

IGNITE!

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denver's anarchist newspaper

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O22 A SMASHING NIGHT OUT

by Ignite! Collective

The second annual October 22nd Anti-Police Terror Demonstration in Denver was a priority when Ignite! first began publication. Receiving coverage in October when it was announced, it was a notable action due to the history of five demonstrations preceding it in a coordinated campaign utilizing a plethora of tactics and strategies to engage the notoriously brutal and repressive Denver Police Department. Up to this point, Denver has seen rallies, vigils, unpermitted street marches, vandalism, brawls, court campaigns, press conferences, and many other events in the context of the anti-police struggle. O22 in 2011 was shaping up to be a pivotal and defining action.

Set with a backdrop of a \$365,000 effort to monitor and suppress the Occupy Denver satellite protest which has been ongoing since the end of September, O22 gathered at the entrance of the Denver Zoo at 6PM on the 22nd as promised. Fifty arrests had taken place the weekend before, straining the resources of local radical legal support collective the Denver Anarchist Black Cross. Regardless, a crowd of around 100, mostly donning black, listened to a



An American National Bank window was smashed in during the march. Other windows, mostly banks', were also smashed.

short speech before merging between four banners held alongside the entire demonstration and flanked by several bike riding/walking protesters and two drummers. The National Lawyers Guild brought legal observers and the Colorado Street Medics had a much-appreciated presence as well. Taking the streets in plain view of a half-dozen police cars and nearly twenty cops on bicycles, the march took East 23rd Avenue towards York. Early chants resembled past demonstrations: "From Denver to Greece, Fuck the Police" and "Oink! Oink! Bang! Bang! Every Day the Same Old Thing!" were standards the crowd returned to whenever things got quiet. Despite the police tail and blocked intersections, the march stayed tight, snug in between the banners, until <<<<cont. page 2

RELATED: POLICERAIDSQUAT OCT. 23RD, BEAT 1 AND ARREST 4. RETALIATION? MORE ON PG. 2

O22:

from pg. 1>>> it reached the main thoroughfare of Colfax Avenue, where the crowd massed to 150. Riot cops riding on the outside of SUVs began a circle of the neighborhood while the bike cops tried to confine the march to just the westbound lane of Colfax. One of the police officers was overheard saying to a colleague that they were afraid of being pushed into traffic by protesters shortly after several



Denver riot police responding to the demonstration. Photo from pro-cop rag the Denver Post.

people holding banners In May, the strategy an arrest after the dis- rebuffed bike police in- of wrapping the dem- intimidation by pushing onstration in banners ever, this wasn't em- the banner outwards. to protect participants ployed as strictly and emphasized before the

There are several things from being picked off three demonstrators march and largely fol- to be said about the tacti- by the police was em- were arrested early in lowed by everyone in cal overlay of this march ployed more or less the protest despite a the streets that night. as compared to the last successfully other than brave fighting effort on

In May, the strategy an arrest after the dis- rebuffed bike police in- of wrapping the dem- intimidation by pushing onstration in banners ever, this wasn't em- the banner outwards. to protect participants ployed as strictly and emphasized before the

of members of between anti-police slo- gans the demonstration had spirited "anti-capi- talista" and "the US gov- ernment is illegitimate" chants. Another favorite was "the police are the army of the rich," which was featured on stickers passed out to the crowd and chanted in defiance of the city's previous dialogues on the issue.

hard time pressing the demonstration even though the protest was unpermitted and shutting down major streets for upwards of an hour and a half. This march, although not defined by its radical participants, was definitely noteworthy in its export of radical Black Bloc tactics and anti-capitalist sentiment to a more generalized crowd. More than 80% of the crowd was dressed in black and/or masked, marching with their arms linked, and

DENVER COPS RAID SQUAT, HOSPITALIZE 1, JAIL 4

by Ignite! Collective

Denver Police raided a squat in northwest Denver on Sunday October 23rd, the day after a successful and confrontation nighttime street march directing dissent and direct action towards the city's police department. Four of the occupants, local homeless youth and active participants in the local Occupy Wall Street solidarity protest #OccupyDenver, were jailed. Amelia Nicol, 21, notable for catching and beating a case earlier this

year after an anti-police brutality march at which she was arrested and faced 120 years in prison for allegedly throwing a firework or other explosive at a police vehicle, was hospitalized after being put into a pain compliance hold for more than fifteen minutes. She was seen leaving an ambulance bleeding from the face and transferred to jail in protective custody the next day. Witnesses to the initial arrests and scuffles ran to the nearby 27

