



POST OFFICE BOX 110034 BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11211

Updates for October 1st

15 Sept - Francisco Solar on the Week of International Agitation Against Isolation

Chile: For the Week of International Agitation Against Isolation, Francisco Solar wrote the following.

MORE:

via Act for Freedom Now!

It's important to understand that Power is applying isolation as an intra-prison regime to combat anarchism of action in different parts of the world, utilizing the most severe measures the penitentiary systems can think of to annihilate the ideas and practices that are enemies of all forms of authority once and for all. This is not new. There have been many moments across history in which States have decided to put an end to anarchism, but they haven't managed to.

Now it's up to us, not only to stop authority from accomplishing its purpose of annihilation, but managing to leave this stronger, creating the conditions and the moments that make the powerful tremble.

In this sense, revolutionary solidarity plays a decisive role to the extent that it knows that striking against Power and creating autonomous instances of struggle, in some way, breaks the isolation.

Revolutionary solidarity that doesn't see the prisoner as an inactive individual with whom you should unquestioningly show solidarity, but rather as a comrade who continues being part of the struggle and who, therefore, is active in exchanging visions of the different initiatives that are carried out.

I send an embrace charged with complicity to all the groups and individuals who carry revolutionary solidarity embedded in their daily struggles. Those who, each and every moment, persistently and obstinately confront this society that needs prisons, control, degradation and exploitation to perpetuate itself. Who are conspiring and devising new forms of spreading anarchist propaganda, carrying out attacks and acting in solidarity with prisoner comrades. A strong hug for all of them.

With Luciano Pitronello in our memory. Comrade, warrior who never surrendered. Who struggled tirelessly and obstinately with all means to construct spaces of freedom and to destroy authority.

18 Sept - Illustrated Guide Version 17.8 Uploaded!

nycabc.wordpress.com/2024/09/18/guide_17_8

MORE:

We've finished the latest version of the NYC ABC "Illustrated Guide to Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War" and it's available for viewing (and download) by visiting the link at the top of this post. This update includes updated mini-bios, photos, and address changes for several prisoners.

18 Sept - Georgia Drops Money Laundering Charges in Cop City RICO Prosecution

Money laundering charges against three Atlanta Solidarity Fund defendants, who are among the 61 people indicted in a sprawling conspiracy lawsuit against Cop City protesters, have been dropped.

MORE:

via Unicorn Riot!

Last year Marlon Kautz, Adele Maclean and Savannah Patterson were indicted as part of Georgia's wide-reaching Racketeering Influenced Criminal Organization, or RICO, case that the state filed against opponents of the multi-million dollar police training compound known as Cop City.

The three organizers were arrested and charged during a raid on their home by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and Atlanta Police Department in May last year. The Atlanta Solidarity Fund organizers were, in part, accused of money laundering for accepting and disbursing donations to support the struggle against the 85-acre police facility. On Tuesday, Deputy Attorney General John Fowler dropped all money laundering charges during a hearing in Fulton Superior Court.

The accusations of financial crimes served as justification for the three being named in the RICO indictment. The state alleged that their managing of funds amounted to “furtherance of the conspiracy” against Cop City.

The state’s indictment accused the organizers of participating in a criminal conspiracy described as extremist and violently anti-government, but Atlanta Solidarity Fund organizers say they were doing nothing more than standard, constitutionally protected political organizing.

“This is a recognition of something that we, police, and prosecutors have known for a long time: we run a legitimate nonprofit, not a money laundering operation, and there has never been any evidence otherwise,” Marlon Kautz, one of the Atlanta Solidarity Fund defendants, told Unicorn Riot in a statement.

Though Kautz, Maclean and Patterson were the only people in the indictment facing money laundering charges, the alleged financial crimes acted as a key component of the state’s wider RICO prosecution. Prosecutors used the alleged money laundering to support their claims that the movement against Cop City was a criminal enterprise rather than a self-organized grassroots movement.

While the money laundering charges have been dropped, the organizers are still facing criminal charges, and the repercussions from the now-dropped charges are still very real.

“Dismissing these charges now does nothing to undo the harm to us and to the many political protesters whose lives have already been drastically impacted,” Kautz said. “Over the past 2 years they conducted extensive invasive surveillance against us and other organizers, they authorized a militarized SWAT raid of our home, they jailed us, they closed our organization’s bank accounts, all under the false pretense that we were laundering money.”

Kautz, Maclean and Patterson are among 58 other defendants named in the state’s RICO case against the movement to stop Cop City.

