Thates of Flame joy · freedom · rebellion

issue 17 - mid march 2012

CHASE:

Authority is Atrocity • Kiddie Jail Kondos My So-Called Life • Swine and Burglars and Verdicts, Oh My!

The Blast (From the Past) • The Diaspora of the ELF



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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 whirpools

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



Unsurprisingly, we have received even more proof of capitalist society's complete sickness and decay. There have been two recent incidents that perfectly illustrate just how rotten this system is and what it does to both adults and children.

>>> SOLDIERS REMAIN PSYCHO FASCISTS

The first example concerns a soldier deployed out of Fort Lewis. He had served three tours in Iraq, ensuring that he would be a psychopathic and faithful servant of the army by the time he arrived for his first tour in Afghanistan. For reasons that will never be made clear, this man intentionally left his base at three in the morning, walked into a village on the western outskirts of Kandahar and proceeded to massacre nine children and seven adults. He piled all of the bodies together and set them on fire inside the houses where they lived. This sick man wiped out an entire generation of two families and it will be no surprise to us at *Tides of Flame* when the people of the city rise up against the US Army and the puppet government that obeys its wishes.

The government and the army are scrambling to minimize the damage this atrocity will inflict on their project of domination. Earlier this year, riots broke out across the country when burnt copies of the Koran were found at a US military base. Dozens of Aghan civilians were shot and killed by the local military during these riots and several US soldiers were blown to pieces. Things are not looking so hot for the capitalist army and their departure from Afghanistan will be much sooner than 2014.

Another one of the most horrifying

atrocities committed in Afghanistan had its genesis in Fort Lewis. In 2010, members of a Stryker brigade executed three civilians and removed pieces of their bodies as keepsakes. It is unclear why the soldiers from the base to our south are particularly prone to murderously totalitarian behavior. can only guess that it has to do with the immensely nationalistic and fascistic mindset that permeates the poor towns that surround the base. This guess is informed by this author having lived in the area for seven years and also participating in the resistance to the outbound and inbound shipments of Stryker brigades through Puget Sound ports.

The wind has long since left the sails of the remnants of the anti-war movement. The movement as a whole had been neutralized almost immediately by the Democratic Party and by 2005 it was firmly in their control, acting as tool used to put pressure on the schemes of their Republican rivals. But amidst all of this there was a small group of people who began causing chaos around the Port of Olympia in 2006. The first steps involved tearing down fences, getting pepper sprayed, beaten, arrested, etc. By 2007 there was an all-night blockade around the two entrances of the port and a large clash with the police that saw dozens of people throwing rocks at the soldiers driving past in their Strykers, en route to either Iraq or Afghanistan. Some of these psychopaths would go on to cut the fingers off of the civilians they

In order to save money, military doctors at Fort Lewis have not diagnosed

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Coming Soon to the Central District...

CENTRAL DISTRICT - King County representatives have a great new plan to fix the decrepit, foul-smelling Youth Services Center*: bulldoze it, rebuild it with new and improved "urban design," and add some condos. Problem solved!

To pay for this, County leaders are currently working to get a \$200 million property tax levy on the primary August ballot. If it passes, home-owners will be expected to pay 7 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, or about \$20 per year for a home assessed at \$350,000, for 9 years.

According to *The Seattle Times*, this is how they intend to spend that heaping pile of cash: "The county would move some buildings back from their current locations near street fronts and concentrate them closer to the center of the campus. County officials would then sell to developers nearly 3 acres at three corners of the property. The idea is that developers would pay about \$16 million for the land, which would help to offset construction costs and enliven the area with retail and residential projects."

The history of development in Seattle shows exactly what "enlivening an area with retail and residential projects" means: condos, cupcakes, and cafes. And more police trolling the streets for petty "quality of life" crimes like graffiti and pissing in alleys. There couldn't be a more perfect example to show how the justice system, capitalism, racism, and gentrification are interconnected. While kids endlessly cycle in and out of developer-subsidized jail cells, wealthy condo-dwellers will be enjoying the view from their rooftop sun decks.

Proponents are attempting to sell the plan by appealing to voters' empathy for the poor kids locked up in a such a rundown facility. Cienna Madrid, writing for *The Stranger*, recently advised voters to "approve the levy—the facilities are about as safe for kids as an electric eel fishery. In some hallways, it perpetually

Kiddie Jail Kondos!

