

the SHADOW

INFORMATION IS STRENGTH • KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘ THE COMMUNE OF NEW YORK ⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘

We, the Autonomous Council of New York 2055, do hereby grant authorization for the common people of New York -- the oppressed, displaced, dispossessed, in all their beauty and difference -- to initiate their long struggle for their future by liberating this building in celebration of Mayday -- the people's holiday.

We invite all participants in this celebration onto the long path towards a future where the relationship between human beings and the natural world is restored. A future where we continue the work of recovering from the traumas of the present dark age of domination and exploitation. A future where each person in the web of community receives the support to pursue their individual healing, as well as their mental and spiritual progress.

To all of you, we wish you the clarity and strength and softness required for the battle ahead. The future is bright with the light you bring.

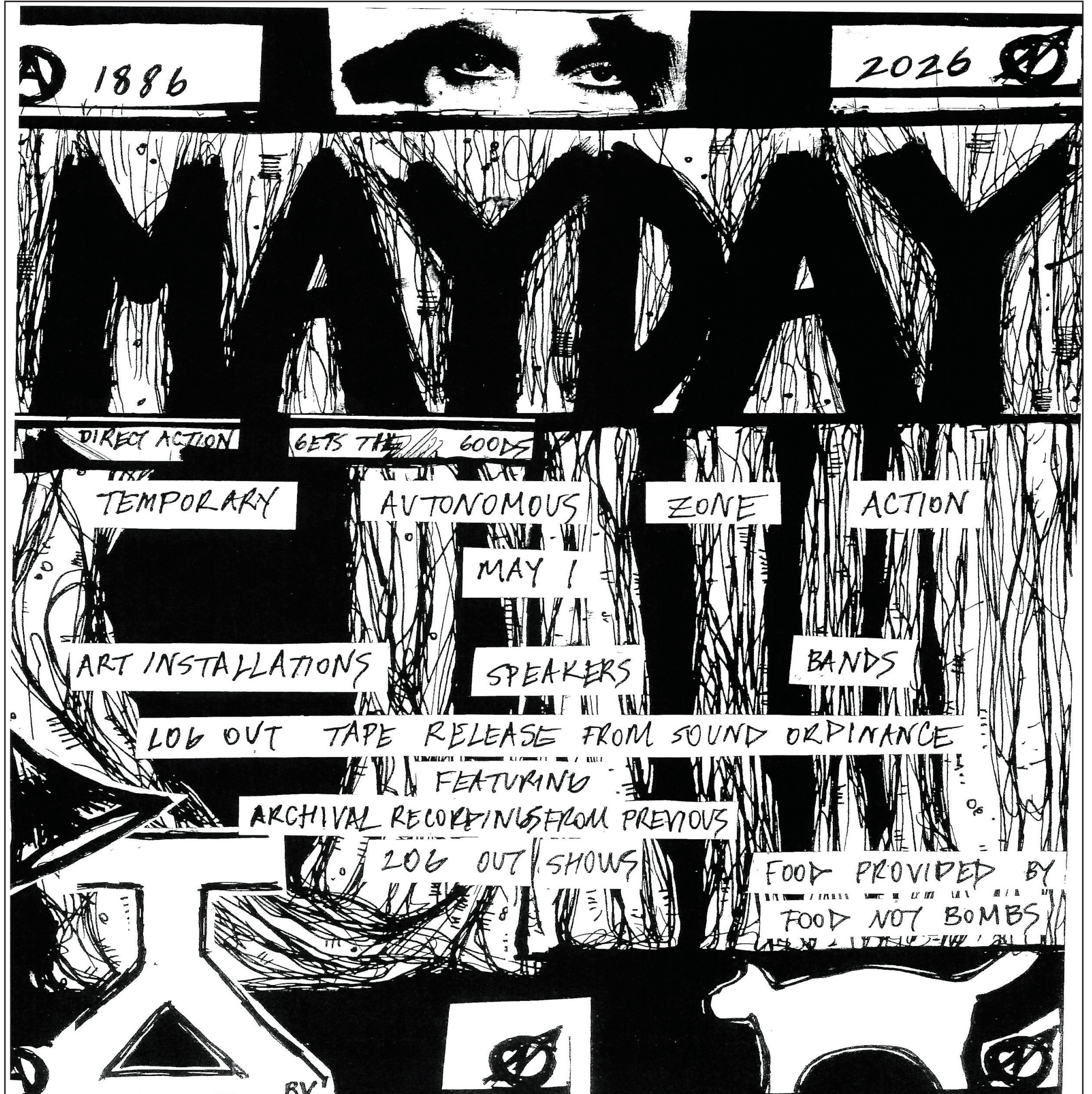
--Lenapehoking 2055



Photo by Cheap Work

⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘ OCCUPY EVERYTHING ⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘

We are the department of anti-capitalist cultural affairs and we hereby reclaim the city. We only ask for a total transformation of society because revolution is not an event, it's a way of life. This is Squatter Mayday, and we know people can self-organize to provide for themselves, including housing, food and culture. In homage to the individuals and communities who lived through oppression and gentrification, who escaped war, built gardens from rubble, who rejected the violence of the straight world and the status quo, we return this beacon of resistance to ourselves in their legacy. Because we belong to the Earth and we venerate it. In addition, we assert our right to space, to light, to expression, to love. How insanely in love with life and our dream for a beautiful world we must be, a world we're dying to create from the ashes of the old, even for a moment.



