



# Best of the Anarchist Tubes

The goal of [anarchistnews.org](http://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.

original publication and author given when available

Everything has bias.

The bias of [anarchistnews.org](http://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.

Compiled for

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## Cleveland Anarchist Black Cross in Dire Straits

Dear Prison Abolitionists, Political Activists, Revolutionaries, &c,

This letter is addressed to all those who wish to see this misogynistic, homophobic, white settler colonial society of the rich destroyed; to all those who have no intention to compromise or reconcile with the system of violence and oppression which has dominated more and more of the planet these past ten thousand years or so; to those who view prisons and incarceration as an embodiment of the nature of this civilization – of capitalism, rooted in slavery, and of civilization itself, based on subduing and domesticating all living things; to all those who stake your very survival on the outcome of the struggle against this empire. I am Josh from the Cleveland Anarchist Black Cross, and I address this letter to myself as much as to anyone else who comes into possession of it. We want to find you, to work together, and to mutually support and inspire each other. We need more participation and more partnerships!

The Anarchist Black Cross is a group dedicated to supporting anarchist and other revolutionary political prisoners, to abolishing prisons, and to destroying the state and civilization, the banes of peace, freedom, and life. The organization has a long history throughout many revolutionary movements over the past century, and currently consists of numerous independent groups around the world, in Europe, South and North America. We are against all forms of oppression, going at it by attacking the root of things, and in our daily praxis in our group and our lives. We are unflinchingly LGBTQUU\*-friendly, feminist, anti-racist, and in solidarity with the struggles against oppression worldwide. We work with political prisoners, and we are a machine for

political education and propaganda in the anarchist community and in “the Left.”

The Cleveland ABC is in dire straits! We are short on members and time, and growing shorter by the minute. We need to find the bright minds and hard workers of this region, north-east Ohio, and work together to amplify our message, to impact the community, to build a strong network of resistance in our area. These are bad fucking times. Look at Marie Mason and the Cincinnati anarchist community. Look at the Green Scare. Look at the RNC 8, the SHAC 7, Anna the infiltrator. Shit – look at those still behind bars after twenty or more years – Leonard Peltier, Alberto Torres, Oscar Lopez, Mumia Abu-Jamal – look at As-sata. Look at Guantanamo and Gaza. And look at Barack Obama and John McCain. Not to be a-historical — for what other sorts of times has this society seen — but these are definitely bad times. So what are we going to do?

So here’s what we want to do: we want to organize radical events in the area to put out a message of non-negotiable revolutionary struggle to draw together the community. We want to spread literature throughout the area, to further political learning and discussion. We want to get quality political propaganda – video and audio – on the airwaves and on the internet, to connect with more people and reach out to new folks. And we want to build strong partnerships and alliances with groups in the area that share our vision, goals, and passions; groups that we can support and learn from, so that we can mutually benefit.

Yours in love, & till civilization crumbles,  
Robert Smith, Uma, Joshua Soybottom  
Cleveland ABC  
[clevelandabc@riseup.net](mailto:clevelandabc@riseup.net)  
<http://myspace.com/clevelandabc>  
PO Box 602440  
Cleveland, OH 44102

## More Capitol Graffiti, Huge Cost

From The Olympian - By Adam Wilson

In addition to the holiday displays going in at the Capitol, there was considerable effort in removing some unwanted decoration in the form of yet more anarchist graffiti from the sandstone building.

The figures, including a peace symbol and an anarchist symbol, were painted next to the big bronze doors on the north entrance. Indeed, state workers walked by the taped-over marks as they shoved the holiday tree into the building this morning.

The Department of General Administration puts the cost repairs at \$16,000, three-quarters of it in labor.

You may recall that this is the third time people have defaced the Capitol this year. First the columns, then in May, the interior marble and the wall near the north entrance, and now near the doors on the same entrance. The state says the latest incident occurred just after the close of business Wednesday – as everyone was heading home for the Thanksgiving holiday.

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/5640>

## She Looked Like a Mom

From Star Tribune - By Randy Furst

A deputy sheriff and two others infiltrated the RNC Welcoming Committee before GOP convention.

On Aug. 31, 2007, Marilyn Hedstrom, who appeared to be in her early 50s, walked into a run-down store-front where anarchists hung out on E. Lake Street in Minneapolis.

She introduced herself as Norma Jean. Asked by a man at the Jack Pine Center

why she was there, she said she had issues with President Bush and the Iraq war. "I told him I was interested in helping the cause and interested in participating in the protesting," she later wrote in reports reviewed by the Star Tribune.

What she did not tell him is that she was a deputy sheriff for the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office. Along with two other undercover sheriff's operatives and an FBI informer, she had been assigned to infiltrate the RNC Welcoming Committee, which was planning street blockades at the 2008 Republican National Convention.

She went "dumpster diving" at the group's instructions to find food for the anarchists to eat. She cooked meals for some meetings, ran errands, coordinated committee discussions and represented the organization at some gatherings of the protest movement. She became friends of some of the activists. And she, ironically, even helped on security for the anarchists, who worried that the cops were infiltrating them.

