About “Anti-Judicial Anarchism”, Max Stirner, Luigi Galleani, CCF & More

Here is an English translation of an article from the journal Conspiracion Acrata from Mexico, referring to the idea of “Antigiuridismo Anarchico”.

“Antigiuridismo Anarchico” which translates to “Anti-Judicial Anarchism” is a concept which has been used throughout anarchist history to define the attitude of a radical and total rejection of the concept and practice of the “justice” of the State, or as otherwise said — the judicial methods of the State including defence through a lawyer. This attitude or concept is or should be something normal within the anarchist movement but there are few compañer@s who have put it into practice for diverse reasons or strategies.

Antigiuridismo Anarchico is the rejection of declaring a position to the State in front of the court or contributing to the circus of the State. Often the declarations of those who position themselves in this attitude are only directed as a dialogue or explanation to the compañer@s of their movement. This attitude is the rejection of any legal resources through which one could obtain “freedom”.

For some, Antigiuridismo Anarchico’s basis can be found in the texts of Max Stirner such as “The Ego and its Own” as individualists have used this concept or method in the past, usually those who have used explosives or have been involved in diverse sabotages against the system, in other words those who have “nothing to lose”.

Historically, in Italy the “anti-organizzatori” (anti-organisationalists) close to the anarchist Luigi Galleani used the Antigiuridismo Anarchico method, although it’s worth noting that not all of the “antiorganizzatori” were individualists, however they did maintain themselves in a total contrast to the anarcho-syndicalists.

We also know of anarchist individuals who have positioned themselves under this method without defining it as such, examples include Severino di Giovanni and Paulino Scarfo in Argentina, the anarchists known as the Galleaneists in the USA, French Anarchists such as Ravachol or Emile Henry, or Italian-Americans like Gabriella Segata Antolini.

At the moment this is the case with the compañer@s of the Conspiracy of Cells of Fire from Greece who have used Antigiuridismo Anarchico as an attitude of rupture with the judicial system as well as with the society of the masses, refusing to declare and as such collaborate with the police investigations. The Conspiracy of Cells of Fire has put out communiqués referring to their situation, but as a form of communication with the compañer@s in solidarity, rather than as an explanation or justification before the State.

We can see that Antigiuridismo Anarchico is a decision taken individually (or collectively as is the case of the CCF) that works as part of two sides. For one part there’s the individual conviction to refuse to take part in any dialogues or compromise with the State/Capital or the line of politics, ensuring that each individual, group or cell maintains itself in contrast to the current reality. The other part can be owed to a consistent movement and a strong capacity to stand with prisoners and not leave them alone and one that is capable of physically interrupting the development of repression, for example we could cite the first trail against those of the Brigate Rosse in Italy, in which the same organisation brought judges, lawyers, prosecutors etc., to justice.

Furthermore, without putting forward any judgement whatsoever, there are other compañer@s who, as a contrast to this position of complete rupture, decide to analyse their possibilities and take advantage of legal avenues as a “strategy” to get out of prison and continue the war on the outside, always questioning power and its laws and taking these same laws or resources as weapons that can be used to avoid prison based on what’s possible within the judicial system, taking into account that this only works as a strategy and not as a dialogue with power. Many compañer@s who have taken use of legal resources as a strategy have demonstrated that once back on the street, they continue the war and maintain themselves in conflict. Unfortunately, there are some compañer@s who justify the State medium of ‘social rehabilitation’, to attempt to contradict our compañer@s in war, affirming such things as “you haven’t learnt anything from your time in prison”.

Whichever way you look at it, the two attitudes are equally valuable, however during this article we have attempted to lay out the concept defining the particular standpoint of Antigiuridismo Anarchico. There are a few philosophical law studies about Antigiuridismo Anarchico by Max Stirner, but generally they are academic texts which refer to a more nihilist and existentialist Stirner.

Luigi Galleani was an Italian anarchist who lived in the USA and edited the publication Cronaca Sovversiva which was edited for the first time on the 6th of June, 1903. One of Cronaca Sovversiva’s characteristics was the listing of addresses and locations of businessmen, “capitalist spies”, strike-breakers and all those considered enemies of the people. Luigi Galleani also edited a bomb-making manual called “Health is in you”, which was later translated into various different languages by various people supposedly including Emma Goldman. The Anarchist circle that revolved around the Cronaca Sovversiva were called “The Galleaneists” and in their time carried out numerous bomb attacks against institutions of the State and Capital, such as the first car-bomb in history carried out by Mario Buda. They also sent a great number of packet bombs to personalities of the Church, State and Capital and expropriated the businesses.
of capitalists. Luigi also published various articles, the most well known called “Faccia a faccia col nemico” in 1914, which Severino Di Giovanni later would use in his publication “Culmine”, as well as in his way of life.

