



# 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.

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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.

## Modesto Cop Scared by Crowd

The hostile crowd that confronted a lone Modesto police officer and his police dog early Sunday threw glass bottles at the officer, and one suspect punched him in the face, according to details released by police Tuesday.

Witnesses and police say some in the crowd taunted the officer as they closed in on him, shouting, "Shoot me, shoot me!" when he drew his weapon. Someone in the crowd said, "You know you're not going to make it out of here," said Sgt. Brian Findlen, the police spokesman.

Residents described their neighborhood as "scary," especially after dark. Gang members and regular people live side by side, they said, and neighbors fear retaliation if they call police.

In Sunday's incident, the officer couldn't call for backup during the five to eight minutes he was alone with the crowd because the radio on his belt was broken during the struggle, said Findlen. About a dozen officers responded after 911 calls from neighbors.

The officer happened upon the crowd while responding to a report of a stolen car. The officer stopped when he saw a group attacking one man. When he tried to break up the fight, the crowd turned on him, police say. One man challenged the officer to a fight. When the officer tried to arrest the man, some people pulled the man out of the officer's control, said Findlen. Three suspects were charged with "lynching," a term for removing a suspect from police custody.

A loaded assault rifle magazine was found later near the scene of the assault, said Findlen. During a follow-up investigation, police said, officers found a loaded, banned assault rifle. Callers to 911 earlier that night reported gang members were shooting a rifle into the air.

Six people were arrested in connection with the struggle. Some suspects who contacted The Bee on Tuesday said police treated them unfairly, beating them and arresting them in connection with crimes they didn't commit. Police deny those accusations. Two witnesses said police did not use excessive force on the suspects.

Police say some in the crowd were gang members; three of the suspects told The Bee that they're not involved in gangs.

The officer and his dog were slightly injured, said Findlen. Reports from officers at the scene described the size of the crowd as 20 to 60 people.

Some in the crowd were listening to a police radio scanner, police say. When they heard other units were responding, they ran, Findlen said. One witness said others in the crowd tried to help the officer during the struggle.

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7046>

<http://www.modbee.com/crime/story/649571.html>

## G-20 Protesters Go For Royal Bank Of Scotland

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com>

LONDON - G-20 protesters clashed with riot police in downtown London on Wednesday, breaking into the heavily guarded Royal Bank of Scotland and smashing its windows. Earlier, they tried to storm the Bank of England and pelted police with eggs and fruit.

At least 4,000 anarchists, anti-capitalists, environmentalists and others jammed into London's financial district for what they called "Financial Fool's Day." The protests were called ahead of Thursday's summit of world leaders, who hope to take concrete steps to resolve the global financial crisis that has lashed nations and workers worldwide.

Some protesters spray-painted the side of the RBS building with the phrases "class war" and "thieves." Others pushed against columns of riot police who swatted them away with batons.

Demonstrators shouted "Abolish Money!" and clogged streets in the area known as "The City" even as Prime Minister Gordon Brown and President Barack Obama held a news conference elsewhere in the British capital.

At least eight people were arrested but there were no serious injuries reported.

Royal Bank of Scotland is at the center of protesters' anger because it had to be bailed out by the British government after a series of disastrous deals brought it to the brink of bankruptcy. The bank is now majority-owned by the British taxpayer.

Despite that, its former chief executive Fred Goodwin -- aged just 50 -- managed to walk off with a tidy \$1 million annual pension for life, while unemployment in Britain now tops 2 million and is heading towards 3 million by the end of this year. Goodwin has been vilified by the British press.

RBS posted a British record loss of 24.1 billion pounds for 2008. The British government has invested 20 billion pounds in propping up the bank.

Helicopters hovered above the protests and some buildings were boarded up. Many banks had extra security and hundreds of police officers lined the streets.

"Every job I apply for there's already 150 people who have also applied," said protester Nathan Dean, 35, who lost his information technology job three weeks ago. "I have had to sign on to the dole (welfare) for the first time in my life. You end up having to pay your mortgage on your credit card and you fall into debt twice over."

