

Best of the Anarchist Tubes

The goal of anarchistnews.org is to provide a non-sectarian source for news about and of concern to anarchists. It is also to provide a location for community moderated discussion about such news.

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Everything has bias.

The bias of anarchistnews.org is to promote an anarchist culture by providing a source of news and commentary about and of interest to anarchists. The goal is not to advocate for a particular anarchist practice but to serve a general anarchist need.

The Current Crisis & the Potential for Revolution

It's hard to know where to begin this story, as it concerns stituations exploding right now around the world, as well as thousands of years of class struggle, cycles of conflict and accumulation which make up so much of what we know as history. Hard times in the economy of the rich means political attacks on the common people. It is a moment where social and technological "progress" could provide the means to extract more profit by separating us from our survival in new ways. But it is also a moment when counter-attack against the ruling class could bring about total social change-a revolution in which all the existing system's defenders like institutions, cops, commodities and money will be swept off the field.

This spring: as prices rise and wages drop, food riots and guerrilla attacks occur around the globe. Into the fall, "mass incidents" among the uprooted in China's sprawling manufacturing zones, and millions due to be turned out of their homes in the U.S. and Europe. In Greece, widespread rebellion among students, youth, and immigrants causes the police to run out of tear gas within weeks. In Iceland, protestors smash the windows of the world's oldest parliament, and the government resigns. This past month has seen burning barricades and blockaded border crossings in northern Mexico. More and more people have been attacking the governments and economies that rule them, from the Yellow Sea to the Caribbean, the Baltic to San Francisco Bay. What is going on? Why are people acting like this? What do they want? Is is the same thing you want?

for much more, and a link to the full zine... http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6670

Greece: Arsonists burn state power company cars

From PR Inside

THESSALONIKI, Greece (AP) - Greek authorities say suspected anarchist arsonists have firebombed a main state power corporation office in Thessaloniki, burning 8 cars parked outside.

No injuries or arrests have been reported. Police say 5 corporation cars were destroyed and another three badly damaged in the attack early Saturday in the center of the northern city. The building was intact.

Police said a group of hooded and masked youths threw at least 15 incendiary devices made of camping gas canisters, as well as several petrol bombs.

Small anarchist groups frequently carry out arson attacks on symbols of state authority, banks and foreign diplomats' cars. Arrests are very rare. The attacks have escalated after the fatal police shooting of a teenager in Athens in December.

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6735

RCP Gets Rolled On at Anarchist Bookfair

Modesto Anarcho Crew forecloses the shit out of Maoist-Stalinist deviations of the class struggle at the SF Anarchist Bookfair. It was a glorious day for the Modesto Anarcho Crew here in San Francisco.

Not only did we spread loads of journals, zines, and other things around, we kicked the Revolutionary Communist Party the fuck out of our book fair. With loads of help from our Comrades, of course.

The RCP showed up early in the afternoon to sell their trash in the free area of the Book fair. They were informed that they had five minutes to leave. When the five minutes were up, Anarchists kicked their shit out. Literally. They didn't get the message, and just set up their table outside.

Sick of watching their ugly fucking faces attempt to distract potential comrades, and sick of the bastards who have done nothing for the past three months but try to coopt and control Oakland's rage, we stepped in. Armed with a bucket from Salt Lake, and inspiration from San Francisco, we drenched their table in liquid vengeance, destroying several hundred dollars' worth of dirty, filthy, Maoist Propaganda.

Later on, the fuckers tried to catch up with us; they even interrupted a discussion of destroying middle class anarchism. One individual was singled out, but we quickly backed him up. This is the difference between us and them; we have each other's backs. We win. Oh, and we're cool.

Fuck the RCP. Fuck Bob Avakian. Don't show your faces again. Be afraid. We know who you are. And we aren't taking your shit any longer. It's on.

MAC 01. RCP 00.

poster 1: The RCP is an easy target. It would have been more interesting if y'all had gone after AK Press or SDS or other anarchists who push leftism/nationalism just like the RCP. *poster 2*: Well the thing of it is, we can actually have discussions with the folks at AK and SDS and other left anarchists since we share the same vocabulary and broad goals and strategies. With Maoists there's nothing to share except some vague undefined platitudes like "revolution" and "ending oppression" and other such feel-good meaningless phrases. Face it, they are our enemies in a way that's qualitatively different from our rivals among left anarchists, who will certainly, when push comes to shove, always be on the same side of the barricades as us.

