

Tips for urban guerillas-page 3

# Open Road

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## THE OMORI CASE:

## Paris bombings spark media blitz

PARIS — An anarchist group bombed two Japan-related businesses here on April 22 to increase public pressure on the Japanese government to release political prisoner Katsuhisha Omori.

Damage to a Sony factory and a showroom of Japanese cars was severe, but no serious injuries were reported.

The attacks followed appeals from Omori support groups in Japan for international protest against the persecution of Omori, who is currently on death row at the Sapporo Detention Centre.

The Omori case became

known to millions of Japanese as a result of the national media coverage that ensued, according to the Osaka-based Omori Support Group, publishers of the Free Omori Newsletter.

'Omori has been filled with new courage to carry on his struggle in prison against a politically motivated death sentence,' the group announced in the May 1984 edition of the newsletter.

Omori, now in his eighth year of solitary confinement, was sentenced to death in March 1983 for the 1976 bombing of a government

office on the island of Hokkaido. While Omori said he supported the action against the office, a symbol of Japan's colonial rule over the island's native Ainu inhabitants, he denied complicity in the bombing.

He was convicted despite an extremely weak case for the prosecution - no witnesses, no confession, no evidence - on the argument that ordinary sugar and batteries found in his home were actually bomb components.

After the Paris bombings, an anarchist group claiming responsibility told the French

news service AFP that more bombings would follow unless Omori was freed.

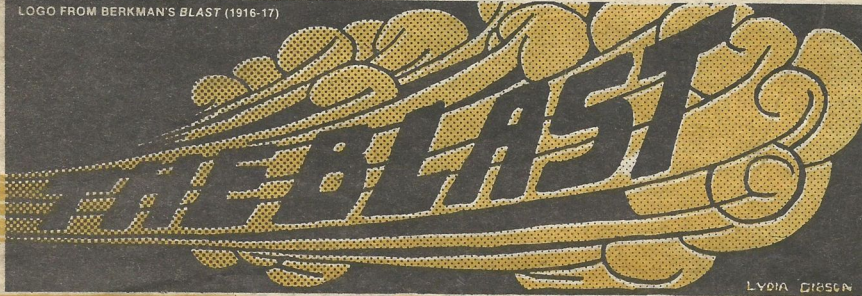
In Japan, the Paris bombings were front page news and shown repeatedly on television. 'As a result, millions now watch the development of 'The Omori Case', the Free Omori newsletter reported.

Meanwhile, the case has advanced to the Higher Court and a verdict is expected to take a year. A reversal of the earlier conviction is considered unlikely, however, due to the highly political nature of the first trial.

The four domestic support groups, based in Osaka, Tokyo, Kyoto and Sapporo are also experiencing repression on their own part, including illegal arrests and police harassment aimed at stopping the Free Omori movement and isolating it from the majority of Japanese people.

Letters of support to Omori should be sent to:  
Mori No Kai (Omori Support Group)  
2-12-2 asahimachi, abeno-ku  
Osaka, Japan.

LOGO FROM BERKMAN'S BLAST (1916-17)



## ANTI-NUKE PROTESTOR:

## Graffitiist jailed, exiled

WHILE SOME ARTISTS GET recognition, other, like New Jersey anti-nuke graffitiist Felton Davis can get arrested, jailed and exiled.

It all started five years to the hour after the disastrous near meltdown at Three Mile Island. Davis spray-painted the head office of General Public Utilities in Parsippany, N.J. with four commemorative slogans: 'No Nukes', 'Keep TMI Shut Down', 'No More Nuclear Victims', and 'Listen to the Wind'. He was arrested, charged with mischief and held in county jail in lieu of \$2000 bail.

His self-defense of justification (he was acting to prevent widespread injury or damage) was rejected by the judge, who found him guilty.

When the judge learned that Davis had no money, no sizeable possessions and no address, he ordered him exiled from the state of New Jersey 'until the laws changed, or General Public Utilities changes, or you change'.

Without specifying how or when Davis was supposed to get out of the state the judge said that Davis would be jailed for six months and fined \$500 if he didn't leave.

Released from jail, Davis returned an hour later to the scene of his original artwork, long since removed. Security personnel at the building recognized him, and once again he was arrested and back in custody at the police station, charged with trespassing.

This time a plainclothes cop drove him to Newark and

dropped him off at the train station with \$15 train fare saying he sympathized with people protesting at TMI, 'but all the same, we gotta get you out of the state'.

Davis told the cop he lived most of his life in N.J. and wouldn't accept exile.

That night, Davis visited the Morristown headquarters of Jersey Central Power and Light, a GPU subsidiary. 'I put the same messages onto the building and sidewalks and after waiting at least an hour, the police arrived and I was arrested again.' He was charged with felony mischief

and jailed. If convicted, he faces two and one-half years.

Says Davis: 'I'll be tried soon, or they may just take me over to Pennsylvania and dump me in the river'.

Davis could use letters of support. Write Judge Robert Muir, Superior Court, Morristown, N.J. 07960. Write Davis himself c/o Morris County Jail, Morristown, N.J. 07960, USA.

Info for this article from *The Nuclear Resister*, NNNPSC, Box 37, Tempe, AZ, 85281, USA. Subs: \$13 Canada; \$20 overseas; \$10 USA.

## Supercops get green light for dirty tricks

MEMBERS OF THE international anarchist-terrorist conspiracy beware: Canada's new secret police are standing on guard and ready to flex their anti-subversive muscle.

With more legal power than the FBI could ever dream of, the newly formed Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) marks Canada's contribution to the new world order of beefed up internal security police.

The CSIS was created recently through a law that the Liberal government rammed through the Canadian parliament which gives them sweeping powers of investigation and surveillance. Previously illegal activities of the old RCMP Security Service have been made legal.

On the basis of suspicion or

speculation alone, the CSIS can target any group or individual considered 'threats to the security of Canada', and can legally open mail, tap phones, break into homes and places of work and remove anything, examine income tax information, employment records, bank accounts, etc., all in the

interest of 'national security'. No safety deposit box in Canada will be safe from these new guardians of liberty.

- From the record of the old Security Service, it's obvious that the main targets for CSIS surveillance, harassment and intimidation will include: peace activists, trade

unionists, womens groups and academics already among the 800,000 Canadians entered into existing RCMP security files.

More info on anti-CSIS activity from: Vancouver Coalition Against the CSIS, PO Box 1718, Station A, Vancouver, BC, V6C 1P7.

## Parents burgle play-school

WHEN YOUR CHILDREN'S health is endangered because the authorities refuse to act, it's obviously time for direct action.

At least that's what prompted a group of Danish parents to break into their children's kindergarten on the weekend when the building was closed and remove dangerous asbestos tiles from the ceiling.

For months previously, the parents from several kindergartens had unsuccessfully complained about the problem tiles to the local city council of Arhus, which runs the kindergarten. They had organized demonstrations and petitions, and even boycotted paying kindergarten fees, all to no avail. The authorities ignored their protest and said the

replacement costs of the dangerous ceiling were prohibitive. Only after the weekend break-in by the parents did the council finally act: they shut down the kindergarten and reported the parents to the police.

Info for this story from *Ekomedia Bulletin*, Ekomedia Arhus, c/o Regnbuen Mejlgade 48, DK-8000, Arhus, C, Denmark.



CSIS PROTESTORS: Street theatre has become most popular medium of protest for Vancouver coalition opposed to political police.

ENGLAND; 450 ARRESTED:

# Anarchy day clogs money market

WHAT'S MORE FUN THAN a traditional single issue protest march? The newest anarchist alternative from London: 'Stop the City', a full day of leaderless, unrestricted, decentralized actions concentrated in the financial centre of the old city.

Some 3000 people participated in the most recent Stop the City in a general protest against the profit system. Four hundred and fifty were arrested, but not before they succeeded in disrupting the physical circulation of millions of English pounds for the day. They also pulled off more

creative actions in a 10 hour stretch than most hardcore activists would ever see in a year elsewhere. The tactics included:

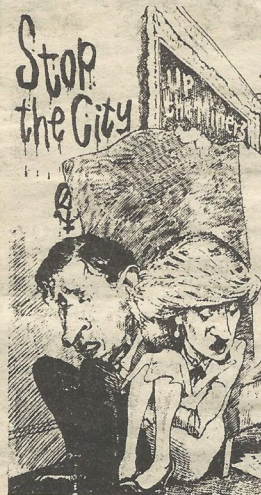
- a group of 30 cyclists did a very slow tour of the streets to stop traffic;
- people entered banks to open and close accounts;
- women demonstrated outside banks to protest unpaid domestic exploitation;
- Animal Liberation Front disrupted the meat market;
- scores of women raided a pharmacy and threw tampons into the street to pro-

test their 'luxury item' tax status;

- some 200 people formed a human barricade across London Bridge;
- 'nuns' and 'stockbrokers' leafletted city workers, locks were glued up throughout the day, hundreds of cars were immobilized in parking lots, graffiti appeared;
- everywhere military statues were decorated; jugglers, singers and puppeteers threaded their way around
- die-ins, performing in front of blockaded streets and around the innumerable picket lines (anti-apartheid, anti-military, etc).

Participants were encouraged to create the kind of day they wanted, to protest about the issues they felt most strongly about and to do it the way they wanted.

Those unable to attend the front lines contributed to the phone blockade by blocking



phone lines from home or work. The constant motion of people in the streets (some just walking back and forth en masse to slow down traffic) made it difficult for the police

to stop the actions.

Months of planning had gone into the events, but spontaneity still seemed to be the password for the day according to one account in the anarchist *Freedom Press*;

'For some, this was the first experience of a self-organized protest and so they were unsure of what to do; the need to come prepared, take initiative, talk to others, etc. Loads of people wanted to join in and kept asking, 'what's happening?', 'where's the action?'

## LATE FLASH!

Several hundred anarchists chanting "Stop The City" blocked rush hour traffic through London's financial district September 27.

According to wire service dispatches, police arrested 79 demonstrators for obstruction, including a dozen cyclists who tried to block traffic near St. Paul's Cathedral.



DURING RECENT FRENCH STEELWORKERS STRIKE, more than 100 Lorraine steelworkers organized actions outside the established trade unions to show disgust for inaction of central unions.

Actions included blocking trains [see photo], occupying government offices [they stamped hundreds of letters during a post office occupation], disrupting courts, and 'kidnapping' portraits of French Prime Minister Francois Mitterand from town halls.

## DENMARK:

# 'Blot' protest creates chaos

LAST YEAR THE 'BLACK Blot' took over Copenhagen for two weeks. This year, the 'Colored Blot' repeated that success, and resulted in 362 arrests—the greatest mass arrest in the history of Denmark since WWII.

Organized by Copenhagen's 'Youth House', the 'Black Blot' was a united front of Danish 'sub-organizations' who staged two weeks of 'political trouble-making'. This year, the same people changed this 'full power action blot' into a cultural carnival, starting off with a big 'anti-cultural-imperialism' demo, and a 'do-it-yourself-culture-day'.

The action was followed by a 'traffic day'; a 'making the town pretty day'; 'anti-poverty day'; 'ecology day'; 'perverted day'; 'chaos day'; and

'anti-war day'.

The mass arrests took place on the first day of the protest, when 1500 people marched to the museum of Denmark's Resistance Movement (1940-45), where they sang a revised version of the national anthem, and lay a memorial wreath in memory of those killed fighting in the resistance. The inscription on the wreath read: 'You did what you could', as a token of

respect for the resistance movements, but according to participants, 'at the same time there was a feeling of deep disappointment with the way Danish society developed after the liberation'. After this demonstration, the police moved in to attack and arrest people, many of whom were squatters from the large Danish squatting movement.

Info for this story from *Eko-media Bulletin #1*.

## NICARAGUA: CIA anarchy comix

HEY KIDS! SEEN THE latest in underground comics? It's the colorful 16 page *Freedom Fighter's Manual*, complete with 38 proven ways to smash the State.

For a start, try reporting late for work and then sloughing off when you arrive, leaving lights and water on, clogging toilets, spreading rumors, damaging books and office equipment, and pouring sand into engines.

Off the job, make false hotel and plane reservations, set fires, call in false alarms, cut telephone lines, smash windows, slash tires, and paint anti-government slogans.

Soon you'll discover that the 'essential economic infrastructure that any government needs to function can be easily disabled without the use of armaments or costly equipment and with a small investment of resources and time'.

Want a copy for your very own? Better hurry, Uncle Sam is trying to give them all away to peasants in Nicaragua. Order direct from the publishers: the Central Intelligence Agency, and be the first kid on your block to start an insurrection.

## RE-HABILITATION?

# Prisoners build missiles

THE CANADIAN MILITARY-industrial complex is expanding behind prison walls. Inmates at Bowden Institution in Alberta are adapting American drone rockets for use by the Canadian armed forces in the prison's industrial shop.

As one inmate said, "prison

is the perfect place to locate a sensitive industry such as military production—behind guard towers, concertina wire and far from the prying eyes of the public."

Just in case prisoners think of their own uses for the missiles, no explosive components are handled.

## ON THE ROAD:

AFTER A LONG SUMMER of spectacles (the Pope, the Olympics, Missed Americas, here we are with another: *Open Road #17*).

Special inserts are not new to *Open Road*; we carried an anti-prison special, *The Kite*, in *OR#10*. This time we're introducing our readers to another Vancouver publication: *Resistance*. Reasons for this range from the purely financial (we both save on printing and mailing) to editorial (*Resistance* features the important courtroom statements of the Vancouver Five); we also believe *Resistance* deserves a wider audience. Let us know what you think about including *Resistance* with *Open Road* in future issues.

Across the page you'll see an open letter from Doug Stewart, one of the imprisoned Vancouver Five. His letter contains valuable insights from someone who's given up a big chunk of his life in trying to figure out the best way to bring about social change.

Meanwhile, we're hoping to stay on our new quarterly publishing schedule, but need help in a few crucial areas. Like more people to distribute the *OR* on a bulk basis in their neighborhood or city, ie

Address all requests, correspondence, and contributions to:  
The Open Road  
Box 6135, Station G  
Vancouver, B.C. V6R 4G5  
Canada

getting your friendly local bookmonger to stock it. We're also offering special cheapo rates for bulk quantities of our back issues (except #1, 4 and 5) to give away at demos, meetings and picnics. Write for details.

HOUSE YOURSELF? THE *Open Road* is planning a special feature on anarchist or direct action approaches to housing. We're looking for information and material on squatting, militant tenant activity, rent strikes, occupations, how to resist rent increases or evictions, forming housing coops, etc. Send us your stories, pamphlets, posters, clippings, photos, books, resource material, or whatever right now.

