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## Digest of the Anarchist Tubes

compiled from September 2019

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# ATUBES

### **On Anarchy and its Spectators, from the Occupation of Exarcheia**

*From Pastebin via*

<https://twitter.com/exiledarizona>

Much has been lost within the stream of content piling from Exarcheia and its defenders this past week. A constant barrage of images and text connected but impossible to arrange into simple stories for the curious. For those who resist, there was and never will be a question of clarity. These images complete the gaps between passive and aggressive. Between creeping and totality. Where the naked hatred polite society has for its devils is placed on a pedestal as a beacon of order. They gather around its warmth to feel the comfort of authority.

For anarchists, we only need history and experience to understand the conditions normality needs to function. We know that the uniform and gun is a symbol of authority for the uneasy masses that will often choose death over resistance, comfort rather than freedom. As anarchists we desire freedom! Our enemy authority, waits to emerge as our existence becomes unmanageable. And as the world moves into disorder, Exarcheia, a symbol of possibility for us turns to barricades for them.

Time may bring justice or at least an ounce of truth but within the fog of war

there are only sides. Individuals having never questioned the need to act against authority cannot contemplate the scope of our situation. Some see armed men surrounding a neighborhood, checking IDs and attacking crowds as brutal occupation, others as an unfortunate need for order. Even the progressive journalist immersed in the intelligentsia can only see "both sides." Where the rioter, an individual against order must be punished, and if this takes collateral damage, so be it. After all, who wouldn't want normality to be maintained?

Although that normality, is anything but maintained. For an entire decade the world has been experiencing continuing degradation of living conditions. The economic collapse of the credit system in 2007 has persisted into a consistent form of austerity for the entire planet. This system is unsustainable, kept barely alive by cash handouts from wealthy nations. The clock has stopped ticking.

The world is heading back into recession. We face catastrophe. Exarcheia is a neighborhood that promotes self organization against economic efficiency. It should be obvious why they face us, authority doesn't need complex reasons, just continuity. And now that their

comfort begins to recede, Exarcheia and its inhabitants have been cast as the undesirable enemies of order. As anarchists, we never denied it! The threat of anarchy grows as their order becomes tenuous.

The collective enforcement of this order is obsessed with undesirables. The hatred of the individual is a condition for the totality of control. And within that condition exists a sliding scale of criminality. There should be no surprise regarding increasing attacks on any undesirable individual. Not much has ever separated those who burn people and those who enforce the law. They are usually the ones to order it! Knowledge and difference breed dissension against order. For them the devil is never just an idea. Whether it is women, students, refugees, potential anarchists or others, individuals are always the objects of cleansing.

And so we sit locked in our homes much of the day, traveling in groups looking over shoulders waiting for what may come. Many who have work or school outside the confines of the occupation are checked and stopped daily. Facing harassment is now part of leaving and entering the neighborhood. Of course for polite society, those desirable in the eye of the law may pass freely. Individuals marked otherwise dodge a watchful eye.

So war comes to the streets and fills our nights and with it the eye of the world

[continued from front page]

seeks to understand its conditions. But there is no lens other than our ideal. And that ideal, anarchy, is the reason we still fight! It is through these battles that Exarcheia, now boiling with resistance will spread back outwards. The question is, can it be stopped? Can total occupation defeat an ideal, never the less a neighborhood and its history?

The state believes that through constant occupation and brutality Exarcheia will be bled out of its desire. Although this plan never took into account the condition that allowed them to begin the attack in the first place. The coming economic disaster! So we should ask, who will wither? Those who desire freedom at any cost or a government already experiencing deteriorating conditions that negate their own plan for the area? How many more will we be in a month or year during a new crisis? Even if they take the occupations and beat and arrest hundreds what will become of their plans when the world itself falls into question?

The Future is Unwritten.  
For Freedom, For Exarcheia.

Exiled Arizona  
September 2 2019



## Indigenous Anarchist Convergence – Report Back

*From Taala Hoogan Infoshop*

“For what it is worth we will have to establish a way to live that is both indigenous, which is to say of the land that we are actually on, and anarchist, which is to say without authoritarian constraint.” – Aragorn!

“My ancestors wanted autonomy and I want that too.” – Jaydene, The Tower

“We have lived here long before the US government, and we will continue to live here long after it is gone.” – Diné relocation resister.

Kinlani/Flagstaff, AZ – More than 120 participants and over 30 groups and organizations converged at Táala Hooghan Infoshop to discuss, debate, and share their perspectives on Indigenous Anarchism.

