



Best of the Anarchist Tubes

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

original publication and author given when available

Everything has bias.

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

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Support Ojore Lutalo

Long-time New Afrikan Anarchist Prisoner of War, Ojore Lutalo was set to max out after 26 years of imprisonment at New Jersey State Prison and had an exit interview and receiving a release date of December 25, 2008. Ojore is now being told his release date is October 23, 2009! They did two sets of calculations for his work credits/good time, going back to his earlier conviction in 1970's., which he was paroled from but violated in 1982. Bonnie Kerness said that Ojore was really optimistic about getting out this year given that he had the release date on paper and the exit interview but that he's a realist about the NJ DOC and how they operate. While his new release date is now October of 2009, he can continue to earn good time/work credits and get it down to an August 2009 release date.

Lutalo is locked down in prison for fighting for the people and for revolution. It's our revolutionary duty to ensure Ojore has all the support he needs when hits the streets! We must support him and we must continue the struggle for freedom for all of oppressed and disenfranchised people of color.

Philadelphia Autonomist/Anti-Authoritarian/Anarchist People of Color (APOC) are calling on all APOC and all oppressed and disenfranchised people of color who want to be free to show our love and support (and raise a little money) for our brother Ojore Lutalo this February 2009. We're calling for the month of February, traditionally known as "Black History Month," to be Black Liberation "Month". APOC and other like-minded radical people of color are encouraged to organize a month of political education, revolutionary events and benefits for Ojore Lutalo and Black Liberation in your hoods, communities and regions.

Event and benefit ideas can include but are not limited to: revolutionary poetry

and music shows; political movie screenings; black liberationist speakers; banner drops, stencils, wheatpasting, graffiti in solidarity with Ojore; community potlucks and discussions; and much more.

All funds, by check or money order, payable to TIM FASNACHT, can be sent to: Philadelphia ABCF/P.O. Box 42129/Philadelphia, PA 19101.

For more ideas on events and actions for Black Liberation Month and to support Ojore Lutalo email APOC-Philly [at] riseup.net

ALL POWER THROUGH THE PEOPLE
From: <http://abcf.net/prisoners/lutalo.htm>

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6023>

Secure, Anonymous, Anarchist Chat

Anarchist News has set up a secure, anonymous chat service for anarchists with scheduled events and lots of casual banter. Check it out!

Help and information available at <http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6167>

Oakland is Closed!

From *Counterpunch* - By George Ciccariello-Maher

Arrest and Containment Fail to Blunt Anger in the Streets

Writing in the context of the Algerian Revolution, Frantz Fanon was a merciless critic of the moderating efforts of self-appointed political leaders. When confronted with mass rebellion, such leaders will immediately use the threat of violence as a bargaining chip in negotiations with the oppressors, promising to pacify the masses if reforms are made. As Fanon describes it in *The Wretched of the Earth*,

Nonviolence is an attempt to settle the colonial problem around the negotiating

table before the irreparable is done... But the masses, without waiting for the chairs to be placed around the negotiating table, listen to their own voice and begin committing outrages and setting fire to buildings...

Of course, between colonial Algeria and postindustrial Oakland, there are undeniable differences. But while Fanon's context is not our own, the acuity of his understanding of revolutionary political dynamics is unparalleled, and two weeks on from the police murder of Oscar Grant III by transit police officer Johannes Mehserle, his words bear heeding if we are to avoid succumbing to the divide-and-conquer strategies of the oppressors.

"An Intentional Act"

The rebellion which shook the streets of Oakland a week ago has irreversibly changed the political equation surrounding the murder, as rebellions tend to do. The Midas touch of popular action leaves little intact. Several days ago, rumors swirled that California Attorney General Jerry Brown was leaning hard on Alameda County District Attorney Tom Orloff to conclude his investigation and charge Mehserle quickly in order to head off any potential disruption at a scheduled Wednesday rally. This pressure yielded quick results: Orloff issued a warrant for murder, claiming that "the evidence indicates is an unlawful killing done by an intentional act, and from the evidence we have there is nothing that would mitigate that." Moreover with the Grant family claiming that he and other officers used racial slurs the night of the execution, many will no doubt push for a hate crime enhancement. Mehserle was duly arrested, not in California, but across state lines in Nevada. While this was ostensibly for security in the face of death threats, state lines are more effective against police jurisdiction than death threats.

