

ONLINE LITERATURE TABLE

Some of the publications available:

Greece's Communist Organization: Learning to Swim in Stormy Weather

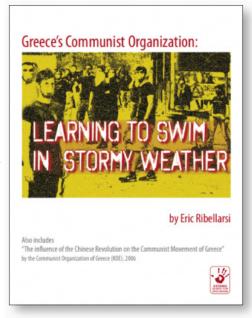
This pamphlet features Eric Ribellarsi's essay "Greece's Communist Organization: Learning to Swim in Stormy Weather."

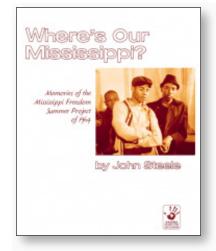
The one thing in this experience that I have been most impressed with was the KOE's creativity and willingness to shift when something unexpected happens, and at the same time holding on to a revolutionary strategy.

In addition this new pamphlet also contains the KOE's own essay on their communist regroupment and subsequent development: "The influence of the Chinese Revolution on the Communist Movement of Greece May 2006."

"Instead of a heavy and cumbersome organizational form with very insufficient content of internal discussion, what was necessary was a political operation that would arm the whole organization for the particular needs of an ideological, political and organizational strengthening.

"At the same time, measures should be taken: against the creation of 'independent kingdoms' inside the organization in several Greek cities; against the strangling of the desire for study and research; against dogmatism and blind self-confidence; against the cultivation of several 'mythologies'."





Where's Our Mississippi? Memories of the Mississippi Freedom Summer Project of 1964

By John Steele

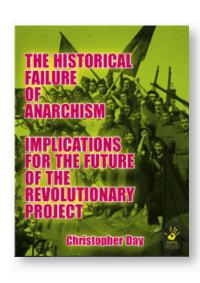
In the summer of 1964, three civil rights workers were murdered in Mississippi. They are known to the world as Goodman, Chaney and Schwerner. But back then, in the days before they died, I knew them as Andy, JE, and Mickey.

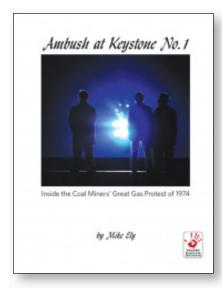
I want to share with you my memories of the time we drove south together to join the Mississippi Freedom Summer project. I want to tell a bit of the story of that summer, and tell it for a purpose. I believe it has implications for today.

The Historical Failure of Anarchism: Implications for the Future of the Revolutionary Project

by Chris Day

Chris Day's essay "The Historical Failure of Anarchism" was written for a conference on anarchist strategy in 1996 — and quickly sparked a far ranging ideological struggle the Love and Rage Revolutionary Anarchist Federation. It was seen as a call for a break with inherited anarchism. But the importance of this essay is not just its critique of anarchism's weaknesses and complacencies. It starts with a challenge to those who refuse to acknowledge or learn from their own failures... and who simply ascribe their own setbacks to the evil of others. But to advance the revolutionary project we need to learn from our own shortcomings and setbacks — and find fearless ways to transcend our own previous self-defeating assumptions. In that sense, this essay is not just about "the historic failure of anarchism" but precisely about "the future of the revolutionary project."





Inside the Coalminers' Great Gas Protest of 1974

by Mike Ely

Coalminers in Appalachia waged a 10-year movement of illegal walkouts called wildcat strikes, starting in the late 1960s. Tens of thousands of miners repeatedly confronting the federal and state authorities, the courts, the police, the mine owners, the media, and their own top union officials. Most strikes involved individual mines and local grievances — and lasted a day or two. But especially after 1974, some strikes started to spread from mine to mine, county to county, state to state — challenging government policies and court repression. The hard fought strikes lasted for weeks. The leadership of these strikes was entirely at the grassroots, among the working miners and sometimes the local elected leaders at their mines. This was one of greatest upsurges of working class struggle in modern U.S. history. And yet it is virtually unknown.

This essay is a personal recollection of the first major strike that comrades of the Revolutionary Union participated in — shortly after we arrived in the coalfields. The strike erupted before we were widely known as communists and atheists. These were days when we were first learning the lay of the land and first meeting the main players in the rank-and-file struggle. In the raw experiences of this strike, new perceptions collided constantly with our own preconceptions.

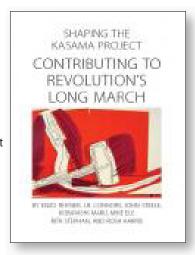
Shaping the Kasama Project: Contributing to Revolution's Long March

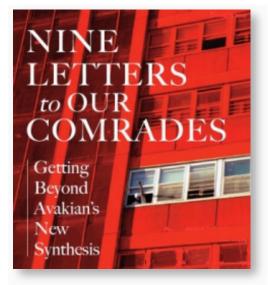
A Discussion Paper by Enzo Rhyner, J.B. Connors, John Steele, Kobayashi Maru, Mike Ely, Rita Stephan, and Rosa Harris Excerpt:

We are trying to build something new and very revolutionary from scratch — based on the "9 Letters" call for a radically different kind of communist politics, and based on the work we have done together since that call....

We will not arrive on the scene like some magical galvanizing thunderburst to tell everyone else what to think and do. Let's have some scientific non-messianic modesty and not perpetuate Avakian-style grandiosity. We will strain to make real contributions. There may be contributions that only we can make. And that matters. But we expect much from many other people.

Forming a new sect would be not breaking with the errors that brought us here. The theoretical knife has to cut deeper.





9 Letters to Our Comrades: Getting Beyond Avakian's New Synthesis

by Mike Ely

How do we make revolution in a world that seems to conspire against liberation? With apparent singlemindedness, the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA (RCP) has been insisting that its leader, Bob Avakian, has the answers for humanity. His new theoretical synthesis (this party says) is a major rupture with, and leap beyond, even the best of previous communism, including Marx, Lenin and Mao. And (this party says) this New Synthesis represents the best and even only hope for the future.

The Nine Letters unfold a detailed Maoist critique of Avakian's synthesis. It engages and criticizes Avakian's claims and methods. The main author is Mike Ely, a former editor of the RCP's Revolution newspaper. These Nine Letters"excavate the RCP's inability to establish any mass base or revolutionary movement over more than thirty-five years. They dissect the RCP's escalating cult of personality around Avakian — with special focus on the cult's theoretical assumptions, denial of practice, and implications for revolutionary strategy. In a beginning way, these Nine Letters point to a different road for communists and call on others to join in a very presumptuous work of re-conception and new revolutionary practice.

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