Demonstrators hoisted effigies of the "four horsemen of the apocalypse," representing war, climate chaos, financial crimes and homelessness.

"The greed that is driving people is tearing us apart," said Steve Lamont, 45, flanked by his family and protesters who were banging on bells, playing drums and blowing whistles.

One police officer lost his helmet and demonstrators tossed it around like a trophy and chanted slogans.

Fearing they would be targeted by protesters, some bankers swapped their pinstripe suits for casual wear and others stayed home. Bolder financial workers leaned out their office windows Wednesday, taunting demonstrators and waving 10 pound notes at them. Especially in Britain, bankers have been lambasted as being greedy and blamed for the recession that is making jobless ranks soar.

Protesters waved banners reading "Banks are evil," "Eat the bankers," and "0% interest in others."

One protester dressed as the Easter bunny managed to hop through the police cordon but was stopped before he could reach the Bank of England. Another black-clad demonstrator waved a fake light saber at officers.

Musician and political activist Billy Bragg said the time was now to make a difference.

"It's better than sitting down shouting at the television at these bankers," he said. "We cannot go back to the way things were before to the million-dollar bonus culture."

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7053>

## Rome is Ablaze: anarchists, get ready

In a remarkable paper posted by the Federal Reserve of St. Louis (see attached at the bottom of the article), and authored by a Boston University teacher named Prof Kotlikoff, it is revealed in blunt, unequivocal language that the clock has run out on the greedy Raganomic era of borrowing and spending without consequence. The paper, entitled, *Is the United States Bankrupt?*, will undoubtedly not remain posted for very long especially if the public actually sees it and it becomes widely known. Fortunately it was published in 2006 and many like myself have read it.

Kotlikoff explains, "Unless the United States moves quickly to fundamentally change and restrain its fiscal behavior, its bankruptcy will become a foregone conclusion."

...

Nero Fiddles while Rome Burns

It's too late to save the United States from its financial meltdown, I believe. For starters, there is a complete lack of willingness to make tough financial decisions and begin paying off the national debt. Such an idea is so foreign to the U.S. that no presidential candidate in the last two decades has even seriously proposed such a plan, save perhaps Ross Perot. A nut job by any serious measure. We on the left have failed to make social justice and economic justice an issue but then we had not the resources as greed and excess often trump the sound advice of social anarchist and socialist in general.

Even worse, there's not even recognition among the masses that a financial problem exists beyond a recession that might become a depression and yet this three year old report to the Federal Reserve made it clear. Said it loudly no screamed it. Since the report was published Bush continued to proclaim the economy is in good shape, and the press remains complicit with its printing of economic half-truths, few will recognize any problem at all. Non did the press failed again like that's a surprise to us at COIMC or our readership. Obama seems incapable of confronting publicly these same realities. Besides, any such recognition of the financial problems then facing this nation requires the observers to actually be able to do basic math. Well they don't need basic math now to know its bad and going to get worse. Our public education system, which is now largely considered institutionalized day care for nutritionally-deficient children, has seen to it that mathematics instruction never gets in the way of diagnosing children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and drugging them up on amphetamines so powerful that they actually have a street value as recreational drugs.

Thus, few young Americans can even do math. And none of them lived through the Great Depression, nor did they understand the study of it in school, meaning they are precisely the kind of naive, overconfident yuppie spenders who are ripe for being financially obliterated by an economic meltdown. When their ignorance turns to fear as it is starting to, the ever-widening spiral of financial panic becomes unstoppable until the whole system hits rock bottom. And "rock bottom" is far, far below the relatively luxurious lifestyle to which American consumers have become so smugly accustomed.

Preparing for the Inevitable

The timetable for this economic collapse

is unknown, but it's very unlikely to happen in the next year or two. A collapse by 2012 is certainly possible, and seeing it by 2020 is almost certain.