# A cruel and heavy toll

**SIX YEARS, 10 YEARS, 20, 22 AND A LIFE SENTENCE.** It's an extraordinary heavy and cruel toll, but that's what has been imposed on the five Canadian anti-authoritarian activists, variously known as Direct Action, the Wimmin's Fire Brigade, and the Vancouver Five who conducted a highly visible series of guerilla actions across Canada in 1982.

After more than a year of harrowing and frustrating legal runarounds that had all the earmarks of a legal lynching, the courtroom spectacle ground to an abrupt halt in June with a final round of guilty pleas, an uplifting bit of courtroom theatrics and an ultimate onslaught of judicial and media vandalism against all standards of truth and fair play.

The Five had been arrested near Vancouver on Canada's west coast in January 1982, and, in what soon shaped us as Canada's biggest guerilla case since the days of the Front de Liberation du Quebec more than a decade previously, were charged with a host of clandestine attacks on industries that represented some of the most notorious war criminals, environmental despoilers, and exploiters of women and children

## Branded criminals

There were three bombing operations, all conducted in support of massive public campaigns of protest: against the Litton Systems plant near Toronto, where parts for the Cruise missile are made; against the environmentally destructive Cheekye-Dunsmuir power project of British Columbia on Vancouver Island; and against retail stores of Red Hot video in Vancouver, where videotapes glorifying rape and other forms of savagery toward women and children are sold.

As well, the Five were charged with conspiring to hold up a Brinks armored car to finance their operations (the hold-up never took place), and a variety of other weapons offences.

After some charges were dropped or juggled as part of various deals, here are the outcomes:

- Julie Belmas, now 21, received 20 years after pleading guilty to Litton, Red Hot Video and the Brinks conspiracy.
- Gerry Hannah, 27, got 10 years after pleading guilty to Brinks and Red Hot.

- Ann Hansen, 30, convicted on Brinks, and pleaded guilty to Red Hot, Litton and Cheekye-Dunsmuir. She got life.
- Doug Stewart, 27, got six years for Cheekye. He was found innocent on Brinks.
- Brent Taylor, 27, sentenced to a total of 20 years on conviction of Brinks and a number of weapons offences. He still faces a Litton trial in Toronto, possibly this winter.

*'You are a menace, a real threat to our Canadian way of life - BC Supreme Court Judge Martin Toy, To Ann Hansen.*

*I AM NOT A TERRORIST. I AM A PERSON WHO FEELS A MORAL OBLIGATION TO DO ALL THAT IS HUMANLY POSSIBLE TO PREVENT THE DESTRUCTION OF THE EARTH' - Ann Hansen, to Judge Toy.*

The authorities wanted to have it both ways in the trials of the Five. And for the most part, they succeeded. On the one hand, they wanted to brand the defendants as 'criminals' in order to dry up any political sympathy or support. But they also wanted to whip up a public frenzy over 'terrorism' and 'anarchism' in order to be able to impose sentences that were clearly politically motivated in their severity.

It was a well-orchestrated campaign: leaks to the news media guaranteed headlines about the terrorist-anarchist 'threat'; the trial venue was moved to a distant part of the Vancouver region to discourage public attendance; the civil liberties nicety of a preliminary hearing to weigh the evidence was dispensed with; and all the 'political' charges were put on hold while the Crown (prosecution) got to play with the 'criminal' Brinks charge first.

Combine that with the fact that the Five were refused bail, so they could



SUPPORTERS RALLIED on courthouse steps during Ann's sentencing to counter obnoxious media coverage.

not even participate effectively in their own defense; plus the use of a massive amount of wiretaps and room bugs illegally obtained; and it soon became clear that the entire process was a hoax.

Friends and supporters of the Five, and community groups, especially feminist groups, fought as best they could against the tide to bring some public awareness to the issues at stake in the case. Not just the police-state methods used in the surveillance of the Five and in their judicial railroading, but also the issues raised by the very existence of institutions like Litton, Cheekye-Dunsmuir and Red Hot Video.

## Media ignored issues

The mainstream media ignored these issues; never once did they report that these guerilla actions were integrated into massive public campaigns of resistance, or, in fact, that they occurred after widespread legal and non-violent protests had been totally rebuffed by the authorities. Instead, the media chose to represent the Five's actions as if they originated

out of the blue, when, in fact, each one of the Five was a long-established and well-respected member of the vigorous anti-authoritarian milieu on Canada's West Coast, and had been involved in all sorts of environmental, feminist and cultural movements.

In the courtroom, the story was much the same. With the Brinks robbery conspiracy charge on first, it was very difficult to mount a 'political' defense. The Crown emphasized the portions of the wiretaps which indicated the defendants were prepared to defend themselves with force if their robbery plan went awry. That was a tiny portion of the taps, but it got the most attention. Totally ignored was the overwhelming majority which showed what great care the Five took in planning to avoid anybody - and that means anybody - getting hurt.

With the aid of some skillful legal argument, and a massive amount of research on media bias, the Five were able to force the judge to grant them more leeway in questioning potential jurors in the first trial. But as the days

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## 'SIMPLER IS BETTER'

# Lessons from Direct Action

Hello. I am Doug Stewart, a member of Direct Action, and am presently serving a lengthy prison sentence for a bomb attack on a B.C. Hydro substation. I've spent the last year in jail reflecting on the actions of the previous years, and I have some ideas and advice for anyone who is considering undertaking similar activity. I want to emphasize that I'm not attempting a complete analysis of these kinds of actions—I am offering a few particular points that I think might fruitfully be discussed and thought through.

Any political action involving ex-

plisives is guaranteed to draw intense heat. Because of this, if more than one action at this level is contemplated, it becomes almost essential to be underground with only the most necessary and infrequent contact with anyone who isn't. One consequence of this is that the group has to be emotionally self-sufficient, something that demands the closest

attention. Also, the group will be politically isolated; it is important to make conscious efforts to continue political growth, and to keep in touch with what the Left as a whole is up to.

## "Guns not worth it"

I'm a great believer in the principle of "simpler is better." In my opinion, much of the paraphernalia normally acquired by underground guerrilla groups can be dispensed with. One example is guns, which on the whole I think are not worth the time, money and energy it takes to get them, maintain them, and become proficient in their use. The only exception I might make is of a single handgun for armed robberies, although alternative methods of raising money are well worth considering. Also falling into

the category of more trouble than they're worth are fake identification, fraudulently registered vehicles, sophisticated communications equipment, and large libraries. Discarding non-essential equipment saves a lot of money (which equals risk), reduces the preparation time before your first action, and generally frees up time and energy for political work. On the other hand, stolen I.D. can be handy, and the mechanical skills of car theft and basic burglary are well worth acquiring.

*continued on page 4*

# Vancouver Five sentenced

from page 3

in court dragged on, it became all too obvious which way the spectacle was heading. A critical blow was when the wiretap evidence was allowed to be introduced, despite some very questionable activities on the part of the Mounties' Security Service. Every time the defense attempted to question the security snoops on any essential point, the judge ruled the question out of order on the grounds of 'National Security'.

Midway through the trial, Julie and Gerry decided to plead guilty; the prospects of returning to court every day for another dose of bad news was just too depressing, and the urge to actually start working through a definite sentence, rather than wasting more 'dead time', took precedence.

Ann and Brent were convicted of the Brinks' conspiracy. Doug, who did not live with the other four during the time of heavy surveillance, was acquitted for lack of evidence.

Then came Julie's sentencing and that was the turning point for all the defendants. Julie's lawyer presented an argument based on her relative youthfulness and the fact that she expressed repentance for the seven injuries caused inadvertently in the Litton blast. But the judge brushed it all aside in slamming her with 20 years.

The harshness of Julie's sentence convinced the others, says Ann, that they had been wasting their time trying to play the legal game.

Ann said later that after her arrest she was intimidated by the courts and prison, and hoped to be acquitted or get less time by going along with the rules. But now she knew better: 'In order to be honest to my political principles, I should have refused to collaborate in the legal sham and simply stated my political reasons for doing what I did.'

## The real terrorists

By pleading guilty to the remaining charges, she reserved for herself the right to use the courtroom as a forum to raise the issues that had been ignored up to that point. In a moving series of courtroom presentations by a series of 'expert' witnesses, the history of struggle at Litton, Cheekye-Dunsmuir and Red Hot Video was fully explained. One witness looked right at the judge and asked him what he would have done if a defendant was brought before him charged with blowing up railroad tracks leading to the Auschwitz death camp during the Second World War. The judge kept his nose in his notebook and never bothered to answer.

Ann took up these themes in her final statement, concluding with the comment: 'Businesses such as Litton, BC Hydro and Red Hot Video are the real terrorists. They are guilty of crimes against humanity and the earth, yet they are free to carry on their illegal activities while those who resist and those who are their victims remain in prison. How do we, who have no armies, weapons, power or money, stop these criminals before they destroy the earth? I believe if there is any hope for the future, it lies in our struggle.'

As expected, Ann was given life. At her sentencing, she got one more opportunity to express herself, and she did that by picking up a tomato she had smuggled into the courtroom and heaving it in the direction of the judge. It splattered on the curtain above his head, and he ducked out of the courtroom before he was called on to witness any further disruption of the court's decorum.



AFTER ANN WAS SENTENCED, supporters stood arm in arm outside courthouse, many walling to mourn the miscarriage of justice that saw Ann receive life and 12 year terms on the Brinks and Litton charges, respectively.

Later, Brent and Doug also made prepared final statements following their guilty pleas. All the statements have been published in the current edition of *Resistance*, which is inserted in this issue of *Open Road* (or send a donation to Box 790, Station A, Vancouver, BC, Canada).

The case of the Five has naturally had an unsettling effect on all their friends and co-workers, as well as on the wider movement. Questions of

appropriate tactics and styles of organization have been examined with new intensity; the issue of armed struggle is no longer just an abstract debating point.

But what tangible results derived from the actions? It's obvious that at least one goal was achieved in all of the actions: to focus national, and even international attention on the targeted evils. But beyond that, it's

necessary to examine each action in its specific context within the mass movement to make an assessment.

- In the case of Red Hot Video, there was a well-organized and militant aboveground campaign already at work in the Vancouver area in opposition to the merchandising of violence against women. When the Wimmin's Fire Brigade struck, the aboveground movement was ready with an educational campaign to explain, if not quite to endorse, the action. Two porn stores promptly shut down in fear of similar retribution, and the authorities attempted to head off the growing movement by charging several others with obscenity. Since then, however, the porn business in BC has resumed its growth pattern.

- The bombing of Cheekye-Dunsmuir had no identifiable effect, mainly because the aboveground campaign had already admitted defeat. Maybe there would have been more bombings, but in the absence of a robust mass movement, their effect would have been uncertain.

- At Litton, there had been a mass struggle of sit-ins and other forms of civil disobedience; these escalated after the bombing. The result has been that Litton has lost its Cruise contract, and Litton officials blame both the bombing, the only sabotage

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## 'Easier to do than bombings'

from page 3

On a technical level, it is important to destroy all evidence of each action. This includes material that is directly linked to the action, and also as much circumstantial or suggestive evidence as possible. It's better to have to duplicate some work, or spend some extra money, than it is to carry around a lot of incriminating documents, tools, clothes, files, materials, etc.

A related point is that if the cops get onto you, one thing they will definitely do is follow you around. It is important not so much to engage in counter-surveillance techniques under the assumption that you may be followed, but rather to use techniques that allow you to detect surveillance when it starts. If you determine that you are being followed, don't freak out, but do destroy all evidence, even if only vaguely incriminating. This is another advantage of having little gear - you can dump what you do have and split, quickly and easily and without great loss.

### Medium level actions

The key recommendation I would make is that before undertaking a course of high-level activity, that is, bombings, a group would do well to consider the possibility of medium level activity, that is, arson and serious mechanical sabotage. The following points compare the two alternatives.

One obvious advantage of medium level actions is that they are easier to do than bombings. Technically, they are much simpler, although any action requires thoughtful and careful preparation. It is not as necessary to be underground, which potentially eliminates a great deal of work and

complexity, and allows a group to come together easily and quickly around a particular issue. Medium level activity is oriented more towards individual actions and less towards a complete lifestyle demanding long term, full time commitment, although that is not necessarily the case.

Another advantage of this kind of work is that it has much less intense impact on one's personal life. If you are not underground, you are less emotionally isolated, and the overall stress level is very much lower. Capture for a medium level action would be less devastating in every way. A two or three year sentence is no joke, but it is substantially easier to deal with than a ten or twenty year one.

### Get educated

A period of engaging in medium level activity would be a valuable experience before escalating the situation. It would provide an opportunity to acquire technical skills, test individuals' suitability, and build group unity. I'll add here that a minor bust is almost a mandatory educational experience for anyone undertaking serious illegality, although a non-political bust is obviously preferable.

The direct effect of a medium level action will tend to be less than that of a bombing, but there is considerable potential for the ingenious to be effective. I'm distinguishing here between direct action, which is intended to physically stop or damage something or to do monetary damage, and symbolic action, which is intended to raise consciousness or to inspire.

One unique characteristic of Canada is that there is almost no illegal

political activity. This makes carrying out such activity particularly prominent and dangerous. A group doing medium level actions is less likely to be rapidly caught than a group doing bombings, and by surviving longer and doing more actions, they increase their political effect, both direct and symbolic.

### Part-time guerillas

Part of the point of illegal actions is to expand the existing spectrum of political activity, that is, to encourage the development of illegality of all types and at all levels. Anyone who is in fact encouraged is not likely to move from straight organizing to guerrilla activity in one jump, but will gradually move towards greater risk taking. So, in the particular situation in Canada of there being virtually no existing illegality, I think medium level actions may well be just as effective as 'high' in inspiring and encouraging people to step out a little. High level actions have the advantage of greater publicity and their spectacular nature may have greater inspirational value, but medium actions have the precisely corresponding advantage that they are easier for most people to empathize with. On technical, organizational, personal and political levels, it is easier for a typical left activist to see herself, for example, firebombing some particular institution, than it is for her to contemplate going underground and becoming a full time guerrilla.

To repeat myself, the above scattered comments are intended only to point towards areas to be explored. The final results depend on your own thoughtfulness and creativity.

—OAKALLA PRISON, 1984

# At home in the house of the Lord

by Marianne van Loon

**THE WEEKEND OF JULY 21 AND 22 IS THE FEAST OF MARY Magdalen, the woman reputed to have been the lover of Jesus, and a prostitute. This is the weekend that Vancouver hookers and women supporters occupied Christ Church Cathedral in the city's West End.**

The occupation was the latest in a series of actions prostitutes and supporters have taken to make the British Columbia government lift a recently imposed injunction against soliciting, and to decriminalize prostitution.

