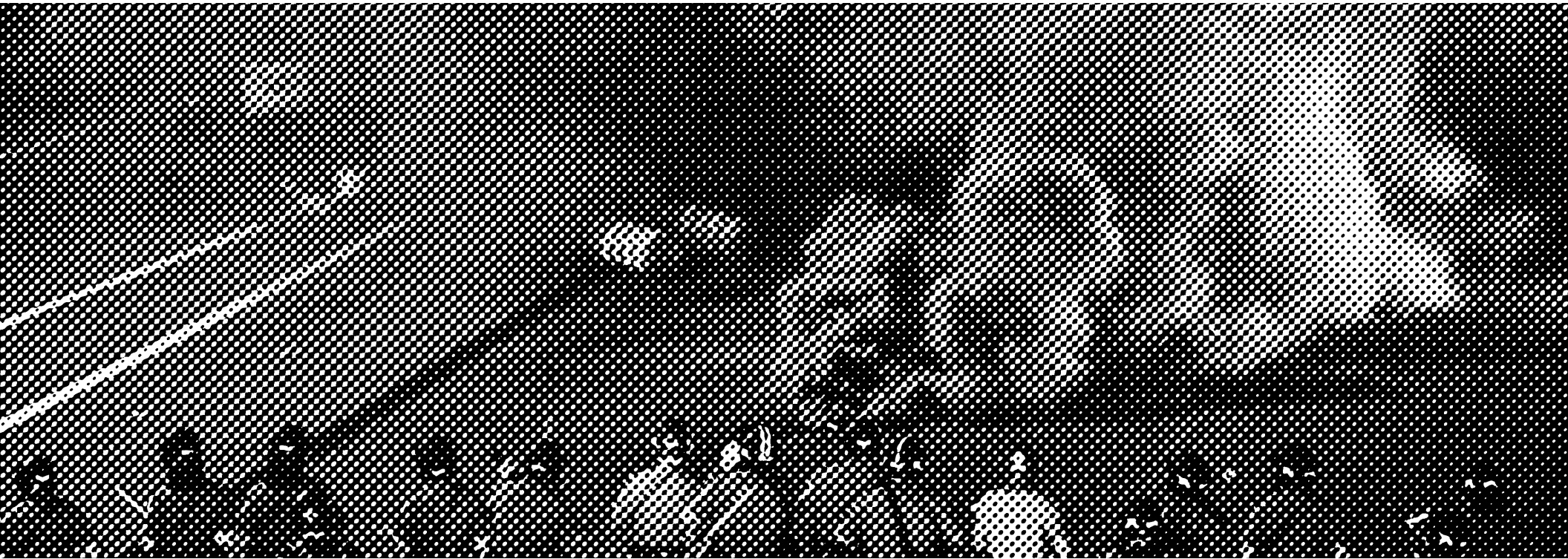


# **CONFLICT** IN THE **TWIN CITIES**



2016

Elliot Park neighborhood of Minneapolis came alive with circled As and anti-police slogans. Streets were blocked off with conveniently located caution cones and construction barricades. The chilly Minnesota air was filled with chants like “Burn all the jails, burn all the prisons! Just make sure the cops are in em!” and “Fire to the prisons, fire to the prisons, we don’t need no water let the motherfuckers burn!”

Once we got to the jail we decided the kids locked up inside could use some holiday cheer. So we gave them their very own New Year’s Eve fireworks display! Bucket drums were pounded, chants continued to echo off the prison walls, and the prisoners inside responded with dancing, waving, raising their fists, and even pounding on the windows. A single guard inside stared at us powerlessly while his prisoners were getting *lit*.

Once we ran out of fireworks we started to head back, chanting “We’ll be back!” One of the prison walls got a redecorating job and from the light rail one could read “Kill cops” just in time for the Vikings’ last home game the following day. A window of the prison also got shattered somehow. That cold Minneapolis wind can be a real doozy sometimes! The police finally showed up only to watch us all scatter and disappear into the night, just in time to get home and watch this bullshit dumpster fire of a year finally die.

Total complicity and solidarity with all prison rebels of all ages. Nothing but animosity and hatred for the slave catchers of the 21st century: the motherfuckin’ pigs. Here’s to another year of giving our enemies a reason to lose sleep and giving our friends a reason to never lose hope!

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All contents of this zine is taken from **CONFLICT MN**, a website of counter-information for the Twin Cities, Minnesota. Some posts have been omitted for obvious reasons, such as events announcements. Posts republished from *Nightfall* have been omitted as well. Check out the publication at their website: [nightfall.blackblogs.org](http://nightfall.blackblogs.org)

in the haze of sentimental poetry. We prefer them beside us, creating with us the spaces and struggles of our liberation and fighting alongside us in defense of our lives. We do not ask for martyrs.

We do, however, know that is inevitable that those of us who struggle, who revolt against the crushing daily violence of the state, capital, and all existing hierarchies, will be put in the crosshairs of repression. We know that those of us who seek to build new worlds in the cracks and unstable edges and boundaries of the old, will face all the dangers of the current world's collapse, and of those who try to cement it together again in blood and terror. We are born in the history of the Haymarket Martyrs hanged for resisting the industrialist's police, of Suga Kanno strangled by the Empire of Japan, and of Carlo Giuliani shot down by the Italian cops. We inherit a flag stained black in the remembrance of our dead, in the negation of their killers, and in the promise to never surrender.

The tragedies of November ended our comrades' lives, but not the visions they lived for. The Revolution in Rojava carries on the fight for autonomy as the Syrian regime batters its Opposition, the Erdogan regime attacks Kurds on both sides of the border, and foreign powers, confident in the YPG's defeats of Daesh, prepare for their inevitable betrayal of the revolutionary cantons. The rightist coup in Brazil will be opposed every inch of the way, and the popular movement against it will not be leashed and captured by the ineffectual Worker's Party whose capitulation to neoliberalism paved the way for the rise of the reactionaries. DIY spaces and projects of reclamation will continue to seize the structures left gutted and abandoned by globalization and deindustrialization, and fill them with those displaced by gentrification. We will improve the security of these spaces, both from accidental fires and collapses, and from far-right and state attacks. Every day we wake and draw breath, we strive to undermine and attack the systems that murdered our comrades and friends.

In memory of Michael Israel, of Guilherme Irish, of Denalda, Feral, and all other victims of the Ghost Ship fire, we remember the verses of the Greek poet, Dinos Christianopoulos, echoed in the Mexican counterculture: "They tried to bury us; they did not know we were seeds".

## MINNEAPOLIS GETS ROWDY FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE

JANUARY 2ND

To end a year full of rebellion and reaction both inside and outside of the prisons, anarchists in the Twin Cities gathered together for a noise demo at the Hennepin County Juvenile Justice Center. As the march made its way from a nearby park the walls of surrounding businesses in the

## PREFACE

The year 2016 was a tumultuous year for everyone. For anarchists living in the Twin Cities, it was a year marked with a number of successes as well as bitter defeats.

The year 2015 closed after several weeks of protests over the police murder of Jamar Clark, a black man from north Minneapolis.<sup>1</sup> While the initial days were marked with sharp antagonism culminating in a riot in response to the attempted eviction of a encampment that had been set up the night after the shooting. Afterwards, counter-insurgent forces doubled their efforts, only strengthened when a handful of white supremacists shot at the camp and injured five. Anarchists and other potential rebels were confronted by protest security and often bad-jacketed (as cops, white supremacists, or more simply *agitators*). The camp was finally evicted by police with little resistance. With this, Minneapolis joined a growing list of cities that have been hit with unrest in response to police shootings since the Ferguson riots of 2014.

It is hopefully non-controversial to state that an anarchist or autonomous street presence has been practically nonexistent in recent years. The end of 2015 saw a few modest attempts; a small rally for imprisoned anarchists in Spain early November, a fifty-strong march in solidarity with the northside protests later that month, and finally a New Year's Eve noise demo that fetched nearly a dozen people.

Many obstacles appeared early on that continue to appear today. Notably, many people expressed hesitation to go to a demonstration that was not organized or endorsed by any identifiable organization. It remains difficult to reach out to various anarchist circles across the metropolitan area, even more so to convince them an action was worth going to over a party or dinner plans. Our understanding of the police's response to different actions was only just beginning to come together.

