

TIDES OF FLAME



number 22 early august 2012

FIGHT THE WITCH HUNT

joy freedom rebellion

ABOUT

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Tides of Flame is a biweekly periodical which is part of an ongoing project of anarchist analysis and practice within the Puget Sound area.

We strive to live lives of joy, freedom, and rebellion, and for this, we are criminals.



*Who will revive the
violent whirlpools
of flame
if not us and those
that we consider
brothers?*

Come!

*New friends:
this will please you.
We will never work,
oh tides of flame!*

THIS WORLD WILL EXPLODE.

~ A. Rimbaud

OUR PASSION FOR FREEDOM IS STRONGER THAN THE STATE'S PRISONS



*Statement from Portland
Grand Jury Resisters*

The two of us, Dennison Williams and Leah-Lynn Plante, were subpoenaed to the secret grand jury* to begin meeting on Thursday investigating anarchists.

We are releasing this statement to make clear our intention to resist the grand jury. We will not co-operate with their investigation. If we appear before the grand jury, we will not answer any questions other than our names. If we are asked additional questions, we will invoke our First,

then the state's prisons. Our refusal to co-operate with the grand jury is a reflection of our own desires for a liberated world and our support for others who are working to bring that world into being. We support the efforts of all those who will be resisting this grand jury.

If you would like to join us, please visit: nopoliticalrepression.wordpress.com. There you can find out how to sign on to a solidarity statement, donate money to our

OUR REFUSAL TO COOPERATE WITH THE GRAND JURY * IS A REFLECTION OF OUR OWN DESIRES FOR A LIBERATED WORLD AND OUR SUPPORT FOR OTHERS WHO ARE WORKING TO BRING THAT WORLD INTO BEING.

Fourth, and Fifth Amendment rights. Under no circumstances will we talk about other people.

This grand jury is a tool of political repression. It is attempting to turn individuals against each other by coercing those subpoenaed to testify against their communities. The secret nature of grand jury proceedings creates mistrust and can undermine solidarity. And imprisoning us takes us from our loved ones and our responsibilities.

But our passion for freedom is stronger

defense and support campaign, and write us should we be imprisoned.

More importantly, though, you can show your solidarity by refusing to co-operate with any police force and encouraging your friends and families to do the same. The police do not protect us, and do nothing to bring justice to those who have been hurt by others. If we want real safety, and real justice, we need to continue creating liberatory alternatives to the state's institutions.

* See "What is a Grand Jury?" on page 4 for more information and check out the back page to learn how you can support Leah, Dennison, and all the other PNW grand jury resisters.

HUNTING WITCHES IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

On the Federal Grand Jury Targeting Anarchists

On August 2nd, 2012, a large group of people converged on the Federal Courthouse on Stewart Street to support those who were summoned to appear before a Federal Grand Jury* recently convened in Seattle. In the week prior, six people had been subpoenaed by the Grand Jury to answer questions and give testimony regarding unknown subjects. Based on a warrant to search a house in Portland which mentioned “anarchist literature” and “destruction of government property,” many assume that the Grand Jury is investigating the attack on the old Federal Courthouse in downtown Seattle during the May Day protests.

In Portland on July 25th, the FBI stormed a house with one of its paramilitary units and seized computers, literature, and other materials before serving one man with a subpoena. On the same day, two other Portland homes were raided, but the intended targets no longer lived there. Elsewhere, the Feds successfully served two subpoenas, one in Olympia and another in Portland. Three other subpoenas have been issued but the Feds have been unsuccessful in their attempts to locate the intended recipients. All of the subpoenaed have decided not to cooperate with the Grand Jury and could therefore face federal prison-time for their courageous silence in the face of this latter-day inquisition.

The comparison of the Grand Jury with the Inquisition is not a cheap one, nor will it be used by this author for shock value. The Grand Jury is simply the most recent incarnation of a very old counter-insurgency method. When rebellion becomes a contagion, the authorities use invasive, violent “investigations” to route out, isolate, and eventually punish trouble-makers. The obvious



intent is to discipline uncontrollable elements through fear and brutality.