Social Centre where and gentrifying condo developments. The Black Cross was having its weekly meeting. People at the centre ran down the street, cameras in hand, to observe the arrests and speak to neighbors. Several people berated the cops, and neighbors were generally supportive of the squatters. The house itself has been abandoned for at least eighteen months, and is located in an area that borders working class and poor residential structures of

and gentrifying condo developments. The Black Cross was having its weekly meeting. People at the centre ran down the street, cameras in hand, to observe the arrests and speak to neighbors. Several people berated the cops, and neighbors were generally supportive of the squatters. The house itself has been abandoned for at least eighteen months, and is located in an area that borders working class and poor residential structures of

Unbeknownst to organizers more than six weeks ago, when fliers for O22 were starting to circulate around town, Occupy Denver and lesser so the annual "Zombie Crawl" sapped a lot of the police department's resources. Riot cops had been deployed earlier in the day to police a large but completely peaceful Occupy Denver weekend march, as well as monitor the roadside encampment which hardly does anything to merit police action any since last weekend's arrests. The 16th Street <<<cont. pg. 3

O22: from pg.2>>>Mall crowd on Saturday night, swelled by “zombies” and regular nightlife types, played directly into the O22 demonstration’s aims of direct action and confrontation.

After making a loop around the Civic Center Park, picking up a few dozen Occupy Denver protesters and several zombies, the march hopped through 15th and Cleveland, the site of the 2008 DNC Black Bloc arrests, and made their way to the 16th Street Mall. Some in the crowd, thinking the march was over

and preparing to disperse within the teeming horde of the mall, began to meld into the crowd. Much of the march, however, kept going. The police began to back off, although it is unclear why. While they kept their distance at about a half-block behind the march, someone(s) sprang into action and dropped an American National Bank window. The cops had no reaction; they hardly even got closer to the demonstration.

The march kept picking up more people (upwards of 600) and began zigzagging down different roads between 16th Street and 15th

Street, roaming down the street spraying graffiti, putting up anti-police stickers and smashing several more bank windows. There was one arrest, for defacing/destroying public property, which is from putting up stickers like the arrests in July. Early (likely panicking/ratings hungry) media reports also claimed that trash cans or dumpsters had been set on fire, but at this point it is unconfirmed. The march erratically made its way back towards the park to debloc and join the occupation, confusing and frustrating a police department that has thus far covered all

sides of these demonstrations very vigilantly. After observing their tactical short-comings and lack of willingness to engage the crowd physically (especially considering crowd cover on the 16th Street Mall, limiting chemical and other “less-lethal” forms of suppression), it may mean they were running short of resources due to the uptick in social movement activity during the last month.

O22 was a success for a movement that has seen a number of them lately. All defendants captured during previous marches have beaten their cases or

walked away with minor charges and no further involvement in the legal system. Police were outmaneuvered and outsmarted several times during the course of the evening, a trend that has continued since agitators behind the issue originally took the streets. It is unclear where the movement will go presently, as it is too early to expect demonstration to be called, but the police haven’t gotten any better behaved. Because of this, it’s doubtful those filling the streets to confront the police department will taper their behavior anytime soon, either.

SQUAT RAID:

from pg. 2>>> the arrestees had court the day after they were jailed, where bond was reduced from \$10,000 each. All four were charged with 2nd degree burglary, a class 3 felony. Sam Carlson and Victor Jaime, both saw their bonds reduced to \$3,500, which DABC paid on Monday after a well-attended solidarity rally found several generous donors. The two were released Tuesday afternoon to friends, comrades, and food.

Police returned to the squat Tuesday the 25th to investigate a “suspicious bag or suitcase.”

Using the power of inference, it can be guessed that under the guise of “terrorism,” Denver Police confiscated or destroyed a homeless person’s only belongings. Ignite! talked to several neighbors, most of whom were disgusted that as winter just begins to make itself known, “homeless kids are being beaten out of a house that’s been abandoned forever.” Many objected to learning the arrestees were being held for burglary charges.

Bond was posted for Amelia on Friday the 28th, but it is unclear whether or not she will be released before the weekend begins or if the State will wait until Monday. The other occupant

still in jail in Jonathon Shepard, who was arrested and bonded out the previous weekend after police arrested more than 50 people during Occupy Denver actions. Because of his bond status, it will require Denver ABC to find \$20,000 in collateral as well as \$5,000 bail. Money has been deposited to his commissary account and he has hearings on November 9th and 17th. While initially hesitant to form support around the arrestees because the incident happened away from the “occupation”, Occupy Denver’s general assembly elected to issue a statement in support of the four squatters. Many, mostly homeless comrades,



The squat at W. 27th Ave. & Bryant St.

from Occupy Denver showed up to the rally. The timing is a pretty obvious coordinated effort on behalf of the police department to retaliate against the O22 demonstration against police terror that happened the night before the raid. A movement has been built through street militancy and strong support infrastructure in order to ad-

dress the ongoing problems that go along with living in a city with the most brutal department in the country per capita. What remains to be seen is how street youth and homeless folks will be handling the coming winter after this raid. Will more squats open? Or will the repression keep people on the streets?

