Defenestrator is a new Philly rag intended to pull together the various isolated groups and individuals here in Philly among the undogmatic anti-authoritarian left, a common stomping ground for discussion, updates and news.

If this is to be successful, your participation is necessary! Let us know what's up! Send us info, fliers etc. Come to our editorial meeting at the A-Space 7:30PM, September 1st. Do a crazy action and document it so we can spread the word. Write about the demo, your personal struggle, tip us off on what the cops are up to, calls for solidarity... you name it. If its relevant, it will be included. This is about throwing power out the window.

The Defenestrator
c/o A-Space
4722 Baltimore Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19143

Defenestrate the Church and State! After Jan Hus, a peasant preacher at the stake by the Council, was burnt there, priests back into positions of power. The church was hung and they put his hand at the window. Hus, dressed in all shapes and sizes, this could well turn into a fun ritual. Demons breaking off from the planned route storming office buildings to defenestrate the culprits instead of just whining about them from the streets below. Out the window and onto the streets. If the impact doesn't do them in, will the people who catch him? Remember Mussolini.

So there we were in a van on our way back from Homestead 97 all of us in various stages of inspiration from what had or hadn't transpired over the weekend. Lots of talk about what was good and what could have been better. Then or so West Philly anarchists in one car for hours, we shot around some ideas coming from that we don't fuck shit up nearly as much as we really ought to, to starting up another Philly anarchist paper to getting together an emergency response network in times of crisis, getting ourselves mobilized, doing more actions, improving miserable demonstrations. We talked about and almost made concrete plans to get an anarchist drumming contingent together to give some of these yawns ins we frequent scene life. By the time we had gotten back home, I felt we had initiated a spark to liven up Steve's sleepy anarcho again. But that was weeks ago and attempts at getting people together to talk about the ideas which had transpired in the crowded van were met with less than optimal enthusiasm. Attempts to organize an anarchist block at the anticipated huge Mumia demo was entirely ignored and other post Homestead-return-rude talk about any of the exciting talk hadn't dilated many pupils either. Steve needs a kick in the ass. There's lots going on in terms of good projects and people. Just there's this damn sleepiness that probably comes with the routine that sets when these projects learn their rhythm. That consistent rhythm of the A-Space calendar ticking away. But while good, important, fun political stuff does transpire within the A-Space occasionally and on the street, there is a good deal of activism that is riddled with a terrifying alienating and demoralizing the level of classroom style boredom, which is to understate drastically, not for everyone. It's also damn aliening, this scene. I think we can alienate or bore people out of a potentially interesting scene/movement by keeping exclusive and insular as it is now around with what we've got going at the A-Space etc. or we can introduce some elements to offset the (sometimes necessary) boredom we subject ourselves to (at meetings and predictable threat free demos) and make being politically active an interesting project for others with lower sitting thresholds. So, via my own personal subjective filter. I'll bounce back some of these ideas that came out to this van ride through beautiful New Jersey.

There was the Philly Anarchist paper, the first issue of which you hold in your hand. My vision is that this becomes sort of an open forum for West Philly anarchists and other non-dogmatic leftists and as a sort of central meeting point for the anarchist scene. A referral point when it comes to finding out what's been going on around Philly and listings of radical events and happenings. A lot of projects in Philly happen parallel without hardly ever intersecting, I would be happy if more people would cross paths. It only makes us stronger. With this paper I would be overjoyed if it became a community effort, that it would keep coming out when I take off or get too busy doing something else. So please volunteer and help out, contribute!

It would be damn nice if we could make a strong anarchist presence at demos. A drum contingent, we seemed to agree would liven up things considerably for everyone. The drums are around. Some drummer should probably take the initiative to get this together.

When serious shit goes down in Philly, anarchists should have our own ways of organizing. We shouldn't wait around for other people to do it. Philly streets should not be quiet after police murders, executions or other unforgivable atrocities committed against people. This should go without saying.

Punks! Despite some people's attempts to cure themselves of all associations with punkness in favor of becoming respectable, activists, there is no reason why the punk scene should not put their politics into action.

Be Prepared! We could work some things out ahead of time. Agree on time and place for emergency demonstrations. Get together emergency phone lists when and in case something goes down. Know beforehand and about lawyers! Be a step ahead of the world, so when something happens, we can act fast.

Defenestrator then is nothing what it could be now. With cities capable of producing buildings well over twenty times the height of Prague's castle and more, the effect was to transpire as the plots of the Hussite mobs who first introduced this sport, defenestration could well become the main event the peoples Olympics of the future. With office buildings packed to the heavens with business sleaze, eco rapists, governors, bureaucrats, lawyers, pugs, vertex of all shapes and sizes, this could well turn into a fun ritual. Demons breaking off from the planned route storming office buildings to defenestrate the culprits instead of just whining about them from the streets below. Out the window and onto the streets. If the impact doesn't do them in, will the people who catch him? Remember Mussolini?
Local issues if only there were more support for all these small things going on in Philly... Well here’s the first step, I think. It seems hell of a lot of people just don’t know what the hell is happening. Of course the information is out there, just not all that accessible to the more lazy bodies. The purpose of this new thing I’m to encourage (critical) solidarity.

Philly anarchists don’t fuck shit up enough. Cement those toilets, fax those thanacqats, get out those slingshots, hack those ATMs, glue those locks, walk that pissbucket down to center city bank monolith sewer pit. Organize with your friends, don’t tell stories, be smart about who you talk to and what you say, and don’t forget the healing properties of adrenaline!

During Homestead ’97 in Boston, the IWW managed to mobilize the latent mob listening to speakers over a Food Not Bombs meal to picket union busting Borders Books. Before long we had ruckus percussion, Bruderhöfer climbing lamp posts, dancing, confronting Borders shoppers, the whole block chaked up with anti- Borderisms, not a typical IWW picket but who knows, it could be. I think we all agreed that this sort of spontaneous craziness would be nice to see elsewhere and more often.

There was more, I’m sure, but for now I’ll leave it at that. For this rag to be successful, it needs lots of input. I’d like to see critical articles, documented actions, hear about what your group is up to, advice etc. As far as I’m concerned I’m open to democratizing this effort as far as possible. So communicate and reciprocate!

NO WAR BETWEEN NATIONS

NO PEACE BETWEEN CLASSES

The A-Space, according to collective members, is in bad shape where motivational energy is concerned. Coffee is not being made, people are neglecting to filter or otherwise hype their events, rent is five months behind and morale seems to be on the low side. New collective members are being sought out who can inject some energy or enthusiasm into reviving this space of many possibilities. Call the A-Space at 724-1469 or show up at an A-Space collective meeting which tend to happen second Monday of the month (that would be September 8th?).

Philly Squatters Aid met for the first time last Wednesday. Philly happens to be one of the few places in the US where squatting is tolerated and widespread and even though it’s been going on for some time with anarcho types, there hasn’t been much of a support network to protect the houses we’ve got so far. Among future Squatter’s Aid projects we talked about compiling information on which empty houses are out there and what their standing may be; getting together legal information on what rights we have as squatters regarding the intrusion into our lives by the properties and law abusing fuckers out there; gathering supplies and materials together we need to prepare for winter and the up newly squatted houses; there was talk of raising money and talk of bigger actions. If you’re homeless, want to squat, you squat already or you want to show your solidarity with us show up at Squirrel Squat on 4818 Baltimore Ave., Wednesdays at 8PM. Bring by locations of empty houses you’ve been checking.

The Kensington Welfare Rights Union (KWWR) is a multi-racial organization of by, and for poor and homeless people. KWWR is a chapter of the National Welfare Rights Union Started in 1991, based in the Kensington section of North Philadelphia, and run with virtually no funding, the KWWR brings poor people together to fight for their survival. KWWR is building leaders in the fight to end poverty while helping poor people meet their day-to-day survival needs. KWWR fights for affordable housing, healthcare, and jobs at a livable wage. KWWR recently walked 140 miles from Philadelphia to Harrisburg on a March for Our Lives and set up tent cities called Ridgeville at the State Capitol and in North Philadelphia to protest legislative attacks on poor people. The movement is growing daily.

Kensington Welfare Rights Union PO Box 50679 Philadelphia, PA 19132-9720
dl. 215.763.4584

The Underground Railroad Project Over 150 years ago enslaved
[tens million people homeless? forty million people without healthcare? sixty million people poor (one in four Americans)?