The injunction is particularly oppressive and the courts may well find it unconstitutional. It names prostitutes as public nuisances, and anyone who police deem to be soliciting in the city's West End can be arrested and jailed for up to 2 years if unable to pay the \$2000 fine. The onus is on the accused prostitute to prove her innocence, and it comes down to her word against the cops'. It is left up to the cops to decide whether or not she was hooking at the time. Despite a lockout that halted all buses for 3 months, hitchhiking is cited as soliciting. Talking to male friends is also regarded as soliciting.

In a city where police harassment and brutality against prostitutes is common, the intent of this injunction is clear; to stop all street prostitution without providing any economic alternatives to the adults and children who must sell their bodies to survive.

## "Open season"

The occupation, organized by the Alliance for the Safety of Prostitutes (ASP), began Friday noon as we arrived for the 12:10 service with our sleeping bags. The church was not caught entirely unawares; supporters within the church knew that something was afoot. After the service the Archbishop of BC and the Yukon left the microphone open for us to speak. But they were taken unawares when Sally de Quadros, ASP organizer, took the microphone and announced that we would be staying until Monday. She said 'Prostitutes and supporters are occupying Christ Church Cathedral to protest the passing of the interim injunction on July fourth, 1984, declaring prostitutes a public nuisance, which in essence makes it 'open season' on prostitutes, thereby stripping us of what little human and civil rights we had.'

'We are also protesting the violence perpetrated against the prostitutes by the police, pimps and tricks. The harassment by the police has increased since the passing of the injunction.

The church was chosen for this action, as historically the role of the church has been to act as a sanctuary for the oppressed. And we wish to bring to public attention information that has been withheld from them by the media,' said de Quadros.

The church agreed to give sanctuary, but under the numerous restrictions they imposed, it was more like jail. No supporters or interested parishioners were to be allowed

The first day of the occupation the

inside the church to talk, telephone access was extremely limited, and any of us going outside for a breath of air would not be allowed back inside. Doors wouldn't be opened until regular church hours on Sunday, but a 'dialogue' would be organized for Sunday afternoon. Fearing repercussions for sisters on the streets if we were to be hauled out by police, we agreed to the demands, albeit not without strong reservations and some internal conflict.

Patiently de Quadros and Arrington explained that the question is irrelevant. Also they added that by exposing identities they would endanger those of us working the streets. Except for de Quadros and Arrington, the women wore black masks when dealing with the press.

Outside, supporters leafleted passersby. Most people they talked to on the street were interested and sympathetic. They also organized candlelight vigils every evening of the occupation. At some risk, small groups of prostitutes left their street corners and strolled across the Granville Street border into forbidden territory. Various individual men and men's groups organized food. The one organizer who was allowed in and out of the church, Marie Arrington, ran errands, arranged media coverage, and spoke with women's and prostitutes' organizations around the world.

Coverage that night was surprisingly fair, given the obnoxious attitude of most reporters. The action was obviously successful in attaining media exposure for the concerns of prostitutes and women in general. Though later coverage was less favorable as media competed in trying to discredit the action and find out which of us were prostitutes, the action forced the media to present the demands of a group that has historically had little power and virtually no ability to gain press coverage.

Very little of the coverage of

communicate with our supporters through the small openings above the frosted glass windows. We had a long day of confinement until the next night, when supporters finally discovered where we were being kept and moved the vigil to the alley so that we could join in.

Supporters brought flowers, also banners proclaiming 'Mary Magdalen Was A Right On Woman', 'No Cops, No Pimps', and 'Free the Five', which was promptly followed by 'Free the 13' (referring to the occupiers).

Sunday was the day of the promised dialogue, the one small concession we had gained. After the late-morning service, in which priest Barb Clay and the Archbishop spoke much of loving, accepting each other and working for change, the dialogue began.

Many parishioners and supporters attended, sitting facing the row of occupiers, who had taken off their masks as no media cameras were present.

One of the first questions asked was 'Is prostitution really the only option for those who are on the streets?'

Not all women, we explained, turn to prostitution. Some steal, some have supportive families, some have male friends, some work under the table, some subsist on the margin. Though the unemployment rate here is one of the highest in North America, the welfare system is entirely inade-



**CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL OCCUPIED: Only de Quadros [left] and Arrington [right] remained unmasked**

US Pros, a San Francisco prostitute collective, stormed the Canadian embassy to demand the lifting of the injunction. They sent telegrams and also registered an official complaint at the United Nations against the violation of human rights in Canada. Later telegrams of support arrived from US Pros in Tulsa, the Australian Collective of Prostitutes, Philadelphia Wages For Housework and the English Collective of Prostitutes (ECP). Monday the ECP organized a support protest in London.

The media jumped into action with amazing speed. Obviously, prostitution is a hot item; sex and violence. A single phone call to the national wire service produced four TV crews, plus numerous radio and print parasites for the Friday press conference.

Their favorite question, one that would hound occupiers for the duration: 'How many of you are actually prostitutes?' and even more obnoxious, 'Which of you are prostitutes?'

prostitution in Vancouver has even acknowledged the existence of ASP, let alone come to ASP for comment.

The fact that this action had international connections contributed to forcing the media to pay attention. Not only were there pickets at Canadian consulates in San Francisco and London during our occupation, but this was the third such action taken by prostitutes. In 1975 prostitutes occupied churches in France, in 1982 the English Collective of Prostitutes did the same in London. These earlier actions, and the traditional role of the church in providing sanctuary, were the reasons a church was chosen for the occupation.

Sanctuary or occupation, Christ Church preferred to put on its best face and insist that were were their guests. That was obviously not true but we went along with it to protect the safety of the women on the streets.

Friday night we were threatened with eviction if we attempted to

quate, especially for women with children and teenagers too young to qualify. Estimates indicate sixty per cent of Vancouver prostitutes are single parents. For prostitutes who are women of colour, employment prospects are particularly grim. Under all these conditions, it is not surprising that prostitution is seen as one of the only options for poor women: it is survival.

De Quadros underscored these facts with the story of how she became a prostitute. Pregnant by a gang rape, she found abortion impossible to obtain. On a meagre hairdresser's salary, she could not support her twin children. She turned to prostitution.

It's not a glamorous occupation, nor is the money anywhere as plentiful as many people believe, said de Quadros. 'It is hard and degrading, and prostitutes are among the most vulnerable, oppressed and exploited of all women,' she said. A prostitute

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# BEAUTY PAGEANT PROTEST: 'Myth California' exposed

Santa Cruz, California, where popular myths about sun-tanned, beach-happy Barbie doll blondes get chewed up and spat out regularly by militant feminist action groups like the Preying Mantis Women's Brigade.

Whether they're protesting another mindless Miss California beauty pageant or trying to stop the sale of women-hating magazines, the Brigade consistently grabs headlines and public attention when they take to the streets with original theatre or simple direct actions.

Their notorious 'hit and destroy' forays three years ago into local stores that sold Hustler magazine (they walked into stores and tore up or defaced hundreds of copies) convinced dozens of outlets to discontinue selling the misogynist rag and inspired similar attempts by other women's groups elsewhere. That battle continues.

Recently, the PMWB convinced the owners of a liquor store to dump Hustler with the help of store-front theatre and a large gold-painted dildo. Backed up by a display of violent pornography from the pages of Hustler, they were ready to present the dildo 'trophy' to the owners in front of TV cameras if the store really wanted 'that special recognition they deserve for courageously standing up for the rights of men to profit from the depiction of rape and torture.'

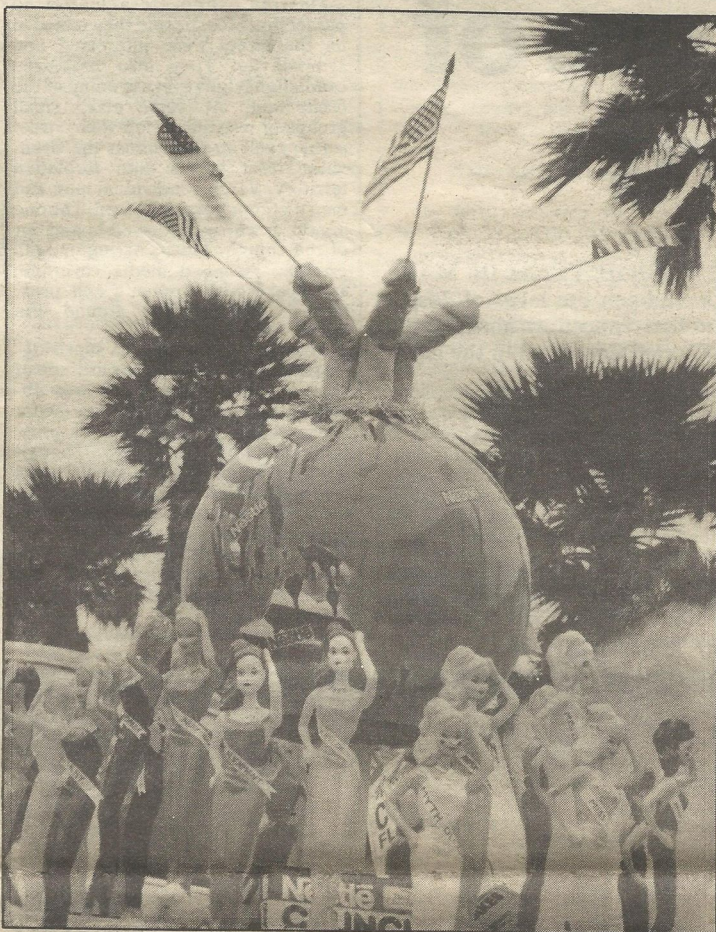
Confronted with cameras, reporters and the gold dildo, the owners refused the award and instead agreed to sign a pledge not to sell Hustler or any sexually violent publication from Hustler's publisher, the Flynt Corporation. The pledge included a clause that said the owners were responsible to review the magazines and ensure they didn't contain any sexually violent material.

## Direct Action politics

Later, two members of the Brigade were arrested when they continued their campaign against the sale of Hustler by tearing up copies inside a corner store. As part of the action, Brigade members scrawled a seventeen mile chalk message between two liquor stores which read: 'Violence in the Media = Violence in Society = Violence in the Media...' Nikki Craft, one of those arrested, said the chalked message was 'an inexpensive means of free expression for people who do not own presses and magazines—like women.'

On the warpath for some eight years now against violence against women, the PMWB has scored many direct hits, combining art with their politics to get their message across. (See *Open Road #6* for an account of Santa Cruz women's direct confrontations with rapists):

- During the live telecast of a bathing suit judging for Miss California, three women tossed raw meat gussied with red ribbons onto the stage;
- Audiences at a Miss California beauty pageant had to walk up steps where survivors of rape had poured their blood. Banners greeted them: 'Each person entering this auditorium walks on the blood of raped women.'
- In a beauty pageant parade, 'Miss Stake' modelled a 35 pound gown of scalloped bologna and olive loaf with a wiener neckline garnished by parsley.



MYTH CALIFORNIA PAGEANT. "No more molds for Women" float by Nikki Craft. "Over the float, a bouquet of phalli, mounted on a bleeding world globe, ejaculates U.S. flags, while it rotates above 120 primping, molded ceramic barbie-doll entrants.

Women wore warpaint instead of cosmetics and cried out: 'Judge meat, not women.'

• Outside another beauty pageant, the theme of a counter pageant was 'weight slavery'. 800 'Myth California' contestants, some shackled by bathroom scales, leaped through hula hoops labelled 'Beauty Obedience School.'

California beauty pageants once were sacred, until the Brigade challenged them with 'Myth California.'

Each year, in the Miss California Beauty Pageant Grand Parade women ride on flower-covered floats or fancy carts, paraded through Santa Cruz to the contest where they're weighed, measured and judged like livestock at a county fair.

Since 1982, though, Preying Mantis has joined in the parade. Last year, PMWB entries, 'Myth California' and 'Miss Chievious' brought up the rear of the parade in a pink Rambler convertible, scattering corn flakes to the crowd (in recognition of the corporate sponsorships behind the event). Their float was a revolving white porcelain toilet bowl with plastic American flags sticking out of it.

The 1982 float of a planet earth, topped by erect penises ejaculating American flags (see photo) was damaged by incensed onlookers.

At a pageant protest women wore banners identifying them as Miss Demeanor, Miss Fortune, Miss Informed, Miss Ogyne, Miss Steak and Miss Used. Several women dressed as skeletons to protest unreal standards of thinness, carried a twig-like female

figure on a cross with the banner 'Miss Anna Rexia', parodying anorexia nervosa, a psychological disorder of self-starvation and obsessive exercise which affects millions of mostly young women aiming for un-natural standards of thinness. The Playboy standards of beauty which rule the official pageants were decried at the counter pageant:

The main point of the protest was clear: 'the Myth California Pageant reinforces the objectification of women, making the rapist mentality in our culture possible and permissible.'

With the same line of attack, the Cross Your Heart Support Network

(see sidebar) zeroed in on a 'Ms. (sic) Nude America Pageant.' Again, they poured the blood from raped women before the auditorium doors to make the connection between rape and the meat market appraisal of women. They said they were protesting not the nudity, but the beauty pageant, for the same reasons they protested the Miss California contest. Said one protester: 'Judging women as sex toys means seeing us as something less than human. Seeing women as less than human is precisely what enables men with power to discriminate against us, in our public and private lives. It is exactly this which enables 'ordinary men' to harass us sexually at work and to beat or rape us. This is exactly what enables our society to disregard our grievances about these atrocities.' Six women and one man were arrested for spilling blood at the pageant.

## Street porn

The PMWB has said that they have never wanted to hide or suppress violent pornography. 'Our aim has always been to expose it to the public for what it is: political propaganda against women's freedom and women's rights.'

So, in 'true artistic expression', last International Women's Day the Brigade celebrated their 'freedom of political communication' by displaying pornography in the streets.

'We are informing the women and girls what the men and boys are reading in their bathrooms. We should be aware of what is being said about us by an industry that outsells movies and records combined. Lots of women don't really know these magazines exist. We may know that men look at pictures of naked women, but do we know that men are looking at pictures of women being raped/knifed/tied up and tortured/electrocuted/murdered? That men are chuckling over 'clever' cartoons about the sexual abuse of little girls?'

The tract handed out at the action headed 'Censorship silences—our goal is not silence', presented a perspective other feminist groups would question: 'It's time that the men who buy and consume these images answer publicly for their attitudes. Let them produce violent pornography if they want to, let them buy it if they want to. But let the women and kids around them know what kind of men they are, what opinion of us they endorse, what thoughts they enjoy thinking about us, and what lies they like to tell about us behind our backs.'