In lieu of any overarching narrative, everything here is presented as it is on the Conflict MN site without commentary. Readers are invited to draw their own conclusions, if any, from the contents of this zine.

- *an editor with Conflict MN*

1. For more info, see the zine "Dispatches From Minneapolis" available at:  
[conflictmn.blackblogs.org](http://conflictmn.blackblogs.org)

Guilherme Irish was a Brazilian anarchist student of mathematics at the Unididade Fedal de Goiás. He was actively involved in the student occupations of schools in Goiânia. This last summer, the Worker's Party administration in Brazil was impeached in a putsch organized by the country's wealthiest families, and the new Temer government has launched a series of attacks to limit political freedom for students, reform high school curriculum, and dramatically freeze social spending. Since the beginning of November, students have occupied over 1,000 high schools and nearly 100 universities in protest. Guilherme's father did not accept his involvement in the movement, and had threatened to hand him over to the police, to kill him. He had gone armed to demonstrations against school privatization to threaten his son and other militants. On the 15th of November, Guilherme left his home for the Occupation of Campus 2 at UFG. His father ambushed him with a pistol and shot him to death. Guilherme was 20 years old.

Ghost Ship was a DIY space in Oakland and home to the Satya Yuga artist collective. It built in a warehouse in the Fruitvale neighborhood, one of many arts and living spaces that turned to unsafe low-cost buildings in the midst of the city's housing crisis. For black, brown, and queer artists especially excluded by the music scene, the warehouse parties in Oakland provide a platform even in America's most expensive metro where tech industry gentrification has pummeled working class neighborhoods of color. On December 2nd, at 11:20 at night, a fire broke out in Ghost Ship during a concert, spreading quickly through the crowded building. Those inside struggled and aided one another in escaping the fire, but for too many it was impossible. Thirty six people died. In the aftermath, alt-right fascists online have made a project of harassing DIY spaces by reporting them to fire marshals, hoping to use the fire as a way to bring state repression on the DIY movement.

At the Zapata statue, anarchists gave eulogies to our fallen comrades, read passages in commemoration, and poured out whiskey in celebration of their lives. Wobblies in attendance recited the poem, "Red November, Black November":

*Red November, Black November- Bleak November, black and red  
Hallowed month of labor's martyrs, labor's heroes, labor's dead  
Labor's wrath and hope and sorrow- red the promise, black the threat  
Who are we not to remember? Who are we to dare forget?  
Red and black the colors blended, red and black the pledge we made  
Red until the struggle's ended- black until the debt is paid.*

As anarchists, we do not make a fetish out of death, in the way that fascists, armies, and nations do. We do not prefer our comrades, friends, and lovers as cold and stern memorials, or as rose colored memories revived

Native Americans. Business as usual cannot continue while banks and oil corporations destroy indigenous peoples' lands and cultures. We demand that Wells Fargo, US Bank and all other funders divest from Energy Transfer Partners, DAPL and all fossil fuel interests.

## **ANTIFA SHOUTS DOWN MILO**

DECEMBER 16TH

Individuals and accomplices stood up to neo-fascist Milo Yiannopoulos and shut him down for some time at Mankato State University...

Individuals shouted "No safe space for fascism". Others told Milo to beware "antifa is changing tactics". Although Milo feeds off of protesters, we believe that the normalization of fascism anywhere leads to tyranny everywhere. We call on all other antifascists to stand up fascism wherever and whenever it appears using diverse tactics and by any means necessary...

## **SEEDS BENEATH THE SNOW: ANARCHISTS MOURN OUR DEAD**

DECEMBER 19TH

On Saturday night, the snow-swept statue of the revolutionary Emiliano Zapata on Lake Street in Minneapolis was cast in the light of emergency flares and surrounded by a black-clad crew, as anarchists held a memorial observation for our comrades fallen in recent weeks.

We gathered to mourn three tragedies—the death of Michael Israel and other freedom fighters in Rojava, the murder of Guilherme Irish by his nationalist father in Brazil, and the dozens of dead friends lost in Oakland's Ghost Ship fire.

Michael Israel, from California, was an anarchist and revolutionary unionist. A co-founder of the Sacramento IWW, he came to Rojava to join the YPG and defend the autonomous cantons from Daesh and state repression. Michael's unit was advancing on Daesh's capital in Raqqa as part of the Syrian Democratic Forces' offensive to take the city, the Wrath of Euphrates. Although the Erdogan regime in Turkey claims to be part of the coalition against Daesh, the regime has continued to attack SDF forces—a strategy to weaken and destroy the revolution in Rojava which the Turkish state views as a threat to its own occupation of Kurdish-majority lands. On the night of November 29th, Turkish jets bombed a small village that the YPG had liberated from Daesh, killing Michael and many other revolutionary fighters.

## **FIREWORKS IN MINNEAPOLIS FOR TRANS PRISONERS**

JANUARY 23RD

In response to the call for an international day of action in solidarity with trans prisoners, some antagonist queers and accomplices paid a visit to the juvenile detention center in Minneapolis, USA. Two banners were unfurled that read:

*Not Gay As In Happy, Queer As In Fuck 12*

*Fire To The Prisons*

Several fireworks were set off, illuminating the dreary night for those held captive to see. We exchanged a few waves with those inside before disappearing into the night.

## **SOLIDARITY WITH ANAHEIM**

MARCH 8TH

Monday night, approximately a dozen gathered in Minneapolis in solidarity with the anti-racists stabbed and arrested in Anaheim the week before when confronting the KKK. The following text was read and distributed around the area:

### *Solidarity with Anaheim*

*On February 27th, rebels converged in Anaheim, California to shut down a planned KKK rally. Upon the arrival of the Klan members, they were fiercely confronted and driven out as quickly as they had come. During the brawl, one of the white supremacists stabbed three people. The police, who initially arrested the man, let him go claiming that he acted in self-defense. We do not place any legitimacy in the police or the laws they enforce: taking action against white supremacists needs no justification.*

*This is one of many clashes that mark an escalation of conflict in recent years. Here in Minneapolis we experienced this ourselves when white supremacists opened re and injured five people at the 4th Precinct occupation just a few months ago.*

*We cannot appeal to the state to settle these conflicts. The state has its own interest in maintaining law and order, and we know this order is based on structural white supremacy. While it's most visible manifestations are confederate flags or police murders, white supremacy shapes our entire society in the most insidious of ways.*

*An attack on the functioning of the system is therefore an attack on white*



*supremacy. We cannot wait until the far-right strikes again, or until the next police shooting; the time to act is now. We cannot elect leaders or enlist in organizations to do this for us, we must do it ourselves.*

*Self Organized Struggle Against White Supremacy*

*Solidarity Against Racism*

## **BANNER FOR HOLMAN PRISON REBELS**

MARCH 15TH

Over the weekend, twice did inmates at Holman Prison in Alabama rise up. They set fire to guard towers, and barricaded doors. In a small act of solidarity, a banner declaring **FIRE TO THE PRISONS** was hung in Minneapolis and flyers were left in the area about the uprising.

May the fires in Holman spread across the country with countless diverse and uncontrollable actions. The inmates rebelling inside prison walls cannot be left to fight alone.

*"We're tired of this shit, there's only one way to deal with it: tear the prison down."*

## **POSTERS AGAINST POLICE**

MARCH 28TH

With an expected decision on whether or not to indict the officers who murdered Jamar Clark looming, the Minneapolis Police Chief released a video statement a few days ago. The statement declares that the police will not tolerate violence but remains dedicated to upholding the first amendment rights of citizens. It is clear the police are preparing for the inevitable unrest in response to the decision, as a part of counter insurgency operations. These operations will involve both directing people's potential anger at the decision into legitimate channels, and repressing those who refuse.

Hand in hand with these efforts will presumably be the "community leaders" and non-profit organizations smothering all uncontrollable activity. As made clear during the 4th Precinct occupation, their goal is to diffuse the anger and preserve order (and seem to resent not being given proper credit for doing so by the city). It is these two twin forces that rebels will have to contend with.

As a contribution to the struggle against the police and the world they maintain, posters were put up in busy areas of the Powderhorn Park

dar-Riverside. My affinity group disperses and we regroup at a comrade's home, debriefing, unwinding, and plotting for next time.