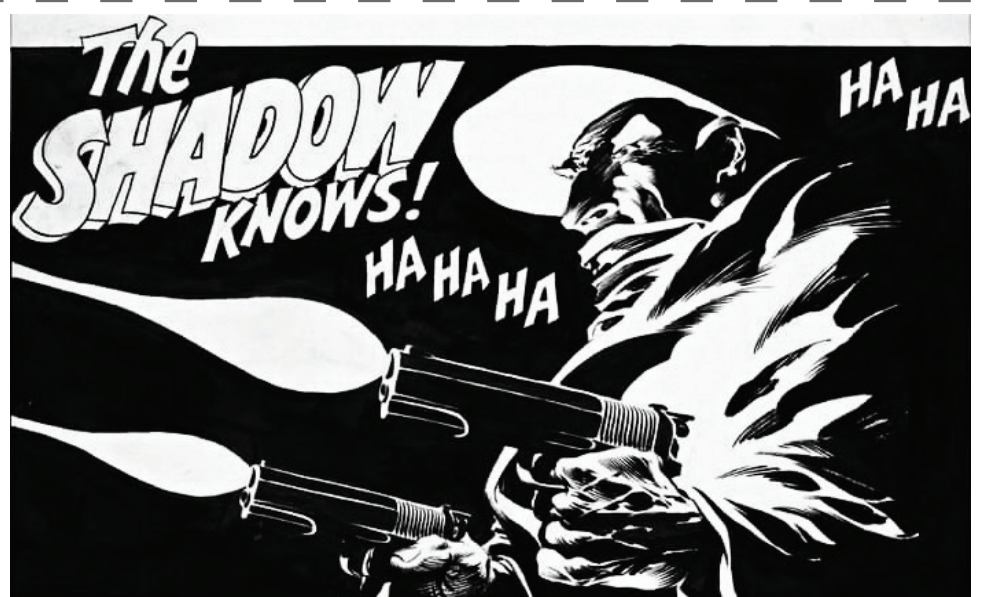
“As long as capitalism and property exists there will be always those that oppose and fight that inequity. And the need to occupy and squat property will always be an option and tactic. We exist in the shadows and in the maze of any urban city in the world.”

--  Saboteur

THIS IS A SPECIAL EDITION OF THE SHADOW, FOR MAYDAY 2026.

The SHADOW is New York City's only truly underground newspaper, publishing on Manhattan's Lower East Side since 1989, featuring news, reviews and interviews of interest to the counter-cultural and activist community. We do not receive funding from corporations or foundations. All of our support comes from our readers.

You can view past, present and future issues of **The SHADOW** at: shadowpress.net. If you have an article, photos or art to share, please turn us on. You can contact us at: shadowpress6@gmail.com.



FREE SPEECH

The right to freedom of speech, articulated from the days of Athenian democracy, through the 17th century English, French and American revolutions, is and has been understood as a basic human right, but in all cases, a right that is not absolute, but in fact, a right abridged when determined by the ruling power to be inflammatory, slanderous, or subversive. In effect then, free speech is only free of limitation to the extent that the state is not threatened by it, but if threatened will most assuredly move to suppress such 'free speech.' So, for we revolutionary people, oriented to radical and fundamental change of the capitalist power structure, the more appropriate term (again reaching back to the ancient Greeks) is the term parrhesia which means 'bold speech.'

We shouldn't expect the bourgeois state (more specifically, the oligarchic rulers) to respect our 'right to free speech' which, as stated, is only free to the extent that it doesn't threaten them. Our free speech is and needs to be bold speech, self consciously threatening to the capitalist billionaire-run power structure in Amerikkka, rather than wishfully believing that the enemy will respect our right to criticize their violence and greed.

--F. Morales



↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
 → **ABC No Rio and Etcetera present another....** ←
 → **ONE-PAGE ZINE SWAP on the occasion of MAY DAY** ←
 → **you are encouraged to.... MAKE A ONE-PAGE ZINE and MAKE COPIES and BRING THEM to the.... TEMPORARY AUTONOMOUS ZONE** ←
 → **ANYONE CAN MAKE A ZINE! ANYTHING CAN BE A ZINE! DON'T OVERTHINK IT!** ←
 → **When: May 1, 2026 - 7PM til ???** ←
 → **Where: ask a punk** ←
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Inevitability in the Land of the Free

The biggest lie buried in the overall onslaught of trump mendacity is the inevitability of his terrorist fascist project. The truth of the trump regime is its power, exercised through violence, which it uses to project the lie of inevitability, fostering a strong teleological drive that treats his strongman rule as a premise to be accepted, and not a claim to be debated.

Imagining an alternative to his regimes' politics is inconceivable in a world perceived as devoid of alternatives, a world of doom and gloom. Indeed! Suggesting that something else might have happened, that is, to experience the past as the open-ended present it once was, and thus to imagine alternatives to the present state of affairs ('futures past'), such as alternatives to violent oligarchic imperial rule, is treated as fantasy, which seeks to render overt, declared opposition as irrational and futile.

In truth, reason says that it is not inevitable that fascism wins in America. Reason says that inevitability is fate, and fate is a false god that denies freedom, a pseudo god that enslaves the mind and paralyzes the spirit. Where there is no such god, freedom grows, freedom to resist and dethrone the would be king, which we will do - inevitably.

Don't Mourn, Organize! History Remains Unwritten!

--F. Morales

ANARCHISM VERSUS WAR

We anarchists are people who have become fed up with the institution of the State. We have arrived at the realization that the State has only three basic functions: to tax, to punish, and to wage war. Other functions, like public welfare, education, and building of roads are secondary add-ons to these big three. Those who tax the hard-working, intimidate through punishment, and force us to slaughter our own species in war, are not the majority, but a ruling minority, whose wealth and power come at our expense.

While economic exploitation and submission to degrading laws that keep us at the bottom of the heap are bad enough, the straw that breaks the camel's back is when our self-appointed masters subject us to the horrors of war. Be it as active participants who are drafted or sucked into the military by economic necessity, or as passive victims trapped between their own murderous masters and those of a rival State, war is always a negative force for the regular people, even as it puts untold wealth in the hands of the ruling classes. Since the origins of the anarchist movement worldwide and in the US, anarchists have always put themselves on the line to oppose war.

Over the course of the twentieth century, a hundred million people died globally in two World Wars. There is no way to accurately estimate the waste and material destruction: Widely cited benchmarks are that the US spent \$180 billion on World War I and \$4 trillion on World War II (in 2024-adjusted dollars). And war is becoming more expensive—the 47 days of war with Iran has already cost the US \$51 billion. Estimating the duration of US participation in WWII at 4 years or 1460 days, the projected cost would be \$74 trillion. This even beats the cost of the Ukraine war to the Russian taxpayer, which is cumulatively estimated at \$2.5 trillion.

The most terrifying thing perhaps about the two World Wars is that persons who had started out as political rebels, the socialists and the communists, ultimately gave in to the juggernaut of violence and closed ranks with their own governments. In the years leading up to WWI, the Socialist and Social Democratic parties of Britain, France, and the US each declared their support for the war efforts of their own nations against Germany and Austria, while the Socialist politicians of Germany and Austria voted to finance their own nations' war against Britain, France, and the US. To oppose the bloodbath would have been suicidal for the careers of these leftists who had by then become a comfortable part of the establishment on both sides.

