

RAAN Network NEWS

Updates from the
Red and Anarchist
Action Network

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RAAN member argues with labor organizer Dan La Botz in Cincinnati

Organizing a RAAN Collective: A Report From Cincinnati

During the August 9th 'Rally Against Racism', RAAN-affiliated militants in Cincinnati distributed copies of an essay titled "Towards a Revolutionary Struggle Against Racism", which included a call for a forum of individuals interested in establishing a network presence in that city and putting the ideas expressed in the essay into action. Quoted below are some lines from that piece:

"It has become clear that liberal methods of resistance are not enough to combat the crimes committed against us. This is a time for revolutionary solutions and revolutionary methods. The CPD will never be on our side, so we must rid our neighborhoods of crime ourselves. We cannot be fooled into thinking the police work for us. They work to defend the rich life of the ruling class, while our neighborhoods are filled with crime. If they worked for us, they wouldn't kill us! The courts will not find murdering cops guilty, so we must bring them to justice by other means. Real economic justice cannot be found in this capitalist system that treats us like objects and leaves us with barely enough to support our families. The rich will never bring us economic justice! They may toss us a few more scraps, but it is up to us to take back what should be ours!"

Contacts have been made as a result of this initiative, and a discussion regarding meeting times and locations has started amongst the potential members of the collective. If you are in the Cincinnati area and would like to get involved with RAAN, please feel free to contact The Female Species Collective at thefemalespecies@hotmail.com

NYC "REVOLUTION BOOKS" VANDALIZED

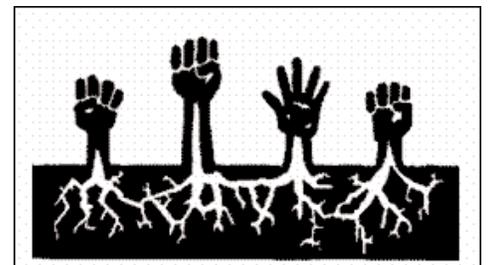
On Sunday July 13th, a window at the New York City branch of Revolution Books, the propaganda outlet of the so-called "Revolutionary Communist Party", (an authoritarian Maoist group) was vandalized with the following message:

*Dear Leninist Scum,
Bolshevism is not communism.
<3,
RAAN*

PS. Next time it will be a bomb.

Representatives of the bookstore contacted the maintainers of the Red & Anarchist Action Network's website regarding the incident, and were informed that not only is there no way of accurately tracking network membership in the city, but that unlike the RCP, RAAN functions on a basis of autonomous decentralized activity, and so the most that our Internet hub would be capable of doing would be to raise awareness about the action.

Members of RAAN are encouraged to decide for themselves whether or not this action should be supported by the network.



RAAN REPORT FROM CALIFORNIA

By Doug, DAAA (RAAN - Modesto)

1.) Book Liberation Week swept across the West Coast as RAAN activists in San Diego donated liberated books to book-hungry activists and the Anarchist Black Cross Network.

2.) Revolution Summer's "Animal Liberation Week" went down in San Diego in the midst of police harassment and FBI intimidation. Actions and Protests were carefully monitored and documented, with activists (including RAAN operatives) being followed and spied on. This came in the wake of an ELF attack that caused around \$50 million in damages to a new condo project in San Diego.

3.) RAAN collective Direct Action Anti-Authoritarians (DAAA)'s campaign against the Modesto "Homeless Mission" heated up, with angry letters and phone calls on both sides. After a 100 person self-organized meeting by the homeless at the small town's Food Not Bombs, police stepped up harassment of the homeless and people sleeping outside. The Mission's leaders do not allow different sexes to talk to each other in the building, and workers there have been seen taking food that was intended for the homeless. Other shelters across the country do not have the same strict standards as the Modesto Mission, which are only in place because of the Mission's religious beliefs.

4.) DAAA operatives also dropped an anti-GMO banner, distributed literature, and handed out books donated by the BLF (Book Liberation Front) to people at the Modesto Farmers Market, where many concerned organic farmers come to sell their crops.

Police Repression in Indianapolis

Less than expected protestor turnout and heavy police pressure turned the anti-NGA (National Governor's Association) convergence in Indianapolis this August into nothing more than a passive display of dissent. The majority of the NGA meeting's budget was spent on security, and the Indianapolis police forces had been preparing for the meetings for over a year. With less than sixty demonstrators, it was amazing that we accomplished what little we did do. Solidarity Books, the local anarchist collective, was raided once. Apart from the raid, there were several confrontations outside the bookstore in which masked anarchists sat in front of the store and were videotaped by police cameras. Demonstrators used cameras of their own to videotape police during any confrontations. Throughout the entire weekend, cars were searched and people were detained, but because no laws were actually broken, none of our comrades were arrested. The actual demonstrations were nothing more than a parade marching defiantly to and from the designated "free speech zone" with a RAAN banner proclaiming, "One Direction: Insurrection - One Solution: Revolution" behind a line of police.

DIY CORNER RED & BLACK FLAGS



By The Kazm Collective

Here's a quick, easy (and cheap!) way to make lots of red & black flags to hand out at protests, which will greatly increase the presence of any anti-capitalist bloc.

STEP ONE: LINEN LIBERATION

The best way to get fabric for your flags is a hotel raid: Find a local hotel and wait for a time between when everybody is checking out and when everybody is checking in. Usually anytime right after 12 is good. This is when the cleaning people are at the height of their activity, and you can wander around the halls of the hotel and pull linens off of all the cleaning carts. Bedsheets are huge and make good banners, but for flags you really want to concentrate on the pillowcases. Just cut/rip one open and you'll end up with a big piece that more or less matches your expectations for the size of a flag. Make sure to get lots!

STEP TWO: DYE

The pillowcases are white, so you gotta dye them red and/or black. Fabric dye can be found in most convenience or art-supply stores, and the price for one package of red dye was 50 cents (but liquid dye is better than the type which you dissolve). One package is enough to make a bucket of dye that will easily take care of three or four flags. Follow the directions - usually it involves boiling water, salt, and some stirring. Only dye one pillowcase at a time, and leave them in long enough to get really bright reds and dark blacks. Don't try to make a red/black diagonal flag with this method! (you'll end up with an ugly tie-dye)

STEP THREE: FLAGPOLES

Flagpoles can be made out of almost anything, and are really easy to dumpster. We were able to find some bamboo stalks. The flags can be attached to the poles with duct tape or a staple gun.