The next few years of a Trump presidency are going to be interesting to say the least. The thin veneer of compassion and respectability that is neoliberalism has been pulled down to reveal the brutality and barbarity of capitalism. A resurgence of extreme nationalist politics is gaining ground in countries that have been ravaged by neoliberal policies. At the same time, combatants have brought the struggle to new heights of intensity in places like Greece, Spain, England, France, and now the United States. If the past 8 years of an Obama presidency gave us Ferguson, Charlotte, Baltimore, Milwaukee, the prison strike, Occupy Wall Street, Standing Rock, and the G-20 and NATO counter-summits, what will a Trump presidency bring? What new levels of repression should we expect? What is rebellion going to look like under Trump? These are the questions we asked ourselves after the march and going forward they are questions we should all be asking ourselves as we prepare for Trump's presidency. However, we must also remember that regardless of who is in office, capitalism will still be capitalism, white supremacy will still be white supremacy, and cops will still be fucking cops.

*Whoever they vote for, we are ungovernable*

## **SOUTHSIDE CONTRA TRUMP**

NOVEMBER 21ST

On Saturday evening, ten individuals braved the cold and briefly took over Lake St in south Minneapolis. For forty-five minutes, the small crowd blocked traffic in both directions while moving back and forth between Bloomington and Chicago avenues. This was a humble effort at disruption against the incoming Trump regime, efforts that aim to generalize unrest as the transition progresses. Bilingual flyers advocating for autonomous self-organization were distributed along the way to enthusiastic passerby.

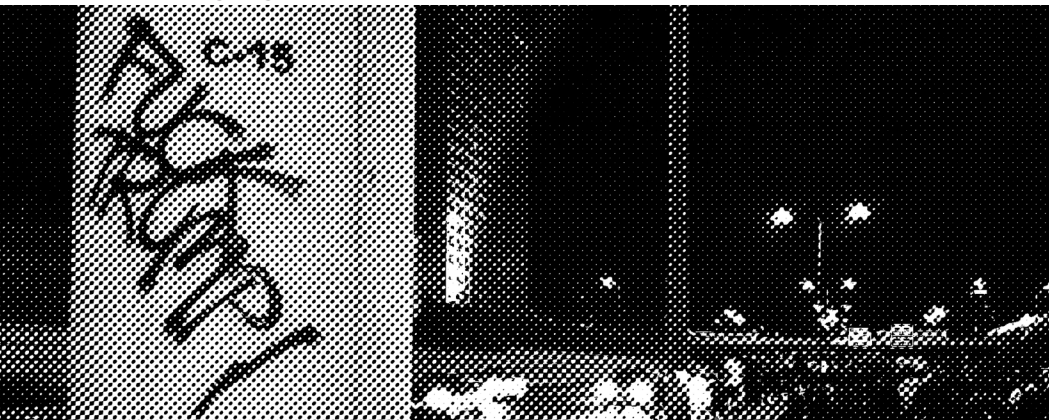
## **BANKS TARGETED IN SOLIDARITY WITH #NODAPL**

NOVEMBER 26TH

The door locks and ATMS of 3 Wells Fargos and one US Bank in Minneapolis, MN were glued shut in solidarity with the Standing Rock pipeline resistance movement this Black Friday weekend. Wells Fargo and US Bank directly fund the Dakota Access Pipeline and are thus complicit in perpetuating over 500 years of genocide and oppression against

cism, and if people are scared of or upset by a little spray paint we got a long way to go.

The march continues winding through Seward. As we pass by the on-ramp to get onto I-94, a crowd surges towards it. Parade marshals urge people to continue marching down Riverside avenue and to stay away from the highway. These pleas are ignored. More and more people sprint towards the highway and soon a few hundred people have taken over one, then two, then four, and eventually all 8 lanes of I-94. Tactics honed over the last 2 years of anti-police brutality demonstrations were put to good use. Once on the highway, the march takes on a different tone. Marshals have briefly been outmaneuvered and the police are nowhere to be found. I see “fuck Trump” graffiti on just about every flat surface and start laughing.



As we continue marching down I-94, I am excited but also nervous. The last time I was on this highway I was in St. Paul on July 9th and a flashbang grenade went off just a few inches away from my face. Having those traumatic images still fresh in my mind, once we're in sight of the police line I am hopeful but still more than just a little worried about what might follow. Protesters link arms and begin marching towards the police. The exit ramp to get back out onto the street and wind up back where we started in Cedar-Riverside is still unblocked at this point. Another exit ramp is also not blocked, and the only police vehicle visible is a paddy wagon not nearly big enough to contain all 3,000 of us or so still on the highway. But before we could even directly confront the police and possibly clash with them, marshals run to the front and begin demanding that we stop, in the name of “keeping everyone safe.” Police soon have us completely cut off and the only way out is scrambling up a hill. I see that marshals are negotiating with police. After a thirty or forty minute standoff, the police eventually allow us to leave through the exit ramp that put us right by the Triple Rock Social Club and back in Ce-

neighborhood.

The text of the poster:

### ***F\*CK THE POLICE***

*The cops are the face of a system that controls us, that oppresses us, that shapes our lives. They stand between every homeless person and the homes sitting empty. They stand between every hungry person and the food sitting on supermarket shelves. They stand between us and liberation.*

*We're tired of asking the cops to play nice. We're tired of pretending their job is to protect us.*

*It's time to fight back.*

## **WE LOST**

APRIL 4TH

We lost.

We refers to not the we of any group, organization, or cluster, but to partisans of revolt, rebels, all who desire to spread anarchy (which is quite divergent from those who call themselves anarchists).

Besides the police departments, the so-called protest leadership, community groups, and non-profit organizations have had months to hone their tactics and maneuvers. We knew this and yet we let our guard down.

On Wednesday the 30th it was announced that no charges would be brought against the officers who murdered Jamar Clark. After months of protest there was no longer any recourse left for justice to be found within the system. However, this did little to halt the demands for prosecution, for reform.

Two demonstrations take the streets, one from the south and the other from the north who meet in downtown, below the empty halls of power. The same boring speeches echo throughout the plaza—the revolutionary rhetoric, the Black Panther references—not enough to hide their ultimately liberal nature.

A single march makes its way back to Plymouth Ave in north Minneapolis. Many participants have donned masks and more have been distributed along with flyers encouraging secure behavior (covering one's face, not talking to police, de-arresting comrades, etc.). The stale chant of “prosecute the police” has fallen in favor of “fuck the police,” something quite significant in a city so accustomed to the logic of reformism. Bank windows tremble as we pass. And yet we hesitate.

At Plymouth Ave, the march joins the crowd that had congregated around the site of Jamar's death. Within minutes, various so-called community leaders and others surround everyone who had covered their face, deeming them agitators and pushing them away from the crowd—and away from each other in order to prevent solidarity. Anyone wearing a mask is threatened and in some cases assaulted. Any and every manipulation is employed in order to force people to either remove their masks or face consequences—including snitch-jacketing and accusations of being a white supremacist intent on another shooting. These made convenient excuses to impose control over the crowd, as evidenced by the people of color who were also confronted as 'white agitators' for covering their faces.

However not everyone taking part in this pacification campaign necessarily followed the so-called leadership—several people honestly did wish to drive out white supremacists or undercover. We have respect for these people and we would stand side by side with them in their efforts, and have in the past. On the other hand, it was clear that those leading the charge were only interested in ejecting uncontrollable elements from the space. Successfully maneuvering this difficult and particular terrain will be crucial for antagonists in the future.

More important than the de-masking was the brazen imposition of order upon the space. It only took a matter of minutes to deliver a major blow to the energy of revolt in the streets that night. The police were hardly present throughout the entire evening, knowing their job was being done for them.

The long-term repercussions of this defeat remain to be seen, but it would be best not to underestimate them.

