

# ANATHEMA

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## THE INTERSECTION OF MILITARY AND INDUSTRY

AugustaWestland Philadelphia Corporation recently won a \$176.5 million contract to build new training helicopters for the US Navy. With a recently expanded non-union plant at the Northeast Philadelphia airport, and nearby offices at 3050 Red Lion Road, the Leonardo-owned company expects to perform 87% of the work in the city of Philly.

Leonardo – the Italian-owned parent company of AugustaWestland – has its hands in all sorts of defense, aeronautics, and energy endeavors. In fact, when this mostly state-owned company was still known as Finmeccanica, its name circulated in anarchist news after the head of another of its subsidiaries was shot in the

knee by the Olga Nucleus of the Informal Anarchist Federation. It was in May of 2012 that Nicola Gai and Alfredo Cospito delivered the kneecapping unto Roberto Adinolfi, the chief executive of Ansaldo Nucleare, after the Fukushima disaster.

The Olga Nucleus elaborates on the inter-industrial connections in their communique:

*“Finmeccanica means Ansaldo Energy with its nuclear tombs. Finmeccanica means Ansaldo Breda with its high-speed trains that devastate the land. Finmeccanica means Selex Sistemi Integrati, Dirstechnical Service, Inc.*

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### SONG OF THE WORMS

We have been underground too long,  
we have done our work,  
we are many and one,  
we remember when we were human

We have lived among roots and stones,  
we have sung but no one has listened,  
we come into the open air  
at night only to love

which disgusts the soles of boots,  
their leather strict religion.

We know what a boot looks like  
when seen from underneath,  
we know the philosophy of boots,  
their metaphysic of kicks and ladders.  
We are afraid of boots  
but contemptuous of the foot that needs them.

Soon we will invade like weeds,  
everywhere but slowly;  
the captive plants will rebel  
with us, fences will topple,  
brick walls ripple and fall,

there will be no more boots.  
Meanwhile we eat dirt  
and sleep; we are waiting  
under your feet.

When we say Attack  
you will hear nothing  
at first.

Margaret Atwood



## WHAT WENT DOWN

Mid-January - “The antifascist contingent of the Philadelphia Mural Arts program” tagged Jackson B Bradley’s house in Old City. Jackson B Bradley is a recently doxxed neo-nazi and member of New Jersey European Heritage Association. “NAZI SCUM ///”

January 20 - A Santander Bank is robbed by an unknown individual presenting a demand note and demanding money.

January 23 - A Republic Bank is robbed by an unknown individual presenting a demand note and demanding money.

January 28 - A Republic Bank is robbed by an unknown individual presenting a demand note and demanding money.

February 2 - A Santander bank is robbed by an unknown individual presenting a threatening demand note.

February 3 - A Wells Fargo Bank is robbed by an unknown individual presenting a demand note.

February 5 - A Republic Bank is robbed by an unknown individual presenting a demand note.

February 5 - Protestors demonstrate against Vice President Mike Pence speaking at a Catholic school in West Philly.

Early February - Environmental and anti-cop slogans painted in South and Southwest Philly. “CLIMATE ACTION NOW” “NO MORE PIPELINES” “ACAB” “FTP”

February 7 - Chuck Africa, the last of the MOVE prisoners, is released from prison.

February 9 - Around 26 houses are vandalized in Point Breeze with slogans including “burn the rich” and anarchy symbols. ★

## MILITARY INDUSTRIAL CONT.

*Elsac Datamat with its equipping of the racist US police for the control of the Mexican border, with its delirious design of electronic walls at the Libyan border against migrants, and its sophisticated electronic supplies to the Chilean police. Finmeccanica means Avio Alenia, Galileo and Selex with their deadly F35 fighter bombers, and the terrible aerial drones without pilots. Finmeccanica means interforce range from Salto to Quirra in Sardegna. Finmeccanica means bio- and nano-technology. Finmeccanica means death and suffering, new frontiers of Italian capitalism.”*

Leonardo’s defense contracts also cross over with the relatively-new-to-the-United-States Fiat car company, as well as being the parent company to ELSAG North America – a company that produces the “automated license plate readers” that we see atop many a police car here and elsewhere. Moreover, as has been written elsewhere, and was also recently addressed in In These Times magazine, “US military power imperils any serious response to the climate crisis.” To put a finer, but far-from-comprehensive point on it, a recent study in The Guardian stated that “every year, air pollution from fossil fuels takes millions of lives, increases our risk of stroke, lung cancer, and asthma.”

