detention centres) – the concentration camps in which immigrants



without documents get locked up – as a tool in the struggle against "terrorism" are typical, as are his references to those who "foment" revolts and escapes. The foreign enemy becomes confused with the internal enemy, the "barbarian" with the revolutionary, both threats that civilization must smother. Don't the decisions to increase punishment (up to two years) and the proposal for allowing the arrest of anyone wearing a burqa, chador or "protective helmet" head in this direction? The one who goes into the street determined not to retreat before potential police charges and the faceless Foreigner merge into a single hysteria about security, a single declaration of war.

It is considered nonsense – a nonsense that is madness, a madness that is crime – to maintain that the bombs of Madrid and London were a response to massacres that western troops carried out in the Middle East, whereas it is sensible to state that one who wants to carry out an attack goes around wearing a burqa (so much for not attracting attention) or without documents (so much for passing calmly through

May sorrow transform into awareness, may awareness become the obstinate refusal to go on this way. Because this way leads to death.

There are no more illusions

Statesmen, with thin smiles and impeccable clothes, send soldiers to bomb an entire population from the altitude of their high-tech airplanes an entire population, slaughtering men, women and children, causing hundreds of thousands of deaths. Some young people – human beings, this variable unforeseen by military and multinational staffs – blow themselves up to avenge their loved ones and the future that they didn't have. In the shelter of their bodyguards and newspapers, our statesmen explain to an audience of frightened civilized people that the

kamikazes are fanatics and cowards. It is like this: cowards are not those who play with the lives of millions of people from their safe position, but rather those who are willing to kill and be killed rather than living (or knowing that others live) in the midst of barbed wire and wreckage. This scene sums up one of the crudest lies that the Ministries of Propaganda and Fear have ever had effrontery to tell. A lie that depicts quite well, in a ruthless act of accusation, the current decay of awareness, the fearful gap between the horror that surrounds us and the consequences that we are able to draw from it.

There are no more illusions

For millions of the damned of the earth, pushed down to the threshold of survival by market disasters, the kamikaze has become a figure of redemption. This is what this world devoured by the cancer of domination and money has managed to do.

But indiscriminate violence against western people is also a sign of the defeat of struggles for social emancipation, the failure of practical solidarity among the exploited of the planet against their common exploiters. The possibility of revolutionary violence – against the oppressors and never against the oppressed – is being replaced with the blindest violence, fury that does not distinguish between governors and those governed, between ministers and subway commuters. Examining it well, it is a most grotesque and terrifying parody of the struggles that, from Iran to Nicaragua, from Italy to the United States passing through South Africa, shook the order of war and exploitation in the 1970s.

The London bombs don't just speak to us of Middle Eastern masters (sheikhs, financial speculators, big property owners) that move sacrificial pawns over the chessboard of a war to defend their power and oil. They also, above all, speak to us of the poor who, isolated in their search for liberation, abandoned by their brothers and sisters in the West, see an imperialist in every white person. Of the poor who, in searching for redemption that often has quite little to do with religion, find in combatant Islam a community with which to identify. Of the poor who are joined – as we have recently





seen – by other attackers a bit better off, born and raised in the West, but linked by religion and culture to lands and people tormented by the war.

Only the experience of common revolt will restore to the word ‘comradeship’ its most authentic meaning. Experience ripens among the same ruins that gave birth to the kamikaze, by transforming that desperate disposition toward conflict, into a radically different struggle. There, the awareness of a humanity three quarters drowned awaits us. It is already too late for lessons in civic education.



There are no more illusions

Democratic safeguards are a torn up fig leaf.

The “war on terrorism” is the most fitting form of global conflict of the division of power and the last energy resources that mobilizes and militarizes the entire society. The “terrorist” is everywhere, inside as well as outside the borders: it might be the immigrant, the dissident or the “rogue state” with “its” population. The enemy has no exact form precisely because it is absolute Evil. This is why the war is total, and the means those of annihilation. “Annihilation therefore becomes completely abstract and absolute. It is no longer turned against an enemy, but is now in the service of a supposed objective affirmation of the highest values – for which, as everybody knows, no price is too high” (Carl Schmitt, Theory of the Partisan). The collaborator of yesterday (Saddam Hussein, Bin Laden...) becomes the terrorist of today.

This is the context into which the new repressive measures are inserted against the “internal enemy”: the enemy without documents, without face or with a protective helmet.

There are no more illusions

Democracy reveals its real function when viewed on the planetary scale. Then one will discover a minority of “free citizens” surrounded by a mass of slaves compelled into forced labor. The ancient Greek city is now the entire world; except that the food is poisoned, police are everywhere and the free plaza (the agora) nowhere. In this sense, Israeli democracy is increasingly an outpost of what the society in which we live is becoming. A society under siege, with the army at the entrance of all the theaters and restaurants. A society that, in dehumanizing foreigners, has dehumanized itself. A society that has fallen prey to the obsessive fear of attacks – repercussions of military occupation, raids, deportations and slaughter – and is incapable of calling our way of life into question. A society in which

emergency law by decree is the very mode of governing. A society in which the reference to nuclear destruction is now a mere journalistic metaphor.

There are no more illusions

A few days ago, in a working class neighborhood in Turin, an unknown citizen took a shot at the head of an African boy, Ali, from the window of his apartment. It was an air rifle, but the boy was still at risk of dying. As soon as he was discharged from the hospital, Ali was deported. Although he had no drugs, according to the press he was a “pusher”. The police strengthened controls at the expense of immigrants. A citizens’ committee started a petition to demand the iron fist against petty criminality. And not even an innocuous, generic, democratic word of condemnation for the shooting. Jerusalem is right next door.

There are no more illusions



A hurricane, and now it is civil war. While New Orleans is submerged in water and mud, with hundreds of deaths and a population that lost everything, the government suspends the dispatch of aid, immediately afterwards entrusting the management of public order to soldiers who’d just returned from Iraq. “Anyone who loots supermarkets will be shot on sight.”

There are no illusions

The withdrawal of troops from Iraq and the closure of the concentration camps for undocumented immigrants is the indispensable minimum that our struggles must force out. If it wants to be consistent, practical solidarity against repression is now a critique of the very foundations of the state and capital. Today, one cannot speak of war without speaking of expulsions or prisons, and vice versa. “Fomenting” revolt and escape from CPTs is a task which reality takes on much more freely than revolutionaries. Organizing self-defense against the cops, learning courage, going on the attack, changing our lives together – here, beyond labels, acronyms, group rhetoric, is the only concrete comradeship, the most beautiful challenge hurled against that “crowd of lonely people” that we still call society.

While humanity crawls between the emptiest “well-being” and the crudest poverty, while the civilized flounder among cataclysms that have very little “natural” about them, locked in their traps of armored cement, the ancient dream of placing everything in common, of freeing the experience of the world and of our likes from the mediation of power and money, becomes the only promise of happiness, the only concrete hope of liberation.

Some internal enemies



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Kamikaze dreams:

Black Bloc in Stirling during the G8 summit 2005

by Constantine.

This is a personal account of some events that I was a part of during the morning of Wednesday the 6th of July in 2005 during the G8 summit in Scotland. Because of the intensity of the events described here, numbers and time could be pretty wrong, but I hope that my recollection of the spectacle as a whole will prove useful.

My affinity group arrived for the G8 summit a few days before any events. Our first experience was the whitewash known as the 'Make Poverty History' march, a spectacle that really was a complete hijacking of even the most reformist of anti-globalisation protests. This completely pacifying experience was followed by the 'Carnival/kettle of full enjoyment' on the Monday, a day of action that many thought would be confrontational, but actually ended up being badly co-ordinated and frustrating.

When we arrived at the eco camp in Stirling we were surprised by the small numbers of people and the high percentage of hippies. As time passed we grew increasingly frustrated by the tactics that were presented to us for the direct action day. The most common one was for people to break out in small affinity groups and head through woods for the A9 highway. Some of us thought that this was risky because there was a lot of energy trying to get somewhere where it seemed easy to be controlled. There were also actions in Edinburgh, but we were unsure about what these because of lack of information. After meetings and arguments we decided to stay with the completely suicidal group who were just going to leave in one group in the night and head for the closest highway, the M9 and close it down. No one expected to get to the M9 but we figured that we would be in a group and there for had more possibility to be militant in our efforts. Also, causing trouble would take police forces away from the other smaller and more decentralised groups.

That night it rained and I woke up to the chanting of hundreds of people, seeming mostly to be internationals. It was the darkest night I remember during the summit, and there was a black mass melting into the darkness of the trees leading out of the camp. It took us a long time to gather the members of our affinity group and the mass left without us. We ran out of the gates looking but the people seemed to be gone. The police were moving in the area, but we searched freely for the bloc. After some confusion



we found a line of police vans and thought that the protestors were penned in. Soon we realised that they were on our side of the police line but it was so black we had not noticed them. All of a sudden, a Black Bloc of 500 people appeared in front of us out of the black asphalt.