It would seem that all was well in Oakland, but it's worth asking how such pres-

sure came to bear on the Attorney General and D.A. in the first place. Protest organizers insist on avoiding this thorny question, for fear that they may be painted with the brush of violence, but only those in bad faith could realistically deny that it was the street-level resistance of a week ago that led the state to act. Could anyone actually argue with a straight face that Mehserle's arrest resulted from anything but the threat of continued rebellion on the streets?

"Listening to George Jackson"

But it is this most basic of truths that protest organizers from the newly-formed Coalition Against Police Executions (CAPE) have insistently ignored. After the events of last week, the ostensible organizers of the demonstration at Fruitvale BART were among the first to attack the anger expressed later that night. One organizer was brought to tears by the scenes on the television, claiming that his hard work had been "destroyed by a group of anarchists." There is a distinct irony here, as those who peddling the "outside agitators" line were almost without exception absent on Wednesday, admitting that they watched events unfold on television. The insistence that it was "anarchists" who led the youth astray that night has been thoroughly discredited by those actually present, including KPFA reporter and Prisoners of Conscience Committee (POCC) Minister of Information JR, who insists that: "I have seen many reports talking about white invaders taking over the rebellion, which is b.s." He adds:

I'm proud of Oakland people in general and youngstas specifically for standing up to the occupying army in our community: the police and the city officials that support the system that lets the police kill us wantonly. The rebellion was just the beginning of a longer political education class in Amerikkkan politics and how it fails to meet the needs of its Black and Brown low income dwellers.

Where did the "outside agitator" sound bite, with all its paternalistic and racist implications, come from in the first place? As one might suspect, it was the police who first deployed it, the media who followed, and the unwitting organizers who followed. At a "town hall meeting" led by black clergy and community leaders, CAPE organizers and other speakers were tacitly criticized for their criticism of the black youth who took to the streets to express a righteous fury, and for using the "anarchist" line to divide the movement. Representatives of both

Baptist churches and the Nation of Islam pointedly emphasized that anger at Grant's murder was justified, with Reverend Kane thunderously insisting that we shouldn't blame the youth in the streets for "listening to George Jackson" and "uncompromising revolutionaries" instead of the prophets of nonviolence.

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much more at <http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6038>

Greek police battle with rioters

From BBC

Hundreds of anarchist protesters in Greece have fought running battles with police through the centre of the capital, Athens.

The demonstrators were demanding the release of people arrested during rioting last month after a policeman shot dead a youth aged 15.

Rioters smashed shop windows and threw stones and petrol bombs, police say.

Officers responded with baton charges, tear gas and pepper spray and eventually dispersed the crowd.

Compared to the riots that swept Greece last month, Saturday's violence was on a relatively small scale but it showed that anger against the state and the police are still simmering, the BBC's Malcolm Brabant reports from Athens.

The street fighters and anarchists are trying hard to keep alive what they regard as December's insurrection and demonstrations covering a wide range of grievances are taking place on a daily basis, our correspondent says.

But the nature of the clashes may soon change, he adds.

The futility of firing tear gas at rioters who wear gas masks has dawned on the authorities and it is reported that Greece is taking delivery of water cannons, which should be ready for action within a fortnight, our correspondent reports.

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6178>

We Become Powerful in Shared Moments

From Social War Chicago

Anarchist insurrectionalists in the U.S. seem to have been keeping themselves busy recently. In the Bay Area, numerous

solidarity attacks took place in the wake of the Oscar Grant protests and riots.

In Milwaukee, even after two folks were arrested this weekend in connection with ongoing investigations into the RNC protests, a U.S. Bank was smashed up and tagged with an anarchist symbol.