The initial call-out for the convergence stated, “...we call for those also seeking a fulfilling life free from domination, coercion, & exploitation to gather around this fire. For those sickened by fascinations with dead white-men’s thoughts (and their academies and their laws), reformist & reactionary “decolonial activisms”, and the uninspired merry-go-round of leftist politics as a whole. For all those ungovernable forces of Nature...”

Though leftist reactions were often replicated and much time was spent with well rehearsed presentations, the primary goals of coming together and interrogating the propositions of

Indigenous Anarchism were fulfilled. We were also able to coordinate this gathering with a budget of less than \$800 (thanks to everyone online who donated!) as we relied heavily on the mutual aid from many of our relatives in Kinlani who cooked, donated food, opened up their homes, and volunteered to support. In those terms the convergence could be counted as a success, but what we share in this report back should not be viewed as a celebration. This is no way represents everything that was discussed, challenged, debated, or expressed. Perhaps this incomplete offering written from memory, limited recordings, and scrapped together notes, should be seen more as fragments of stones with which we can sharpen ourselves on.

When we put the save the date out for the Indigenous Anarchist Convergence (IAC) we had a focus set on a regional dialogue that would be shaped primarily by those who were fairly familiar with the ideas we’ve been working on, we did not anticipate the overwhelming response from people throughout the so-called US. We also specifically invited those few voices who we’ve read or directly talked with in great length about Indigenous Anarchism (some who couldn’t make it), and with that we knew we were inviting controversial people and that the potential for pushback was serious. The schedule was planned as one track and packed with discussions and workshops. Though each session was given substantial time (some over two hours), we shifted, waited, and went overtime as these functions inevitably do.

*[Read the rest on ANEWS]*

## Donald Room, UK atheist, anarchist and artist dead at 91

*From Freethinker Magazine*

I HAVE just learned with sadness that Donald Room, above, whose work appeared periodically in print editions of the Freethinker over many decades, died in London on August 31.

I was alerted to the fact that Room had died by another longtime Freethinker contributor, Professor John Radford, author of *Don't You Believe It!: Sixty things everybody knows that actually AIN'T SO!*, a book that Room illustrated.

Room's career and colourful life was affectionately documented in a blog called *Spitalsfield Life* in 2012. The author wrote:

In spite of the fearsome reputation acquired by Anarchists, Donald possesses a quiet nature, almost unassuming, and he has not been on a demonstration since 1963 when he was framed by the police for having a brick in his pocket. A brick which the police inadvertently – and famously – forgot to plant. It amounted to a national scandal at the time. Since then, Donald prefers to stay at home and seek his political influence indirectly by working on his long-running cartoon series, leaving it to younger Anarchists to take to the street.

Room, who in 1963 was working as a cartoonist for *Peace News*, was arrested by a violent and racist London policeman, detective sergeant Harold Challoner. On July 11 of that year, Room was demonstrating outside Claridge's Hotel against a visit to the UK of Queen Frederika of Greece. Challoner told Room:

You're fucking nicked, my beauty. Boo the Queen, would you?.

After hitting Room on the head, the copper went through Room's possessions, claimed to find a half-brick and said:

There you are, me old darling. Carrying an offensive weapon. You can get two years for that.

Room, a member of the National Council for Civil Liberties who had read about forensic science, handed his clothes to his solicitor for testing. No brick dust or appropriate wear and tear were found and Room was acquitted, although other people Challenor arrested at the demonstration were still convicted on his evidence.

By the time Challenor appeared at the Old Bailey in 1964, charged with conspiracy to pervert the course of justice, he was deemed to be unfit to plead and was sent to Netherne mental hospital with a diagnosis of paranoid schizophrenia. Three other protesters – David Oakley, Frank Battes and Keith Goldsmith – were sentenced to three years in prison.

Room told *Spitalsfield Life*:

When I was sixteen, I thought a free society would be easy to get. Now I don't think things are going to be easy, but the civil rights movement has been good. There have been improvements. There's no longer any law against homosexuality and no longer any corporal punishment in schools.

[read the rest on ANEWS]

## Emma Goldman's Cheese Blintz Recipe

Having been starved for so many years, he now ate ravenously. It was extraordinary what an amount of food he could absorb, especially of his favourite Jewish dishes, of which he had been deprived so long. It was nothing at all for him to follow up a substantial meal with a dozen blintzes (a kind of Yiddish pancake containing cheese or meat) or a huge apple pie. I cooked and baked, happy in his enjoyment of the food. Most of my friends were in the habit of paying court to my culinary art, but no one ever did so much justice to it as my poor, famished Sasha. - Emma Goldman, *Living My Life*

"I wish you were here for I am making Blintzes"... - Emma Goldman to Alexander Berkman's companion, Emmy Eckstein, Aug. 28, 1934.