After that came a period of chaos as the police tried to control us but were surprised and paralysed by no one really backing down. Barricades were built and police were pushed back. Then for a while there were no police, just lots of people in black, disorientated and angry. So the car dealerships, Pizza Hut, B&Q and the Burger King were used for target practice and spray painted as shopping trolleys were liberated from Morrisons to become moving barricades and stone transports. All this seemed pretty stupid as we were right next to the camp but soon we were on a road leading to the highway and everything came in very handy.



The first police line was the funniest. Police in yellow fluorescent jackets lined up behind shields with their batons drawn as they tried to stop the bloc entering a roundabout. Many protestors slowed down but the mass still moved towards the police line.

Many were looking for different routes, but there were none. I think that the police thought that their bright jackets and shields would somehow stop us but no one really slowed down much. Some protestors had inflated rubber tubes in a row behind a banner. They pushed into the police line and the police struggled to get a hold of the tires. Since this did not break the police line, the rows of shopping trolleys were put in front of the police lines to keep the batons

at safe distance and then the rocks started flying through the air. It was surprising how many joined in, and those who didn't kept refilling the supplies of stones that were being transported in a shopping trolley.

The police line started moving backwards pretty quickly but it was also broken and some police ended up split from the others and they were hit pretty hard with rocks and fists. I heard later that this was the police intelligence/camera crew. As people realised that they could get through the lines, many went forward and the police retreated completely as they rushed past. Next we found ourselves walking quite far on empty country roads heading towards the M9. There was hardly any traffic and the only spectators were cattle, as a black bloc carrying barricade materials and pushing a shopping trolley full of stones moved through the Scottish countryside.



The next time we met the police it definitely seemed that the game was over. We were moving up a hill and noticed that there was a pretty big police barricade up ahead. There were lines of riot police behind which there were several large police vans. As we

looked down the direction we had come from we realised that we were cut off. The police lines behind us were smaller but they were backed up by vans and it seemed pretty solid. Many ran into a field as people looked at both sides of the road that were lined with heavy vegetation that made it hard to figure out which way to go. At this point many people were lost. Many who had been fighting a lot



instead chose to attack the smaller police line. This was absurd at first and I believe the police were surprised. It felt like we were completely surrounded by a huge police presence, yet a group of 10-20 people with a shopping trolley of stones fought back and an escape route was found. The police never really fought back and a small path was found into a residential area.

Somehow we managed to find ourselves in a small town square, consisting of a few shops and a bank. There was a lot of confusion about where we were going but it does seem that some people knew quite well. A police line appeared again. They looked more fierce and ready for a fight. They were completely in black and jumped out of their vans quickly making a line. At this time the shopping trolley with the rocks had fallen behind. The police line moved determined towards

us and it looked like maybe this was the end of the luck of the group. The police looked determined but they could not see the shopping trolley around the corner pushed by a couple of punks racing towards us. The shopping trolley suddenly popped out between the Black Bloc and the police line and the rocks showered the police yet again. Just as before, the police line was split and a few police were separated and received extra attention.

After this, police started arriving from all directions and we were split and some people were arrested. Most managed to re-group though and as the majority of us moved into a residential area the police eventually disappeared. Barricades were built out of road repair barriers, but nothing was broken in the residential area. We ended up crossing a golf course and then some fields after some guidance by medics who gave us fresh water supplies. All of a sudden we found ourselves climbing up the banks of the M9 and when I reached the highway barricades were already being built and the traffic had been stopped.

By the time this group had reached the highway, the original body of people had been split many times. It seems that the group that I was in managed to stop traffic in both directions, which meant that many other groups reached the M9 to find it empty. Due to this they could build barricades that lasted longer. Holding the M9 was difficult because there were many car and truck drivers and some were hostile. After about 20 minutes the police arrived and we eventually abandoned the barricades and spread out and walked north. When someone

suggested that we should march to Gleneagles, the group I was in decided that we could not possibly have any more luck and that it was time to leave. At this time we had 3 police helicopters above us, at least 50 police behind us, it was fully light and the M9 was standing still. We split into groups and walked down small streets and crossed train tracks and fields to make it back to the camp. Once back at the camp we turned on the radio and listened to the traffic news that said more than the normal news. A huge part of the road network was shut down and it felt that we had been part of something that had been much more successful than we could have hoped. Also, we were all pretty surprised to have made it.



Interview with Laudelino Iglesias Martinez

25 years of prison & his life in F.I.E.S

*Translated interview from
Salhaketa prisoner support
organisation.....*



Laudelino has spent 25 years in prison since October 1980 to August 2004. Out of those 25 years, he has spent 13 in isolation and segregation. He inaugurated the archive for internal prisoners in special observation, FIES, in 1991.

SalHaketa – Today we would like to ask you about the organised movement of resistance that several prisoners have taken part in recent years, denouncing the conditions of imprisonment and evaluating the evolution of this movement and its present state.

Laudelino – Hello, in order to understand the movement of resistance within the prisons we need to go back to when Franco died in 1975. The social conditions implied that people were going from a fascist franquista regime to a monarchic franquista regime and well, there was the political struggle of people outside. When Franco died, there were negotiations with those prisoners who denominated themselves political, there was also lots of riots on the outside, they managed to get the majority of them released, but not all of them.

S – That was with the amnesties of 1976 and 1977?

L – But they did not release any of the social prisoners. But it is from then on, because prison conditions were really bad, lots of torture, lots of beatings, overcrowding, the food was really bad, etc. Then people started getting organised, mainly because it was expected that if there was a change in the political regime it was supposed to be for everyone. There was supposed to be no difference between political or social prisoners. At the time the struggle was not only for the prison conditions to improve, but also for the amnesty of all prisoners. It was in this atmosphere that COPEL (Coordinator of prisoners in struggle) was born. There were lots of riots inside, the government did not want to grant amnesties, therefore there were riots, and basically prisoners destroyed most of the prisons. Of course they were old prisons, not like the modern ones, and basically they destroyed everything within them, but after that of course there was harsh repression. The police came in and beat a lot of people up, there were fatalities. Then they got all of those who they thought they were leaders and took them to Herrera de la Mancha. They punished the COPEL movement very severely; this precipitated a period between 1978 and 1985 where just a few people were active because everybody knew the consequences that being involved with the COPEL movement had. Not only to punish and repress all activist prisoners, but rather all other prisoners so they do not move a finger. COPEL continued clandestinely but with just a few people. Then with the Penitentiary Organic Law of 1978 the special regime was applied within the entire 1st grade.

S – What was this regime about?

L – The special regime consisted in that they could isolate you for as

long as they wanted. In the meantime they will hold you without any communication, beating you up now and again, because since you were not able to have any communication with the outside world, not even by letter, that is, in writing, not even in any other way, they could do with you whatever they wanted.

S – These persons that were living within the special regime, they were living within special departments within the prisons. Is that correct?

L – Well yes, within the prisons at the time the special departments were the 1st grade modules where the regime special was applied and to go out of the special regime you could stay for one, two, three, five years or never get out. It depended on your attitude inside. The people were very upset, and that is when APRE started (Association of Prisoners in Special Regime). They started to struggle because the boys inside started reading the new penal code. Inside the special regime there were norms that were not respected. And therefore the only thing those people were doing was to claim for those rights to be respected. That was the only thing that they were doing. That was the least they could do within the worse. But their own laws were not respected, that is why they started to denounce.

S – What kind of revindications were they using? What kind of collective actions?

L – APRE mainly was approaching legal subjects that are the legal problems in the sense that the penitentiary legislation was respected. Like for example, all that concerns mainly human rights and living conditions.

S – And the collective actions, what kind of actions were they, hunger strike, patio strikes etc?

L – Hunger strikes were mainly about our writing complaints and them being ignored. The problem was that at the same time, there were some prisoners that thought that those actions were not going to have any effect. Then we thought that since our denouncements and complaints were going nowhere, and the vigilant guards and judges were not paying any attention to us, then our only way to call attention was to rebel that is why GAPEL was formed. (Armed Group of prisoners in struggle) that was going on at the same time as the APRE. Then the people from GAPEL, we of course did not like to stay in prison because we were really bad, were mainly trying to escape, freedom was our main priority. Our only aim was freedom. We could not get it? Then we barricaded ourselves in with hostages, and negotiated. One of the main demands was firstly that they would not put their hands on us again, that there were no physical repression and secondly that all subjects about the penitentiary legislation that were not respected to be looked at. They had to respect their laws. Then well, GAPEL started, I was within GAPEL, I was with other comrades kidnapping, starting riots and things like that. Until ... there were so many kidnappings and riots that apparently that got the system very worried and then they applied the FIES regime. This happened in 1991, this was a very hard regime, and in fact they not only did it to punish us physically and psychologically but

also and mainly to destroy the GAPEL movement. Because those within APRE mainly focused on writing, they were not annoying them very much. Those who were annoying them a lot were those who were causing trouble. Because we wanted to escape, to denounce the system through violence. We did not have another alternative due to the prison conditions. This is when they applied the FIES regime and got all prisoners by surprise, we did not have an idea of what that regime was and it was very traumatic because of course they suddenly started doing a selection of people.