## **ANTI-POLICE GRAFFITI**

APRIL 7TH

In the dead of night came the messages:

**PIGS WILL PAY**

**OFF THE PIGS**

**ACAB**

After Jamar Clark, Terrence Franklin, Marcus Golden, Fong Lee, Michael Kirveley, Phil Quinn, and so many others being murdered by the police, we cannot simply stand by and watch these bastards continue to get away with it again, again, and again. If the State refuses to enforce its own laws because it was never meant to give us justice then obviously

largely tame, with the Twin Cities IWW General Defense Committee occasionally starting up more militant chants or changing "not my president" to "no more presidents" only to be immediately shut down and called "outside agitators" by marshals in yellow vests. Again, predictable behavior coming from Socialist Alternative. At this point, it should be very blatantly obvious that the official "left" in Minneapolis, the protest and movement managers, have no interest in showing meaningful opposition to a genocidal social order. Instead, they'd rather be the loyal opposition with occasionally fiery rhetoric, padding the resumes of would-be city councilmen and women, future interns for the DFL, or perhaps even a chance at landing on the board of directors of some progressive non-profit. As such, while there is potential in intervening in marches and actions put on by these organizations and pushing for militancy or supporting already existing radical elements (case in point, the pitched street fighting on the night of November 18th during the Black Lives Matter occupation of the 4th Precinct) what should be expected from these organizations is a very strictly choreographed protest theater performance.

Upon arriving at the GOP headquarters, things start to get interesting. I hear some cheering and some people saying "stop that shit!" I look over and see that the GOP headquarters now reads "FUCK TRUMP" in black spray paint. Whoever you are invisible, anonymous graffito, I salute you. As we're standing around in front of the GOP headquarters I can overhear a few arguments, with some of the protesters calling the vandalism of the GOP headquarters "violence." This is pretty ridiculous, but with so many of the participants being first time protesters by their own admission, it makes sense that their first taste of seeing a small, symbolic act of resistance is met with immediate opposition. We've been conditioned to believe that as long as we are respectable, as long as we are peaceful, and as long as we give coherent demands that power will listen to us and give in to our demands. I was at that point once and after the dust settled from the eviction of Zuccoti Park and the death of Occupy I no longer had any faith in the State, capitalism, or any of the protest managers. I attempt to explain why people might take action such as this small act of vandalism and that the police will brutalize us regardless of whether or not we spray paint a few walls, peacefully disrupt traffic, or start tearing shit up and turning over cop cars. The police will only tolerate even the most peaceful protest for so long before the tear gas, pepper spray, and batons come out. To assume that protesters who take militant direct action deserve whatever police violence eventually comes down on them is not only victim blaming, it also hurts the movement itself. In light of a Trump presidency, our only enemies should be the police who will enforce Trump's laws, the capitalists who will profit from Trump's rule, and the liberals and protest managers who will collaborate with Trump's regime. We all need to get very serious about resisting fas-



a grand jury announced its decision to not prosecute Darren Wilson for the murder of Mike Brown.

I go into this march with my own reservations about participating in a Socialist Alternative action, knowing that they are not for confrontational tactics and tend to only have photo op “actions” to appeal to their fanbase of well off progressive white people who probably voted for Bernie. But upon seeing the crowd and the fact that many people’s reactions to myself and my affinity group all wearing masks was a positive one (or became positive once it was explained) has me feeling optimistic. Maybe the sheer number of people at this march, about 5,000 or so I’d say, will be too much for the parade marshals to handle? Maybe people will be able to carry out some creative actions that up the ante and make a clear statement that we reject not just Donald Trump but the sham of capitalist democracy altogether? Maybe it’ll fuckin’ pop off? These are all the questions my affinity group had been asking each other while chain smoking cigarettes and waiting for the march to start.

We finally get out on the street, and the size and scope of the crowd becomes even more apparent to me. After a few more minutes of speeches, we finally start to march. The march kicks off and almost immediately it is greeted with applause and excited cheers. The march was in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood, a neighborhood known for its large population of East African immigrants, some of them refugees fleeing conflicts the United States is fueling in Somalia and Ethiopia. Chants of “say it loud, say it clear, refugees are welcome here!” are met with raised fists and cheering from the neighborhood’s East African population. This was a really nice sight to behold and it was great seeing a neighborhood I spend so much time in coming out to the streets like this. Here’s hoping it happens again soon.

The march is stopped on Cedar Avenue right in front of Palmer’s bar and the Cedar Cultural Center. I’m confused. Why are we stopping? Soon I see marshals telling people to make room for cars to drive through. This is stupid. Absolutely stupid. If the job of the parade marshals is to supposedly “keep us safe” why are they letting drivers through the crowd? While most of the drivers had passengers hanging outside the windows with their fists up in support and nothing happened, what if one of these drivers was a Trump supporter and decided to run us down? Later on I discover that the march had been stalled to allow our real escort, the Minneapolis Police Department, time to catch up and learn our route. Infuriating to say the least, but predictable behavior from Socialist Alternative.

The march kicks off again, this time bound for the GOP Headquarters in the Seward neighborhood just barely a mile away. The march remains

we have to do it for them. This is just a small drop in a waterfall. Sooner or later, the deluge will come, and the police will have their day of reckoning.

*All Cops Are Bastards*

## **MASK FOR ZAPATA**

APRIL 13TH

On the morning of April 10th the statue of Mexican revolutionary Emiliano Zapata at 12th Ave. and Lake St. in South Minneapolis was adorned with a mask. This occurred in commemoration of the anniversary of Zapata’s assassination and in response to a call made by compañerxs in Mexico for actions in solidarity with political prisoners and in support of their unyielding struggle against the state and the cartels, which we know are not just linked by a few bad apples as the authorities would have us believe (sound familiar?) but are instead two facets of the same organization of society that produces poverty and destruction across the globe.

A small gesture no doubt, but one that helps remind us that the struggles of the past are not dead, cast in bronze with no relevance to our daily lives, but rather continue to breathe through us whenever we stop waiting for change to come and begin living our lives as insurgents in the here and now, whether this looks like masking up and resisting the police in the street, taking care of our loved ones and ourselves, or simply telling our friends about how and why people in other places and times resist/resisted and what lessons their struggles might hold for ours.

As of the 13th the mask had yet to be removed.

## **SMASH WHITE POWER**

APRIL 25TH

On April 23rd, anti-fascists converged on Stone Mountain, GA to confront a white power demonstration. Barricades were erected and burned while participants used rocks and fireworks to attack the police tasked with protecting the white supremacists. A multiplicity of tactics were deployed by a variety of groups that effectively shut down the rally. This multifaceted and autonomous approach is inspiring and should be used as a reference point for all who wish the ungovernable spread of anarchy.

The Stone Mountain confrontation marks one of many conflicts erupting from the resurgent far-right, just like the shooting that took place in North Minneapolis. The struggle against white supremacy (as one arm

of domination) is global, and each confrontation finds resonance all over the world. Expressions of solidarity remind us of this connection.

After hearing the news from Georgia, a banner was promptly painted and hung in Minneapolis. The banner read:

MN 2 GA  
SM(A)SH  
WHITE  
POWER

## **MAY DAY: ATTACK WHITE SUPREMACY**

MAY 1ST

ATTACK WHITE SUPREMACY

ATTACK THE POLICE

declared the bold text on posters flyposted the length of Sunday's May Day parade route. A masked anti-fascist squaring off with a police officer in Stone Mountain, GA is pictured too. The cops and fascists attacked in Georgia bring joy to our hearts and rejuvenates our desire to revolt. Against the spectacle of the annual parade, we affirm the fierce rebellions that brought us here.

The territory known as the United States continues to erupt against the twin forces of the State and white supremacy in all of their forms. Whether the Donald Trump rallies that end in broken cruisers and broken noses, the KKK rallies that never evade the boots of anti-fascists, or the fires of Baltimore and Ferguson. This is not divorced from a long history of rebellion in the United States before there even was such a thing. We will never rest until the colonial machine is torn apart for good.

We don't indulge ourselves in believing that these posters will raise the consciousness of the masses in preparation for The Revolution. These actions must be made insignificant through repetition.

Chicago 1886

Los Angeles 1992

Baltimore 2015

we are with you.

Present at the action was a sizeable feminist/queer bloc to highlight the women, queer, and trans prisoners who have been at the forefront of the September 9th strike and other uprisings. Unfortunately this is often omitted from the narrative surrounding prison rebellions—something we refuse to accept any longer.

Gig Harbor – Holman – Minneapolis

*Until the last prison is ashes under our feet*

## **AGAINST THE DAPL AND ITS WORLD!**

OCTOBER 28TH

While Hennepin County Sheriffs and other agents of law enforcement moved in on the Standing Rock camp in North Dakota, a banner was dropped in Minneapolis that read "AGAINST THE DAPL AND ITS WORLD (A)"

*AGAINST THE DAPL...* The defense against the pipeline has been inspiring, ongoing for nearly 7 months now. A small encampment has grown into a huge, heterogeneous movement. Today, they burn barricades against the gangs of police set upon them by the state. With this action, they can know they are not alone.

