

FREE

ALL the Lubicon Land

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We Hate Yuppies

The worldwide gentrification of working class neighbourhoods by yuppies is finally meeting with a few snags. A lot of us are sick to death of invading yuppies with their posh cars and sandblasted bricks, as well as the soaring prices they bring which force us out of our neighbourhoods.

In England lots of people are fighting back against yuppies. In the UK much of the anti-yuppie struggle has been characterized by minor acts of vandalism like smashing up cars and stuff. In a recent anti-yuppie outbreak, twenty two expensive cars were trashed, including a gold Mercedes Benz worth over \$60,000. Apparently fears are growing that these attacks are linked to a campaign against yuppies being carried out by the Wessex Freedom Force, which has previously threatened to burn down luxury condos.

In Germany, Holland and Denmark, squatters have been fighting police who want to evict them to build luxury homes on the land. A "Yuppie Free Stockholm" demonstration was held in Sweden recently. Hundreds of protestors took part and ended up attacking the Grand Hotel in the capital. (*Class War* #30)

In Sweden, old flats in traditionally working-class area facing gentrification are being restored to house MP's. Some 30 young people tried to squat the building last month to start a self-managed youth centre. Cops broke it up within hours, so they tried



again the next week. A week later again a few hundred people harassed the security guards protecting the place and beat up on a few plainclothes cops. Now that it seems impossible to squat the place, the goal is to keep the politicians out or at least to make them very uncomfortable. (*News from Brand*)

Also, a couple of issues ago we reported on an anti-yuppie riot in New York. Although Toronto has yet to see much of this action (unless, as the theory went, all those luxury homes were burnt down last June on purpose) it seems that at least a

healthy hatred of yuppies is growing. Such feelings, though, along with the small demonstrations of class anger like trashing condos or Rolls Royces, can never be as effective as organized collective actions like those carried out by squatters defending their homes in Amsterdam or Copenhagen. A movement like that might have an effect in reclaiming our city and our lives from the rich. If we could put an end to the endless development of yuppie condos, and gentrification of neighbourhoods so yuppies can live two to an eight-room house, we'd have plenty space for housing in Toronto.

Opportunism Knocks

Leftists and other organizations are often guilty of riding on the back of popular struggles in order to gain ground for their own ideology or group. Nowhere has this been more obvious in recent weeks than in some of the support given to the Lubicon Nation here by Toronto leftists. For the most part groups like Socialist Challenge and the Young Communist League kept silent for years until the news of the blockades hit the headlines, and then jumped on the publicity bandwagon, spraypainting slogans like "Hail Lubicon!" and "We support the Lubicon Creel", *adorned with a hammer and sickle*, as well as the initials of their respective organizations. An SC member also made the news out at Little Buffalo carrying a sign saying "Socialist Challenge".

I would never speak for the Band, who are receptive to any much-needed support. But as a white supporter, I dislike seeing any struggle used to gain points for an organization or an ideology. Is it not possible to throw your full support behind a struggle as a group of people, without having to

credit an outside organization? But the purpose behind opportunism is to increase membership or support for your sect by putting your name on the "right" struggles, to be seen as a good organization by riding on the coattails of someone else's struggles. Such opportunism tends to include inherent attempts to make others follow that particular sect's agenda; they are another group from outside trying to tell others what to do.

Although I am an anarchist and a Wobbly, I don't feel the need to put these names on all my work, especially when lending solidarity with other peoples struggles, ie in the Black, Native or wimmin's communities. To do so is, at the core, racist & evangelical, besides being completely unnecessary. Anybody: socialists, communists, anarchists, or others who repeatedly do so deserve only scorn.