poster 3: We can still all work together

The post-left (much like the left-communists ironically enough) don't really do much other than publish and critique so I don't think there is much sense in trying to work together. There are plenty of anarchist communist and libertarian socialist websites out there. Anarchist Black Cat, NEFAC, WSM, Anarkismo to name a few.

poster 4:San Francisco: BB! Statement of Support With RCP Eviction at Anarchist Book Fair:

"Yesterday, March 14th, the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP) was forcibly evicted from the San Francisco Anarchist Book Fair. Surprisingly some "Anarchists" have criticized the move and have even defended the Maoist's right to free speech. These Anarcho-Liberals have even gone as far as to suggest that throwing water on the RCP's literature is violence. Soon after the incident, the RCP started a petition denouncing their eviction. Dozens of so-called "Anarchists" signed the petition.

These Bash Backlers think the petition is a fantastic idea, and we want to thank those who signed the petition of a historically heterosexist organization. Now we know whose side you all are really on.

Until 2003 the Revolutionary Communist Party held the position that Homosexuality was a product of Capitalism. Lesbians, they claimed, were a reaction the the sexist society that Capitalism created. Gay men were a reflection of patriarchy and the dominant bourgeois culture. After the Revolution queers would be eradicated.

The RCP and other state communists are not allies of Queer people or Anarchists. While we do admit there are bigger and better battles to fight, any space that is safe for the RCP is not safe for Queer people. Respect should not be shown to bigots masquerading as revolutionaries. They are our enemies, and should be treated as such.

Freedom of speech is a liberal construct. Oppressors already have their stage. The oppressed must steal it from them.

We want to thank those who evicted the RCP and destroyed their literature. We also want to give a big Fuck You to everyone who signed that stupid fucking petition." Some Pissed Off Members of Multiple Bash Back! Chapters

poster 5: From Indybay:

"You should be ashamed of yourself. We are all united in this revolution and should not physically attack others and destroy their merchandise. If I ever meet someone from MAC I will publicly denounce them. I've been an Anarchist since I was 15 and have never felt more ashamed. You people are as bad the the fascist Bay Area National Anarchists. Go fuck yourself!"

I think I just threw up a little in my mouth. Oh yeah, I definitely did. ;p

poster 6: ABSOLUTE IDIOCY. You guys quite obviously do not understand

anarchism OR communism.

You buy into the anti-communist propaganda of the capitalists. How unbelievably naive of you. If you took a moment to question the assumptions you've grown up accepting, you'd find that communism is not some authoritarian ideology. Communism IS anarchism. It is just a more pragmatic form, one which addresses the issue of how to control the (former) capitalist class to prevent a counter-revolution; one which sees that international solidarity is a REQUIREMENT for successfully evolving beyong capitalism; one which has inspired many people to bravely fight capitalism head-on throughout the world, in people's movements from Phillippines, Korea, China, Vietnam, and Russia, to Cuba, Nicaragua, Columbia, and pretty much EVERYWHERE on Earth.

Fuck it. I'm wasting my breath on the deaf ears of smash-first-ask-questions-never "anarchists." Actually, the Rev Commies are much more anarchists than you are. Actually, I wouldn't be surprised if some among you were FBI, seeking to 'divide and conquer' the working class movement. If not, then you're just some immature pieces of shit. Try actually reading Mao, Marx, Lenin... see how well you can defend your ideology of smash-everything-now-and-let-the-elite-regroup-and-takerevenge. Gain some fucking understanding before picking petty fights. Fuck you.

much more at

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6858

Enric Duran and We Can Live Without Capitalism

On September 17, 2008, as the governments of the world scrambled to prevent the collapse of the global financial system, Enric Duran, a Catalan anticapitalist organizer, announced a daring act of 'financial civil disobedience.' Over the past two years Duran had borrowed 492,000 euros from 40 different banks with no intention of paying the money back. As a protest of the global financial system and the inherently exploitative nature of commercial banks, Duran distributed the money to various anticapitalist social movements in Spain and used it to publish 200,000 copies of a magazine called Crisis that detailed critiques of the commercial banking system. He was dubbed 'Robin Hood of the Banks' by the media.

Watch this video from last year of Enric Duran explaining his action of financial civil disobedience.