“This case is far from over, but we are committed to fighting these charges in solidarity with all other Cop City defendants, until everyone is free. We believe that we will win,” Kautz said. Video from Atlanta Solidarity Fund about the incoming RICO charges before they dropped.

The prosecution against protesters began last year on the heels of a widespread movement against the training facility. Through occupations, protests, marches and petitions, residents worked to oppose the project which they say will only intensify police violence in Atlanta and beyond. In response, local, state and federal law enforcement have arrested dozens, some of whom are currently being prosecuted under the state’s RICO statute. On January 18, 2023, police killed Manuel “Tortugueta” Paez Terán in the South River Forest near the facility’s construction site.

Atlanta city officials also face accusations of antidemocratic authoritarianism as they continue to refuse to process over 100,000 petition signatures for a ballot initiative to allow local residents to vote on whether or not they want the publicly owned land to be leased to the Atlanta Police Foundation – a private nonprofit – to host the controversial urban warfare training center.

18 Sept - Leonard Peltier is out of lockdown, preparing for court battle

Leonard was let out of lockdown on September 17th after ten solid days of 24/7 confinement.

MORE:

Leonard specifically asked us to convey his heartfelt thanks to the generous person who sent him \$40 for his birthday. This small act of kindness greatly lifted his spirits during the lockdown.

His 80th Birthday Statement will be released soon. He regrets that he could not release anything on his birthday and wants to express his appreciation for all that gathered to honor him.

Missed Leonard's birthday gathering? You can watch it here: tinyurl.com/ResolutePeltiers80th

THANK YOU to our brilliant, impassioned speakers, and to all who gathered to honor and support Leonard Peltier.

Democracy Now did a piece on Leonard while he was in lockdown: [instagram.com/reel/C_30iZ9pJOh](https://www.instagram.com/reel/C_30iZ9pJOh)

They had a clip asking Leonard what he would say to Obama. In true Leonard style, he said, "Stop these wars. Quit killing people! And let me out!"

Leonard would benefit from letters. He has been locked down for the better part of four years. LARGE BOLD font—he is experiencing intermittent blindness. If you understand his sacrifice, it would do him good to hear from you. Or a good joke. Even a bad joke. I print out memes and send them – he gets black-and-white copies.

Leonard's lead counsel, Jenipher Jones, and her co-counsel, Moira Meltzer-Cohen are preparing for battle – with Leonard, they are taking the court to court. The true work is intensifying.

Everyone knows why Leonard Peltier went to prison. The FBI's war against the American Indian Movement, the paramilitary takeover of the Lakota Nation. We will be holding a webinar in October explaining why Leonard is STILL in prison, long past his lawful release date, and how we can fight that.

These lockdowns are tortuous and must end. If you have it in you to bother the Judiciary Committee, formed to ensure the DOJ adheres to Constitutional Law, there is contact information and a sample letter explaining WHY this is their duty.

We will be making several announcements over the next few weeks. Leonard Peltier needs that mass public outcry and we intend to give it to him with your help.

We are also calling on all muralists! If you can paint and have a building handy, we will send you high-resolution artwork of Leonard's flag.

18 Sept - Preliminary hearing set for Sibilla operation

Italy: The preliminary hearing in the repressive Sibilla operation has been set for October 10th at the Court of Perugia.

MORE:

via *La Nemesi*

On that date, the indictment will be requested for twelve comrades, including Alfredo Cospito (detained under 41 bis regime in the Bancali prison, Sassari). In all likelihood, Alfredo will be connected by videoconference. Following the removal of the crime of promoting or participating in a subversive association with the purpose of terrorism, the comrades are indicted on 19 different counts, including the main one, for incitement to commit crimes with the aggravating circumstance of the purpose of terrorism, concerning the drafting and distribution of the anarchist paper 'Vetriolo'. The other charges (all but four aggravated by the purpose of terrorism) concern seven episodes of wall writings and two posting of banners, the publication of a leaflet by Circolaccio Anarchico (anarchist space opened in Spoleto between 2018 and 2022), two texts by Alfredo Cospito for specific initiatives in Bologna and France, five texts in the first months of Covid-19 and the first edition of the book *Quale internazionale?*, as well as the damaging of some Poste italiane (Italian post office) vehicles in Foligno during the hunger strike by anarchist comrades against the women's AS2 section inside L'Aquila prison (2019).