What’s going on in our society today? We are facing historic changes in the economy. Hundreds of thousands of people are losing jobs as companies downsize. The income gap between the wealthy few and the rest of us is growing day by day. Poor people and poor communities are increasingly under attack. The safety net in place for sixty years is being destroyed as we watch. Welfare and healthcare cuts are making it harder and harder for people to survive. Job instability is threatening us all. For the first time since the Great Depression, the generation coming up now faces a bleaker future than its parents. We are all facing an uncertain future.

What should be done? It’s time to come together to build a movement to create real change. We know that change is possible— a
long, hard struggle for justice has taught us that. Support the work on the Kensington Welfare Rights Union to bring everyone ‘up and out of poverty now!’ Join the Underground Railroad project to help move people from homelessness to homes, and to build a movement to end poverty once and for all.

THE HUMAN RIGHTS DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

It is critical that the stories of poor people struggling to survive every day against incredible odds be told. These cuts and the conditions we are forced to live in are inhumane and need to be documented and exposed for what they are: violations of some of our most basic human rights. The Kensington Welfare Rights Union and the Poor People’s Embassy, a project initiated by the KWRU, are collecting evidence of human rights abuses across the country. With this evidence, we want to tell the world what is happening to us. On July 1, at the end of the March For Our Lives, this evidence will be presented before the United Nations and the world community. Then in October, we will return with further documentation of the effects of the welfare cuts to officially present our grievances, on behalf of all poor people, to the United Nations.

A CALL FOR TESTIMONY To make this project effective and to tell our story to the world, we need your help in documenting the effects of the welfare cuts on people in your community. Please send us newspaper articles, photographs, video footage, personal stories, testimony and any other materials which document human rights violations resulting from welfare and medical cuts. Such violations include:

- becoming homeless
- injury or death from being cut off welfare, food stamps, medical care or SSI
- being forced to take a job below minimum wage
- being forced to work in unsafe conditions
- being forced to live with an abuser because of lack of resources
- suicide resulting from stress of being cut off welfare
- house fires or collapses due to landlord or city neglect, or not being able to pay for repairs
- injury or death from not having heat or ventilation
- injury, mental health problems or death because of lack of food, housing, utilities, child care or medical care These conditions are human rights violations and we must record them and tell the world what is happening to us. Call us for a Human Rights Documentation packet or if you’re interested in being interviewed. Please send any stories, articles, photographs, etc. to:

Kensington Welfare Rights Union PO Box 50678 Philadelphia, PA 19143 215/763-4584 kwru@libertynet.org

THE KWRU AND THE POOR PEOPLE’S EMBASSY The Kensington Welfare Rights Union (KWRU) is an organization of poor and homeless women, men and children of all races struggling to end poverty. We fight to meet the basic needs of poor people in Pennsylvania and to build a movement to end poverty which is led by poor and homeless people and involves people from all walks of life. KWRU is a member of the National Welfare Rights Union and an affiliate of the National Union of Hospital and Healthcare Employees, AFSCME, AFL-CIO. KWRU is an affiliate of the Labor Party. In the fall of 1996, the Kensington Welfare Rights Union established the Poor People’s Embassy. This historic Embassy represents poor people throughout Pennsylvania and the United States. The mission of this historic Embassy is to represent poor people at the legislature, document human rights abuses against poor people and serve as a means for poor people to speak for themselves and be represented in the national and international community. “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and his family, including food, housing and medical care...” (Article 25; Universal Declaration)

HAPPY PHILLY FREEDOM SUMMER REPORT

Over thirty people, ages 16 to 22, gathered in Philly for two weeks from places like Florida, New York, Cleveland, and California, for Philadelphia Freedom Summer ‘97. We knew little more about each other than that we had all reenacted our summer plans to work on one of the most significant political battles of our lifetimes — to change the climate of Philly. We heard the authorities in the city that there is still a determined movement fighting for Mumia’s freedom and that we are growing.

At the demonstration July 5th for Mumia, this became crystal clear. The march called by the International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal stopped at every intersection. Our signs of ‘HONK FOR MUMIA’ were met by a chorus of horns from bus-drivers, cabbies, kids and adults of all nationalities. Some people circled the block to get the chance to show their support again or slowed down intentionally to tie up traffic. If at any point we looked behind us, we would see people seriously checking out our literature, and some people even joined in the march. Over a meal at the end of the day, we all reflected on our stay in Philly. We had been inside Judge Sabo’s courtroom, all over the city, featured in the City Paper as ‘Mumia’s Kids’, through many workshops which taught us more about organizing, and even planned our own demonstration on behalf of the MOVE 9 political prisoners. People’s spirits were high as they told of how much they had learned, how amazed they were by the response of the people of Philly, and ideas of where we could go from here.

Everywhere we have been -- all over Philly, deep in the west, up in Germantown, Center City, South Street, where ever we have been -- the people have been ready for us.

There’s a big lie that this government pushes on us -- that people don’t care about Mumia. That the people of Philly are tired of hearing about him: that the only people who care are out of town-cult-fringe-radicals who are hated by everyone in Philly. Well, we went out almost everyday in teams all over the city with posters, stickers, banners, info and open ears for the people of Philly. And the people love Mumia! Once we were just trying to go to the train and a couple of youth saw our Mumia poster and held it up over their heads shouting “Free Mumia Now!!!” at a small crowd accumulating on the spot. “Praise be to Allah!” met our ears as donations met our hands and people left with posters of their own. Small business owners took stacks of leaflets to help handout -- vendors took posters to resell -- and Mumia’s face appeared on stickers in the windows of supportive shops.

We didn’t have to prompt people to get them to open up to us or to take a leaflet. We handed out thousands and never saw them on the ground behind us. People who didn’t want leaflets at first ran after us to get them once they realized what they were about. Other people who remembered the Philly Freedom Summer of the past two years remarked, “I just started seeing Mumia’s face all over town on posters. I figured Philly Freedom Summer must be on again.”

The people of Philly really, truly love Mumia. And that love goes deep. And it is widespread. And its more than it was even two years ago. In the last two summers that we have worked in Philly, never has the response been this incredible and welcoming.

One thing that our National Secretary Robert Rockwell has said before is that they still want to kill Mumia and its going take more to stop them this time than it did in ’95. That although we made a lot of advances and learned a lot, so did the other side, and we’re going to have to go further this time.
Well, that's not really the easiest thing to understand -- and it is also easy to wonder whether or not we really learned that much. The two weeks we spent in Philly have demonstrated to us how much we have learned. That we are in a much stronger place to move forward from -- that we can build a movement even more powerful than that in '95. We need to go forward and make Mumia's struggle a major question.

We also got a much better understanding of the stakes involved in Mumia's case. Many of us got involved in this battle purely on a basis of how unfairly Mumia has been treated. But as we have gotten a bigger picture of how the cops and courts frame up thousands of people, we needed to reexamine what it is that makes Mumia's case so significant within all of these others. As R&R has said before, Mumia's case will "Affect the political climate for years to come. The case of Mumia Abu-Jamal concentrates the criminalization of Black men, the suppression of dissent, the expanded death penalty, the gutting of defendants rights, and a whole political atmosphere based on blame and punishment of the most oppressed."

No one left Philly the same person they came as. Upon leaving Sabo's courtroom, one 17 year old remarked that he never really thought the court would ever let Mumia go. The 10,000 of 1995's speeches at the demos takes to mind what I meant in my book: Mumia demo on the 5th may have had its up moments, but these masses, this "movement" the Freedom Summer kids are talking about is in shambles. The 10,000 of 1995's demonstration dwindled down to a trickle of some 100 of the core activists. I really don't see where all this talk about a growing movement is coming from. I feel damn cynical saying this in response to all this bubbly excitement, but in reality it's suffering terribly. This has got to be faced and dealt with. The movement is NOT growing. No reason to be all excited, but a good reason to look at how things to do. Increase the pressure? If there aren't thousands of us, we need to develop ways of making our pressure more effective.

Onion responds:
As a co-organizer of this year's Freedom Summer there's a few things I'd like to touch on. As this article reflects a good deal of the projected attitude at meetings, this article is a good place to start. The article like much of the talk at meetings and speeches at the demos takes on this super-enthusiastic slant with little to no bearing in reality. The hours spent on the streets talking to people, putting up posters, handing out fliers, etc. in hopes of turning out a huge crowd to the "big" Mumia demo on the 5th may have had its up moments, but these masses, this "movement" the Freedom Summer kids are talking about is in shambles. The 10,000 of 1995's demonstration dwindled down to a trickle of some 100 of the core activists. I really don't see where all this talk about a growing movement is coming from. I feel damn cynical saying this in response to all this bubbly excitement, but in reality it's suffering terribly. This has got to be faced and dealt with. The movement is NOT growing. No reason to be all excited, but a good reason to look at how things to do. Increase the pressure? If there aren't thousands of us, we need to develop ways of making our pressure more effective.