We firmly believe that the well-being of our children and families requires this action.
- King County Superior Court Presiding Judge Richard McDermott

smells as if someone took a shit in their hands and then clapped." She goes on to quote Judge Helen L. Halpert saying, "It's filthy, it's decaying, and it sends an evil message to the primarily poor peo-

ple who we see: 'You just don't matter.'"

According to these fools, imprisoning children under such shitty conditions shows them that society doesn't really care about Well, them. news flash, "society" doesn't really care about them. Halpert's idiotic contends logic that a fancy new facility (no doubt a much more secure, higher cafacility) pacity

with upscale condos and shops next door will somehow change this.

Um, what the fuck?

Obviously it is horrible to imprison children and teens in a rickety old building. But it's just as disgusting to imprison young people in a new building with an aesthetically pleasing urban design. The problem is incarceration, period. Oh yeah, and rampant racism, a completely fucked economic system, psychotic cops, politicians... One could go on and on.

To anyone who's been paying attention, it's no secret that the US criminal justice system is fundamentally racist and operates in accordance with

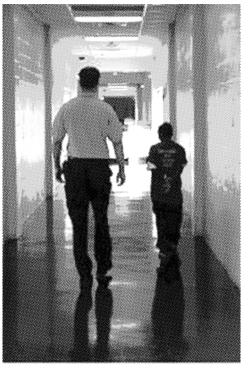
the needs of capitalism. The statistics are easy to find. There are 2.3 million people locked up in cages throughout this country. Judge Halpert admits that most of them are poor. With only 5%

of the world's population, the US boasts a full quarter of the world's prison population. US prisoners are disproportionately black and Latino, and the prison population sky-rocketed over the past thirty years largely due to the War on Drugs.

These statistics are alarming, but they seem to suggest that if the excesses of the justice system

were fixed then the basic functioning of the state's court and corrections apparatus would still be desirable. This analysis ignores that the primary purpose of laws, courts, and prisons is SOCIAL CONTROL and *not* the prevention of things like interpersonal violence and drug addiction.

Prison captures surplus populations—the poor and the restless—that might otherwise create real problems for the smooth functioning of capitalism. Meanwhile, the cage extends beyond the razor wire in the form of surveillance, even working its way into our minds as we police ourselves and each other. Above all, prison serves as a looming



^{*}The King County Youth Service Center houses the Juvenile Detention Center, Juvenile Court and Juvenile Court Services. It is located at 1211 East Alder Ave in the Central District.

The Earth Liberation Front is a group of multiple cells acting throughout the world with these three objectives: 1. To inflict maximum economic damage on those profiting from the destruction and exploitation of the natural environment. 2. To reveal and educate the public about the atrocities committed against the earth and all species that populate it. 3. To take all necessary precautions against harming any animal - human and nonhuman.

fter the disbanding of the cell, the arsonists and saboteurs dispersed into their new lives, scattering themselves across the country. We do not have the means to narrate the stories of each person who partici-

pated in the ELF actions nor what they did once the cell came to an end. Nevertheless, we will provide a few stories about some of the people we respect. As you will find out next month, not all of the people who participated in the assault against capitalism remained loyal to each other.

Joseph Dibee lived in Seattle after having participated in three arsons, including the synchronized attacks against two targets in Olympia. Oddly enough, he found employment with Microsoft and eventually contributed much technical expertise to the Internet Explorer browser. His work became his life and he sometimes spent 100 hours in the office. The same feverish personality that led him from a life of activism to urban guerrilla warfare seemed to still burn inside him even while he worked for one of the two major computer companies. Outside of work he went on hikes, kayaked, flew planes, scuba-dived, and explored the natural world he loved and had striven to protect. He

was well-liked by his friends and coworkers. Apparently, his services were much appreciated by Microsoft as well.

