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Digest of the Anarchist Tubes

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Greeks, Germans, the Tarnac Ten / Miwok, Jeff, & Copenhagen

and so much more

German anarchists "Declare War on the State"

Reported The Local, an English-language news site in Germany, on Friday December 4: "Unknown perpetrators, assumed to be left-wing extremists, threw Molotov cocktails, paint bombs and cobblestones at Berlin's Treptow district Federal Criminal Police (BKA) office overnight.

"Meanwhile local offices for the centre-left Social Democrats and the conservative Christian Democrats were also vandalised with anti-war graffiti.

"Around the same time in Hamburg, about 10 masked perpetrators attacked a police precinct in the Schanzenviertel neighbourhood, setting a police cruiser alight, damaging other police cars and breaking windows with stones.

"On Friday afternoon the Berliner Morgenpost also reported that a southern wing of the Chancellory had also been vandalised with three Christmas tree decoration bulbs full of paint."

The paper quoted DPoIG leader Rainer Wendt as saying that though no one was injured in either of the attacks they were a sign of a "new escalation in the spiral of violence".

"The attacks were anything but spontaneous, and executed in an almost professional manner," he said.

The Police Union took the incidents so seriously on Friday that they encouraged the conference of state interior ministers, currently underway in Bremen, to take immediate action, hardening criminal prison sentences for attacks on officers and increasing police personnel.

An 84-page study presented by Berlin Interior Minister Ehrhart Körting this November detailed left-wing violence in the German capital, describing the anarchists as "willing to hazard the consequences of major property damage and severe injury to people."

In 2009, some 125 cars – many of them luxury status-symbol models – were purposely burned by Autonomen in Berlin. The number has more than doubled since last year, when 72 cars were targeted. Police in Hamburg reported 150 burned cars – 16 of which were proven to be politically motivated.

Wendt said without government support, such incidents will continue to occur.

"The investigation goes on, but I have little hope it will be successful," he said. "This is a declaration of the war on the police and on the state."

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10208>

Statement from the Tarnac Ten

Why we will no longer respect the judicial restraints placed upon us

The arrest of Christophe on 27 November [2009] marks a [new] stage in the mad governmental fit that one has modestly called "the Tarnac Affair." His arrest situates the point at which this procedure only proceeds so as to save itself: they have indicted one more person in the sole hope of maintaining the others.

As part of the "first circle," Christophe belongs to the small group of people with whom we discuss our defense. The judicial controls that would like, from now on, to prevent him from seeing us is one aberration too many. It is also a conscious attempt to disorganize the defense. At this point, when all notions of what is lawful are twisted, who could still demand that we continue to respect these judicial controls and this demented procedure? Absurd. There is no need to see yourself as above the law to ascertain that the law is beneath everyone. Besides, a society that maintains itself by means that are so obviously criminal has no business bringing

charges against anyone.

Freedom under judicial control is the name for a sort of mystical experience that anyone can have. Imagine that you have the right to see whomever you like, except for those whom you love; that you can live anywhere except your home; that you can speak freely on the telephone or in the presence of unknown people, but that anything you say can, one day or another, be used against you. Imagine that you can do whatever you like, except for what you hold dear. A handleless knife from which one removes the blade more resembles a knife than freedom under judicial control resembles freedom.

You are walking on the street with three friends. According to the cops who follow you, "the four subjects headed in the direction of . . ." After months of being separated, you re-unite with someone who is dear to you. In judicial jargon, this is a "fraudulent consultation." If you do not renounce the loyalty supposed by friendship, even when facing adversity, you are obviously part of a "criminal association."

The police and their justice have no match when it comes to distorting what falls into their view. Perhaps, finally, they will only render monstrous that which, lovable or detestable, is easily understood.

much more at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10209>

Greek Embassy Windows Smashed in DC

Around 3am on December 8th, two bricks shattered the window of the Greek Embassy at 2228 Massachusetts Ave NW Washington, D.C. This action was taken in solidarity with those who have taken to the streets in Greece on the recent anniversary of the murder of Alexis Grigoropoulos.

The recent socialist government has shown through its use of state repression

that is no different in character from the right wing government that took Grigoriou's life. State power, regardless of who wields it will be used to repress and murder, and we will never be free of this violence until we've dismantled the rule of state and capital, and confront the roots of power and hierarchy wherever they manifest themselves.

We mean to demonstrate that the uprising in Greece, the acts of building and defending autonomous spaces have been an inspiration not only to those in Europe, but the whole world over. With these bricks thrown we've made the Greek embassy in Washington, D.C. better reflect the current landscape on the streets of Athens and Thessaloniki. Let this serve as a reminder to those who hold power, whether their offices are in Athens or Washington, D.C. that their time to murder and silence the voices of resistance has come to an end.