Inquisition tactics are still alive and well six centuries later. Back then, an ecclesiastical court would convene and summon witnesses to deliver testimony, often regarding other people. The purpose of these courts was to sift through the population of a rebellious or “diabolical” town and locate the heretics and witches. Once they were discovered, these “evil” people were either imprisoned, hung, or burnt alive.

The Church justified its activities using the language of sin and Christian horror, but the people they tortured and murdered were not the demonically-possessed slaves of Satan. In many cases, these heretics and witches were people who would not submit to the control and submission that the Pope demanded of all who lived within the Empire. They were rebels and vagabonds, wise-women and anarchists.

VAL CAMONICA, ITALY 15TH-16TH CENTURIES

The town of Val Camonica in Italy had long been a place of paganism and freedom. The people living in the surrounding area had continued their relatively autonomous way of life between the days of the Roman Empire and the Church. When the Church began to pass laws in 1498 that forbid mild forms of what it called heresy, it was clear it had begun to move against anyone who did not want to live within the economic and religious system being enforced by Rome. By 1499, most of the population was suspected of having participated in a black mass with the devil during the night.

Six years later, the Inquisition burned one man and seven women it accused of being witches

but who were in fact powerful and independent figures in the Val Camonica region. Whether they refused to marry and have children or whether they remembered how to live off the land without money and the economy, these people were seen as a threat to order of the Church. In order to justify burning these people at the stake, the Inquisition told everyone the accused had slept with the devil and caused famine by using magic. These executions in 1505 served to pacify the area for several years in which people lived in fear and suspicion of one another.

It would not be until 1510 that the Inquisition would return to the region in order to control the now drought-stricken area. Because the Empire had forced its subjects to live in towns and discontinue their traditional land-based lifeways, the drought that hit Val Camonica unnerved the rulers of the area and made them fearful of an up- ▶

WITCH HUNTING

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 3

rising against the system of governance that kept people chained to the markets and the churches. Only fools or slaves would continue to live in a town and use money when the surrounding area was infertile and barren. To quell the unruly people, the Inquisition convened another court and began summoning people to testify against each other. By the time they were done, the Inquisition had burned dozens of its most feared opponents. However, despite the repression, Val Camonica remained unruly.

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST TODAY, TOMORROW

The Grand Jury in Seattle is meant to function in the same manner as the inquisition: locate a center of subversive activity, convene a grand jury, summon random people thought to associate

with insubordinates, extract testimony from them, and use this information to summon still others, all in the hope of finding some evil ones to punish.

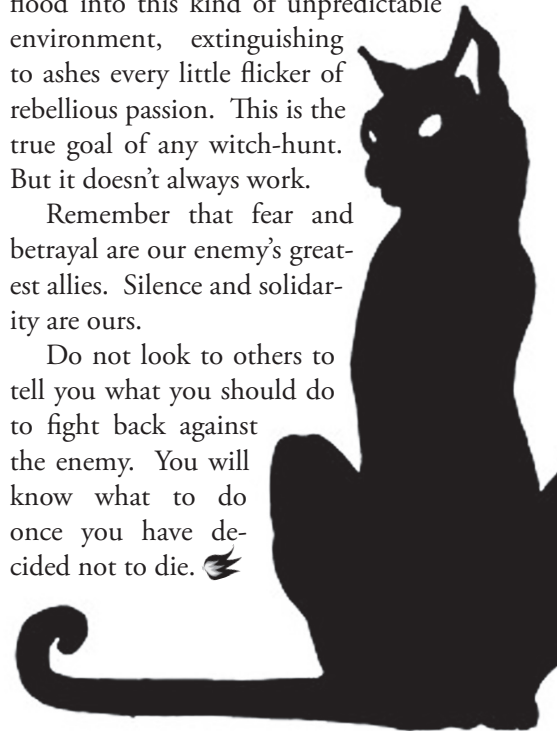
Unfortunately for the sadists in charge, witch-burning is no longer acceptable. Now the Grand Jury can only incarcerate the people whom they wish to coerce into submission. Beyond this, their other methods are to pit people against each other, to encourage them to sell their friends out, and to prove to all who are watching that rebellion will not be tolerated.