For a year Deputy Hedstrom led a double life as Norma Jean Johnson, filing her recollections, often daily, with the Special Investigations Unit, as did the other operatives. The covert operation was not without drama. When one informant was accused of being a cop, he broke into tears, convincing his accusers that they were mistaken, according to a report.

"Their function was critical to the success of the investigation," said Ramsey County Sheriff Robert Fletcher. "These are difficult roles. You need to be a good actor." ...

Fletcher said many allegations [re: the RNC Welcoming Committee arrests] are based on reports from the undercover personnel.

Robert Kolstad, attorney for one of the eight, said much of the evidence is based on hyperbolic comments made by Welcoming Committee members that had little to do with their intentions. "Despite the rhetoric, there was never reasonable expectation by anyone to shut down the convention," he said.

Members of the RNC Eight have announced plans to hold a news conference Tuesday to criticize Ramsey County Attorney Susan Gaertner, whose office is prosecuting the case.

The Star Tribune reviewed 1,000 pages of reports by the three who spied for the sheriff. The reports were obtained by a source with access to the documents. The newspaper has not seen most of the reports from an FBI informer who Fletcher says provided "the best information." Fletcher, who did not provide the newspaper with

any reports by the undercover operatives, also declined to allow interviews with the three from his office. ...

#### **Watch, but don't suggest**

Based on what they and the FBI informer found, a full investigation was launched, allowing undercover agents to attend private meetings and participate in the group so long as they did not suggest criminal activities, he said.

The sheriff's investigation cost about \$300,000, Fletcher said. He's asking the city of St. Paul to reimburse his office from \$50 million in federal funds for convention security.

Hedstrom, a narcotics officer, was partnered with Rachel Nieting, a guard in the county jail. Nieting, in her 20s, posed as Amanda, Hedstrom's niece. A third operative, Chris Dugger, was a confidential paid informant who has since become a jail guard and has taken tests to become a deputy.

#### **Agent was like a mom**

Nieting, now a deputy, halted her undercover work after a few months. Fletcher said she "didn't have the level of acceptance that Marilyn had." Hedstrom told an anarchist that Amanda dropped out after finding a new boyfriend.

Most of the anarchists were decades younger than Hedstrom, but Fletcher said that posed no problem. "We're not always looking for a person that seems to fit perfectly," he said. "Someone that is not an obvious fit ... is least likely to be suspected." Also, he said, pairing Hedstrom and Nieting increased their safety.

Hedstrom settled into her covert role.

"Norma Jean looked like somebody's mom," recalls Meredith Aby, a member of the Anti-War Committee, a group that occasionally met with the anarchists. "She was treated by the Welcoming Committee as if she were one of their own."

Betsy Raasch-Gilman, 56, who helped raise money with Hedstrom on the Welcoming Committee, said they sometimes discussed family and grandchildren. "To this day, I don't know how much was put-on and how much was real," she said. Raasch-Gilman learned that Hedstrom was undercover after court documents were filed. "I wonder how she lives with her conscience," she said of Hedstrom. "She knows the truth of the matter. We were not conspiring to riot."

Nathanael Secor, one of the RNC Eight, said "a level of comradeship" developed between activists and the operatives and it was disappointing to learn they were spies. Still, he says, "We had the feeling we were under surveillance from the beginning. It

did not come as a complete shock."

#### **Cop was almost outed**

While Hedstrom blended in, Dugger gave off different vibes and was often under a cloud of suspicion. In his late 20s, he was "kind of muscular," had tattoos and looked like a biker, says Katrina Plotz, a member of the Anti-War Committee.

At one meeting of various groups, "somebody made a joke that based on looks, he's the one who looks like a cop," Plotz said. "He kind of smiled and didn't say anything."

At a meeting where Hedstrom was the facilitator, a kind of chairperson, an anarchist expressed concern that he was a cop, a report said. Dugger "became emotional and told them how bad he felt, he wiped his eyes and blew his nose." He denied he was an informer.

The memo said two anarchists told him they "don't think he is a cop. They said a cop would have just walked away and never returned and wouldn't cry."

Dugger even got into the act. By August he was urging an anarchist to suspect another anarchist of being an informer. ...

Nieting wrote that she and Hedstrom were the only two women to join Karen Redleaf at a "women's Welcoming Committee" meeting. Redleaf, a committee member, talked about how disconnected she felt and was only coming to Sunday meetings because Norma Jean was there. ...

*Staff writer Pat Pfeifer contributed to this report. rfurst@startribune.com • 612-673-7382*

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/5639>

## **Introducing AntiCiv. net**

Anticiv.net is an online resource for anarchy, green anarchy, and anarcho-primitivism and is meant to serve as a library for texts of those who have participated in critiquing this death-culture, in addition to the psychological and technological mechanisms that perpetuate it. We also have a news section to explore the daily costs of this system, as well as responses to it, putting together information to offer a look into what this culture's damage is on humyns, non-humyns, and the Earth.

Our critics will assert that it is hypocritical to have a website advocating the destruction of technology and civilization. While this is used as a way to divert away from actually refuting the substance of what those of us who are against this system say,

we do not deny that it is hypocritical. The internet is a convenient way to spread our message and so for the time being, we find convenience in doing so. We have no desire to get into petty arguments over who is better for what ways they are choosing to spread their message, and would just like to remind all who would criticize us for such to remember that ad hominem's are still a fallacy, and the necessity of the internet only speaks to the pervasiveness of this dominant culture.