Launched in the early hours of November 11th, 2021, Sibilla operation had the declared aim of targeting the anarchist paper 'Vetriolo' (as well as Edizioni Monte Bove, Circolaccio Anarchico and two websites, Roundrobin and Malacoda). Particularly deserving of attention in the eyes of the investigators was the publication of the interview with Alfredo Cospito, then a prisoner in Ferrara prison, which came out in three issues of the paper under the title 'Quale internazionale?' ('Which international?'), later reissued in the booklet of the same name with a long appendix on the history of the Federazione Anarchica Informale. In the paperwork of the magistrates of Perugia, however, went to merge a previous extensive investigation of the prosecutor's office in Milan significantly named 'Vetriolo'.

With the Sibilla operation, the repressive forces experimented with the use of the accusation of incitement to commit crimes, with the aggravating circumstance of the purpose of terrorism, in order to affect anarchist publications and possibly distribute pre-trial detention orders among comrades accused of having drafted or edited militant texts, hypothesizing non-existent 'inciting' and 'orienting' capabilities in an ambit like the anarchist movement, which is historically characterized by an obstinate and radical autonomy of thought and action. Also significantly, not least, the two websites involved in the operation were obscured on Italian territory.

To tell the truth, the preliminary investigation phase was not very lucky for the investigators. Faced with eight requests for precautionary detention in prison for a total of sixteen suspects, the GIP (preliminary investigation judge) granted six precautionary measures, excluding the associative crime (one arrest warrant in prison for Alfredo Cospito, already detained, as well as a comrade under house arrest and four with the obligation to stay in the municipality of domicile combined with the obligation to present to the judicial authorities to sign at local barracks). Only five weeks later, however, the Court of re-examination in Perugia annulled all the measures with an order that completely dismantled the charges on the merits. Against this, the public prosecutor appealed to the Cassation Court, which upheld the prosecutor's appeal and ordered a new re-examination hearing. However, the latter also confirmed with a long motivation that all precautionary measures were null and void.

In the meantime, misfortune continued to turn against the investigators, with the head of the investigation Manuela Comodi being sentenced to one year's detention for unauthorized access to documents in the public prosecutor's computer system and transferred to the civil court in Milan.

While, as has already been pointed out, the proceedings set a precedent against the anarchist publications, in a sense acting as a forerunner for further repressive episodes (we think in particular of Scripta Scelera operation against the internationalist anarchist fortnightly 'Bezmotivny'), it was above all against Alfredo Cospito that Sibilla had the most serious effects.

We cannot and will not overlook the role played by these events in determining Alfredo's transfer to 41 bis prison regime. Within the motivations that the repressive organs presented first to justify and subsequently – in the plot of institutional contradictions that matured during the hunger strike of 2022-'23 – to reaffirm the comrade's imprisonment in this infamous regime of annihilation, appear precisely those writings already under investigation in Perugia (and previously in Milan). Sibilla thus contributes, technically and also suggestively, a supporting function to the legal justifications for the continuation of the torture to which the comrade is subjected.

Evidently, the State's decision to persevere on the path of an investigation that has so far proved extremely fragile is also to be found in the need to keep Alfredo in 41 bis. It is no coincidence that an eventual trial will most likely end close to the expiry of the four years that the comrade is spending in this prison regime. An eventual sentence and the possible request for an extension of the 41 bis are therefore legally and politically interconnected. As a demonstration of what political will is behind this investigation, following Comodi's replacement, the role of public prosecutor was taken over by the chief prosecutor of Perugia, Raffaele Cantone.

This trial for us is above all an occasion to continue the struggle against 41 bis and in solidarity with Alfredo Cospito. On the other hand, the very presence of the comrade will represent a living contradiction to those who would like to keep him walled up alive.

Not forgetting the historical context in which this turn of events took place (think of the fact that the decision to transfer Alfredo to 41 bis occurred just a few months after the beginning of the war in Ukraine and was taken by the government of national unity led by Mario Draghi), the season of extraordinary repressive intensity that we are currently experiencing must be qualified for what it really is: a manifestation of real war policies.

19 Sept - NYPD Out of the MTA

Report on direct action in New York following mass police shooting.

MORE:

via It's Going Down

Tonight, New Yorkers stood up for their community and protested the expansion and impunity of the police occupation of their city. Last Sunday, the NYPD shot Derrell Mickles and three others after Mickles entered the platform through the emergency exit at the Sutter Ave. station in Brownsville—committing a mass shooting in one of New York City's poorest neighborhoods.

In response, hundreds of city residents conducted a mass fare evasion at the West 4th station, hopping the turnstiles to say clearly that no one should be killed for not having \$2.90, that in fact the subway should be free—and free of cops.

For their part, the NYPD were once again humiliated and shown to be paper tigers when confronted by the ingenuity and mass action of the city. As dozens streamed through the gates, onto the platforms, and into the different subway cars, cops brutalized and arrested those few they could get their hands on. The people are undeterred and are committed to maintaining this form of mass action in the weeks to come.