American University Scholar Robert Johnson writes in his newest book Deathwork: A Study of the Modern Execution Process (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publ., 1998) that the American Way of death is unintentional and premeditated torture, the purpose of which is to drive those on death row to a dubious relief in death. This drive to death, Johnson argues, is the objective of every facet of the prison system, which seeks to maximize isolation of the condemned, from family, from community, from the prison population, from other death row prisoners, and finally from his very self.
Citing the length and nature of death row incarcerations, the isolation regimes, and the ever present specter of death, Prof. Johnson finds it is torture, and as such, "inherently wrong." The goal of torture is never justice; torture seeks the destruction of the person, not his punishment...condemned criminals are not tortured because this is what they deserve. They are tortured because the destruction of their person is useful to their (State) torturers. It is the goal of destruction of the person that distinguishes torture from punishment and renders it gratuitous and hence immoral. (p.219)

Turning to the area of international law, Professor Johnson found the US in current and constant violation of UN Accords and Treaties.

More enlightened human rights law is emerging from places like Jamaica, Zimbabwe, and Britain’s Privy Council.

As long ago as 1989, in the Sovering case, the European Court of Human Rights outlawed extradition of a person to the US to face a capital prosecution, as conditions on US Death Rows, and the wait for death, constituted “inhuman and degrading punishment” in violation of Art. 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

In the 1993 Pratt (Jamaica) case, and in a May 1993 decision of the Zimbabwe Supreme Court similar rulings were rendered, finding five (5) years on Death Row a violation of similar ‘cruel’ Articles of International Law.

Prof. Johnson does not (surprisingly) address the June 1996 report of the International Commission of Jurists, which demonstrates how the US signed but routinely violates Article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which states, in part:

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

It's good enough for the European Community, for Jamaica, and Zimbabwe, it seems; but in the United States of America, it means nothing. Nothing at all. ©MAJ

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**Atlantic Anarchist Circle**

Spreading Its Wings

The Atlantic Anarchist Circle is growing and is developing contacts and cooperation in our region. We have had enthusiastic responses in the local meetings (listed below) over the past few months. We have cooperated with groups such as the Anarchist Forum/ Libertarian Book Club. The Speakers Bureau is beginning to show good results. We arranged a speaking tour for James Creedon of the Northampton, MA, Revolutionary Anarchist Youth (R.A.Y.). James spoke in Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York, and Red Bank, New Jersey. Working groups for a variety of activities are shaping up and we have room for more volunteers.

For the past year, the Atlantic Anarchist Circle has been meeting in New York once a month. We have a social hour from noon to 1:00pm, after which we hold a discussion on a specific subject, followed by a business meeting. We’ve been meeting at 339 Lafayette Street, Manhattan (near Bleecker Street). For further information on New York meetings, call Sidney or Clara at (718) 275-5236, Peter at (718) 622-7522, or Bob (718) 882-3689. Newcomers are always welcome. Vagabond meetings, which have been held on the third Saturday of every month, have brought the AAC to Philadelphia, Worcester, Baltimore, Northampton, and Albany.

In early May, Michael Caplan organized an e-mail list for the Atlantic Anarchist Circle. To subscribe send a message to: majordomo@t<lo.ca with the command in the body: “subscribe aac.” You will receive an automated message back asking you to confirm your subscription.

If you are not yet on the AAC mailing list, send your name and address to PO Box 42531, Philadelphia, PA 19101. The mailing list is used to distribute this newsletter and inform people of upcoming meetings and events.
A Fighting and Democratic Union

Workers invented unions to protect themselves and to improve their conditions. Since 1905, the IWW (commonly known as "the Wobblies") has remained true to these purposes. We have a proud history of breaking down racial, ethnic, and gender boundaries and encouraging solidarity among all of the working class. IWW struggles have inspired the labor movement to this day with our uncompromising attitude when we are faced with injustice.

The power of our union is in the hands of the members themselves. The voice of an IWW-organized workplace comes from the shop floor, not from bureaucrats living high off the hog on the dues of rank-and-file members. Our local branches and industrial unions supply experience, real solidarity, and any other assistance required to help our fellow workers negotiate contracts, file grievances, and create a lively, effective union. Dues for the IWW are sliding scale from $5 to $15 per month. More importantly, IWW dues are collected right from our members, not taken out of their paychecks. To us, this is a way to guarantee that there is never a conflict of interest by making the union dependent on bosses for supplying dues.

What our branch is up to lately...

The IWW Philadelphia General Membership Branch has been organizing student employees of the Keystone Job Corps Center in Drums, Pennsylvania (near Wilkes-Barre). The Job Corps recruits young people aged 18-24 who are interested in job training, getting a GED, or receiving a college degree. Largely from blue collar backgrounds or of lesser privilege than those that can afford to go to costly higher educational institutions, these young people turn to Job Corps as an effort to secure a better future for themselves. When they arrive at the Job Corps Center, recruits often find that they have been lied to about conditions, are subjected to harsh restrictions on leaving the campus or expressing their civil rights, and can even be neglected by the infirmary staff to the point of endangering their lives. The Job Corps is funded by the US Department of Labor and managed by private companies. The company which manages the Keystone Center, Management and Training Corporation (MTC), also manages privatized prisons. MTC has taken harsh measures to stop the IWW drive by confiscating union materials, harassing supporters of the drive, and even vindictively firing an organizer. We've put together an activist information kit on our campaign at Keystone Job Corps Center and there are a lot of ways to help.

Check Us Out!

Our branch meets on the third Wednesday of every month at the A Space, 4722 Baltimore Avenue, in West Philadelphia to discuss our current campaigns and plan solidarity actions. We also sponsor a video night once a month at A Space. If you're interested in joining the union, talking about how to organize your workplace, or have any questions related to your rights at your workplace, you can always call us for more information.

Telephone: 215-724-1925 E-mail: phillyiww@iww.org
Address: 4722 Baltimore Avenue, Phila., PA 19143

Wooden Shoe Books

Rising up phoenix-like from the ashes...

Wooden Shoe Books & Records was located in the basement of 112 South 20th Street in Center City Philadelphia for nearly twenty-one years. Established in 1976, the Wooden Shoe began as a labor movement bookstore. Its name was derived from the early period of the industrial revolution, when French workers who were forced to spend agonizingly long hours at work took to jamming their wooden shoes, or sabots, in the gears of machines to stop production.

On February 12, 1997 - Ash Wednesday - Wooden Shoe Books was totally destroyed by an electrical fire. The four alarm blaze left little more than charred books and warped records once it was extinguished around 10:00am. The water-damaged remains of Wooden Shoe's formidable radical inventory were salvaged by WS collective members and donated to Philadelphia's books to prisoners program. Friends of the Wooden Shoe have resolved to build a new, larger bookstore, and need your help.

Wooden Shoe is hoping to reopen by November! Keep an eye out for announcements!
Call April at 474-6459 box #5, or e-mail alexis@netaxs.com for details
June 4, 1997, marked the 100 year anniversary of the "Organic Act," a logging rider that opened up our National Forests to the Century of Chainsaws. Before the Organic Act our National Forests were a reserve system free from logging, mining, grazing, and all other forms of exploitation.

The Allegheny National Forest, like most other forests, was created with the purpose of protecting our watersheds and our woods. With the logging at the turn of the century nearly the entire Allegheny region was cleared. The result was massive flooding and "forest" fires. The need for some sort of protection was evident.

In 1922, that protection came in the form of the Meeks Act, and for years the Forest Service nursed the Allegheny back to health, mostly by leaving it alone.

But as the forests of the Allegheny reach maturity, demand for our forests has increased. This increased demand has led to a return of large scale clearcutting. However, this time they are using chainsaws, skidders, trucks and chip mills instead of horses, tarps and axes. The Allegheny National Forest is a giant at risk.

Today there are many distinct possibilities of what can happen to our public forest. Our dream is a public land free from exploitation and greed. Our dream is a forest which can thrive and return to primary ecologi-cal conditions.

Currently, recreation is the leading industry on the Allegheny National Forest. But the budget for recreation continues to be cut while politicians keep throwing more money into bringing in large-scale chip and glue industries. Over the last 15 years, Williams and industries, Georgia-Pacific, MacMillan Bloedel, International Paper, Weyerhaeuser, Bradford Forest Products (a multinational hardwood exporter), and General Electric have all introduced large-scale forest-eating technologies into our economies.

