

► **FREE**
Birthday Cake!!

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Happy Birthday to
Toronto's Anarchist Bi-Weekly

Ecomedia

BULLETIN

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INFO ON GATHERINGS



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STOP! WAR ON POOR...

For the second time in recent months, a demonstration near Tompkins Square Park in New York City has led to mass arrests. On April 1st, police began evicting squatters who had taken over an abandoned six-story apartment building at 316 E. 8th Street for shelter a few years previously. The Buildings Department had ordered the building torn down on the false premise that it was in "immediate danger" of collapsing. The evictions prompted a scuffle between the police and protestors, six of whom were arrested and charged with obstructing governmental administration, criminal trespassing and resisting arrest.

By early afternoon, a demolition crew was at work tearing down the building while one of the ex occupants, 52-year-old Tya Scott, stood crying on the sidewalk: "The inside was beautiful. The city doesn't even have homes for people who are homeless. Why are they doing this?" At 2:25 the protestors moved to the Christadora House, a 16-story luxury condominium which some area residents say represents the increasing gentrification of the East Village neighbourhood. Within minutes, 15 police cars had converged on the block. Rocks were thrown through the building's glass lobby doors and the window of a second-floor apartment,

and a bag of garbage was dumped in the lobby. Three more protestors were arrested on charges of rioting. Two of the three were also charged with attempted assault and resisting arrest, and the third was also charged with burglary and criminal mischief.

Tompkins Square Park was the scene of a melee last August, in

which hundreds of angry protestors clashed with police officers whose overly brutal conduct drew mass media censure. The issue was a midnight curfew in the park, the core of a community where the forces of poverty and gentrification have collided in recent years. The Christadora House was also attacked in that uprising.

and DRUG WARS!

It is impossible to determine the exact circumstances of what happened in Thailand on February 20. At the time, the press reports only told us that an RCMP corporal, Derek Flanagan, had been killed in Thailand while attempting to make a drug arrest. A little later, Toronto Scum columnist William Stevenson wrote that Flanagan's death had been arranged by U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency officials because he knew too much about the role of U.S. covert warfare specialists in encouraging the drug trade of Thai warlord (23-2-89 p11.) It has been known, at least since the Iran Contra scandal, that the U.S. government has been using huge drug profits to finance wars against various third world populations that can't get public funding from Con-

gress. Anyone who still believes in the System would have expected the Canadian government to censure Stevenson if this story were false, or to demand an explanation from the Americans if it were true, but it has remained silent.

More recently, a couple of alternative versions of Flanagan's death were published in a front page Globe and Mail story (10-4-89.) One is the official RCMP version that he died on duty as the result of "an accident" during a drug smuggling investigation in Thailand, which resulted in the arrests of five Thais and one Canadian in Thailand and of six Quebecers in Canada. The other is that of the jailed Canadian, who says that Flanagan and two other Mounties enticed him into arranging

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The A.L.F. strikes again!

The Animal Liberation Front raided a rabbit breeding and testing laboratory in Soquel, Calif. on March 9, 1989, liberating 40 rabbits. E-Y Laboratories also had their premises and property damaged by paint and paint stripper. -SC Sentinel 12/3/89

The A.L.F. also claimed responsibility for two fires and raids on three labs at the University of Arizona in Tucson, AZ, on April 3, 1989. In a press release, the A.L.F. said they freed over 1,000 animals, including 950 mice, 50 rats, 16 rabbits, 14 guinea pigs and 10 frogs, "from certain torture and death at the hands of University of Arizona students and researchers."

The fires were set in labs in the main campus and at the medical campus, causing over \$100,00 in damage.

The A.L.F. said that many of the animals were "found with open sores and wounds and dying from overdose injections of various substances, (and are) being placed in good homes around the country where they will live free from the invasive curiosity of researchers and vivisectionists."

While researchers are lamenting over some of the mice who they say have a deadly diseases, they fail to reveal the fact that it was the vivisectionists themselves who injected the rodents with the disease. The researchers say that the disease causes severe diarrhea and is fatal to severely malnourished people and people with immune deficiency diseases. They say there is no cure as yet. They also say that the mice will recover from this artificially acquired disease within a week to ten days.

This particular A.L.F. group just recently began their work as reported in Ecomedia Bulletin #48 where four dogs were liberated from a lab on Jan. 6, 1989 during the first ever action in Tucson, AZ.