S - To those of you who were causing more trouble?

L - Yes, they were doing special listings. First they got us all together in Badajoz, then in Seville, and later in El Dueso in Cantabria. And then well, they kept us three months without going out of our cells at all.

S - How many of you?
Around 150?

L - Yes, more or less, split between the three prisons we were around 150 prisoners. Well, daily change of cells, but they would not take us to the patio for anything. We were inside the cells all naked, because they forced us to wear overalls, then, because we did not want to wear the suit, we were all naked. Then the only thing that they allow us to have in the cell was a foam mattress but without the foam or anything. We slept on the floor because there were no beds or anything, and just a toothbrush that they cut the handles off.

S - Cut in half so you could not use it as a weapon.

L - Well, a weapon..., but well. They cut the toothbrush, one of those toothbrushes that are common in prison because it was given by the institution and a plastic spoon, a plastic tray. That was the only things we could have in the cell.

S - Pen and paper?

L - Pen and paper? I do not think so, because if I am not remembering wrong, I believe we needed to buy it ourselves with our money from the economato. Otherwise not. In those conditions we remained in isolation because they did not allow us to communicate either.

S - Not even with the lawyers?

L - No, not even with the lawyers, neither with family, with no-one. For about three months, the thing was that also within those conditions we were doing whatever actions we could. Then some of those riots got made public and then of course they had to take what was going on in to the light. What the FIES regime was, nobody knew and got us all by surprise and well, bit by bit, we started communicating with the family only. We would go out to communicate handcuffed, that is, with lots of guards, always with lots of armed guards and you handcuff behind and they will force you to wear the suit so if you will have to wear it if you wanted to

communicate. Otherwise they would not allow you; you had to wear the suit.

S - Always when you were outside the cell you had to be handcuff inside the prison? For the patio and for the showers?

L - Yes, any movement or transfer outside the cell, those cells have special locks, one of those security doors with bars, you would have to turn around, put your hands behind you, they would handcuff you and then they would open the special lock and got you out. And they would search you.

S - With shoes or flip-flops?

L - We were at that time without anything, bare feet. Then it was when we started to protest, then we got them to return our clothes, we got them to give us our radios and bit by bit we managed to make them to give us our belongings because they had confiscated them all. Even pen and paper, they would not give us even that so we could not denounce them. We wanted pen and paper to be able to denounce but they would not give it to us. That is nothing. They had us completely isolated just as they wanted. They did not want anyone from outside to know what was going on, that is why they would not give you any of that. And well, then it was when they got us all together. That is

because when they applied the regime they did not have a physical structure for those who were going to go to the FIES regime, not like it is now, simply what they wanted at that moment was to kidnap us, get us all together in mainly three prisons and maintain us there for some time while they were preparing the FIES units. Those are small modules, completely automated, automatic doors, control cameras everywhere, microphones everywhere, you could not, and you cannot have any physical contact with the guards. Everything's through bars, everything's through lanterns and security windows.

S - Completely inhuman.

L - Yes, then until those modules were done, they were doing them very quickly, they kept us all together and very bad, that is really bad, because we were not listening to any news, we were not listening to the radio or anything, we got to think that maybe there was a coup d'etat, maybe there has been a coup d'etat and now they want to execute us. They kidnapped us; we could not be in contact with anyone. Maybe that is that one by one they are going to shoot us, what do I know.

S - Thinking that the Death Penalty was back.

L - That there was a fascist coup d'etat, Tejero's friends and company and now who knows what they want to do with us. Fuck, they were treating us very bad; the minimum was to be savagely beaten. We were all there completely naked, every day they were searching the cells, changing cells, they would not take us to the patio, that is the few rights that they give you to have a normal life, and they take them all away. Then with the structure of the FIES regime, what happened is that, of course, we were all always trying to escape and the FIES modules were only for no more than 4 people. They had me alone for two months and something else, completely alone and all full of guards.



S - I imagine the nights you spent when there were noises.

L - Yes, and as it always happened when they give you a heavy beating and they kill you, then they will hang you up and they say that you have hanged yourself. They beat you more than what they expected and if you are dead, then well, they make up for the public the story that another prisoner has hanged him/herself. Then the main objective of the FIES units and regime was to break the movement of those who were at the moment struggling for freedom, for the revindication of human rights and freedom. And they managed to break the whole movement because at the end with time not only did they manage to divide us, they managed to confront us. Well, the people, if you were one of those who tried to escape and you see that under those conditions you had no possibility of escape because you had tried but it could not be. You reach the conclusion that you are never going to be able to get out of there. Not even if they come to look for us.

S - Very distressing.

L - Then there is a point when people say, it is understandable, you have no other option but to swallow it, cooperate, submit, not argue with the guards, lets see if one year goes by, two years, and they get me out of the FIES. At least if they get me out of the FIES I have a possibility to escape, but here there is none.

S - Is that why there were lots of prisoners who tried to go to court places, to go to hospitals so they could try on the way to escape?

L - Of course, but the guards knew about that, then when you go to one of those courts, first you would not know at what time they were, not even the lawyers, they will take you on such a condition... there were guards everywhere, they would pick you up from any part of your body, bare feet, they will pick you up from the hair, they will force your head down, you could not move at all. Of course, at that time there was hardly anyone on the streets, until they will get you inside the court, from the van that was doing the transfer to the court cell, well, imagine, for you not to see anything, they will take you in a very violent way, well, with tremendous humiliation. Not only physical violence, but also a tremendous psychological violence, very intense humiliation. Then the people assume responsibility for acts that maybe they had not done, people will write to the judge of a certain place to say that you have done something, and then it's



over. But the judge you have to realise takes half of the responsibility in taking the declaration, he is part of the process. But well, I think no-one has managed to escape on those stories. And at the end people realised that there was no way to escape on those transfers.

S - Therefore the only thing that they were doing was accumulating more years of imprisonment.

L - More years of imprisonment, yes, then that way was not good to escape, because they would not let you. That is why a lot of people decided to submit. Not to put any denunciations, if you had to sweep the floor, if you had to do any kind of cleaning because the guard was asking you, then you will have to do it and not contradict the guards at all. You had to treat them with a lot of good manners. If you had that attitude, depending on the person in question, depending on what they will consider, because for one person acting the same, six months was enough, but for another person this means, he will need to stay two years and this other man three years.

S - Could you talk for a bit about the function drugs has taken within the FIES regime?

L - The function of drugs is very clear.

S - There are a lot of people that do not know?

L - They do not know? No, well, the function of drugs within prisons is very clear, mainly legal drugs. Legal drugs that are given by the system itself, like methadone, psychotic/anti-psychotic drugs, tranquilizers and the like. That is people in (FIES sections) 1, 2, 3, because the prison is very hard, find it very difficult to confront that situation. Then people would tend to go to whatever is easier, because if I get drugged and I am stoned I do not realise, according to them they are stealing days from the judge. They do not realise that they are taking away their own lives bit by bit. Aren't they? But it is that, the drug makes people, and mainly if it is given by the institution, the institution has them tied up; they become instruments of the institution. They will throw them against you. In all senses and ways, in fact today, there are many prisons where the doors and many other things, like opening the doors and closing the doors, that was before done by the guards, now it is prisoners who are doing it.

S - Taking food.

L - Taking food, things, but also opening and closing up the door of a prisoner. There are many prisons where other prisoners are doing things of this kind. But why? Because many times they are addicted to methadone, or other drugs that the system lets them use. They are given trust, and then the system lets them do business inside, they let them get drugs inside, they deal so they sort out their life. The guards also always get their cut. The guards also get lots of drugs inside, in fact there has been cases when they got them, for example with bottles of cola-caio (chocolate milk drink), full of heroin, in Alcalá-Meco and in many other places. Because guards do not get searched, they get heroin inside and the trusted prisoners that had a destiny go giving the heroin around and the prisoners sell it. And the guard therefore can get

out to 2nd grade, two years before I got released, I was really shocked with the people. Because if you were to say anything to the prisoner, about rebelling or anything, they would go and tell the guard without any fear! Well, really out of order, I used to think, fuck, to me guards were my enemy because I know they are my enemy, but for these people who were prisoners the same as me, but they were also my enemies, that was too much. That is, to me that is clear, not only the function of drugs within the prisons, through drugs they first manage to ensure that prisoners do not make any trouble, second to ensure that any problems would happen between the prisoners themselves, so they also benefit from it and then make it another instrument of the system, because the system gives them drugs. They had them at their feet; they will do with them what they want. If a guard tells a prisoner, close that door, the prisoner would go and close it. If the guard says go around repeating this lie, which is any lie normally about another prisoner, the prisoners will go and do it. So guards could tell them what they want. Get this knife and kill this man, then I am going to double your portion of methadone and I will get you on the 3rd grade. In fact to us, to people who were kidnapping people to escape, they proposed to us to form a prisoners GAL. That is that guards do not stop themselves when it comes to those things.



S - Could you explain a bit what the prisoners GAL is? What is GAL and what are the prisoners GAL?