In any case, if all goes well for AugustaWestland, “the company could gain orders for an additional 98 aircraft by 2024, boosting the total contract award to \$648 million.”

The scope of these industries is mind-boggling. AugustWestland is only the second-largest of three major helicopter factories in the Philadelphia area, all of which are also served by a network of regional and national suppliers, and are dependent on US military contracts. Leonardo, itself, is only one of the largest industrial companies out of Italy.

In related local fields, the Boeing works in Ridley Park, Delaware County, which employs around 4,600, upgrades Chinook CH-47 helicopters for the Army, Air Force, and for allied foreign military and civilian users. Much of this industry was kept alive in a bipartisan congressional effort after the current presidential administration redirected funding away from these older style weapons of mass destruction and toward long-range cyber weapons.

# CLASSIFIEDS

## CALL FOR WORKSHOP PROPOSALS

We’re looking for people interested in giving skill building workshops around the themes of revolutionary survival and growth. We’re planning an all-day event with the intentions of strengthening our individual and collective capacities to survive, heal, build, attack, imagine, and live in anti-capitalist, anti-authoritarian ways.

This spring we’ll be hosting a free outdoor come together. Throughout the day there will be workshops, food, literature, and hanging out. Expect blocs of workshops alongside informal and spontaneous learning.

If you’re interested in presenting a workshop please send us a brief description of what you have in mind and how it connects to the themes we mention above. We’re looking for workshops to be more or less an hour long.

Please send your proposals to hereand-nowzines@riseup.net

We’re also looking for help with setup/breakdown, food, and accessibility, so if you want to lend a hand please reach out.

See you in the spring!  
Here & Now Zines

## SEND ERIC KING MAIL

PLEASE send letters, articles, jokes, and memes. After resisting mail changes, the prisoners also won the right to have magazines!! Please shoot us an email if you want to get a subscription for Eric.”

Eric King 27090045  
FCI Englewood  
9595 w Quincy ave  
Littleton co 80123

If folks want to organize local fundraisers in their cities, hit us up. We have various literature and support shirts that can be printed and sold for fundraising.

LOCAL Colorado folks, please reach out if you are interested in helping build support on the ground.  
erickingsupportcrew(AT)riseup.net

## ANARCHIST ASSEMBLY

A massive global wave of revolt is spreading. Let’s make plans and be ready together.

February 23rd 4 to 6 PM @ the Wooden Shoe

Invite your friends // Please keep off social media

## How to destroy cell phone towers

*Recipe:* Standard size cell phone tower, used by two or three cell carriers. Usually at the installation there will be a sign noting the companies.

### Ingredients:

2-3 comrades

Entry tools (Boltcroppers, Wiresnips, etc)  
Gloves, Mask, Clean Clothes, Hat, Cap or Hood (for DNA traces)

Fuel (500ml, White Spirit or Kerosene preferred instead of Benzine/Petrol)  
Fuel (100ml of Benzine/Petrol)  
Firelighters, Several Lighters, Long Pole or Stick (up to 15ft)  
Thick Rags/Towelling (to absorb the fuel)  
Small Tyre which is easy to fit in a rucksack (from Wheelbarrow, Quad Bike, Moto etc)

*Stage 1.* Recon the target. Locate the weak point in the installation, which is where the network cables depart from the mast vertical and enter horizontally or similar into the electrical source, which is usually either a small reinforced building or box. The exposed cables may be located at ground level or up to 15ft up the mast for example. Note estimated timings, entry and exit points, security cameras, motion sensors, lighting etc. Aim to execute the action within 15 mins.

*Stage 2.* Check and enter the site, climb the mast if needed, cut the cable ties that bunch the wires together at the weak point you located earlier. Wedge the tyre in between the cables securely and stuff the tyre with rags and wrap some rags around the cables climbing up the mast from that point. Soak the rags inside the tyre and up the mast with fuel. Take care not to cover yourself with fuel traces, prevent unneeded forensic evidence and do not set yourself on fire. If you are using a pre-made timed incendiary device place it inside the tyre and set it. Climb down.

*Stage 3.* If using a timed device, leave the site immediately. If not, check the site and your exit points quickly. This second check is to prevent any detection, unnecessary injuries or death due to the extended nature of the action.

*Stage 4.* Light the fire using a pole or stick wrapped with fuel-soaked rags, Benzine is better here as the wind can get very strong where these mast are located usually. Light the rags inside the tyre from a distance, getting as far back as possible. If the tyre is small, then the fire is smaller, and detection is lessened. Practice operating in windy environments to get used to using fire at altitude and in difficult circumstances. Leave immediately.