-Associated Press

Fran Trutt: Update

Fran Trutt, the woman who was entrapped by paid animal rights infiltrators to plant a bomb last November (see Ecomedia #46 - insert), was back in court March 30 for legal proceedings. Her attorney, John Williams, requested that Fran Trutt's personal property be returned to her. The property was taken by Mary Lou Sapone, a Security Perceptions Unlimited (SPU) spy, from Trutt's Queens apartment after her arrest. Assistant State Prosecutor Bruce Hudock said he would decide on this request by the following week. He did agree though to turn over any information he had concerning wages paid by U.S. Surgical Company (U.S.S.C.), which is the vivisection

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Greek Anarchists Freed!

After a year and a half in prison, the two Greek anarchists, Clearhos Smyrniaos and Christophoros Marinos were released with a few restrictions imposed on them. During the trial, which lasted for five hours and was postponed until a later date, it became obvious that the accusations against them were largely fabricated. Key police witnesses did not show up while others failed to recognize the two men as the actual individuals who, for instance, bombed a police station and the ministry of Public Order one night a few years back. In the weeks preceding the trial, anarchists held a barrage of actions including demonstrations, rallies, blocking off main streets and even a motorcycle demo outside the prison which was met by a score of riot cops. The two are in good spirits after their release and vow to keep the struggle going!

The major effort and attention is now being directed toward the extradition hearings of Palestinian fighter Mohamed Hamdan who is wanted by the U.S. government. The decision will be taken on April 18, 1989. In recent months urban guerilla groups have launched a campaign against the justice system. In the meantime Vagelio Vogratzi, accused of transporting drugs in W. Germany, managed to avoid being sent to jail to wait for her trial.

In the general climate of decay and corruption that permeates Greek politics today, the Greek anarchists are launching a campaign against the electoral parliamentary illusion, so the coming months promise to be sizzling!

North American Gatherings

Well, there seems to be an epidemic of Gatherings going on these days. Not that it's a bad thing!

New York: a Regional Gathering April 24 - May 1, 1989.

Contact: Anarchist Switchboard, 324 E. 9th St., NYC 10003, (702) 475-8312

RESIST TO EXIST is a worker's week of resistance New York style. **Monday**, April 24, will open up with a press conference at 5 p.m. and a film presentation of **COVER-UP: BEHIND THE IRAN-CONTRA AFFAIR** at 6 p.m. **Tuesday**, the 25th, Homeless People Speak Out About The Shelters in Tompkins Square Park beginning at 3 p.m. **Wednesday** and **Thursday** are jammed pack with demonstrations, music, food, sign-making, films and ending with a Public Forum about **WAR ON "DRUGS" - WAR IN CENTRAL AMERICA - MAKING THE LINK**. **Friday**, April 28, promises to be exciting with a Marijuana Smoke-In protest against the War on Drugs at Drug Enforcement Agency, and a U.S. OUT of Central America protest at the Army Recruiting Office. **Saturday** exercise your right to Free Speech in Washington Square Park. **Sunday** at 2 p.m. Public Forum: **SQUATTING AS A RESPONSE TO HOMELESSNESS AND GENTRIFICATION** then from 5 - 7 p.m. a Campaign to Free All Political Prisoners, **PEOPLE'S RALLY** at Manhattan "Correctional" Center. **AND MONDAY, MAY 1, 1989...MAYDAY!** A general strike! Boycott Everything! Help Blockade Wall Street!

DISARM The Rich



Ottawa: a Regional Gathering May 19 to May 25, 1989

Contact: Outouais Anarchist Circle, c/o P.O.B. 4051, Stn. E, Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 5B1 (613) 749-7130

DISARM THE RICH! DISARMX! is a mass protest against corporations involved in arms manufacturing, buying and selling which takes place every two years in Ottawa. The list of participating arms producers is over fifty pages long with over 10,000 potential consumers being invited. For three days these murderers wine, dine, arrange arms purchases and live the high life. This spectacle of the global military economy happens at the expense of the earth and its inhabitants. This year we don't just say no! Ottawa Anarchists have been busy organizing fun and games for the long weekend preceding **ARMX**. **Friday**, May 19, an evening greeting at Café Efac. **Saturday & Sunday** workshops 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., soup kitchen 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. All ages gigs both nights at 7:30 p.m. **Monday**, May 22, rally and march beginning at 1:30 p.m. at Confederation Park. **Tuesday**, **ARMX** starts at Lansdowne Park. **Wednesday**, Free Food protest against **ARMX** Gala dinner at the Conference Ctr. **Thursday**, May 25, 1989, Black Wedge Tour at Club SAW, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

San Francisco: Fourth Annual Anarchist Gathering, July 20 - July 25th, 1989

Contact: WITHOUT BORDERS, 1369 Haight St., S.F., CA 94117

WITHOUT BORDERS is this year's theme for the 1989 annual anarchist conference/festival to be held in San Francisco. Make sure to R.S.V.P. so housing doesn't become a crisis for you. The only concrete events happening so far are: **Friday, July 21**, Day of Anti-Sexism (contact: East Bay Anti-Sexist Network, c/o Dogtown Anarchy House, 1491 34th St., Oakland, CA 94608) and **Saturday, July 22**, Day of Anti-Racism (contact: Atlanta Clearinghouse c/o MAYDAY!, P.O. Box 536, Decatur, GA 30031-0536 or East Bay Chapter ARN c/o Dogtown @ House at above address).