#OCCUPYDENVER MEE

Shelters, Civil Disobedience Garner Nearly 80 Arrests, Some Injuries, in October

by Ignite! Collective

Denver's own occupation, a response of solidarity towards occupiers in New York City protesting Wall Street, saw a lot of action in October, the movement's first full month. While weather was a valid concern given the changing of the seasons, Occupy Denver's biggest hurdle was one long-time local activists warned them about since the first general assembly: violent police repression. Things had been running relatively smoothly. The general assembly adopted the St. Paul Principles, a set of guidelines created during the 2008 RNC protests with the goal of fostering an inclusive organizing model that took into consideration the different walks and tactics the myriad of activists protesting

were coming to the table with. Marches were being held each Saturday of the week. Due to space restrictions, it is probably a unwise to describe every detail of every action and assembly, however, it is important to note that local anarchists have had a lot of friction with "self-appointed leaders," as they have been dubbed. Many anarchists were threatened in a variety of ways and constantly called out as agent provocateurs, a term that has been misused by people who clearly aren't familiar with the concept. In the middle of the month, arrests began. Gov. Hickenlooper and Mayor Hancock made the decision to evict the tent city in front of the capitol building in Veteran's Park. After a tense night of rumors and

jumping guns, the police raided the camp at dawn on Saturday morning (O15) and arrested more than 20 people who were guarding the community kitchen and medical tent. Later that day, the occupation held its weekly march, and more than 20 were arrested again for refusing to leave the street after the police surrounded the crowd. An 8 year old was pepper-sprayed by police during the scuffle. More than 50 were arrested that weekend, some twice, and they were quickly bailed out and supported in court by comrades from both the occupation and the Denver Anarchist Black Cross. The next weekend was quieter for the occupation, holding a march that led to no arrests but sapping police resources enough that the annual

march, marked by a street militancy fostered by over a year of anti-police terror actions, wreaked havoc on a police force that has spent more than \$365,000 to monitor and repress a completely peaceful political encampment. Things boiled over later that week, when after the season's first snow hit, protesters attempted to put tents back up in defiance of local authorities. One man, known as Reno, a homeless disabled veteran was dragged from his tent and arrested, and another was arrested for building an igloo, which was removed with a full-size bulldozer. The weekend of the 29th saw another march and again, another attempt to build structures in the parks across from the capitol. That afternoon is detailed in the column on page 5.



ETS THE POLICE STATE



Eyewitness Testimony from Police Aggression in Denver (Oct 29th)

by Anonymous for Colorado Indymedia

What REALLY Happened:

Much of what has been said and written about the police crackdown of Saturday night has been speculation, misinterpretation, patently false, and/or abject lies. For this reason I offer this first hand account of the initial escalation at the park. It should be said that I do not identify as a member of Occupy Denver, nor do I agree with many of its goals, nor its constant self policing and paranoia. I am merely an individual who resides in and loves the city of Denver, a city slipping rapidly into a police state, home of the most brutal police force in the states, who regularly murder and assault members of this community, who are so actively and shamelessly welcomed into Occupy Denver's state apparatus. Everyone has their own perspective, their own experience, and their own version of what went down that afternoon; this one is mine. As a witness in the thick of the initial onslaught, what happened was this, this is how things got crazy and got crazy fast: After an invigorating march through the streets of downtown Denver, during which some took the opportunity to throw a kickass riot cops, led by a uniformed officer named Henning, approached a young woman dressed in all black setting up a tent. Henning grabbed one end of the tent and pulled, but at the other end of the tent the woman's wrist became entangled with a tent strap, unable to let go. Henning viewed this as resistance and quickly tackled the woman. Henning and at least two riot cops began applying pain compliance holds <<<<cont. pg 7