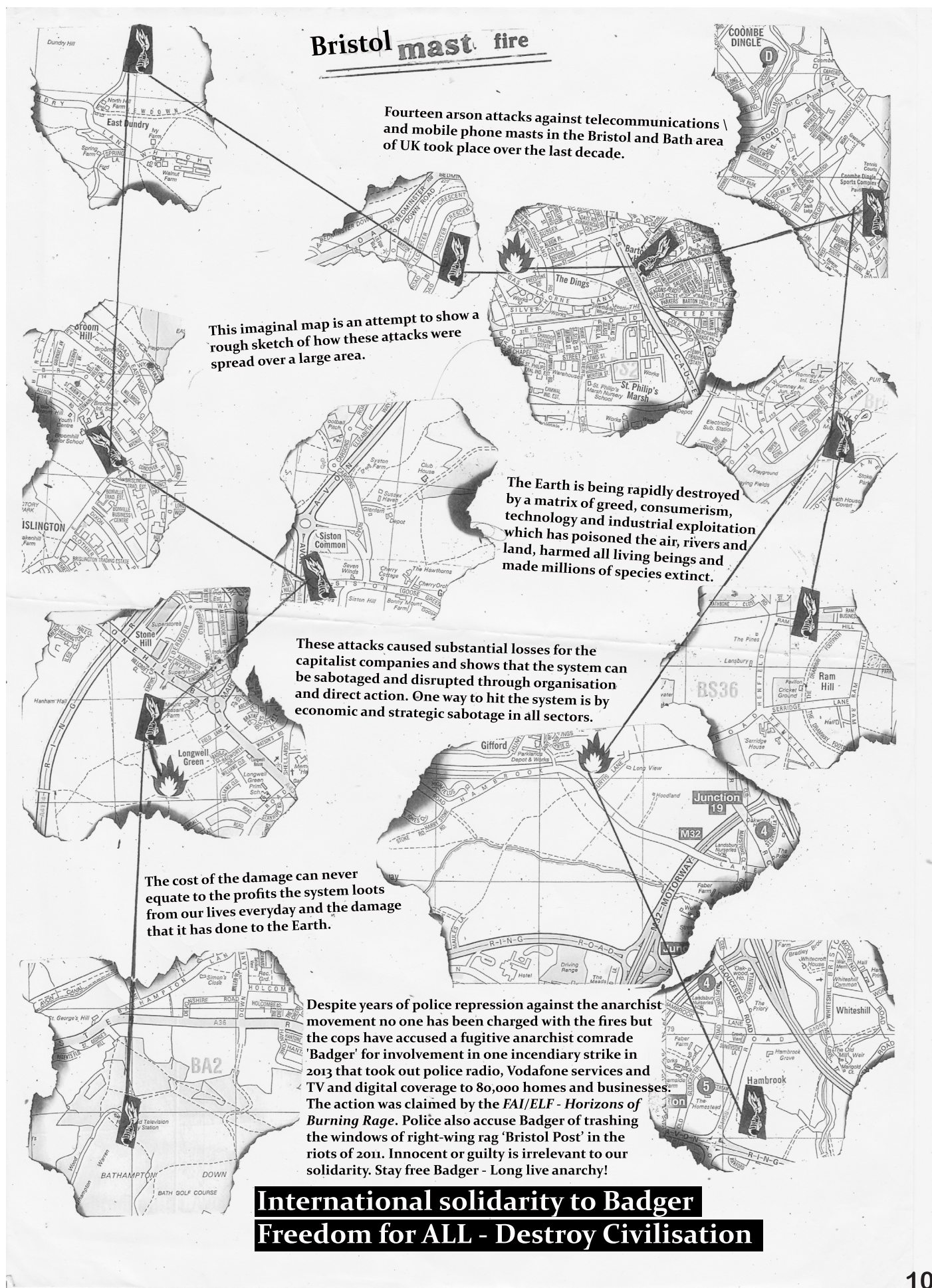
*Security:* Dispose of all materials used in the sabotage action and do not return to the site. Police scientific teams will extensively search the target’s area, entry and exit points, and routes to and from, for any trace of material they can use as evidence.

This recipe is open to be adapted and developed for use wherever it is needed, larger and more complex targets and systems need more developed plans of attack. Trial and error are the guide.

