Freedom for Alfredo & Christos

Alfredo & Christos denied bail
The two anarchist comrades, Alfredo Maria Bonanno and Christos Stratigopoulos, accused of being involved in a bank robbery in Trikala, Greece, have had their bail refused. Alfredo must come out of the prison now. Alfredo has serious health problems and needs medical treatment.

Alfredo Maria Bonanno remains inside the prison based on his ideas and long reputation as a writer and theorist of anarchism.

An anarchism which is not yet dead, which is not yet decaying in the pages of history but is very much alive and growing in ferocity. An anarchism which will tear a hole in the guts of the European Union.

An anarchism long based in the South European ‘Mediterranean Triangle’, of Greece, Italy, and Spain, however finding fertile, rich ground to spread within many more minds not held by any borders, who are receptive to the anarchist vision of a future world without Church, State and Capital. Neither subjugation nor poverty.

This is an anarchism of freedom, joy and solidarity. An anarchism of stones and fire, of subversion and attack. This is the dynamite that explodes against the class enemy in Santiago, Chile; the broken and smashed banks of countless dead cities of the USA & UK; the burnt BMW and Porsche of Berlin and Hamburg, Germany, which light up the night-sky for a precious passer-by; the gas-canister defence of Thessaloniki and Athens now turned quite deadly.

This is the anarchism of a complicit glance exchanged in a hostile crowd, or in a queue, or at work; sometimes like a smile, a warm expression of joy, sometimes like a friend who picks you up from the dirty punch you took all your life, or sometimes like the bullets which will find themselves periodically in the heads of powerful individuals and their pawns.

Alfredo: a writer who never betrayed his ideas in the pen and ink of conjecture, but wrote his words to express the realities around him, insights which came from the living social struggle that still remains in the hearts of many people, who will never stop dreaming about a beautiful life that has been denied to them by the prison society of capitalism and power.

This is an anarchism which cannot be jailed, cannot be repressed, cannot be put out, because it does not belong to anyone. This is an anarchism, which through the simple methods which people use to defend themselves from oppression, communicates itself through resistance and so finds friends everywhere that people have not given up hope that they can change the conditions that make their life miserable.

Destroy All Prisons –
Free Alfredo & Christos.

Write the comrades:

Alfredo Maria Bonanno
Christos Stratigopoulos
DIKASTIKES FILAKES KORIDALLOS
T.K. 18110
ATHENS
GREECE

Bristol RBS HQ attacked with Rocks & Fire (UK).
In the early hours of Tuesday 23rd February 2010, anarchists attacked the Royal Bank of Scotland HQ in the heart of developing Bristol, UK.

Despite road traffic and proximity of security, the mob succeeded in breaking windows, smashing paint-bombs against upper floors and setting fire to tyres in the middle of the road.

A litany of abuses by RBS or any other bank could continue for pages, but it is enough to state that every bank is part of the financial prison which incarcerates and impoverishes all of us. These actions will escalate and multiply.

We dedicate this action to all indigenous fighters and their allies struggling against the Tar Sands project in Kanada which RBS is an investor in, and also all those who fight against the 2010 Winter-Olympics.

This action is also in solidarity with Alfredo M. Bonanno, Christos Stratigopoulos, Polykarpos Georgiades, Vaggelis Chrissahoides, Giannis Dimitrakis, Gabriel Pombo da Silva, the entire London G20 defendants/prisoners and all other prisoners in struggle.

For international struggle against capitalism and the state.

Direct Action News From Germany http://directactionde.blogspot.com/
No 2010 Olympics http://no2010.com/
European Social Repression

About the arrests in Berlin, Germany

These arrests occurred in an atmosphere of increasing tension and rise in anti-system attacks, including ‘Gasaki’ - Greek anarchist-style improvised explosive devices using camping gas cylinders to cause arson against state and corporate targets in Berlin and Hamburg. This latest repressive action was accompanied by lurid mainstream media newspeak reports and is a continuation of desperate German State efforts to reign in a growing and committed radical current of autonomous anti-capitalist insurgency.

Mid-February 2010

Four friends and a car. Wednesday night around 2am, Berlin, district of Mitte.