Kevin

★ Sofa Power ★

September 18 was election day in Sweden. Approximately 15% of those allowed to vote stayed home, making "Soffliggarna" the third biggest party. "Soffliggare" means someone who lies on their sofa on election day and doesn't care shit who wins. Some anarchists have used the sofa as a symbol for anti-parliamentarism ("Sofa-sitters of the World Unite!" etc.) and in some places anarchists sat on sofas outside voting bureaus on election day handing out leaflets against voting. In Malmö anarchists had an extra-parliamentary seminar about voting and direct action. In Stockholm there was some leafletting, poster and anti-vote parties, etc. 24 election bureaus belonging to various parties were arsoned during August and

September. The general feeling was that it doesn't matter who gets in, which is a radical change of thinking in Sweden. ("News from Brand") Changing the face on power, although perhaps bringing in minor band-aids, doesn't resolve the basic problem in our society, the fact of people holding power over others at all. With a Canadian election on the doorstep, this fact is prominent in our minds.



Don't vote and the choice is theirs.
Vote and the choice is yours.



All Hail Discordia



Lavender Panthers of Discordia are compiling information on the existence of "relocation camps" in the USA for people with AIDS. There are rumours of such camps being in Colorado, California and New York, as well as in Vancouver, BC. Detailed, documented evidence is needed—Armed Forces memos, photos, eye witness accounts, etc.—as quickly as possible. LPD proposes to

distribute this information, and to serve as a clearinghouse for information on AIDS fightback, tactics, direct action reports, etc., though for tactical reasons it does not wish to encourage "networking." Information, ideas or articles concerning AIDS, quarantining, gay/lesbian/polysexual liberation, paganism, animal liberation or antistatism should be sent in time for their magazine, which they hope will be ready by January. They can be reached at LPD P.O. Box 3856 Eugene, Oregon 97403 USA

LPD describes itself thusly: "In a world on the brink of extinction we're the only fools who think there's hope. Why? Because we're In On It. We've read (Wilhelm) Reich, listened to Patti (Smith), dropped acid with Uncle Timmy and slammed our way thru the deadliest generation in history. Besides, Insanity is healthy. And we're vegetarians. We reject sanity for what it is: stupidity. Sanity is the vice grip of society. But the chains are snapping, we're finding the missing links, we're learning addition and subtraction. Chaotic synchronicities provide an elaborate soundtrack with a common denominator..." Its program includes demands for free food, access by the homeless to all churches or secondary homes of the rich, no AIDS quarantine, destruction of all vivisection labs, death penalty for vivisectioners, mandatory castration for rapists and war criminals, and abolition of all laws against abortion, birth control, homosexuality, divorce, prostitution and sex education.

Sandino Siempre?

We have reports from not entirely reliable rightwing sources that the Sandinistas are persecuting, and in some cases killing Nicaraguans who insist on belonging to one of the country's four 'independent' union federations, rather than the official Soviet affiliated Sandinista Workers Central. A recent (Oct. 24) mailout from *Confidential Foreign Report*, published by *the Economist Publications* in London, names two members of these unions who were killed and two others who were imprisoned, as well as "Sandinista-inspired mob actions" against unions. These unions, of course, might be big business fronts (as are some here in North America), but it does point to a sad situation in North America where we have to report from rightist sources because the leftists are imposing their

own self-censorship on events in the country, unwilling to be critical of both the US attack on the country and the current statist regime in power. We would appreciate any independent information about the situation our readers can supply.

Utah Phillips!

Utah Phillips, the Wobbly singer/storyteller is coming to town November 13 in a benefit gig for the Industrial Workers of the World and the Teme-Augami Anishnabe people of Temagami. The show is at the Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, 427 Bloor St W. Tickets are \$8, \$6 for low-waged, and they're on sale now at DEC bookroom 229 College st, and BlackBird Design Collective, 394 Euclid Ave. suite 301.

Media Worth Watching

Reality Now Issue 8 (\$2 from RN Publishers, P.O. Box 6326 Stn A, Toronto Ont., M5W 1P7).