OCCUPY COVERAGE

The Other Way To Occupy Denver

by igloosRforever

As weather gets colder, DPD pushes homeless and occupiers further into a corner. Hancock plans to make sleep-ing on the sidewalk a crime and about homeless from 16th street mall. Meanwhile, as Denver and more ground to the authorities every day there are many that are beginning to doubt its effectiveness. The point of Occupy Anywhere have never been to make a symbolic plea to our leaders to do the right thing, moving them with our dedication and now, as the winter begins and those sleeping outside have no other coverings allowed but tarps, moving them with our suffering. Martin Luther King and the christian pacifist early civil rights movement may have used the same tactic (for example putting kids in a situation where they'd be attacked by dogs, to make good press for the North) but at the end of the GA). his home and right to the best respons-colder, DPD pushes least the majority of Occupy Denver's w a r m t h . es. Squatting is homeless and occu- the actions at that time 24/7 team, a name The truth is that direct disobedience of piers further into a were focused on direct they have bestowed the city, state, and the target, that happens corner. Hancock defiance of the jim upon themselves, are their army (DPD) to leave the rebel drier, plans to make sleep-crow system. No those who are most will continue their warmer and safer ing on the sidewalk luck in Denver, or vulnerable with- assault on those who are than those that stick a crime and talks most occupations. in this movement. most vulnerable and do around for the sym- about ejecting the Such a movement can Most of them are not see tents at the park bolism. Vacant, homeless from the only succeed when homeless or street as a symbolic action, bank owned houses 16th street mall. Mean- directly challeng- youth. Yet the move- but rather see it as a ne- are abundant every- while, as Occupy ing and uprooting ment prefers to use cessity to ensure their where. Below are a Denver concedes more the things that it pro- them as publicity survival during the few sites that track and more ground to tests, through ac- when convenient winter months. How houses that could the authorities ev- tion. Occupy Den- and then turn their long will Occupy provide shelter to ery day there are ver is doomed to backs on them when Denver sit idly by those without it. many that are begin- failure if its con- they choose to truly with their hands The first one tracks ning to doubt its ef- tent to be nothing make the park their nervously wring- all vacant proper- fectiveness. The more than a symbol- home. Last night ing in their laps as ties held by the FHA, point of Occupy ic statement, along a houseless vet- they ponder whether Fannie Mae and Anywhere should the lines of a "die in", but eran, Reno, was this hurts the movement Freddie Mac. There have never been to with the real possibil- arrested after lay- or furthers it? When will are many more owned make a symbolic ity of someone actually ing claim to Civic those within Occupy by other banks, ab- plea to our leaders to dying to make that Center Park as his Denver who have a sentee landlords do the right thing, point. An encamp- home and pitching warm, safer place and so on but this moving them with ment is possible, and his tent on the snow to call home at is the biggest accurate our dedication and worth pursuing and covered grass. He night stand in true resource. The second is now, as the winter attempting, but it chose to defend solidarity with based on the post office, begins and those sleep- will have to deal his home and was those who do not? which addresses ing outside have no oth- with two obstacles, arrested for it. But, Seeing as Wall haven't received er coverings allowed but a city government where were the Street and "the banks" mail in the last six months, which is less tarps, moving them and police force many other Occu- are the biggest tar- months, which is less with our suffering. bent on crushing ers when the police gets of the occupy reliable but yields our suffering. bent on crushing ers when the police gets of the occupy reliable but yields

Martin Luther King any action taken to came for both Reno movement and a more results. There and the christian make houselessness and his home? A huge number of are enough roofs pacifist early civ- survivable, and peo- small group shouted the people who've in the Metro area il rights movement ple in the occupa- "shame" and other slept at, worked for, to house everyone may have used the same tion itself that ac- admonishments at defended and gone through the winter, tactic (for example put- tively sabotage the DPD for their de- to jail for the oc- and any action tak- ting kids in a situation same attempts (it's no spicable actions, but cupation have been en to <<<<cont. pg. 7

where they'd be at- coincidence that most of no one sat down in houseless, squatting tacked by dogs, to the second group has a the face of those officers of foreclosed homes

OCCUPY COVERAGE

OTHER WAY:

from pg. 6>>> prevent that housing from happening amounts to nothing less than murder.

<http://www.huduser.org/REO/reo.html>

(Directions... set up an account by clicking signup. Put in a name (any name) an email (doesn't have to be real) and a password, create it, sign yourself in. Zoom in to the general area you want to check out, then when you're close enough, check the box to the left hand side of the page saying "view properties". They should show up.)

<http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/usps.html>

TESTIMONY:

from pg. 5>>> and beating the woman with clubs, Henning eventually wrapping a tent around the woman's head and wrenching back on it. At this point, an individual

who appeared to share deep affinity with this woman dove through a line of riot cops and tackled one of the attacking officers in a clear attempt to stop the relentless assault. The intervening individual was maced and beaten, but appeared to have narrowly evaded arrest.

Several people attempted to get this woman out of harm's way, at which point Henning and other officers began to brutalize her more intensely. The crowd was outraged, and at least one other person was on the ground undergoing similar abuse, and the situation continued to escalate. At this point, the DPD unloaded countless clips of rubber bullets and/or pepper spray bullets, and cans of mace into the crowd of shocked onlookers. A few people acted upon a reflex to defend themselves, understandably, albeit mildly, but most concentrated on getting themselves and others out of the line of fire of the rampaging police. Several people were shot in the face with rubber bullets and/or pepper bullets,

dozens were maced, one man attempting to video was shot out of a tree, one had his feet in the face of such or ankles run over by a motorcycle cop while being treated by a medic, and several were restrained and arrested.