We will not make it home tonight, other people made plans for our evening. Which ones those are, we will experience in the vicinity of Rosa Luxemburg Platz – as we are going to drive away with the green light, a car of the PMS [the police department responsible for political motivated violence] stops our way putting herself in front of our car, while other police cars confine our car from the other sides. We get thrown out of our car with screams, on the ground, handcuffed and encircled by excited cops, happy enough to have caught us.

All the situation reminds more of a bad version of CSI Miami... as life would not be exciting enough... Without any declarations we will be brought in different riot vans and police cars and driven towards the district of Pankow. The Ossietzky street comes out to be our final destination. As we get there, the theatre goes on: slowly, dozens of excited cops begin to pop up, among them several from the LKA [Land Criminal Office], who search the park and the parked cars with dogs, looking for some kind of traces. However, later on it will look like as they would have to feel satisfied just with having their hands full of snow.

We will remain there on the spot for over two hours, without knowing what is all this fuss about. A bored ntop cop declared finally to some of us how we would be suspected of „having committed a crime – arson on a car“. At the beginning the cops look like as they would have good mood. Later it will change: whether cars have been arsoned, nor any crime has been committed in the area. On top of this, we and our car are clean like freshly fallen snow.

Nevertheless we will be brought to the main police station, divided from each other. There, they will not merely take our identities, as the newspapers wrote.

Until 3pm we will not be able to know what our accusations are.

The grey cops working there share all the same opinion: the omnipotent people from the criminal office are the ones responsible for letting us know which are the accusations against us – therefore they consequently refuse to say a word about that. About the so-called „Right“ to make a phonecall, they are not aware, as normal in the police station, therefore we are not surprised.

Indeed we never believed in the State of Right.

Around 2pm we will be brought to the LKA 533 [the department of the criminal office responsible for arson and explosives, as one poster hanging on the walls of the bureau clarifies: a masked up military policeman holding a handgrenade]. There, they will try to interrogate us.

We refuse to make any declarations, we do not sign anything and we finally get to know which are our accusations.

Since we all get interrogated separately, each of us will get to hear a different one: from „suspected of arranging an appointment in order to commit an arson on a car“ to „suspected of arranging an appointment for committing a crime – an arson against the National Academy for Security Politics“ (Note: located there in the Ossietzky street).

Around 4pm we will be let out.

On the following day, the usual newspapers begin to publish their propaganda: the well known Andreas Kopietz from the Berliner Zeitung, who in the past has always been one of the first in line when it was about throwing shit on houseprojects or people active in the autonomous/ anarchist scene, he will be the very first one who will write about the happenings.

The Tagesspiegel and the BZ will merely reproduce the tone of this article. Here the role of the press appears clear once again: they keep alive a hysteria against everything and everyone who act against the State Order, for a world to be ruled by solidarity, free from domination.

Indeed the cops will be thanked to have caught four dangerous autonomen who surely wanted to undertake a violent attack and probably are also responsible for all the others.

You are forgetting though to remind us how we are responsible as well for the earthquake in Haiti, the growing unemployment in Berlin and all the cases of death related to the frozen streets.

Just to be precise, Ladies and Gentleman from the press...

After the cops declared in a first moment how we wanted to burn down a car: now they are sure how we wanted to burn down the National Academy for Security Politics: that is why we checked out that area.

Finally one tries to put us in connection with other militant direct actions which took place against State institutions and/or ones responsible for inner and foreign security politics of this State [Note: in the articles we will be put in connection with several direct actions which took place in the last months, often arsons and with explosive devices].

All the events gain even more charm since some of us live in well known houseprojects of this city, such like the Köpi and the Rigaer94, who never made a mystery of their irreconcilability with the present conditions.

On top of this, following their description we are also already well-known to the authorities – it seems like a perfect mix, doesn’t it?

Indeed the situation appears to be of high interest for the authorities. In the newspapers one writes how they believe to finally have found out a trace
for several direct actions.

The enemies are once again the ones who live in the house projects.

In times of ongoing debacles, non-existing evidence, frustration in regards to present and past investigations and a high pressure to bring imminent results, negative headlines in the press and a sharpening of the social conflicts in the city along with a continuous rise of actions which do not recognize any given legal border, any small thing becomes all of the sudden interesting for the repressive authorities.