The newspaper Cronaca was published throughout 15 years until it was banned under the Sedition law. It’s worth nothing that the anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti were close to the publication’s circle.

Gabriella Segata Antolini was an Italian anarchist who was arrested on the 17th of January 1918 at the age of 19 for transporting dynamite in a purse. When she was interrogated she gave a false name and refused to cooperate with the authorities or give them any information. She was sent to prison for 14 months. During her time in prison she got to know the notorious anarchist Emma Goldman with whom she formed a friendship. Gabrielle was from the Galeanist group from the Cronaca Sovversiva.

The Conspiracy of Cells of Fire is an anarchist nihilist urban guerilla group from Greece who have carried out direct actions ranging from arson attacks to powerful explosive attacks such as that carried out against the Athens Courthouse in solidarity with their imprisoned members. The CCF also sent a number of packet bombs to different ambassadors and world capitalist leaders including Silvio Berlusconi. Currently there are members of the CCF under trial.

The Brigate Rosse (Red Brigades) were a Marxist guerilla group from the 1970s who carried out various armed actions against those in power. Those years were called “the years of Lead” in Italy, a time in which many anarchists also carried out direct action, and some formed the anarchist action group Azione Rivoluzionaria.

Max Stirner was an anarco-individualist theorist who was born in 1806 and died in 1856, his most popular work was “The Ego and its Own” which caused innumerable discussions within the anarchist movement, including the anarchists of action.

UK: Mass Arrests in Hackney

On Wednesday 30th November, some people sick of the soul-destroying rhythms of daily life, took to the streets of Hackney, London. Bored by the dull dynamics of union activities which reduce our misery to a few narrow demands and channel and contain our anger, they decided to take control of our situation.

They blockaded Clapton bus depot in the early morning and the first police to arrive moved quickly to try and make arrests. But the demonstrators stuck tightly together and the cops were soon forced to retreat, allowing people to move freely for the next two hours.

They then hit the main traffic hubs of Hackney, by blocking several main roads and large junctions and finally, ended up at the picket outside CLR James library in Dalston. On the way, there was widespread support from passers-by who joined the demonstration at various points.

Once people arrived at the CLR James library, the police made their move and suddenly flooded Dalston Lane with over 100 TSG cops, dog units and a helicopter.

The police ploughed into the crowd, pushing and punching the demonstrators off the street. They went on to arbitrarily arrest two people, with a number of cops slamming them to the ground, crushing and twisting them till one almost lost consciousness.

Everyone else was soon kettled along with the picket outside the library. By 11.30am, everyone inside the kettle had been arrested for breach of the peace and transported to Albany St, Heathrow, Wimbledon, Bishopsgate and Kensington police stations. Meanwhile, passers-by and those who had come to support the demonstrators were threatened with dogs and some also arrested for breach of the peace.

At present, the numbers of arrests we know of stand at 42. All those taken to custody were re-arrested mostly for affray, and other trumped-up charges, allowing the MET to seize all our outer clothing, shoes and mobile phones. One person was badly bruised and left concussed. Almost all those arrested are bailed to return in mid-January.

Some peacebreakers
Montreal, Canada: Counter-infoaction in solidarity with the G20 prisoners

Text from war on society:

Two banners were hung in Montréal in solidarity with the G20 prisoners. Solidarity with the G20 prisoners / Tear Down the Prison Walls was hung from a building on St. Catherine street downtown. Solidarité avec les Incarcéré(e)s du G20 / Propageons la Révolte (Solidarity with the G20 Prisoners / Spread Revolt) was hung in the St. Henri neighborhood. Flyers were scattered at both sites, and further distributed in the metro system and on the street in the following days. We hope this counter-information action brings a smile to our locked up comrades.

This is the flyer:

Solidarity and Complicity with the G20 Prisoners!

It has now been almost a year and a half since the mobilization against the G20 in Toronto that witnessed the largest mass arrest in Canadian history. A $1 billion security operation caged over 1100 people over the course of a weekend in order to defend a meeting of the bureaucrats from the richest capitalist economies. A group of individuals, many using the black bloc tactic (wearing masks and black clothing), nonetheless broke this militarized social peace; a peace that exists to keep us obedient and passive so that capital can flow smoothly. The large breakaway demonstration attacked corporate property and the police, liberating space from the control of authority and targeting places of capital for destruction. What more human response could there be to a financial district - an urban space devoid of life, deprived of affordable rents, scoured of autonomous livelihoods, subordinated to the needs of traffic and commerce, held under the eye of surveillance cameras, occupied by police, and plagued with corporate outlets and banks - than to destroy it?