All of these individuals were rejected by Occupy Denver as violent provocateurs. At this point, perhaps an hour into the initial police drive, the observer had been maced several times and clubbed, and was unable to continue observation. Most of those rejected by the movement in Denver are pooled into the box of the poorly understood label of "anarchist" by a confused and privileged few, who at the same time actively perpetuate a movement originally catalyzed by anarchists, and who unconsciously (attempt to) employ organizational methods like consensus that could, to some degree, be accurately labeled as "anarchist".

Despite this, in Denver, anarchists have unwillingly taken on the role of scapegoat, while simultaneously providing the only legal support infrastruc-

ture for Occupy Denver arrestees to date. I remain unamused in the face of such irony. Crackdowns of this variety are occurring from coast to coast, yet in Denver some manage to still view these assaults as a result of provocation, rather than clear and unprovoked aggression of the state.

Police continually crackdown against an unruly population which is actively claiming and defining its own rights, rather than acquiescing to those few rights awarded to us for staying in line amid the exploitation of our everyday lives. Many of us fail to see these instances of state aggression as the act of war it is. This depression is not merely a product of systemic failure. The state understands this, and has been mobilizing its troops. This is not just paranoid rhetoric; political discourse for security (not what they show you on the news, but the academic papers they read and write) has revolved around the transformation of police units into

an urban warfare-ready outfit for at least the last decade. One day, this broad scale collapse will affect Denver as much as it affects most other post industrial cities, beyond just the price of a gallon of gas. Sooner or later, the fall of this economic paradigm will reach a critical point of public outrage, and when it does, we'll take the streets and we'll keep them. Perhaps it already has. The state is preparing for Civil War, each escalation on their part is further preparation, though what they fail to realize is than in their preparations, they will only trigger the very thing they anticipate. These are the seeds of insurrection. Very few people actually want to be engaged in this kind of conflict, in all honesty this level of police violence is horrifying. What we have to understand, however, is that if we succeed in threatening real systemic change to any extent, they'll come for us again, harder and harder every time. Who of us will be around until victory?

OCCUPY COVERAGE

Protect Yourself Against Chemical Weapons

by the Colorado Street Medics via Colorado Indymedia

There is a lot of bad information circulating around Occupy Denver about chemical weapons and how to treat them. Here are our protocols that we use for Tear Gas and Pepper Spray. Circulate very widely. Please use this information to prepare yourself and your friends. To run as a Street Medic, please attend a training. You can also attend health and safety classes taught by Street Medics for more in depth education. *****Remember that none of these effects are universal. People respond very differently to chemical weapons***** *****ALSO! These weapons are primarily weapons of fear. One of the best things everyone can do is help spread calm to panicking people, walk away from the scene (don't run!) and get people to medics.*****

There is a lot of bad information and stupid protocol out there. Be aware when you go online or read things. **Being Prepared** -NEVER wear contacts to a demonstration. -Dress in layers - Wear sunscreen regularly every day year-round, especially in Colorado. Oil-free is best, but in Colorado particularly it is always better to wear sunscreen rather than be exposed to chemical weapons on a sunburn -Wear closed toed shoes that are broken in with socks -Do not wear dangling earrings. Take out facial piercings -Bring a change of clothing(at least a shirt) sealed in a plastic bag -Do not bring animals to a demonstration -Be aware that there are additional health risks posed to children, elders, people with chronic medical problems (like asthma,



Riot pigs attack Occupy Denver with chemicals

COPD and heart conditions) and those that are pregnant. Street Medics strongly encourage these groups of people to avoid scenes with potential for chemical weapons (i.e. police are holding them, in riot gear, etc)

Tear Gas
Deployed by canisters which are fired or thrown in grenades into a crowd. These canisters are also full of smoke. Sometimes they will have BBs and other projectiles mixed in. Tear Gas is not commonly used in busy urban areas, especially in Denver, as it lingers in the air for prolonged periods. The effects of tear gas diminish drastically once you move away from the gas.

Effects
- Irritation: eyes, skin, mucous membranes
- Breathing trouble
- Nausea & vomiting
- Panic
- Damage to eyes (if you are wearing contacts) vinegar and sealed in a ziploc bag is the easiest protection to wear. Tie this over the mouth and nose when you suspect weapons will be deployed. Wearing a dry bandana underneath can make the smell more tolerable. These are relatively short acting, so once weapons are deployed, make an exit. A respirator with N95 Chemical Particulate filters can be found at most hardware stores and will also work. **Note:** Respirators *do not work* if you have facial hair.

