Anarchist Activity in Belarus: Recent News
from Pramen.io

As anarchist Dmitry Polienko was prepared for court trial, Minsk anarchists conducted an action in his support, dropping a banner over a bridge in the end of August.

So-call parliamentary “elections” are coming up in Belarus. With no fair counting of votes, they are going to be another spectacle of a dictator, which aims to legitimize his rule. The Pramen group issued a leaflet, calling all the citizens to boycott this slagpits.

Cops brutality continues to threaten each of us. Every week independent media tell about someone beaten, tortured or “accidentally” killed by the “militsia”. At September Minsk anarchists dropped a banner saying “Cops are murders, wearing shoulder board. 1937-2019”, conducting analogue with times of Stalin terror.

The court trial against anarchist Dmitry Palienko was suddenly postponed. The official reason is ‘judge got ill’. But no one believes in that. Comrades of Dmitry day that the government, seeing the high level of support for Dmitry (around 40 people gathered near the court to support him), just took a break to decide how to deal with a headline political case.

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from northshore info

Construction has begun on a new prison for migrants and refugees in Laval, QC, a suburb just outside of Montreal. As the project has advanced, the struggle to stop it has ramped up as well, with a wide variety of actions being taken to stop its construction. The prison is part of a $138 million plan called the National Immigration Detention Framework (NIDF), announced in 2016 by the government of Canada following a period of resistance against the imprisonment of migrants. The NIDF expands and strengthens the government’s capacity to surveil, imprison, and deport migrants, creating two new prison martial as prisons as well as new forms of surveillance & control such as mandatory ankle bracelets, voice biometric scans, and halfway houses for migrants.

In the midst of this it is hard to figure out how to intervene in what’s happening, either as an individual or group. In the spirit of spreading all forms of resistance to Canada’s border and prison regimes I’ve assembled a list of (just some of) the ways people might contribute to this fight.

Border and detention infrastructure can be found in most cities in Canada. In Permanent Conflict

Call to Action from Some Informal Anarchists

We behave badly, very badly, and we can behave worse!

The Mexican State, with its domi- nating logic, continues to accuse us of ‘provocation’ and to impose the paci- fistic of the ‘good people’. And now they are trying to go further.

From his morning pulpit AMLO tries to make us invisible, exterminate the meaning of the anarchic struggle, of our history and the very meaning of the word ANARCHY. That’s why he calls us “conservatives” while giving lessons to his happy pets, with the consent of the applauding seals who pre- tend to be journalists every morning at the national palace.

”As with all previous presidents (and for all heads of state throughout history), the best anarchist is the one who is dead or the opportuni- st who renounces their ideas and kicks his boot, as in the case of the converted Stalinist Paco Ignacio Talbo.

That’s why AMLO lies and points to us as “conservatives”. All of his ene- mies he calls “conservatives”, including us anarchists.

As the compañeras from Femenas Brujas and Insurrectionists pointed out in their communiqué on August 17th, 2019 for the insurrection of anarchic women on Friday, August 16, against the Mexico City police: “We recognize what others keep silent: the presence in the national palace of a misogynistic and sexist, pro-life, ultra-conservative and evangelical fascist that the left has allied itself to in their constant oppor- tunism to “seize power” at all costs.” However, the palace accuses all adver- saries of being “conservatives”, changing the meaning of words and hiding the true conservatism that rules from the heights of power.

In the same way, every morning it is a question of changing history. Thus the figure of Ricardo Flores Magón is usurped and presented as the ideologue of the Fourth Transformation, while in parallel the legacy of Benito Juárez and Francisco I. Madero is claimed.

If we did not know the trick of the old prismio now recycled in MORE-NA (National Regeneration Movement, current ruling party of Mexico), we would think that was ignorance or that AMLO suffers from organic psychosis. But no, all this ideo- logical muddle is intentional, or rather, very malicious.

How to find and take action against border infrastructure in Canada

from anarchists worldwide and contra.info

We have more power than we think, but we lack a framework to address this power and create a better world. Today, we will explore one such framework and its potential to challenge and disrupt the border infrastructure in our communities.

We will discuss the importance of collective action in resistance to border infrastructure, and identify strategies for disrupting and dismantling these systems. We will also explore the potential of popular uprising and direct action as effective tools for challenging border infrastructure, and discuss the role of solidarity in building a stronger movement.

By the end of this session, we will have a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities presented by border infrastructure, and will have developed a shared vision for a world without it.

Identifying Border Infrastructure In Your Area

In the US, an extended and fierce struggle against ICE has been ongoing, with most major cities in the country showing up to shut down ICE offices, hold noise demos outside of detention centers, and take other creative mea- sures to counter the US detention and deportation regime. The government has been feeling the heat, and while there’s still quite a ways to go, we think it’s both possible and necessary to bring resistance to the border in so-called Canada to this level...
For those of us who know the history of anarchism in the Mexican region, it is clear that during the long period of the Juarez regime, it was when the most anarchists were killed by firing squad in the history of Mexico. And during the government of Francisco I. Madero, history was no different, deporting, imprisoning and murdering anarchists who always refused to recognize his government. Ricardo Flores Magon himself planned with anarchist comrades the execution of Madero. ...

There are important individual stories to be told. We'll track the journey of Dyer D. Lum to anarchism and the post-war exploits of William Batchelor Greene. Extra and Angela Heywood will feature prominently, as we account for the relationship between The Word and the emerging anarchist movement in the 1870s. There will be a lot of apparent diversions into the splinter socialist press, adventures among the free religious and free lovers, as well as plenty of exploration of the “Yankee International” and the associated organizations. We'll say goodbye to figures like Calvin Blanchard.