That leaves the more intelligent among us plenty of time to prepare. But the usual preparatory actions by Americans won't suffice in such a large-scale collapse. FDIC-insured banks, for example, will almost certainly collapse and take the FDIC down with them. Even if you are repaid by the FDIC, you'll only be paid in worthless U.S. dollars anyway.

I published this today on Colorado IndyMedia and if you wish to read the attachment referred to here please go to the end of the article found at <http://colorado.indymedia.org/node/1604>

the whole article at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7056>

## Solidarity with Students: open letter by Greek soldiers

Hundreds of soldiers from the 42 state areas state:

We refuse to become a force of terror and repression against the mobilisations ; We support the struggle of the school and university students and the workers.

We are soldiers from all over Greece [it's necessary to point out here that in Greece conscription is still in practice and that it affects all male Greeks ; most or maybe even all of the people signing this are bound to be people who are serving their compulsory military service at the moment - not army recruits].

We are soldiers who, very recently, in Hania, have been ordered to turn ourselves upon and bear weapons against university students, workers and combatants in the anti-militarist movement. [Soldiers] who support the weight of the reforms and "tactical manoeuvres" of the Greek army. [The soldiers who] live daily amongst the ideological oppression of militarism, of nationalism, of un-remunerated exploitation and submission to "[our] superiors" In the army barracks [in which we serve], we learnt of yet another "isolated incident": the death, at the hands of an armed police officer, of a 15 year-old called Alexis. We heard it in the slogans carrying over the exterior walls of the camp like distant thunder. Weren't the deaths of 3 of our colleagues in August also called "isolated incidents" ? Haven't they also called the deaths of each of the 42 soldiers in the last 3 and a half years "isolated

incidents" ? We believe that Athens, Thessaloniki and a growing number of Greek cities have become areas of social agitation, environments in which the resentment of thousands of young people, workers and unemployed people resounds. Dressed in army uniform and "working attire", guarding the camp or running errands, [being] servants of the "superiors" who we find there [in the same barracks]. We have seen, as have university students, workers and desperately unemployed people, their "clay pots", "accidental backfirings", "bullet deflections", as well as the desperation of precarity, of exploitation, of lay-offs and of prosecutions.

We hear the rumours and insinuations of the army officials, we hear the threats of the government, made public, about the imposition of a state of emergency. We know very well what this means. We are living it through an intensification [of work], and the growth of the [army] tasks, intense conditions with a finger on the trigger.

Yesterday we received the order to take care and "keep our eyes peeled". We are asking : whom are you ordering us to be careful of ?

Today we have been ordered to be prepared and on alert. We are asking : with whom do we have to be on alert ? We have been ordered to be ready to bring the state of emergency into action.

There has been a distribution of arms shipments amongst certain units in Atica [where Athens is situated], accompanied with orders to use them against the civilian population in the case of threats (for example, orders were given to one unit in Menidia, close to the attacks against the Zephiro police station).

There has been a distribution of bayonettes to soldiers in Evros [along the Turkish border].

They are aiming to inspire fear in the demonstrators by setting out squads in the area around the army barracks.

They have moved police vehicles to army camps in Nauplia-Tripoli-Corinth for safe-keeping.

There was a "confrontation" on behalf of Major I. Konstantaros in the recruits' training barracks in Thiva regarding the identification of soldiers with shop-owners whose property had been damaged.

There has been a distribution of plastic bullets in the Corinthian recruits' training barracks and the order to fire against citizens if they move "in a threatening manner" (against who ?).

A special unit was ordered to the statue of the "Unknown Soldier" just in front of the demonstrators on Saturday 13th December and soldiers from the Nauplia recruits' training camp were put into action against a worker's demonstration. They are threatening citizens with Special-Ops units from Germany and Italy – in the role of occupying forces – thus revealing the true face of an anti-worker / authoritarian EU.