Reality Now is a Toronto anarchist magazine which deals with ongoing struggles and also has many articles detailing practical ideas for action. It's everything *Ecomedia* can't be because we don't have enough

room (they've got 84 pages this time). Well produced, and worth a read.

Coming On (\$3 from Queer Anarchist Network, P.O. Box 6705 Stn A, Toronto Ont. M5W 1X5, Canada)

Coming On is an excellent gay/lesbian anarchist "porn"

magazine featuring articles on AIDS, sexuality, power etc. A much more focused effort than the first issue, called "Jerking Off". *Coming On* deals with sex in a bold, explicit and open manner.

Front Line News (subscription \$10/year from P.O. Box 915, Stn F, Toronto Ont., M4Y 2N9 or in local bookstores)

FLN is the paper of the Animal Liberation Front Support Group. The new issue features articles on arrested activists, veganism, action from around the world, the goriest front cover and the coolest back cover I've seen in a while.

Still Angry? (\$5 pp. from Still Angry? 100 Russett Ave., Toronto, Ont. M6H 3M3)

Still Angry is a 90 minute cassette and a big fanzine put out to raise money for the ALF support group in Toronto. It features Chumbawamba, Danbert Nobacon, Sons of Ishmael, and 11 other bands, plus a fanzine featuring interviews, articles and reviews. For \$5 it's one of the best deals around!

And finally, there is a new anarchist radio show in town. Its called *Desire Armed* and it can be heard on CIUT, 89.5 FM Every Monday morning at 11.15 am.

Ecomedia Toronto

Ecomedia is an international anarchist/activist "wire service" used as an alternative to the regular media which ignore relevant actions and ideas.

Ecomedia Toronto is involved in two main projects. We do a radio show every Tuesday, on CKLN 88.1 FM between 7 & 8 PM on Word Of Mouth. And we publish the bulletin you're reading. It comes out every 2 weeks and is available at locations through the city, or subscriptions can be had for \$12 (mailed every 2 issues) from the address on front. Make the cheque or M.O. payable to *Ecomedia*.

MEDIA WATCH

Dart to the Star

A giant dart to the Toronto Star for their racist reporting of the Lubicon struggle. Finally it got up off its ass and printed articles on the Lubicon struggle, after years of practically ignoring it, but strangely enough, it was only when a white womyn offered to die for the Band that it became front page news; never mind that the members of the Band have always been willing to die to defend their community. The Toronto Star's articles on the situation might be more credible had they cared enough to cover the struggle when it was "only Native people" fighting. Interestingly enough, the story has made its way back to the rear pages again now that there's less of a chance of outright war—I guess it just doesn't sell papers.

Media Ignores Reality

While filling its front pages with the rantings of various politicians, the Toronto Star did manage to squeeze in a single paragraph on page 8 (21-10-88) to impart the glad tidings that the Greenhouse Effect is irreversible, at least according to a recent study of the U.S. National Advisory Council. This means that the damage done by carbon dioxide and other pollutants in our atmosphere, i.e. interior drought and coastal flooding, will be around till the end of time. Elsewhere in backspace limbo, Allan Fotheringham reports that Philip Morris cigarettes is attempting to take over Kraft food industries (Toronto Scum 25-10-88 p12.) Now there's a lethal combination.

The front pages are preoccupied with the voters' apparent determination to re-elect Bush and Mulroney, despite the fact that these are the politicians least likely to curb environmental pollution or the concentration of the food industry into fewer and fewer hands—to say nothing of their free trade deal, which will enable the USA to postpone dealing with water pollution until it has reduced Canada's water resources to the same toxic level as its own have already reached. The people who vote for Bush and Mulroney may well be condemning their children or grandchildren to death from starvation. How much longer can the social change movement spend its energies trying to educate people who use what little power they have with such brutal stupidity, as opposed to using our energies to start self-sustaining communities where a few of us can survive the ecological disaster which appears increasingly inevitable?

Gary Moffatt