Our forests and local sawmills are going to pay the price for this abuse. The industry invasion has seen 15 years of life in the south and the results are startling. Thousands upon thousands of acres have been clearcut and turned into plantations. Most of this damage happened in a matter of only 15 to 20 years.

We can't hesitate to protect our public forests. The Allegheny provides our greatest opportunities for immediate forest protection from these large-scale forest threats. Besides all that, the Allegheny possibly provides some of the most key roles in providing wildlife habitats through the restoration of ecological reserves across the landscape. Give the Allegheny one last chance. Join the movement today and help STOP the destruction of our public woods! Support Zero-Cut.

HELP END LOGGING ON PUBLIC LANDS

• Write letters in support of the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act. Write your local representatives and tell them to vote for the act that will end logging on public lands.

• Write the Allegheny Forest Service and send them a message to STOP logging on public lands. Write to:
  John Palmer, Forest Supervisor
  Allegheny National Forest
  P.O. Box 847
  Warren, PA 16365
  (814) 723-5150

• Get involved with the Allegheny Defense Project (ADP). Contact us, obtain a free sample copy of our newsletter and learn the many ways in which you can directly help work to end the destruction of the Allegheny National Forest. Write to:
  Allegheny Defense Project
  P.O. Box 245
  Clarion, PA 16214
  (814) 226-4918
  adp@environment.org

  • Join the ADP by filling out the form to the right and sending it in! This helps keep us ADP folks active and effective.

  • Create and educate on your own. Tell all your friends about Zero-Cut, forest destruction (and beauty), and how they can help do something about it all. Keep the pressure on and the movement alive!

  • Contact and support the following groups working towards Zero-Cut:

  Heartwood
  P.O. Box 1424
  Bloomington, IN 47402
  (812) 337-8998

  John Muir Project
  30 North Raymond Ave.
  Suite 514
  Pasadena, CA 91103
  (818) 792-0109

  Sierra Club
  P.O. Box 2243
  Eugene, OR 97402
  (541) 463-8713
Evictions in Berlin

On July 29 some 500 police evicted 3 squatted houses in East Berlin. At around 6:30 AM, while most squatters were still asleep, police simultaneously began their attack against the 3 houses, dropping off anti-terrorist "S.E.K." units armed with machine guns on roofs via helicopter. Most squatters were released after going through ID checks, 6 people were held by police, 3 of whom under the curse of not having a German passport. Shortly after the evictions the houses were sealed up in order to prevent them from being resquatted. The entire Friedrichshain neighborhood once again became occupied territory as has happened previously after squat evictions, with many civil rights being suspended. Police on virtually every corner of the neighborhood harassing the locals with ID checks and arresting the odd person for in station ID checks. During the afternoon, a number of small street blockades took place, followed by a demo that night. Around 300 people made their way from Frankfurter Tor near the evicted houses on Schwanenwerder and Rigaerstr. 80, and made its way to Pfarstr, where the 3rd evicted house stood. At the end of the demo cops started to provoke the crowd and arrested several people. After the demo there were several additional clashes with the occupying police army during which they arrested some more people. Later on that night 2 houses were resquatted. One a previously squatted house on Kneutdigstr, which had been the neighborhoods radical heart. When cops turned up to evict with water tank they were met with stones and firebombs but managed to evict quickly anyhow. 3 cops were injured according to newspapers. Later that night another house was re-squatted on Kastanienallee. Police evicted immediately.

The eviction of Rigaer 80 took place later in the day, was carried out illegally without eviction papers and although police and construction workers managed to loot the house for belongings and throw the rest (including stereos and furniture) out the windows, the occupants were allowed back in looking at possible reimbursement for damages.

Later on in the week about 20 masked people lay waste to a shopping center and several banks in Neukölln in West Berlin. 2 people arrested in the area suspected by cops to be in connection with the Friedrichshain squatting scene were later released because of lack of evidence. Next day police raided a formerly squatted house on Liebigstr. in Friedrichshain looking for evidence in connection with the Neukölln rioting, but left finding nothing but an expired passport.

The evictions happening now in Berlin look a lot like the dismal end of what was once a strong militant movement. Ex-General and now senator Schönbomh has sworn to rid Berlin of all squatted houses by next year in preparation for becoming Germany's capital in the year 2000. Over the last few years, Schönbomh has used his military tactics to evict hundreds of people from squatted land, houses and apartments in Berlin. Berlin once had over 120 squatted houses. Now they can only be counted on one hand. Space is getting tight and the scene has lost most of its alternative spaces such as pubs, cafes, child care centers, children's playgrounds, living co-ops and other free spaces and institutions that made the revolutionary scene in Berlin a viable environment to live. Most people forced out of their homes by these evictions really have nowhere else to go and assimilating into rent paying ruling culture is not an option.

Clashes In Amsterdam

Amsterdam Protesters Turn Violent Anti-Austerity Rally Aimed At EU Leaders

Sunday, June 15, 1997; Page A25 The Washington Post

AMSTERDAM, June 14 -- Protesters and police clashed today as violence erupted at the end of a street march against the hardships brought on by Europe's quest for monetary union. Witnesses said up to 150 of many thousands of demonstrators smashed windows, overturned a patrol car and pelted riot police with stones in Amsterdam's city center. They said some demonstrators tried unsuccessfully to storm the heavily guarded Dutch central bank, which will be the site of a summit meeting of European Union leaders Monday and Tuesday. Earlier, between 35,000 and 50,000 people from across Europe turned Amsterdam into a sea of red and black, marching to protest against austerity caused by measures imposed in many states to try to qualify for the European single currency. Police said one man was arrested after the skirmishes and that the situation quickly returned to normal. Police spokesman Klaas Witting said 500 to 600 police had been on hand to control the crowd, which he estimated at 50,000. Organizers of the European Marches Against Unemployment, Poverty and Social Exclusion said about 35,000 people jammed the central Dam Square before marching to send a message to European leaders due here Sunday evening. "All the summit is going to talk about is money," said Lot van Baaren, one of the Dutch organizers. "These people are here because they want a social Europe. . . one that puts people back on the agenda." Austerity measures imposed in many states to try to qualify for the European single currency have caused the bloc's jobless rate to rise and stoked popular resentment against the union. Banners at the march proclaimed "No to the bosses of Europe, No to slave labor." "Amsterdam -- listen to the voice of the people," and the simple legend "No to the euro" in all the bloc's languages.

-- Those who want information on what happened with the train from Milan and the 150 comrades that were arrested when they arrived in Amsterdam, as well as on what is happening in Amsterdam, please check:

http://www.contrast.org/guestbook/guestbook.html

radio de Vrije Keyser 96.2 FM Amsterdam

80,000 Kurds In Hamburg Call For "Peace Now!"

On Saturday, June 15, 1996, some 80,000 Kurds from across Europe rallied in Hamburg, Germany. Thousands of demonstrators carried flags of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) and the National Liberation Front of Kurdistan (ERNK), both of which are banned in Germany. Marchers also carried huge portraits of PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan, also a punishable offense in Germany. Unlike previous occasions, riot police did not intervene and there were no arrests. (There was a clash between Danish border guards and Kurds at the Germany-Denmark border, however, when police tried to stop some buses from entering Germany.) The march and rally in Hamburg was organized by the "Peace Now!" coalition of Greens, Socialists, and Kurdish organizations in Germany. Demonstrators called for an end to the dirty war in Kurdistan; an end to arms shipments to Turkey; and the peaceful
coexistence of the Turkish and Kurdish peoples. A taped address by PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan was warmly welcomed by the crowd. In his speech, Ocalan again called on the Turkish state to enter into a political dialogue with the Kurds. Ocalan also stressed that the unilateral PKK cease-fire, announced in December 1995, was still in effect, despite repeated brutal Turkish army offences, including repeated incursions into northern Iraq.