In Olympia, an audacious bunch attacked a police station with torches and rocks, trashing at least one police car in addition. A fairly creative reportback offers motivations and a look into ostensibly the northwest anarchist scene, though the issues seem as though they would resonate beyond:

All of the ingredients are here. We have each other, we have our friends and the friends of friends. But we are usually consumed with our lives and the things which fulfill us. We know that insurrection would fulfill us, but that, of course, is something which will never happen here. Mobilizing those around us for a common purpose seems to be impossible. And when we actually get 25 or 39 or 76 people on the street, we are flooded with a cacophony of criticism for everything we should have done and did not do. Sometimes this criticism comes from friends. And when we ask why they were not there, they reply, "I did not want to be disappointed." With these friends, we continue to go to parties and shows.

It's interesting that although there are numerous references to the Coming Insurrection, authored by "The Invisible Committee," the conclusion of the reportback suggests invisibility as a drawback:

But our invisibility, so far, has made us irrelevant. In the United States, our invisibility is no different than other invisibilities: invisible murders, invisible poverty, invisible misery. We do not grow stronger with our invisibility. We rot with it. And no one outside our circles knows that we exist.

The Invisible Committee take an opposite stance, seeking power in invisibility:

Visibility must be avoided. But a force that gathers in the shadows can't escape it forever. Our appearance as a force has to be held back until the opportune moment. Because the later we become visible, the stronger we'll be. And once we've entered the realm of visibility, our days are numbered; either we'll be in a position to pulverize its reign quickly, or it will crush us without delay.

So, which is it? The Olympia authors equate invisibility with isolation -- for them, the invisibility of the U.S. anarchist scene is not a force gathering in shadows but an irrelevant subculture. Visibility is relevance, and relevance is reality: "we

need to convince our friends that we are real and that our desires and rage are real." Ergo, the degree to which one is "real" is the degree of visibility one has.

This points to a tension within forms of clandestine action. The nature of the action demands degrees of silence on the part of the participants, yet the ability of the form to spread is dependent upon the degree of attention and mediated coverage the act receives. The value of insurrectionary acts lie in the nature of the relationships formed and transformed, not the particular acts themselves. But it is the particulars and not the relationships that are the focus of attention in the aftermath of such an act.

The emphasis on visibility as a pathway toward insurrection is a recipe for spectacular actions escalating in militancy without gathering the social strength to defend themselves. The desire to be visible may distort the reality of irrelevance and lead to dangerous and foolhardy measures taken by a minority with delusions of grandeur. I don't mean to speak ill of actions like those in Olympia, only to caution against the mindset this communique seems to encourage with lines like, "Everything is cumulative, and one expression of anger fuels the next one." Anger is fuel, but it burns hot and dies fast.

Be safe.

P.S. Yes, we ARE Ninjas!

Nearing bar close Monday morning the 19th of January, as we walked a few wandering drunks asked us if we were ninjas. One of us quickly replied "Yes, We ARE ninjas" and then seconds later the group continued on forward and proceeded to smash both ATMs, smash at least 9 windows (some of them bullet proof), destroy one camera and spraypaint "This is war" on the drive up window facade of a US bank building in Milwaukee. The group then seemingly disappeared.

Our laundry list of solidarity is far too long. We recognize that what we are up against is not a series of mishaps, corrupt and evil corporations, the good gone bad, but a system of control, and to act in solidarity is to work toward the annihilation of this control through acts of willed connectedness (as well as the fracture of what separates us).

This broken bank is but one contribution toward the discourse we are building.

We would like to contribute that we start believing again in the myth that we are a force to be not to be reckoned with.

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6147>

Murders of Lawyer & Journalist are Political Killings

From *St. Petersburg Times* - By Sergey Chernov

More than 150 people gathered in central St. Petersburg on Tuesday to mourn lawyer Stanislav Markelov and journalist Anastasia Baburova, who were murdered in Moscow on Monday, and protest against political killings.

Markelov was known for taking on human rights cases and defending left-wing and anti-Nazi activists, while Baburova was also an anarchist and anti-Nazi activist, so a plan for mourners to gather by Bukvoyed book store on Ligovsky Prospekt was quickly hatched on leftist and activist e-mail and Internet forums late Monday, just hours after the two were murdered.

The site near the book store was chosen because anti-Nazi activist and musician Timur Kacharava was stabbed to death there by a group of neo-Nazis in 2005. Vigils are held there every Nov. 13 to commemorate the day Kacharava was killed.