Ingredients

3 eggs

1¼ cups flour

2 pounds or 4 cups of cheese, preferably pot cheese but Farmer's cheese or dry cottage cheese may be more easily available

3 cups water

Butter

1 tablespoon sugar

The Blattlach (Crepes)

They are the principal thing; they must be as fine as tissue paper. You beat up two eggs and add three cups of water, then add flour, sifted, to make the mixture as thin as you would for *fannekuchen* (pancakes), very, very thin. For best results, strain the batter through a sieve to remove lumps, then refrigerate, covered, for two hours. Then make your frying pan hot, wipe it thoroughly with butter, and pour in enough of the mixture to cover the pan thinly. Use about two tablespoons of batter, tilting the pan to coat the surface thinly and evenly. Then when it gets yellow, turn it over on a cloth. Make all your blätter (crepes) like this.

The Filling

The cheese is prepared with an egg and sugar.

Assemble and Fry

Small pieces of the cheese mixture are wrapped in the blätter. Then fry until brown.

Enjoy!

## Anti-Japan

by Max Res

*In the early 70s, a group of young people - including ex-student radicals, disaffected party communists, and anarchists - went to war the Japanese state and society in the name of abolishing Japan itself. The following is the opening essay to the pamphlet Anti-Japan by Max Res detailing their lives and struggles along with some reflection on their continued relevance today. You can find this essay along with a partial translation of their manifesto/guerrilla manual Hara Hara Tokei on the anarchist library or purchase a physical copy from Viscera (viscerapvd@protonmail.com) and other fine retailers of anarchist literature.*

The East Asia Anti-Japan Armed Front isn't a group you're likely to encounter in English-language literature, much less in that being written by anarchists. I myself happened upon them by chance when looking up information about their infamous urban guerrilla manual Hara Hara Tokei, which enjoys the occasional reference even now in Japanese popular media. From there I stumbled upon an informative if brief Wikipedia article about the group itself, which, lo and behold, was described as anarchist. Having some capacity in Japanese, I decided to make a project of translating the less explosive parts of the manual and researching the group. The pamphlet you hold in your hands is the product of my efforts.

Though its members don't seem to have referred to the Front as an anarchist project (though at least one member was), this ideological vagueness is part of what makes them interesting. [read the rest on The Anarchist Library: <https://theanarchistlibrary.org/library/m-ax-res-anti-japan> ]

## Three Months of Insurrection from Crimethinc.

An Anarchist Collective in Hong Kong Appraises the Achievements and Limits of the Revolt

In the following timeline and interview, an anarchist collective in Hong Kong presents a complete overview of the months-long uprising, reviewing its achievements, identifying its limits, celebrating the inspiring moments of mutual aid and defiance, and critiquing the ways that it has yet to pass beyond a framework based in the appeal to authority and the outrage of the citizen. This is a follow-up to the interview we published with the same group in June.

The struggle in Hong Kong has been polarizing on an international level. Some conspiracy theorists are determined to read any form of protest against the Chinese government merely as the machinations of the US state department, as if it were impossible for protesters to set their own agenda apart from state oversight. Others cheerlead for the movement without concern about the nationalist and neoliberal myths that still hold sway within it.

The events in Hong Kong show how a movement can actively reject the legitimacy of one government and its laws and police while still retaining a naïve faith in other governments, other laws, other police. As long as this faith remains in some form, the cycle is bound to repeat. Yet the past months of insurrection in Hong Kong can help us to imagine what a worldwide struggle against all forms of capitalism, nationalism, and the state might look like—and help us identify the obstacles that still remain to the emergence of such a struggle. [read more on ANEWS]

## anarchistnews now has an IRC server at #anarchistnews

<https://anarchistnews.org/irc>

The purpose of the server is to provide self-hosted space for real-time conversation about topics of interest to anarchists.

Point your preferred IRC client towards the server and port of:

irc.anarchyplanet.org port 6667

irc.anarchyplanet.org port 6697 (SSL)

km3jy7nrj3e2wiju.onion port 6667 || 6697

and type /join #anarchistnews (to join ANEWS channel)

Please note that most clients by default store chat logs of any channel that a user is logged in to. This communication platform is only as secure as you are.



## About ATUBES

ATUBES is a sporadically produced digest of some of the articles and commentary featured on [anarchistnews.org](https://anarchistnews.org), illustrating some of the breadth of anarchist thinking

<https://anarchistnews.org/>