An institution founded from the slave patrols past, the NYPD protects property and capital, it funnels black and immigrant populations into endless cycles of immiseration and poverty and modern enslavement.

Our cities are under occupation: cop training facilities are flourishing all across America—we have one in our backyard near College Point Queens. These facilities advance and refine strategies of repression and counterinsurgency, so as to ensure that no mass action against oppression, incarceration, and depredation will be allowed to exist.

We must end this. Out of the homes and into the streets. Live free, ride free, fuck the NYPD.

21 Sept - Running Down the Walls 2024: A Reportback

Running Down the Walls 2024 has come and gone. If you were unable to make it out, you can still support NYC ABC's campaign to help fund the Anarchist Black Cross Federations Warchest Program by donating at venmo.com/nycabc and for a full set of recaps, visit abcf.net/blog/running-down-the-walls-2024-recap Here in NYC we had a beautiful day to do it, the mid-September New York weather finally feeling like autumn instead of a desert summer.

MORE:

Both Prospect Park and the City itself seemed even busier than usual, with buskers, vendors and birthday parties nearby and marches and rallies elsewhere in town. In coordinating a multi-city run with organizers on both sides of the walls, we have to find a day that works for everyone involved as much as possible. As it turned out, not only did this year's run land on Jamel Floyd's birthday (September 15th), but it was also the 55th Annual African Day Parade. It also happened to be the day for at least three other political prisoner and/or anarcho-adjacent events in the five boroughs. So it was a busy weekend for many New Yorkers, including NYC ABC! Even still, a lively core of runners, bikers, walkers, and chillers assembled near the black RDTW banner to raise funds, awareness, and community solidarity for our political prisoners. It was wonderful to reconnect with longtime friends and comrades, and to welcome some new faces!

The goal of RDTW, this year as much as any, is of course to raise much-needed funds for the Anarchist Black Cross Federation Warchest Program. Also though, and always, any chance to share information about the political prisoners and POW's we support is heartily welcomed. Not to mention that events such as these are important in building and maintaining a community of solidarity in the here and now, rather than waiting for some dreamy future or idealizing pasts or present communities we are not a part of.

The namesake event itself kicked off a bit later than usual this year, as 'anarchy time' remains as reliable as ever. This year there were some pretty serious runners and bikers, as well as some casual perambulators happy to enjoy the fresh air at an unhurried pace. After the 'run', as is local anarchist tradition, organizers, participants and supporters shared an especially delicious home-cooked vegan meal, and spent a few more hours making new friends and catching up with cherished comrades.

22 Sept - Weaponizing the Legal System

A look at the case of the Florida 4, pro-choice activists in Florida recently sentenced for spray-painting slogans on an anti-abortion center.

MORE:

by Civil Liberties Defense Center (*It's Going Down*)

On March 10, 1993, outside Florida's Pensacola Women's Medical Services clinic, in the midst of an anti-abortion protest taking place in the parking lot, Dr. David Gunn exited his vehicle and was shot three times in the back by Ku Klux Klan member and anti-choice zealot Michael Griffin, who was shouting, "Don't kill any more babies!" This was the first documented murder of an abortion provider in the United States. This anti-abortion violence shook the country and ushered in a dangerous era of abortion providers and patients being terrorized by anti-choice extremists.

Since 1977, in the United States there have been 11 murders, 42 bombings, 200 arsons, 492 clinic invasions, 375 burglaries, and thousands of other criminal incidents directed at abortion providers, patients, and volunteers, at their workplaces and their homes. This wave of violent actions against reproductive

health service providers continued until Congress finally mobilized. The Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act, or FACE Act, was signed into law in 1994 by President Bill Clinton, to address the marked increase in traumatic violence that abortion doctors, clinicians, and patients had been experiencing since the late 1970's, which had reached a critical point by the early 1990's.

Prior to the passage of the FACE Act, anti-choice activists who physically blocked, openly harassed, and assaulted patients and workers entering reproductive health facilities avoided criminal prosecution based on misapplied First Amendment defenses. For the FACE Act to garner enough votes to pass in Congress, Republicans demanded that the definition of reproductive health facility be broadened to include religious-based "crisis pregnancy centers" or, as Planned Parenthood refers to them on its website, "fake clinics." As Planned Parenthood explains: "Most crisis pregnancy centers aren't legitimate medical clinics, so they don't have to follow HIPAA and keep your information private, like most real health providers do. These crisis pregnancy centers could even give your information to other anti-abortion organizations or use it to harass you. This could be especially concerning if you live in a state with anti-abortion laws."