More information on the PMWB from PO Box 1729, Santa Cruz, Ca. 95061

## On the beach

When's the last time a California beach boy ever got arrested for surfing topless? For women in Santa Cruz, the battle to doff the shirt is no trivial issue.

Members of the Cross Your Heart Support Network - an offshoot of the Preying Mantis Women's Brigade - have been arrested for going topless on public beaches in their attempts to challenge the sexual discrimination in California's nudity law.

According to the Support Network, gender discrimination in the law serves the interests of the State and male sexual fantasies. The right to go topless, they say, would disrupt these

male fantasies. It would hurt money-making photo scams for photographers. With women walking around topless as a common sight, advertising agencies couldn't capitalize on bare breast exposure.

As one member of the Network put it: 'The fact that men can legally profit from utilizing women's breasts as a titillating commodity, while women are being handcuffed and imprisoned for baring their own breasts for personal comfort is an example of extreme legal bias.'

During the '20's, women were still  
continued on page 12

## AIM WARRIORS IN COURT:

# Fighting white justice - again

**FOUR AIM WARRIORS—LEONARD** Peltier, Dennis Banks, and the Butler cousins, Dino and Gary - are scheduled to appear in law courts this fall. Peltier will finally be getting his long-awaited evidentiary hearing in his struggle to win a new trial on the 1975 Pine Ridge shootings of two FBI agents; Banks will be sentenced for his part in the 1973 Custer Courthouse riot; and the Butlers will be appealing their 1982 convictions resulting from a car chase with Vancouver police in 1981.

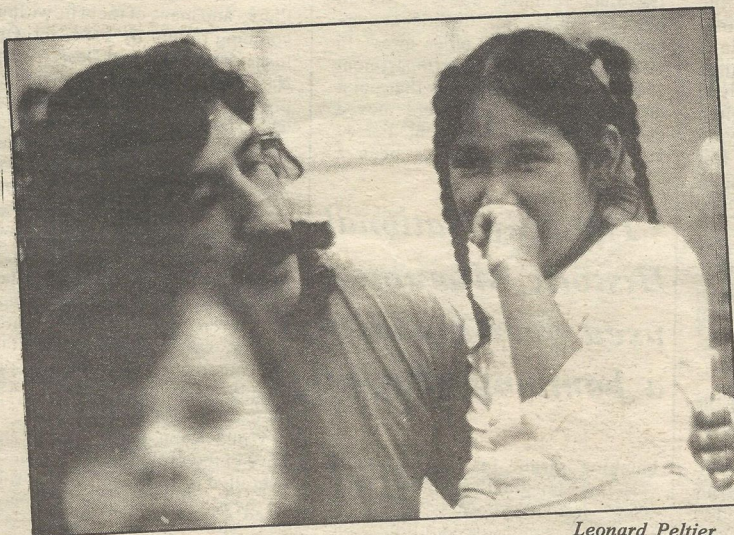
Peltier's hearing, originally scheduled for Sept. 24 in Fargo, North Dakota, has unexpectedly been shifted to Oct. 1st in Bismarck, N.D. Although the official reasons for the move are unclear, supporters claim it may have something to do with the effective education campaign undertaken by them on Peltier's case in Fargo and the mayor's recent statement in support of Peltier's demand for a new trial. However, the Leonard Peltier Defence Committee has announced it will hold another Citizen's Review Commission in Bismarck Sept. 27 and 28 to publicly examine evidence of FBI misconduct in the case.

Judge Paul Benson - the same reactionary who illegitimately convicted Peltier in 1977 and rejected later appeals - continues to refuse to remove himself from the case. The Oct. 1st hearing has already been limited to the meaning of an FBI teletype message and its relation to ballistics evidence introduced at Peltier's '77 trial - evidence which proved to be the fragile backbone of the prosecution's case then. It is rather unlikely that Benson would permit or order the divulgence of any new relevant material in Peltier's defence.

Meanwhile, the lockdown crisis continues at Marion super-maximum prison where Peltier - among several other political prisoners - has been confined for most of his sentence. In addition to the continuing program of brutality and torture at Marion, it was publicly revealed last spring that the prison's water supply is severely contaminated with dioxin-laden PCB emanating from what has now been recognized as Illinois' worst toxic waste dump. Peltier, along with fellow 'Fast for Life' participants (see *Open Road #16*) Standing Deer and Al Garza, have pledged to renew their fasts if moved back to Marion. All three have been kept at Springfield, Mo. prison hospital since the end of their fasts last summer. The spiritual fasts, marked by force feedings and a series of curious manoeuvres and false statements by the authorities, gained widespread attention only in the Soviet press.

### Dennis Banks

In a repetition of historical coincidence, Dennis Banks will face sentencing Oct 8th in Rapid City on a 1975 conviction. It was in June of 1975 while Banks was on trial in a Rapid City courthouse on charges he participated in the '73 riot which followed police assault on Sarah Bad Heart Bull, on the steps of the Custer, S.D. courthouse - that the Pine Ridge, S.D. shootings of Joe Stuntz and two FBI agents occurred. In an ironic turn of affairs, Banks may now be sentenced



Leonard Peltier

from 15 - 20 years imprisonment barely a week after Peltier begins a critical stage in his legal bid for freedom. Banks turned himself in to S.D. police Sept. 13 after spending some time at Pine Ridge with his relatives, ending a near-decade long exile which found Banks hounded by S.D. and then Oregon police. Banks won asylum first in California and then at Onondaga nation in upstate New York.

### Butlers win re-trial

Finally, Peltier's co-defendant in the Pine Ridge case, Dino Butler, and

his cousin, Gary Butler, have been granted a re-trial on their 1982 convictions stemming from a car chase with Vancouver Police in February 1981. The victory is a pyrrhic one, however, since Dino was already scheduled to be released this October after serving his full sentence and Gary was to have been released in April of '85. Instead, the Butlers face the possibility of increased sentences if they are re-convicted of the '82 charges. Both men could conceivably end up with an extra 5 - 10 years to serve in Canadian prisons. Should the Butlers win their appeal - scheduled to

take place Nov. 14 to 23 in Burnaby, BC - the Canadian injustice system will be exposed for its racism and persecution of the men who have continued to struggle for Indian religious freedom in Canadian prisons after being denied their basic human rights by Canadian courts. (The Butlers have met with some limited success in the introduction of Indian spiritual ceremonies in Canadian prisons such as Kent in BC.) Even if the Butlers emerge victorious in the November re-trial, their struggle against legal persecution will likely only be transferred back to the US, where both men face a series of murder charges in connection with the death in 1981 of an Oregon man well known for robbing Indian graves for the sale of artifacts.

Both Dino and Gary, far from avoiding these more serious charges, have continually called for their return to Oregon so that the true story may emerge. Instead, both Canadian and American officials have avoided this, preferring to keep the Butlers tied up in Canada, far away from their home base in Oregon. This behaviour lends credence to supporters' claims that the charges are unjustified and that the State lacks substantive evidence linking the Butlers to the killing.

For more info, or to express support, contact LPDC at 2524 16th S., Seattle, WA 98144; (206) 322-6261; Society of the People Struggling to be Free can be reached at Box 69092 Stn. 'K', Vancouver, BC.

# Montreal on \$5 a day

**WHEN YOU'RE UNEMPLOYED AND** starving and the State doesn't trust you with more than a \$154 a month welfare cheque because you're under 30, what's the politically correct thing to do?

That's what a coalition of young people in Quebec have been trying to figure out this past year through a campaign of occupations, demonstrations and hunger strikes aimed at changing the economic and social policies of the ruling nationalist Parti Quebecois government.

With no help from the once militant but now stagnant Quebec labour movement, and with unemployment rising (officially over 15 per cent in the province), young unemployed Quebecois organized themselves into the Regroupement Autonome des Jeunes (Autonomous Youth Group) -RAJ- a province-wide coalition of individuals and groups whose politics range from anarchist to authoritarian, but who share one minimum objective: welfare parity with the over 30's.

It's hard enough for those over 30 years of age on welfare in Quebec to survive on \$423 a month, but the \$154 a month pittance for those under 30 is just a bad joke.

Early this summer RAJ organized enough high profile actions to turn them into an instant media darling. Among the actions:

- More than 200 young welfare recipients staged an unlimited occupation of the social service central office in Montreal. After three days

and nights it ended when the riot squad smashed their way into the building and arrested 16 people.

- Two RAJ members staged hunger strikes (they were already starving on the welfare payments), one lasting 25 days, which finished outside the office of the Montreal Stock Exchange 'to show where the real power is'.

- RAJ members occupied the offices of several provincial government members for two days until they were thrown out.

- 40 young welfare recipients demonstrated on the floor of the Montreal Stock Exchange and some were injured when stock exchange workers forcibly ejected them.

Other actions included a human chain blockade around the stock-exchange tower and a limited occupation of a Canadian army recruiting centre to non-military subsidiaries of the Quebec armaments industry.

Like any mixed coalition, RAJ has to contend with the deadening hand of the authoritarian groupuscules within it. There is an on-going power struggle between the Marxist-Leninists who push dialogue with the government and basic lobbying approaches as opposed to the direct action oriented and feminist politics advocated by others.

As well, there are basic disagreements over issues like the 'right to work' versus the right to the means of survival; the role of professional student organizers who tend to define

objectives in terms limited to student interests; and sexism within the coalition (a separate women's caucus eventually formed).

The old 'right to work' demand has prevailed within the coalition, but it's been tempered slightly with qualifiers that the work be 'non-military and non-pornographic'.

Organizationally, the Marxists advocated a complex centralized structure for RAJ with a national executive council and membership cards. They argued for a strategy of petition campaigns and summer training camps, to culminate in mass mobilizations of students this fall.

The anti-authoritarians fought for a minimum of structure allowing each person to participate in the decision making process in the general assemblies. If and when the need for common large-scale actions was felt, they would form a national coordinating council of regional delegates with a limited mandate of coordinating this one action only. Instead of the centralists' desire for 'mass actions', the anti-authoritarians were pushing for original and more militant direct actions as a means to pressure the government.

Because the Marxists have a prevailing influence within RAJ, the anarchists and their friends are now working out strategies of their own outside of but parallel to those of RAJ. In the words of one of them: 'We don't intend to wait for RAJ which is now polluted with left groupuscules rotten with pretension to take actions. We will organize otherwise.'



by Winona La Duke

They call it the Ring of Fire. Volcanoes border the entire Pacific Ocean from the Phillipines to Mt. St. Helens, and Hawaii sits in the middle—3000 miles from anything. Although the US puts Hawaii in a small box off of California's Catalina Island and Alaska—Hawaii is really in the Pacific, a separate, and struggling geo-political entity. It is also a very strategic region. Hawaii is the last frontier in an era of US expansion, given the dubious honor of statehood in 1959—18 years after Pearl Harbor and the US entrance into World War II. Today on all 8 of the Hawaiian Islands, the people and the aina (land) are simply trying to survive, in what has become someone else's paradise.

**Pacific Command**

Hawaii is the darkest state in the union, with less than 18 per cent of the population caucasian. Hawaii is also the most militarized state - economically, politically, and simply in terms of land control by the Department of Defense. 'If the military doesn't claim it, then the pineapple, sugar, or timber companies do', is a common understanding in a land of paradox. Some 90 per cent of the privately owned acreage in Hawaii is estimated to belong to some 75 individuals and corporations. Hawaii is a paradise, but it is also an occupied land - and some people have paid a dear price for that over the years.

Hawaii is the 'brain' of the Pentagon's Pacific Command. Hawaii is also the headquarters for military activities that control more than half the earth's surface - from the west coast of North America to the east coast of Africa. From Antarctica to the Arctic. The command covers some 70 per cent of the world's oceans. From his headquarters at Camp Smith near Pearl Harbor, the Commander in Chief-Pacific (CINPAC) directs all components of the US armed forces in Asia-Pacific; the Army, Navy, Airforce, Marines, in an integrated command. CINPAC also directs the separate, unified commands in Japan and Korea.

There are over 100 military installations in the Hawaiian islands, with fully 10 per cent of the state and 25 per cent of Oahu under direct control. All lands were confiscated (by DOD) in 1941, and all have become increasingly important to the United States. Hawaii is the loading and reloading base for all of the Pacific. It is in Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard - Hawaii's largest industrial enterprise, that fuel rods are replaced in the Navy's nuclear powered submarines. In 1972, Oahu alone was the storage site for some 3200 nuclear weapons. And representing the second largest income for the state (contributing a whopping 35 per cent of revenues directly), the 50,000 military personnel based on the islands enjoy a status the local people see as a clear 'occupying force'.

**The invisible island**

Sometimes it doesn't even appear on airlines' maps of the Hawaiian islands, and if it does, it appears as a fetus-shaped island, 'totally uninhabited'. A paradise for the shipwrecked? Hardly, unless you happen to be from the Pacific Command, who was occasionally quoted in the *Honolulu Advertiser* saying (contrary to popular belief) 'Kaho'olawe is not a recreational spot for the brass.' Kaho'olawe is, however, the only

National Historic Monument utilized year-round as a bombing range by the Department of Defense.

Kaho'olawe is the story of Hawaii in a microcosm. For centuries, Kaho'olawe has been a monastery for Hawaiian religion, and the sacred departing place for traditional voyages to Tahiti—3000 miles away. In 1941, it was taken by the Department of Defense. The people, at that point farmers and ranchers, were moved out, and the brass moved in. For 43 years now, the island has been a

**"The only National Historic Monument used year-round as a bombing range."**

bombing target for an expanding variety of imaginative military exercises. The latest exercise is the RIMPAC manoeuvre entitling the 'pacific rim' states of Australia, Canada, Japan and New Zealand to practice in unison every two years. The manoeuvres, coordinated by the 7th Fleet, are extensive, both in terms of exercises and personnel. Lasting nearly a month, anti-submarine, torpedo, and counter vessel actions provide the basis on which the troops are divided into 'friendly and enemy' camps. Each side provides 'target services' to the other. At last count (June 1984) some 50,000 combat personnel, 250 planes and 80 warships from participating countries were involved. However, only Canada remains compliant with the U.S. in the shelling of Kaho'olawe. Japan, Australia, and NZ have all relented to international pressure and discontinued their participation in that portion of RIMPAC involving the desecration of Kaho'olawe.