From there, mourners planned to march to Marsovo Pole (the Field of Mars), the park where victims of the 1917 Russian revolutions and Civil War are buried, and hold a vigil near the eternal flame monument.

Although information about the event was distributed only via the Internet and word of mouth, dozens of mourners turned up, from young punks, anarchists and left-wing activists to older human rights activists and sympathizers.

By the announced time of 7 p.m. the police were already on the site, with several police vehicles parked next to Bukvoyed. Three young people were reportedly detained at an early point in the gathering.

People held flowers, candles and portraits of Markelov and Baburova at the site. But when the mourners tried to move toward Nevsky Prospekt, the city's main street, at 7:25 p.m. they were blocked by policemen. A policeman with a megaphone warned the mourners that they were blocking the movement of pedestrians on Ligovsky Prospekt and demanded that they leave the site "one by one" and go home.

Some protesters replied that it was the police themselves who were blocking the movement of pedestrians. The policemen formed lines on both sides of the gathering, ready to act.

However, after 15 minutes of negotiations, mourners were allowed by a police colonel in command to walk along the side streets to Marsovo Pole rather than along Nevsky. They were allowed to carry flowers, but not candles or portraits. An estimated 65 people walked, accompanied by four police vehicles, to Marsovo Pole, while some used city buses to get to the site. Some activists distributed leaflets as they walked.

The mourners arrived at the eternal flame at 8:20 p.m., where some 40 people were already present. The mourners stood silently around the flame, holding photographs, flowers and candles, until Vladimir Plotnikov of the left-wing group Rabocheye Deistviye (Workers' Action) made a speech describing the killings as "state terror" against left-wing activists.

According to Plotnikov, the killings were a continuation of the attacks on newspaper editor Mikhail Beketov and left-wing activist Carine Clement in Moscow and Ford Plant trade union leader Alexei Etmanov in St. Petersburg in November.

"We were saying, 'They will start killing us soon' then, but with a laugh, disbelieving - but now they really are killing us," he said, before declaring a minute's silence in remembrance of Markelov and Baburova.

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<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6176>

Eco-Anarchist Sabotage in Mexico City

During the week of Tuesday the 25th to Friday the 28th of November, the following sabotages took place:

- Half a dozen Molotov cocktails were thrown at installations of the tren férreo (metro rail) in Mexico City, causing damage to roads, electricity poles and walls of facilities.

- Incendiary sabotage against a 'control box of telephone lines,' property of Telmex; the box exploded and hundreds of lines were left unusable, 7 public telephones also owned by Telmex were sabotaged leaving them unusable, 1 public phone burned.

- In the early hours of the last day, a 'Banamex' bank was sabotaged, leaving the ATM unusable, thanks to the abolitionist fire of a Molotov.

We claim these actions as a protest against the construction of a new rail line (line 12), in Mexico City (D.F.) and Mexico

State; already because of its construction many trees were cut down, entire families evicted and land expropriated with large hectares of green areas subsequently deforested.

At the same time we claim these acts in 'solidarity' with the anarchist prisoners in France who were held after investigations into the sabotage of high-speed train lines. [mainstream media report]

Our slogan has changed, we do not like conformism, now we say: 'if they touch one... all respond.'

Revolutionary solidarity is manifested in the streets, attacking in a direct way those responsible for the imprisonment of our comrades, for the destruction of the planet and of the killing of animals.

Revolutionary solidarity is manifested in the form of rage and action.

How beautiful it is to see revenge of the exploited and the oppressors squeezed!

How beautiful is the fire that frees!

How beautiful is the abolitionist fire of the anti-authoritarians!

No to metro line 12!

Stop the deforestation and the displacement of entire families!

For every eviction or abuse of power... fire in the streets!

We claim these actions as:

Eco-anarchist cell for direct attack....

Mexico... November 28, 2008

We are not the vanguard... it is only strategy!"

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/5957>

Spy Unmasked

From *Digital Journal* by Carol Forsloff

It's one thing to work for a charitable organization at the grassroots level. It's another to spy on it. At least that's what folks of Common Ground, now think.