*...AND ITS WORLD!* The Dakota Access Pipeline is only a small piece of a large complex of infrastructural projects that make up this world. Rather than concentrate forces in a single location, spread the struggle everywhere!

## **A FIRST-HAND ACCOUNT OF THE FUCK TRUMP MARCH IN MINNEAPOLIS**

NOVEMBER 18TH

Last Thursday night, Socialist Alternative and other left-wing and progressive nonprofits and political parties (Neighborhoods Organizing for Change, Students for a Democratic Society, and more) held a demonstration to protest the election of Donald Trump to the presidency. The crowd was huge, bigger than any march I've seen in Minneapolis in a while. In fact, the last time I saw a crowd this big it was the march put on by what would eventually become Black Lives Matter the day after

## **PRISON STRIKE BANNER**

OCTOBER 3RD

In response to the call for solidarity with the prison strike on October 1st, a banner was hung in a busy part of town Saturday afternoon.

Total complicity with prison rebels across the world!

## **POSTERS IN SOLIDARITY WITH PRISON REBELS**

OCTOBER 16TH

This week, posters were wheatpasted around Minneapolis in solidarity with prison rebels. The prison strike called for September 9th has sparked such incredible and inspiring resistance, one can only hope even larger storms are brewing. It is crucial that prisoners know they are supported on the outside in both word and deed.

*Victory to the imprisoned fighters!*

*Fire to the prisons!*

## **MAKING NOISE AT THE YOUTH JAIL**

OCTOBER 23RD

On October 22nd, dozens of masked rebels took to the streets of downtown Minneapolis towards the youth jail. Banners declaring "Fire To The Prisons" and "Criminal Queers Against Cops Prisons & Borders" were unfurled and flares illuminated the night. Upon arriving at the youth jail, fireworks erupted across the sky as demonstrators chanted and hitting makeshift drums. When our voices grew tired, those locked up on the inside broke the silence by banging on their windows. The group quickly dispersed back at Elliot Park with zero arrests.

Despite a noticeable increase in self-organization by those who showed up, the significant police presence reduced the energy of the crowd and it's potential. Moving forward, it will be necessary to assume a more hands on police strategy and prepare ourselves accordingly.

The noise demo was called for in the context of ongoing solidarity with the September 9th prison strike. While some prisoners may end their strikes, new ones begin—the struggle for freedom continues beyond any one campaign or movement. Every refusal to work, every guard stabbed, every dormitory takeover fills our hearts with love for prison rebels and hate for this system of cops and cages. To those who revolt on the inside,

## **FROM MINNEAPOLIS TO SEATTLE: ATTACK CAPITALISM ON ALL FRONTS**

MAY 2ND

On May 1st, 2016 people from around the world commemorated International Workers and Immigrants Rights Day. What began as an explosion of violent rebellion in an industrial district of Chicago in response to police killing striking workers fighting for the 8 hour work day has become an international holiday where the fires of Haymarket are reignited time and time again. In Seattle, the demonstrations took a radical turn that has become almost ritualistic in that city. Anarchists clashed with police and bravely fought back against pepper spray and concussion grenades with rocks, bottles, fireworks, and police even allege that molotov cocktails were used. 9 arrests were made and 5 police were injured. In Chicago 19 protesters were arrested after a noise demo in front of the Cook County Correctional Facility. Here in Minneapolis, we know about state repression. Movements such as AIM, Black Lives Matter, the IWW, and the RNC Welcoming Committee have all experienced state repression that attempting to squash these movements for liberation from capitalism. Trust us when we say that we have no love for the police here, especially after the ruthless killing of Jamar Clark. In response to this police repression, a highway overpass and retention wall were redecorated with antagonist slogans:

ACAB

ATTACK CAPITALISM

MPLS 2 SEATTLE – WE GOT YOUR BACK!

Solidarity with the arrested anarchists in Seattle, Chicago, and everywhere else! Rest in power to the protester killed in Taksim Square! Fuck police repression, fuck the state, and fuck capitalism. Solidarity means attack, fuck the civil let's get disobedient!

## **ANTI-COLONIAL COMPLICITY**

JUNE 12TH

Today on June 11th many people came out to enjoy music and raise money for those blockading the Dakota Access Pipeline. With the complicity (however passive) of onlookers, a handful of posters were pasted nearby while the hot sun still shone brightly.

The poster contains an excerpt from "Accomplices Not Allies" by Indigenous Action Media. This powerful quote summarizes the poverty of the logic of allyship. Allies are passive supporters who follow orders of the

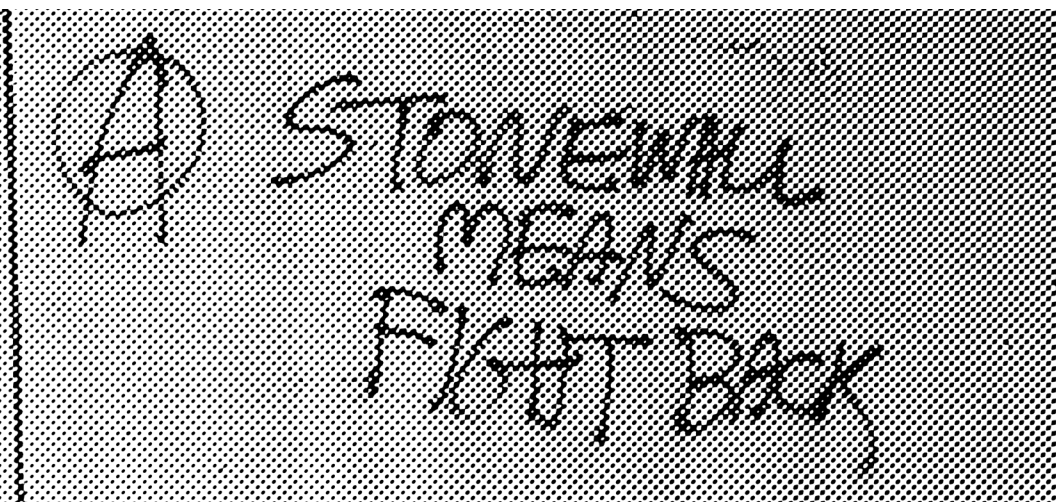
leadership of the “Community” they are an ally to. Recently the language of accomplices has been taken and used for the same logic. Accomplices must listen to the leadership of the “Community” they are an accomplice too. This quote, and it’s pairing with the image of a burning police car as in the original publication, hits back at the all-too-often pacifist distortions of allies and even accomplices. To be clear: the problem is not if you call yourself an ally or accomplice, but the acceptance or refusal of subordination to the others on their identity alone (almost exclusively NGO politicians).

If you would say, a few posters is a pathetic act of solidarity, well you would not be alone. To those who react in this way, you are invited to upstage these wheat-pasters. This should not be a difficult task. Make a game of it. If solidarity with Water Warriors is not for you, find your motivation elsewhere. Attacks on the colonial machine do not need to be particular.

## AVENGE ORLANDO

JUNE 17TH

49 dead, 53 others injured. The massacre in Orlando, Florida was a horrifying reminder of the world we live in. A world that would love nothing more than to see us dead. We’re used to this. We were used to it when the NYPD attacked the Stonewall Inn. We were used to it when Ronald Reagan turned a blind eye and ignored us as AIDS slowly and methodically slaughtered us by the tens of thousands. We were used to it when we were kicked out of our homes and put out on the street for being brave enough to come out. We were used to it when Cece MacDonald was prosecuted for defending herself against racist transphobes. We were used to it when we saw our friends committing suicide and no one seemed to care. But just because we’re used to it doesn’t mean we are any less angry. On the contrary, we are fucking pissed. We’re pissed



The message of “fuck the police” and “fire to the prisons” resonated with many people, with some drivers honking their horns in support, residents of the Elliot Park neighborhood coming outside to watch with some of them showing support with raised fists, and the dancing inmates at the youth jail.

We returned to the park victorious and dispersed without incident, with the police not making any arrests or really trying to interfere at all other than a few bike cops trailing behind. We stand with all prison rebels fighting to end prison slavery and strike against white supremacy!