Turkish Political Prisoners
On Hungerstrike

Massive Protest Against Coffin Cells
1500 Prisoners On Hungerstrike In Turkey

The government in Turkey stepped up its attack against the prisoners. Not so long ago, the fascist government murdered 7 political prisoners in the prisons of Buca and Ummane. Now they are preparing for new attacks. The relatives of the prisoners are harassed and intimidated and ill-treated at all visits they pay to their imprisoned family members. The security forces of the Turkish state attacked the relatives of the prisoners in front of Bayrampasa-prison and they arrested more than 150 people. They shamelessly tortured them. People who tried to visit their imprisoned relatives were mistreated, regardless if they were kids or elderly people. The police tried to prevent them from visiting their relatives. The police forces are exceeding their powers and they terrorise the people. The latest attacks inside the prisons resulted in a lot of wounded prisoners. They needed medical treatment but did not receive this, they were consciously left to die. The same kind of practice is exercised in the courts as well. Prisoners are not allowed to attend their own court hearings or they do not have enough knowledge about the case against them. Even their counsels are not informed. Political prisoners of several groups decided to form a Central Prison Co-ordination. Thus, the prisoners established their own central organisation, acting for their own rights. Recently, the Turkish media were filled with blatant lies, speculations, and distorted news coverage. It looked as if they were competing against each other... Having pointed at the prisoners in their coverage, they collaborate in the attacks of the fascist regime against the prisoners. They share the responsibility. The media try to ease government's work, they are providing a reason, thus ignoring their own responsibility and their impartiality. They have to stop their dishonourable behaviour and they must stop their participation in these inhuman attacks. Recently, Mehmet Agar, known murderer and chief of the contra-guerilla, now acting as Minister of Justice, ordered the publication of a notice. No. 960 18384, dated May 6, 1996, and signed by Cemal Sahin Gursay, General-Director of Prisons: isolation cells - cells of death - were to be opened in the prisons of Kırklareli, Kutahya, Sakarya, Kastamonu, İnebolu, Sinop and Eskişehir. People who were charged for political reasons in the State Security Courts are now sent into solitary confinement. After the isolation cells were opened in Eskişehir, 7 members of the DHKP-C were sent there. After this, 80 other prisoners, belonging to different political groups, were sent there as well.

>From the unanimous decision of the Central Prison Co-ordination:

- Primarily we demand the closure of these coffin cells which constitute a new attack against the prisoners.
- Furthermore, the attacks against the relatives and the families of the prisoners must be stopped.
- Prisoners who are wounded should receive adequate medical treatment.
- The prisoners may not be prevented to attend their own hearings.

On the basis of above mentioned demands, a hungerstrike has begun for an unlimited time. A vast number of people, and especially the relatives and the families of the prisoners are supporting the resistance by the prisoners. The latest notice by the Director-General is only one of the many examples of the breaching of human rights which make it necessary for us to support the prisoners. We should let not let them down in their justifiable resistance. We should support the prisoners' demands and their rights. We must stop the attacks by the government. We call upon all people for support in participation in the Committees for Freedom of the Prisoners.

Freedom For The Political Prisoners - Abolish The Coffin Cells! We Will Not Allow New Massacres! The Prisoners Are Our Honour. We Should Save Our Honour

Committees for Freedom Of The Prisoners

(Source: DHKC Information Bureau, Amsterdam <ozgurukok@xs4all.nl>)

**RADIKAL Update**

On June 13, 1996, exactly one year after German federal police carried out a nation-wide series of raids and arrests against left-radical projects and organizations, three persons wanted in connection with the underground periodical RADIKAL turned themselves in to police in Bremen. Two women, Jutta W. and Ulli F., were released the following day on 20,000 DM bail. Both must both report to police three times each week and are prohibited from contacting other persons involved in the RADIKAL investigation. The third individual, Frank G., was ordered to remain in prison because authorities claim he was also involved in the publication of the latest issue of RADIKAL (Nr 154). Four other persons arrested during the June 1995 raids were eventually released on bail after spending four months in prison. One other individual is still on the run from authorities.

Lawyers for the three persons who just turned themselves in to the police are counting on light sentences for their defendants when the RADIKAL case finally goes to court. The trial, originally to be held at the federal level on charges of forming a criminal organization and supporting terrorist organizations, will now be tried before a state court on charges of spreading propaganda on behalf of terrorist organizations. It is unclear whether the authorities will be able to substantiate their allegations that RADIKAL itself is a criminal organization under Paragraph 129 of the German penal code.

**BIOWAR IN WINNIPEG**

A report released on May 14th revealed that the US Army staged a series of tests in Winnipeg at the height of the Cold War. According to the report, which was commissioned by the American Congress, US Army personnel in Winnipeg released six kilograms of cadmium spray over the city between July 7th and August 31st, 1953, telling the city's mayor that it was testing a "chemical fog" meant to protect the citizenry from a Soviet nuclear attack.

In fact, the fog was a simulated germ-warfare attack; in other words the technology being tested was not to protect anyone, but to figure out how to develop biological weaponry for the Pentagon.

Zinc cadmium sulfide, the chemical that caused the fog, is known to cause cancer, yet the committee of scientists who reviewed the tests claims that a mere six kilos isn't enough to hurt anyone. Perhaps this finding is related to the fact that their entire report was paid for by ... the Pentagon! That is to say, the same government body which could find itself on the wrong end of a nasty lawsuit were the tests found to have harmed anyone...
McLibel Two fight on

It's official! McDonald's causes cruelty to animals, untruthfully promotes its food as nutritious, pays low wages, and exploits children through its advertising.

Albert Beagle

The judge's verdict, after 214 days of the record-breaking libel case brought against London Greenpeace campaigners Helen Steel and Dave Morris, that McDonald's libel case was "ruined" by some of the allegations in the London Greenpeace publication "What's wrong with McDonald's?". It also ruled that the arguments against McDonald's were "incorrect". He also noted that several of the most exciting criticisms of the leaflet had been proved to be true.

McDonald's was quick to claim victory from the verdict, which awarded them damages for having been libelled by some of the world's most well-known companies. And it hailed the opportunity of the trial to spread the debate about McDonald's as "creation of new rights". Given the circumstances of their case, the Greenpeace campaigners')->="ers against McDonald's were not legally entitled to any form of redress, but the judge said that the evidence against them was "not certain", justifying the ruling.

Refused a jury

The solicitors of British libel law were staked against Dave and Helen from the beginning. In the first place, they were refused a jury, on the grounds that the case was too complex for a jury to handle. Then the judge ruled that both Helen and Dave had some responsibility for the publication of the factsheet and could therefore proceed. It was not legally necessary to show that they had any specific involvement with its production or distribution — if it had been, the only thing that had been libelled was the first hurdle — but that they were part of the London Greenpeace group which published it, and generally supported the campaign.

Once the judge decided that Dave and Helen had been involved in publishing, and that some allegations in the factsheet were sexually abusive, the onus was on them to justify the allegations by bringing evidence to show that they were false. However, McDonald's did not have to prove the allegations were false. Where the judge ruled in McDonald's favour, it did not necessarily mean they thought they had proved the allegations false, only that Helen and Dave had not been able to substantiate them.

Not legally substantiated

Changes in the law, which had not been in the judge's view — been substantiated included those of responsibility for destruction of rainforests and starvation in the third world. Much of the judge's reasoning here related to the precise definition of "rainforest", and to the indirect nature of the links between the most industry and starvation. These indirect links were not, he ruled, enough to justify the factsheet's specific link between McDonald's and third world hunger.

The judge also said that the proportion of recycled paper in McDonald's packaging was "small but nevertheless significant", so they were not libelled by the statement that "only a tiny proportion" was recycled.

On food poisoning, the judge ruled that the allegations that McDonald's had libelled McDonald's since they had failed to prove there was a serious risk of food poisoning from eating some of its products — even though the factsheet did not make such a claim. Although McDonald's had admitted a number of food poisoning incidents resulting from its products, the judge said some cases were inevitable because it was impossible to eliminate all contamination however good hygiene systems were.

McGuilty nonetheless

But the points which McDonald's definitely lost were very significant. According to the judge, "the allegations that McDonald's are suitably responsible for cruel practices in the rearing and slaughtering of some of the animals which are used to produce their food is justified, true in substance and in fact.

The judge said that some of McDonald's advertisements and literature have claimed positive nutritional benefits for their food which was not matched by reality. And he decided that the existence did show that McDonald's customers have eaten there several times a week over many years, encouraged by McDonald's advertising, increased their risk of serious diseases. But he said that the relevant section of the factsheet did unjustly libel McDonald's because many of the people the leaflet was directed at didn't eat there enough often to suffer from the ill effects.

The judge also found that "McDonald's advertising and marketing is in large part directed at children, with a view to them pressuring or pestering their parents to buy it. There have been no awards of costs against McDonald's. Indeed, the judge ruled that McDonald's was likely to lose the appeal. The damages were awarded to Helen and Dave, but the judge said that the settlement was "ruined" by some of the allegations in the London Greenpeace publication "What's wrong with McDonald's?". Given the circumstances of their case, the Greenpeace campaigners were not legally entitled to any form of redress, but the judge said that the evidence against them was "not certain", justifying the ruling.

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The Missing Link is Found

Cynthia White was the key witness in the govern- ment's fraudulent trial of Mumia Abu-Jamal in 1982. White was the only witness to testifying to seeing Mumia with a gun in his hand. No other witnesses saw that. It is also interesting that the other witnesses who saw Cynthia White that evening, all place her at a dis- tance from the incident in a place where she could not have seen what happened.