Daniel McGowan, the young man who wandered into the Pacific Northwest and fell in love with the remnants of untamed nature, eventually returned his birthplace: New York City. He had grown up in a Catholic family and his father had worked as a cop for the NYPD. After rejecting a life in business,

Justin Solondz, 1999 Recently sentenced in Tacoma to seven years in prison for his involvement in ELF activities

something his father frowned upon, Daniel had chosen the life of an activist. When he returned home, he eventually found employment with WomanLaw. org, a nonprofit group that helps victims of domestic violence avoid the traps and pitfalls of the judicial system. He met a woman named Jennifer and eventually married her, his new life becoming simple and increasingly removed from his previous one as an urban guerrilla.

> Nathan Block and Joyanna Zacker remained close to the world they came from. They were in the Olympia metal scene and lived as a couple in a small house in the woods on Delphi Road. Nathan eventually began growing pot and soon had forty plants with which he could support himself. He and Joyanna were well-liked and well-known amongst their friends. their landlord described them as very nice people.

> Justin Solondz remained in Olympia for a while after the cell disbanded. At the time he was dating Brianna Waters, another member of the cell. Both of them had attended the Evergreen State College and together they fought to save a forest in Oregon, working with the townspeople and making a film of the popular struggle against the logging companies. have limited access to the facts, but it is known that at some point he and Briana Waters separated and in 2005 he traveled

to Europe to begin a life of wandering.

While living these new lives, the world became increasingly bleak. The invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq took place, the public became infected with patriotic hysteria, and the housing bubble continued to bloom, creating new profits and expanding the market reck-

^{*} This is the fourth installment of our retelling of the story of the Pacific Northwest ELF. For previous installments, see our back issues on our website: tidesofflame.wordpress.com

lessly. It seemed as if everything that they had been fighting for had turned to nothing. All of the forests were coming down to build new developments on land that was once wild. The public was swept away into the netherworld, electing the overtly-fascist Bush administration for another term in 2004. Pockets of rebellion survived in some major cities but the fight against capitalism entered a low period in the US, and a sense of defeat hung heavy in the air.

Though it may not be widely recognized as such, everyone in this country experienced a fascist coup following the attacks of September 11th. A small group of people took power and drastically altered the entire social landscape, first by providing cheap housing and easy credit to the public and then by cashing out, leaving everyone else to fend for themselves. In Chile, on September 11th, 1973, another group of fascists seized power and proceeded to turn the entire country into an experiment from which a small group of people could extract profits and then vanish.

The former members of the ELF cell lived through the rising fascism as best they could, always aware of the gravity their past actions held in the current political climate. Rather than see an uprising against the world system that was killing the planet, our protagonists beheld a public that continued to willingly plunge into its own destruction. All of them grew apart, numbing themselves to the horror unfolding around them, learning to live inside of it and survive as best as possible.

We do not know what the exiled ELF fighters would have gone on to do had they not been caught, but based on appearances they did not engage in clandestine struggle ever again and many of them permanently renounced their former tactics. When they were apprehended, the most hidden and rotten parts of the former fighters came to the surface. Only the strongest held onto themselves through the hell that we will described in detail next month.

NEWS SHORTS FROM THE PUGET SOUND

>>> DEAD TROOPER STILL A FASCIST

Even from beyond the grave, the recently killed 'Trooper Tony' is still helping this society become even more totalitarian. Governor Christine Gregoire signed into law a new 'blue alert' system that would solicit the public's help in apprehending cop killers. Utilizing electronic freeway information signs and various media channels, the authorities will transmit any information about suspected cop killers to as many people as possible in the hope that the loyal citizenry will turn the suspects in. But as we all saw during the manhunt for Maurice Clemmons after he killed four Lakewood cops, the loyal citizenry rather enjoys making prank phone-calls and confusing the police during these tragic moments.

While the Forza Coffee in Lakewood begins selling bracelets for the dead trooper's family, the state government has now committed to spending over 100,000 dollars to create the 'blue alert' system. In Port Orchard, three people have recently plead not guilty to rendering criminal assistance to Joshua Blake, the man who killed the trooper. The bail for all of them is over 200,000 dollars each. One of the defense lawyers publicly called the campaign against Blake's friends a witch hunt. We hope the witch hunt fails, that the public continues to disregard the helpless flailing and panic of the authorities, and that the Puget Sound explodes in a moment of collective rebellion.