However, in the US, the anarchists of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) voted a resolution in 1916 declaring "We condemn all wars, and for the prevention of such, we proclaim the anti-militaristic propaganda in time of peace, thus promoting class solidarity among the workers of the entire world, and, in time of war, the general strike, in all industries." IWW militants plastered the walls of industrial towns throughout America with posters reading "Don't be a soldier, be a man. Join the IWW and fight on the job for yourself and your class."

In early 1917, just as the country was preparing to enter the war, the US Congress passed the Espionage Act, which, among other provisions, made it a federal crime to encourage desertion or interfere with the draft. In September of that same year, the Justice Department raided 48

IWW halls throughout the country and arrested 165 IWW members, of which 100 were charged and placed on trial under the Espionage Act. A mass trial went on for five months during 1918, with unanimous convictions leading to sentences of up to 20 years.

The Espionage Act of 1917 is still on the books, although court decisions have declared some of its provisions unconstitutional. In more recent times, the Espionage Act has served as a legal tool in the prosecution of government whistleblowers, including Chelsea Manning and Julian Assange.

In spite of the repression, the IWW's message of resistance to conscription did not fall on deaf ears among young Americans—according to official government reports, 338,000 men failed to register or failed to report for duty during WWI.

The period between the first and second World Wars were marked by the dominance of Communism (with a capital C) in movements for social progress. Some IWW leaders, such as William Z. Foster, wanting to get in on what was proving to be the winning team in Russia, moved on to the Communist Party and subordinated revolution in the US to the requirements of the Soviet Union. American anarchists Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman, deported from the US for their anti-war activism, tried to make a go of life in the USSR, but could not help noticing that Russian society was already becoming repressive and bureaucratic as early as the 1920s.

The Soviet regime and the US Communist Party which followed its line originally put forward a class analysis of imperialism and opposed the build-up to war, but this changed after the Germans invaded Russia in June of 1941. At that point, the Communists declared that the main goal of revolutionaries should be to support the war effort. They became advocates of the wartime "no-strike" pledge and even of the repressive Smith-Connally Act of 1943 criminalizing strikes in the defense industry.

US anarchism had been set back by the repression during World War I, with many key activists deported or serving long prison sentences, and by the defection of others to the Communist movement. On anarchism's most idealistic flank, however, the Catholic Worker newspaper and its publisher Dorothy Day championed the cause of conscientious objection, even during the darkest periods of

World War II, exhorting people to pray for peace, but never for victory. The hypocritical Communist Party has disappeared, but the Catholic Worker with its Christian anarchist message is still published on Manhattan's Lower East Side.

There would not be a real anarchist movement again until the counterculture of the 1960s emerged. Anarchist ideas colored the writings of beat-generation figures like Allen Ginsberg and Gregory Corso, permeating the lyrics of artists like Jim Morrison and becoming central to the ethos of the hippie movement. The earliest leaders of the anti-Vietnam war movement were drawn from the Democratic Party and valued their respectability, but the horrors of the war and the aspirations of rebel youth called for a more global rejection of hierarchy and repression. Anarchism emerged in a new form. The Yippies and The Up Against The Wall Motherfuckers saw no distinction between political and cultural resistance. Emma Goldman perhaps would not have identified with the wardrobe or entertainment preferences of a figure like Abbie Hoffman, but would have identified with an Abbie quote such as:

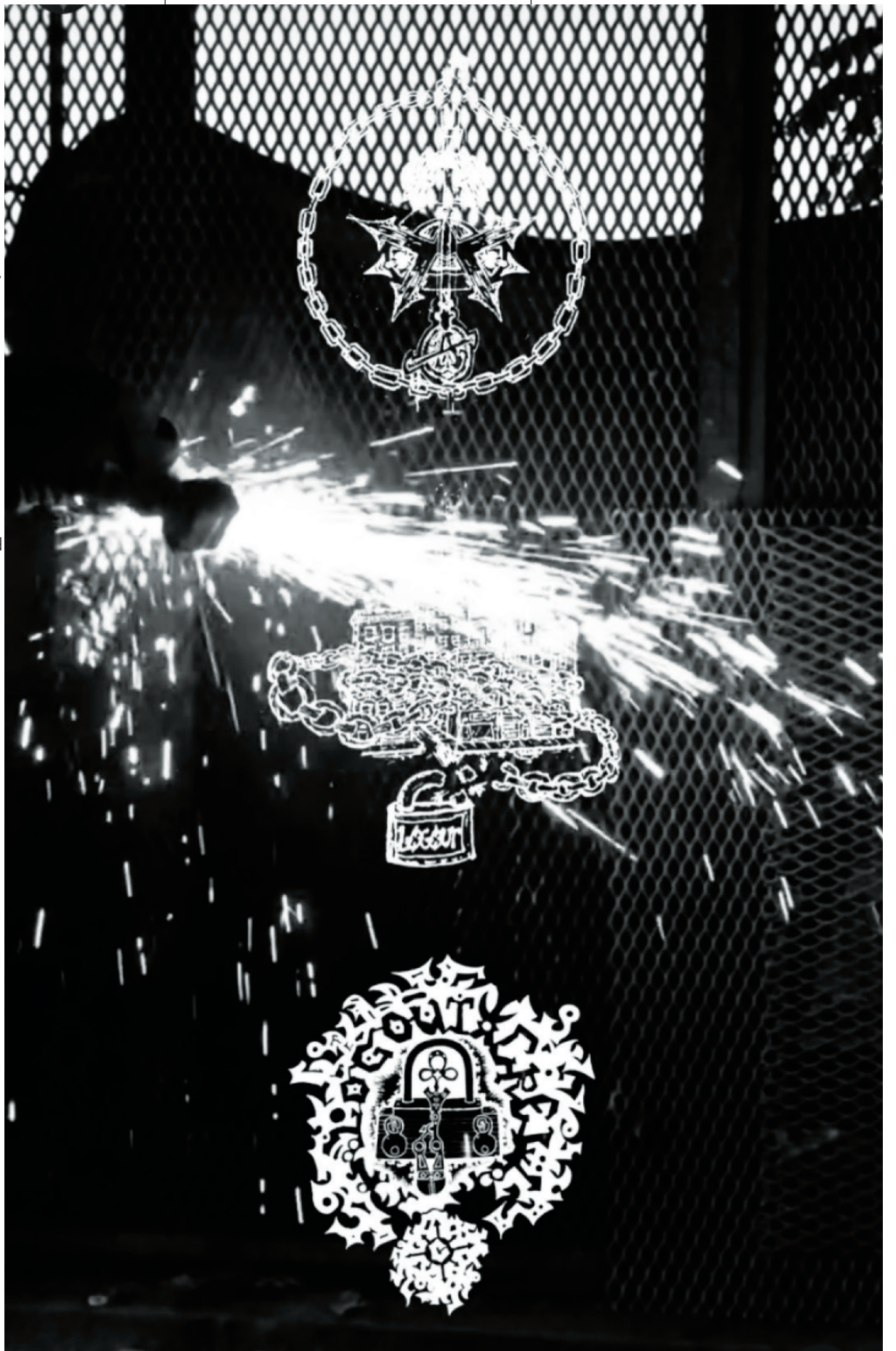
To steal from a brother or sister is evil. To not steal from the institutions that are the pillars of the Pig Empire is equally immoral.