Thirty years have elapsed since the signing of the FACE Act and we're now witnessing the first pro-choice activists to be prosecuted under an act designed to protect abortion doctors and patients. This week, Amber Smith-Stewart, Annarella Rivera, and Caleb Freestone faced sentencing in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. Amber Smith-Stewart and Annarella Rivera were both sentenced to 30 days in custody and 60 days of house arrest while Caleb Freestone was sentenced to 1 year and 1 day in Federal prison; each will have 3 years of probation; no fines were imposed. All three avoided becoming the first pro-choice activists convicted under the FACE Act, and instead pled guilty to felony conspiracy; they faced a maximum of 10 years in prison and a \$55,000.00 fine. Although they didn't receive the maximum time allowed in prison, they never should have been charged in federal court to begin with—and now they have to move forward in their lives with a federal felony conviction.

What did they do to warrant such serious charges? On May 28, 2022, after the U.S. Supreme Court's Dobbs decision was leaked to the public, and on June 26, 2022, two days after the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade by formally issuing Dobbs, Amber, Annarella, Caleb, and one other person went after-hours to two nondescript "fake clinic" buildings in Hollywood and Winter Haven, Florida, and tagged a wall of each one with spray paint. The graffiti read, "If abortions aren't safe then neither are you" and "Jane's Revenge." Two of the codefendants later tagged another building in Hialeah, Florida, on July 3, 2022. The political slogans the four people spray-painted on the outside of the buildings while no workers or patients were present were slogans Smith-Stewart had seen on signs and banners at the Women's March she had just attended in Washington, D.C. Firey rhetoric maybe; but not arson, murder, or even forcing patients to run a gauntlet of harassment and assault on their way to their appointment as so many pro-choice people have had to do.

Ms. Smith-Stewart and her co-defendants later expressed how frustrated, scared, and demoralized they were by the loss of bodily autonomy and reproductive choice they, like the majority of Americans, supported and thought was a guaranteed Constitutional right.

Months later, in early 2023, the four were arrested and charged in federal court for two counts of violating the FACE Act and one count of conspiracy. The charge of "graffiti" would normally be a local court misdemeanor resulting in community service hours and perhaps a small fine, but in this case it landed them in federal court facing felony charges that carry up to a 10-year prison term, casting them in starring roles in a political tug-of-war that emerged following the radically conservative Dobbs decision...and did we mention this was in Florida.

In an attempt to weaponize the laws that were meant to protect abortion providers and their patients, Florida Senator Marco Rubio penned two letters to U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland in May and June of 2022, falsely claiming that "Jane's Revenge" had relentlessly targeted the anti-choice/anti-abortion movement and must be prosecuted as terrorists. Rubio's desire to paint pro-choice activists as violent terrorists was likely an attempt to distract the public from an overwhelmingly unpopular partisan Supreme

Court decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, and an attempt to save political face after a minority political view hijacked a fifty-year precedent of public health and bodily autonomy. The political right and the religious organizations that spend wildly on their re-election campaigns have attempted to create a false moral equivalency between pro-choice activists who engaged in minor property damage and violent, in-your-face anti-choice activists who carried out a decades-long campaign of terror on doctors and patients.

At the sentencing on September 12, 2024, Amber Smith-Stewart's attorney, Lauren Regan, argued that any sentence other than probation and community service hours would result in unwarranted sentencing disparities—forbidden by the federal sentencing guidelines. She set forth dozens of FACE Act cases and sentences to use as comparators. There was not a single case that had facts as nonviolent and with as little property damage as this case. For instance, a case from 2021 involved an anti-abortion man who intentionally broke five security cameras and a window at a Planned Parenthood clinic while it was open for business. He came back three days later and threw a cement block through a window at the clinic and tore down the clinic's intercom system while the clinic was serving patients. The clinic was forced to close for over four months as a result of the damage. He was sentenced to two years of probation on each count and restitution in the amount of \$24,650.¹⁶

Even more troubling, a case in the Middle District of Florida (the same court we were in) involved another anti-choice man who firebombed a Ft. Meyer Planned Parenthood Clinic with Molotov cocktails—the second one thrown at the clinic set it on fire. Though charged with arson, possession of an incendiary device, criminal mischief and FACE Act, he was sentenced on the FACE Act count to 8 months in custody—four months less than Caleb Freestone for spray painting. Shockingly, Judge Hernandez Covington revealed her true bias when she stated that spray painting words on the outside of a building would be more threatening to the workers than showing up to find your reproductive health clinic was firebombed. Apparently militant graffiti in support of abortion rights is scarier to this Judge than a far-right extremist committing arson at a Planned Parenthood clinic.