*Against 5G & the world which needs it*







On the flipside, it was the US President himself who encouraged LockheedMartin to maintain its Sikorsky helicopter plant near Coatesville, as part of a strategy of gaining votes in Pennsylvania.

It might seem like a moot point by now, but for those keeping track, the Sikorsky plant is non-union and the Boeing production workers in Ridley Park are represented by a local of the Machinists union (which also represents airline maintenance workers at nearby Philadelphia International Airport). Of course, the companies also work together sometimes, as Boeing and Leonardo are partners on MH-139 Grey Wolf military helicopters, for example.

The Air Force last year said it would buy up to 82 Grey Wolves to replace its aging Hueys in defending U.S. nuclear weapons bases in North Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming, and to transport politicians and other “very important persons.”

The MH-139s are built at AugustaWestland Philadelphia and armed with heavy machine guns and other military systems in Ridley Park.★

## THE END OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

Headlines tell us that the United States has historically high levels of employment, that more and more jobs are being created, and that any economic hiccups are the result of Trump’s trade war with China. Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is promising that the global economy will return to a higher growth rate of 3.2% next year, after growing only 2.9% this past year. But what does this amazing economic prosperity have to do with our everyday lives? Well, nothing. These official numbers hide a much darker reality, which is that global economic growth is slowly coming to an end — a crisis that, whether it portends revolutionary uprisings or mass catastrophes, has potential consequences for all of us.

The incredible amount of major rebellions around the world in 2019 were, once they became impossible to ignore, attributed by some mainstream commentators to a crisis of neoliberalism. In reality, they signal a much deeper crisis of capitalism itself. Capitalism, as a global economic system, must keep growing in order to survive — this is why economists put so much stock in measuring numbers like global and national GDP growth each year. For decades now, though, the global economy has struggled to find new markets that will

expand it at a necessary rate. Neoliberalism is just a name for the brutal austerity measures that many governments had to take during this time in order to reduce costs and keep their economies afloat. Most of the attempted policy changes that set off the recent uprisings — pension cuts, transit fare hikes, taxes on gas — are examples of these kinds of austerity measures.

The term “neoliberalism” obscures the real problem, which is the economic system itself. As part of the economy’s interminable quest for profit and growth, capitalists must cut costs in large part by exploiting people as much as they can. These recent measures have clearly pushed people beyond their breaking point, and it is a testament to how much the world economy is in crisis that those in power have continued to try to offload costs onto regular people as much as they can, even if it provokes widespread resistance.

The growth rate the world economy saw in 2019 was the lowest it’s been since the so-called Great Recession of 2009. According to the IMF, the global economy is in a “synchronized slowdown;” slower growth is expected in more than 80% of the world. For the first time, almost all major markets in the world are stagnating, meaning that there will be nothing to pull the economy out once the next recession hits.

In order to grow, capitalist industries must find ways to increase their “productivity,” which happens primarily by reducing the cost of labor. Historically, when productivity has successfully increased at the rates necessary to sustain itself, it’s been through major operations that incorporated workers from the agriculture sector into the higher-productivity manufacturing sector. Over the past five hundred years, almost the entire world has been forced into capitalist production in this way, despite massive resistance. Not enough places remain now that can be incorporated in this way, at least not on a large enough scale to maintain capitalism’s necessary rate of growth. Yet we are still currently seeing those in power ruthlessly attempting to exploit some of the last unoccupied lands and peoples right before our eyes here in the Americas.

One indicator that capitalism is having a productivity crisis, as Aaron Benavev points out in a recent article on automation, is that actual global industrial production growth (which measures output from companies within the manufacturing, mining, and utilities sectors) started slowing at the end of 2017. This trend



began way before Trump set up the tariffs to which everyone is attributing the current global slowdown. Service providers, which supply 80% of jobs in the U.S., are also showing deteriorating rates of growth.

Meanwhile, the financial markets are barely staying afloat, but because financialization is magic that depends on investors believing in it, actual information about how bad it's getting is hard to find. One underreported factor is that the U.S. Federal Reserve has been injecting cash into the stock market to prop it up since September (a major reason for any stock market gains in 2019). In January, the Fed admitted that they would continue to do so at least through April.

Another important indicator is the so-called "inverted yield curve," in which yields on short-term bonds are higher than those on long-term bonds. This reveals a significant lack of confidence in the market in the longterm and is one of the best indicators that a major recession is coming. The yield curve was inverted for much of 2019, and recently became inverted again as of early February.