The Grand Jury is just as despicable and sadistic as was the Inquisition. The only substantial difference is that if the state now burned a rebel in a public plaza, it is sure that revolt would soon follow. Authority's tactics change form according to context, and today in the U.S., the state cloaks its deeds and schemes under the guise of democracy and justice. But it could not be more clear that the state's intentions are to

remind everyone that it is ready and willing to destroy lives to protect this disgusting world of money and control. Terror, mistrust, and treachery can flood into this kind of unpredictable environment, extinguishing to ashes every little flicker of rebellious passion. This is the true goal of any witch-hunt. But it doesn't always work.

Remember that fear and betrayal are our enemy's greatest allies. Silence and solidarity are ours.

Do not look to others to tell you what you should do to fight back against the enemy. You will know what to do once you have decided not to die. 🐱



WHAT IS A GRAND JURY?

In the federal legal system, the grand jury is used to decide whether someone should be charged (“indicted”) for a serious crime. The grand jury hears evidence presented by the prosecutor: the U.S. Attorney. The grand jury uses subpoenas to gather this evidence. It can subpoena documents, physical evidence, and witnesses to testify. Grand juries exist to coerce civilians into providing information about themselves and others to law enforcement and intelligence agencies. They operate in secret; no judges or defense attorneys are present, and neither Constitutional rights nor conventional evidence-gathering protocol apply. Grand juries are frequently used to harass activists and dissidents.

Grand juries basically force witnesses to choose between snitching and serving time. “Cooperation” with the Feds is a euphemism for coercion. If a witness chooses to cooperate with a Grand Jury but does not answer their questions (by pleading the Fifth or saying “I don’t know”) they are often found in contempt of court, or later charged with perjury. If a witness chooses not to cooperate, they may be found in contempt of court. Snitches are always promised leniency or a reduction of punishment, but this is almost always a lie. Grand Jury resisters can be incarcerated for as long as the Grand Jury is in session, which can be up to eighteen months, with three opportunities for six month extensions.

WHAT TO DO IF SUBPOENAED

If you are served with a subpoena, call the National Lawyers Guild Hotline at 888-NLG-ECOL (888-654-3265) or call a criminal defense attorney immediately.

You should also contact the **Seattle Anti-Repression Hotline** at 206-769-0943 or email resistthegrandjury@riseup.net (based in Seattle) or nopoliticalrepression@gmail.com (based in Portland).

DO NOT KEEP YOUR SUBPOENA A SECRET. Everyone is safer (including you) if as many people as possible know what is happening and can coordinate support activities accordingly.

IF APPROACHED, DO NOT TALK TO THE FBI. NOT EVEN IF IT’S “JUST A CHAT.” The Feds are trained to manipulate people into sharing information. You are not legally required to talk to them or to open your door to them. Be brave, say nothing, and contact a lawyer immediately.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- **saynothing.info** - Newly-formed support website for PNW grand jury resisters. Has a great list of resources.
- **nopoliticalrepression.wordpress.com** - Another support website, based out of Portland.
- Stop by The Wildcat (1105 23rd Ave) to pick up copies of several different grand jury info and “Know Your Rights” pamphlets. See the calendar on pg. 7 for The Wildcat’s hours.

SOLIDARITY ACTIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Find full communiques and photos from various actions at pugetsoundanarchists.org

• NYC – a banner drop
Northwest revolutionary forces, you have inspired many of us while instilling fear in the hearts of politicians and police in your region. You have consistently shown nothing but love for your comrades in struggle and nothing but hatred for the reactionary forces of law and order. Repression does not mean you have done something wrong, it means you have done something right.

- Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN – a solidarity demonstration
- East St. Louis, IL – an attack on a courthouse
- Oakland, CA – an attack on a police substation
- Oakland, CA – an attack on 2 police vehicles and a police recruitment center
- Kirkland, WA – an attack on a courthouse
- San Francisco, CA – an attack on 9 police vehicles

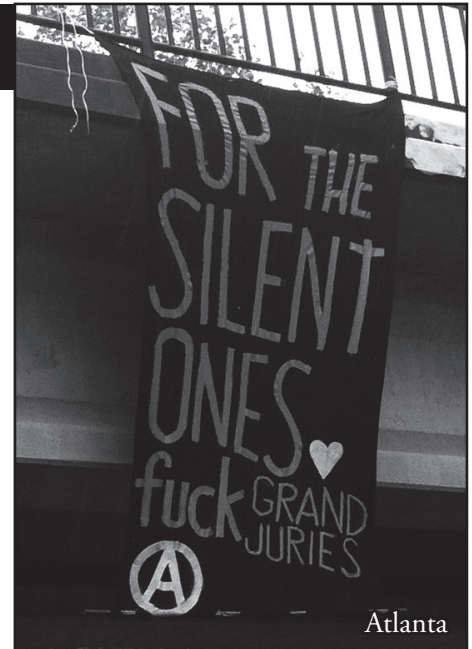
Greetings of solidarity and complicity to those resisting the grand jury in the Pacific Northwest. In whatever way you choose to resist state repression, we will act to spread and strengthen your struggle.

- Seattle, WA – a banner drop
- Oakland, CA – a banner drop
- San Francisco, CA – a banner drop
- San Francisco Bay Area, CA – a beautiful statement of solidarity

As the Grand Jury in Seattle is set to convene on August 2nd, comrades here in the Bay have declared a commitment to consistent actions under the banner of solidarity with the Northwest. With this unified spirit of persistence and rage we will combat the harassment and attempted entrapment of comrades across the US. We are invested in "creating the conditions where an offensive can sustain itself without fading, of establishing the material solidarities that allow us to hold on."

- East St. Louis, IL – an attack on police vehicles
- Bloomington, IN – a noise demonstration outside of a jail
- Portland, OR – a popular statement of solidarity has been signed by dozens of organizations
- Atlanta, GA - 45 parking meters disabled and graffiti, a banner drop

We hope that our humble act warms the hearts of all who resist.



**WE WILL NOT COMPLY.
 WE WILL NOT COLLABORATE.
 WE WILL NOT DESERT EACH OTHER.
 WE WILL NOT SIT BACK.
 WE WILL NOT WAIT.**

Minneapolis/St. Paul



Part One

Four arsonists stood on a hill overlooking the brilliant fruits of their night's work. Beneath their hoods, they all wore the cunning, satisfied smiles of the victorious. Two of the figures moved closer together to touch shoulders, and though it wasn't visible in the dim light, surely their hands sought each other beneath their baggy cloak-sleeves. Love and smoke hung thick in the dusky air.

Below the hill on which the arsonists stood, a raging inferno consumed a great clapboard slaughterhouse. Flames frolicked across the peak of the roof and snapped like snakes' tongues from the broken windows. A sudden colorful explosion rocked the ground beneath their boots, and their dark faces were briefly lit with the dancing glow of golden rain. A burst of magenta sparks followed, then one in blue.

"They're sure to see those fireworks as far as Port Land!" one of them shouted happily.

"A fine idea to put them in, my friend!" replied another, slapping her shoulder.

"Ah, yes, I only wish we'd had more than three. Perhaps next--!" She was cut off by another, much larger, and entirely unexpected explosion. The sound seemed to have come right from the heart of building, from what would have been the killing floor. It was a strange sort of sound—not a mere boom, but a rising rumble, like a cavalry regiment thundering down a storm tunnel. Thick smoke bled into the air above the burning building like black ink dropped in water.

The roar continued, punctuated now and then by the popping and cracking of the fire as it consumed everything it touched. Mesmerized and speechless, the arsonists gaped at the impossibly liquid smoke. Just before the roar became truly unbearable, all sound collapsed into silence. The inky clouds moved towards each other as if to reconstitute themselves.