Since its inception in 1974, the Protect Kaho'olawe Ohana (Ohana means family) has led an escalating struggle to reclaim the island. By 1976, the island was the site of

litigation over the cultural significance to Native Hawaiians. After a Court ordered the Navy to begin an archeological survey, at least 544 separate sites were discovered on the island. The Ohana contends that at least four times as many sites are there - and many of them lie within the bombing range. By 1981, the Ohana had signed a Consent Decree with the Navy; an 18 point agreement which provided for increased access to the island by caretakers—the Ohana, and a gradual demilitarization. Although the island is far from being returned to the Native Hawaiians, the Ohana appears to have met with some success in dealing with the Navy. In the meantime, this year was marked by the 3000th visitor to the islands, brought by the Ohana, so it appears that even in the 1980's—through educational programs, re-vegetation, the construction of heiaus (buildings) people are paying Homage to Kaho'olawe in one way or another.

While Kaho'olawe may be indicative of the problems in Hawaii today overall, it is far from the only problem on the islands. Unifying as it may be, it is still only one island and one occupying force. That is why, some say that Kaho'olawe could either be the 'stone that sinks the movement, or the rock that turns it from lead to gold'.

**Learning to serve**

*...I was kissing people I didn't even know. Then I saw how many tourists started coming to our coast. I quit. I was afraid we were going to get evicted again....*

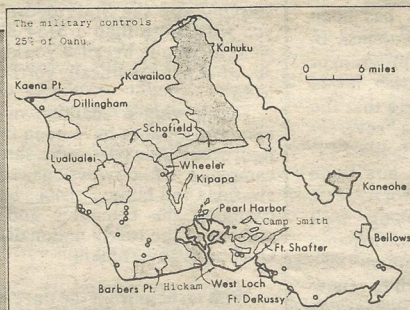
*Georgette Myers, Native Hawaiian formerly an Airline Employee*

One of the biggest problems with Hawaii is that it is a series of islands that is why people love Hawaii, and that is also why they can't stay. There simply isn't enough room for everyone and everything. But money talks, and one of the biggest mouths in Hawaii is the tourist industry, or as its proponents call it, 'the Happiness Industry'.

Haunani Kay Trask is a Professor of American Studies at the University of Hawaii. She is also one of the most vocal Native Hawaiian nationalists. Of particular concern to Haunani is the tourist industry—responsible for an estimated 30 per cent of the Hawaiian labor force employment and (directly and indirectly) 52 per cent of the state's gross product. Haunani sees the tourist industry as a form of prostitution. 'Tourism is not made to sell haole (white) culture...It's here because we are the native people of this aina. It is our culture that tourists come to see. It is our land that tourists come to pollute...That is the secret... Without Hawaiians, without...beautiful Hawaiian women dancing...there would be no tourism...' Haunani continues: 'it deforms the culture, so Hawaiians think that to dance the hula is to dance for tourists, to sing etc...Hawaiians grow up thinking that our culture is a Haole interpretation of culture...and if you smile real nice, some Haole is going to take you out...'

To some Native Hawaiians, tourism has become like being a monkey at a zoo. 'You are the monkey in the cage of your culture and they are here to look at you.' The price of tourism, however is across the board in Hawaii. In January of 1983, for example, the

**Occupied Hawaii  
Aloha under the gun**



Makua people had their houses bulldozed (by the state) for a state park. Makua is the beach at the bottom of an alluvial valley on Oahu. On the mountain above the beach, the military has a bombing range, and earlier in the '80's put up a special gizmo for satellite communications. To the Hawaiians, the idea of a state park at Makua is more than a little ironic. Not only did the state bulldoze and arrest to put in this 'recreation' site, but the Hawaiians who were forced out had to wade through live ammunition which washed up on the beach during 1982's Hurricane Iwa. When the state bulldozed the Makua houses last year 12 families remained as squatters on their own land. 'The state constantly rips off our land (Native Hawaiians), then it turns around and calls us 'squatters', says Attorney Mililani Trask. In another case at Halo Mohalu, the Department of Health razed an entire facility for Hansen's Disease (leprosy) patients in September of 1983, again to create a new recreational area - each island had paid a price for tourism.

Kalau'apa is a horrendous case of tourism gone wild. On the island of Molokai, the Kalaupapa peninsula has been a leprosy colony for over a century. Patients were sent away from society as soon as the disease was identified, and most have lived their entire lives at Kalaupapa. Although the state Department of Health had cut back the operating budget at Kalaupapa (after fiscally and physically eliminating the other facility - Hale Mohalu on Oahu), tourism is booming in the settlement. Since Hansen's disease is virtually eradicated, someone figured out that

visitors would be interested in touring the historic site. Donkey rides and helicopters are now available to the Kalaupapa peninsula. As some of the native Hawaiians have said, 'tourism is like being a monkey at the zoo'.

Tourism is Hawaii's future however, and looks like the song and dance to come. Shelly Mark, Director of Hawaii's State Department of Planning and Economic Development for 12 years explains the predicament, 'Ownership of the land has shifted to corporations off the islands. Rate of return on investment has become the most important thought. There is a conflict between the life of the land and sea versus the life of the corporate boardroom...Tourism drives up living and land costs for locals, but provides only low-paying, low quality jobs...'

#### Accommodating

*'... We can barely pay house rent and like build apartments. They only like make more rooms when they can make farms. With inflation now, hard to buy tomatoes, carrots. Instead of building those kind buildings, let the Hawaiians farm... You cannot eat 'em, those buildings...'*

*Wai'anae Coast Hawaiian*

In the end, all this takes a very heavy toll on the Hawaiian people and land. The Hawaiians have always been an unusual bunch. Generations of living on islands have made them in a native's words, 'accommodating - we had to learn to get along better'. Haunani Kay Trask explains this phenomena as colonization; 'This is not America, this is a colony'. The sugar and pineapple plantations were the first wave of colonialism, the military, and finally, tourism are the next waves of colonialism. 'The purpose of a colony is to take its land, to take its resources and to exploit its people. The transformation of the Hawaiian people and their land into servants of tourism is called commodification. It means turning a cultural attribute or a person into a commodity to make a profit'. The Hawaiians have been so commodified - they can be replaced, and so accommodating, they

are expected to allow it to continue - United Airlines, for instance, seems to think it owns Hawaii - down to the Japanese woman in a mumu greeting your plane - you think she's Hawaiian. 'And all of us in the Hawaiian movement have done the song and dance for the tourists; worked in the hotels; we have all been commodified', Haunani insists.

In *Aloha Aina*, a newspaper of the Hawaiian movement, another Hawaiian activist puts it a different way,

**"The pattern of learning to survive substituted by learning to serve."**

**'We have been denied access to our traditional means of survival by a colonization process which interrupts the pattern of learning to survive and substitutes learning to serve... Unknowingly, we pay a high price for our western assimilation in terms of our future choices. The cost of a healthy capitalist economic system requires that we steal from our future to maintain our high standards of living. We can begin to measure our 'O.Q.' (Oppression Quotient) when we realize the value of our natural resources. When a fishpond is dredged and filled for resort development and construction jobs, we destroy a generations old resources as a sacrifice for short term jobs and luxury developments. When our agricultural areas are left without water so that golf courses can be kept green and scenic, we lose the opportunity to subsist on our land...'**

#### "Scandal" of Hawaii

From the overthrow of Queen Liliuokalani by Samuel Dole (the Fruit Magnate) in 1890, to the annexation of Hawaii as a territory—the foreigners have always staked a claim. 'Territory' meant the Pacific Command (which subsequently got itself bombed at Pearl Harbor), and the integration of the Hawaiian plantation state into the worldwide US agricultural network. Finally, with statehood, Hawaii's latest visitors are the visitor's industry itself; the marketing of Happiness. Any way you look at it, each generation of Hawaiians has seen a new routine from the mainland.

The mark is on the land. The Robinson family claims ownership of one island - Ni'ihau; Dole 'owns' Lanai; the US Department of Defense claims Kaho'olawe; the military 'owns' 10 per cent of the remaining islands; and overall 75 interests claim some 90 per cent of the remaining privately held acreage.

'We have seen it all!', says Mililani Trask. Mililani Trask, an attorney, who has been active in numerous commissions, legal cases, and other ventures for Native Hawaiians simply says, 'The scandal of Hawaii is that legally under the admission act of Hawaii (into the US), Native Hawaiians are entitled to 50 per cent of state lands and revenue therefrom. The state of Hawaii, and each subsequent interest is ripping us off. We are a wealthy people - wealthy in land, culture, religion. But my people are waiting 60 years on the waiting list for their homestead - some of them

have died on the waiting lists - and they didn't even get a homestead to live on. They give our land to industries, schools, military - anyone, but in the meantime, our people are dying on the waiting list to get these lands....' As examples of the theft of Hawaiian lands, Mililani Trask points to the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL) reports. The DHHL conservatively estimates that it has 187,534 acres under its jurisdiction - in law for the benefit of Native Hawaiians. Of that 88,637 agricultural acres are leased out by the DHHL for 'modest revenues', averaging less than 4 per acre annually. After 34 executive orders, and eight governor proclamations, an additional 26,990 acres was removed from the Hawaiian homelands estates into public lands designations, ie: state parks, forest reserves, etc....The Department of Defense got about 2105 acres for this land. Remaining for the Native Hawaiians is approximately 70,000 acres, and the people themselves still don't have these lands. As of June 1983, some 9000 people were on a growing waiting list for homesteads - or just a house.

Legally, the state of Hawaii is responsible for the Native Hawaiians, having inherited this responsibility from the federal government (trust territories) when Hawaii became a state in 1959. The state, according to Mililani Trask has got itself into quite a mismanagement problem with these lands and is making no moves to rectify the problem. 'The facts show federal mismanagement (until 1959)', says Mililani, 'and state mismanagement (current), in other words, both the mismanaging and participating fully and benefitting from the theft of our lands. The law says the state is the trustee of (Hawaiian) lands...The law also says that Native Hawaiians, even if they are beneficiaries of the land - they don't have the right to sue the federal or state government to protect their lands, or to receive their own legal entitlements, ie: revenues from the Hawaiian lands...the federal government is the only one that can sue (the state), and visa versa.

#### Hawaiians evicted

Recognizing what the facts show - both federal and state theft - the state won't sue and the feds won't sue, because they would be suing each other, and are both equally guilty. Now the state calls us 'squatters', concludes Mililani, 'and the state is actively pursuing a policy of evicting Hawaiians from state lands, and we have waited for years to have our rights respected.'

They are bulldozing, building and bombing in Hawaii; and after almost a century of accommodation, there is almost nowhere to back into. Hawaii's problems are not so unique - they just become augmented by the size of an area in which the problems are growing. For, while American mainlanders may have almost grown numb to toxic waste dumps, 'remote' bombing ranges, and participated ourselves in the tourist industry; in Hawaii there is nowhere to run, while we 'mainlanders' still perceive there is someplace else to go, and there is enough land to live on. On the islands there can be no 'frontier mentality'. The Hawaiian people themselves - and the 'kama-aina', those born on the land - have just about reached the limit to accommodation. Maybe, the people of the big Turtle Island can learn something about learning to survive from the small island people.

Hawaii



**IN SPRING 1980 ZURICH STARTED** burning. The normally staid, well-off and conservative Swiss city was ablaze for almost two years with militant passion and creativity. Amongst the flames, the youth and autonomous activists of Zurich won, defended and eventually lost liberated territory in the concrete jungle of a modern city.

The autonomous movement of activists, artists, musicians, politicians and marginal youth gave birth to the Autonomous Youth Centre (AJZ), a far-reaching social experiment that for a time existed beyond the control of the authorities. Their story provides inspiration and practical lessons for any anti-authoritarian foray into the realm of institutions and the community.

Against the background of youth revolts in Italy and Germany, the autonomous movement of Zurich began to develop as early as 1978. There were increasing numbers of street actions, graffiti, and confrontational independent action collectives to better express and defend themselves.

When the government announced that Zurich's rich were getting a \$40 million subsidy to refurbish the local opera house the autonomous factions unified and exploded around a demand for a youth/cultural centre.

#### Youth centred

The issue of a centre for youth had long been a sore point with the young people in Zurich, dating back to the late sixties when some radicals briefly turned an unoccupied building into a cultural centre. City officials promised at that time to establish some sort of centre because no facilities of any type existed in Zurich for rock music or alternative arts. Negotiations dragged on for years with no results.

In the atmosphere of militant street actions and public outcry against the unjust allocation of funds for the opera house, the demand for an AJZ generated widespread support.

Conservative elements saw the AJZ as a means of getting youth off the streets; the liberal and social democratic faction felt they could make political hay over the issue of the opera house vs. lack of cultural facilities for youth; and the autonomous activists saw the centre as an organizing point for a wider range of activities.

The volcanic process which led to the establishment of the AJZ was documented by the Videoladen collective which actively participated in all aspects of the fight. Their video 'Zurich is Burning' (Zeurich brannt) combines documentary materials, graphics, poetry and fiction, in the words of their synopsis: 'expressing entirely the optimistic views of the movement's participants, documenting the movement's pace, atmosphere, music, imagination; its powerful manifestation of counter-culture

#### Video beyond cops

'When the demonstrations happened we were there from the first moment', explain Ruth and Swiss, two members of the Videoladen collective, 'because we felt it was our movement. Our equipment had been destroyed by police at earlier demonstrations, but we worked out some security, and managed to film at all the actions. The people knew us, and we had a special courier system set up to take completed videotapes out of



# ZURICH IS BURNING

## THE RISE AND FALL OF AN AUTONOMOUS MOVEMENT

the action area without the police getting hold of them.

This footage eventually became 'Zurich is Burning'.

Demonstrations grew from week to week. First demo: 300, after three weeks: 3000 people, and after four months, 10,000 people.

There was a broad spectrum who supported the idea of the centre. They may not have come to the AJZ but they came out to demonstrate support for what was going on.

In the end the government came up with a satisfactory location and \$650,000 for repairs and renovations. It was a large complex of three buildings in the centre of town near the main railroad station.

'It was right where we wanted it. Not isolated in the suburbs as usual. It was in a very bad state of repairs but various work groups put it in order,' Ruth says.

Outside there was a common yard with trees. There was also a large parking lot which was used for tourist excursion buses. They lost their business because nobody wanted to wait for their buses with all the AJZ people and activities. So then people started to break up the concrete and plant trees.

Inside, there was a very successful restaurant serving up to 300 meals per day of good food. Sometimes there would be white tablecloths and candlelight. There was space for concerts of up to five hundred people, cinema facilities, a pirate radio station, a large women's room and

many meeting rooms.

Upstairs on the first floor were sleeping quarters for 300 people. There was a special area for alcoholics. One of the most dangerous and challenging experiences was the whole drug situation in Zurich, because the centre became a refuge. Videoladen produced inhouse television and a newspaper that came out once a week.

There were a lot of different groups, different interests, just about everybody in the city started to gather there.

#### Autonomous process

At the AJZ, all decisions were made at the regular general meeting (GM) which was conducted with an open microphone and no set agenda.