From Holman to Minneapolis

*fire to the prisons!*

## GRAFFITI IN SOLIDARITY WITH CHARLOTTE

SEPTEMBER 24TH

The death of yet another unarmed black man at the hands of police and yet another city that has exploded in anger. It has become almost routine at this point. It is quite frankly fucking sad that this keeps happening. It is exhausting to have to see the same old cycle we’ve sadly grown so used to since Ferguson play itself out over and over again. It breaks our hearts to see a loving father taken from his family so callously by the pigs. But I digress.

In solidarity with the brave fighters in the streets of Charlotte standing up against both the police and the national guard and also in solidarity with prison rebels who continue to strike against white supremacy and prison slavery that a small but definitely visible action was taken. “All cops are bastards” was painted on a wall facing one of the busiest streets in Minneapolis just before rush hour. It is the hope of those who did this action that those who hate the police and their violence, their jails, and their prisons were affirmed in their beliefs and reminded that they are not alone and that those who lick the boots of the police state felt a little unsafe for once in their fucking lives. Solidarity with all who resist!

From Holman to Charlotte to Minneapolis

*death to the State*

*death to white supremacy*

*long live anarchy!*



of the Attica uprising, people gathered in Elliot Park preparing to march on the juvenile detention center. A small black bloc arrived, carrying a banner that read “FIRE TO THE PRISONS” and began marching through the park. Flyers were handed out along the way to some of the people gathered at the park for a barbecue and to play soccer. Once we took the streets, construction barricades were dragged into the street to block them off for the march and to slow down any advancing police. We arrived at the youth jail after passing by the obnoxious new Vikings stadium and got some shouts of approval from skateboarding teenagers who even briefly joined us in shouting “Fuck 12!”

Once we arrived at the jail, fireworks were lit, pots and pans were banged together, drums were pounded, horns and whistles and even flutes were blown, and the cacophonous noise reached our friends on the inside who responded by dancing, pounding on the windows, and flickering the lights.

We stayed at the youth jail and made noise for about 10 to 15 minutes before moving on to our next target: The Hennepin County “Public Safety” building which houses adult detainees and sends a strong message that “public safety” to them means locking up black, brown, and Native folks disproportionately and punishing poor and homeless people for existing. On the way to the adult jail we paid a visit to prison profiteers Wells Fargo and a paint bomb found itself flying towards their windows.

The march continued snaking around downtown Minneapolis, attracting a lot of attention from drivers and pedestrians and giving us an opportunity to hand out some flyers explaining the reason for the noise demo and the prison strike. More construction barricades were dragged in the street, windows were smashed, and when the police finally did manage to catch up with us a dumpster was hurled towards them and slowed their advance. When we finally arrived at the “Public Safety” building there were some bystanders already there who joined our chants and briefly joined the noise demo outside the adult jail, some of them dancing.



off that the State has focused on Omar Mateen’s religion and not on his toxic masculinity. We’re pissed off that 49 of our Latinx queer and trans siblings were murdered and the only thing that is going to come of it is more bombs dropped on innocent people overseas. We’re pissed off that the conversation has turned towards gun control that would only give the state even more repressive power during a time when arming for self-defense seems to be the only rational choice in the face of a potential Trump presidency or more of the same neoliberalism, mass incarceration, and police terrorism under Hillary Clinton. We’re pissed off because we’re sick of being killed just for trying to exist.

But we’re not ones for standing by and just venting our frustrations and then going on about our day unphased. We can’t abide that. So a couple of us decided to go out last night and paint the town black. This is just the first step though. We want anyone who reads this to be inspired to take action on their own, we encourage you readers to take autonomous actions on behalf of our siblings who were murdered in Orlando and so many others who will die due to the structural violence of racism, transphobia, and patriarchy. But most importantly, we want you to get organized. Because while on our own we might just be a weak little twig, but when we bundle together well...you know the rest.

## **BANNER DROP FOR SACRAMENTO ANTI-FASCISTS**

JULY 1ST

On June 26th, anarchists and anti-fascists wearing balaclavas, communists carrying banners, liberals wearing Bernie Sanders shirts, and even a few autonomously self-organized and unaffiliated folks came together to successfully shut down the Traditionalist Worker Party and Golden State Skinheads attempted rally on the capitol steps of the California state-house in Sacramento. In the melee, 7 brave comrades sustained injuries from stabbings on the part of the scumbag Nazis and racist skinheads. However, despite a few of our own sustaining these injuries the day was still a victory for those who desire to see such disgusting, hateful organizations like TWP and GSS shut down and completely crushed. The fascists failed to recruit anyone, their rally was never able to even start, and if the video footage that has been seen is any indication they were completely routed from the capitol very swiftly. In solidarity, anti-fascists in Minneapolis have hung a banner for our comrades in Sacramento who took the fight directly to the enemy. It reads

**Solidarity with Sacramento Antifa, Bash the Fash!**

We have experienced white supremacist terror here in our own backyard

with the shooting at the 4th Precinct occupation by the very same sort of alt-right white supremacists that the Traditionalist Youth Network attempts to recruit. We know well enough that in order to stop the spread of these hateful organizations is to silence them with utmost force by directly and physically confronting them. It is thanks to forebears here in Minneapolis who founded Anti-Racist Action that organized white supremacists tend to avoid the Twin Cities metro area, and we intend to keep it that way by any means necessary. Fascists and racists are still not welcome here, and as we've seen they're certainly not welcome in Sacramento either!

Solidarity with all who resist!

Death to fascism!

## **LETTER ON THE MARCH 11TH LOCKDOWN, STILLWATER PRISON**

JULY 6TH

Salutations to my fellow soldiers of our rights,

I would like to share some vital information that may be pertinent to anyone who is interested in fighting for the working/lower class of America. This is a clear example of unity. It is proof that if we all come together we can be a force to be reckoned with.

As I sit on lockdown in Stillwater after the events that took place on March 11th, 2016 in the chow-hall, I feel a real feeling of contentment. A-west stood up for the rights of our community, the small rights we have left that is. They have taken so much from us in the past, things that I have never had the privilege to experience, but loved ones who have been incarcerated for years have explained. At a time there used to be so many things that have been snatched away from our community, such as quality food, the 4th of July picnic, freedom to watch adult rated movies and magazines, and a curfew set by 9:25pm. I would like to touch on each of these topics.

There was a time that we used to have a small refrigerator in our cell, we had the option to order fresh meat from an outside vendor, yes real cuts of meat, and then we could go out to the yard and grill the meat with our friends giving the population a small sense of normality. The fact of the matter is we were able to put essential nutrients in our bodies because the food here is horrible quality. I have worked inside of the kitchen and some of the product clearly states "not for human consumption." So are we not human? The diet is based on a low protein and high carbs; it also lacks vitamins and minerals that the body needs. We get aspartame full

Our actions may be small now, but with every blow our affinities deepen and we grow stronger.

## **ST. CLOUD: SOLIDARITY WITH PRISON REBELS**

SEPTEMBER 10TH

In preparation of the ongoing prisoner work stoppage, organizers in St. Cloud, MN have been spreading the word and raising awareness. Fliers began appearing across the city in the weeks leading up to the strike.

We also painted a large banner to be dropped on the morning of Friday, Sep. 9. Fortunately we took a picture of it before heading out, because the motherfuckin' pigs tore it down almost as soon as it was put up on the pedestrian bridge over 9th Ave.

While repression may be swift here in St. Cloud, the movement itself continues to grow in central Minnesota. At a benefit show at the Keller bar on Friday night, local punk band Soy Noise raised \$50 for the Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee and introduced many people to the cause for the first time.

Folks locked up in the Stillwater prison don't know if the water they drink is free of lead, which is a growing concern over the past several months in the region. Officials there are quick to silence their concerns even after the wake of the contaminated water crisis in Flint, Michigan. The Department of Corrections needs to know that the people of Minnesota will not stand for these blatant injustices, whether we live in Stillwater, St. Cloud or the Twin Cities. The harder they try to silence the voices on the inside, the louder we become on the outside.

## **NOISE DEMO IN MINNEAPOLIS IN SOLIDARITY WITH NATIONWIDE PRISON STRIKE**

SEPTEMBER 11TH

*Fire to the prisons!*

*Fire to the prisons!*

*We don't need no water*

*Let that motherfucker burn!*

- chant from the noise demo

At 8pm, answering the call for a noise demo in solidarity with the September 9th prisoner's strike and to commemorate the 45th anniversary

As the fundraiser came to a close, Secret Service officers suddenly flooded outside of a side entrance and into the parked motorcade waiting. Several dozen rushed towards the cars but were met by the police scrambling to control the crowd. Some fights broke out in this moment and a few bottles flew towards the police line that was forming.