The police shoot with the objective of present and future social revolts. In order to accomplish this they are preparing the army to take on the functions of a police force and they are preparing society to accept the return to an army of Reformers' Totalitarianism. They are preparing us to oppose our friends, the people we know and our brothers and sisters. They are preparing us to oppose our past and future work and classmates. This series of measures shows that the leadership of the army, the police and the consent of Hinofotis (ex-member of the professional army, currently vice-interior minister, responsible for the internal *unrest*), the army headquarters, the government, the EU directives, the small shopkeeper as an angry citizen and the far-right groups are looking to use the armed forces as an occupying army (isn't it called Peace Corps when it's sent to a foreign country to do exactly the same thing ?) in the cities where we grew up, in our neighbourhoods, in the streets through which we've walked. The political and military leaders forget that we are part of the youth. They forget that we are made of the same stuff as a youth which is coming face to face with the bleak wasteland of reality inside and outside of a military camp. A youth which is furious, un-subjugated and, even more importantly, fearless.

We are civilians in uniform. We will not accept being turned into free tools of fear that some are trying to implant in society like a scarecrow. We will not accept being turned into a force of repression and terror. We will not oppose the people with whom we share the same fears, needs and desires, the same common future, the same dangers and the same hopes. We refuse to take the streets, under the name of any state of emergency, against our brothers and sisters. As young people in uniform we express our solidarity with a fighting people and we state that we won't turn ourselves into pawns of a police state and of state repression.

We will never fight our own people. We

will not allow, in the army corps, the imposition of a situation which brings back the "days of 1967" (when the Greek army made its last coup d'etat).

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7088>

## Bob Palmer anarchist activist, 1924-2009

Bob Palmer, an activist in New York's anarchist community since the early 1960s, died April 4, 2009, from a chronic heart condition. He was 84.

...While at Freespace Palmer collaborated to publish several forgotten anarchist writings, including Bakunin's *Letter to Nechaev*, and Vanzetti's *The Story of a Proletarian Life*.

more at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7110>

## Return of the Luddites: Insurrection in Mexico

In fifteen months at the beginning of the second decade of the 19th century a movement of craft workers and their supporters declared war on the then emerging industrial society. The movement spread across the Northern counties of Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. It smashed thousands of machines, looted markets, burned down factories and spread hope of a way out of the bleak future being offered by state and industries. It was a movement that, in the words of the late radical historian E.P. Thompson; "in sheer insurrectionary fury has rarely been more widespread in English History,".

Towards the end of the first decade of the 21st century nearly 200 years later, a new age of Luddites return with an insurrection in México. Over a hundred phone booths of multinational exploiter and bullfight sponser Telmex have been sabotaged using cutters, paint, glue and fire. The Luddites are showing resistance to anthropocentrism (human supremacy), civilization and the domestication of wild nature, using radical methods of sabotage for animal and earth liberation.

more at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7270>



## Franklin Rosemont anarchist surrealist 1943-2009

by David Roediger, Paul Garon, and Kate Khatib

Franklin Rosemont, celebrated poet, artist, historian, street speaker, and surrealist activist, died Sunday, April 12 in Chicago. He was 65 years old.

the rest of this article at:  
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7246>

## A Hot Winter in Greece

by Stefanie Knoll

Weeks of violent riots, clashes between ordinary people and the police, the burning of police cars and attacks on police stations, the looting of expensive shops, a burning Xmas tree amidst anti-consumerist slogans, street fights every day and night, calls for revolution, occupations of thousands of universities, schools, town halls etc. This past December was a hot winter month in Greece and an event that needs to be understood in more detail than was reported by the mainstream media. It is an unprecedented event in recent history in Europe, a new 1968, a new highlight in the struggle against neo-liberalism, cutbacks in the education system and police violence.