Just like four friends in a car on a Wednesday evening.

This [still] small episode shows also what kind of climate dominates the city: if not long ago it was enough to wear so-called "scene-clothes" and to move around in so-called "scene-districts", in order to get arrested since by chance a car just got torched or a bank got smashed (Note: we refer here to several cases, the youngest being Alex, Christoph and Tobias), now it is enough to have been "suspect of arranging an appointment in order to commit a crime" in order to play the cowboys.

Therefore we would like to warn everybody to keep their eyes and ears open, without letting themselves be intimidated.

This episode will not be the last one and it gives as well a taste of what could be expected in the future.

So let us be prepared to consequently send back any possible intimidation attempts to the ones who send them.

We did not get knocked down neither from the bad food delivered by Sodexo [they deliver the police stations], nor the arrogance or the bad jokes of the repressive authorities.

Our joy to struggle for a world free from exploitation and domination keeps going without any restrictions.

The Four from the Fiat Fiorino

About the arrests in Paris, France

On February 15th, at 6am in the morning, 7 people were place in custody and had their homes searched in Paris as part of an investigation into the support around the rebellion at the Vincennes immigration detention center, and against the machinery of deportation. Here is some more information and updates about these arrests…

Searches and waking up at 6am in the morning

No door was kicked in, and most of the time it was possible to stalk for a couple of minutes before the cops entered (and before they threatened to use their ballifs).

In total, 50 cops from the anti-Terror police (SAT) of the Criminal Brigade (accompanies by the DCRI, the Financial Brigade, specialists in information technology…) were mobilised for this wave of arrests. Mostly, they were looking for clothes (especially scarves, head gear, shirts, sweat-shirt, shoes), but also leaflets, pamphlets and posters on the subject, and especially those opposed to the deportation machinery. Of course they seized computers, mobile phones, planners and other notebooks, as well as spray paint, banners (“November 2005-December 2008, the fire continues” and “NO NATO no Taliban, let’s desert Air France and Carlson WagnonLits branches, “wildcat walks” that include stickering, tagging, the sabotage of bank note distributors (notorious for handing sans-papiers to the cops), with the help of glue, acid, fire and hammers, and banners notably hung on the little Parisian ring.

Now that’s an investigation!

While the procedure was, according to various news releases, classified as a terrorist investigation, the prosecutor has decided to reclassify the investigation of criminal corrections, then remove the word “terrorist”.

What is targeted is the struggle against the deportation machinery (and against the people who enable it to work), as well as the practices of autonomous self-organisation, as well as direct and anonymous actions.

ATMs, walks, and occupations

At the beginning of the detentions, the main charges are: “conspiracy to serious and willful damage or destruction”, “damage and destruction by fire or explosive substance” and “criminal conspiracy”.

Actually, the people who were arrested are under suspicion of having participated in the unrest around the trial of those charged with the fire at the Vincennes detention centre, as well as struggles against the machinery of deportations. The struggle has been seen most notably in the occupation of Air France and Carlson WagnonLits branches, “wildcat walks” that include stickering, tagging, the sabotage of bank note distributors (notorious for handing sans-papiers to the cops), with the help of glue, acid, fire and hammers, and banners notably hung on the little Parisian ring.

The use of videosurveillance by the cops

During the hearings, videos were presented to the accused. It is worth noting that most of the time the camera images (of incendiary "balls/firestarters" placed over the ATMs) are of good quality: high definition, colour, the possibility to zoom in… About sixty video tapes are already on file. They most definitely are about the damaged bank machines, but also
the stickering and tags made during demonstrations (against the Ibis Hotels, the postal agencies, the “BNP” (Bank), “LCL”, Society General, Air France…). What will happen when the 1300 promised cameras will be installed on Parisian streets?!

**About the DNA samples**

All of those charged refused to give DNA samples (as well as finger prints and photographs), but the cops went to great lengths to find anything that could have been touched by the accused: cups, plastic covers, straws, cigarette butts… and, with great class, a pig even thought of bagging up a menstrual pad for analysis… It’s possible to avoid contact with your mouth (as to not leave too much saliva) various different utensils, or to rub them on the ground to mix up various traces of DNA that are always lying around in the detention cells. For more information on the refusal of samples and the judicial use of DNA, you can consult the site <http://adn.internetdown.org>.