The world economy may keep staggering along for many years yet; capitalism and democracy may get significantly restructured in order to keep itself afloat; we may even see "wins" that look like socialism, but in reality are this exploitative world system succeeding in maintaining its stronghold over our lives. It's also possible, though, that all the signs we're experiencing of a failing economic and political system alongside massive ecological collapse are signs of just that — global systemic collapse★

## INTERVIEW WITH GAY CHAOS

*An editor of Anathema sat down with an anonymous member of graffiti crew Gay Chaos to talk queerness, graffiti, and politics.*

### What is gay chaos and how did it start?

Gay chaos is a tag/graffiti crew. I read this zine once that was interviewing a bunch of different graffiti writers in Europe and they were all queer, trans or femme. I thought it was really cool. There was this one graffiti crew named fag mob. I really liked the name and it got me thinking...I had been tagging and writing slogans, and I was not satisfied with either of them. I thought it would be interesting to have a tag that was a slogan that also shout out: this isn't some cis straight dude, this is some gay people, some gay chaos.

**For you, what is the relationship between queer-**

**ness and chaos?**

That's a good question. I feel like queerness is inherently kind of chaotic, or it can be. When I think about gender expression and expression of sexuality, I feel like it can be expressed in these ways that are chaotic and don't make sense to normal society. It's disorderly, not fitting in the norms. It makes me think when I'm confusing people by my gender or by expressing my sexuality in public. For example, if I'm in a polyamorous relationship, we're all trans, and we're being affectionate with each other in public. People are like, "what the hell is going on? Who are these freaks? What is this?" It's planting chaotic seeds that our gender, our sexuality, can be limitless and doesn't have to be anything we've seen before. We can go wherever with it. That winds up being chaotic sometimes.

### So more about graffiti, what mediums do you use and why?

Paint markers, spray paint, regular paint, stickers, these scratcher pens, stencils. Mostly things with paint, either writing or spray painting, etching into glass, or throwing up stickers.

### Would you call gay chaos something that's political, or artistic, or criminal?

I don't wanna say it's artistic, but I guess technically graffiti is street art, so maybe. That's not where I'm coming from, and I don't think that's where the crew is coming from. I would definitely say it's political because, like I said before, it stemmed from writing slogans which were definitely political. It's definitely criminal too because, like, fuck private property. It's a crime to fuck with property. Doing graffiti, you have to have the mindset to look out to not get spotted by the cops, hiding, being discrete, to not get popped. Yeah, it's a crime, graffiti is illegal.

### Graffiti is illegal.

Yeah.

### How do you relate to the graffiti scene and other writers in Philly? How about other queers and the queer scene?

I feel like there is a very small overlap between the queer scene and graffiti writers in Philly, but the graffiti scene in general I don't relate to that hard. As

Many are wishing them all a speedy escape — whether that involves another spectacular helicopter hijacking or some other method. ★



## TURKEYS AGAINST COPS

Officials at Bertram's Garden in Southwest Philly noted recently that wild turkeys routinely stop traffic and attack cars in the area. Director Tom Reber noted that the turkeys are particularly aggressive towards police cars and "chase cops out." The feisty wild turkey population has been expanding since the mid-1990s, when flocks reintroduced to Pennsylvania reached the southwest and northeast regions of the city. Refer speculated that the turkeys' attacks result from mistaking their reflections on the sides of cars for other turkey rivals, noting that police vehicles are especially shiny. Police vehicles are also known to help enforce the domestication of animals and the destruction of the ecosystems they depend on, so maybe that's part of it too. In any case, we look forward to many more reports of turkeys disrupting business as usual this year. ★

## LIMITS OF RESISTANCE AND THE PROMISE OF REVOLT

We are surrounded by a spectacle that maintains allegiance to governance — particularly the government of the United States within its own borders. While the farce of hashtag resistance and their electoral politics seems to be collapsing around them in a spectacular fashion, it has always been the case that any such in-

cidents of resisting current leadership in favor of a different state of servility betrayed the cause of freedom. In most moments this might be a purely semantic argument, resistance vs. revolt, but given the Left's large-scale investment in this terminology it feels necessary to undermine the usefulness of what amounts to piecemeal reform.

It is only in renouncing subjugation to any regime, through an eternal revolt against the sorry state and its affairs, that we might hope to realize beauty, joy, and life — to realize anarchy. Anything less than an unbridled refusal of governance can only feed back into cycles of control. Share food, house the vulnerable, teach others to fight back — but if this is done under any veil, any other guise, it is little more than social work. We can attempt to build authentic, caring relationships — behave civilly — in support of incivility. Even a recent article in Grid "green consumerism" Magazine (a local rag whose current issue focuses on activism) attests to the power of relationships when they share something more than hobbies, though it is miscategorized or limited by the moralist term "virtues."