Duran left the country to avoid prosecution and began a campaign to organize debtors and bank depositors with with the Barcelona-based Crisis Collective. On March 16, 2009 Duran returned to Barcelona to announce a second publication at a press conference. The publication, Podem (Catalan for "We Can"), outlines ways to begin to organize a post-capitalist society. 350,000 copies of the magazine, created and edited by hundreds of volunteers, were distributed for free across Spain. On March 17th, Duran was arrested for fraud at the University of Barcelona. Supporters of Duran held a demonstration for his release on at the Barcelona police station on March 18th. Check http://17-s.info and http:// bankstrike.net for legal updates. For email updates write to bankstrike@riseup.net

"We Can Live Without Capitalism" is the central piece of Podem, outlining a popular response to make the rich pay for the financial crisis. It calls for people to organize alternatives to capitalism by removing deposits from banks, ceasing payments of debts and mortgages, and developing self-managed institutions to meet peoples needs.

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6896

ELF Mexico torch earth-destroying machines, yet again

anonymous report (translation) from Bite Back:

"Today the Guadalajara, Jalisco sky was illuminated by the abolitionist fire of the Frente de Liberación de la Tierra (FLT/ ELF) when we decided to break the social order imposed by the techno-industrial civilization; on the night of March 22 a machine that destroys the earth was reduced to ashes and a big stone broke the window of a bank.

Maybe we have not collapsed the system of domination with these actions, but it begins with actions like these.

From practice comes success. Guadalajara México ELF"

pictures - http://www.directaction.info/ news_mar23_09.htm

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6982

Obituary for Luis Andrés Edo

With the death of Luis Andrés Edo, aged 83, in Barcelona, the anarchist movement has lost an outstanding militant and original thinker, and I have lost a comrade-inarms, a former cell-mate - and an irreplaceable friend.

The son of a Guardia Civil, Luis was born in the benemérita barracks in Caspe (Zaragoza) in 1925, but the family moved to Barcelona the following year when his father, Román, was transferred to a new cuartel in the Sants district of Barcelona, where the young boy grew up, educated by nuns, monks and priests. Later, after the social revolution of July 19 1936, the ten-year old Luis became not only a 'child of the barricades', but also a 'son of the CENU' (el Consell de l'Escola Nova Unificada), the successor rationalist schools to the Modern School launched by Francisco Ferrer I Guardia in 1901 (and forced to close in 1906).

The education he received there and on the streets of revolutionary Barcelona was to prove life-changing. Luis's working life began in 1939, at the age of 14, cleaning machinery and odd-jobbing with Spain's National Railway company, RENFE, where he was apprenticed two years later as a locomotive engineer and, in 1941, aged 16, he affiliated to the underground anarcho-syndicalist labour union, the National Confederation of Labour (CNT). He remained with RENFE until 1946 when, after completing his apprenticeship at the age of 21, he was arrested and spent a short time in prison accused of 'stealing potatoes' from trains as part of the CNT's 'food redistribution' campaign during those years of terrible hunger. On his release he became a glassworker, manufacturing thermometers, a job that was to cause him serious and enduring health problems from ingesting mercury and hydrofluoric acid.

Luis was called up in October 1947 to do his National Service, but by December he had had enough of Franco's army and deserted, crossing clandestinely into France, still dressed in his military uniform. In 1952 he returned to Barcelona following a serious crackdown by the French authorities on the activities of the CNT in exile. This was the result of a bungled train robbery in Lyon the previous year in which three people were killed and nine others injured. Luis was not involved in the Lyon robbery, but the French police went out of their way to make life intolerable for all Spanish anarchist exiles at the time. Back in Spain Luis was arrested on desertion charges in August 1952 and was not freed until October 1953 when he was returned to the ranks – promptly deserting again early in 1954. Re-arrested, he served a further six months in the dungeons of the notorious Castillo de Figueres, a military prison in Gerona, after which, like so many others, he went into permanent exile in France where he threw himself whole-heartedly into the libertarian anti-Francoist resistance movement. In Paris in 1955, Luis became closely involved with Laureano Cerrada Santos, another former RENFE employee and a key figure in the WWII anti-Nazi Resistance and escape and evasion networks. Cerrada was also a master forger and an influential figure in France's criminal demi-monde, especially the Parisian and Marseilles milieux, and was, undoubtedly, one of the most problematic, enigmatic and mysterious figures of the Spanish anarchist diaspora.

Cerrada had, in fact, been in custody in France on forgery charges for a month prior to the Lyon robbery. That cut no ice with the CNT National Committee in exile in Toulouse who wanted rid of all the 'Apache' elements in the organisation who threatened the legality of their comfortable existence in France. In Paris, Luis's involvement with the Iuventudes Libertarias, the Spanish anarchist youth organisation also brought him into contact with most of the other well-known 'faces' of the anti-Franco Resistance, men such as 'Quico' Sabaté, the near-legendary urban guerrilla, and José Pascual Palacios of the CNT's Defence Commission, the man responsible for coordinating all the action groups operating in Spain and described by Barcelona police chief Eduardo Quintela as Spain's 'Public enemy number one'. It was Luis who organised a meeting between 'el Quico' and the former Communist Party army general, 'El Campesino' at the latter's request in 1959, shortly before Sabaté's death at the hands of the Francoist security services.

much more at http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6999

Solidarity with Cop Killers

From Bash Back News - Bash Back!