>>> Pigs Nab Cat Burglar

It saddens us very much to learn that Maxfield Dare, a local thief and bandit, has been apprehended for a string of robberies in wealthy areas of north Seattle. Maxfield Dare is only 18 years old and has been earning his income from robbery since he was very young. Recently he broke into the house of a wealthy family in Wallingford, stole a bunch of

their electronics and the keys to their Audi. He drove off in their fancy car, undoubtedly high on his seemingly total freedom, but unfortunately the police had learned of the theft, found the car, and ultimately arrested this wonderful young man. As the decomposition of capitalist society continues, we will see more people like Maxfield Dare popping up in our lives and backyards.

>>> SHERIFF PLEDGES MORE PSYCHO-LOGICAL INTIMIDATION AND CONTROL

Head sheriff Sue Rahr is leaving the King County department and transferring to the Criminal Justice Training Commission in Burien. There, she will help mold the minds of all the new recruits who come through the training facility. She recently made a statement to the press that perfectly illustrates the disconnection and sociopathology of the authoritarian mind. We will quote this arch-swine verbatim, as she makes all of our points better than we could.

Physical tactics are very, very important, but there's a whole 'nother range of skills that we need to more effectively teach, and that is how to verbally and psychologically manage a persons behavior. Any police officer's goal is to get somebody to comply with what you want them to do. And if you can get them to comply because of your verbal and psychological skills, it's much easier.

>>> CHASE 5 GET OFF

Lastly, the Chase 5 were found not guilty of criminal trespassing. Despite locking their arms together inside the same Chase Bank on Capitol Hill that has been vandalized numerous times over the past year, the jury found them not guilty and the five walked free. Clearly, the general public despises the big banks so much they will find someone not guilty for criminally trespassing inside of one for an entire afternoon. Let the attacks on the banks continue.

Authority

◆ CONTINUED FROM PG. 2

soldiers who are clearly suffering from some form of PTSD. This effort at saving money has not only caused a media controversy, it has also contributed to the massacres perpetrated by soldiers, reported or unreported. We can scarcely imagine the amount of terror that has been sown in Iraq and Afghanistan from these deranged and rabid maniacs. The soldier who recently killed 16 people suffered from a traumatic brain injury, had a chaotic and undoubtedly abusive life with his family, and was somehow found fit for duty as part of NATO's "village stability program," a counter-insurgency operation aimed at integrating armed US soldiers into the Afghan tribal structure, making them beholden to the village elders. Clearly, this program is failing.

The Bush administration's extremist rhetoric left a lasting imprint on the traditionally poor and working class towns of the Puget Sound area. Now, with the passing of yet another atrocity, we cannot help but remember how insane and terrible reality was in 2003 when the seeds that bore such rotten fruit were first planted. This massacre is simply the latest in a long string of atrocities committed by US soldiers since the offensive was first initiated by the Bush administration. Fallujah was a massacre that no one remembers, and if you think this statement is incorrect prove so by describing to yourself what happened there. This lack of memory serves as a testament to the level of willful ignorance everyone has had to reach in order to forget what has been taking place since 2001. Without memory there can be no true resistance. The proof is in the pudding.

>>> COP SON KILLS COP DAUGHTER, COP NOW ON PAID LEAVE

Marysville - As if these past weeks were not brutal enough, the daughter of a Marysville police officer was shot by her brother while the two were waiting in the officer's civilian vehicle. The officer had left his gun in the glove compartment while he and his wife were out. The son started playing with the gun and before he knew it his sister was dead. The media quickly swooped in and began bemoaning the tragedy. At the time of this writing the officer has been placed on paid administrative leave, the standard procedure whenever a police officer mur-

ders someone. In this case, he murdered his daughter.

Some of you will undoubtedly respond that this was an accident, a tragedy even, and that the man is in no way responsible for what happened to his daughter. If this is what you believe, we find this to be completely inaccurate. The MPD officer chose to become a person who drove around in a police cruiser with a gun on his belt. His job is to display his power to the people he detains, tickets, and apprehends. His gun is his assurance that he will be obeyed. This man chose to become the living embodiment of authoritarianism. Without his gun he would be nothing, and for this reason, he felt the need to travel with a pistol in his civilian car. We do not know how much contemporary television or cinema his children watched, but had they watched even the slightest amount they would have been familiar with the image of the cop as a heroic, gun-wielding figure who can choose to only wound a "bad guy" and haul him off to jail to meet a fair and honest dispensation of justice. With or without the media, these children were probably forced to believe that what their father did for work was an honest, honorable profession. In his attempt to emulate his father, the son ended up killing his sister, perfectly recreating the purest microcosm of police behavior.