L - Yes, what I was telling you before, even me, if you start to look closely at the prison, the prison is very hard, well, today most of the people who get in from the streets, have already had some contact with drugs and if they are inside, because the prison is very hard, then they cannot get over it and therefore they find it easier to get into drugs. On top of that, if the system is giving it to you, fucking better, and well, all prisoners have assumed that, that if they do not give any problems to the system and collaborate with the system, then they will get released sooner, on probation and so on. That it is clear for them, then, the prison is very hard and then those people on the outside, I do not know if they would have an alternative to live or not. I do not think so and therefore because outside they did not have options, inside less.

S - And the GAL?

L - About the GAL, inside or outside?

S - First explain what it was outside.

L - Outside it was...

S - A "Group of Anti-terrorist Liberation."



L - Yes, a mafia of policemen, inside the Guardia Civil, inside the National Police, and also inside the army, although the Guardia Civil isn't an army body, but a political army body. Well they will focus mainly in physically disposing of people like ... Basque people. Mainly those who belong to the GRAPO (armed anti-fascist group), mainly people who were involved in armed bands with political ends. Then well, they will go and kidnap them, they will kill them and put bombs against them, that is, hard and pure violence, total terrorism, that is a terrorism of the state. Then well, they had all the means in their hands, inside and outside, and then inside, because there were some Basque prisoners mainly, and that they will think that they had tirade with regards to others, then they were worried, because maybe due to the reasons why they were in jail...

S - Police and the army were worried about those cases.

L - Well, they even end up telling us that they wanted to get rid of some Basque prisoners, end then they will tell us, well, not to me because I am Basque, but they were asking the guys, they took them to the cell and told them, "listen fellows, you are fighting for freedom? Well, if you are clever, look, you could get freedom in six months, and everything legal, you only have to do what we tell you". And those comrades that were by no means stupid asked them, "Well, what do we have to do? You are setting us free in six months, so well, what do we have to do?" "Well, it is simple, everybody knows that you are doing kidnapping all the time, well, this time we are going to let you kidnap some of us, you will need to take us to a certain place that we will tell you and then you will eliminate one person that we will tell you. You will tie us up very well, you kill that person and then you hand yourselves over, nobody is going to touch you, because everything is agreed, then in six months" That is what the law says, because otherwise they cannot do it, because that would look

a bit dodgy because the law says that minimum is six months of 1st grade, before you can go to second grade, and three months later you are in third grade, you are able to get permits to go out, you are in the streets. And that is what they were proposing, they wanted us to go killing our comrades, that is the Prison GAL that they wanted to build up inside prisons, but we did not do it, but they proposed it to us.

S - And how is the situation of the struggle inside the prisons nowadays? After if you want, we could talk as well about the hunger strike of prisoners in isolation in the year 2000, as another example of collective experience.

L - I was doing that hunger strike, and I had a really bad time. It was very hard, I was very hungry, and like me, we were all very hungry. And well, at the same time, it is a way of telling the guards who were inside, but well, we got no result, because there was no change to the regime, we got nothing more than reprisals from the

ones that were inside. And I think that was the problem, because if outside there was to have been a bigger and more real coordination, the people, well coordinated, a more real support, then the guards, will have stopped themselves when repressing us. But of course because they knew that the support that we had outside was symbolic, apart from the four or five usual people, the rest was more like a small fashion of the time. And guards know all those things, and because they knew that it was not a real support, that is what happened.

S – It did not have an impact on the guards?

L – Not at all, they were not at all concerned, in fact, every time we did a hunger strike, and also this time, the guards were laughing at us, they were laughing at us. But anyhow, we were not eating; we were still refusing el rancho. We were not eating.

S – They would not care; in fact five guards savagely beat you up once when you were on your day 18 of the hunger strike. Is that correct?

L – Yes, between five guards. On the day 18 of the hunger strike, they were transferring me to another cell and they started beating me up from the back, they throw me down to the floor, they kick my head up, they handcuffed me, they made several cuts in my head and then they tied me up from hand and feet to a bed, they did the stitches on the cuts of my head without anaesthesia, really bad. I was complaining and after 18 days without eating you are very weak. But it was a way of beating me up, it was the first time that they did it in such a cowardly way, lying to me, other times I had general searches, do you know the tension?, you know that if they do not remove your pants they are going to beat you up, you get ready, but then, because you are all by yourself, there is nothing you can do, but well, you are prepared, you know they are going to beat you up in that moment. But that time they lied to me, they told me “Cell change!” a normal cell change, because they change my cell sometimes everyday. They were going after me, “get your things” and like that, and I was taking what I was writing at the time, I took the notebook, the letters and the things that I do not want them to see when they are searching the room, and I was walking along the corridor and just like that they started beating me up in the back. And then I turned around and then it was when they started beating me up really bad, they got me down to the floor, they kicked me in the head, a very strong beating, imagine. And at the time I was having the support of Amaitu.

S – Your village association.

L – Yes, but they did not mind, they did not care at all.

S – And in the hunger strike of the year 2000, they were also not bothered about the fact that you were all still on hunger strike, how many of you were doing the hunger strike?

L – I think that in total it was about 200 people, maybe more, I am not very sure because one will say one thing and others will say another, and also because since we were isolated, we could not talk between us. We had to be calling on the phone to other people that were outside to know how about things in our prison and in other prisons, I think that in total more than 200 people started it, I think it was more or less 50 the ones that finished it.

S – It was only done by the prisoners that were on the 1st grade, because on 2nd grade it was only follow by Gabriel and another comrade. It was not very supported amongst other prisoners, was it?

L – No, on 2nd grade it was only Gabriel and.... and in 1st grade it was also a few prisoners, because on the 1st grade there were lots of prisoners and the hunger strike was followed only by those who were on the FIES and by a few that were on 1st grade. But what I am saying, it was started but about 200 and finished I think by 50 without eating.

S – You just mentioned that there is a lot of people that live on the 1st grade, maybe is important to say that, mainly in Europe, that the people who are under the FIES regime are at the moment 44, because Xose Tarrío, died in January, the FIES regime, that is the strict regime of isolation still exists in Spain, and will still be there even when there is no FIES prisoners.

L – Yes, they are going to stay there, that is the modules. They have spent a lot of money on them. Imagine, they are modules where everything is automated, only automatic doors and cameras, bars over the top, all that has cost a lot of money. They are not going to destroy that from one day to the other, they will always keep it there. In the 1990s it was us, in the 2000s there will be other ones and 2010s there will be new ones. But

those are micro-prisons of maximum security. To me, the walls of the FIES are micro-prisons of maximum security inside the macroprisons of maximum security. Mainly, the FIES modules are to stop people from escaping. And it is only social prisoners that they keep in them; I still have not seen political prisoners inside the FIES module of direct control. I have seen political prisoners in 1st grade with FIES 3, that is different, but FIES 1 is much harder.

S – Absolute control.

L – Of course, the problem is that in FIES 1, you are allowed to go out to the patio a maximum of one hour per day and with no more than one person, but with the 1st grade in FIES 3 you go to the patio something like 4 to 5 hours per day, and there are seven or eight people in the patio. Notice how it changes, it changes a lot. That is that the FIES is FIES 1 direct control, and that is only applied to social prisoners, people that wanted to escape, or that had rebelled anyhow against the institution, for having participated in a riot/mutiny, or maybe for having punched a guard, while they were beating you up, because many time you cannot, but sometime you can give a punch to a guard if you get an opportunity. For those reasons, either because the people were against the institution and then they get you into the FIES 1 with all their rights, only to social prisoners.

S – Other kind of torture that they apply is the transfers, you were saying before that to change cells is very common, and also to get transfer to other prisons, with the aim of getting you apart from your homes and families, like you just said, inside the FIES 1, it is mainly social prisoners, professional criminals, supposed leaders of prisoners movements and many come from poor families.

L – Yes of course, that is why we stayed inside prison, we were all poor.

S – And about the transfers? In which conditions are those transfers made? How often? To how many people?

L – Change of cell?

S – Yes and change of prison.

L – Of prison? Well the changes are not only transfers between prisons, it is also changes of cell, they move you around the prison and change your cell, twice a week, or four times a week, or once every fortnight, whatever



they want. Then transfers between prisons, the same, I don't know, it can be once every fortnight, once a month, and every 20 days, whatever they want.

S - Again you are isolated because your families cannot go to see you, it is not the same if you are here in Vizcaya or if you are in Cadiz.

L - Yes of course, and also the prisons that have the FIES regime are just a few, it is not all prisons, they all have 1st grade but not all of them have the FIES modules. They transfer you, the transfers are also a way to stop you from escaping, because, according to them, if you are in for a lot of time in one place, you can be checking one thing or another, but if they are moving you all the time, you do not have time to plan anything. It is a tool to stop prisoners from escaping that is why they transfer you. Both transfers and changes of cell. Well, also, they use it with people that will not try to escape like Basque prisoners, well, some of them will, but most don't, they change them to fuck them up, so they cannot have any communication with their families, etc. But for us, for the ones who wanted to escape, they do it so you do not escape, they do not care about our families, they do not care about us, they only do it so you do not have an opportunity to escape.