Defendant Annarella Rivera said, "I've supported and raised two children by working in my chosen field of ob/gyn healthcare. When not working, I've spent countless hours escorting patients to and from clinical appointments for their safety and the safety of our workers. Simply put, women's health and ability to choose their own path is my passion and calling. I never thought that the act of spray-painting a fake healthcare provider would result in the FBI violently raiding my house or that I would become a pawn in the fight for a person's right to bodily autonomy — something an overwhelming majority of citizens in the United States believe in."

Amber Smith-Stewart, a 23-year-old artist at the time of her arrest, had no prior convictions. She expressed remorse that the spraypainted slogans on the side of so-called crisis pregnancy centers may have caused employees to feel unsafe. "In hindsight, I understand that the slogans we spray painted in 2022 could have been taken as a threat which was not our intent. The real threat here remains the assault by a vocal minority against a person's right to choose. This is where the real danger lies. The Dobbs decision puts lives at risk. People seek abortions for a multitude of reasons, and the decision to terminate or carry a pregnancy to term should never be made by power brokers in Washington, D.C. In my case, my own life would be at risk if I was subjected to a forced pregnancy."

Lauren Regan of the Civil Liberties Defense Center, stated, "It is deeply unjust that these social justice activists have been used as political pawns in the highly contentious national fight over abortion and access to reproductive health care —and under Joe Biden's Department of Justice."

The loss of bodily autonomy and reproductive choice has only been exacerbated by the dirty tactics and lies perpetrated upon the American public in an attempt to roll back 50 years of Supreme Court precedent. Justices Gorsuch and Kavanaugh both lied during their confirmation hearings to the public, as well as privately in the offices of Republican and pro-choice Senators Susan Collins and Lisa Murkowski. Collins, who voted to confirm Gorsuch and Kavanaugh, said on May 3, 2022 in response to the leaked Dobbs decision, "If this leaked draft opinion is the final decision and this reporting is accurate, it would be

completely inconsistent with what Justice Gorsuch and Justice Kavanaugh said in their hearings and in our meetings in my office.”

The fact remains that 63% of all Americans believe that abortion should be legal in all or most cases. This case is a clear signal that far right conservatives are blatantly abusing the legal system for political gains and have shed any perception of an unbiased judiciary. The fact also remains that when young people face a decade in federal prison for graffiti, regardless of the message, and one of them gets more time in prison than a firebombing arsonist, something behind the scenes is dangerously unjust.

22 Sept - Communique of Anarcho-Nihilist Vegan Straight Edge Prisoners

Chile: It's important that the words of incarcerated comrades abandon the exclusivity of Instagram.

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Dozens of communiques or words are lost in the immediacy of the excessive virtual “content creation” of social networks. It’s paradoxical that comrades who are processed, incarcerated and who have taken responsibility for actions that were already claimed through anarchist counterinformation pages can only be heard and seen on social media, to the detriment of anarchist projects resolved in their commitment to internationalist dialogues. Has a vacuum been created between action claims and the words of incarcerated comrades, and are these valued differently? Can it be that the former has a routine space in counterinformation projects, while the latter have a monopoly on Instagram? We invite you to break the walls of the social networks.

Communique of Anarcho-Nihilist Vegan Straight Edge Prisoners of the Susaron Case

“For those who fight with the enthusiasm that characterizes those who go against the current.”

Today in this cold season, still locked up in this small phosphorous box that aims to hide the beautiful immensity of the world, we continue to rise each morning to confront the symbolic and graphic cold morning shower of dawn in prison. Washing our bodies and teeth, with the conviction that this routinized morning dagger in the brain, cold like punishment, isn’t something that will be drawn out for all eternity.

Breathing deeply and pondering our love for our beliefs each morning, this is what allows us to stay alive and firm in this place which was constructed and conceived of to break people.

The majority of those reading this communique will know that we were arrested in the aftermath of the events at the plant of the bastard meat company susaron, in the quilicura neighborhood, Santiago, Chile. In September of the year 2022.

Events that culminated in all of their premises being lit on fire. Including: their entire fleet of trucks, 10 to be more precise, administrative offices, along with their documentation and safe. And the central refrigeration from which they supplied the other susaron meats locations in the capital, which contained 7 tons of cadavers. Giving it to the earth and the wind, a ritual of fire in honor of all of those lives annihilated in the name of human superiority and common bullying. Also, and no less important, causing several millions of dollars in damages for those miserable people; our open enemies.