In solidarity,
The Washington D.C. Beautification Project

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10239>

Torch-lit Mob Attacks Chancellor's House

From Daily Cal - by Javier Panzar

Eight Arrested After Attack on Chancellor's House

Several dozen individuals, some wielding torches, marched on UC Berkeley Chancellor Robert Birgeneau's home on the north side of campus early Saturday morning at about midnight, in what police said was an attack where damage was done to the home and several torches were thrown at police officers responding to the scene.

As three extinguished torches lay on the scene, eight people were arrested—including two UC Berkeley students. One of the six non-students had been arrested Friday morning at the occupation of Wheeler Hall, according to UCPD Lt. Adan Tejada. Those arrested have been charged with rioting, while further charges have yet to be determined for those who attacked police.

Police who had responded to an unrelated disturbance call on nearby Euclid Street arrived soon after the group began its attack. Some members of the crowd threw lit torches at officers arriving from the southern end of the home, at which

point the crowd scattered and several were arrested, Tejada said.

Several dozen people ran through a parking lot between Giannini Hall and Tolman Hall, wearing hoods and throwing gloves aside, according to Jared Friedman, a research assistant at the the Sleep and Psychological Disorders Lab on campus, who was walking back from Moffitt Library when he saw the crowd.

"I just heard a bunch of chanting through a megaphone," Friedman said. "It was a big crowd running with hoods on just yelling, I couldn't make anything out."

Birgeneau and his wife were in the house at the time, though their current location is confidential.

"We have a grave concern for his safety right now," Tejada said. "Our first priority is the safety of the chancellor and his wife."

The group also damaged several concrete planters and lights around the house, Tejada said. In addition, unspecified large heavy objects were thrown with "considerable force," damaging several windows. The windows were "impact resistant" and were not breached, he added.

The eight arrested were taken into custody and given exclusion notices, meaning they will not be allowed on campus for the time being, Tejada said.

"The only way they can get back on to campus is through a hearing with the vice chancellor of student affairs," he said.

Tejada added that the names of those arrested will not be released until later Saturday morning.

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10263>

Two Royal Banks Attacked in Montreal

Communique

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

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10274>

Jeff Luers is Free!

Dear Friends,

This morning in Portland, Oregon, Jeff walked out of prison a free man. We have a press release of information available here:

<http://www.freejeffluers.org/assets/pdfs/JeffReleased.pdf>

But there's really not much else to say because we are too busy celebrating! Join us in the celebration! You helped make this possible, you helped Jeff make it through the most difficult time in his life. And now, he can start a new life and finally see the sunrise and sunset, hold hands, and hike in the forest, among everything else we take for granted.

Thank you so very much for your support. We will be sending out more info about Jeff, but we wanted to share this with you asap.

Thanks again, endlessly,
Friends of Jeff Free Luers

More at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10293>

Wave of Strikes Sweeps Greece

A wave of strikes culminating on Thursdays pan-worker mobilisation has been the response to the scaremongering of the government amidst the worsening economic crisis that threatens Greece with bankruptcy.

After the week of riots came the week of strikes: the multifold strikes that are taking place since Tuesday 15 December and peaked on Thursday 17 with the pan-workers strike called by PAME, the Communist Party Union Front, as well as dozens of extra-parliamentary parties of the left and first-grade unions forming demos in 58 cities and towns around Greece.

The strikes come at a critical time for the greek economy which saw a second degrading in ten days in terms of its credit, this time by the Standard & Poor's group. The second degrading came as international finance centres claimed the austerity measures announced by the beleaguered government are not likely to produce adequate results.

Due to the media strike news about Thursdays developments remain scarce; analytically:

Whereas the garbage collecting strike

has been judged for a second time illegal forcing refuse collectors to the streets, large parts of Athens remain plunged in enormous piles of gargabe as refuse workers at the main open refuse dump of the capital have responded to the ban of the previous strike by blockading the gates of the depot, halting 80% of collecting activities. The workers are demanding a reversal of 200 layoffs.

The Centres of Citizen Assistance (KEP), the jewel of efficiency in the greek state's crown, remain closed for a second day as workers are striking. This in effect freezes all private-public transaction as the KEP are the offices that issues official papers needed for any paperwork. The workers are demanding more working positions and a recognition of their previous job experience.

Kidengarden and Primary school teachers have been on strike since the 16/12. The teachers formed a demo outside the Ministry of Education demanding 1400E minimum wage, no hour-work schedules, and 2 years free and obligatory kidengarden education for all children. The union has refused to engage on "tabula rasa" dialogue with the ministry. The general union of teachers of all grades joined the strike on Thursday.

Taxi drivers have gone on strike in Athens after one of their colleagues was arrested for carrying two sans-papier immigrants. The taxi drivers are demanding the abolition of the law that demands taxi drivers to ask for papers from immigrants that ride on their vehicles, and the immediate release of their colleague.