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poster a: i have heard no intellegent critiques of the idea that technology is unsustainable, for example, i have heard a bunch of flat out divorced from context ignorant timid bullshit about how wind or solar power will save us. i have also heard nothing stating how we can have technological mass social structures without being slaves to them and without dragging others (human or non) who don't wish to come along for the ride.

the only three intellegent critiques i have ever heard regarding anti-civ or primitivist ideas are very pifiling and don't really apply to most people i know of this identity. the first is that we believe gathering and hunting people never had to deal with any sort of drama, that life was perfect and suffering completely unknown. the second is that we are misanthropes who simply want to see people, or at least civilized people, suffer see people "pay for what they have done". the third is environmental racism, that we are simply greedy developed world fucks who don't like the idea of our priveleges being shared with black and brown people and so we rail about world developement out of insecurity in our privelege.

the first point is something i have noticed in primitivist writing, or how it can be taken, but it really isn't applicable...at any rate niether we nor our critics have "hung out" with very many or any gatherer hunters and the oppisite, hobbesian outlook, is equally if not more stupid (we would never have survived if that argument were true and we have lasted for a few million years as a species if i am not mistaken).

as to the second this applies to people like dave foreman who founded the original earth first but then dave foreman is not an anarchist, he is a conservative by his own admission, he also accepts the idea of property. most of us have, myself for certain, trouble sleeping at night contemplating the mess humanity is in, that we live in an unsustainable culture and many people we care deeply about could die because of this fact, including ourselves. we

simply are not thick enough that we are going to pretend the technological situation can be salvaged and in our view people are no more important than any other creature and should not be running rough shod over the rest of existence.

the third view also, again, applies to people like dave foreman... our critique applies most vehemently to the developed world and we do not wish to simply stop developement where it is: we wish to destroy it, to scale it back. we are not simply saying china, india, or africa shouldn't get to be civilized whereas we are perefectly in our rights (rights are a fiction most of us reject, by the way). no, this culture, this developed world, is the scourge of existence itself, expanding it can only make it worse and as far as we are concerned where it exists it must come down and at any rate will come down one way or another even if we never have anything to say about it.

poster b: My point with people labeling practices as "anarchic" is simply that Anarchism has a specific history much like capitalism. Milton Friedman was fond of traveling the globe and labeling all kinds of practices "free market" to serve his political ambitions, and I find many self-described anarchists doing similar things.

I didn't object to the AP critique of technology, I agree with it, but isn't Disney's 'Wall-E' in agreement with it? And beyond that it seems that almost everyone is saying: "our industrial lifestyle is unsustainable... the end is nigh." My point is that there is nothing radical about that statement. Of course all of this is unsustainable, I am unsustainable.

I actually think that I take the AP critique of industrial society more seriously than the AP set does. If you believe as I do, and the Stratigraphy Commission of the Geological Society of London, that we have left the Holocene era and entered into the Anthropocene which is characterized by "a stratigraphic interval without close parallel in the last several million years." In addition to the buildup of greenhouse gases, the stratigraphers cite human landscape transformation which "now exceeds [annual] natural sediment production by an order of magnitude, the ominous acidification of the oceans, and the relentless destruction of biota... the combination of extinctions, global species migrations and the widespread replacement of natural vegetation with agricultural monocultures is producing a distinctive contemporary biostratigraphic signal. These effects are permanent, as future evolution will take place from surviving (and frequently anthropogenically relocated) stocks."

...

Both sides of the technology debate can be wrong.

poster c: I think your example here is more telling than you know. Europe was on the verge of collapse because of expanding population in an isolated resource base; and then they expanded. The same point is being presented to the human species as a whole - we need to take the pressure off, and there is only one place left to expand to. While I understand that this 'expansion' is essentially problematic for you and other anti-civs, it doesn't HAVE to be this way - the emergence of consciousness and technology in an already-stable biosphere is definitely destructive, but the eventually necessary final stage of expansion - outside of this biosphere - doesn't have the same issues, in that the rest of the solar system is for the most part just a bunch of rocks. Very, very beautiful rocks that I will be grief-stricken to see colonized or deconstructed or whatever, but I take comfort in the further infinity of natural astronomical wonders in the universe, and the virtual beauties emergent in the continued growth and evolution of culture.

much more at - <http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/5683&page=1>

## Brian MacKenzie Infoshop Closes

*From Washington Post - By Stephen Lowman*

At the Brian MacKenzie Infoshop, two binders contain every event flier distributed by the store in its half-decade as a hub for radicals in the nation's capital.

And now the final flier, saying goodbye to all that. It announced that the store will close at the end of the month, leaving Beltway anarchists without a space to call their own in the city synonymous with federal power.

For 5 1/2 years, a basement room at Ninth and P streets NW in the Shaw neighborhood has been part store, part resource center for radical activists in Washington -- a nonprofit cooperative run by volunteers, following anarchist principles.

In May 2003, the Brian MacKenzie Infoshop opened, named for an American University freshman who was active in the radical community and died of a heart condition in 1999. Punk rocker Ian MacKaye, the front man for such D.C.-based bands as Minor Threat and Fugazi, co-signed the lease.