Once the motorcade got away, I returned to the front of the Convention Center where Trump supporters were desperately making their way through the protest. Shredded Trump signs were already covering the ground while their previous owners attempted to escape. A cameraman was surrounded and removed from the crowd and his equipment trashed. Other cameramen were also ejected as graffiti was tagged along the walls and more Trump supporters emerged from the building.

Before police had a chance to move in, the crowd dispersed and avoided any arrests. Rather than stick around for some sort of symbolic display with the cops, we retreated while we were ahead. In the end, Trump was shown that he cannot come to the Twin Cities without serious trouble, and this was supposed to be a private event. His donors were shown that they are not welcome here and will think twice before voicing support next time. And lastly, the Minneapolis Convention Center was shown there will be consequences for hosting far-right events.

In addition to achieving these goals, it appears that the initiative of rebels on the streets has taken a qualitative leap forward. This is promising, however while social peace reimposes itself we must continue to sharpen our antagonism towards oppression in all of its forms, not simply that of the far-right.

— one antagonist of many

## **PROPAGANDA ACTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 9TH**

AUGUST 23RD

In Minneapolis, several propaganda actions have been taken in solidarity with the upcoming prison strike. With this we intend to affirm the struggle against prisons and the society that needs them. Rebels behind bars have engaged in incredible acts of resistance this year and in the past—September 9th will be neither the beginning nor the end of this struggle.

For those of us on the outside, we cannot allow ourselves to become spectators. We must act in complicity in these attacks on prison society. We gladly join others across the country in showing our solidarity with the prison strike.

“GoodSource” drink mix to substitute for the lack of vitamins in our diet.

I know what some of you are thinking... These thoughts that some of you may be having are the sole purpose of this message. So, if you have any thoughts that slightly resemble these, “you are a criminal” to “if you don’t do the time, don’t do the crime,” I am inclined to say shame on you. I will be explaining the real pain of incarceration soon enough.

Okay, so now I want to touch on this, there once was a time that administration allowed a Fourth of July picnic to occur on the yard. A time that a man could enjoy the company of his family on our nation’s Independence Day. This man could watch the fireworks with his loves ones off in the distance; he could eat a small meal with them and enjoy the moment for a couple of hours. I was told it gave the men an incentive to stay out of trouble because only those who met the criteria could attend the festivities.

I have a personal story I would like to share before I move on. My son is seven years old and he was getting ready to come visit me. Well he was with my mother, eating his breakfast before he came. Well my mother caught him trying to sneak his pop tarts into his pockets, so she asks “What are you doing?” and my son replied, “I am sneaking my Daddy some food in because I just want to eat with my Dad.” At seven he had the urge to just sit down and share a small snack with his father. I want to explain to you all, that hurt me very badly. The reason I shared that is to say this, once a year you use to be able to eat with your child. And if you did not have any children, you could share the moment with your woman, or family members. If it was a lucky lady, think of the confidence that some men would have. That feeling alone is immense. Yes, a man could enjoy that moment with a woman. Think of what that would do for a young man’s mental state that just got sentenced to life. Remember when I stated the true pain of being locked up? Well the pain is being forced away from your loved ones, watching your children grow up through pictures and in the visiting room, not being able to physically touch your woman and losing loved ones while incarcerated. That’s the true pain of incarceration so why do they want to make our lives ever worse?

It is true that this prison is populated with all different types of people with all different types of crimes. The one thing we all have in common is this; we are in an adult facility. But for some strange reason, we are not allowed adult magazines or movies or programming, but we can get a life sentence. I know that this is an uncomfortable topic, but it is the truth. It is a fact that having an orgasm releases testosterone and regulates the natural hormone balance in a man’s body.

Now I would like to jump to the events that caused the lockdown that I am sitting on as I write this. On March 10th, 2016, they changed the



seating arrangements in the chow hall that have been implemented for 50 years or so. They took out the four main tables and put in six main tables in a row like the movie Harry Potter leaving very little room to eat. To top it all off they would like to integrate all the groups, races, gangs. They are forcing a cultural melting pot. I want to state that this prison is not completely race segregated but it is prison, and there is some segregation amongst the population. But for the most part everyone gets along. Through evolution we have learned to co-exist with each other, so we know the limits and take each other in moderation. Now they are forcing people to deal with other people that may have major differences, and options to interact with other another. We as convicts can clearly see this is problematic. So how can they not see that?

So, on March 11th a beautiful thing happened. The whole unit of A-West stood up in the chow-hall and went to the old sections in an act of peaceful protest. We let the administration know that we will stand up for our rights. It was a standoff for about a half an hour. The tension was high and you could see the fear on the CO's faces. Then we all left together and locked in. The message was clear. So they locked us in for 11 days, and when we came out, they adjusted the seating arrangements. Not completely back to normal but, they did make it a little more comfortable for us that are forced to live here.

- Stillwater prisoner, participant in March 11th sit-down

## **VIGIL FOR PHILANDO CASTILE BECOMES UNCONTROLLABLE**

JULY 8TH

Despite a coordinated campaign of pacification deployed by activists, non-profit organizations, and the police (separately but also collaboratively), on the morning of July 8th, determined rebels took to the streets to fight back. Since the evening of Philando Castile's highly publicized murder by the cops, protests have been ongoing, first at the scene of the shooting in Falcon Heights before quickly moving to the governor's mansion in St Paul. Many of those responsible for quelling the unrest around the shooting of Jamar Clark were able to enforce their control over the demonstrations within the first hours, but it didn't last long. The following is excerpted from Unicorn Riot:

*As night fell, the crowd thinned out. Around 1 a.m. some more community members arrived saying they didn't want any press.*

*This group of 15-25 community members and friends of Philando, mostly masked-up, were fed-up with the pacification of anger by the 'activists and*

an end to this kind of unrest.

## **"EVEN THE WEATHER IS LIKE 'FUCK TRUMP'"**

AUGUST 21ST

*"If Trump comes out here we're really gonna ride" – Anonymous, Concordia Ave & Grotto St, July 9th*

There are nearly a hundred of us milling around behind the Minneapolis Convention Center. We're told that this is the only entrance available for a motorcade but I am skeptical. The police advised the Trump campaign to hold their event here rather than their initial choice due to security risks; the Convention Center has many options for entering and exiting the building. It would follow that a motorcade would have multiple options as well.

Across the intersection, there is a man who I was told is a Trump supporter, yelling at the crowd. It's unclear if he was actually attending the expensive fundraising event, or just wanted to confront the anti-Trump protest. In either case, he never made it inside. He had his phone and hat snatched away, and when he attacked he was beaten on the ground.

Not much later, the crowd is met by a small crew of people in black bloc gear. I am simultaneously excited and uneasy; the past year has not been a kind one to advocates of anti-surveillance practices like wearing masks. On March 30th, during a demonstration in response to the announcement that the officer who murdered Jamar Clark would not be indicted, masked protesters were confronted and physically ejected in a very coordinated act by many amongst the managerial class. The recent protests surrounding the death of Philando Castile, particularly the riot of July 9th, sparked remarkable backlash against supposed anarchists, usually identified by wearing a mask. The tension between those who wish to manage protest and those who wish to disguise their identity likely resonates far and wide, however in the Twin Cities it was the shooting of five protesters during the 4th Precinct occupation by white supremacists that allowed for much more extensive policing on behalf of the managers.

Surprisingly, many enthusiastically welcomed the masked crew, and many more eagerly donned the black bandannas handed out. With any luck, these practices will continue to become familiar and normalized. When engaging in direct action, or supporting those who are, masks are a simple step in countering repression.

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some graffiti was painted in the Twin Cities area of Minnesota.

This solidarity however does not exist separately from the current reality of struggle. The connections between a dozen neo-nazis being militantly run out of the California state capital and groups of black youth ferociously confronting the brutal St. Paul police department as happened on July 9th should be as clear as day.

All forms of domination must be attacked and destroyed.