The Burning Secret

Slowly, a figure formed above the collapsing structure. A winged horse, black, its mane and tail floating about as if submerged in water. Its eyes were as green as bottle flies, and, undisturbed by pupils, they shimmered like them, too. The horse flexed its wings, gazing at the arsonists as if they were its long-lost friends. The wings were beautiful, raven-like, so black they were blue, green, and purple all at once, like the colors had ventured into them and gotten lost somewhere in the feathers.

The four looked from one to the other in disbelief. They found themselves floating above the ground like drowning victims sinking to the bottom of a lake, paralyzed, their arms and legs languid and weightless. Their cloaks swirled about them as they gaped at the black horse. Their long hair tangled together and then slipped apart again, silky as ribbons. Ash fell all around, gently as snow.

Then the silence broke and the black horse began to move towards them. Behind it, thousands of silvery spirits, manes aflame, galloped from the fire and into the sky and forest. Each left a trail of swirling ash and cinders as they leaped and swooped, neighing and whistling at each other as if reunited after a long and sudden separation.

Two spirits alighted in the clearing beside the arsonists, one much smaller than the other. The larger one dipped its head to rub its nose against that of the smaller one, who must have been her foal in the time before the slaughterhouse. They both cried happy tears that dripped and glowed like lava. And still the black horse with the burning green

eyes glided closer to the helpless arsonists. It seemed to be smiling as it came very close, hovering above them like a storm cloud. Then it spoke, its voice cool and clear as water:

*You four have freed my soul at last
from the bloody kill-room floor.
The flames you lit, the final blast,
have given life once more.*

*For far too long we winged beasts
were stolen, trapped, and hung,
our feathers plucked, flesh cut for feasts--
they even eat our young.*

*You've done a lovely thing indeed
for which you will be blessed--
You'll live your lives with all you need,
That is, of course, unless...*

*You tell the tale of this sweet night
to any soul at all.
This charm will break, as will the light,
and all but One will fall.*

*Forget all that has happened here,
forget that you conspired,
Speak it not in any ear--
the tale of this great fire.*

*This is a scratch you may never itch
and if perchance you do,
you shall become the hated Snitch,
and Death will follow you.*

*You have a choice, my human friends,
a choice that you must make:
To live with joy that never ends,
this promise must not break.*

The arsonists still swam in midair, unable to speak. They looked wildly at each other with a strange mixture of terror and excitement. They'd heard of magical things happening, but never had they themselves experienced a wrinkle so deep as the one just now rippling the fabric of their world.

The horse smiled.


*A simple "yes" will do, my dears,
to close this final deal.*

*Release your dread and fears,
my loves, your "yes" will be the seal.*

Yes! their hearts cried out in unison. And with that, the horse bowed its head and began to dissolve into a rain of ash, one gleaming eye burning intently until it was eclipsed by the moon hung high and bright in the smoky night sky.

The arsonists fell to the ground. Sore and dazed, they pushed themselves up to look down the hill at the charred skeleton of the slaughterhouse, its beams by now like the ribs of a carcass picked over by vultures. They had stayed for far too long at the lookout and needed to return to their homes before sunrise.

"Let us never speak of this again," one said.

"Yes," replied the others. "Yes. Yes." And the burning secret was born. 



Check back for the another installment of
"The Burning Secret" in the next
Tides of Flame!



Communiques for Recent Night Actions

JULY 15: TWO BANKS AND A STARBUCKS SMASHED BY ANARCHISTS

SEATTLE - Last night in Seattle we smashed the windows of two banks and a Starbucks. It is sad-
dening that so many people experience banks as institutions of exploitation yet refuse to take the
step of attacking them, as for smashing up a Starbucks, it may be the only Seattle tradition worth
continuing since the WTO.

These specific acts were done in solidarity with the ten people sentenced to long prison terms in
Italy a few days ago for their participation in the anti-G8 activities of 2001 as well as the recent
repression against anarchists in Italy known as operation "Ardire".

