

Another filtering of muddy waters

[Article translated from the March 2018 issue of the Copenhagen anarchist newspaper *Orkanen*.]

Anarchist Black Cross Copenhagen. *Orkanen* has received the following contribution as a reaction to the article 'Filtering the muddy waters', which could be read in the January [2018] issue of *Orkanen*. That article described how two present members of ABC KBH covered up a snitch between 2011-2013. The following contribution adds new aspects to the story by talking about some of the methods used to cover for the snitch, including violence and threats against those who disagreed with the strategy, and wished to talk openly about the snitch. ABC KBH still has not answered the questions raised in the first article, but are still welcome to do so, of course.

Better late than never – and after being out of town in January I just read *Orkanens* January issue. I specifically noticed the article 'Filtering the muddy waters' about certain members' of ABC KBH involvement in covering up a snitch. First of all thanks to *Orkanen* for finally bringing this relevant article – here is my contribution, which is mostly about the practical execution of the strategy of covering for a snitch. First some background: My best friend at that time, was one of the two who got 7 years of imprisonment in the mentioned case. For two years, I was charged with a single count myself, from May 2011 until March 2013, and arrested and jailed in Vestre Fængsel [prison for pretrial custody] for one day.

In late spring 2012, I was made aware that one of the three newly released accused had snitched. Shortly after there was a concert at The Youth House and some people were sitting outside in the sun, talking and drinking beers etc. The snitch came over and sat next to me, I turned to him and told him that I do not talk to snitches. Offended, he stood up and left, and shortly after, one of the other released and his friend came to me and asked what I had said to the snitch. I answered that I had told him that I do not talk to snitches, to which they said that we should keep him close to us. I said that I was not interested in that.

The day after, the third released (the one asking me not to talk about the snitch) came to visit me at the collective where I lived at that time. Once again he asked me to keep quiet about the snitch, and again I refused. On the contrary, I told him that I was at the opposite opinion, that this should be told and that the snitch should be ostracized. And I did tell some persons about the snitch, both before and after, even though several individuals conveniently deny that today. The consequences of not obeying to keep quiet about the snitch, soon showed. Some weeks later, I got a text message asking me to come out in front of the collective where I lived, where a close friend to the released persons had arrived together with a person wearing a biker's vest. Again I was asked not to create problems by telling about the snitch. Still I refused, and shortly after I received a message telling me to leave Copenhagen. In the same period we had a situation in the collective where I lived, where a resident had sexually assaulted another resident. The person got thrown out, and the collective wrote a letter to The Youth House where we requested that the banned person got quarantined from The Youth House. Funnily enough, the collective shortly after received a letter from the three released (X was among them) stating that they had problems with me because I had sexually assaulted four people, of which the only named person were the one released who several times had told me to shut up about the snitch. The assault against him supposedly happened the day at the Youth House, where I confronted the snitch the first time, and told the others that I would not keep my mouth shut about the snitch. The assaults should then have taken place the night before the guy I allegedly assaulted, came by my collective and again told me to keep quiet. I probably do not have to specify how uncomfortable such an accusation is without any hold in reality – even more uncomfortable is it, that it was used as a tool in the strategy of covering up the snitch and to get to me because I wouldn't abide. And even more uncomfortable is it, that the three released used a serious situation, as the sexual assault in our collective which resulted in the banishment of the

abuser, to try to make the same thing happen to me. Luckily the residents at the collective understood what was going on, and I was not thrown out – but it does not end here.

Next step in order to make me obey and follow the strategy, was that the three released, including X and the snitch, requested the Youth House and other left-radical spaces, to give me (and two other, in their opinion, problematic elements) quarantine, and we were therefore called to attend a general meeting at the Youth House regarding the accusations against us. The snitch, X and the third released also attended. The meeting did not end with an official quarantine, but in practice things turned out to be different. Some time after, I was at a concert at the Youth House, and the snitch came towards my comrade and I. I said to my comrade that I thought snitches were not welcome at the Youth House, whereupon the snitch attacked me and threw me onto the floor. The third released (who had the bar shift at the Youth House!) came rushing from the bar to attack me further, but my friend prevented it and grabbed his shirt. They disappeared, but about an hour later the door-crew (funnily enough, some close friends of the three released) came to me and told me to leave. I asked for the reason why, all I had done was saying that I thought snitches were not welcome here. But I was thrown out, while the snitch and people who covered for him could stay?!

Amongst other consequences for not obeying and cover for the snitch, the following can be mentioned: As for the two people still incarcerated, after the other three was released, only one of them received financial support from the former so-called ABC (consisted of friends of the three released). The person who wanted nothing to do with the three released and their strategy of covering up the snitch, received nothing. Furthermore I have been threatened with violence several times, and an attempt to tackle me at a bar night at the Youth House has taken place. I received an apology for that episode last summer though.

In the collective I lived, we initiated quarantines aimed at X, the snitch and the third released in 2012. Against X on the basis of covering for a snitch amongst other things. I am no longer a resident at the collective, but I have heard that the quarantine is now repealed on a request from X. One can wonder why such a decision has been made without the involvement of relevant parties!

On the basis of the consequences listed above for not being willing to cover for the snitch, and since I have heard that X (and Y) insist that they would act in the same way today, I find it extremely unpleasant that they appear in an ABC group. Most recently I was confronted directly with this in a bus to Gothenburg [going to a demonstration], as X was running around, handing out contact information on the ABC, if anything was to happen. Obviously I did not take anything, but suddenly needed a sick bag.

To ABC KBH – an answer would suit you. And to the rest of the readers, people who are engaged in the so-called movement etc. – maybe you should consider whether the opinions you hold are tied to something social or something political, and how important the price for popularity is.

Le ingobernable

Translators note: Text in brackets have been added to aid the understanding for readers not familiar with the Copenhagen context.