Be that as it may, we still need a physical destruction of the institutions that hold us back — and so long as their apparatuses exist, we will never be able to totally deconstruct the baggage of our conditioning as we are routinely re-exposed to it. Our relationships will suffer despite the safety pins you use to hold together their frayed edges. This is not a chicken or the egg situation — it all has to go, and the sooner the better.

This is a path on which all signs point to anarchy, or else we remain bumper to bumper on an endless, abominable highway — asphalt hell, pavement of good intentions, breathing in a choking smog.

It's important to act despite the petrifying fear of consequence. I don't desire the celebrity of political prisoner status, and distinctly fear a prolonged distance from my loved ones — in fact I think the confines of prison might strangle me to death, but this wouldn't be martyrdom. To live life requires an authenticity to myself, to my desires and goals. Authenticity that is always compromised under an ever-conditioning status quo, but that can be overcome if we fly much higher — out of the salty reach of the sea. Joy in the sunlight might melt our wings, but we will have lived life our way and actually known happiness — known ourselves and each other. ★



In fact, all brave birds fly far away to distant places, but eventually halt somewhere their flight and are unable to continue more. Then they sit on the higher branch of a big tree or on a big rock.

Who else can say then that there is no infinite freedom anymore? Who else can say that they have flown as far as they could handle? There are no birds capable of flying for endless eternity.

Anarchism is a bird that moves against the definite characteristics called fate and laws, therefore it breaks the norm structure, goes against Power and thus conquers the world and creates the change.

The Anarchist development is not created of any chance, but is produced by the difficult path of libertarian struggle.

Soheil Arabi  
Evin Prison  
January 5th, 2020★

# GREEK ANARCHISTS ARRESTED

On January 29th, anarchist comrades Giannis Michailidis, Konstantina Athanasopoulou and Dimitra Valvani were captured in an Athens, Greece suburb. They were allegedly driving a stolen car with a Kalashnikov rifle, a submachine gun, a handgun, stolen license plates and other items.

The following day, DNA was forcefully taken from the two comrades that weren't already on file, which led to police hitting Valvani, disregarding their knowledge of her preexisting head injury. Her demands to call her doctor were denied, and after three hours she was brought to a hospital for "irrelevant examinations." Raids on their homes followed, in addition to Valvani's grandfather's DNA being taken.

So far they have been charged with four felonies and six misdemeanors, including membership of a criminal organization and illegal possession of weapons.

They have proudly declared their anarchist identities while in custody, and a communique elaborating on their experience is imminent.

Giannis Michailidis previously escaped from the Tyrintha agricultural prison last June. He had been arrest-

ed in February 2013 for the double armed robbery that took place in Velventos, along with anarchist comrades Nikos Romanos, Dimitris Polis and Andreas-Dimitris Bourzokis. The famous beating they underwent was first conveyed to the public by the poorly photoshopped mugshot of a battered Romanos, who was released last year. Michailidis was serving a longer sentence than the others, in part for having been convicted for an attack against police at a checkpoint in May 2011. Giannis Michailidis, in addition to be a part of the anarcho-nihilist guerilla group Conspiracy Cells of Fire, is also known as "the archer of Syntagma" – in February 2011 during the clashes surrounding a general strike, he was arrested for shooting at the riot police that protected the Greek parliament in Syntagma Square (Athens) with a bow and arrow.

As this is being written, Giannis is also undergoing trial along with seven other comrades for a conflict with a prison guard while they were imprisoned together. The other seven are free at the moment. In the extremely limited spans of time he is in the courtroom, Giannis is kept separate from his codefendants by a wall of masked cops, and then removed during every recess. Even after the bureaucracy failed to deliver him to the court in a timely manner, the judge refused his lawyer's request to share a brief, private counsel with his client, away from the cops.

Konstantina Athanasopoulou had also been on the run after being released on bail for activities related to the anarchist organization Revolutionary Struggle. She was sentenced in absentia last year to 35 years and 6 months. Other alleged members of RS are currently in court, facing charges of bank robbery, homicide, possession of weapons and explosives, kidnapping, forgery, etc. One of the first well-known attacks by RS involved them firing a Rocket Propelled Grenade (RPG) into the third floor of the US Embassy in Athens on January 12, 2007 as an "answer to the criminal war against 'terrorism' that the US has unleashed over the entire planet with the help of fellow-traveling states."