...

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/5675>



# SPECIAL INSERT ON GREECE

## Athen Polytechnic Occupation Communique

"On Saturday December 6, 2008, Alexandros Grigoropoulos, a 15-year old comrade, was murdered in cold blood, with a bullet in the chest by a cop in the area of Exarchia.

"Contrary to the statements of politicians and journalists who are accomplices to the murder, this was not an "isolated incident", but an explosion of the state repression which systematically and in an organised manner targets those who resist, those who revolt, the anarchists and anti-authoritarians.

"It is the peak of state terrorism which is expressed with the upgrading of the role of repressive mechanisms, their continuous armament, the increasing levels of violence they use, with the doctrine of "zero tolerance", with the slandering media propaganda that criminalises those who are fighting against authority.

"It is these conditions that prepare the ground for the intensification of repression, attempting to extract social consent beforehand, and arming the weapons of state murderers in uniform!

"Lethal violence against the people in the social and class struggle is aiming at everybody's submission, serving as exemplary punishment, meant to spread fear.

"It is part of the wider attack of the state and the bosses against the entire society, in order to impose more rigid conditions of exploitation and oppression, to consolidate control and repression. From school and universities to the dungeons of waged slavery with the hundreds of dead workers in the so-called "working accidents" and the poverty embracing large numbers of the population...

"From the first moment after the murder of Alexandros, spontaneous demonstrations and riots burst in the center of Athens, the Polytechnic, the Economic and the Law Schools are being occupied and attacks against state and capitalist targets take place in many different neighborhoods and in the city centre. Demonstrations, attacks and clashes erupt in Thessaloniki, Patras, Volos, Chania and Heraklion in Crete, in Gian-

ena, Komotini and many more cities. ...

"On Sunday the 7th December, thousands of people demonstrate towards the police headquarters in Athens, attacking the riot police. Clashes of unprecedented tension spread in the streets of the city centre, lasting until late at night. Many demonstrators are injured and a number of them are arrested. ...

"In the barricades, the university occupations, the demonstrations and the assemblies we keep alive the memory of Alexandros, but also the memory of Michalis Kaltezas and of all the comrades who were murdered by the state, strengthening the struggle for a world without masters and slaves, without police, armies, prisons and borders. ...

State terrorism shall not pass!

We demand the immediate release of all those arrested in the events of 7th-8th December.

We are sending our solidarity to everyone occupying universities, demonstrating and clashing with the state murderers all over the country.

- The Occupation of the Polytechnic University in Athens

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/5687>

## Greek Concessions Fail to Stop Riots

*From UK Independent - By Peter Popham and  
Nikolas Zirganos*

Anarchist groups blamed for exploiting shooting of teenager

Greek rioters were back in action this weekend, firebombing five banks and a branch office of the New Democracy party. There were no injuries, though nearby shops suffered damage. And one week after the shooting death of 15-year-old Alexis Grigoropoulos, his schoolfriends and family, wearing white and carrying flowers, gathered peacefully yesterday at the spot in the Exarchia quarter of Athens where he died.

"We're here to show our grief and sorrow, because no one understands us," said 16-year-old Irini, a pupil at the same school as

the victim. "They are killing children for no reason."

The Prime Minister, Costas Karamanlis, defended his government's reaction to the revolt. "The country needs a steady hand on the wheel," the daily Ekathimerini reported him saying. "Attempts by the young to express their concerns must not be confused with the activities of extremists."

His preoccupation was understandable. Within less than two hours of Alexis's death last Saturday, the anarchists of Exarchia, alerted by texts and the internet before the conventional media had even reported the shooting, were staging their first protest. Within 24 hours they had brought in their train an unprecedentedly broad spectrum of outraged citizens.

"People from 12 to 70 have taken part in the revolt," claimed an anarchist website yesterday. "People who would never have expected to find themselves in such a situation. Fashionable youth, respectable family men, elderly ladies, all those normally labelled 'the common people'."

What have been dubbed the first credit crunch riots thus took on the features of a new and ominously effective social revolt that relegated all the conventional forces of the left to the sidelines. Greece's anarchists, pejoratively known as the koukoulofori (balaclava-wearers), have been a force since they emerged during the violent clashes that accompanied the G8 summit in Genoa in 2001. Today they are a presence in both university areas such as Exarchia and many other urban neighbourhoods, and their numbers include not just students, but the local plumber or electrician, unemployed youths living at the corner and football hooligans. They have a foothold right across the country.

The different groups vary, from studiously political ones who hark back to 19th-century anarchist pioneers such as Kropotkin and Proudhon, to groups involved in squats and those committed to violent action. Some talk in moderate tones, others rob banks. What they share is the willingness to come together with great speed behind a common cause.

In a state where the police are despised for their arbitrary violence, and are increasingly incapable of carrying out normal law and

order functions, these lawless groups have acquired extraordinary influence. They attack people and property identified with the state and with capitalism, yet they take pains not to cause serious injury or death. As they subscribe to none of the discredited ideologies of the past, the state has its work cut out demonising them.