The day before the demonstration, twenty organizers were rounded up and charged with criminal conspiracy for planning the disruption of the summit. This vague charge is increasingly being used against anarchists and is essentially used for ‘thought crime’. After over a year of non-association conditions, pre-trial detention, house arrest, and a publication ban, six people took a plea deal to lesser charges in which the rest of their co-accused charges were dropped in November 2011. Mandy Hiscocks, Alex Hundert and Leah Henderson are expecting sentences between 10 and 16 months. Peter Hopperton, Erik Lankin, and Adam Lewis are currently serving jail sentences of 3-5.5 months. Others face prison time for alleged participation in the riot.

Innocence and guilt mean nothing to those who understand law as a structure that does not keep us safe, but that keeps us in line. In the words of the conspiracy defendants, “There is no victory in the courts...The legal system exists to protect Canada’s colonial and capitalist social structure.” To consider questions of guilt or innocence is to indulge in all the hypocrisy of a judge, a prosecutor, or a cop. It doesn’t matter that most of these people were already arrested when the property destruction occurred, and it doesn’t matter that they didn’t lead any conspiracies because anarchists don’t have leaders. What matters is that when all those workers died, when all those people were evicted, when all that money was taken from us by the banks, when all those bombs fell, when all that air and water were poisoned, it didn’t matter whether rules were broken or followed. To speak of rules and laws is to perpetuate one of the greatest lies of our society.

Repression is the inevitable consequence of living under capital and the State, whether in a democracy or dictatorship, because few are fully blind to the domination around them and many are willing to fight back against it. To combat this social unrest, the State responds with repression. Many systems of oppression target various identities daily for being a potential enemy to the social order; whether colonized, genderqueer, or not white, to name a few. Imprisonment is structured to perfect control over anybody who’s locked up, and manifests itself outside its walls as a threat towards those whose privileges don’t fool them into identifying with power. Repression tries to prevent us from making the all-too-sensible decision to revolt against
Greece: Solidarity with Christos Stratigopoulos

From *informa-azione* via *sysiphus*

Crisis means war.

Social and class war.

State and capital, seeking to impose social peace in these days of war in which we are living, repress social struggles, accuse and imprison those who fight.

Anarchist Christos Stratigopoulos is in prison for having claimed responsibility for a robbery in a bank in Trikala, Greece in October 2009. From July 2011 he should have been allowed a temporary release (from prison) and been released a few months later.

But the cops and judges have extended his imprisonment by trying to attribute another robbery to him, at a bank in Cephalonia in July 2009. With false accusations, the State is trying to set up another case of repression against a revolutionary.

The accusers, with false evidence and so-called witnesses and imaginative policemen, have tried to destroy him physically and socially.

Foreseeing our massive participation in all forms of social struggle that evolve into social conflict, this solid State tactic seeks to impose fear through the exemplary imprisonment of anyone who struggles.

Dionysios Manolatos, a resident of Cephalonia, either pushed to consciously become a snitch or to try to gain some personal benefit, has become a false witness for the police.

The young cop Sokratis Markatos, keen to climb the hierarchy in his job, has falsified evidence and handed it to the local press so as to receive medals and free himself from this impenetrable case.

THEY DON’T SCARE US, THEY MAKE US FURIOUS

SOLIDARITY IS OUR WEAPON.

NONE OF OUR COMrades HOSTAGE OF THE STATE

THE CRIMINALS ARE THE BANKERS AND CAPITALISTS.

FREEDOM TO CHRISTOS STRATIGOPULOs

Assembly of Solidarity to Imprisoned and Accused Fighters

Greece: Riot police attacked with molotovs at the Culture Ministry in Exarcheia, Athens

Early hours 13 December 2011, youths attacked riot police with petrol bombs outside the Culture Ministry, in Athens’ Exarcheia district.

The overnight attack occurred shortly after Monday night’s stand-off at Korydallos prison in western Athens, involving members of the armed anarchist group Conspiracy of Cells of Fire. Members of the anarchist-nihilist group took 3 guards hostage in a bid to escape with another prisoner, P. Vlastos, who is inside jail for organised crime and kidnapping rich industrialists. Their attempt was thwarted but in a political statement the group vindicated their actions.

No one was hurt in the incident nor during the attack on riot police outside the ministry. No-one was arrested for the attack with molotovs.