S - How many times did you manage to escape? How many times did you manage to escape and get to the streets?

L - Me only once.

S - Once? And from which prison?

L - Well, look, it was from the calabozos municipales, (municipal jails), around here, from a village around here, now I do not remember how it is called.

S - And tried to escape?

L - I tried many times, and two of them kidnapping, but no, kidnapping is very very difficult and even more difficult from the FIES modules, you have to go through a lot of barriers, lots of controls, and at the end you do not manage to go.

S - And when you come back to prison?

L - The problem of trying to escape is that while you are planning it is ok, you are spending your time, but the problem is that if it does not go well, they beat you up savagely. They punish you very much. They do not like it if you try to escape, they do not like it at all, I cannot understand why.

S - Because it is normal to try it, isn't it?

L - You will try to escape and then you do not manage and they beat you up a lot, they isolate you, they torture you, they handcuff you from your feet and hands to the bed, they insult you, they will tell you anything, and then of course you also get sanctions. They give you lots of sanctions as well, so for the next time that you try it again,

maybe it has been a year or more, until you have paid all your sanctions, until you get recovered from the trauma, and they move you to a place where you could see again that the possibilities and then you start fantasising a bit, then maybe it has been more than a year, or maybe more, look how things are, then well, it is ok, what are you going to do when you are inside, tell me.

S - It is an instinct, isn't it?

L - In fact I am telling you, if from the beginning, when I got in the 80s for this story, but if I was to have been an ordinary prisoner, and if I was to have accepted what there was inside prisons, and I was not to rebel for anything, then I would have been inside just 9 years or maybe 10, but I stayed for over 25 years. That is because of my attitude inside the prisons and I have been quite, I do not get into serious things, the problem is that... I do not know.

S - What about the things that are going on those last two years, that could make us think, if we were to know again that there are riots/mutinies inside the prisons like the two that had occurred in Cuatre Camins what do you think?

L - The prison of Cuatre Camins is in Cataluña, in Cataluña it is another story. But with regards to the Spanish state? From the social prisoners point of view? I think that there is not much and what remains is old people, that have always been fighting and will keep on fighting. But to encourage a bit the people who are inside so they start to, I don't know, to get conscious first, because lots of prisoners they are not aware of what their rights are, that is the problem, they cannot write nor read. Therefore first, to make them aware of what their rights are, and to encourage them to fight for their rights, there needs to be a very good and coordinated movement outside. A movement that not only tells them what their rights are and then how to fight for them avoid the repression of possible reprisals and if prisoners got punished for fighting for their rights, to follow up from the outside and then also with regards to the media, that is, it is not only about making denunciations, demonstrations outside, but also going to the media, even to the big ones, a way of pressuring them so they can denounce what is going on, can't they? The problem is that if prisoners do not see, and more as things are getting at the moment, they do not see that there is a real and strong support, there is nothing to do. Here in Spain it is all finished. Their only remains ashes and the four that have always been there, they continue there, fucking good, it is a pity.

S - You Laude, have been free for one year and one month, and I would like to ask you two things, what do you think about the prisoner's support movement that there is outside, now that you can see them, and how are you?



L – Well, to be honest I think that a lot more could be done, that not much is being done, and that there should be much more, lots more could be done. And how am I? Fucking great. I am fucking great outside, I rather be outside than inside.

S – But what consequences did the isolation time in prison have upon you?

L – Ah! I am very fucked up in the head, I am really bad, I have an enormous psychological trauma, and I do not know how, bit by bit, I am going to get over it. The system has not provided psychiatrists or anything, I did not get any kind of attention at the beginning either, I had to do it all myself. No, but it is true that it leaves your mind really bad, a lot of distrust and lots of paranoia, I still dream about prison. Look what paranoia, I have been outside for a year and I still dream about prison. It is just too much. It is also difficult to relate with the people outside, there are lots of things from the people in the streets that because you are used to do things other ways, other attitudes, for example in the streets people insult each other just like that, inside if you get insulted, you need to fight for your life and things like that. You are in a pub and someone comes and pushes you and, what is going on? Lack of respect that here there are no problem, but inside they are very strong, well that you need to kill yourself with someone for such a stupid thing. Here outside they are stupid things, but inside they are very serious lacks of respect. But well, I am seeing how people function outside because I am not going to be killing myself with everyone that insults me or pushes me. What I am going to do? I will have to be one more of those outside. I mean, I am not going to slap childish people that are going around pushing people at the pub, they can get me in prison again, and that can be a problem.

S – That is a fear that you have always in mind, isn't it?

L – That I get imprisoned for such a stupid thing, and mainly because if I get into prison again, they have all my files there, I will go directly into the FIES, and then the guards are going to really give me a very hard time. They will try to increase my sentence, maybe I go in there just to do six months, but I might never manage to get out. I won't be able to be out because they will increase my sentence for fighting with someone, if I can defend myself I will defend myself. If you defend yourself, they will consider it as an aggression, then they will increase the sentence to 4 years, 6 years, what do I know?

S – Now you are 44 years old and you got in when you were 17.

L – No, well, I got in when I was 19 and now I am 44, the thing is that before I have been inside more times. I had 4 more entries. Then I was also in a young offender's institution, from here, in the young offender's institution of El Cisco, I managed to escape, the thing is that it was easier to escape before, and well all my life like that, all my life. Well, I was also working as an illegal, the problem is that they have been exploiting me, I was conscious that I was being exploited, and with what I was getting I could not manage, and then in one way or another I needed to get some money to live on, to have my life, not that I was spending it on drugs. But well, I liked to live well, with as much dignity as possible, even though I was a kid, to have my own money, why could I not have my own money? If I had the guts to go and get it. I think it is like that, who does not do it because they do not have the guts or courage to do it, well, nothing, worse for him, but if you know that you can get it, I get it and that is it.

S – The first step necessary for a movement of rebellion to happen, for a movement of resistance within the prisons, is that for the persons that are inside to become aware of their condition as prisoners, aware of the system that is oppressing them and also aware of the reasons why they are in such a condition. When did you experience this change within you and how?

L – Well, me being aware of all that, when I was a kid, of course I was not

aware of any of those things. When I was a kid I was in the Basque country, I had thrown lots of stones at the police; I had participated in lots of demos. But for me it was because it was the police, that was my reason, they were bad, they were the ones who used to arrest me, beat me up, torture me, and I did not like them, do you understand me? Also because I was stealing, and then they used to arrest me, they used to torture me, they used to do all kinds of savage things. And then of course, if I was to see that there were demos against the cops, I would go to throw stones at them, to throw them whatever, because they were cops, but I was a kid at the time, but I was not aware then about how the system works. Then when they made me a prisoner again in the 80s, well, it is not that I was very aware, I did not even know how to write a letter, well, I did know how to write, but I did not know how to write a letter, where to put the address or the return address, or any of those things, I had never written a letter. And I did not know what my rights were. And also I was sent down in the 80s, when with all the mutinies/riots from the COPEL, all prisons were basically destroyed. Then I was there, I went to Malaga's prison and I was tripping, completely shocked, because since prisons were destroyed inside, they would have us sleeping in groups of 60 or 70 blokes in a space for 15 or 20, so we were really overcrowded. And well, there, with time I was getting more and more interested in my rights, I started getting the penal code, first thing I learned was how to make claims to the institution, because when you are inside, every time that you want to ask for something, you need to do a written claim. Therefore I started by doing the written claims and then I was getting to learn which article I needed to mention to do such or such a claim, because when you do not base your claims on the articles, they will get thrown out straight away, they will not reply to you. So bit by bit a started by reading the Penal Code reglamento penitenciario, the penal legislation, the penal code, the constitution, and everything. And I was shocked, fuck we had all those rights? That could not be, how can it be possible that we had all those rights, because they do not respect any of them. That was the first shock. You start writing, and then I started going around with people that were inside for longer than me. They tell you about escapes, it is normal, the people who are inside were there for a long time, and in prison the conditions are really bad. And then the people are trying to escape they have a different mentality and then you read, you get publications, and at the end, you start becoming aware of being a prisoner. You become aware that you are a prisoner of the system. I was felt I was being

kidnapped by the system, the system had me kidnapped, not for what I was, but for what I had become at that moment, and for what I was doing inside the prison. That is why instead of 9 years, they made me pay nearly 25. And well, now I know what the State is, I know what repression is, I know why they apply repression, and I know a lot of things. Now I am aware, and I have read several writers, political texts, mainly anarchists, the ones that I most liked; now I have my own ideas.

S - Maybe with the experience of being a prisoner, mainly in that atmosphere like found yourself, one of the few things that are positive is getting to know a few people. Other comrades that have a common struggle with you, could we talk about Gabriel Pombo da Silva, who is on trial at the moment in Aachen?