The Greek anarchists' power was confirmed on Friday when, despite the violence in the streets, the Justice Ministry said it would go ahead with the release of about 40 per cent of the prisoners in Greece's jails to relieve overcrowding. The government's concession was the victorious conclusion to a hunger strike by prisoners and a month-long campaign outside the prisons by anarchists. They have also fought against proposals to create private universities.

"If all this doesn't bring the revolution," commented the anarchist site about the present clashes, "at least we should enjoy ourselves in this process of humanisation" – by which they mean wrecking banks and other "dehumanising" capitalist institutions.

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/5765>

## Three Bank of America Locations Attacked in Santa Cruz

Last night rocks were thrown through the windows of 2 Bank of Americas and one other ATM location. We did this because the uprising of our comrades in Greece, England, Moscow and elsewhere will not go without a response. People here are killed by cops, screwed by banks, and we will revolt with just as much fury. These and the outbreaks in Europe show that it is simply for us to respond in the most direct way to the forces of repression in order for them to fall.

We chose Bank of America because of their exemplary demonstration of capitalism's principles (sic). Funding toxic coal projects, selling out workers, in bed with the government... Rather than many banks who worship money over people, we chose to stick it to one bank that worships money more than people. After all, it is a bank. But we'll be back.

Anarchists

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/5721>

## Vancouver Royal Bank of Canada Smashed

On Saturday the 13th December a group of anarchists smashed the windows of the RBC at Hastings and Nanaimo. We took the slogan from Greece "SOLIDARITY MEANS ATTACK" to heart. Against domination in all its forms from Olympic development and police murder on Coast Salish territories to their equivalent in Greece and the world over.

## Greek Youths Take Over State TV Center

By *Nicholas Paphitis AP Writer*

ATHENS, Greece (AP) - Protesters forced their way into Greece's state NET television news studio Tuesday and interrupted a news broadcast featuring the prime minister so they could urge viewers to join mass anti-government demonstrations.

For more than a minute, about 10 youths blocked a broadcast showing a speech by Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis. Instead, they displayed banners reading: "Stop watching, get out onto the streets," and "Free everyone who has been arrested." No one was hurt, and no arrests were reported.

NET chairman Christos Panagopoulos claimed the protesters violently forced their way into the studio. "This goes beyond any limit," he said.

It was the latest twist in 11 days of riots and protests after a policeman shot and killed a 15-year-old boy on Dec. 6. The violent protests have evolved from being just aimed at Greek police to being highly critical of Karamanlis' conservative government.

Karamanlis has rejected mounting demands to resign and call new elections.

Earlier Tuesday, masked youths attacked riot police headquarters in Athens and protesters clashed with police in the northern city of Thessaloniki.

Police said 30 youths threw petrol bombs and stones at the riot police building, causing extensive damage to seven cars and a po-

lice bus parked outside.

Students blocked streets in Athens and dozens of teenagers gathered outside the capital's main court complex and a maximum security prison—where some threw stones at police.

Protesters have called for riot officers to be pulled off the streets, for police to be disarmed and for the government to revise its economic, social and education policies.

The protests have brought higher education in Greece to a standstill. Lessons have stopped at more than 100 secondary schools that are under occupation by students, according to the Education Ministry. Scores of university buildings across Greece are also occupied.

After the shooting death of 15-year-old Alexandros Grigoropoulos, furious youths smashed and burnt hundreds of shops in Athens' main shopping area, and attacked riot police who responded with massive tear gas.

Dozens of people have been injured in the rioting, while more than 300 people have been arrested. The policeman accused of killing the teenager has been charged with murder and is being held pending trial.

In the northern port of Thessaloniki, riot police fired tear gas Tuesday to disperse 300 youths throwing fruit and stones outside the city's main court complex. The disturbance followed a court decision that found eight police officers guilty of abusing a student following riots two years ago.

The policemen received suspended sentences ranging from three years and three months for grievous bodily harm to 15 months for being an accessory to the abuse.

In a symbolic gesture meant to revive riot-shocked Athens, city authorities will light a large Christmas tree Tuesday on central Syntagma Square—which has been at the center of many of the protests. The tree replaces one burnt during last week's riots.

Overnight, arsonists attacked three Athens banks with petrol bombs, causing extensive damage. There were no injuries or arrests. Every year, small anarchist groups carry out dozens of firebombings in Greece against government property, banks and diplomatic vehicles.

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<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/5760>

## Olympia Queers Attack Mormon Church in Solidarity with Greece

We had a great last night sneaking about in snow covered Olympia.

We paid another visit to the bigots over at the Mormon Church. We covered their building with messages in spray paint, such things as "there is no sin in your desire", "love who you want to love and love how you please", "sex is fun! It's not shameful", "queer and trans insurrection" and many, many, many, many others. We also left them a surprise, it's a pretty big one, we think they'll notice it within a few days.

The Mormons are an atrocious bunch and, well, it just felt amazing to fuck up their holy place, especially on an early Sunday morning with the snowflakes glistening in the street lamps. They have been so active in suppressing their flocks sexual urges through instilling bankrupt ideas of morality and shame, we hope that a few people read that and went home to commit loving acts of sodomy.