The cost of maintaining the American Empire was that each generation of American youth was expected to shed blood en masse in order to defend it. Death in the meat grinder had become the natural order of things, and heaps of corpses were now giving the concept of order itself a bad name. Liberalism and Communism still maintained the right of governments to draft their citizens to kill and be killed. By mid-twentieth century, authority had become tainted and anarchism had become common sense.

Whether we are referring to bipartisan US support for the Gaza bloodbath or to Trump's erratic war mongering, in the twenty-first century, the situation has deteriorated even further. No governmental authority has the moral force to tell us what to do. The youth of the world are once again re-inventing anarchism in the age of authoritarianism and artificial intelligence.

At the end of the dark tunnel of corruption lie our natural human solidarity and ability to think for ourselves, which are at the core of anarchist thinking.

--A. Kronstadt



ICE SURVEILLANCE SELF-DEFENSE

With a budget for 2025 that is 10 times the size of the agency's total surveillance spending over the last 13 years, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement [ICE] has entered new contracts with several private companies for location surveillance, social media surveillance, face surveillance, spyware, and phone surveillance. Let's dig into each.

PHONE SURVEILLANCE TOOLS

One common surveillance tactic is to get physical access to your phone, either while you are detained at a border crossing or while you are under arrest. ICE has renewed a contract with Cellebrite, which helps ICE to unlock phones and then take a complete image of all data inside, including apps, location history, photos, notes, call records, text messages, and even Signal and WhatsApp messages. ICE also signed a contract with Cellebrite's main competitor Magnet Forensics, makers of the Graykey device for unlocking phones.

If ICE can't get physical access to your phone, they can still try to gain access to your data. They have resumed a contract with Paragon, which makes Graphite spyware, which can harvest messages from multiple different encrypted chat apps, such as Signal and WhatsApp, without you ever knowing. Malware such as Graphite can be used to read encrypted messages as they are sent - other forms of spyware can also download files, photos, location history, record phone calls, and even discreetly turn on your microphone to record you.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

The most effective way to protect yourself from smartphone surveillance is to not have a phone. If you have one, installing security updates makes it harder to use malware against you and makes it less likely for Cellebrite to break into your phone. Likewise, both iPhone (Lockdown Mode) and Android (Advanced Protection) offer special modes that lock your phone down and can help protect against some malware. Keeping your phone's software up to date and locked with a strong alphanumeric password will offer some protection against Cellebrite, depending on your model of phone. However, the strongest protection is simply to keep your phone turned off, which puts it in "before first unlock" mode, which has been typically harder for law enforcement to bypass. This is good to do if you are at a protest and expect to be arrested, if you are crossing a border, or if you are expecting to encounter ICE.

Keeping your phone on airplane mode should be enough, but turning your phone off will offer extra protection against cell-site simulators and Cellebrite devices. It's a good idea to at least turn off or better yet, not even have face/fingerprint unlock so that police cannot force you to unlock your phone.

INTERNET SURVEILLANCE

ICE has also acquired at least two location and social media surveillance tools, Webloc and Tangles, from a company called Pen Link. In 2023, Penlink acquired the Israeli firm Cobwebs, which originally developed both Webloc and Tangles.

Webloc gathers locations of millions of phones by gathering data from mobile data brokers and linking it together with other information about users. Tangles, Penlink's Open Source Intelligence [OSINT] social media surveillance tool, which uses Artificial Intelligence [AI] to monitor and extract web data, is able to link together a person's posting history, posts, and comments containing keywords, location history, tags, social graph, and photos with those of their friends and family. Penlink then sells this information to law enforcement - this means that ICE can look up historic and current locations of many people all across the US without ever having to get a warrant.

ICE also has established contracts with other social media scanning and AI analysis companies, such as with Fivecast,

for the social media surveillance and AI analysis tool ONYX. According to Fivecast, ONYX can conduct "automated, continuous and targeted collection of multimedia data" from all major "news streams, search engines, social media, marketplaces, the dark web, etc." ONYX can build what it calls "digital footprints" from biographical data and curated datasets spanning numerous platforms, and "track shifts in sentiment and emotion" and identify the level of risk associated with an individual.

Another contract is with ShadowDragon for their product Social Net, which can monitor publicly available data from more than 200 websites. ICE has confirmed that ShadowDragon has allowed the agency to search "100+ social networking sites," noting that "[p]ersistent access to Facebook and Twitter provided by ShadowDragon SocialNet is of the utmost importance, as they are the most prominent social media platforms."

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Make your account private on social media. Have accounts under a pseudonym. Or, delete your social media accounts altogether.

STREET-LEVEL SURVEILLANCE

ICE has contracts with multiple automated license plate reader [ALPR] companies to follow your driving habits. ICE uses this data to track down specific people anywhere in the country. ICE has a contract through a Thomson Reuters subsidiary to access ALPR data from Motorola Solutions. ICE also has local law enforcement officers to run searches on their behalf through Flock Safety's massive network of ALPR data. ICE has also invested in biometric surveillance tools, such as facial recognition software called Mobile Fortify, to scan faces of people they stop to determine if they are here legally. Mobile Fortify checks the pictures it takes against a database of 200 million photos for a match (the source of the photos is unknown).