The GM served to politicize and educate people because all arguments were heard. With hundreds of participants no faction could impose its will over the autonomous process.

'The AJZ was a good focus but it was only the beginning for more things', says Swiss. 'People said, 'first we need a place to meet' then they went on to other actions, more squatting, political discussions and confrontation.'

During the first two years, contrary to the government's hopes, the centre did not keep youth off the streets. It actually stimulated street action. Ruth says, 'Finally, you had a place you could always go to, come with suggestions or a topic and find people who think the same as you and get them activated'.

After the first six AJZ related demonstrations, the Zurich city council tried to ban street demos. Tactics had to be changed quickly. To avoid a confrontation a hundred or more demonstrators took off their clothes and jumped into the river which runs through Zurich. The police in riot gear looked on helplessly as the demonstrators floated through town chanting slogans and giving police the nazi salute. The confused police had no luck busting people for the highly visible demo.

#### Unchained youth

Following each action, Swiss explains, 'We would bring the videos back to the centre and show everyone what happened. Sometimes as many as 2000 people would review the day's events during the course of an evening. Discussions and further plans would result. The purpose of the videos was not to explain events to the general public but to show them to people who are doing the same kinds of things with the same problems. After the showings people would sometimes go out and make more actions.'

In the face of the AJZ, the authorities realized their hopes of pacifying the unchained youth of Zurich were in vain. There were increasing calls for police action from shop-owners and bankers, whose windows were smashed or buildings spraypainted every week. At some points businesses could not even open on weekends because of demonstrations. There was a lot of pressure on the government to take action against the AJZ.

The authorities developed a long term strategy aimed at concentrating everything that was ugly in Zurich in the AJZ. They shut down existing drug and alcohol treatment facilities, and raided other places where drugs could be obtained, leaving the AJZ as one of the few outlets. Then they used the AJZ reputation as a drug supply centre as an excuse for highly publicized police raids, and the reimposition of authority on the autonomous movement.

#### Cops move in

The police became more and more brutal at demonstrations and moved in on the AJZ as they saw support dwindling. At the outset, it was not dangerous to show support for the centre, but, by the end there were many serious injuries at demos and more and more weapons were evident on both sides. The militants became harder and more isolated in the fight against the police. There was a split between those who supported the goals but not the violence and the authorities were able to exploit the division.

Eventually, the police occupied the AJZ and the city bulldozed it into the ground. The activists decentralized and undertook some new projects, but the enthusiasm and collectivity generated by the AJZ had dissipated. What communal energy was left was sucked up in over 1000 trials resulting from the confrontations with the police.

It's now 1984 and a resurgent Zurich movement is campaigning to have the city turn over an old schoolhouse, gym, outbuildings and yard for a new centre. 'The police also want it for their headquarters', laughs Ruth. 'It is a big fight. It's not easy to set a concrete jungle on fire.'

To contact Videoladen about their videos write them at: Genossenschaft fuer Medienarbeit, Weberstrasse 5, CH-8004, Zurich, Switzerland.

DOA TOURS EUROPE:

# Is there punk after music?

D.O.A., KNIGHTS OF A NEW CRUSADE, WEIGHT-watchers from hell, on tour in Europe; seven countries, 29 shows, six rough weeks. It was the best of times. It was the worst of times.

A tale of conflicting realities, an adventure that illuminated the current defects and limitations of the punk/hardcore scene and maybe stumbled over the roots of a new resistance culture.

by Ken Lester

An odd time of decay and regeneration.

Corpse-like is the best way to describe the punk scene in Britain. It has not disappeared, there are still a lot of committed people around, it is just not alive in any meaningful sense.

Leeds, Britainarchist performance poet Nick Toczek put together a show that included Mensi (of Angelic Upstarts) reading his poetry and singing working class folk songs, Spartacus R, an idiosyncratic Rasta one-man band; and the skinhead poet Seething Wells. It was an unexpected event that stirred up a lot of different

VANCOUVER BAND D.O.A. ABROAD: from left manager Ken Lester, roadie Paul Bris. L. Hed, technician Ian Stein and guitarist Dave Greg...



Punk has become a subgenre of the music industry, file under folk music (loud). What was once vital, rebellious and threatening is now comfortably protected under the umbrella of "music" and "style". Punk set out to destroy the edifice of corporate rock 'n Roll and is now just another tombstone in the music firmament.

Gigs at the semi-legendary 100 club, where D.O.A. played their first London date, are for the most part die-hard cult affairs, a self-limiting ritual for approximately dressed regulars. Punk is no longer an attitude or a challenge but a musical style, a discipline where deviation from the rules of the cult eliminates one from participating. Those who remain simply want to belong to something. It has become a loser's game offering diminishing returns and catering to bands still stuck in the rut.

The U.K. punk scene is no better and no worse than any of the other British trends. It simply represents the triumph of style over content, resulting in a lack of meaning and a visible degeneration. Those "punks" who tire of one style eventually drift over to the later, more sophisticated trends.

Even the CRASS followers, who should represent a more active, committed and articulate wing of the punk scene too often wear their anarchy A's and CRASS symbols as talismans indicating a moral superiority and distinctiveness from the unenlightened rabble. Unfortunately, the symbols do not translate into fresh or creative actions.

Against this daunting backdrop, D.O.A. did have some positive experiences. In the Northern city of

elements and started the punks jabbering.

Bristol hosted the best D.O.A. gig in the U.K. Organized as a benefit for the Vancouver Five by the Bristol Peace Centre, it took place in a church converted to a community hall and was liberally lubricated by the cheap local cider. The whole affair exuded a co-operative enthusiasm. The British Subhumanz (a great band who don't look like Xerox punks) played, as did Toxic Shock, a provocative feminist band. D.O.A. crashed at the Peace Centre amid wall to wall people and intoxicated debates between meat-eaters and Vegans (who neither eat nor use animal products) of the Animal Liberation Front just back from harassing a fox hunt. It was a day to learn and make friends.

D.O.A.'s second London gig was another benefit for the Five and Omori, a Japanese anarchist condemned to death in Japan. It took place at the Ambulance Centre, a large squat which had previously hosted M.D.C. and Crucifix. D.O.A. shared the stage with Happy End, a 15 piece revolutionary orchestra and a quick-witted poet named Michael Belbin. The co-op atmosphere, large size and flexibility was a foretaste of scenes to come in Continental Europe.

### Continental vitality

On the continent, D.O.A. discovered more vitality in the punk/hardcore scene than they experienced in the U.K. This was partly due to the music's more recent acceptance and partly due to a generally higher social awareness there.

In Europe, D.O.A.'s gigs for the most part took place in the Youth

Centres, squats and Autonomy Centres, which are organized by their members. The Youth Centres, a number of which have obtained funding from local city administrations, serve as multi-faceted activity centres for a wide range of young people. They include not only performance spaces, but bars, restaurants, theatres, printing and silkscreening facilities, record and book stores, meeting rooms and places to crash. It is out of such centres that much of the European peace movement is organized. Without the Centres and the squats, D.O.A. would never have survived in Europe.

The Youth Centre atmosphere allowed a much broader mix of personalities to participate in the punk/hardcore scene. The rigidity of style was reduced, if not altogether eliminated.

In Holland, the only country to refuse the cruise missile (or at least delay U.S. deployment), where marijuana and hashish are legally sold, D.O.A. was lucky to hook up with the guys from Balthassar Gerhard Kommando, who lent equipment and provided places to stay. D.O.A. played two gigs in Amsterdam, one at the Paradiso, a huge hall, and the other at the city's largest remaining squat, Welinger.

In Copenhagen, D.O.A. played at the Youth Centre and the Saltlageret, a large nightclub affair. Accommodation was provided at a huge squatted apartment building. The people on the fifth floor had volunteered to look after D.O.A. and feed us in their large and efficient collective kitchen. Like the crew in Bristol, the people in Europe seemed open and eager to talk about issues. In fact a willingness to exchange information and experiences as well as an active participation in organizing events seemed an important and integrated part of multi-dimensional social activity, not just a comfortable means of escape or retreat from a hostile world.

Beginning in Holland and prevalent throughout Europe (except Yugoslavia and Italy) violence and confrontations between punk and skinhead factions became a significant problem at gigs. In some cities, notably in Northern Germany, it was impossible

to put on gigs. D.O.A. was forced to stop playing and referee battles in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Freiburg, Vienna and Berlin.

In West Berlin, the show was at Pankehollen, an immense factory converted into a cultural complex. Trouble started before the band arrived, when several hundred of the 8-900 people attending smashed in the windows, broke down the doors and expropriated the alcohol stocks. Amid this chaos a small group of Nazi skins infiltrated the concert. These people belonged to one of the many neo-Nazi organizations that are reviving in Germany, committed to Hitler's view of national socialism and the ascendancy of a pure German nation.

### Punks beat Nazis

Just as D.O.A. took the stage, the Nazi skins began shooting Roman candles and flares into the crowd. When punks moved to eject them, the Nazis sprayed mace and began throwing rocks and debris into the general panic. Then they released smoke bombs and moved in an organized fashion towards the exits, chains and knives drawn.

They didn't get away without sustaining substantial damage as the punks are used to fighting police in Berlin and they quickly re-organized themselves for the counter attack. Many people ended up in hospital with serious injuries. Amid this madness D.O.A. performed. Not to have played would have rendered the neo-Nazi attack a success.

A lot of people wanted D.O.A. to denounce "skinheads" but the band (who themselves have had skinheads) felt the length or style of hair was not a basis for opposition to goon attacks. Many skins are as cool as any punks and to ostracize people for their hairstyle creates division where none exist. The gig at Pankehollen also illustrated some other dodgy aspects of the current hardcore/punk scene. While several hundred people breaking into a hall and drinking free beer shows some initiative and militancy, the whole effort seemed somewhat misplaced. The Pankehollen was a space controlled by artists and the

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...AND BACK HOME ON THE WEST COAST Dave, Dimwit, Joe and Wimpy.





# D.O.A.

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people living there. The ticket price was not high, the beer was not over-priced, and there was no brutal security. In short, everything was being done as fairly and as close to the bone as possible. The short term gain and excitement of getting in and drunk for nothing is wasted when weighed against the consequences. The hall will no longer put on punk/hardcore concerts and the promoter (a fan) is broke. The collective energy needed to create this sad situation would have been better spent on a real enemy (one who might fight back.).

In contrast to the mindless violence and posing in the larger German cities, gigs in the smaller towns of southern Germany were extremely communal and energetic. A number of D.O.A.'s eleven German gigs took place in villages (pop.20-30,000), in Youth Centres where the kids would force the band into five encores, actually hurling them back onto the stage until they played some more. Then everyone would stagger off to a besotted after-party. These gigs, which were marginal affairs financially, had an intense spirit of participation from the locals, who supported each other and helped out with all aspects of the show, including paying more than their fair share to make the event happen. There were no fights between punks and skins, and all types of people from the villages would show up. It was face to face contact, all too rare in small North American communities, where punk gigs almost never occur.

## Yugoslavia, Italy

As the tour drew to a close, Yugoslavia and Italy proved to be the most surprising countries D.O.A. would visit. The scene in both countries was quite different from the rest of Europe. Very few of the people attending the shows had the punk style, yet a great many were knowledgeable about the punk/hardcore phenomenon, especially regarding the social implications.

Yugoslavia, a non-aligned socialist country, was quite a shock, since we had expected it to be a very restricted society. Instead we discovered a very active and public alternative scene. There were after-hours clubs, hardcore radio shows, fanzines, and best of all, a thriving cultural opposition to

the institutions and dictates of the state. D.O.A.'s concerts, attended by over 800 people a night, were not legal, the band had no working papers, yet the shows went ahead unimpeded even after the police found out we were in town.

The people D.O.A. met in Yugoslavia had a unique way of viewing their society. They do not like the U.S. or capitalism, with the exception of being awed by the glittering array of consumer possibilities. But they find the Yugoslavian system boring, its promise muted by a technocratic administration and a demobilized people.

As one of the more articulate punks explained, "On paper we live in an ideal, or at least, a very advanced society. We have worker's control of the means of production, collective administration and a relatively wide realm of freedom. But there is an inertia on the popular level. We want to create a society of adventure. We are striving for a revolutionary culture that engages the future. We want to get out from under a comfortable but rather boring materialism and take some chances."

## Cultured C.P.

In Italy it was significant that D.O.A. was allowed to play at a communist cultural centre. It was the first hardcore show ever presented there because the Italian Communist Party (now the largest party in Italy) has not made up its mind about punk. The "debate on punk" is still continuing within the party, an attempt to decide whether punk is just another example of decadent excrement thrust out from the decline of capitalism or a legitimate expression of youthful protest.

A lot of Italian bands, like Cheetah Chrome Mother Fuckers and Raw Power are bursting the traditional bounds of music in their country. They help put on shows, distribute records and zines, spreading the word with zeal and humour. They are trying to find a place for cultural struggle in a volatile society where the old categories of left and right are duking it out toe to toe. The music one plays in Italy makes a difference and one must be prepared to defend it.

At the D.O.A. gig, the promoters showed great concern over how the gig was put on. The ticket price was reasonable and after 1,000 people had paid (enough to pay D.O.A.'s guarantee and all other expenses) they let in another 1,000 people for free or donation. The stage set up was chaotic and under powered, but the spirit was exemplary.

The guys from Cheetah Chrome M.F. who travelled from Pisa and were added to the show at the last minute, refused to come in for free. They insisted on paying to help out the general effort. In the hall a literature and record table was set up along with two bars and a spaghetti restaurant.

The battle for popular culture in Italy has raged for ten years. Young people have demanded that culture of all types be priced realistically and that performers treat audiences fairly. They have enforced their demands militantly. There have been protests and riots at events such as the opening of the La Scala opera season to a concert by Lou Reed. On other fronts, punk events have become the staging area for attacks on police and political targets. People united with a purpose can be very effective in keeping the authorities off guard. The Italians know how to enjoy themselves with a cutting edge.

After touring Europe with D.O.A. it seems certain conclusions can be drawn about the effective demise of the punk/hardcore scene. The current scene in Europe and North America has been reduced to style and cult status. To continue doing things in the same way will result in diminishing personal, economic and social returns. To not recognize or ignore the facts will be a frustrating and demoralizing oversight. At the same time one could argue that a whole new terrain is about to open up.