This is the organization that was formed after Hurricane Katrina that helped get water and supplies out to victims. Brandon Darby was one of the co-founders, and it has been recently learned that he has been spying on the organization for the FBI since 2007. Some people believe he began his association with the FBI as an informer at the same time he became involved with Common Ground as its co-director.

Members of Common Ground are said to be angry and hurt after finding out that

Darby has been an informant. He was reported to have arrived in New Orleans as an anarchist, proclaiming he had once advocated the overthrow of the U.S. government. Now he is involved in working for that same government. Darby admits to working for the FBI, but when he started is still a mystery.

Darby had an on and off again with his relationships with Common Ground, a group he had helped to establish. Originally he had gone to New Orleans from Austin as a community organizer to help found the organization Common Ground, then returned to Austin in 2006 when he had a falling out with some of Common Ground's members. He returned to Common Ground in 2006 as its interim director, a tenure that was said not to last long. Lisa Fithian, who was an early organizer in the Common Ground organization, describes Darby as divisive, someone who got people fighting with each other, who verbally abused women, carried guns and got rid of anyone who disagreed with him. It was then the organization began to splinter and disintegrate.

According to reports, Darby has vacillated on the story regarding whether he was approached by the FBI in late 2007 or he approached them. He said at one time that he had been asked by the FBI in late 2007 to infiltrate a group of Austin activists that were said to be planning a disruption of the Republican National Convention in Minneapolis in 2008. Darby gave information about Bradley Crowder and David McKay, both of whom were arrested and charged with planning to firebomb a parking lot. Later Darby told *The Gambit* that the FBI had approached him and stated that, "The investigation wasn't into a threat of violence." He had earlier said that he had contacted the FBI because activists were planning violence.

These days people involved in Common Ground and other activists are upset enough that a website has been created to discuss issues related to Darby and his activities as an informant. Folks are upset because he had declared himself an anarchist but instead was working as an FBI spy.

Darby was quoted by the *New York Times* regarding his decision to become an FBI informer, as saying, "I strongly stand behind my choices in this matter."

<http://brandondarby.com/>

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6212>

The War Against Preterrorism: The 'Tarnac Nine'

Interactivist Info Exchange - by Alberto Toscano

Support the Tarnac 9

I. The Case*

On 11 November 2008, twenty French youths are arrested simultaneously in Paris, Rouen, and in the small village of Tarnac (located in the district of Corrèze, in France's relatively impoverished Massif Central region). The Tarnac operation involves helicopters, one hundred and fifty balaclava-clad anti-terrorist policemen and studiously prearranged media coverage. The youths are accused of having participated in a number of sabotage attacks against the high-speed TGV train routes, involving the obstruction of the train's power cables with horseshoe-shaped iron bars, causing material damage and a series of delays affecting some 160 trains. Eleven of the suspects are promptly freed. Those who remain in custody are soon termed the 'Tarnac Nine', after the village where a number of them had purchased a small farmhouse, reorganised the local grocery store as a cooperative, and taken up a number of civic activities from the running of a film club to the delivery of food to the elderly. In their parents' words, 'they planted carrots without bosses or leaders. They think that life, intelligence and decisions are more joyous when they are collective'.

Almost immediately, the Minister of the Interior, Michèle Alliot-Marie, brushing aside Republican legal niceties, intervenes to strongly underline the presumption of guilt and to classify the whole affair under the rubric of terrorism, linking it to the supposed rise of an insurrectionist 'ultra-left' (ultra-gauche), or 'anarcho-autonomist tendency' (mouvance anarcho-autonome), filling in the vacuum left by the collapse of the institutional Left (the PCF). Invoking anti-terrorist legislation, the nine are interrogated and detained for 96 hours; four are subsequently released. The official accusation is that of 'association of wrongdoers in relation to a terrorist undertaking', a charge that can carry up to 20 years in jail; what's more, the accused might be detained for as long as two years before their case goes to trial. On December 2, three more of the Tarnac Nine are released under judiciary control, leaving two in jail, at the time of writing (early January 2009): Julien Coupat and Yldune Lévy.

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much more at <http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/6030>