Additionally, ICE has a contract with Clearview AI for facial recognition. ICE has also contracted with iris scanning company BI2 technologies for even more invasive biometric surveillance. ICE agents have also been seen wearing Meta's Ray-Ban video recording sunglasses.

ICE has acquired trucks equipped with cell-site simulators, aka Stingrays, from TechOps Specialty Vehicles, which can be used to track down a specific person in real time, with more granularity than a phone company or tools like Webloc can provide, though Webloc has the distinct advantage of being used without a warrant and not requiring agents to be in the vicinity of the person being tracked.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Public transit or biking keeps you off ALPR databases. Putting your phone on airplane mode could help protect you from cell-site simulators and from apps on your phone disclosing your location, but might leave you vulnerable to advanced targeted attacks. For more advanced protection, turning your phone completely off protects against all radio-based attacks, and makes it harder for tools like Cellebrite to break into your phone.

TYING ALL THE DATA TOGETHER

To search the data on Americans they have acquired from private companies, the IRS, TSA, and other government databases, ICE uses ImmigrationOS, a system that came from a contract with Palantir, which links data from different databases, like IRS data, immigration records, and private databases, and enables ICE to view all of this data about a specific person in one place.

THREAT MODELING WHEN ICE IS YOUR ADVERSARY

Understanding the capabilities and limits of ICE and how to threat model helps you and your community fight back, remain powerful, and protect yourself. [See "Survival Self-Defense: Tips, Tools and How-Tos for Safer Online Communications" at: ssd.eff.org]

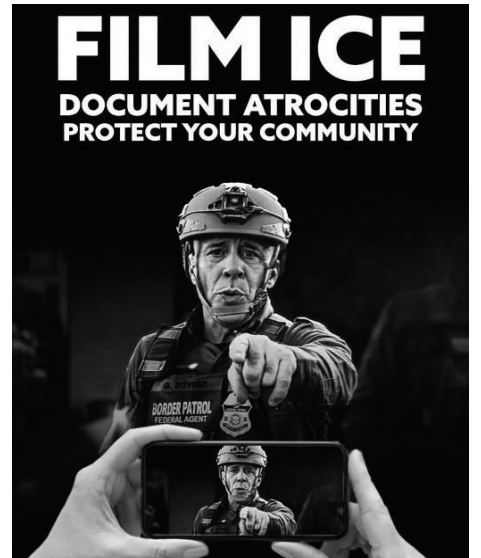


MELTING ICE!

Every time rogue thugs from various government agencies and militarized sub-groups assault or spray or kidnap or shoot at members of your community, DHS Secretary Kristi Noem, the gestapo barbie doll clown, is ready with a media announcement that blames victims of said abuses, labeling them as "domestic terrorists," while praising her mercenary predators.

Every time she has done so, her LIES have been exposed by photos and videos made and posted on social media by eyewitnesses. Now more than ever, it is paramount that encounters with thugs of the State are documented and exposed, in order to counter the State's LIES, to study their methods of operation, to identify perpetrators and to acquire evidence for future civil suits and criminal charges:

- Get CLEAR shots of license plates and vehicles (makes, models, colors) used by State thugs
- Get CLEAR shots of gear used and worn by State thugs, including identifying insignia, patches and badges, that show what agency or group said thugs are from
- Get CLEAR shots of faces and tattoos (if any), especially if and when masks are lowered by State thugs or not in use by State thugs
- Do NOT shoot video or photos that can be used by authorities to identify demonstrators - if necessary, use apps that blur faces
- Save your photos and videos on flash drives so that your camera memory is not depleted
- If possible, LIVE STREAM and/or upload your video somewhere as it is being shot, in case your camera or phone is grabbed or destroyed by State thugs




In addition, you must protect your identity and privacy and thwart use of ICE tracking programs that can be used against you:

- Do NOT bring your personal cell phone to demos or protests
- Get a pre-paid mobile phone with a SIM card or a burner phone that has NO record of your name, address, credit/debit card or other personal info on you or your friends or family that you can use for recording videos and photos and for communicating with fellow demonstrators on their burner phones
- Turn off your burner phone or store it elsewhere before returning to your vehicle or home or anywhere that might reveal your identity - if you carry both your regular device and a prepaid one with you, the location of these devices can be correlated and compromise your anonymity
- If you must use your vehicle to drive to demos or protests, park far away from the action where no one can see you coming from or going to it - Automated License Plate Reader systems [ALPRs] record license plates of cars driving through an area, along with the exact time, date, and location
- Wherever possible, keep your face, hair and eyes covered, as well as identifying features, such as clothing and footwear with logos and tattoos on your body - fake tattoos, hats, goggles, wigs and inter-changeable clothing and shoes are a good idea

Know Your Enemy...

LIKE BIRD WATCHING, KOP WATCHING CAN BE FUN!! LIKE BIRDS, KOPS HAVE DIFFERENT IDENTIFYING FEATURES. HERE'S WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY UNIFORMED KOPS YOU SEE MAKING SEXIST REMARKS, BRUTALIZING CIVILIANS, TAKING PAYOFFS, SLEEPING IN THEIR CARS, DRINKING WHILE ON DUTY, GRABBING THEIR CROTCHES, EATING DONUTS, ETC:



If the kop wears a blue shirt or uniform, their lapel shows where they are from--(precinct number, command or division initials). If the kop wears a white shirt, the lapel displays their rank--(one gold bar=Lieutenant; 2 silver bars=Captain; gold oak leaf=Deputy Inspector; silver eagle=Inspector; one or more gold stars=Chief).

All uniformed kops must keep their badge number uncovered in order to be read (except when they start riots). Their badges are silver colored. Sergeants, beside having three stripes on their shoulder, wear gold badges with a 3 digit number for easier memorizing.

All kops in uniform must wear a name plate, regardless of rank.