Mumia's lawyers would very much like to talk to Cynthia White today. They would like to ask her what really happened. But, like so much of the government's case against Mumia, she has now disappeared.

Pamela Jenkins Comes Forward

Now we know a lot more about Cynthia White and why she testified falsely against Mumia. A new witness, Pamela Jenkins, has come forward to provide the missing link in the chain of evidence against the police.

Pamela Jenkins was working as a message passer in the early 80s and knew Cynthia White well. Pamela also knew a lot of Philly cops well. In fact, one of them, Officer Thomas Ryan, was her boy friend at the time. Jenkins has now given a sworn statement that Ryan asked her to falsely identify Cynthia White as the shooter, in spite of the fact that she wasn't even at the scene. She also states that Officer Ryan paid her $130 to help find White, and that the police put pressure on White to lie at trial.

Should we believe Pamela Jenkins after all these years? Well the government has recently used her as a star witness in the police corruption cases in Philadelphia. For example, she revealed how Philly cops used to fraudulently claim police time.

As the result of her testimony, Officer Ryan went to jail, and Raymond Carter is a free man today — one of at least 137 prisoners released so far in Philadelphia's continuing police frame-up scandal.

Pamela Jenkins has joined the courageous Veronica Jones, in coming forward to tell the truth about the frame-up of Mumia Abu-Jamal. Does the government now want to claim that their only witness in the 19th Precinct scandal has suddenly become unbelievable because she has now spilled the beans on the Mumia case?

And Where is Cynthia White Today?

It seems that only the police know where Cynthia White is, and they aren't saying. After testifying for the prosecution in Mumia's frame-up, Cynthia White continued to work on the streets under police protection. Following Mumia's conviction, she was arrested numerous times for prostitution, only to have the charges dismissed, or, in one case, bargain worked out. She has a real "Get Out of Jail Free" card. Then in 1987 she got into serious trouble and was arrested for robbery. A judge was about to hold her without bail, when Philadelphia homicide detective Douglas Culbreath suddenly appeared in the courtroom with an unusual request. He asked Judge Charles J. Margiotti to release Cynthia White on her own signature because "she was a Commonwealth witness of a very high profile case."

So Judge Margiotti sent her to jail, and she has not been seen since. She did not appear for her court date on the robbery charge, so there is a warrant outstanding. But the Philly police have no interest in finding her. They have never listed her on the NCIC, the federal government's computer list of wanted criminals.

If she gets picked up in another state, her name will not appear and she will not be in danger of being extradited to Philadelphia where she might become available to Mumia's defense team.

SOURCES: Press Conference with Pamela Jenkins and Court Records

Arm yourself with the truth. Get the full set of Mumia Fact Sheets from your local Free Mumia Coalition or from Refuse & Resist! Radio Mutiny 91.3fm West Philly Pirate Radio

We are part of a growing movement of small unlicensed radio stations around the world challenging the government and corporate monopoly of the airwaves. The hit top 40 music and nationally syndicated news fluff that you hear on the radio comes from stations who only care about pleasing their advertisers. Radio Mutiny is the voice of the real people of Philadelphia. Our DJs play any music they want — not what the record companies are pushing this week. You'll hear news, opinions and interviews that you definitely won't hear anywhere else on the dial.

WPPR is an anti-profit, all volunteer collective made up of your neighbors. Join us in taking back the airwaves. If you would like to have your own show, help out the station, or want more information, drop us a line at 4116 Chester Avenue, Box 238, Philadelphia, PA 19104. You can leave us a message in our voicemail at 569-2477 box 6. Your dial was made for revolution!

Refuse & Resist: (215) 552-8548 P.O. Box 34117, Philadelphia, PA 19101

10 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PRISONS IN THE U.S.

1. There are over one million people in U.S. prisons today.
2. A 1992 figure for the U.S. imprisonment rate was 322 per 100,000 people. In recent years, the U.S. has had the highest incarceration rate in the world. California alone now has the highest incarceration rate at more than 626 per 100,000.
3. One of 3 African American men in the US will go to prison in their lifetimes. This figure does not include jail, parole, or probation.
4. Women are the fastest growing sector of the prison population.
5. The US currently cages more people of color per capita than any other nation.
6. It costs more to send a person to prison for a year than to Harvard University for a year.
7. The prison system is not filled with violent and dangerous people: the majority of people are being sent to prison for drug charges and acts which involve no violence whatsoever.
8. Private corporations such as Eddie Bauer and Lexus Cars employ prison slave labor. Prisoners are forbidden by law to unionize or strike; they are not protected by minimum wage laws for the Fair Labor Standards Act; and they cannot voice complaints or even refuse to work without receiving severe retaliation.
9. Conditions in US prisons have been repeatedly condemned by groups such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch.
10. Healthcare for prisoners is practically nonexistent. It is common practice for prisoners to be outright denied medical examinations and treatments.

Contrary to what the government and mass media tend to believe, sources such as the U.S. Department of Justice and the Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics (1985, 1995) confirm that there has been no increase in the crime rate. Yet the imprisonment rate has more than tripled and expenses for criminal “justice” have increased six-fold.

This is evidence that caging more and more people for longer does not reduce crime.
Anarchist Black Cross

Czech Anarchist Militant Arrested - Solidarity Urgently Needed

Monday, July 7th old anarchist militant Vaclav Jez was arrested in the Moravian town of Blansko, in the Czech Republic, on double "attempted murder" charges and "keeping illegal arms". On Saturday, July 6, Vaclav was attacked by two Nazi skinheads while destroying some anti-anarchist slogans, sprayed by local fascists. Two Nazis attacked him brutally with clear intention to injure or even kill him. Vaclav drew an illegally owned gun started shooting in self-defense. One bonehead was hit in the shoulder, the other escaped. Police immediately arrested Vaclav, claiming that well-known Blansko Nazi skinheads were just "ordinary youngsters" accidentally passing by and that the street fight was incited by Vaclav himself. A district judge sentenced him to preliminary custody awaiting trial. Vaclav is facing 15 years on attempted murder charges and 5 years for his illegally owned gun. The situation is complicated by the fact that Vaclav was sentenced, approx. one year ago, to 2 years conditionally for refusing to serve "civil service" (instead of "normal" military service).

Vaclav is part of the progressive militant anarchists in Czechoslovakia and a well-known anti-fascist activist. He was framed in 1995 by the Special Anti-extremist Secret Police, who arrested him at the May 1st demonstration in 1995 and accused him of "verbal assault on Police officer". Vaclav spent 5 months in jail and was freed only due to an anarchist public protest campaign. He was beaten by the police during interrogation who were demanding the names of Czech anarchist militants. The false charges, against him are another attempt to silence him. Because legal assistance is extremely expensive in the Czech republic, we urgently ask anarchists all over the world to help us provide a good lawyer for Vaclav. Because he is a "re-cidivist" according to the law and this is already his fifth accusation, he can be sentenced to "extraordinary punishment", which means 25 years or more.

Send protest letters to your local Czech embassy demanding the dropping of charges against Vaclav.

For more info: 
Czecholovak Anarchist Federation
PO BOX 5
15006 Prague 5, Czech republic
<caf-inter@usa.net>

Alert initiated by 
Lancaster ABC
POB 891
Lancaster, PA 17608

Spring Break 98 - Jericho March
March on the White House to Free all United States Political Prisoners & Prisoners of War
Friday March 27, 1998

The call was initiated by Jalil Bottom and the day was chosen because;
* It's a business day, so the protest will be heard by all.
* Spring break will be in effect on both coasts.
* The PC-RNA will be convening Nation Day '98 in D.C. during the weekend of March 27-29.

A number of organizations and colleges have already pledged buses and Jericho 98 Committees are forming.

For more info:
Safiya A. Bukhari
P.O. Box 650
NY, NY 10009
(212) 928-4249 ext.2

R.N.A. Embassy - NY
P.O. Box 330467
Brooklyn, NY 11233
(718) 949-5153

N.A.L.F.
P.O. Box 340084
Jamaica, NY 11434

Political HipHop band Critical Mass is organizing a Jericho '98 tour to promote and fundraise for the March. To organize a show in your area as part of the tour contact NYABC.
On Tuesday, July 8th, Kom'boa was taken into custody by Dept. of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs officials in Brisbane, Australia for not being "of good character," despite having already been allowed to enter the country and begin a speaking tour.