In related news, counter-info sites are reporting that anarchist Dinos Giagtzoglou was cleared of being a member of and participating in a terrorist organization (CCF), the manufacture of explosives, and financing of a terrorist organization – but guilty of illegal possession of explosives, pistols, and ammunition. He was sentenced to 11 years and 2 months, without parole.

a femme, I was in the graffiti scene in Philly from when I was a teenager, but was kind of always pushed out. All my friends that wrote were guys. They'd be painting and be like, oh, you can be the lookout. They didn't really include me. When I meet people and learn about their tags, it's a lot of dudes. But, you know, a lot of graffiti writers, I don't know who they are. I don't know the scene, I'm not in it deep like that. I don't relate to the larger graffiti scene except by writing graffiti and seeing graffiti, and making observations. There are some other writers that are queer or anarchist that I fuck with, and then there's also writers that I don't fuck with--people that I know personally or that I've heard stories about. Or, a writer that I see dissed some shit and I didn't like it, then fuck them.

I'm in the queer scene, I guess. I feel like a lot of people in the queer scene appreciate gay chaos, and it's cool, but I don't think people are that hype on graffiti culture. I wish they were because honestly so many people in the queer scene are self-proclaimed artists and into artistic things. I wish I saw more of that going in more political directions, and also in more criminal-chaotic directions. A lot of people are down with the chaos or the criminality, but don't actually partake. Maybe wouldn't even partake if they had the chance, I don't know. But I would like to see more overlap, I think it'd be cool. I also just like think it would be cool to have more queers and femmes, especially because graffiti's so dominated by dudes.

What kind of things inspire you? Any writers or queers bring you inspiration?

I mentioned that zine from Europe really inspired me, just hearing why people chose certain names, what they were tryna do, what they were tryna see. Writers that inspire me, honestly, are people who I see get up all over the place. Especially in Philly, there's so many parts of Philly that are outside of the Center City-South Philly-West Philly area, where all the more subcultural people hang out. I like seeing writers who get up in those places, but also get up in the real neighborhoods. I'm like, oh word, you're actually out here? I feel like zebo gets up *everywhere*. So I guess, shout out to them, I don't even know you, brah. But, whatever, shout

out because you be like deep north, which I really appreciate.

I also really appreciate writers who get up crazy high. That's just scary. I'm like, yo, how'd you all do that? These crazy roof pieces or on some crazy bridges--I appreciate seeing that. So, yeah, far reaching and getting crazy spots inspires me, I think it's really cool.

I'm inspired by some of my friends, one of the other people in the crew. I'm inspired by different cool shit that's going on that's fucking shit up, that's fucking with the flow of progress. That inspires me the most because it makes me be like, damn I want that too.

Anything else you want to add?

Shout out other anarchist writers out there tryna spread anarchy and make it visible. Shout out to my friends, y'all know who you are. One thing I wanna say, I really just want people to stand by what they say, say what they mean, and act on what they say. I feel like there's a lot of people out there who talk the talk but don't walk the walk. I wanna see everybody walking and talking, like I'm not tryna write gay chaos just because it's a cool thing. I'm tryna live it in my life. I wanna see more wild shit, because I'm really dissatisfied. So let's spread some fucking mayhem.

Thank you. ★

# CIVILIZATION AND ITS EPIDEMICS

The life-saving successes of modern medicine are frequently cited in order to challenge anarchists who are critical of civilization. What the champions of medical science ignore, however, are the dangerous failures of this type of medicine.

Most recently, the Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention (CDC) acknowledged that antibiotics are proving useless for a growing number of diseases. According to the CDC, antibiotic resistance will become a bigger killer than cancer by 2050. Currently, over 23,000 people in the U.S. die each



year from antibiotic-resistant infections.

The first annual report by the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board, released in 2019, warned that there are “increasingly dire risks” of epidemics that could spread around the world, potentially killing tens of millions of people. The report cites the climate crisis, rising migration, urbanisation, and lack of water as the main reasons that such diseases are spreading faster. Since then, the new coronavirus has already killed over 1,4860 people as of mid-February (the numbers are likely much higher than what has been reported so far).

As noted above, the lethal nature of such epidemics is enabled, rather than prevented, by what capitalist civilization calls “progress.” Globalization — the result of capitalism’s need to expand into more and more of the world — has increased our mobility, incentivized people to pack themselves ever more tightly in cities, and further encroached on wild animals’ territories, all of which encourage the spread of disease. Global pandemics will worsen as long as we continue such practices.