On March 21st, Lovelle Mixon shot five police officers, killing four before dying in the gunfire. In Oakland we see the fabric of capitalist normalcy being ripped to shreds. Daily instances of racist police violence are transformed into rupture and thrown back in the faces of our oppressors. In January, days of rioting followed the police-murder of Oscar Grant.

This week, people danced in the streets as cops were shot. At the hospital, others snuck into the emergency room to chant that the shooting was vengeance made actual upon the police. People rallied to honor the memory of Oakland's newest folk-hero. Oakland, reterritorialized as a terrain of war against the social order.

In 1959, we fought the street-battles with the police as they harassed queers at a donut shop in Los Angeles. In 1966, police brutality against street queens in the Tenderloin mutated into queens beating cops with their purses. In 1969, a seemingly-ordinary police raid on a queer bar in new york, erupted into four days of sustained rioting. In 1979 we burnt cop cars in the streets of San Francisco. We meet queerbashers with bricks, mace and batons.

To bash back, is to reverse the flows of power and violence; to explode the hypernormal into situations of previously-unthinkable revolt. We thus find the deepest affinity with all who fight back against the affective poverty and oppression of this world.

As the police and media work to defame and slander Lovelle Mixon, we express our total solidarity.

Until every queerbasher is beaten to a pulp and police are but a memory. Yours for the social war, -an unknowable cell of Bash Back! R.I.P. Lovelle Mixon

poster 1: Solidarity with a rapist and criminal? WOW its stupid comments like this that keep anarchism in the dark with the general public. I support the police to protect workers from violent criminals. african americans are more likely to be murdered by violent criminals and drug gangs that any police officer. you don't like the police huh? GO LIVE IN SOMALIA AND SEE HOW LIFE IS LIKE WITHOUT A POLICE FORCE TO PROTECT YOU FROM VIOLENT WARLORDS WHO TERROISE THE POPULATION.! anarchism is shooting itself in the foot by trying to reach out to criminals and angry youngsters who probably have no idea who chomsky or Bakunin is. Anarchism is about worker solidarity! Not with fucking worthless criminal scum who kill us and terrorise neighborhoods. this site is a complete embarrasment to anarchism.

poster 2: Maybe I am wrong, but it sounds to me as if maybe you are a Marxist, Anarchism is about ending oppression and hierarchy, but workers solidarity is only one way of accomplishing that.

My father was a police officer for twenty years. I have met cops I respect as a person, but I could never respect them while they wear a badge. When they put on the uniform my respect for their role in society is gone.

poster 3: You don't get it. Even if he was indeed a rapist, this is not what's being supported

(Obviously). In fact, it's not even the actual person Lovelle Mixon that's being supported. Mixon the person and Mixon the folk-hero/ social construction are two different things. Mixon being a rapist is not part of the discourse here, he is remembered already as a rebel who couldn't take it anymore and lashed out against the police. The actual details of his life up until the point of those actions in this discourse are irrelevant, as it is not part of the myth, legend, or folk-hero identity of Mixon. To say "We love Lovelle Mixon" is not to say "We love the person Lovelle Mixon and everything he did in his life", it's saying "We love cop killers" and "We need this, do you?"

Certain things demand details, this does not. All that's important about Lovelle Mixon to people who didn't know him is what he did in the final hours of his life, what the effects were, what context they took place in (And what context people are framing them in), and what lasting impact there is of Mixon's public identity of folk-hero/cop-killer. Whether or not he sucked as a person are the less important details that few people are talking about (Including the media). If being a rapist was an important part of his lasting social identity (i.e. The rhetoric being such that Mixon is a hero for raping people rather than shooting cops), this would be a different story. But that's not the story, and also I think it's relevant to say that we're dealing with the government here and just because he was alleged to have raped someone doesn't make it true (Nor does a conviction). What matters is what the survivor and their friends say and how the alleged perpetrator is dealt with. In the interest of closing cases quickly, the state has and does place the blame on random existing criminals for crimes they didn't commit and I haven't even seen information about when these charges were really brought up or when this DNA evidence was gathered. For all I know, it could have been AFTER his death, in an effort by the state to demonize what they know could be a potentially dangerous folk-hero for people to have. But again, all this really doesn't matter, because it's the social identity of Mixon we're talking about, not Mixon himself.

poster 4: "Damn. This is some bold shit. Allow me to clarify a few things here. First, Lovelle Mixon was not being pursued by law enforcement for a rape charge. He was being pursued because he violated the terms of his parole after failing to report to his parole officer for several months.