Gas Masks: Make sure your mask does not have glass lenses, as these will shatter and damage the eye. Gas masks are hot and hard to wear. If you get a gas mask, practice putting it on until you can do so smoothly and running in it. See if you can seriously wear one for prolonged periods of time. <<<cont. pg 9

Pepperspray
Deployment: A foam or liquid fired from canisters, guns that look like super-soakers, swabbed onto the skin (done in prisons/jails, sit-ins and tree sits) and pepper balls (paint balls filled with concentrated powdered capsaicin)

Effects:
- Panic
- Burning
- Nausea
- Breathing problems

Eye and Respiratory Protection
Eyes: Swim goggles with rubber seals and no foam will protect eyes sufficiently. Do not wear contacts even if you have eye protection!
Respiratory: A bandana soaked in apple cider

OCCUPY COVERAGE

PROTECT YOURSELF:

from pg. 8>>>

What To Do

- Evacuate the area. Walk. Encourage others to walk.
- Find a medic or someone that can do an eye wash.
- Do not rub your eyes.

Eye washes

Eye washes are a forceful flush of water in the eyes. We use the squeezable bike water bottles (NOT drinking water bottles.) NEVER use anything but water for eye washes. WATER ONLY. Street Medics can teach you how to do an eye wash. Do not touch your face or rub your eyes.

You may hear about using something called LAW (liquid antacid and water) for pepper spray in eyes. Many medic collective have success with LAW. However, there are specific risks and instructions for making and using LAW. Unless you have received this training, use WATER ONLY

Skin

Washing skin with castile soap is the best way to get chemical weapons off. Wash so that water runs away from the eyes and use cold water.

Decontamination

After being exposed to chemical weapons, it is important to remember that there will be a residue remaining on your clothing long after you are actually exposed to the chemicals. If you enter and sort of closed space while wearing contaminated clothing, the residue from your clothes will contaminate the room.

How to properly decontaminate:

1. As soon as possible, and before entering an uncontaminated area, remove any exposed clothing and any other articles that may have been contaminated, tightly seal them in a plastic bag, and mark the bag "contaminated".
2. Shower in the coldest water you can possibly stand, scrubbing with soap. Do not use warm/hot water and do not take a bath.
3. Wash contaminated clothes in a harsh detergent, dumping them straight from the sealed bag into the washing machine.

After exposure to chemical weapons, be sure to drink a lot of water. Be aware that these weapons contain chemicals that can have lasting health issues. Eating healthy foods (leafy greens, grains), avoiding drugs/alcohol and being more health conscious after an action can help you recover faster.

A few important things to remember in general:

1. If you are hurt or need a medic and can walk,

please come to our marked treatment areas or approach us. If you cannot move or see someone that cannot move, yell "MEDIC". Many people have valuable training in medicine, but Street Medic trainings use specific and time tested methods for protest specific injuries. Please do not represent yourself as a street medic or intervene in Street Medic treatments. We would be happy to do a bridge training so you can run with us or help set up a role for you if you contact us in advance.

Street Medics need space to treat patients. If you see us taking care of someone, help us hold a space. Stand around us with your back to our patient. Don't allow media or bystanders until we say it is okay.



Occupy Denver's First Snow



A casualty of police pepperspray is treated by a street medic on Oct. 29



Demonstrators in gas masks confront riot cops on Oct. 29



A demonstrator reaches out for assistance as he is tugged by riot police during the Oct. 29 confrontation.

Several are still in jail because of the actions from the last month. Consider contacting Denver ABC to help. denverabc.wordpress.com

OCCUPY COVERAGE

An Anarchist's Perspective of the Mid-Month Arrests

by Ryan Hartman

After reading several reports on how anarchists are being treated in many of the occupy movements I should share my experience in Denver. Although I consider myself an anarchist, I am not affiliated with any of the local anarchist groups and have not been attending Occupy Denver as an individual. I decided to enter this particular situation in Denver as an observer/listener and therefore have not been singled out or labeled nearly as much as many other people. Problems concerning anarchist involvement arose starting at the first general assembly hosted by Occupy Denver. Although I did not attend, I have listened to the audio

and spoken to members on both sides who were there. It appears that a mix of people gathered; anyone speaking about other forms of action and many of the groups began to feel uncomfortable within this new movement. No one seemed to have a problem with that. After a few days later, the topic of – gasp – a diversity of tactics threw the newbies into disarray. It was simply mentioned that a diversity of tactics be treated respectfully; or at the least, talked about. Being a student of Gandhi and King, it troubled me that these newbies were using these great people as a shield of pacifism, locking out any non-violent. If, during a march, someone would cross the



A demonstrator plants a black flag at the top of a metal sculpture outside of the Denver Justice Center.