While viruses that originate in already marginalized black and brown region of the worlds tend to get the most attention, it’s actually the common flu that is likely to cause the most deaths. Around 50 million people died in 1918-1919 from the Spanish flu; public health experts called it “the worst pandemic in modern history.”

Strengthening our health and wellness is extremely important, but that is not the goal of the modern medical industry. That industry developed in the early stages of capitalism to take power away from women and other traditional holistic healers, bestowing authority on “experts” with little understanding of the human body and whose studies are influenced, whether consciously or not, by the needs of global capitalism. Health and happiness are, however, the goals of most anarchists. Anarchists are champions of life — not of prolonging one’s existence, but of deepening our health and happiness to the fullest.

The project of moving towards a healthy and hap-

py society — one in which balance and relationship between living beings is restored — cannot happen in the context of “civilization.” Civilization is defined by its unsustainability, the need of one group to exploit another for its survival, which leads at best to alienation and at worst to death. The solution to the worsening state of the world’s health cannot be found in the industries and practices that produced it; we must carve out our own paths towards physical and spiritual well-being. ★



## THE FRONTLINES OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE WET’SUWET’EN

Solidarity with the Wet’suwet’en land defenders in so-called Canada against new pipeline construction has been ongoing, but significantly ramped up after the Royal Canadian Mounted Police raided a Wet’suwet’en access road checkpoint early on the morning of February 6th. School walkouts, office occupations, vandalism, and rail, freeway, and port blockades have been disrupting the flow of commerce across the settler-colonial nation-state, with huge sections of Canada’s rail system shut down entirely. So how does one contribute to such a campaign that has been going on for more than ten years in Northern British Columbia?

“There is no need to chase the frontline; we can fight

where we stand.” — North-Shore.info

Global capitalists barely recognize international borders — the sort of companies and transit that are necessary to pipeline construction, operation, and “resource extraction” span the world, offering opportunities to contribute to land-defense struggles close to home. As internationalists we should recognize that the fight for a free, borderless world necessitates actions against globalists who only seek to confine the entirety of the world under the thumb of capital.

Solidarity, in the anarchist sense, can be seen as a sort of middle ground between the principles of Mutual Aid and Direct Action — in recognizing common fights and enemies we can directly target those opponents to the benefit of all who struggle against them, or at least boost the morale of those who do fight by showing them they are not alone. When “solidarity means attack” became a popular phrase, it was intended to challenge us to contribute more than a symbolic gesture. It also reminds us not to accept misconceptions of direct action as anything less than interfering with the practical operations of that which we oppose.

As the North Shore Counter-info “call-out for rail disruptions” article quoted above continues, “no actions have yet been denounced” by the Wet’suwet’en people holding down the checkpoints and blockades against the pipeline. The anonymous contributor continues

with practical information regarding clandestinity in general (i.e. DNA and fingerprints), the popular copper wire method of turning on red rail signals to halt trains, methods of destroying rail signal boxes, and even a way to destroy the rails themselves with home-made thermite. One commentator on the site clarifies the potential misstep of combining bleach and any acid in that process, but otherwise the suggestions seem sound. Alternatively, the website Warrior Up also has three variations of thermite recipes on their site.

It should go without saying that visiting any such site should be done on the freely-downloadable Tor browser, at the very least, to leave less of a trail should anything happen.

There are so many reasons that nearly every living being on earth can find common cause with the struggles against resource extraction, and as mentioned above, there is no end to the perpetrators of ecocide and genocide in our own regions.

The flaming tire blockades in Montreal should remind us of the Mi’kmaq warriors just a few years back; the nation-wide blockades and sabotage should be a reminder of the armed stand-off during the Oka Crisis of 1990. The spirit of all such acts are a reminder of more than 500 years of indigenous resistance, and ongoing land and water defense projects the world over. ★

## ANARCHISM MEANS FLYING FOREVER

via 325

*Soheil Arabi, the anarchist political prisoner, writes from the notorious Evin prison in northern Tehran, Iran...*

Anarchism means flying forever. Since the very moment we open our eyes to this world, from all sides, a net of religion, nationality, language, “race”, sexism is thrown over our intelligence, as an obstacle to flight. When you talk to me about religion, race, language and superstition, then I try to build wings out of these nets to fly towards the infinite freedom of thinking mind.

Becoming an anarchist starts with breaking norm structures. This is hugely difficult and expensive. But more difficult than that is to remain an anarchist.