L - Yes I did get to know him, they have also been very unfair with him and well, apparently he managed in Nanclares de la Oca, with the support that he had from the outside, he managed to get a permit to go out, the man never came back, well, it is normal, how are you going to go back to get tortured, would you? Now from what I have heard they got him in Germany, and that the conditions are really horrible. Apparently it has been an accident, well; I do not know exactly what has happened with the guy. But what to me is clear is that he did not go back to prison. Why? Because how is anyone going to go back to get tortured, that is why he escaped, in fact he had tried while he was inside several times, he also was always trying to escape. And well, I believe he got to Germany and there was a problem, I do not know what happened, but well, it was an accident within his fight, and well, he has been unlucky because now they got him again and he has it really bad, I heard that the same or worse than in the Spanish FIES 1, 2 or regime.

S - It is another kind of torture, white torture, more psychological than physical?

L - Then, well yes, I think it is outrageous what they are doing with him. And well, I do not know if it could be possible to get him out, now it is at trial, they still have not reached a conclusion. (- Gabriel recently received a 13 year sentence. editor)

S - There is still no sentence, but for example, what do you think would happen if Gabriel was to go back to Spain, because the country has asked for the extradition.

L - When he gets back to Spain? When he gets back to Spain they are going to keep on

torturing him, they are going to keep him isolated to see if he somehow, well dies, either from a sickness or from a beating. I think they want to assassinate him and they will not stop until they manage it. If they take him back to Spain he does not have a chance, he had it very bad and he is going to keep on having it very bad. And if he managed to get out because of the circumstantial support that he was having at the moment, because I found it incredible that they gave him a permit. You see, when there is a real support, you see. And well, the guy took advantage, he did not go back and well, fucking great, but now, they got him again. He was inside his story, his fight; he had that accident and well.

S - At the end, what the State really hates is people like Gabriel, who is again in a very difficult situation, and even though this is happening to him, he keeps on writing, he keeps on denouncing, and he keeps on having his own ideas.

L - That is why they punish you more when you are in prison, for your attitude inside, it is not for what you have done, at the end what have you done, nothing. You start asking yourself, what have I done for all this. I have done nothing for fuck's sake. They punish your attitude inside prison, if they think you do not submit enough, if they see that you go against the system and that you are against them. Well, even if you defend human rights inside prison, what crime is that? For them it is a crime.

S - That is what you were telling me before, that they were going against their own laws.

L - Yes, they are breaking the law all the time, when I became aware of my rights I read article 15 of the Spanish Constitution: no-one will be tortured or suffer ill treatment. I was shocked. Is this the Spanish Constitution! Is this possible? Here they are torturing us everyday, they are beating us. How could that be? How could it be possible that these people could have such a nerve? *Como es posible que esta gente pueda tener tanto morro?*

They are systematically breaking their own laws and in fact, well, when I talk to people, I think that a very important

step is to oblige them to respect their own laws. That would be a very important step. Because a lot of prisoners will benefit from it, that would be an important step, then if we want to go further, then well, that step will then be very important, because a lot of prisoners would benefit also, lots of prisoners would get released, the conditions inside would be a bit better, and that they treat you at least as a person is also good. Because if not you feel like you are nobody and they can do with you whatever they want. It is a feeling that it leaves you very bad, on top of that bad feeling, knowing that nothing happens the guards and judges of this system of torture is very depressing. It is a very important step, that they respect their own laws. Mainly human rights within the prisons, this will be a very important point, and then, all the other rights that are legislated, that are contemplated by law, for them to respect them the same. A lot of prisoners would get released, but a lot of their lives would change inside by 100%.

S - Do you want to tell us anything else?

L - Well, I do not know, what I would like to say is that I am really upset, because they have hurt me a lot, but well, I am on the streets, and I am getting over it bit by bit. But they have damaged me very much, very hard. I am really upset, it is true, the problem is that I go along with it very well, I think it is very important to denounce what there is inside, for people to get conscious and when I say people, I do not mean one, two, three or four, it is everybody's problem.

September 2005



SQUATTING IN BRIGHTON

"Phone everyone you know right now, the pigs are outside!"

Most of the time, I'm usually expecting the door to be kicked through. I really appreciate a good door and barricade, and every home should have one. If you can, make sure at least one person in the house has enough cash on an unregistered cell-phone to call for support. We've stopped a few evictions from private heavies and police by getting a phone list together, and it's essential for people to respond as quickly as possible to intervene. Many times there is no court order for eviction, and well, these things are expected, but with a little effort we can make it very hard for them, and maintain our space. It's just a matter of making it difficult for the property market to function, and to consistently challenge those enforcing it in every way possible. Coming into regular contact with cops, estate agents, landlords and private thugs protecting this property racket only makes me more determined to reject capitalism, and everything it expects of us.

Brighton is a small decadent coastal resort full of expanding yuppie developments. There is has a long squatter and anarchist history here, from the time Peter Kropotkin lived in the town, to the days of Harry Cowley and his anti-fascist activities and community struggle. In recent years there has been extensive gentrification, attracting high-earners from London and efforts have been made to attack and displace the excluded people, pushing them out of town. Many squats here don't really last that long, and it means moving a lot. Sometimes buildings are found and held down for longer; when we have to move every week, or even every few days as we get kicked from one place to next, it can be a pain, but it's great making landlords, pigs and estate agents crazy.

It's easy to squat in the UK, just find a disused empty building, get in, change the locks and secure the place well. Make sure there is at least one person in at all times, and it's yours!*. There are a few long term squats here that have entered into 'peppercorn' rent agreements (low price rent often without contract), and also a few places which have become legal housing co-ops. There was a long running squat on the sea-front - 'Medina House' - which entered into a peppercorn rent agreement with the landlord, but it still seems in as sketchy situation as many

squats in the city. We generally wonder at the benefits of negotiating payments of any kind.

The police here have recently been particularly pro-active in 'illegally' evicting squats without court orders, and arresting people. This increases every year when the Labour Party have their annual conference here, as the multi-million pound coordinated security operation invariably involves widespread repression against anybody excluded from the charade. Some few days before the Labour party conference September 2004, there was a raid involving a mob of yellow-jacketed cops, forensic unit, armed response team and media on a squatted house on Upper Lewes Rd. The news reports reproduced the usual misconceptions about anarchist activity in their drive to endorse the authorities. The papers printed a picture of a comrade from Spain as proof of the 'international' nature of the supposed conspiracy which had been thwarted, and an Italian man and 2 men from the UK were arrested at the scene, questioned and later released without charge. That the anarchists in UK have largely ignored the Labour party conference in Brighton as a mere uninteresting spectacle for the past few years is pretty obvious to many. Brighton police thought the arrested squatters 'amateurs' for not possessing explosives, but it was clear that the squatters real offense was not caring too much about politicians and their meeting, and the justification of an overblown security budget was the main reason for the brouhaha.

Since the Labour party conference of 2005, which was also accompanied by evictions across the city and the usual media bad press against sound-system and squatting culture, Brighton police have stated that they will not tolerate squatting anymore. The city was full of gangs of police harassing people days before the conference, armed with high-powered machine guns and all the usual tools of the police-state. Despite the clampdowns in the city, and the protest march that was heavily contained by police, people diverted their efforts elsewhere.



At night banks were attacked, graffiti appeared, and someone set fire to a car in an underground car-park, which was below a hotel full of trade union and Labour party delegates who had to be evacuated.

Previously, the cops distinguished themselves on 31st October '02 by violently attacking an anti-war road blockade near the seafront, which resulted in many injuries, and many people here can bear witness to free parties which have been brutally raided and attacked. An ex-library which held a squat party was attacked early one morning and many people were injured by clubs, dogs and CS gas, the DJ was attacked, equipment trashed, the crowd of angry people fought back to some extent, and a few people suffered terrible arrests and an abusive detention, but were cleared after lengthy court wrangling. But these are only incidents surrounded by others, and we remember many.

In one situation in 2004 at a squatted cinema just outside Brighton centre, a Spanish comrade was arrested and held down by police dog handlers and treated in an appalling fashion in detention before being released. At the same place, the pigs broke in and stole all the valuable goods in the building whilst they held 2 people captive in an office room, before leaving them alone with no arrests. Only after considerable effort was put in did we get any of our belongings back from the cops, certainly not any of our tools.

Another Spanish comrade, who was alone in his house, had his front window smashed in the middle of the day by the landlord and his men, who enter. The squatter on threat of death climbs down a 3-story drainpipe without any shoes and runs for help. He is captured within minutes by police, arrested, detained for 24 hours and later bailed and charged with weapons possession, narcotics possession and breaking and entering property. He still doesn't answer bail, and we wish him luck.

Over the last few months in winter the police have been evicting as many squats as possible on the charges of 'theft of electricity', which is a fairly ruthless move in the coldest months. In some cases, even when bills were produced to show evidence of contract these were dismissed, as the sole aim is to evict the inhabitants and board the place up. In the latest case of this policy, 5 squatters found their house being stormed by 3 squad cars of cops which quickly escalated into a fracas outside involving a police dog unit, 2 riot vans and a CCTV van against 30 people who had arrived in solidarity. 3 arrests were made for 'obstruction of police', 'assault on police' and 'breach of the peace'. Two of the people were released by police whilst the one man was held for over the weekend, and bailed to return. Police threatened to arrest anyone taking footage of their actions, and one comrade was chased down the street and had their camera seized and deleted, but not without some resistance on the part of friends.