FREE OSO BIANCO

Oso Blanco is a Cherokee/Chactaw political prisoner at USP Atwater in California. Known as "Robin the Hood", Oso Blanco was first arrested in 1999, after authorities learned he was robbing banks and sending thousands of dollars to the Zapatistas (Ejército Zapatista de Liberación Nacional) in Chiapas, Mexico. Leading up to his arrest, he defended himself in a gun battle against federal agents in his home in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He was imprisoned in Santa Fe County Jail, until he escaped from a prison van in December 2000 and immediately returned to robbing banks. In February 2001, he was recaptured by the FBI after a stakeout, where he was shot in the back with an AR-15. In the end, he collected hundreds of thousands of dollars, which were then used to buy and send supplies on trucks to the Zapatistas in their fight for independence. His initial 80-year sentence for bank robbery, aggravated assault on the FBI, escape, and firearms charges had 25 years taken off after a successful appeal in 2025. His current release date is 2048.

Oso Blanco is an artist, anarchist, poet, and indigenous activist with strong beliefs in Native liberation, environmental protection, anti-colonialism, and anti-capitalism. Despite his incarceration, he never gave up his values and stopped fighting. More information is available on his website: freeosoblanco.org. This is his message.

--Mary Jae

People of the struggle, this is Oso Blanco.

First of all, I'd like to say we're wasting a lot of time at a vital time, when we are politicking and protesting the absolute wrong things that are never going to bring change. People are looking at the absolutely wrong causes of the problem.

Right now, Mother Earth is in crisis, and we are victims of an extremely psychopathic oppressor who has control of the politics in this land. What I would like to propose to everybody is to set a goal: all politics in this land to be returned to the Native nations.

I am a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, the largest Native population in this country. We can run this land much better, more fairly, and more safely for the environment. We can see right now what colonialism has done: extreme destruction to the environment. Water, air, soil, and all living species are in danger. Not to mention, the dangerous game that colonialism plays by utilizing war around the world, using the American war machine - the military industrial complex. The complex has become a gigantic thief of resources: oil, lithium, and exists to secure more destructive fossil fuels. Everything batteries and cellphones are made of.

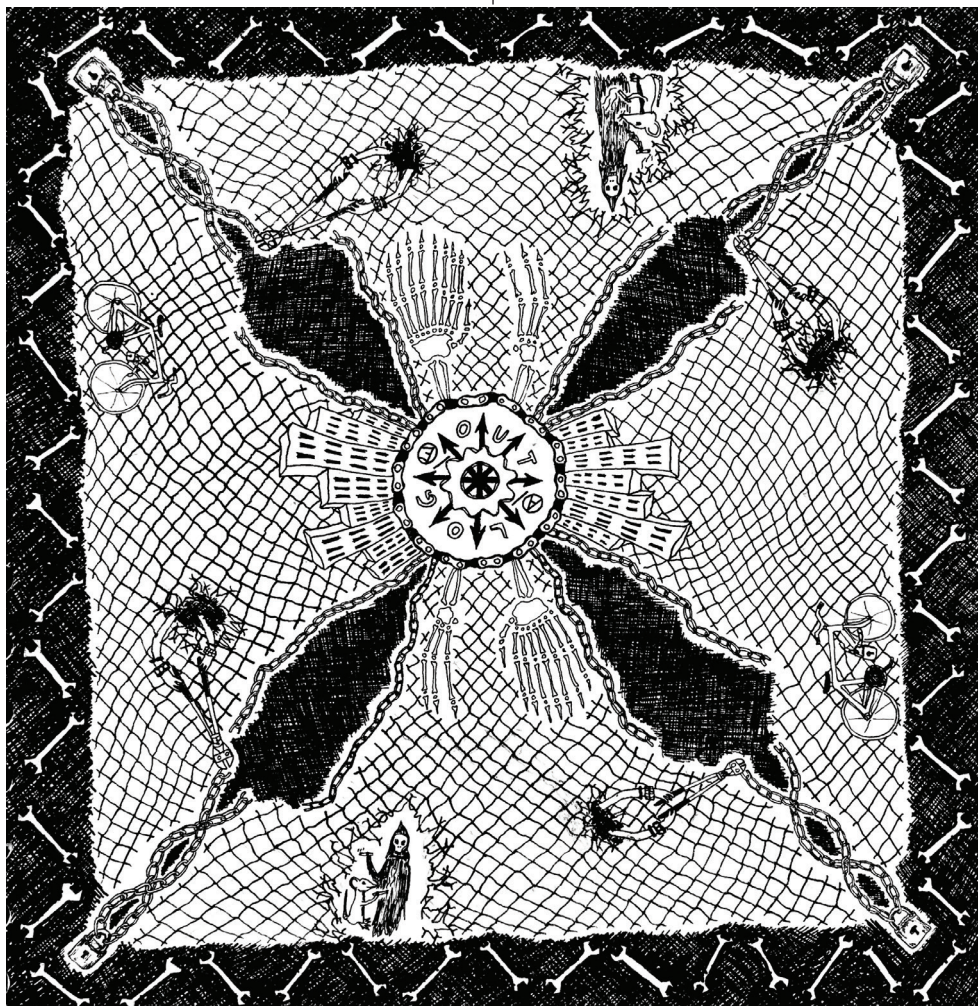
Right now, in this land, which is really Turtle Island, people have become so ingrained in technology that they have lost focus on how we can effectively cause change. The world changes, I mean it as in revolution. I'm not talking about "change your pants, change your apartment".

Change your political atmosphere 100%, to completely do away with and abolish the U.S. government. Because, right now, you don't live according to your own ideas, you live according to the ideas someone else wants you to have, what you eat, what you wear, all of your ideas have been developed by the colonial government! Things that you would want for your health and for your life, they don't want, because that would mean your freedom and higher consciousness. One of the things we have to focus on changing is all technology, because these things are being utilized to condition your thought patterns, to manipulate you as a consumer and as a tax slave.

We need to get back to the old ways to regain ourselves and Mother Earth!

