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Digest of the Anarchist Tubes

selected excerpts from stories on anarchistnews.org

October 2019

How to find and take action against border infrastructure in Canada

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 migrant 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 can be 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 we've brainstormed 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. Read on for some ways to identify it in your context (and a few ideas for what to do with that info).

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 measures 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!

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Call to Action from Some Informal Anarchists in Permanent Conflict

from anarchists worldwide and contra-info

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

The Mexican State, with its dominating logic, continues to accuse us of "provocation" and to impose the pacifism of the "good people". And now they are trying to go further...

From his morning pulpit AMLO tries to make us invisible, exterminate us, disappear us, this is why he distorts 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 pretend to be journalists every morning at

the national palace.

For AMLO, as with all previous presidents (and for all heads of state throughout history), the best anarchist is the one who is dead or the opportunist who renounces their ideas and licks his boots, as is the case of the converted Stalinist Paco Ignacio Talibo.

That's why AMLO lies and points to us as "conservatives". All of his enemies he calls "conservatives", including us anarchists.

As the compañeras from Féminas Brujas and Insurreccionists pointed out in their communique 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 opportunism to "seize power" at all costs." However, the palace accuses all adversaries of being "conservative", 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 priismo now recycled in MORENA (National Regeneration Movement, current ruling party of Mexico), we would think that it was ignorance or that AMLO suffers from organic schizophrenia. But no, all this ideological muddle is intentional, or rather, very malicious.

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 government, 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 Magón himself planned with anarchist comrades the execution of Madero.

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Distributaries

from Libertarian Labyrinth

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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 Batchelder Greene. Ezra 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 spiritualist press, adventures among the free religionists 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 separate 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 cranks 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.

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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, who 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 an-

nounced 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 would be detained and would face "indigenous justice."

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3 Groups of Antagonistic Cells Disband

from anarchists worldwide

With this communique, the three signatory action groups put an end to the contributions we made under the NANGU informal coordination project from April 2015 to September 2019. This will be our last communique under these acronyms. We detach ourselves from this project with the clarity to continue being actively present in the street struggle and in the new urban guerrilla, reviving the rudimentary autonomous action, as we have done until now.

Nothing is over, everything continues!
Long live Anarchy!

Antagonistic Cells of the New Urban Guerrilla

- Karr-kai Cell
- Forces for the Overthrow of Civilization
- Insurrectionary Column "Anger and Conspiracy" - FAI/FRI

Chile: Resisting under Martial Law

from Crimethinc.

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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: “Evadir, 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 Valparaíso. 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

the peripheries: Maipú, Pudahuel Sur, and San Bernardo, a semi-rural suburb on outskirts of the city.

Demonstrators torched tollbooths on the freeway north of Santiago.

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Anarchist Paliyenka Attempts Suicide in Court Room

from belsat.eu

Activist Zmitser Paliyenka whose criminal case was heard 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 Vyachaslau Kasinerau was being detained, but he grabbed the rails and the police couldn’t tear him off.

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According to the Investigative Committee, Dzmitry Paliyenka sprayed pepper gas from in 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”.

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Statement on the Passing of Sean Kealiher

from Anarchist Communist Group

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 at the nonsensical 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 unpretentious and down-to-earth.

When we chatted, he told me he was interested in translating Italian insurrectionary texts, and I posted his account of the 2017 J20 protests on libcom (<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 I 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

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 slapstick.

Cop brutality continues to threaten each of us. Every week independent media tell about someone beaten, tortured or “accidentally” killed by the “militia”. 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 Dzmitry Palienka was suddenly postponed. The official reason is “judge who 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.

Detroit trash incinerator closing — eco-apocalypse continues

from Declaration News,
by David Watson

The news in March 2019 that, due to “financial and community concerns,” the Detroit trash incinerator was to be closed was weirdly reminiscent of news back in the spring of 1986 that it was going to be built: It came as a surprise

to almost everyone in the city. This time, obviously, it came as good news; people who had been working to shut it for decades naturally celebrated the closing as “a glorious day for the city and its residents,” as Sandra Turner-Handy, a long-term environmental justice activist, member of the Michigan Environmental Council, co-supervisor of Zero Waste Detroit, put it.

The City of Detroit began quietly planning what would become the world’s largest municipal waste-to-energy trash incinerator in 1976; a decade later, a small item in the Detroit Free Press announced the last public hearing in Lansing, the state capital, to approve the project. It was to be built in the intersection of two expressways, just east of Wayne State University and the city Cultural Center, and about a mile from a central city neighborhood called the Cass Corridor, where the Fifth Estate office was located, and where most of the FE staff lived. In the spring of 1986, a handful of our neighbors, including an FE contributor, drove ninety miles up to the Michigan Air Pollution Control Commission hearing to find out what was going on and to demand that a public hearing be held in Detroit.

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Thus began for us, our neighbors, and our allies an odyssey of six years or so of intense, almost daily activism against the incinerator. First, we attempted to prevent the completion of what was called, depending on the day, “Coleman’s Cathedral,” and “the Beast.” And then, when that failed, we tried to shut IT down. Ultimately, we failed on both counts, and it ran for over thirty years.

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Accountability, Backbone, and Change: A Protocol for Community Care

from Grow Wild

***Disclaimer: The work contained in this post is extremely difficult to undertake,

and is not guaranteed to produce desired results. While I have found it helpful, and see a lot of potential in incorporating it, it’s not for everyone. And that’s perfectly ok! Starting out with this protocol on lesser offenses may make sense.***

Understanding that actions can never be taken back and that harm can never be undone, we must find strategies for stopping the cause of harm for good each time it happens in our communities. If we are gonna get serious about not relying on the kkkops and the state to use punitive action and force informed by the prison industrial complex to deal with it for us, we are going to need tools that are better than theirs. There’s been a lot of writings, workshops, and other work done on the left for decades on the topics of consent, rape culture, and accountability. Acknowledging that, can we agree on some shit though?

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Every person and every situation is unique. Mix in some PTSD, narcissistic personality disorder, substance addiction, and other layers of cognitive function at play, as well as influences of intersectional social privilege and oppression, and it becomes almost impossible to know anything of relevance to the overall experience of abuse, sexual or otherwise. The document I am offering is only relevant in the types of situations where the people involved are more or less on the same plane of social strata, have no structural power of each other, and don’t rely on each other for basic needs to survive. Perhaps also without the ease of ability nor desire to remove themselves from the spaces they share with their abuser, whether that’s the town where they live, community spaces, mutual friends’ lives, etc.

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