We're also pretty fucking fed up with the way those Mormons have been giving us queer and trans people so much shit, they treat us like we're some sort of plague that they need to quarantine before it spreads. When actually this plague is something innate in us as humans, you can't quarantine us, cause we already exist inside of everyone. We are desire, we are freedom, we are acting on urges and possibilities, we are passion, we are a break from the routine, from the expected, from the drudgery, we are the nibble on your earlobe, the sex in the forest or the kiss under the stars. We are sexy, sexy, anarchists.

Around the world people are breaking away from their dreary slumber, rejecting the tediousness of their boring lives and finding meaning in attacking systems of misery. Let this be a call out for more actions, bigger ones, and bigger still. We want nothing from their world to stand, we want to create our own world, where everything is possible and everything is permitted.

We did this in solidarity with those sexy Greek rioters we've been hearing so much about. Damn, those kids really know how to turn us on, they get us all warm inside on these cold winter nights. We wish we could grab a few of those Greeks by the balaclava and just... well you know...

More attacks to cum.

An underground cell of Bash Back!

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/5758>

## International Day of Solidarity With Greece

"We don't forget, we don't forgive"  
– day of international action against state murders, 20 – 12 – 2008

Today (Friday), the assembly of the occupied Athens Polytechnic decided to make a callout for European and global-wide actions of resistance in the memory of all assassinated youth, migrants and all those who were struggling against the lackeys of the state. Carlo Juliani; the French suburb youths; Alexandros Grigoropoulos and the countless others, all around the world. Our lives do not belong to the states and their assassins! The memory of the assassinated brothers and sisters, friends and comrades stays alive through our struggles! We do not forget our brothers and sisters, we do not forgive their murderers. Please translate and spread around this message for a common day of coordinated actions of resistance in as many places around the world as possible.

<http://www.occupiedlondon.org/blog>

Original callout: [http://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=en&article\\_id=943356](http://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=en&article_id=943356)

## Anarchist vs Journalist

*From the Christian Science Monitor*

Hostility toward journalists has been on the rise in Greece – making it increasingly difficult for reporters to cover the story, says correspondent Nicole Itano. "Anarchist groups have often targeted journalists, whom they see as part of the establishment," she says.

Photographers and cameramen bear the brunt of their anger because they can't blend into the crowd. Over the past few days, several have been seriously beaten by protesters or had their equipment smashed.

"The protesters aren't targeting ordinary people, but police and journalists have become fair targets," says Nicole. "As a reporter, in some ways it feels like reporting from a war zone, even though most of the violence is directly at property. But you constantly have to worry about what side of the line you're on -- if you're with the protesters, they can turn on you. If you're with police, you're in the line of fire from rocks and Molotov cocktails."

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/5763>

## Colorado: Bank Attacked in Solidarity

A Wells-Fargo bank in Fort Collins, Colorado had a window smashed last night. This action was in solidarity with the social insurrection in Greece and with immigrants and prisoners everywhere. It was also done as direct action against capitalism.

Not only is Wells-Fargo one of the major institutions of capitalism, it also invests in the Geo Group, a corporation that builds and operates ICE prisons and the u.s. prison camp at Guantanamo.

In the shattering of the bank window, we hear the voice of resistance. Give fuel to the fire!

## Wild Night in NYC: Solidarity with Greece & Student Occupiers

From Athens to Avenue A:

A group of 40-50 individuals assembled shortly after 9pm in Tompkins Square Park in Manhattan's Lower East Side last night. Carrying banners they took to the streets marching north on Avenue A., the site of the well known tompkins square park riots of 1989. The group began chanting anti police slogans, as well as anti-capitalist chants. Fliers were handed out talking about the Greek revolt as well as problems here like police brutality, the economic crisis and gentrification.

As the crowd made its way west construction materials and newspaper boxes were dragged into the streets making blockades. At this point Anarchist graffiti was painted on the walls and a yuppie condo was defaced. Allegedly a couple of luxury cars had their windows broken. Marchers chanted "From New York to Greece, Fuck the Police"

As the march took over the 4 lanes of 3rd Ave, police moved in attacking the march. The crowd scattered and 1 person was arrested. The others fled into the night regrouping at the New School occupation shortly after...

"New School for Social Revolution"

The New School building at 65 5th ave had been occupied by students on Wednesday night. On Thursday morning they expanded their occupation after repelling an attack by the NYPD. One member of APOC NYC was arrested in these scuffles, but was re-



leased later that night.

At night hundreds of supporters lined the streets in front of the building, chanting in support. The crowd swelled and spilling out onto 5th avenue. As the NYPD brought in metal protest pens in an attempt to control the growing crowds, a shoving match broke out and people poured onto 5th avenue blocking the street completely. Trash and newspaper boxes were thrown into the street with the crowd chanting "From New York to Greece, Fuck the Police!"

The crowd then surged around the corner to an emergency exit which was held open as dozens of supporters and students ran inside to join the occupation.

An hour later Bob Kerrey, the much hated president of the New School, was booed as he left the building after trying to negotiate demands. He was chased down fifth avenue surrounded by security as people chanted "Kerrey Scum Your Time Has Come" and tomatoes were thrown at him. He was followed as he ran to his posh townhouse around the corner at 21 West 11th Street between 5th and 6th Avenue where police were forced to come to his aid. There was a feeling of victory as crowds continued into the night.