the meter of the law myself and a street on a red light and remove all few others there or walk in the actual of the things we was that there's al road, members had spent three nothing violent of OD not only weeks build-about civil dis-accused protesters ing. After all, obedience. We of being provoca- "the police and explained that teurs, but went so politicians are everyone has a far as to point out our friends and right to be on specific people and are acting in the this land, that the scream it through best interest of the group calls itself a megaphone. p e o p l e " . an occupation, and Shit really hit the The major- there indeed was fan when OD got ity of OD's group a need to stay the notice – on Oc- on the ground and fight for tober13th– that the wanted to stay, OD's structures. governor would but a few of the Fear mongers be sending his newbie orga- stood up and thugs in to remove nizers insisted warned par- our tents and other that this would ticipants who belongings if force the police would most cer- participants to get violent tainly face time didn't do it them- and to them not in prison, huge selves. Natural- following laws fines, and have a ly, the reformist was violent (or record that would newbies were at least not non- follow them inclined to stay violent). The around for their within the perim- point made by <<<cont. pg 11

HART- MAN:

from pg. 10>>> entire life. A decent number of folks responded by explaining that each person has a choice and that no one would need to stay if they didn't want to, but that those who chose to stay would know the consequences.

Denver Anarchist Black Cross has been getting fucked with by the police in this town for years and have an established legal team set up. Denver ABC made sure everyone interested in staying had a number to call for legal assistance. Even though they were one of the main groups who felt uncomfortable being in a space with potential snitches, they (and Denver CopWatch) offered their unwavering support to those who wished to stay and face arrest.

There was so much fear mongering and trying to talk those of us willing to stay out of staying, and I believe that because of that, no time was set aside to talk about strategy or anything relevant for that matter. Nothing was done when the police brutally tore down the 60 or so tents that had been put up, but arrestables quickly formed protection circles around the medic tent and the Thunderdome (the kitchen that served up to 400 meals per day, not only to Occupy members, but also to the surrounding homeless community). While this standoff en-

sued, I saw none of the self-proclaimed OD leaders around, but only Denver ABC and CopWatch. Then, 24 of us were arrested.

In jail the only number made available to us (meaning the only people who were even prepared enough to have a number) was from Denver ABC's legal line, so we called. When the arrested showed up (myself included) for court that day, not only was the courtroom packed with supporters, but four lawyers awaited us. On the other side of things, the Occupy Denver website and Facebook page were practically useless, as no one thought it necessary to post updates or even answer my wife and friends as they frantically posted questions as to my whereabouts. When, twelve hours after our arrest, most were finally released, the first (and only) person I saw – as soon as I walked out the doors – was a member of Denver ABC, offering me invaluable support. As of today, the only legal help I have gotten has been from Denver ABC; not one single thing has been done by the members of Occupy Denver. As far as the people who were left in jail (some people had previous charges, causing the judge to set bail), every penny needed to get the first group of participants out (and the 24 people arrested the very next day) was raised by – you guessed it – Denver ABC. Despite all of this, certain

members of Occupy Denver refuse to allow Denver ABC onto its legal team or to provide any other kind of critical help. Regardless of their disrespect for Denver ABC, myself and most of the arrestees know who is able to offer the most help, and we will go to them. There are mainly three people pushing for the oust of any influential Anarchists (because apparently anarchists are not part of the 99%). One of the most vocal of the anarchist haters stood up at Sunday's 3pm general assembly and, after stressing her commitment to nonviolence, said, "all the people in this group who consider themselves anarchists. I was wrong. I judged you and I was completely wrong and I am sorry. I am proud to call you all allies." While this was mind blowing, it was only one person, and one who is very rarely on site. Right now, the group is having a standoff with the mayor and governor (who is the former – up until less than a year ago – mayor of Denver), there are around 50 people facing charges, and the occupation is growing immensely with every passing day, yet instead of pulling together there are (at least) two people still insisting that Occupy have nothing to do with Denver ABC or any other anarchist people or groups. After all of my observations and experiences it feels to me like things are

headed either towards total destruction or being divided into two movements. We cannot let this happen. I, repeat, we cannot let this happen. This is what always happens. This is what our opponents want. From things I've read by other anarchists in other occuppies, it is possible to make people understand a broader concept of nonviolence and diversity of tactics. This was proven by the fact that the older lady who threatened to DOX anarchists three weeks ago was able to change the opinion she had held on to for decades, simply because of a few acts. Although I do not feel like we should have to get on our knees and beg for acceptance, I do think that we can be the people who show up organized, help new comers understand what our minds are open to, how we have come to this place where we question and challenge power structures and furthermore, how to bring others in rather than keep opposing ideas on the outside. In my opinion, this is the only viable solution for the lack of knowledge we are facing. For centuries, anarchists have been made – by the media, the police, and others – to look like a bunch of crazy kids who just want to light shit on fire and smash windows, but we all know that we are much more than this. As soon as that connection is made, we will officially be unstoppable