*Death to white supremacy*

*Death to the state*

*For a Black July*

*For Anarchy*

## **BANNER FOR ANTI-FASCIST PRISONERS**

JULY 28TH

Just as rush hour began on the 25th of July, a banner was dropped over a highway in Minneapolis, MN that was painted with the words “LOVE ANTIFA HATE COPS”.

This action was taken in solidarity with the 2nd annual international day of solidarity with antifascist prisoners.

As the Republican National Convention concludes in Cleveland, the anti-fascist task has never seemed so dire. While so many across the United States search desperately for an electoral solution to present itself, it is clear that one can't vote against fascism, it must be fought and defeated.

Neither fascism nor democracy.

(///)

## **GRAFFITI FOR MILWAUKEE**

AUGUST 15TH

Full solidarity to the militants in Milwaukee fighting back against a genocidal social order. Minneapolis shares many of the same inequities that are present in Milwaukee and many other cities in the Midwest. The rebellion in Milwaukee does not happen in a vacuum it takes place within the context of an ongoing struggle against white supremacy, capitalism, and colonialism that has been raging since 1492. Do not expect

*organizers'. They confronted police in their cars on Oxford and Summit Avenues, prompting the police to drive away. To view this, watch here (around the 33:15 – 36:20 mark).*

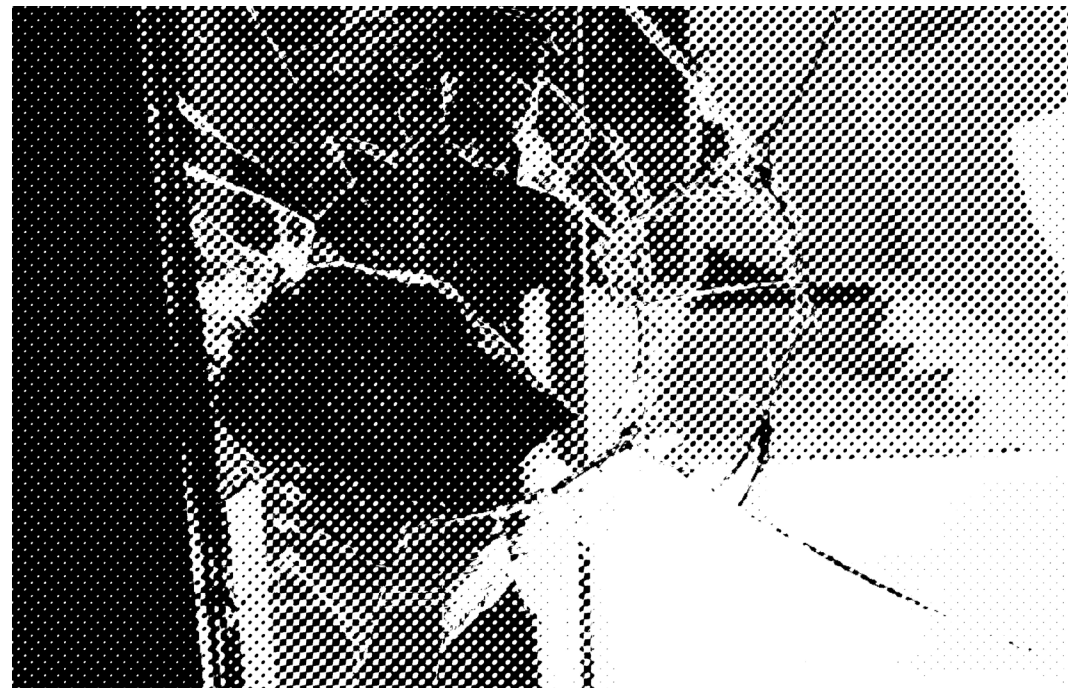
*The attention then was focused on an empty police car that suffered some lashes of anger from the community. The vandalized car gave reason for a line of riot cops to approach the protesters. The police pointed their crowd control weapons at the protesters which backed the crowd up enough to get their car out and then they retreated.*

*Confrontations continued as the crowd moved to the upscale Grand Ave. saying “let's go fuck Grand up...fuck these rich people!” Almost immediately police were shining lights as a few rocks were thrown and a window of a jewelry store was broken.*

*These actions caused the St. Paul police to unload the riot squad again and start firing rubber bullets into the crowd, as well as using chemical spray.*

*A standoff ensued for over an hour. The community chanted, linked arms, sang, and tossed a few water bottles, apples, and insults at the police. The police reacted with brandishing an array of firepower, shooting what sounded to be rubber bullets, threats of “riot munitions to clear the block”, shining flashlights, and making one arrest.*

*The arrest-tee was the same person who was sprayed with chemical irritant. He also had a mask on most of the night and was walking with a camera. The explanation for his arrest by St. Paul officer Joshua Lego was that he was 'sprayed with chemical irritants, we all saw it, and he was arrested'.*



## **AGAINST AMERICA, AGAINST DEMOCRACY**

JULY 13TH

We hope you understand the circumstances of our delay. After weeks of flag hunting we wanted nothing more than to joyfully ignite these symbols of oppression. After last week's thunderstorm had cleared, more important tasks presented themselves to us as another black person was shot and killed in the Twin Cities by the lap dogs of the social order.

This Fourth of July season, several Minnesota residents celebrated without their flag, and it is possible that those flags made their way to our torch. We also set fire to a Trump lawn sign which is something rare in the metropolitan area. We appreciate the hard work of anti-racists everywhere who have made the public support of Donald Trump a risky endeavor. However we found one person who hadn't yet gotten the memo.

Alongside this we burnt a Bernie Sanders sign as well—signalling our complete opposition to the democratic system. Politics is the separation of our beliefs from our actions, therefore we reject politics. Sanders has gotten huge numbers involved in an electoral process who had until now correctly understood voting as a waste of time. Our fight can and will take many forms of diverse resistance, but elections will never be one of them.

Lastly, we burnt a fascist poster that had been torn down last week in Minneapolis. Despite their updated aesthetics, the "Alternative Right" is anything but an alternative, and we will make their development in the Twin Cities as difficult as possible. This task appears easy at the moment, given that only a single poster was put up in the city. And it burned quite colorfully thanks to the ink!

Anti-authoritarian greetings to all those who continue to act against oppression everywhere.

## **NOISE DEMO AT RAMSEY COUNTY ADC FOR I-94 ARRESTEES**

JULY 13TH

On Sunday night a small gathering of anarchists and other supporters of the anti-police movement in the Twin Cities gathered outside the Ramsey County Adult Detention Center. After a short speech was given to the independent media journalist collective Unicorn Riot was given explaining the reasons for the noise demo, fireworks were lit and chanting began.

*"Our passion for freedom is stronger than your prisons!"*

*"No justice, no peace! Fuck the police!"*

*"No nations, no borders, fuck law and order!"*

Following reports from comrades who were incarcerated inside the Ramsey County ADC, it was discovered that the entire jail had been put on lockdown but cheers of support were spreading from cell to cell during the noise demo. COs attempting to clamp down and punish our comrades behind bars failed, as the show of solidarity from the outside inspired our friends inside.

It was also discovered that a full riot squad had been assembled in a courtyard near the jail. One comrade was briefly detained by police and issued a citation for the fireworks, showing the laughably petty levels the State will go to in order to discourage dissent. A small fine for a fireworks display is well worth showing support and solidarity to arrested comrades!

While this noise demo was specifically to show solidarity for those arrested and charged with misdemeanor riot for shutting down I-94 after the unjust killing of Philando Castile, it follows a time honored tradition of showing support for incarcerated comrades.

We stand with all prisoners in resistance to the state! We stand with migrants in resistance to the arbitrary separation of our species from each other by meaningless border walls!

We stand with our anti-fascist comrades who stood up to the Traditionalist Worker Party and Golden State Skinheads in Sacramento!

We stand with the Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee and the nationwide prisoner strike planned for September 9th!

We stand with all of our comrades in arms in the struggle against white supremacy, police violence, patriarchy, fascism, and the State!

*TOWARDS A WORLD WITHOUT POLICE, TOWARDS THE DESTRUCTION OF EVERY PRISON WALL!*

*BURN DOWN THE AMERICAN PLANTATION!*

## **GRAFFITI FOR ANTI-FASCISTS FOR A BLACK JULY**

JULY 13TH

In response to the call for a day of solidarity with the Sacramento anti-fascists, and the call for solidarity with anti-fascist prisoners in Russia,