## Alternative future

In North America we could be entering a period of opportunity where the experiences of people in Europe might be helpful. There are numerous directions to explore. One possibility might be the rock'n'roll sideshow that D.O.A. has been talking about. The idea would involve several diverse bands agreeing to tour together as a package for a period of time. On this tour artists in other cultural spheres would be included as part of the entourage and artists from the local scenes would be encouraged to participate. Video installations and

mobile hangings would be used to physically alter the standard performance space. Information of all types would accompany the tour including on-the-spot silkscreening, zines, books, indy records and paraphernalia. The tour would remain in each scene for a week of so, living and eating with locals creating an instant event and generating media attention. There could be an effort first to establish a viable touring circuit, secondly a reliable communication and information network and then a push to establish local youth centres. The spin-offs of such a concept would be increased awareness and revenue for a wide range of projects. It would also create an active environment which would allow many more people to participate and to define the scene, smashing the box we currently find ourselves in.

That's just one idea. What are we doing now? Where are we going?

A longer, unedited version of this article appears in the August 1984 issue of *Maximum Rock and Roll*, (#16), available for \$1.50 (USA) from PO Box 288, Berkeley, CA, 94701, USA.



"MISS INFORMED" parades through the streets of Santa Cruz, home of Miss America pageant.

# Beach law

from page 6

battling courts over the requirement that they wear stockings on the beach. The State hired beach censors to police the beaches and sew on material to correct any prohibited display of shoulders or legs.

Cross Your Heart Supporters argue that women's breasts are common as a business commodity, topless entertainment and photos for purchase.

They maintain that the discriminatory California law means, for example, that the breasts of women and girls are obscene, while those of men are not. 'Judges have ruled that

men's breasts are the norm and because women's are different, they must be concealed.'

'Women's freedom, comfort and pleasure have long been denied. Women need a heightened sense of self-esteem so that we can combat sexism. If we can redefine our body image as we see fit, we can overcome the negative self-image we see presented everywhere. One way to do this, is to become aware of the wide variety of breasts—not just the siliconed, perfectly rounded, Barbie-doll version of a tit'.

More info on the bare breast fight from Cross Your Heart Support Network, PO Box 1729, Santa Cruz, CA, 95061, USA.

# "Enemies of public morality?"

from page 4

attack against any Cruise plant in North America, and the mass disturbances.

The 20-year sentence had made me stronger politically, and I realize my theories of guerilla struggle were right all along - Julie Belmas, in a newspaper interview.

## Political climate

Under Canadian parole law, a convicted offender is eligible to apply for parole after serving one third of his or her sentence, and *must* be released under a close form of parole called mandatory supervision after serving two-thirds.

How soon the Five get released depends on a number of factors, and not just whether they stay 'clean' while behind bars. As youthful first offenders, they would ordinarily be a good bet for early parole, but a lot will depend on the political climate at the time, especially if there are any 'terrorist' scare campaigns going on.

This was made clear by the way the cases of the FLQ were handled. One cell of FLQ members convicted of murdering a Quebec cabinet minister during the Trudeau government's hysterical 'October Crisis' of 1970 received life sentences; as the nationalist tide rose in Quebec during the '70's, however, they were quietly shipped off to halfway houses, and were all released on parole in periods ranging from seven to 11 years, no minor terms, but it could have been a lot worse.

A second FLQ cell, meanwhile, won safe passage to Cuba in exchange for freeing their hostage unharmed. Most of the members of this second cell eventually got homesick, and returned to Quebec during the past few years. With a more nationalist government now in power, they were able to get off with relatively slack two

-year sentences on a kidnapping charge. This infuriated a few die-hard law-and-order types, but there was clearly no wide-spread feeling in Quebec society for any more severe punishment.

In BC however, in the next few years it's unlikely there will be the kind of deep social transformation that characterized Quebec in the 1970s. Shortly after the sentencing of the Five, for instance, the BC Attorney General — the top law enforcement official in the province — launched a blistering attack on the media, trade unions, and even the legal profession for being preoccupied with violence and encouraging lawlessness.

In setting the future course for the province's judges, he warned them to be on guard against the enemies of public morality, and added 'I invite you all to examine the profile of the Squamish (Vancouver) Five terrorists. These messianically dedicated and resourceful urban guerillas firmly believed that they were carrying out a divine mission against the institutions of a militarist-capitalist society and to do so they would steal, dynamite property and endanger lives.'

Already, the Five are being treated differently. They have been split up and flown thousands of kilometers from family and friends; and they have been told that their visitors will be screened to weed out anybody considered politically undesirable.

All statements from the Five since their sentencing indicate they intend to be politically active when they get out, although the guerilla phase is over.

But that doesn't mean they repudiate their former actions. As Ann told an interviewer who asked her whether the actions were worth it, considering the heavy penalties they are paying: 'Yes, it's worth it. Because I had to do what I believed was right. I believed that somebody in Canada, even if it was small numbers, had to begin a



process of carrying out illegal action. I guess that belief was stronger than my fears of jail.'

Julie Belmas is at the Prison for Women (Box 515, Kingston, Ont.). She plans to start playing music again, and when she gets out she wants to take up nursing in poor or native communities in the North. Meanwhile, she hopes to arrange family visits with her companion, Gerry.

Gerry Hannah is now at Matsqui Medium Institution Prison (Box 4000, Abbotsford, BC), but hopes for a transfer back east to be nearer Julie. He is a former member of the old Subhumans punk rock band, and is now back to playing the guitar. He's also taking a horticulture course and working on the prison grounds' crew.

Ann Hansen is also at the Prison for Women (it's the only federal joint for women in the country). She applied to learn auto mechanics, but was turned down as a 'security' risk. In turn, she rejected a suggestion she learn hairdressing. She's still hoping to be able to learn a trade.

Doug Stewart has been transferred to Archambault Penitentiary in Quebec (242 Montee Gagnon, Ste-Anne des Plaines, PQ). This is the worst location for a young, English speaking first-offender, since Archambault is considered the most tense and violent prison in the country. (There was a well-documented guards' riot there recently.) Only a handful of prisoners speak English and the only courses offered there are in French—there is no French course. Doug has been denied permission to work in the machine shop or welding shop for 'security' reasons, so he is working in the shoe repair shop.

Brent Taylor is at Millhaven Maximum Institution in Ontario (Box 280, Bath, Ont.). He's taking university correspondence courses and working in the prison print shop.

To stay current on the case of the Five and related matters,....

To stay current on the case of the Five and related matters, write to the Free the Five Defense Group, Box 48296, Bentall Station, Vancouver B.C., Canada V7X 1A1

## ALLIANCE FOR SAFETY OF PROSTITUTES:

# Hookers organize

from page 5

must not only deal with an average of 10 rapes a year, but she is a social outcast at the mercy of any man who chooses to abuse her, be he pimp, cop or trick.

With the injunction against hooking in the West End, police harassment of hookers is increasing, said ASP organizer Arrington. Prostitutes who have stood up for their right not to produce identification unless under arrest have been threatened and assaulted by cops. ASP has also heard reports of prostitutes being tied up and thrown in a nearby pond. Cops harassed and assaulted Arrington and de Quadros, and warned hookers not to talk to those 'ASP bitches', Arrington said.

The noise and harassment that spark complaints from West End residents are in fact caused by 'hooker lookers' and punks from the suburbs, she said. The complaints, which have become the public pretext for the anti-hooking injunction, could be easily resolved, ASP maintains, if police enforced existing laws against noise, traffic and littering. But the cops ignore these laws with the intent of making the situation intolerable so they can crack down on the hookers.

After the short service we attempted to leave the church, only to find that the media had apparently conspired to find out once and for all which of us were hookers. Two women were backed into a corner and admitted to being prostitutes. The

rest of us remained silent, except when the media's comment that we didn't dress like prostitutes made us laugh derisively. Finally they'd had their fill of blood, and we picked up our sleeping bags and were filmed leaving while a few supporters clapped loudly near the microphones.

This action is not the last action which ASP plans against the injunction and to improve the situation for prostitutes. Neither was it without problems. We occupiers had not worked as a group before, and, at times, the group processes were poor. We had also underestimated the blood thirstiness of the media, and we hadn't been prepared to deal with the church.

Despite these problems, the occupation succeeded in forcing the church to examine the issue of prostitution and to begin developing a new stand. Prostitution received nationwide coverage from the view-point of the prostitutes, and we clearly made the connection between radical feminism and prostitution, forging a new alliance.

Instead of the established 'radical' forms of protest, we had taken a risk by taking direct action, and although only time will tell for sure, we think it worked.

For more information, write the Alliance for the Safety of Prostitutes, Main Post Office Box 2288, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3W5, Canada.

# Down under tree fight

Deep within an Australian rain forest, militant ecologists are using the resources of the natural environment to block bulldozers and hold up construction work on an unwanted section of coastal road that threatens the lowland tropical wilderness.

In their direct action campaign, the ecologists are locking themselves high up in trees, burying each other up to their necks in the path of machinery, and suspending themselves from ropes between trees marked for felling.

The police have been forced to use rescue equipment and a lot of hard work to extract and arrest them. The conservationists have also blockaded both ends of the proposed road with logs and their own campsites. They dug holes across the road, five feet deep and two feet across. At the bottom of each hole a chain is firmly attached to the ground, either bolted to a block of wood buried at the base, or held down by three feet of steel bar tamped into the ground. The chain padlocks are high tensile (bolt-cutter

resistant) and the chains lock tight around the people's ankles so that using acetelyne torches to cut them is out of the question.

According to participants: 'There are people ready to chain themselves into the holes and it would take them days to dig us out - days we would spend digging holes further down the track, bolting chains onto strategic rocks, positioning ourselves chained up trees where the track has slipped away during the heavy rains and would have to be remade.'

In Australia as in the rest of the world, this lowland tropical rain forest is the richest, most diverse and most threatened kind of rain forest.

For more info about the conservationist's fight or to find out about the world rain forest action network now forming, write: Rainforest Information Centre, Box 368, Lismore, NSW, 2480, Australia.

Info for this article from *Synthesis*, a journal for social ecology, PO Box 1858, San Pedro, CA, 90733, USA. (Subs: 10 issues, USA rates, \$6.50).

## NEWS FROM NOWHERE:

**WORKSHOP DISCUSSIONS FROM** the International Conference on Prison Abolition held in Toronto a year ago are now available on video and audio cassettes. Subjects include: Economics of Prison Abolition, Tools of Political Repression, Alternative Models, Civil Disobedience/Direct Action, Radical Activists, South/Central American Prisons, Women and Prison, Racism and Prisons, etc. Info on rental, purchase or content from Antony Lorraine, 35 Salisbury Ave, Toronto, Ont. M4X 1C5 Canada.

**THE ANTI-AUTHORITARIAN news network (AANN)** is a bi-weekly news—clipping service and resource guide to upcoming trials, current events, etc. that would like to network with other news services, publications, organizations and individuals. To contribute ideas, money (subs are \$12 a year), addresses, or to help coordinate regions, contact AANN Bulletin c/o Unknown Anarchist Cop, POB 915, Stn. F, Toronto, Canada M4Y 2N9. A sample issue of the bulletin can be had for \$5.00.

**DON'T FORGET CRIFA**, The 16 year old international anarchist federation, wants to hear about anarchist activities from everywhere to help develop international contacts. Send letters, reports, etc. to Giorgio Sacchetti, via Andrea Doria 12, 52100 Arezzo, Italy. The *Bulletin CRIFA* is available from 145 rue Amelot, 75011, Paris, France.

## BOOKS RECEIVED:

**THE ANARCHIST MOVEMENT — NOTES ON CULTURE, NATURE AND POWER**, by John P. Clarke. A collection of original essays on anarchism, marxism, technology, culture, class and power by a contemporary anarchist theorist. From Black Rose Books, 3981 boul. St-Laurent, Montreal, PQ, H2W 1Y5 (\$12.95).

**NATIVE AMERICAN ANARCHISM: A STUDY OF LEFT-WING AMERICAN INDIVIDUALISM**, by Eunice Minette Schuster, originally published in 1932, republished in 1983 by Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197 Port Townsend, WA, 98368, USA.

**LAW AND ANARCHISM**, edited by Thom Holterman and Hene Van Maarseveen. Essays on jurisprudence and justice in contemporary and historical anarchist thought by academics from Europe and North America. Black Rose Books, 3981 boul. St-Laurent, Montreal, Quebec H2W 1Y5 (\$12.95).

Two beautifully produced mini-books available from Les Editions White Dwarf, C.P. Z8Z, Succ "E", Mont real, Quebec H2Z 3A7:

**JOHN BROWN, BY HENRY DAVID THOREAU**. Three classic essays in defence of Captain John Brown and his raid on Harper's Ferry to arm a slave insurrection in 19th century America (Brown was criticized by nearly everyone at the time, including anti-slavery groups). \$2.

**A DAY MOURNFUL AND OVERCAST**. A protest, by an escaped convict who fought in the anarchist Iron Column during the Spanish Revolution, against the imminent militarization and hierarchicalization of the column in 1937. This bilingual Spanish-English edition is its first English appearance. \$2.

**ANARCHISM**, by David Miller. Another 'introduction to' book by yet another non-anarchist. This one concentrates on the work of 'name' anarchists, which unnecessarily narrows its relevance.

**THE SECOND EDITION OF THE International Blacklist**, (an anti-authoritarian directory) is now being prepared. If you've had a change of address since the last one, or you weren't in it at all, if you're to be deleted, or you're a new anti-authoritarian on the block, or whatever, contact the Blacklist Group at Anti-Authoritarian Studies, c/o ASUC, 300 Eshelman Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720 USA or Blacklist Group, 719 Ashbury Street, San Francisco, CA 94117 USA. If you want a copy of the 1983 Blacklist, send what you can (\$2.50 will cover supplies and mailing) to them.

**A DISTRIBUTION NEEDS \$500 TO** buy a computer. They've been distributing anarchist books and papers for years and now they've reached their limit. A computer disc drive printer and the right software will make their job a lot more efficient. A donation, however small, will help a large number of anarchist projects. Cheques, cash, etc. to A Distribution, 84b Whitechapel High Street, London E1.

**GREEN ANARCHIST** --68a, Cassio-bury Park Ave., Watford, Herts, WD1 #1E, England. Subtitled 'The enemies of the people are those who know what people need', this new bi-monthly has punks and hippies coming together to confront (?) authority. Includes recipes. \$7.20 for 10 issues.

**AN APPEAL TO THE YOUNG**, by Peter Kropotkin. First published in 1901 during Kropotkin's United States speaking tour. Charles H. Kerr Publishing Co. (\$2.50).

**CURED TO DEATH: AN ANARCHIST REPORT ON THE EFFECTS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS** by Arabella Melville and Colin Johnson. Focuses on the power relationships between business and the state, doctor and patient, etc. that leaves the patients sick and the pharmaceutical companies rich. Individual approaches to health care independent of professional institutions are explored. New English Library, (\$4.50).