Unfortunately late in the night the more liberal, and bureaucratic elements among the occupiers prevailed to end the occupation after winning a few paltry demands (including compensation for school security guards guarding the occupation!). Kerrey is still president even though for a few moments he had to run for his life from enraged students.

More happened in NYC last night than has gone on for a while in this city. The march from Tompkins Square Park was called explicitly in solidarity with Greece and the occupations and rioting in Greece was cited as a motivation for many of the more 'radical' students to occupy the New School. It feels like things are changing here in NYC, our collective fear is being shed like dead skin as we realize that our lives depend on using every chance we get to fight for our liberation. More is sure to come in the months that follow.

As the New School occupiers stated: "Be assured, this is only the beginning, "

To the coming insurrection, from Athens to New York City!

## Greece & the Insurrection to Come

*From Crimethinc*

### What's It All About?

The corporate media has ignored the banners decrying police brutality and unaccountable authority, seizing instead on the idea that the unrest is the result of widespread unemployment and poor economic prospects for young Greeks. Thus prompted, many people—including some radicals—have focused on these issues as well.

At such a distance, we are not equipped to speak on the causes of the riots or the motivations of the participants, but we know better than to trust the media. Some corporate outlets have gone so far as to announce—in language that might be less surprising in a magazine like *Rolling Thunder*—that the events in Greece may presage the second coming of the anti-globalization movement thought to be vanquished after September 11, 2001. Though this might be true, we should hesitate to let the corporate media provide us with our narrative, lest it prove to be a Trojan horse.

If the riots are not about Alexandros after all, are we to believe that—were the economy more stable—it would be acceptable to shoot down 15-year-olds? After all, police kill people all the time in the United States without anyone smashing a single store window over it. Is this simply because we have a lower unemployment rate?

Should we accept that the rage being vented in Greece is economic in origin, the implication is that it could be dispelled by economic solutions—and there are capitalist solutions for the crisis in no shorter supply than socialist ones. Perhaps the exploitation, misery, and unemployment currently rampant in Greece could be exported to some meeker nation, or else enough credit could be extended to the disaffected stone-throwers that they could come to identify as middle class themselves. These approaches have worked before; one might even argue that they have driven the process of capitalist globalization.

If Greece could somehow be transformed into Sweden—if every nation could be Sweden, without any having to be Nigeria—would it be OK to shoot teenagers then? They shoot anarchists in Sweden too, you know.

To the extent to which the resistance in Greece is simply an expression of frustration at dim financial prospects, then, it is possible that it can ultimately be defused or co-opted. But there are other forces at work here, which the corporate account de-emphasizes.

These riots are not coming out of nowhere. Masked anarchists setting fires and fighting the police have been common in Greece since before the turn of the century. In 1999, shortly before the Seattle WTO protests, there were major riots when Bill Clinton visited. At the time, the economy was livelier—and the socialists were in power, which seems to contradict the theory that the current unrest is simply a result of dissatisfaction with the conservative government.

Corporate media generally ignore anarchists, trivializing them with qualifiers such as "self-styled" when they refer to them at all. That corporate outlets have been forced to detail the anarchist involvement in these and other struggles in Greece attests to the depth and seriousness of anarchist activity. Leftists may attempt to portray the events in Greece as a general uprising of "the people," and certainly countless "normal" people have participated, but it is clear even from this vantage point that anarchists started the rioting and have remained the most influential element within it.

We hypothesize that the rioting in Greece is not simply an inevitable result of economic recession, but a proactive radical initiative that speaks to the general public.

Though the rioting was provoked by the murder of Alexandros, it is only possible because of preexisting infrastructures and social currents—otherwise, such murders would catalyze uprisings in the US as well. Such an immediate and resolute response would not have occurred if anarchists in Greece had not developed a culture conducive to it. Thanks to a network of social centers, a deep-seated sense that neighborhoods such as the one in which Alexandros was killed are liberated zones off-limits to police, and a tradition of resistance extending back through generations, Greek anarchists feel entitled to their rage and capable of acting upon it. In recent years, a series of struggles against the prison system, the mistreatment of immigrants, and the privatization of schools have given innumerable young people experience in militant action. As soon as the text messages circulated announcing the police killing, Greek anarchists knew exactly how to respond, because they had done so time and again before.

The general public in Greece is already sympathetic to resistance movements, owing to the heritage of struggle against the US-supported dictatorship. In this regard, Greece is similar to Chile, another nation noted for the intensity of its street conflicts and class warfare. With the murder of Alexandros, anarchists finally had a narrative that was compelling to a great number of

people. In another political context, liberals or other opportunists might have been able to exploit this tragedy to their own ends, but the Greek anarchists forestalled this possibility by immediately seizing the initiative and framing the terms of the conflict.

### **It's Not the Economy, Stupid**

That is to say, it's always the economy. But it's not just the economic hardships accompanying times of recession—the resistance in Greece is also a revolt against the exploitation, alienation, and hierarchy inherent in the capitalist system, that set the stage for police to murder teenagers whether or not a significant percentage of the population is unemployed.