In general, I think, we'll find this period in the radical history of the United States full of interesting characters and episodes, many of which related to more familiar sorts of anarchist history, but also a bit hard to make sense of as a whole, if only because familiar attitudes towards government, authority and hierarchy will so often be found in contexts that do not seem to be ours. Hopefully, there will have been opportunities in the first volume to redraw the boundaries of “proper contexts for anarchistic thought” in earlier times and other settings, but, ultimately, there is no escaping the fact that the pursuit of the anarchist idea has often not been neatly separable from pursuits that seem decidedly cranky and weird.

But perhaps there are lessons to learn about the practical side of anarchy from an examination of crimes who were every bit as serious and organized as they were eccentric and diverse. In any event, we probably can't set the question aside if we want to take a closer look at the various “reform leagues” that were a vehicle for comparatively “big tent” organizing in support of a variety of radical agendas.

Of those, the New England Labor Reform League, established in 1869, is probably the best known, best documented and the closest, in terms of those involved, to familiar accounts about anarchism's emergence in the United States. So some effort to identify the major players and explore their varied careers will be a priority. But we'll also check in on the New England Anti-Death League and various other lesser-known radical organizations.

50 Police Taken Hostage

From AMW English

About 50 police officers have been taken hostage and indigenous groups have blocked roads and highways, as protests against the state's neoliberal economic policies continued in Ecuador.

On October 3, in Quito, the capital of Ecuador, anarchists, some carrying red and black flags, fought alongside students, setting flaming barricades and throwing rocks at riot police, whom they forced to retreat. Anarchists have been on the forefront of the struggle against IMF-imposed “reforms” and against the police-state that is attempting to enforce these “reforms” with brutality.

Protests began when Ecuador's corrupt president Lenin Moreno announced the end of fuel subsidies. Moreno's regime, though nominally left-wing, has strengthened relations with the imperialist United States, launching a joint security effort and intelligence sharing operation.

President Lenin Moreno says he will not bring back subsidies and has declared a two-month national emergency.

Some of the protests were organized by transport unions who have since stopped their action. Other sectors are calling for a national strike on Wednesday.

An umbrella group for indigenous groups in the country, the Confederation of Indigenous Nations in Ecuador (Conaie) said it was declaring a “state of exception” in indigenous areas, where soldiers and police officers were destined to be “indigenous justice.”

In the following text, we offer our own brief report from the streets of Chile, an interview with a Chilean anarchist from within the movement, and a call to action from other participants in the movement.

On Saturday, the protests started before noon. Throughout all of the city and the neighborhoods you could hear a steady drone of pots and pans, cars honking, all to the rhythm of popular chants: “Ecuador, no pagar, otra forma de luchar” (“Dodge the fare, don't pay, another form of struggle”) and “El pueblo unido jamás será vencido” (“the people, united, will never be defeated”).

After the declaration of the state of emergency Friday night, it was guaranteed that Saturday would see more protest. All day long, various forms of rebellion erupted throughout the city. Big bands played protest music and led chants, many people built barricades and set them aflame. People smashed the windows of many key government buildings and banks, then removed the furniture to build barricades and destroyed bank records. Many stores were looted of items both for fun and for necessity. More busses were burned as people clashed with police. The military was out in force with long guns, adding to the atmosphere of anxiety and revolt.

A curfew was declared for 10 pm Saturday night in Santiago as well as other cities that were participating in protest—Concepción and Valparaiso. As the sun set, some people began to go home out of fear that the military would begin to employ their weapons with deadly force. Many other people chose to stay out past the curfew and into the night. Clashes continued to decentralize, spreading further into the peripheries of Santiago, filling the whole city. Some of the most severe police and military violence occurred in

Anarchist Paliyenka Attempts Suicide in Court Room

From belsat.eu

Activist Zmitser Paliyenka whose criminal case was closed at the Minsk City Court on 17 October attempted to slash his wrists just before the trial. The hearing was stopped. Paliyenka was searched and taken out of the cage under escort.

People were taken to the corridor, where the lights were turned off. But no one was leaving. The people started to push each other, the police were trying to detain some activists.

Activist Yachaslau Kasinevaz was being detained, but he grabbed the rails and the police couldn't tear him off.

According to the Investigative Committee, Dmitriy Paliyenka sprayed pepper gas from the face of a person who allegedly reprimanded him for smoking in the entrance. Friends of Paliyenka say it was self-defense against a drunk attacker.

After he was brought back to the court room, Zmitser Paliyenka said: “I've made sure the trial is open”.

Statement on the Passing of Sean Kealiher

Members of the Anarchist Communist Group (UK) are shocked and saddened to hear of the passing of Sean Kealiher. Sean, who I came to know through ultra-left circles on social media, went by different names online, some of these referring to past, Italian anarchists. Although the names might have changed, behind them all was the same knowledgeable, courageous, funny, interesting person. We shared laughs in the邦千年 world of politics, modern anarchism, and leftist drama. It was obvious that Sean was a militant anti-fascist and principled anarchist – an enemy of this society, with its cops, prisons and oppression – whilst being completely unperturbed and down-to-earth.

When we chatted, he told me he was interested in translating Italian pamphlets and was planning to post his account of the 2017 J20 protests on libercom (https://libcom.org/news/j20-portland-report-comrade-22012017). I suspect most of his writings were published pseudonymously or anonymously. I only wish I had gotten to know him more, but write this for his family/friends, to let them know that even though we are thousands of miles away, he mattered to us as a friend and anarchist, and the Anarchist Communist Group expresses our condolences to them.

Right now I see tension, and it is the role of anarchist to incite this tension, to build love and rage against this society and all it stands for. Regardless of tendency, the time is ripe for attack and propaganda.” – Sean Kealiher, 2017.

Craftwork,

for the Anarchist Communist Group