The tour, sponsored by the anarchist group Angry People, is continuing, while press and international protest forced the government to release Kom'boa from prison, pay his legal costs and grant him a 90-day visa. Kom'boa had been roughed up by authorities and detained at Brisbane's (maximum security) Sir Arthur Corrie Center to await deportation.

Kom'boa was released after international protest of his arrest and after objections to Kom'boa's imprisonment were raised by his lawyer, Mr. Terry Fisher, who also represents the Sinn Fein leader, Mr. Gerry Adams, who was refused an entry visa. He argued that Kom'boa had not been accorded "natural justice" because he had already been approved for entry by immigration officials but, was later arrested after the government claimed he was a threat because he had not properly filled out his visa application.

Prime Minister John Howard was quoted in various Australian newspapers (The Age, Sydney Morning Herald, etc.) as stating that Kom'boa is attempting to ignite racial tension in Australia.

Despite the fact that Kom'boa has visited 20 countries since being released from jail, where he spent 15 years as a political prisoner, reactionary government officials deemed him "undesirable" because of his conviction for highjacking a plane to Cuba at age 19. At the time, Kom'boa was 50, trying to escape the KKK and police who were trying to kill him due to his activities as a civil rights activist and Black Panther in the south. His freedom from prison, where he was one of the "Marion 8" secured after an international outcry over the racism involved in his case. The campaign was led, in part, by the aborigine population in Australia.

The arrest and treatment of Kom'boa in Australia backfired, exposing the white supremacist nature of the government. The real threat for the government was the sharing of his experiences and thoughts with Aborigine and other oppressed Australians.

Before his arrest, he was quoted in the Brisbane press as saying there were frightening similarities between Black people in the US and Australian Aborigines, with both groups suffering from poverty and high imprisonment rates.

On July 10th, there were protests at the immigration dept. and high court in Brisbane. About 150 demonstrators assembled at the immigration department office in Brisbane, where several people spoke and a statement from Kom'boa was read out. The protest at the immigration department turned into a march through the city mall, where there was a bit of more speaking, then on to the high court. There were also demonstrations in Sydney and Melbourne, New York and Atlanta as well as in quite a few other cities around the world.

An application for Lorenzo's release and a new visa was heard by the high court. The immigration department's case seemed to be a bit shaky, so they adjourned the hearing until the next day.

On Fri, July 11th, the court heard arguments. The high court in Canberra/Brreisbore granted Lorenzo Kom'boa Ervin bail. He has been released from jail but, the immigration department will apply to the court to have him deported. He was given a questionnaire to fill out by the government to determine if he is of "good character."

Despite the clumsy efforts of the racist government, Lorenzo Kom'boa Ervin has resumed his speaking tour. On July 18, he spoke to a full house at The Settlement, a couple of blocks away from The Black, in Redfern, a stamping ground for the Australian indigenous political movement. The groups sponsoring the tour have been inundated with letters of support from the U.S., Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and elsewhere.

Kom'boa's writings on the ABC helped resurrect the ABC movement in the United States and elsewhere. His Draft Proposal for an Anarchist Black Cross, written while he was still in prison, criticized racism in the movement and offered suggestions for how to support the Black prison struggle. He also wrote Anarchism and the Black Liberation Struggle and an autobiography, Years of Struggle, Years of Death.

Since this came out, Lorenzo finished his speaking tour which apparently was a huge success largely because of the attention his case generated in the media. Lorenzo is out of jail now again, thanks to the barrage of pressure from supporters around the world that was put on the Australian state to free him and allow him to resume his tour. We should replicate this sort of pressure elsewhere as well!

MAROON RUSSELL SHOATS NEEDS MEDICAL ATTENTION

Maroon Russell Shoats has been having problems with his left arm for the past month or so. It took weeks of pressuring the prison to send a doctor to examine him. After two different types of medication which did nothing to relieve the constant pain, Russell was told that he has shingles in his left arm, a reactivation from a childhood Chicken Pox virus.

Russell requested further in-depth tests to determine why he cannot get rid of the constant pain and to determine the exact cause. The doctor denied his request and gave him lots of Tylenol and told him he would see him in a month.

Russell is asking people to write/call/fax Lanny Greene and the Commissioners office and request that he be given proper and in depth medical treatment. He fears that his condition could lead to permanent nerve damage in his arm.
AN INTRODUCTION TO ANTI-FASCIST FORUM

WHAT IS ANTI-FASCIST FORUM?

Anti-Fascist Forum is an info-group which collects and disseminates information and analysis on fascist activity and anti-fascist resistance. Its aim is to build anti-fascist politics into an assessment of the ground-level situation across North America, particularly in relation to areas where the fascists are most organised. The availability of information in this arena has long been monopolized by lobby groups, pro-state and state-funded/privately-financed elements who have been quite clear about where their liberal sympathies lie at the end of the day. Cataloguing the daily habits of fascists or pressuring the law to curb ‘hate-crimes’ may put food on the table for some, but we would rather encourage the growth of anti-fascist action towards ending the extreme-right’s exploitation of social and economic conditions. The building of active resistance and influencing fresh left-wing alternatives to the false solutions of the extreme right are part of what we see being tied in with this spread of information and strategy. By the militants, for the militants.

We don’t believe that selling papers or holding meetings replaces action. Far from it. But there is a need now for the militants to establish their independence from the liberal elements and realize themselves to tackle fascism head-on. Fascist leadership in North America has made considerable attempts to move their operations off the streets and into the mainstream throughout the past few years; a direct result of anti-fascist strength in the area. These moves on their behalf are a clear decision against publicly offering themselves up as potential targets for anti-fascists during the present frame. However, on all fronts they are shirking confrontations today in order to build the support they’ll need for the inevitable clashes of tomorrow.

Currently, we are seeing a growing convergence of the far-right as various elements are consolidating with the aim of building a mass-based movement. During this phase, anti-fascists should be actively building their own strategies and political relevance to counter the influence of the far right on all levels. Anti-Fascist Forum can play its part in this ongoing development by encouraging discussion of formulas which will add up to action and by circulating otherwise unavailable information.

BUILDING AN INFORMATION NETWORK

At this current stage, we are building on already-existing resources and contacts to effectively network with a number of organisations and individuals who conduct the same level of work from the militant perspective. Through the existence of a formalized network, discussion of tactics, strategies and theory combined with a practical exchange of information can provide a boost to street-based initiatives everywhere. At the same time, such a network would serve to challenge and counter the currents of fascist as well as conservative Left structures. Anti-Fascist Forum aims to build upon a communication network via electronic and print-published media amongst militant anti-fascist initiatives across North America and Europe. Our initial efforts will be published through a magazine series and ever-increasingly over the internet.

ENDING THE ISOLATION OF THE MILITANTS

The prime aim in setting up this project is to create a forum which will bridge the gap between various militants and contribute towards ending their isolation. In doing so, we end our own isolation. Throughout recent history, anti-fascist activity has come from scattered groupings or from elements lumped within broader Left coalitions. Experience on the ground has taught us that a militant tendency must organize itself and call its own shots. Some anti-racist lobby-groups and organisations take their lead from government grants and achieve nothing more than weakly defending the status quo. This does not constitute militant anti-fascism. In North America, Anti-Fascist Forum has taken the initiative in attempting the creation of a networking forum for genuine anti-fascist militants and their supporters. This will grow alongside and complement the growth of anti-fascist action.

ANTI-FASCIST FORUM RESOURCES

Antifa Forum, the publication of Anti-Fascist Forum, strives to provide an in-depth mix of information, research and analysis on fascism and the fight against it. Each issue is structured around current themes and historical lessons relevant to frontline anti-fascist activists. Further AFF publications, leaflets and resources are also available through the magazine. Our AFF website is continually updated to provide timely anti-fascist news, articles and links to archived material and other resources.

STOP THE CASSINI MISSION

With it’s 72.3 lbs. of Plutonium

Stop the militarization and nuclearization of Space

The Cassini Mission is the #1 censored story on Earth. At 5:38AM on Monday, October 6th, 1997, from launch complex #40 at Cape Canaveral Air Station, a spacecraft called Cassini is slated to lift off. On board, Cassini will be 72.3 lbs. of the deadliest substance known, Plutonium. Inhaling less than 27 millionths of a gram of Plutonium will give you lung cancer. NASA estimates that in a worst case scenario 5 of the 6 billion people on Earth could be killed! But, Cassini can be redesigned to use solar power and long-lived fuel cells.

Rally against censorship at The New York Times is on August 6th from noon-3pm

Rallies to Stop Cassini will also be held
at the United Nations on Sept. 20 noon - 8pm and
Rally at the White House on Sept. 28th and
finally at Cape Canaveral (if still necessary) on
October 4th starting at 2pm.