Anarchists in the United States face a much different context than their Greek colleagues. Greece is a peripheral participant in the European Union, while the US remains the epicenter of global capitalism, with a correspondingly more powerful repressive apparatus. The legal consequences of participating in confrontations with the police are potentially more severe in the US, at least in proportion to the support for arrestees. Much of the population is more conservative, and both radical and oppressed communities are more fragmented, owing to the tremendous numbers of people in prison and the transience enforced by the job market. There is little continuity in traditions of resistance—in most communities, the collective anarchist memory does not stretch back beyond a decade at the most. The events in Greece are inspiring, but US anarchists can probably learn more from the infrastructures behind them than from the superficial aspects of the clashes.

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## **A Road to Revolution?**

*From Haaretz - By Uri Gordon*

Three weeks have passed since the unprovoked police murder of 15-year-old Alexandros Grigoropoulos in Athens, and the riots engulfing Greece show no sign of abating.

While the student occupations of the capital's three universities (Economics, Polytechnic and the law faculty) are expected to end soon, a major student demonstration has been called for January 9, and the protests, street clashes and seizures of television and radio stations are set to continue in full force.

A Greek blogger wrote this week: "We have a duty to move here, there, anywhere but back to our couches as mere viewers of history, back home to the warmth that

freezes our conscience."

The international ripples are also tangible. Solidarity demonstrations and attacks on Greek embassies have taken place around the globe, from Moscow to New York and Copenhagen to Mexico City. Declarations and manifestos issued by student assemblies at Greek schools are almost immediately translated and posted online in English, French, Italian, Turkish and Serbian.

In the first few days of the revolt, bloggers were trying to put together a list of all the solidarity actions taking place, but the task proved impossible: There have been literally hundreds of them; thousands of people have taken to the streets. Last Saturday, a global day of action against police violence saw raucous demonstrations in over 30 cities worldwide.

The corporate press has trotted out various theories to explain the cause of the unrest - frustration with a corrupt government, the global financial crisis, and discontent among Greece's youth, who face meager prospects of secure employment or welfare rights - the riots being a blind reaction to objective conditions.

But all these explanations are in fact decoys intended to silence and ignore the rebels' own declared motivations.

A declaration by the students occupying the Athens School of Economics was quite clear about how they see the issue: "The democratic regime in its peaceful facade doesn't kill an Alex every day, precisely because it kills thousands of Ahmets, Fatimas, Jorjes, Jin Tiaos and Benajirs: because it assassinates systematically, structurally and without remorse the entirety of the third world ....

"The cardinals of normality weep for the law that was violated from the bullet of the pig Korkoneas [the policeman who shot Grigoropoulos]. But who doesn't know that the force of the law is merely the force of the powerful? That it is law itself that allows for the exercise of violence on violence? The law is void from end to bitter end; it contains no meaning, no target other than the coded power of imposition."

Or, in another declaration, this one anonymous: "What do we seek? Equality. Political, economic, social. Between all people. Our possibility of convincing the servile consumers to refuse being commodities and subjects is rather limited. What can we do? Ravage and plunder the market, distribute the goods to everybody, dissolve the myths that support inequality."

These are no single-issue protests or vague grievances. This is full-blooded revolutionary anarchism.

The mainstream media simply cannot stomach the notion that what is happening in Greece is by now a proactive social revolt against the capitalist system itself and the state institutions that reinforce it. It is time to acknowledge that the Greek anarchist movement has successfully seized the initiative after the killing of one of its own, framing the issues in a way that appeals to a larger - albeit mostly young - public.

Few people realize that the Greek anarchist movement is appreciably the largest in the world, in proportion to its country's population. It also enjoys wide social support due to its legacy of resistance to the military dictatorship from 1967 to 1974. Highly confrontational demonstrations are a matter of regularity in Greece. It is practically a bimonthly occurrence for anarchists and police to engage in fiery street battles in Thessaloniki or Athens. The current events are only marked by their breadth and duration, not by their level of militancy.

Another rarely appreciated factor is that Greece is a country in which the security apparatus is normally kept on a relatively tight leash. For example, Privacy International's 2007 assessment of leading surveillance societies found Greece to be the only country in the world with "adequate safeguards" against the abuse of government power to spy on its citizenry. The legacy of the dictatorship has created a lasting image of the police as inherently oppressive, even among the middle class.

Will the riots in Greece lead to an anti-capitalist revolution? Only if the opening they have torn in the social fabric widens and deepens, involving ever-growing sections of society and creating new grass-roots institutions alongside the destruction of the old. This seems unlikely in the short term, as bureaucratic labor unions and the Communist Party attempt to domesticate the revolt and cut their own political coupon with their demand to disarm the police.

But there is no doubt that a new benchmark has been set for what can be expected in Western countries during the coming era of economic depression and environmental decay. European governments will no doubt ratchet up their policies of surveillance and repression in anticipation of growing civil unrest. But that may not be enough to keep the population subdued, as crisis after crisis calls the existing arrangement of power and privilege into question.

*Uri Gordon is the author of "Anarchy Alive!: Anti-Authoritarian Politics from Practice to Theory" (Pluto Press); [www.anarchyalive.com](http://www.anarchyalive.com).*