**Going before the judge and the bail conditions.**

After 48 hours of detention, and 10 hours in the police cells, the judge was seen one at a time with the presence of a lawyer/solicitor. Three alternative options were possible: to not say anything, to make an initial declaration, or to answer the judges questions.

For the 4 people who finally went before the court, the bail conditions consisted of a ban on seeing each other and coming into contact with one another, being required to answer to legal summons to the APPE (Association d’Aide Penale), and not being allowed to leave national territory without previously asking for the judge’s permission.

In the end, 4 people are now under investigation for “conspiracy to damage or destruction”, 2 people amongst them are also charged with “damage or destruction by fire or explosive substances”. They are still searching for a fifth person on the same charges.

**Breaking the struggle**

The main function of these arrestes and judicial hearings is to separate and further isolate those who struggle. It also consists of attempting to eradicate certain forms of struggle as banal as stickering, tags and independent/wildcat demonstrations.

To condemn certain forms of action on the pretext that they are directly targeted by the crackdown only strengthens the divisions that the State seeks to impose.

This series of arrests, raids and indictments, apart from the intelligence work done, is just another blow to lobby against any attempt to act and destroy what destroys us. Everything continues!

**Struggles and rebellions in Europe**

The kind of situation is not just confined to France, given that in Europe there are many acts of rebellion, in detention centres and around.

In Italy, a couple of days after the arrests in Paris, the same kind of repression targeted people suspected of participating in struggles against the “CIE” (Migration detention centres), in Turin, Lecce, Roverto… Many of them were put into detention and put under house arrest, others were placed under “special surveillance”.

But solidarity knows no borders, and with joy we have recently learned about the attacks against ATMs in Belgium and Spain.

We will not cry over wrecked ATMs. The struggle continues, as normal.

**Active/Revolutionary solidarity.**

**Freedom for all with or without papers.**

**Greece: Alfredo M. Bonanno “suspected” of second robbery**

_Athens, 25 Feb._ – Alfredo Bonanno, the Italian anarchist over 70 years old imprisoned last October following an accusation of concourse in robbery of a bank in Trikala, is suspected of being the author of another robbery carried out last July at Argostoli, on the island of Cefalonia. Bonanno’s lawyers contest this accusation.

According to police sources cited by the media, Bonanno, with a false beard and wig, would have been recognised by one of the witnesses on the basis of a CCTV video, while he robbed the Bank of Cyprus, pistol in hand, 6 July in Argostoli. The information has been partially confirmed by the central police station, according to which “an old Italian is considered author of the robbery at Argostoli, which rendered 26,000 euros”. The spokesman did not give Bonanno’s name directly but implied that it was him.

Joanna Kurtovic, the Greek lawyer of the old Italian imprisoned in Korydallos [Athens], has expressed her doubts concerning the identification on the basis of a video and a critique of the way this accusation was made public.

**Courts attacked in Bristol (UK)**

8 February 2010

“Last night the magistrates court next to the bus station in the middle of Bristol was attacked. All the reachable windows were smashed out and spray paint messages left on the walls “fuck the law not the poor!”

We know that the court ‘justice’ system is nothing but a farce designed and run to protect the wealth and power that rules this rotten society. we know that this system is our enemy, it does not protect us. we know that to achieve a world where we might control our own lives and find solutions to our own problems we must first fight to bring this world to the ashes that it so deserves.

This done in solidarity and anarchist greetings to everyone fucked over by the courts, probation, police, bosses, and everyone fighting class struggle against the power in the social war that is brought down on us.”

Joanna Kurtovic, the Greek lawyer of the old Italian imprisoned in Korydallos [Athens], has expressed her doubts concerning the identification on the basis of a video and a critique of the way this accusation was made public.

**Dark Nights** is an irregular anarchist & anti-prison publication of resistance reports and repression news.

Existing since 2005 this free newsletter has been printed and read in many places around the world, encouraging replication and collaboration.

If you like this newsletter, look out for 325, an insurgent zine of social war and anarchy, available to download from the online home of Dark Nights:

**325.nostate.net**

For a world without borders, prisons or financial markets.

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