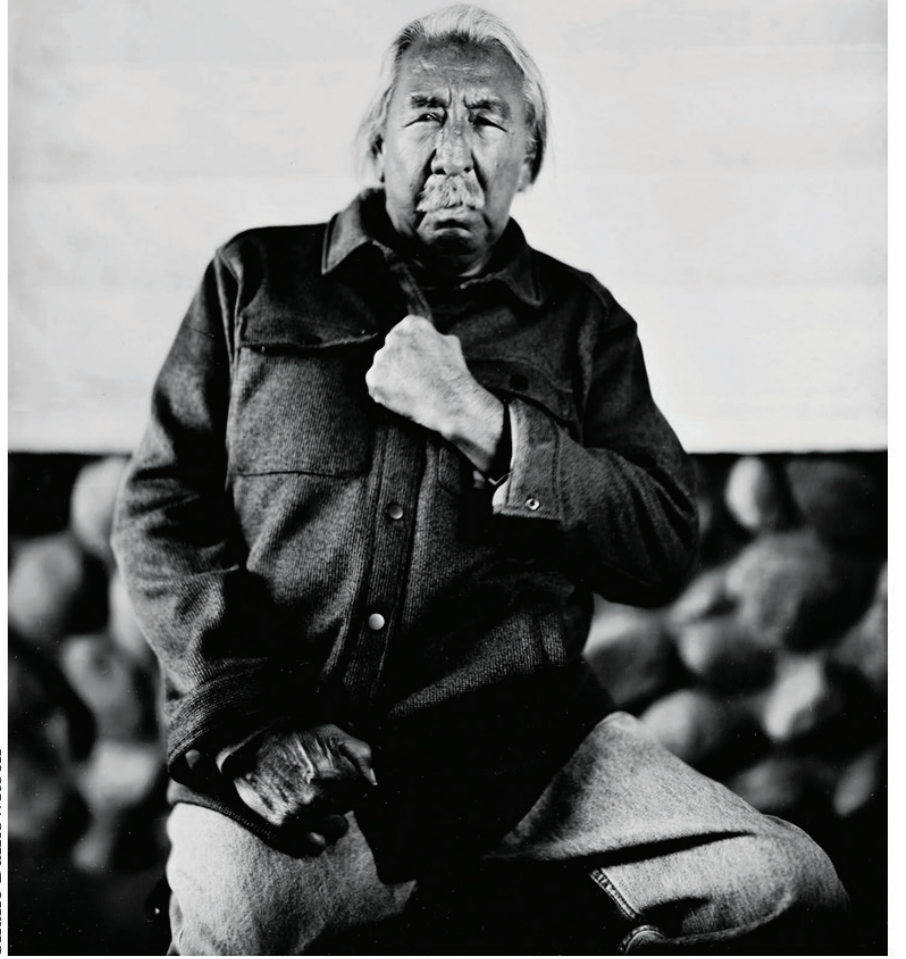


You can write to OSO BLANCO at:
Byron Chubbuck #07909-051
USP Atwater
P.O. Box 019001
Atwater, CA 95301



"I don't know how to save the world. I don't have the answers or The Answer. I hold no secret knowledge as to how to fix the mistakes of generations past and present. I only know that without compassion and respect for all of Earth's inhabitants, none of us will survive--nor will we deserve to."

-- Leonard Peltier



Shane Balkowitsch

YOU CAN WRITE TO AMERICAN INDIAN FREEDOM FIGHTER LEONARD PELTIER and send him financial contributions (Money Orders only) at:
P.O. Box 760, Belcourt, ND 583169



SEE SOMETHING?
SAY SOMETHING!!



REPORT
SUSPICIOUS
ACTIVITY

TELL THE SHADOW:
SHADOWPRESS6@GMAIL.COM

WAR WITH NO END: IRAN QUAGMIRE ECHOES CARTER ENERGY CRISIS

Iran is a country with great importance in the world, often disparaged or overlooked by Americans as part of George W. Bush's so-called "Axis of Evil," along with Iraq and North Korea; The truth is more complex, because Iran is a nation with an ancient culture and a history of fierce independence.

The United States began its relationship with Iran in 1953 with a CIA operation run by Kermit Roosevelt, grandson of President Theodore Roosevelt. Since the Russian revolution in 1917, Iran was in turmoil as political groups vied for power, leading to coups and counter-coups and the rise of a Shah, meaning "king" in Farsi, the language of Iran. The new Shah, who seized power in a coup in 1925, was Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. He was backed by western powers in control of Iran's massive oil and gas reserves.

Pahlavi was faced by a restive population influenced by the Russian revolution and burgeoning popular pressure. He gave in to the public by appointing reform Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh who nationalized foreign oil companies.

The UK started the first western oil company in Iran becoming the energy giant British Petroleum, previously known as the Anglo-Persian Oil Company (Persia is another name for Iran), is today one of the top ten energy companies in the world.

Roosevelt was head of the CIAs Middle East division and organized a coup to get rid of Mossadegh. He did the job using propaganda, fake news and bribes. Initially the coup attempt failed and Pahlavi was forced to leave the country for the first time. A second coup attempt forced out Mossadegh and returned the Shah to the throne. Pahlavi would be forced out again with momentous implications in 1979.

It was the first successful CIA overthrow of a foreign government and a template for more regime change, including 1954 in Guatemala, and failed attempts against Cuba at the Bay of Pigs and Operation Mongoose, an attempt to kill Fidel Castro, a bloody 1961 coup in South Vietnam and coups in Bolivia, Chile, Brazil and the Dominican Republic.

In total during the years after the second world war, United States sponsored regime change, the modern word for coup, has taken as many as 30 million innocent lives.

Shah Pahlavi ruled unchallenged with American support between 1941 and the Iranian revolution in 1979. His brutal secret police, the dreaded Savak was created with the help of the United States and Israel. Savak agents were responsible for the torture and death of activists and students. Thousands died in Iran's prisons like as happens to dissidents in Iran today.

In the 1960s the Shah launched the White Revolution modernization push. Land reform spread neoliberal western culture, legitimizing women's rights even as peasants were forced off the land and into factory work. Growth increased exponentially and Iran seemed at the cusp of meteoric economic development, firmly in the sphere of the United States at the height of the Cold War with the Soviet Union.

The land reform ran into entrenched corruption and the farmers were further weakened as U.S. imports competed with local farm production.

Meanwhile the Shah put conservative loyalists in charge of the clergy forcing into exile reformist figures like the Ayatollah Khomeini. An ayatollah is a senior member of the muslim clergy.

Protests movements grew and a campaign of civil disobedience led by communists, socialists and Islamic forces mobilized the population.

The resistance, which began non violently, soon came into violent conflict with the Savak.

The Shah ran to Mexico where he was diagnosed with "malaria." Doctors then changed the diagnosis to cancer. After a secret flight Pahlavi was taken to a VIP room at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center in October 1979. The move was widely understood as a diplomatic pretext to get the exiled Shah into the United States. He was given a special one year visa.