The children of authoritarians are perhaps the greatest victims of this sick society. They are forced to be brought up in a world where capitalist law reigns and cannot be questioned. The logic of the world outside is mirrored in their domestic life, where a man or woman used to getting their way because of their badge and gun inflict the same type control over their progeny. This psychological abuse can sometimes permanently warp the children of cops into authoritarians themselves. A minority of these children are able to escape this logic and mindset over years of healing in antiauthoritarian communities. The majority grow to reinforce the sickness of capitalist society, where big money is defended by a publicly-funded army that wears both blue and camouflage uniforms.

We extend our support only to the son of this Marysville pig. He alone is still capable of escaping the path set out before him. We offer no support to the mother or the father. They caused the death of their own daughter and should be accorded nothing but the scorn they deserve. It is important oppose the authoritarian world at every step and do whatever is possible to help others escape this suicidal system that aims only at the destruction of the earth and its children.

Complete collection of the intendiary San Francisco bi-monthly narrchist newspaper edited by Alexander Berkman from 1912-1917 that gave voice to the worldwide anarchist movement

Alexander Berkman

"THE BLAST" was a bi-weekly anarchist newspaper published first in San Fransisco and later in New York between January 1916 and June 1917. In total there were 29 issues, each 8 pages long.

It appeared when the war between capital and labor intensified, when the European war was slaughtering hundreds of thousands, and preparation for war was sweeping America. Speakers and writers were imprisoned for advocating birth control, free speech was at a premium, and a palpable sense of threat—of danger—was in the air.

On December 31, 1916, *THE BLAST* was raided by the police who took subscription lists and correspondences. By May the newspaper had moved to New York City. Only two issues came out before the magazine was banned on June 7th. Its primary editor, Alexander Berkman, was arrested on June 15th along with his lifelong friend Emma Goldman for conspiring to discourage people to sign up for the WW1 draft. After serving nearly two years, Berkman and Goldman were deported to Russia where they saw the betrayal of the revolution by the Bolsheviks.

AVAILABLE FROM AKPRESS.ORG

Kiddie Jail Kondos

◆ CONTINUED FROM PG. 3

warning for any who wish to destroy this cold and disturbing reality.

The cops and courts have shown themselves to be perfectly incapable of stemming the tide of so-called crime. This is because it is this sick culture and its laws that create and construct the criminal On the one hand, pervasive alienation reproduces the abusive sociopathy of capitalism in individuals. Television, pop songs, and our own experiences of being treated as worthless and replaceable teach us to regard each other as objects be be used and thrown away. This results in abusive behavior, in rape, in pointless murder. On the other hand, capitalism creates the economic and social conditions—poverty, necessity, vapid materialism-that fuel theft and the drug market. The state, in turn, criminalizes the things the excluded do to survive.

As long survival is tied to money, as long as there are rich and poor, as long as land is property, there will be criminals. As always, some will choose their targets wisely from the long list of individuals and institutions that profit from our exploitation and the destruction of the natural world. Others will continue to prey on people not so different from themselves. Prison has not and will never change this. The only way to stop broke, broken people from cannibalizing each other is to destroy the system that breaks us and to create new, nourishing worlds. That, not coincidentally, is also illegal.

For all of these reasons, we reject the County's plans to "fix" the Youth Services Center. The new complex might make liberals sleep a little easier, but it will still function as a node in the network of capitalist domination. That it will be integrated with upscale gentrification only makes it that much more repulsive and offensive to all those who love and struggle for freedom.

The only way to fix the Youth Services Center is to burn it—and every other exploitative institution—to the ground.

An irregular column detailing the misery, banality, and absurdity of everyday life in capitalist society.