There were important differences between these demonstrations and earlier ones in Greece. The crowds were much larger and the protests were not just in Athens but in many towns across the whole of Greece and they went on for weeks. The police as representatives of the state, in itself a violent institution, responded in the usual way, with violence. But the people on the streets resisted and stood united. Attempts to rupture the convergence of the oppressed by attempting to utilise existing divisions such as by praising peaceful Greek protests as compared with the foreign looters failed in the face of the emergence of practical solidarity and internationalism forged through common struggle.

the rest of this article at:  
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7155>

## The crucifixion of Marie Mason

Fifth Estate contributor Marie Mason was sentenced to nearly 22 years in prison on

February 5 in a Lansing, Michigan federal courtroom, after pleading guilty to two acts of eco-sabotage. (See also Summer and Fall 2008 Fifth Estates.) Mason is now serving the longest sentence of any environmental activist in the US; an appeal is currently underway.

the rest of this article at:  
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7297>

## Wild Weekend in New York City

Another wild weekend in the death center of capital, a.k.a. New York City. An occupation, a rowdy solidarity march, an anarchist bookfair, and cats gone wild...

Friday a.m. :

A wild student occupation at the New School complete with balaclava wearing occupiers, police state tactics, and a mini-riot.

Friday night:

Solidarity march leaves Union Square throwing barricades in the street, and heads for scum bag New School president Bob Kerrey's house. March makes it to site of occupation at 65 5th Avenue. Arrests and clashes ensue, more barricades in the street.

Saturday a.m.:

The 3rd annual NYC Anarchist Book fair sets up shop selling anarchist commodities of all shapes and sizes. Workshops and other events are held as well.

Saturday night:

Following the Bookfair a gathering called "Catastrophe" takes place, meeting once again in Union Square.

The cats move into the subway where a brief scuffle happens as police attempt to arrest a party goer who is unarrested and escapes. The cats exit the train at 1st ave and 14th street where chaos ensues and the party somehow becomes a bizarre march/happening that confuses many including police. Windows of McDonalds, Washington Mutual, and Whole Foods are reportedly smashed as the unruly and scattered mob winds its way around the East Village moving towards the New School building at 65 5th avenue, which is quickly surrounded by police. Reportedly there where 30 arrests made in these various events, and two police were apparently injured.

And the warm weather isn't even here yet!!!!

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7230>

## Antifascist manifestation in Slovenia and the statement of the Anarchist Initiative

*On 27. April 2009, a thousand people marched through the streets of Ljubljana, Slovenia to protest the emergence of neofascism and right-wing populism in Slovenia. The Anarchist Initiative wrote the statement below - on fascism and its link to capitalism.*

Against fascism and capitalism - for social revolution!

We look back in history and observe the rise of fascism in 1920s and 1930 and we often find ourselves asking how was it possible that the people did not recognize the danger and resist it with by any means necessary. From the present point of view, it is not hard to point out times when fascism could still have been stopped before it became too late. Yet, the difficult task seems to be the recognition of the present forms of fascism.

Historically, fascism found a rich breeding ground not only because capitalism entered another one of its inherent crises - a similar crisis that we are witnessing today - but also because fascism, as a total ideology, envisioned the possibility of concrete actions. It confronted complex questions with simple answers, quick solutions and scapegoats. Millions blindly followed authoritarian leaders, not only because of the stupidity and blindness of the masses, but also because they thought fascism was a valid vision of social change, a social change that is conditioned by the exclusion, exploitation, domination and killing of »others«.

Today, in circumstances that in some aspects strongly resemble the first half of 20th century, we must understand fascism not only as the guiding ideology of misguided youth, but essentially as the product of the structural violence of capital and state. In a society that is being ripped apart by class exploitation, where the minority is stealing from the majority, it is only desirable for the capitalist class to foster the new forms of militant xenophobes. The capitalist class needs the fascists so the capitalist class can remain on positions of power and dominance. Thus, the poor masses - the »others« - are wrongfully blamed for the wrongdoings of the capitalist class, when in fact the latter is the actual enemy of the people.

the rest of the article at:  
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/7361>