We are coming up on the 2nd anniversary of our incarceration, exactly 22 months, during which power has identified us as its enemies (because we are), extending our process of investigation and pre-trial detention as much as possible.

In the beginning 4 of us were detained. And a few months ago, one of us, Itamar, managed to leave prison sentenced to 5 years of intensely surveilled freedom, as was already related in past communiques, leaving 3 of us in Santiago 1 prison.

The new information in this text is that a few weeks ago, our comrade Panda was sentenced to 4 and a half years of prison time based on a negative report which they usually and completely arbitrarily use to take away benefits and parole from Santiago 1 prison. The ruling was appealed by our lawyers but ratified by the fascist Chilean court of appeals. Over the following days, he was transferred to post-sentence prison Colina 1, being received there fraternally by anarchist comrades who have already been convicted.

Rucio and Tortuga are still waiting for a new date that clarifies their destiny, being constantly hampered by tedious bureaucratic paperwork of the carceral system that always aims to extend the stay in these human slaughterhouses for those who declare themselves enemies of the established order and all authority.

In light of this situation where the coming destinies of each of us is being slowly defined, more than ever we reaffirm our incalculable commitment to our cause, which is animal and total liberation. No freezing water, agonizing-claustrophobic afternoon, carceral violence, or emotional battering can take us away from our world. Can make us repent for our ideas and actions. Nor is there a day that we don't puff up our chests with pride seeing the repercussions that our decision to stop being spectators has created across the world.

Because each action that has been dedicated to us, each greeting charged with praxis, where people have carried out sabotage and liberated animals uncountable times, has given us the fuel necessary to continue with the same strength and pride with which we've confronted this tedious process from the beginning.

That said, we call on all the slogans "fire to the slaughterhouses", "death to speciesism" and "animal liberation", to be put into practice. As prisoners who are proud of our cause and ideas, this is all that we ask to confront this difficult cycle.

Because time falls through our fingers, and each minute that we rest in the relaxation of our pamphlets, millions of animals are tortured and killed. Thousands of hectares of natural habitat are consumed and assaulted, millions of lives (human and non-human) are cut short by the devastating machinery of capital, speciesism and authority.

We send a special and warm hug to all the comrades who have been there for us in the territory and abroad. Whether with letters, drawings, propaganda, organizing and attending fundraising events, claims and monetary contributions, all of which have been essential in the moment to deal with this process, to pay for lawyers, reports, commissary and food. All forms of solidarity that allow this process to move forward in the best way are always welcome and appreciated.

Enormous gratitude to you all, who have made this complex stage of our warrior lives bearable, with the multiform rebellious solidarity previously mentioned.

May direct actions multiply. Sabotages, propaganda and liberations. May words transform into deeds, and may these deeds speak for those who aren't able.

No day passes during which we don't miss freedom, but neither does a day pass in which we don't smile remembering the hot embrace of fire. Because we're prisoners but they'll never be able to subdue our vision and spirit.

23 Sept - NYPD Refusing to Punish Officers Who Commit Stop-and-Frisk Abuses

503-page report shows commissioners since 2013 have repeatedly shielded officers who violate constitutional rights

MORE:

The New York Police Department systematically refuses to discipline officers who conduct illegal stops and frisks, according to a new report. The endemic impunity starts with commissioners, who have repeatedly rejected recommendations to discipline officers confirmed to have committed abuses.

The 503-page court-ordered report is the most comprehensive review of discipline for such violations since 2013, when – after the Center for Constitutional Rights filed suit on behalf of Black and Latino New Yorkers — a court ruled that NYPD stop-and-frisk practices were unconstitutional and racially discriminatory. The court is accepting public comments on the report, with a deadline of December 25.

“The findings in this report of systemic failure to discipline officers for illegal stops and frisks show that even ten years after the landmark ruling in our cases, the NYPD is failing to address unconstitutional conduct by officers,” said Samah Sisay, staff attorney with the Center for Constitutional Rights. “New Yorkers, especially Black and Brown New Yorkers, continue to bear the burden of these failures. It is perfectly clear that there is a need for real transparency and accountability because the police should not be trusted to police themselves.”

According to the report, successive commissioners have reduced or dismissed discipline for officers found to have committed violations by the Civilian Complaint Review Board or a department tribunal. But many offending officers never even face disciplinary proceedings because commanding officers in precincts simply tolerate abuses, the report found.