Possessions are often seized to point to the supposed radical nature of the occupants, and so a reason why they should be arrested and turned out into the gutter. It seems to be enough to be a DJ, or have anti-war leaflets, anarchist posters or books to be considered fit for prison.

Brighton police's heavy handed treatment of the local anti-arms campaign 'Smash EDO-MBM', and the collusion which the police, business and legal people reached is also repellent, but is expected from a police force which frequently builds profiles and commits house searches against activists. For a recent small demonstration in the '05 autumn, of barely few hundred people, there was an incredible number of police, vans, and helicopters.



The police operation included weeks of police public relations. People found themselves surrounded and outnumbered by the usual UK State tactic of close contact mass policing.

The cops make use of identity profiling and data-basing of homeless people and youths here a lot, and have been engaged in the retention of biometric and DNA records from minors and from those released without charge, despite no legal powers. Also, how can we ignore the numerous reports of people being abused at Hollingbury police station and on the streets; arbitrary arrests, threats, beatings, being stripped and left without clothes in the cells, other humiliations...

The repression being felt as Brighton police carry out a long term attack on the excluded, the youth, the free party, squatting and radical community doesn't go unnoticed and won't pass unanswered. That many people here refuse to pay for housing, and want to organise against the system, is evident. If the police in Brighton have declared war on squatters it is because they notice our activity, and we are open for this, because we are already openly in conflict with them and the capitalist system they serve.

A few angry drug addicts.

*For information about squatting in the UK contact the Advisory Service for Squatters: www.squatter.org.uk



What should the police get?:

OUR BODIES, DIGNITY & FREEDOM?

or

OUR WELL-AIMED BULLETS?

The recent arrests in Barcelona on 9th February of **Ruben Masmano Bernel & Ignasi Antolino Ibanez**, two anarchist comrades accused of direct action against banks and the prison industry, is a typical gesture from state power against its enemies, but this is not an isolated incident, the **E.U.** is coordinating repression against anarchists and other militants across the whole of Fortress Europe.

We totally denounce the actions of the 'Mossos d'esquadra', and the entire police force, judiciary and prison-system of Spain. Their continuing methods of torture, abuse, fabricated evidence and media trial are well documented. The charges against Ruben & Ignasi exist as a political attack against the anarchist movement, there has been no evidence shown by the State to justify the preventive prison. Their attempts to portray Ignasi and Ruben as members of an 'anarchist-terrorist unit' only provides a starting point to refer that are active in the 'anti-prison and prisoner support movements'. As if this is enough evidence needed to kidnap them from us, we expect less.

Even less, and equally as despicable, is the mock indignation and inquiry of the British, Spanish governments and others, after the exposure of secret CIA 'rendition' flights. People suspected of 'terror' kidnapped from the streets of Europe, held in secret prisons beyond any appeal, and extradited via European airports to torture destinations around the globe. As if the EU in general, or the British and Spanish States refrains from dispersal, isolation, torture and murder on national soil or abroad.

The European Union's theatre of 'human rights' is a shabby symbolic display. The European Union and its directives are nothing but cover for the terror of a conglomeration of authoritarian regimes; 'Democratic', 'Socialist', 'Conservative', for this spectacle to remain is unacceptable for us, we have had enough of these ascendant gangs of power controlling our lives.

Fire in the Hold

The State does not follow its own laws, not in the Spain, Italy, U.K, Poland, nowhere; and if it did, it would only be because it had built for itself a greater terror, to commit the people to its subservience. We can only see the process of deference, propaganda and murderous arrogance from the State as regards 'justice'. In a situation of widespread State impunity, degrading conditions and exploitation, to work for the daily health and conditions of prisoners is enough to be branded as 'terrorist'. We know the outcome of this logic and where it ends, and we will resist straight away without negotiation.



The gentrification happening in Barcelona and the clamp-downs against the anarchist movement is not just simply an attack on all those excluded from the new consumer city the Catalan authorities want to build. It is an attack from European finance, State power, Europol, and various international police forces. It is part of the coordinated areas of focus, for operations against the anarchist movement in Southern Europe; the 'Mediterranean Triangle' of 'anarcho-insurrectionists'. The widespread raids and investigations in Italy over the past few years, the jailed comrades from Lecce, 'Il Silvestre', 'Cervantes'; the detention of Greek comrades, all these measures originate from the same sources. Although more than this, in Northern Europe: The Aachen 4, Thomas Meyer-Falk and the Magdeburg anti-fascists in Ger-

many; Marco Camenisch detained in Switzerland, the 'Aubonne bridge' case (where activists are cut from ropes almost killing them) and the absolute rule of the Swiss Police State; The widespread repression of popular struggle in France, and the show trials against International Red Aid, the anti-fascist group GRAPO and the PCE(r). All these innumerable repressive measures are the same, maybe not in program, but in essence, we see the common form and the guiding principles of protecting property rights and maintaining the order under the guise of 'criminal investigations'.

The operations happening against the anarchist and radical social movements across Europe and the world are same body, the same entity that uses arbitrary detention, unknown transfer, torture and death in a routine way, against anyone displaced to the requirements of the market. Our eyes view this, from the immigrant detention centres, to the prisons, to the factories; to all the various wars for resources, territory and dogmatic ideological control. The repression is multiple, and our response to this is equally so, because, "For every prisoner, an answer, and for every answer, a smile".

Solidarity is an attack against power, so it is no surprise that they have kidnapped our friends from the streets of Barcelona. We say 'friends', because if any people known to us or not, take action against the State, hierarchy and capitalism, we consider them friends. They do not have to be 'not-guilty' or condemned by their actions either; we have hope in our hearts if anyone defends themselves against the police or Capitalism. We have hope for them, because here we feel it also, in our rage against the economic system and Prison-State which is the UK.

Against the terror of prisons

Friends of Ruben & Ignasi



Ruben, anarchist of 9th Feb



¡Salud companeros!

I'm writing from the prison of Can Brians, in the module number one, and I will make a brief summary since that shitty February 9th (the date of our kidnapping) up to today (february 15th). Everything starts at 8:30 AM when a friend calls us awakening me and my friend telling me that it seems like Ignasi's house is being evicted in la Clota. We are a bit slow in reacting, but we decide to go to solidarize with him. We take a breakfast and we go down to the street to go there, when all of a sudden, as appearing from nowhere, a undetermined number of masked Catalan secret police jumps on us, telling me I'm arrested for terrorism. The impact on me is pretty brusque, we're searched against a wall and in this moment I lose my friend from sight, I'm taken into a car and they tell me the charges are setting up a fire in a Banco Sabadell and in C.I.R.E. (a public-private enterprise that controls prisoners' labour in Catalanian prisons), and that they're going to go upstairs to search my house. I tell them I want my lawyer to be there.

They ask me his name and when I tell them, they start to laugh and tell me that only happens in movies, but I insist in my "rights" to be respected. They bring me up to my house handcuffed, with the hood down and making me look to the floor. In the street door I can finally raise my eyes up and then I realise the massive operation they set up, I believe about 14 secret police to be there, since there were 3 cars full of them and other 3 anti-riot vans in Drassanes Avenue.

When we enter home I see 6 Mossos d'Esquadra (name of Catalan police) and my friend, something that makes me more quiet, and they start the searching, taking away: posters, books, fanzines, clothes, 2 computers and they didn't take the cats because they had no room for them... Then I realized I wasn't applied the counter-terrorist law, because my friend was there and also because she asked. At this time, no one was able to enter or leave the building, it was literally taken by police. When they finished their dirty job they leave my friend in the house, take me into a car and transfer me to the police station in Zona Franca. There I'm made a record of the arrest and they take me

into a cell. I see the "third comrade" (not Ignasi) and we talk about the raids a little, and without understanding it too well, since the arrest order was only for Ignasi and me, but he's soon released. The stay in the police station is pretty disgusting, but after a short time, around 12 I guess, they take me up to talk with the officer in charge and with another undesirable person, who with sarcastic smiles in their torturer faces ask me if I want to declare (make a statement), which I obviously deny to, so I stay sat down with them, smoking a cigarette and having to listen to questions such as "who made that thing at the Italian culture institute" (a coffee-pot bomb was placed there this summer) "and who's made everything else that's been happening lately?"

I simply do not reply and we spend some minutes staring at each other, hating each other, at least me hating them, until I end smoking. Then handcuffs again and back to the cell.