All hospital doctors across the country have gone on strike on Thursday and all intensive care units remain closed.

In Peiraeus, talks were concluded on Tuesday regarding the leasing of the Second Pier of Peiraeus to COSCO which was agreed on a bases of 69 million euros collective compensation to the workers, an ammount that has created a storm of political accusations by the opposition. Nevertheless the Mechanics Union of the Merchant Fleet has gone on a "warning strike" on Thursday demanding a minimum 1400E salary.

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much more at:
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10298>

Communique of Copenhagen Black Bloc

From Guerrilla News

This communique was given out by a portion of the Black Bloc during the march to the Bella Centre on Saturday at the protests against the U.N. COP-15. Shortly after releasing this communique, windows of the Danish stock exchange and Foreign Ministry were broken. When the police attempted arrests, the Black Bloc was physically prevented by some members of Climate Justice Action from joining the "System Change Not Climate Change" bloc. While the COP15 is over, the debate over the role of internal policing and the "non-violence" code of Climate Justice Action has just begun in the European autonomous movements.

Amongst thousands of people who want to save the world, we are getting together to march to the Bella Centre, but something feels wrong. The slogans just seem too familiar. "Traditional wisdom and new technology must go hand in hand." Haven't we been reading them on the ads all over town?

Everyone is playing their role in the summit, just like in a movie. And there are even different versions of the same stage, distinguished mostly by their budgets. The building of the Klimaforum resembles a space station mixed together with a contemporary art museum. Amongst the graffiti, drugs and reggae music in Christiania, the dream is cheaper but more entertaining. Inside the perfectly sterile and opulent Bella Centre, the NGOs are working hard with the delegates on a treaty to rescue us all. Outside, the same faces tell us on loudspeakers to apply "political pressure" to influence the negotiations.

There seems to be a common logic between the government delegates, the NGOs who control the march, and even the radical ecological activists: we are all saving humanity together. Who would not want to fight for this? And even if you did not, do you even have a choice? No one seems to have the time to take a pause and think about what we are supposed to save, what humanity means. What does it imply to have faith in the existence of a single political unit that binds us all together? In the united and pacified world imagined in Copenhagen, politics become obsolete. What if the mobilization of the entire city and even the protests were nothing but an

immense peacekeeping operation?

...

When the success of this summit depends on the participation of the population in every city centre,
WHERE DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD GO?

And if police, in all its forms, is the new essence of global politics,
WHAT DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD DO?

more at:
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10358>

Olympic Torch Ambushed in Guelph, Ontario

On December 28, 2009, at 7:30 am, about 40-50 Anti-Olympics protesters took to the streets in Guelph to unwelcome the 2010 Olympics Torch Relay. When the torch was approaching, the protesters took to the street to precede the Torch through downtown. Stacks of pamphlets were handed out or thrown around the patriotic Olympics fans, which described the reasons why we oppose the 2010 Olympics.

AND THEN! The protest and the torch had a head-on collision! The torch relay rounded a corner only to be met with chants and banners "NO OLYMPICS ON STOLEN NATIVE LAND"! A scuffle then occurred between the torch security/entourage and the protesters. The torch bearer and one of their escorts fell to the ground, dropping the torch. Police rushed to the scene but it was too late. The torch was ambushed.

One person was arrested and is being charged with assault.

[What Godzilla is to the nuclear holocaust the torch is to... gentrification?]

No Olympics on Stolen Native Land!
Honour Harriet Nahanee!
Stop the Police and State Repression!

For more information on the 2010 Vancouver Olympics and Resistance, visit:
www.no2010.com

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10363>

Solidarity with the California Miwok Tribe

Thousands of students have taken part in the occupation of their universities and schools – yet many have asked how this movement will grow and expand itself? How will it break out of the schools and institutions of “higher education,” and begin to involve itself in the territory of all social life? Recently, the California Valley Miwok Tribe in Stockton (about 1 hour south of Sacramento and 20 minutes north of Modesto) occupied their tribal office/home and have held it for several months. Barricaded inside their space, the tribe has created an international stir and held their ground behind barricaded walls. On January 15th, the Sheriffs are set to come in and evict the tribe. In response, the tribe is holding two large demonstrations and pickets in Sacramento on the 6th and 7th of January. These pickets will take place at the John Moss Building (Bureau of Indian Affairs Office) 650 Capital Mall, from 10 AM – 1PM each day. People are encouraged to bring signs, banners, and as many people as possible. Stand in solidarity with all people occupying and taking back their lives – from the schools to their foreclosed homes.

If the students who stood against the budget cuts and fee hikes now stand in solidarity with the Miwok people who are resisting eviction by occupying their space, we can expand our movement and make powerful connections. We can generalize our struggle across new terrain and space. We can push for the occupation of all aspects of our lives. We must occupy and escalate!