The rape allegations did not surface until 4 days after the shootings. This is of interest because the event was the top story for every media outlet in the Bay every day, and viewers were constantly bombarded with aspersions against Mixon, yet it took 4 days for this shit to come out.

As liberal as this might sound, it is important to understand that, in regards to the allegations of rape, Mixon does not even have the chance to be tried in court, he has no lawyer to defend himself, nor can he defend himself. There is no burden of proof for the prosecution, they make an allegation and everyone runs with it. Even a liberal can see that this shit sounds stupid.

Also, it's unlikely that the average officer in Oakland only makes \$70,000 a year, as the STARTING salary for an OPD officer is now \$70,000.

It's very important to note that the officer who was shot and survived, Patrick Gonzales, is the cop who murdered unarmed Gary King Jr in Oakland in 2007. I also doubt that, of the 5 officers who were shot, he is the only one who has been involved in the shooting of an unarmed person.

Any apologists for OPD need to come out to the Bay and see the shit these assholes put residents through. What's this bullshit about offering solidarity to the cops so they can organize? Go to Oakland and try to talk to a cop at a street action, see the response you'll get. These mutha fuckas were laughing during an Oscar Grant action at the Fruitvale BART station. Put down your bullshit literature from 1905 and try to understand the reality of the situation here." That's what's up!

much more at http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7006

Smack A White Boy: Radical People of Color Anti-War (distr)Action

On Saturday March 21, 2009 Autonomous People of Color (APOC) blocked the ANSWER coalition march as they aimed to launch the beginning of the post-Obama anti-war movement. You must say their dramatic direct action totally failed unless they completely misunderstood those tactics. What occurred was nothing more than a laughable continuation of the pageantry that is a result of lazy, "American-style" activism. You know the scenario; it's the same old crazies, middle aged white men with long hair and beer bellies singing "peace is what the world needs", code pink theatrics, crusties and your faithful Negro tokens fronting a group run by white authoritarian socialists.

Have you heard about the new direct action that stands in front of the war-profiteers place of business while nobody's home with no intention other than to shout into a crowd full of angry people, take pictures and peacefully walk away? Yes, and it's called "wasted opportunity". There were chocks full of rocks on the way to visit the war profiteers. I know that I can't expect them to be that creative, but haven't they learned anything from the people they claim to be in so much solidarity with? Hezbollah flag waved high! How bad do they want this war to end? I think its as bad as they want to end racism without confronting their own white privilege.

Then there were the Pictures. A ton of press waited for them as they did their victory speeches, just waiting to capture the moment when they reached their climax. Understand that the pictures are very important because without the pictures, nobody would have believed that they had ever even been there. What did they change? They left no permanent mark, just empty threats within empty parking lots. It was the kind of march that follows the leader, without missing a beat or falling out of line. Tell me I'm still sleeping on them, but this CANNOT be what they had in mind.

The march over the memorial bridge must have really left them too pooped to put their generic signs away first before replenishing their bellies and collapsing back into their typical, complacent, monotonous lives. This is the reason why I personally took direct action to confront the self-important, smug, liberal activists that think that their "kind" of direct action stops wars. APOC had to educate them that an organization that has "END RACISM" in its name can still perpetuate white supremacy. APOC had to reclaim our space and show the movement exactly what direct action looks like. We wanted to confront racism so we blockaded their march and did it.

To all of the naysayers that are worried about what APOC does with it's time: This was not a public anti-war action. This was an anti-ANSWER distraction. We did not march with them, we infiltrated their ranks unnoticed and surprised them with a blockade once the puppets had walked away. If even for a moment, we broke the fringe-left spell. The 'leaders' had no clue what happened, all they heard was that some 'minorities' were causing trouble. Minorities? Black, Yellow and Brown people make up the majority in Washington, DC and we won't leave until we are forced out. As far as APOC is concerned "Smack A White Boy" served its purpose as it was self-determined and we have nothing to prove to you. APOC is building power and plans on even more ambitious direct action in the future. For everyone of every color that stood in solidarity with us: Thank you. For all the people that said we were ruining their march: Your welcome.