Next day we're transferred to the police station of Les Corts, where we spend two days, eating just two sandwiches a day, and from there to the court. Ignasi is taken to a cell with another guy, and I'm isolated in another one with an iron door with only a window of 40x40 cm and a second door

with bars. There we spend some hours, I don't remember how many, and the judge's secretary comes down and tells me my lawyer is unavailable and asks if we want to declare with a State's lawyer; we refuse until our lawyer appears. They said that the lawyer was making an "habeas corpus" appeal since he was told we would declare on Sunday, something that was illegal. I guess this all was a lie to make us declare with a state's lawyer. Finally he arrives and we go up to declare: a complete farce, where only with some clues but without evidence, the public prosecutor, without even taking a look at us and making no questions, asks for preventive prison without bail until trial. The lawyer asks for parole with bail, since there's no risk of escape neither investigation blocking, since that investigation was ended.

Obviously the judge of court number 3 does what the public prosecutor asks for, preventive prison. We then go straight to prison Modelo. In the moment of putting us in the van there's

some mistreatment, pushing us with our arms raised, handcuffed, walking backwards and our mouths shut since they saw our comrades in the outside waiting for us outside. The van then drives us as if it was a race and hitting us a bit since they couldn't hold us. When arriving to prison we're given the treatment of political prisoners: in two hours they transfer us two times, we can't talk to other prisoners. We also feel this when we're sent to see the doctor, the assistant, the educator and the teacher...we do all of that alone, but regular prisoners do that in groups.

Next day, when the case is handed to court number 13, he not only maintains the other judge's decision but he also scatters us to different prisons, me to Can Brians. There a prison guard in a disgustingly ironic tone says to me: "Such paradoxes life has, yesterday you put bombs in C.I.R.E. and next day you're behind bars" I tell him he should respect presumption of innocence and I'm yet to be judged, and he says "you're one of those that talks about guards' brutality, now you're going to feel it"

Up to today, physical punishments have been non-existent, but the mental one is pretty hard, since we're constantly despised as if we are not people, and I can't rest well enough. At nights I always suffer nightmares, about arrest, and I remember you comrades, my family. But it makes me strong to know you keep fighting as we will do here in the State's dungeons, resisting and looking ahead, to that freedom we will achieve through being strong and constant. Avoiding any barrier that the State puts in front of us, self-organising and fighting. Neither political police, nor courts, nor prisons will end our anarchy. If they haven't yet, they never will.

I only ask you to continue fighting, to support us because we need it so that we don't fall. See you soon, we know we will be out in a short time, they can't kidnap us for a long time. Our going out depends on them applying their fucking legislation, but even more so it depends on the fights outside: protest, scream and resist.

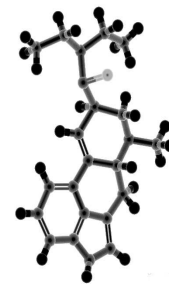
From module 1 of Can Brians prison.

Health and anarchy!

Ruben Masmano Bernel,
(Modulo 1 de C.P. Brians),
C.P. Can Brians,
Apartado 1000,
08760 Martorell,
Barcelona,
Spain

Free Casey Hardison!

Prisoner of the War on Drugs



Casey Hardison is an entheogenic activist, unauthorized researcher, and psychedelic chemist of undefeatable good mood and energy. Casey has contributed to Erowid.org, a large online resource dedicated to 'Documenting the complex relationships between humans and psychoactives'. Casey also attended entheogen-related conferences and wrote articles for 'The Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies' (MAPS), a membership-based, non-profit research and educational organization. MAPS assists scientists in their design and funding of legally approved studies into the risks and benefits of MDMA, psychedelic drugs and marijuana.

An American citizen, he moved to Britain in 2002, and eventually rented a house in Ovingdean near Brighton. Casey chose to fulfill a ten-year spiritual alchemical journey to make LSD and make up for the drought caused by a major DEA bust in the U.S. He was arrested and convicted of LSD manufacture in Britain.

Casey acted as his own lawyer during his case and, instead of arguing he did not commit the acts, he argued that he had a fundamental human right to engage in his chosen entheogenic religion. Hardison told the judges he was the victim of "chemical apartheid" and that the Misuse of Drugs Act was incompatible with his human rights.

The court rejected the argument and Casey was sentenced to 20 years in prison on Apr 22, 2005.

The Judge was upset that Hardison believed everyone had the "right to take hallucinogenic drugs to alter their consciousness by freeing their minds", and was not pleased that Hardison was "imploring the human race to expand their horizons by exploring the world through hallucinogenic drugs".

After sentencing, Casey shouted to Judge Anthony Niblett: "You would think I was a terrorist. Thanks for your love and compassion."

His main offence was the production of 145,000 doses of LSD (approximately 7 grams), as well as the production of 2C-B, DMT and the possession of 5-MeO-DMT and MDMA.

When he is released he will be deported to America. His presence in the UK has been branded 'detrimental'.

Casey has submitted Enhanced Human Rights Arguments simultaneously to the European Court of Human Rights and to the United Kingdom Court of Appeals directly challenging the drug laws as an affront to free thought, therapeutic choice and free religion. His UK Court Appeal was dismissed.

That this man has to serve his life in prison for the courageous act of manufacturing and distributing hallucinogens is a disgrace.

When writing please send Casey a book of stamps.

Casey Hardison LH5330
HMP Swaleside
Isle of Sheppey
Kent
ME12 4AX
United Kingdom

En = Within
Theo = Divine
Gen = Generate

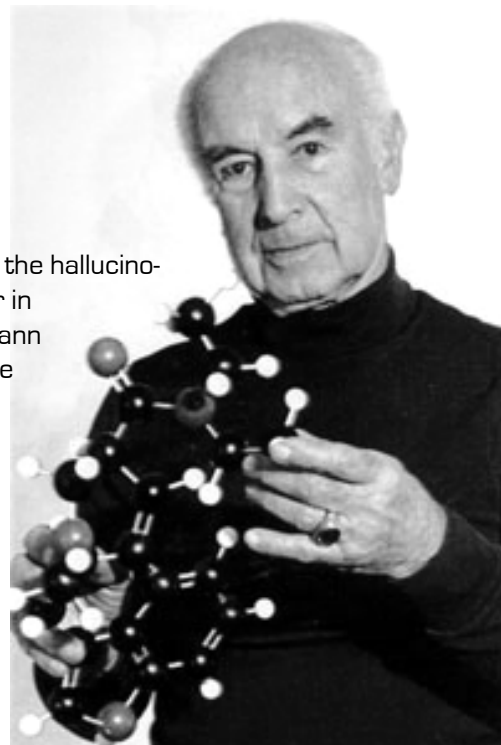


"..The so-called 'War on Drugs' is not a war on pills, powder, plants and potions, it is a war on mental states - a war on consciousness itself - how much, what sort we are permitted to experience, and who gets to control it.

A government that is permitted to set punishments for drug 'offences' in which a person has done nothing more than grow, manufacture, distribute, or use, the psychoactive agents which have been denoted as "controlled substances," participates in an even more pernicious form of censorship - a censorship of consciousness itself - by choosing to punish people for no other crime than choosing to experience or enable particular states of mind." - *Casey addresses the British State*

Albert Hofmann: 100th Birthday

On the **11 January 2006**, Dr. Albert Hofmann, the well-spoken inventor of the hallucinogen LSD celebrated his 100th Birthday, at a conference held in his honour in Switzerland. Since 19 April 1943, the day Swiss chemist Dr. Albert Hofmann discovered this psychoactive compound, millions of people from all over the world have used the unique substance LSD with profound and far-reaching insight; created innovative social transformation, music, art, and fashion; were healed from addiction, and depression; experienced enlightened perspectives into the human consciousness and were able to bring an energetic renewal of meaning to their lives.



By 1965, Dr. Hofmann was well aware of the potential of LSD to be of considerable aid in psychotherapy, and particularly under appropriate conditions to reveal the hidden aspects of human nature. Such a tool was sorely needed to counter what he felt were the painful deep-seated sociological causes of public interest: "...materialism, alienation from nature through industrialization and increasing urbanization, lack of satisfaction in professional employment in a mechanized, lifeless working world, ennui and purposelessness in wealthy, saturated society.."

You can no doubt imagine Dr. Hofmann's deep disappointment when his unique discovery was criminalised.

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Bundles of 325 are £1 each in multiples i.e £5 = x5 (postage extra). We sell as cheap as possible, and many titles are totally free. We stock the magazines: Killing King Abacus,

Anarchy: A Journal of Desire Armed, Green Anarchy, Wilful Disobedience, Abolishing Borders from Below, A Murder of Crows, Incendio, Vidange, Databide, and also titles from Elephant Editions, Venemous Butterfly, Anti-Politics and Re-pressed. We include stickers and other propaganda to hand, and do cheap/free/trade bundles to people wanting to set up their own distro, expect to wait a month or two for it though! Recommended titles for 2006!:

Without a Trace: A Forensics Manual For You & Me (Black Cat)

Revolutionary Solidarity (Quiver/ Anti-Politics)

On Organisation - Jacques Camatte & Gianni Collu / Re-Pressed

If it was easy, they wouldn't call it struggle: Repression & resistance in British prisons - Mark Barnsley





"Today means boundless and inexhaustible Eternity."

Months and years and all periods of time are concepts of men, who gauge everything by number; but the true name of eternity is Today."

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