More information on the pickets:

<http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/12/29/18633785.php>

Interview with CVMT:

<http://www.anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10371>

poster a: the central valley was lived in by primitive cultures for fifteen millenia and by the animal nations for millions of years. this life was “sustainable” not to mention beautiful and free. it was only occupied 150 years ago. with the occupation came the extinction of many of the original inhabitants--grizzly, pronghorn antelope, wolves, many migratory bird species, salmon, among others--and the nearly total destruction of the original human inhabitants. all the rivers are dammed/damned, all the land is utilized for industrial scale agriculture, the aquifers are depleted, and the land is subsid-

ing. the air is blighted. the immigrant workers--indigenous people from mexico, mostly--die on their way to the valley in the sonora desert or they die of heat stroke while working at piece rates in the fields.

the valley is periphery to the core urban areas in california, just as “latin america,” africa, and most of asia are peripheral to the u.s., and japan. investment, aid, and loans flow in; natural resources and ag products flow out.

the point is that occupation is a necessary aspect of civilization, empire, and colonialism. the historical-spatial framework of territorialization in civilization is, inherently, expansionist; it necessitates occupation. counter-occupation should focus on destabilizing civilization. anything else will be a mere reproduction of the civilizational trope. not necessarily a “return to the primitive,” but an abandonment of civilization.

support the miwok:

counter-occupy everything.

from occupied borinquen.

poster b: national liberationism and other semantic fetishes are hella civilized.

poster c: Unless you can point out any inherent similarities between this particular tribe and nations, don't just presume this event is an affirmative call for national sovereignty. It seems it would be pertinent to discuss the affairs and truths of struggles such as this one. Namely, differentiating between nationalism and indigenous struggles to reclaim land (which, drawing from my limited knowledge, in many cases seem to be directly related towards the material needs of whatever people desire to reclaim it, as opposed to it having an importance in the constitution and recognition of a sovereign national body striving for independent statecraft).

poster d: “Animals don't have nations. There are no original human (or animal, or plant, etc) inhabitants to anywhere. There was always someone, or something, before. The concept of indigenous is only useful when it meaningfully advances our goals in some way, or as an easy way to communicate the idea of “before the evil thing.””

Perhaps it has nothing to do with origins. As best my knowledge allows me to understand, ‘indigenous’, although it clearly does mean ‘original’ in common use, perhaps carries the implication of belonging to the land. I mean this in the most, shall we say, ‘materialist’ sense possible. As opposed to the metaphysical sense. An indigenous people's prosperity, both cultural and material, are inseparable from the land they reside on. This is evident in the catastrophic effects of forced migration and concentration in reservations.

It appears as if there is a strong tendency among peoples who are of a non-civilized culture to be owned by their habitat. I believe this may be

recognizably reflected in their cultural traditions and metaphysical beliefs. This should be considered by anarchists. My intention isn't to create sympathy for ‘states-in-waiting’ and nationalisms, but only to try to come to an understanding of how this ‘belonging’ to the land functions and how it is different from nationalism. Animals do not have nations, but they have their habitat - their land. Their entire existence reflects a predominantly homeostatic relation to their habitat. They go and thrive where their needs can be met. Whereas civilized people share a predominantly hypertrophic relation to the land as Value bids them to ensure the commodity-form thrives and it's needs be met.

“These people are occupying a home which the bank has foreclosed on and it is their last piece of tribal land (such as it is) and many of them have nowhere else to go.”

Exactly.

poster e: dont get me wrong, there is something to it. there is also something to people over-reading into and over-romanticizing the idea that some essential “belonging-to-the-land-ness” has been retained, necessarily, over hundreds of years of colonization and destruction of culture and habitat. this is where i think the mystification can come in. we all have “indigenous” ancestors if you go back far enough, we are all human and belong to the earth *to an extent*, but lets not lose sight of how totally capitalism has destroyed and rebuilt everything in its own image. lets not replace analysis of the actually existing society with fantasies about “how it used to be before it got fucked up” or “how it's supposed to be”.

poster f: the culture of the commodity has taken over the entire world. yeah, except for some tiny (population and territory-wise) primitive groups. and, granted, that culture has insinuated itself into almost everything and taken people in capitalist-techno-mass consumerist civ as far as possible from indigenous roots without actually becoming cyborgs. ok, so. does that mean it is out of bounds to recognize that it wasn't always this way?

traditional people from the central valley retain remnants of their indigenous cultural roots. not to mention that they have been fucked over by capitalism as much or more than any other group. to me, that means its doubly worth supporting this struggle.

even though you don't know me you can say i am being romantic or fetishizing or whatever if you want to (seems like kind of the psychosocial diagnosis from afar that those in institutions are so fond of making). but without some form of indigenous knowlede, the future is likely to duplicate the seventy centuries of civ that have become familiar to us.

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10376>