 $oxed{I}$ stumble out of the paddy wagon, handcuffed and tired, and am politely dragged by an asshole cop through the front doors of the King County Juvenile Detention Center. There are two people standing at the front desk ready to meet

Penal Institutions are fun things to be thrown into. As a Washington **State Youth**, I try to live out my days of numbered naivety under a blanket of carefree bliss and unthinking "revolt" inspired by That 70's Show and all those terrible video games I play whenever I'm not shooting heroin behind the school dumpsters, or plotting ways to drop out of school so I can infiltrate the insane clan below the widely recognized "Bridge." When harassed by cops I shout obscenities and fight back and go wild and become uncontrollable not because I hate everything they are and everything they protect and their disgusting desire to please Master just for another slice of bread and a pat on the

head, no, it's not because I think anything dumb and romanticized like that, it's because I'm a lost child and I need to be better trained in how to deal with the **Adult World**. The people in the **Juvi** really, really, want me to succeed. They want me to thrive and they understand that I can only reach my true full potential through formulated conditioning. I disagree, but if they show they care about my personal well-being enough, I'll eventually understand and love them for what they've done to me.

They place us in little cement cages with bright halogen lights that turn everything a revolting shade of vomit yellow, and they give us food that makes us wish for the mashed Gerber products of our abusive childhoods. At breakfast, lunch, and dinner they make us recite lines that are meant to instill a sense of community and camaraderie between us and our jailers. They line the walls of our communal den with shelves full of books that tell us what life is really like. CONTINUED ON PG. 8

ecoming Events at The Wildcat the wildcat Ave

SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 6PM

Panel Discussion:

ANARCHIST ANTINOMES

> Several panelists will discuss those old questions that won't go away: Are anarchists social or anti-social? What's the differences between class war and social war? Is organization good or bad? Is it nationalist to decolonize?

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 6PM

Film: Cuando Una Mujer Avanza with Film-maker Simón Sedillo

> A documentary film about "Mare," a female hip hop artist from Oaxaca, Mexico. Mare is medicine for the devaluating experiences of many young women of color today. As a young native Zapotec female MC born in Oaxaca City, her unique life experience is a rarely heard perspective on life and community liberation.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 7PM

Insurgent Theater's "In the Belly" IF OUR SOCIETY IS A BEAST, ITS BELLY IS THE PRISON SYSTEM

> This new work from Insurgent Theatre seeks to manifest imprisonment on stage, overlays it with critical analysis of the system, and follows up with in-depth discussion about abolishing prison in America.

Monday, April 23, 7pm

NEVER ALONE LONGTERM ANARCHIST PRISONER SUPPORT TOUR

> Focusing specifically on the cases of Eric McDavid and Marie Mason, the tour will mark the spots where the events of these cases unfolded, using multimedia presentations to bring the facts of these cases to light. The tour will also feature a security culture beyond 101 workshop.

My So-Called Life

♦ CONTINUED FROM PG. 7

During my short stay I read 13 **Boxcar Children** books and never felt so terribly alive. The walls of my cell were lined with sketches of AK-47s and raging fires and a plenitude of foul words and calls for revenge and promises of solidarity that were probably written in moments of a very dark rage. I thought someone would have painted over them by now, but perhaps they think they're taunting us in our solitude.

It was nice to leave at last, but it was soured for me almost unbearably because I knew that there are millions left behind in those horrible things, slowly watching their lives drain away.

FIRE TO THE PRISONS
A CURSE ON THE GUARDS
A POX ON ALL WHO STAND
IN THE WAY OF TOTAL FREEDOM!

What to do with Cages

It is not enough
to make the cages bigger
to move out the wall a little
to widen the enclosure
& add the plants and friendly details
of the creature's native home.

Do this
and the restless wings still
beat against the bars.
They still twist their heads around
to rip out their own pretty feathers.
Still the mammal paces.
Wild thoughts of freedom remain,
as do sudden, ill-fated escapes.

It is not enough to make them bigger to feed better to fix it up to bring the books.

I'd rather smell the tree in the exercise yard burning.

Let all the cages rot & rust doors hanging open, locks broken, glass and stones all over the floor.

Don't make them schools, nor hospitals. We need no museums, no monuments to what has happened here. We cannot forget.

Better an empty place where pale opossums mistaken for ghosts rummage the wreckage in the night.

Better a spot for migrating birds to rest, to fly in through the windows and always out again.