“This report emphatically says the NYPD has failed to bring the NYPD into compliance with the Constitution, finding, inter alia, that the department fails to meaningfully discipline officers for bad stops and frisks,” said Jonathan C. Moore, of Beldock, Levine & Hoffman, co-counsel in the case. “This illegal conduct must come to an end. The plaintiffs in Floyd believe the only way to accomplish this is to remove the decision making on who is ultimately disciplined for bad stops and frisks from the commissioner and give it to an independent agency that will not perpetuate the history of the department turning a blind eye to the need to discipline officers for wrongdoing.”

24 Sept - Statement from Puget Sound Prisoner Support

Statement from Puget Sound Prisoner Support (PSPS) on recent repression of activists in the Pacific Northwest.

MORE:

Puget Sound Prisoner Support is a Seattle-based anarchist anti-repression collective which has been active in the Pacific Northwest since 2015. Our primary aim is to help radicals in the Seattle area resist repression from the police and courts while providing support for activists subjected to incarceration. We offer jail support trainings for affinity groups and protest organizers, help people find lawyers, offer guidance while navigating the legal system, and organize a monthly prisoner letter writing night in Seattle which has been running for almost 10 years. Additionally, PSPS also issues community warnings when State agents are seeking information about ongoing organizing in the Pacific Northwest.

In late August, we were contacted via email (psps@riseup.net) by an individual stating that the Puget Sound Joint Terrorism Task Force (an arm of the FBI) had attempted to contact them and another activist by leaving business cards at their residence, as well as the residences of both of their parents – one of which in another state. After meeting with this person, we learned several things that are of importance for the Pacific Northwest radical community.

In our conversation with this person, we learned that the other individual secured a lawyer and agreed to a meeting with an FBI agent. We were told that at this meeting the FBI agent asked about protests against Cop City Lacey as well as Palestine solidarity protests. The FBI agent also asked about different Telegram channels and Signal groups.

While it can be tempting to speculate on intentions and investigations, it is more important that we stick to information that we know. What we know is that the FBI is investigating protests against Cop City Lacey, as well as protests and political action in solidarity with Palestine and Atlanta. We also know that one individual sat down with their lawyer and the FBI.

As a community-facing anti-repression organization, we applaud the original individual's choice to alert us to FBI attempts to intimidate and squeeze information out of each other. State structures attempting to repress our movements succeed when we stay silent in the face of it. Unity and solidarity are our greatest strengths at successfully resisting their attempts to coerce and control our movements. This often looks like a wall of silence when FBI agents knock on doors seeking information, and refusing to meet with them. While it may feel intimidating, it is crucial to you and your comrades' safety that you not answer questions from Federal Agents or any other cops. It is perfectly legal to just shut the door when they come knocking. There is nothing to be gained and everything to lose by sharing information with agents.

Resistance to repression also looks like alerting the community at large so that our friends and comrades are not surprised when an FBI agent inevitably comes knocking. If you are contacted by the FBI or any other state or federal agency, we ask that you make that communication public. The actions of the state do not need to remain secret and we are all safer if they are communicated broadly.

Lastly, we want to make sure to state that you never have to meet with an FBI agent. We urge all radicals to refuse to speak with any FBI agent or law enforcement investigator, even in the company of your lawyer. If your lawyer is urging you to speak with an FBI agent and cooperate with their investigation, you can and should say no and consider finding another lawyer. Often, non-radical or non-movement lawyers do not understand the added importance of refusing to cooperate because their imperative is to keep you safe as their client and they are not always thinking about the safety of our broader community. Your lawyer works for you and if you do not want to throw your comrades under the bus you don't have to. You can contact us directly, or the local chapter of the National Lawyers Guild to find options for representation – not all lawyers are the same so please do your homework! The National Lawyers Guild maintains a federal defense hotline to contact if you are approached by a federal agency: massdef@nlg.org or 212.279.2811.

30 Sept - Jack Can Leave the House

On Monday September 23rd, Jack had a motions hearing for his case.

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At this hearing he was granted a curfew and can now leave the house from 7am-8pm! Despite not being convicted of any crime, Jack has spent the past 8 months in confinement in jail or at home. This will be a huge change for Jack and he is excited to be back out in the world with his friends and community while he continues to fight his case. A second motions hearing was scheduled for November 6th.

Jack's support crew is still asking for people to throw solidarity benefit shows on Halloween in order to raise money for his legal fees.

4 October- Black Panther Film Festival

WHAT: Film Festival

WHEN: Continues October 4th and 5th

WHERE: Maysles Cinema - 343 Malcolm X Boulevard, Harlem

COST: \$15, \$7 reduced price

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Featuring A Screening Of "Judas And The Black Messiah" Which Will Be Followed By A Special Q&A Session With A Veteran Member Of The Illinois Black Panther Party Who Survived The Chicago Police Shoot In.