**STEFANO DELLE CHIAIE PORTRAIT OF A BLACK TERRORIST**, by Stuart Christie. An expose of international fascism. From Refract Publications, BCM Refract, London WC1N 3XX.

**CATALOGUE OF ANARCHIST BOOKS** Cienfuegos Distribution. Latest catalogue contains a good selection of anarchist literature old and new for fairly reasonable prices. Includes The Investigative Researcher's Hand book; People Without Government; An Anthropology of Anarchism; Towards A Citizens' Militia: Anarchist Alternatives to NATO and the Warsaw Pact; and more. Cienfuegos Distribution, 3512 12th Ave. So., Minneapolis, Minn., USA 55407.

**DIRECT ACTION IN INDUSTRY, Direct Action Movement**, a 24-page pamphlet which runs down methods of workplace mischief. Lessons from Poland, France, Italy and England. Direct Action, Box DAM, 59 Cookridge Street, Leeds LS2 3AW England (\$ .90).

**ANARCHISTS IN FILMS**, by Pietro Ferrua. A filmography of the portrayal of anarchists on celluloid from 1906 to the present. Anarchism, Box 134, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR., USA 97219. 18 pp. (\$3).

**PAUL BUHLE NEEDS HELP WITH A** new anti-authoritarian humor book. He's looking for recent or older anarchist cartoons, worker-related jokes; graphics, etc. Every joke/cartoon accepted will get you a free issue. Write c/o Dorrwar Bookstore, 107 1/2 Hope St., Providence, RI, 02906, USA. Radical Humour Issues of *Cultural Correspondence*, NS #1, \$1, RH. Conference documents in #2, \$3, and *Shmate* Jewish Humor issue, \$2.50, from the same place (add \$1 for postage).

**REFRACT PUBLICATIONS ARE** publishing a 400 page book about Spanish anarchist resistance fighter Facerias (title: *Facerias--Anarchist extraordinary*); author; Antonio Tellez, and need financial assistance to help cover the printing and binding costs. Those who wish to help get this title into print should make donations payable to *Refract Publications*, c/o Cambridge Free Press, 25 Gwydir St., Cambridge, England.

**THE NEW ADDRESS FOR INTER-**national contacts, communications and paper exchange with *Organizzazione Rivoluzionaria Anarchica [ORA]* is Donato Romito: CP 144, 61100 Pesaro, Italy. The old address in Bari is annulled.

**ANOTHER 16th ANNIVERSARY IS** being celebrated by *Akwesasne Notes* (the official newspaper of the traditional Mohawk Nation), who are publishing a 1985 calendar of 12, full-color plates by four well-known Native American artists. Send \$8.50 (in US funds only) to Akwesasne Notes Calendar 1985, Akwesasne Notes, Mohawk Nation, via Roosevelt-town, New York, 13683, USA.

**THE LEFT BANK BOOKS: books** For Prisoners project continues. To donate books, money, or ideas, write Books for Prisoners, Box A, 92 Pike St., Seattle, WA 98101.



**AUGUST 1984 MARKED THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OCCUPATION** of Northern Ireland by British troops—an occupation with no end in sight. The above picture postcard is one of a set of eight produced by Belfast anarchists to raise money to supply Irish prisoners with books. Send donations of \$2 or more [USA] per set to Just Books, 7W Inetavern Street, Belfast, 1, Northern Ireland.

Read about the ongoing resistance movement in the Belfast anarchist news sheet, *Outta Control*, available for a donation from the same address.

Also, check out a new pamphlet called *No Statist Solutions: Anarchism and the troubles in Northern Ireland*, published by Michael Ziesing and available for \$3 postpaid from the Spooner Society, PO Box 806, Willimantic, CT, 06226, USA.

**FIGHTERS FOR ANARCHISM — MOLLIE STEIMER & SENYA FLESHIN**. Memorial tribute to the two life-long anarchists and companions, featuring articles by Paul Avrich, Proudhon Carbo and Rudolf Röcker, and the writings by Steimer and Fleshin, including prison letters from Russia and a reply to Arshinov's "Organizational Platform." From Soil of Liberty, P.O. Box 7056, Powder horn Station, Minneapolis, MN 55407.

**RAF: GUERRILLA, RESISTANCE AND ANTI-IMPERIALIST FRONT**. Translation from the original German of important position paper released by the Red Army Faction in May 1982.

Talks about the RAF offensive against the state in 1977, the current situation and possibilities for building the anti-imperialist front in W. Germany, includes footnotes on events and terms uncommon to North Americans. \$5.00 per copy, Friends of Durruti Publications, PO Box 790, Station A, Vancouver, BC, V6C 2N6.

**WRITINGS ON ANARCHO-SYNDICALISM DIRECT ACTION MOVEMENT**. The second edition of this 16-page introductory pamphlet includes works by Rudolf Rocker, Albert Meltzer and Philip Samson. Direct Action, Box DAM, 59 Cookridge Street, Leeds LS2 3AW England (\$ .90).

The Open Road welcomes correspondence and contributions (editorial and financial). Write to:

The Open Road  
Box 6135 Station G  
Vancouver, B.C. Canada

## OR out of sight

THANKS FOR ISSUE 16, WHICH AS usual is informative, stimulating, and irritating. I write to express irritation.

Maybe you're not looking for a wide audience. Maybe you don't care whether or not people continue to think of anarchists as perversely eccentric, grubby, and violent. In that case, keep on with things like:

- a photo on the cover featuring a butt filled ashtray and another one with the same motif inside
- the two-page centerfold FUCK WORK BEFORE IT FUCKS YOU (charming; witty; offers real alternatives to those who have several mouths to feed)
- a murky back-cover photo of a car going over a cliff
- the headline 'Pigs smash Wyers squat' (euphonious; great tabloid writing)
- sixties-style Militant Spelling like *womyn* (it's about time someone purged the *men* from *women*--I also suggest *perdaughter* in place of *person*; and bring back that old classic *amerikkka*)

All these things distract from the painstaking research and writing that marks most of your articles. I like to show my centrist and liberal acquaintances that anarchists are humane, mature, and intelligent. Because of the surface things I've listed here, part of my strategy is to keep *Open Road* out of their sight, and to show it only to the already-converted.

Victor Urbanowicz  
St Paul, Minnesota

## Last straw

YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE ANTICS of *Direct Action* is just about the last straw. (It's about on the same level as your ridiculous anti-work poster.) If a bunch of over-grown adolescents want to play urban guerilla to fill some insignificant void in their lives that's their problem. Your article on 'Litton and the Left' was on the same perille 'I dare you to step across this line' level. I don't know about you but I'm 34 years old and that kind of shit doesn't work on me or my friends. In short *don't* send any more copies of your paper to me!

Werner Scott  
Regina, Sask.

## Fast news

GREETINGS TO MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS,

I just received your Spring 1984 issue, and to say it was like finding a diamond in a hog wallow would be an understatement. Thank you for the good coverage on Leonard's (Peltier) upcoming evidentiary hearing and our fast.

We fasted from April 10 to May 23 under protection of a federal court order which prohibited forcefeeding, but on May 23 the U.S.A. in their usual manner of lies, deceit and treachery fooled the judge into rescinding his restraining order.

We, the three fasters, were not allowed to be present at the hearing because the police claimed we were too weak to travel plus they did not have sufficient U.S. marshals avail-

able to transport us from Marion prison to the courtroom. Both lies; if they were given the opportunity to give Leonard Peltier another life sentence you can bet the United States would have had 40 marshals knocking at the door in 30 minutes.

Albert Garza (Rechaza) is still fasting. As a matter of fact, he went off of even drinking water on June 12. We are all three in the hole rather than the hospital, and it appears at this writing that Rechaza is very near death. Somewhere in the hierarchy of government a political decision has been made to get rid of Rechaza in order to silence the Jewish prisoners who are incensed because the prison-crats have banned their religion from Marion.

Rechaza is a Sephardic Jew. He is the leader of the Jewish society in Marion. Vile and incredible reprisals have been visited upon the ethnic minorities in Marion since the two Ku Klux Klansmen guards were dealt with in October of 1983. The white brothers have been fucked over too.

Leonard and I began taking small amounts of food on May 25, because they brought the tubes to force feed us, and we had lost the protection of the court order. Rechaza, elected to continue his fast. They have not force fed him yet although they threaten him regularly. Rechaza's courage and dedication in the face of the most violent guards in any political prison in the world can scarcely be over-estimated.

When one compares the publicity hoopla attended on the fast of another Jew, Andrei Sakharov, (who fasted from May 2 to May 18 in Russia), with the total news blackout concerning the deathfast of Albert Garza, it becomes clear to even the dullest of us that the media in the U.S.A. is only interested in making propaganda. If Albert Garza dies, the U.S. total disregard for human rights will be his murderer.

The United States threw us Indians a crumb. The warden of Marion agreed to let us have our sacred Pipe and our prayer feathers. We shall continue to struggle against the illegal and unconstitutional banning of our religion. We shall continue to struggle against all the 'isms' that are conditioned into the minds of human beings that make freedom even in the 'free world' seem like a utopian dream. It is for the sake of the children and the yet unborn that we struggle. I send you love and strength.

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse,  
Standing Deer  
AKA Robert H. Wilson 01499164  
U.S. Pen Box 1000  
Marion, Illinois 62959

## Who's sleeping

THE POSTER IN THE SPRING 1984 issue of OR looks great. The artist has expressed beautifully and sparsely the way all 'slaves' of the Capitalist 'work-ethics' feel about work-for-profit.

There is admirable activism in Canada, when one thinks of the Litton Systems big whamm and the Fabulous Five, the Peace Parade in Montreal, and the near General Strike on the West Coast! It isn't that we are asleep down here: Cathy Boudin and the Brinks caper demonstrates a bold defiance; not to speak of the regular sit-ins, protest parades and barricades at Trident sites and missile factories. The W. German Radikals, I see, are active again in Berlin, almost

as effective as in the Baader-Meinhoff days. And Yorkshire miners in England are battling Maggie's Bobbies in earnest in tough strikes against closures.

Yours in peace, and revolution  
Ilya Rilksy  
The Bronx, New York

## Free waves

SINCE MARCH TANGERINE RADIO has been broadcasting rock music, news and anarchist commentary. Our low power shortwave station is only audible in Florida, so we've been exchanging shows with other pirates around the country. As far as I know, TR is the only anti-authoritarian station in the Western Hemisphere.

To raise funds, we're selling the FREE RADIO HANDBOOK, which tells exactly how to set up a pirate station, for a \$2 cash donation. Our maildrop address is Box 5074, Hilo, Hawaii 96720 USA.

Yours in agitation,  
The Unknown Announcer

## Anarcho-syndicalist

Friends and Comrades:

THE 17TH CONGRESS OF THE International Worker's Association (AIT), which took place in Madrid approved once again the Spanish section (CNT) as the headquarters of the International. We send greetings to all our friends and sympathizers.

We also wanted to inform you about the false celebration of an extraordinary 'congress' of unification with the Spanish CNT in June, which was organized by the separatists of Valencia, who split from the real CNT, and another group of people who were expelled recently from the organization.

This false congress was financed by the socialist government and supported by the official and private media: radio, press, TV....The 'congress' was heavily protected by the National Police, who attacked and injured the real Anarcho-syndicalists, who came from all over Spain to protest against this action.

The 'new' CNT plans its action inside the actual labour legislature, this means trade unions' elections, magistrature of labour, collaboration with the government's institutions and so on, and they are in no contact with the AIT.

A great step backwards in our social struggle.

Greetings of liberation,  
General Secretary of the AIT:  
Fidel Gorron Canoyra

## No more preachers

WHEN I FIRST OPENED YOUR last issue I was going to reprint your mailer/appeal for money, but then I read your holier than thou article which seems to be written by some pie-in-the-sky elitists that overestimate their importance.

Come on folks, get your heads out of the clouds, put your feet back on the ground, stop worrying about being the 'Rolling Stone' of the anarchist movement and understand as they say 'people who live in glass houses should not throw stones'. You talked about folks not supporting the Five, (and we have supported the Five and

the first two publications that carried their statements after they were busted came from down here, Anarchist Black Dragon and Bayou La Rose, and the Survival Network Newsletter even printed four pages (that ya'll put together) but ya'll ain't very good at supporting other.

I hope ya'll thinking about all this before you get up on your pedestal to preach to us inferiors again. *Open Road* does a lot of good getting out useful information, please keep that work up.

For the well-being of all  
Arthur J. Miller  
New Orleans, LA, USA

## Our cause?

IN RESPONSE TO A LETTER FROM Chicken Little in your Spring 1984 issue — 'Of course the unfortunate injuring of seven people...doesn't help our cause any.'

Our Cause? Unfortunate?

What is our cause but the recognition that power dynamics, people controlling other people's lives without their consent is undesirable (both as a means, as well as an end)? To 'unfortunately' injure (couldn't it have been fatal?) seven incidental, inconvenient people is pretty damned authoritarian. What is more basic than each individual's freedom to keep sucking air?

Creative property damage could be quite entertaining and attention getting. Also if bombing seems to be called for, a lot of effort (indeed, priority) should go into making sure people are not present when the sparks fly. We have been indoctrinated to believe people are like property, ie replaceable, expendable commodities. But we know better, don't we? Are we like all other dogmatists in that we believe our lives more valuable than the 'unenlightened'?

Lady Jane Marvel  
Asheville, NC, USA

## Utopia now!

Dear Comrades

WE ARE A SMALL ANARCHIST group in Greece, and we need your help. We believe that the Revolution has already been. Somewhere, somewhere, somepeople have lived without Authority, Power, State.

We believe it takes too long to destroy the State, because you have to change the mind of all the people. We had tried that some years ago. We thought it is too nice, it is too high, to try changing minds, characters, ways of living. We have been disappointed. People always asked us how is the life, without State, without the Big Brother who takes care of everything. Who protect them of enemies countries and of anti-social people, people who live out of control, against the law.

We believe that the best propaganda is to give them an example. We must live the Utopia today, if we are trying to change the society, if we want to destroy the Authority tomorrow.

We need everything you know about the life in Utopia.

Lefteris Shinas  
c/o PO Box 17516  
Leurou Pirzon  
54009, Salonica, Spain





# We had a riot putting out the last issue,

but the bill was less exciting. How about doing a bit of your own looting? We could use the spoils. Like \$50 a year for a sustainer. Or, for the less adventurous, two hours wages per year would be fine. You'll get a subscription for sure.

I get the message. Here's two hours' pay: \_\_\_\_\_

I know you need more. Here it is: \_\_\_\_\_

This is extra for a gift sub for: \_\_\_\_\_

I'm adventurous. Make me a sustainer. \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Open Road, Box 6135, Station G,  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6R 4G5