It is important to remember that at that summit in 2001 the police killed Carlo Giuliani and
tortured and imprisoned hundreds. It is also worth remembering that it is always possible for thou-
sands of people to rise up as they did in Genoa in 2001 and attack the manifestations of the rotten
system we all live under.some anarchists

JULY 17: BANK SMASHED IN SOLIDARITY WITH DOUG WRIGHT & GABRIEL POMBA DA SILVA

SEATTLE - A Wells Fargo in Seattle had some of its windows broken last night as a small gesture
of solidarity with Gabriel Pomba da Silva who is currently imprisoned in Germany and is facing
renewed repression under Operation Ardire and with Doug Wright, one of the Cleveland 5, who
recently began a hunger strike in Trumbull County Jail in Ohio. Lets not forget our comrades
behind bars.

AUGUST 2: MUNICIPAL COURT ATTACKED IN SOLIDARITY WITH GRAND JURY WITNESSES

KIRKLAND - In the early hours of August 2nd, we attacked a municipal court building in Seattle's
bedroom community-Kirkland. In addition to multiple broken windows and doors, fliers were left
inside the newly "opened" building indicating that our small act was in response to the latest round
of State repression of anarchist activity. We refuse the greatest mechanism of the Grand Jury - fear -
and let it be known they cannot quell our joyous rebellion. Get them, wild ones.

Long live anarchy! It's easy to attack!

- Anarchists

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY, AUGUST 13 - 7PM

**MONTREAL: FROM STUDENT STRIKE
TO UNLIMITED STRIKE**

*This workshop will offer some context
and perspective on the explosion of
rebellion on the streets of Montréal
& across Québec over the past few
months. @ The Wildcat (1105 23rd Ave)*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19 - 1:30PM

HERE COMES EVERYBODY!

CARNIVAL OF LIBERATION

*Central District neighborhood celebra-
tion of autonomy & freedom.*

Meet @ 23rd & Union

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22 - 6:30PM

ECO-PRISONER RELEASE

BENEFIT DINNER

*Menu of wild/regional foods. All
money goes to support recently released
NW eco-prisoners. @ The Wildcat*

SAT/SUN, AUGUST 25/26 - 10AM-5PM

2012 SEATTLE ANARCHIST

BOOK FAIR

*See SEATTLEANARCHISTBOOKFAIR.ORG for
complete list of vendors and workshops.*

GREAT FOR NOOBS!

@ The Vera Project (Seattle Center)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25 - 8PM

**BENEFIT SHOW & DANCE PARTY
FOR THE WILDCAT**

*Feat. Adelit@s, Underground Reverie,
Kobosh, Wretched Of The Earth, Body
Betrayal, DJ River Grimm*

@ The Cockpit (910 E. Pike)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30TH - ALL DAY
SUPPORT GRAND JURY RESISTERS

*Please come show your solidarity!
Bring banners & noise-makers. Check
saynothing.info for updates.*

@ 700 Stewart St

L@S QUIXOTES RADICAL LIBRARY

*has open hours 3-6PM Sundays and
Mondays at The Wildcat*

WWW.THEWILDCAT.ORG

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT GRAND JURY RESISTERS

- 1. Attend the support rally at noon on August 30 in front of the Federal Courthouse (700 Stewart Street), when the grand jury subpoenants are expected to again appear before their inquisitors. Bring signs, loud noise-makers, your sound system, flyers, banners, and your uncompromising solidarity. Updates at saynothing.info**
- 2. If you can't make it to the rally: The days of August 24th - 31st are being called as a week for solidarity actions. Consider acting in ways that communicate the passion for freedom that those in the Northwest have continued to express by their refusal to cooperate with the State's witch hunt.**
- 3. Donate money to support the legal costs and provide material support for those resisting the grand jury and the investigation. You have two options:**
 - **The Quiet Coyote Cash-Out**
saynothing.noblogs.org/donate/
 - **No Political Repression Fund**
On PayPal, send funds to nopoliticalrepression@gmail.com

**FUCK THE PERMITS - FUCK THE POLICE
STREET PARTY AT OAKLAND ART WALK
AUGUST 3, 2012**



Watch the video: <http://youtu.be/NUp4NjI-nyw>

*pugetsoundanarchists.org
anarchistinternational.org
anarchistnews.org*

*thewildcat.org
theanarchistlibrary.org
waronsociety.noblogs.org*