Website is continually updated to provide timely anti-fascist news, articles and links to archived material and other resources.

Contact:
Arm The Spirit P.O. Box 6326, Stn. A Toronto, Ontario M5W 1P7 Canada
E-mail: ats@etext.org WWW: http://burn.ucsd.edu/~ats FTP: ftp.etext.org -> /pub/Politics/Arm.The.Spirit

Call 1-888-NOCASSINI to help
ongoing happenings:

Radio Mutiny, WPPR broadcasts on 91.3FM broadcasts Wednesday thru Sunday from 6:30 till midnight and some mornings at 7:30AM. Commercial free and revolutionary, WPPR broadcasts via microtransmitter to West Philly, write: 4116 Chester Ave., Box 238, Philadelphia, PA 19104. Leave a message at 267-2477 box 6.

Books Through Bars packs up book to send to prisoners free of charge every first and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30PM at the A-Space (4722 Baltimore Ave. in West Philly).

Food Not Bombs volunteers start assembling food packages at 10AM. Produce and Bred give-away happens at 4PM.

Anti Racist Action meets second and last Sunday of the month at the A-Space.

Sunday Brunch happens every Sunday at noon till we’re out of food at Squirrel Squat, located at 4818 Baltimore Ave. in West Philly.

Refuse and Resist meets every Tuesday at the Last Drop which is at 13th and Pine.

International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu Jamal meet Thursdays at the Urban Education Building at 4601 Market St. at 7PM.

Philly Squatters Aid will meet Thursdays at 5PM at Squirrel Squat, 4818 Baltimore Ave. Here is where to find information on squattable houses, legal and practical information on squatting and maybe meet someone with whom to move in with.

Street movies happen every Friday somewhere.

ACT UP meets Monday night at the Church of the Epiphany 300 S. 13th at 7PM phone: 731-1844.

Critical Mass bike rides happen every last Friday of the month. Please do come and feel free to bring bells, horns and flyers to pass around. Don’t forget your bike! Last Friday of every month - 5:30 PM West side of City Hall (new location) 15th and Market.

Save the NYU Chimps from vivisection! Demonstrations every Monday this summer, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM at Bobst Library, Wash. Square SE corner of the park in NYC - cancelled only for heavy rain.

August 60

18,19,20 CHILDREN’S CRUSADE TO DEATH ROW

A march from New Meadow Run Bruderhof to Death Row, SCI Greene, Waynesburg, PA For more info call: (412)929-8573

20 Report from Chiapas 7:30 at the A-Space.


22 Scribe Street Movie featuring the shorts: I Do What I Do, More Than Property, The Dance Of Aunt Ida Lee and the feature: MCTV (My Own TV) by Ayoka Chenzira.

23 Shiatsu Cafe (free treatments) from 7PM at the A-Space.

24 Potluck Benefit at the A-Space at 7:30PM.

25 Leonard Di Caprio Video Cafe w. "Basketball Diaries" and Total Eclipse 7:30PM at the A-Space.

Logical Nonsense, ZED and Burn the Print at Stalag 13 at 6PM.

26 Refuse and Resist plan for an emergency response in case of Mumia’s execution and actions for Oct. 22nd (see below) 7:30PM at the A-Space - crucial meeting, don’t miss it!!!

27 Urban Wild Edible Plants - Awaken your tongues, eyes and nostrils to the nutritional healing and subversive powers of wild edible weeds. Besides being good for you, they’re absolutely free. Join us for herb walking, plant talking and wild snacking. Meet at A-Space at 7:30.

28 "This is a fur war!" Action meeting against Federated Department Store’s sale of fur w. speaker JP Goodwin of Coalition to Abolish Fur Trade, an influential ALF veteran, who will talk on building a strategic, multifaceted campaign to demolish the fur industry.

29 Sushi and Saki dinner: 7:30 PM benefits A-Space.

30 Scribe Street Video, the shorts: Hairpiece, The Dance of Aunt Ida Lee and the features: Laid to Waste by Gebrbre McCullough and Robert Bahar - a documentary about Chester and its struggle against environmental racism (56 mins) and Zero Streets by Daniel Bergin - a young boy learns that dreams can lead to creative problem solving (30 mins) location TBA (somewhere in Chester)

31 PUNK ROCK VIDEO MARATHON starts at 6PM bring Food and Drink to share at the A-Space.

September

1 Defenestration open editorial meeting. Contribute to this effort, bring flyers, articles, newsgists, information and ideas. 7:30 PM at the A-Space.

3 MOVE video night 7PM at Squirrel Squat.

5 Riot Grrrl meeting. Images of Women / Billboard Manipulation 7:30 PM at the A-Space.

Questions? Call Julie 474-6459 or Jen 927-3057.

1982 Sioux Chief Crazy Horse is murdered by US soldiers.
5, 6 and 7 - Kensington Welfare
Rights Union An Organizing School Led by the Poor. For additional information and our meeting schedule, call 215.724-1908 box 9.
6 in 1907 anarchist Leo Czolgosz shoots US President McKinley
9 Prisoner revolt in Attica, NY. - guards held hostage
11 - Meetings to Stop the Genocide of the Dine people at Big Mountain - 6:30 PM at Wetlands
17 Philadelphia Food Not Bombs Rat Patrol will serve lunch in Love Park at noon in costume to protest the City's ban on serving food in Love Park. Want to be involved? beep Tim at 577.9615
24 Demonstration to Demand Federal Funding For Syringe Exchange in Washington DC - night at the offices of the US Department of Health and Human Services. Buses will be leaving from Philly, for more info get in touch with ACT UP Philadelphia 215.731.1844, planning meeting Monday at St. Luke's Church, 13th and Pine - Outside Philly contact Chris Laniern, Natl. Coalition to Save Lives Now at 212.213.6582 ncsln@dti.net
25-26 Pennsylvania's Environmental Congress. Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA. The Congress co-ordinator is Susan Harrel, c/o Pennsylvania Wildlife Federation, 2426 N. Second St., Harrisburgh, PA 17110, email: susanh@paonline.com
28 - Rally to Stop Cassini at the White House

October
4 - International Demonstration to Cancel Cassini in Cape Canaveral, FL 1 PM .On October 6th NASA plans to launch 72 pounds of deadly plutonium into space using technology prone to failure.
7 - Joe Hill, IWW organizer was born today in 1879
10 - Indigenous People's Day - an alternative to celebrating 500+ years of Genocide.
11-13 is a Week of Action Against MacDonalds 16 World Anti-McDonalds Day ( ALSO IN WORLD FOOD DAY)
17-19 Anti-Racist Action Conference. Their yearly national conference will take place in Columbus OH at Old North High School. For information or registration call 614-424-9074

20 - Rally to Stop Cassini noon to 8 PM at the United Nations in NY info:718-426-5381 or www.lovearth.org
20 - Rally to Stop Cassini at the White House
20 Rally to Stop Cassini noon to 8PM at the United Nations in NY info:718-426-5381 or www.lovearth.org
21 Allegheny National Forest Defenders Gathering - stop the logging of National Forest, for more info call (814)226-4918 or adp@envirolink.org
20 Rally to Stop Cassini noon to 8 PM at the United Nations in NY info:718-426-5381 or www.lovearth.org
28 Rally to Stop Cassini at the White House

22 No Police Brutality Day - Nationwide protest on the 72nd anniversary of the arrest of immigrant anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti, both innocent men were executed 7 years later in Boston. People all across America intend to protest the police state by organizing marches, walkouts, teach ins and other direct actions. Everyone is encouraged to wear black on October 22nd in memory of those who have been killed or attacked by the police. Your organization is invited to endorse this action by contacting: Bay Area October 22nd No Police Brutality Day, 3145 Geary Blvd. #12, San Francisco, CA 94118. The STOLEN LIVES Project is making a list of all the people who have been killed by the police and INS from 1990 through 1997. Please send us the name, age and date of anyone killed by the police. CALL 1-800-882-11326

25-26 Pennsylvania's Environmental Congress. Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA. The Congress co-ordinator is Susan Harrel, c/o Pennsylvania Wildlife Federation, 2426 N. Second St., Harrisburgh, PA 17110, email: susanh@paonline.com

26 In 1899 during the Russian Revolution, Walter Armey, chairman of the Anarchist Congress, was killed by the police while trying to escape. The Anarchist Congress was held in Moscow in June, 1900.

27 - Today in 1899, Nestor Makhno, Ukrainian revolutionary and insurrectionist to both white and red terror was born.