New York Mayor Ed Koch, who hated the United Nations for supporting Palestinians, said "the Shah's crimes were "insignificant in comparison with the present Government's actions." A premonition of the anti-Iran hatred justifying the current war.

In November '79 students seized the Embassy of the United States in Tehran, grabbing 66 (later the number was changed to 52) American captives, beginning the 444 day hostage crisis. The hostages were released on January 20, 1980 moments after President Ronald Reagan's inauguration following his election defeat of Jimmy Carter.

Considered a purposeful humiliation of Carter and the final act in the October Surprise conspiracy bringing Reagan and his austerity politics to power.

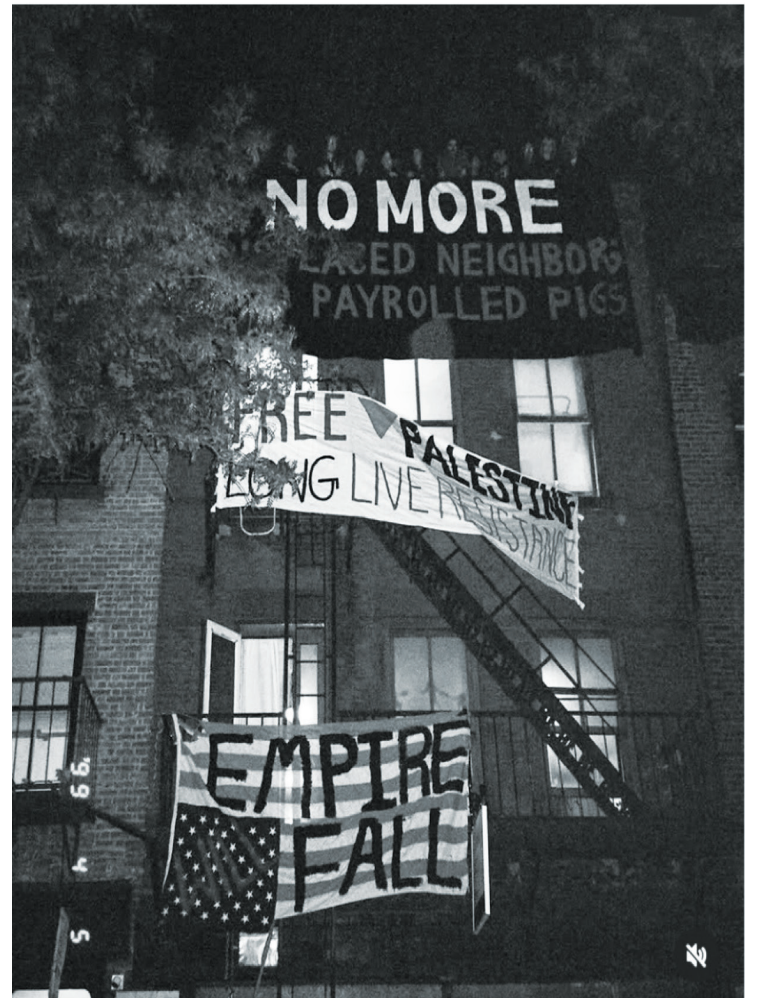
Carter's loss was attributed to a failed rescue mission into Iran to rescue the hostages. On April 24, 1980, with the election looming, Carter approved a disastrous rescue mission called Operation Eagle Claw led on the ground by Delta Force founder Colonel Charlie Beckwith.

In a desert disaster at a remote meeting point in Iran, the rescue force was hit by a sandstorm damaging helicopters and causing a crash between a helicopter and a C-130 tanker killing eight service members.

An eery reminder of the disaster in Iran in April 2026 when a shoulder fired missile brought down an F-15E fighter jet, aborting an attempt to seize Iran's enriched uranium stockpile. In the rescue attempt to extract an injured flier that followed an A-10 fighter was lost as were 6 helicopters. Although no deaths were reported President Trump was incensed and said to be yelling in desperation at aids to prevent the capture of hostages. He reportedly screamed "Look at what happened with Jimmy Carter... with the helicopters and the hostages, it cost them the election. What a mess"

Trump was said to be so unhinged that advisors excluded him from strategy meetings and members of congress called to invoke the 25th amendment removing Trump for incapacity.

Like previous "forever wars," the United States stands in a quagmire, with no visible "light at the end of the tunnel." Iran is stronger than ever and the vital oil passage known as the Strait of Hormuz remains mostly closed. The



20 mile wide sea passage is a chokepoint where most of the world's crucial fertilizer production passes. Spring planting season is starting in the northern hemisphere where more than six billion people live and huge food price hikes are expected in a few months unless the Strait is opened.

The war must be ended now for the benefit of humanity.

--Paul DeRienzo



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⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘ THE COMMUNE OF NEW YORK ⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘

We, the Autonomous Council of New York 2055, do hereby grant authorization for the common people of New York -- the oppressed, displaced, dispossessed, in all their beauty and difference -- to initiate their long struggle for their future by liberating this building in celebration of Mayday -- the people's holiday.

We invite all participants in this celebration onto the long path towards a future where the relationship between human beings and the natural world is restored. A future where we continue the work of recovering from the traumas of the present dark age of domination and exploitation. A future where each person in the web of community receives the support to pursue their individual healing, as well as their mental and spiritual progress.

To all of you, we wish you the clarity and strength and softness required for the battle ahead. The future is bright with the light you bring.

--Lenapehoking 2055



Photo by Cheap Work

⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘ OCCUPY EVERYTHING ⌘ Ⓧ Ⓞ ⌘

We are the department of anti-capitalist cultural affairs and we hereby reclaim the city. We only ask for a total transformation of society because revolution is not an event, it's a way of life. This is Squatter Mayday, and we know people can self-organize to provide for themselves, including housing, food and culture. In homage to the individuals and communities who lived through oppression and gentrification, who escaped war, built gardens from rubble, who rejected the violence of the straight world and the status quo, we return this beacon of resistance to ourselves in their legacy. Because we belong to the Earth and we venerate it. In addition, we assert our right to space, to light, to expression, to love. How insanely in love with life and our dream for a beautiful world we must be, a world we're dying to create from the ashes of the old, even for a moment.