On Wednesday, July 19, the Obnoxious Wimin's Network plans to greet all Anarchist Wimin coming a day or to early with special parties, rituals, workshops and actions all our O.W.N. (contact O.W.N. c/o Ecomedia - Toronto or East Bay O.W.N. at Dogtown address)

The men will also have this day to themselves set in a rural area outside of San Francisco (contact The Men's Camp c/o **WITHOUT BORDERS**).

Contributions are desperately needed and appreciated.

Trutt Update

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company who hired the security "consulting" firm S.P.U. to Sgt. Thomas Fedele of the Norwalk, CT police department, who headed the SWAT team which rehearsed the arrest of Fran Trutt with another S.P.U. spy, Marc Mead. It is alleged that Fedele has been receiving favours from Leon Hirsch, president of U.S.S.C., including a promise of a new SWAT truck! (a man after my own heart...ed.)

Jury selection for Fran Trutt is scheduled to begin in late summer or early fall.

Westport News 31/3/89

Ecomedia Toronto

Ecomedia is an international autonomous wire service which reports on action and news from an activist/anarchist perspective. It is an alternative to the regular media which ignore relevant actions and ideas.

Ecomedia Toronto publishes this bulletin every two weeks, which is distributed free locally from places around the city. Subscriptions are now \$15 for a year (26 issues) and you'll receive a package every 2 issues (to save mailing costs). Donations are always welcome. If you'd like to get involved in the news network, there are opportunities for writing, distribution, radio, research, etc, so get in touch at the address on the front.

We also do two radio shows. Ecomedia can be heard on CKLN 88.1 FM every Wednesday between 7 and 8pm on the "Word of Mouth" show, and "Desire Armed", our other show, can be heard weekly on CIUT 89.5 FM on Fridays from 11:05 to 11:30am.

Stop! War on Poor and Drug Wars

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the deal, paid his travel expenses to Thailand and threatened to kill him if he failed to produce the drugs. Instead of nailing the bigtime operators they wanted, the Mounties managed to jail a few average people for a deal they wouldn't have been involved in had the RCMP not set it up.

These stories aren't really mutually contradictory; it is quite possible that the RCMP enticed some suspected small-time operators into a drug deal in the hope of nabbing their higher-ups, and the U.S. officials intervened to protect their sources of drugs. This leaves unresolved the question of whether Flanagan's death was accidental or murder. What is clear is that one man is dead, several others will rot for years in appalling prison conditions for "crimes" engineered by the Mounties, and the drug trade continues.

Meanwhile, a U.S. president who was himself involved in the Iran-Contra scandal continues to proclaim a

"war against drugs" which is in actuality a "war against the poor." It is the Bush-Noriega/Contra-Crack connection that have created the extreme situation in Washington, which Bush is now using as an excuse to install martial law tactics. When we read in the Toronto Star (4-11-89 pA1) that "for too long...the D.C. government has failed to serve its citizens," we must bear in mind that the "citizens" alluded to are the middle and upper class property owners. This article and others like it avoids the fact that 85% of D.C. citizens are low-income or no-income families living in slums or ghettos (otherwise known as "public housing.")

The government creates an economically crippling situation for a certain class or race, then provides a means of illegal livelihood (in this case drug dealing), then institutes martial law to "protect" the "citizens" against the "criminals." Measures include more and bigger prisons, military in-

volvement, use of the death penalty, eviction of people from their homes, denial of welfare income to people "suspected" of drug activity, and surrounding public housing by fences while residents are forced to produce photo identification to enter the building. This procedure of holding all public housing recipients responsible for the drug trade has already been used in Chicago, and is similar in concept to the "strategic villages" used to imprison third world populations known to be sympathetic to guerillas active in the area. Such tactics enable the police to exercise total surveillance over the residents, and enforce numerous laws against them that are not drug-related, such as the one preventing mother's allowance recipients from having a lover.

These procedures are among the many mind-fuck methods used by governments to divide, control and disempower people.