Local Briefs

The Terry Merrorista Brigade Attack Bank, Cop Shop, Issue Communique

A communique was posted to Colorado Indymedia on Thursday, October 26th. The action and communique are commendable, a gesture of solidarity to the Oakland Commune, Atlanta occupiers, and the squatters arrested in Denver last weekend. Titled "Escalation", we are posting it in full:

"Last night, under the cover of the season's first snow, a bank and a cop shop (snitch station) were attacked by masked individuals in the Five Points area of Denver. This action was taken in solidarity with the Oakland Commune and Atlanta under siege, with Denver squatters, and with occupiers everywhere. The banks are an obvious target, as too should be the lapdogs of The Capitalist State, the Police Department. Their days are numbered so long as our resistance intensifies. Revolt, Occupy, Fight Back! Smash all banks and all borders, no love for snitches!

With Love,
The Terry Merrorista
Brigade"

National Socialist Movement's Highway Signs Removed, Antifa Take Credit

A communique was posted to Colorado Indymedia this month taking credit for antifascist actions from a year ago. In full:

"In 2010 a group of Nazis or Neo-Nazis in the Denver area created the Denver chapter of the National Socialist Movement (NSM), proudly displaying their group on their website, including a contact form for membership requests. The white-supremacist, white-separatist, nationalist, and thoroughly fascist group took pictures of their members, announced events, and even managed to successfully receive an 'adopt a highway' sign from the Colorado Department of Transportation. In response, area anti-fascists removed all of the signs from highway 85, outside of downtown Brighton. They even sent a communique to the media, but the story was not picked up. No other communication of the action was made, on the internet for example, for fear that any site that hosted it would be associated with certain people or groups that might be targets for retaliation. Later, the Department of Transportation

replaced the signs. So again anti-fascists took them down again. However, with the launching of rockymountain antifa, we feel that the cat is already out of the bag, and that any retaliation is already risked, so there is no harm in publishing our actions. Since the replacement of the signs by CDT, and their subsequent removal, the CDT has not replaced the signs again, effectively denying the NSM their message of hate."

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Several of the signs for the "pics or it didn't happen" crowd were posted alongside the antifascist communique.

Action Against Police Vehicles Claimed

"On August 28th, 2010, a march against police brutality took place in Denver. That night, in solidarity with the spirit of the march, and in resistance to police terror, a small group decided to do something concrete. Some police cruisers parked outside of the police-infested and occupied City Park Police annex off of 22nd Ave and Colorado were attacked, their tires slashed. No

report was made of it by the participants at the time because the action was considered too small to be news-worthy. However, after similar, small actions such as a police car window smashed, and parking meters destroyed were reported, this action might be worthy of mention." *via Colorado Indymedia*



THIS

TO

THIS

"Anarchism is not a romantic fable but the hardheaded realization, based on five thousand years of experience, that we cannot entrust the management of our lives to kings, priests, politicians, generals, and county commissioners." -Edward Abbey, 1989

NATION & WORLD

news from around the country and globe



A WalMart in Veracruz, Mexico engulfed in flames after an arson attack by the CCF/FAI.

Mexican Cell of the Conspiracy Cells of Fire / Informal Anarchist Federation Set WalMart on Fire

Communique as follows: “To all like-minded arsonists and antagonists, the fourth communiqué from the Conspiracy of Cells of Fire – Mexico / Informal Anarchist Federation:

Neither exasperated, indignant, nor broken! Arsonists at war against every authority!

All our solidarity with comrade Gabriel Pombo da Silva!

We’re celebrating two months of direct attacks on capital and the State!

Against the system of domination!

For Total Liberation!

Yesterday [26/10/11] at 6:23 p.m., liberatory fire again burned where it hurts most, destroying merchandise. The Conspiracy of Cells of Fire (CCF) faction of the Mexican Informal Anarchist Federation (FAI-M), Veracruz section, gave life to liberatory fire at the Wal-Mart located at

Universidad and Avenida Las Palmas in the heart of Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz. With this new attack, we avenge comrade Gabriel Pombo da Silva (held captive in Aachen prison) and demand his immediate release from the German and Spanish states. We also stand in solidarity with our comrade Tamara, with the Bombings Case compas in Chile, with the imprisoned Conspiracy of Cells of Fire compas in Greece, and with all our comrades abducted by the State in Mexico and the rest of the world.

Over the 45 days since forming this new organization for antagonistic struggle, we have lashed out at the system of domination, showing that struggle is possible because the system is vulnerable. We’ve left behind the fear and indignation of the broken, and made the shift to decisive struggle against domination. We don’t want to change capital and the State, we don’t want to change their laws, we don’t want improvements, we don’t want to change technology, we don’t want to change domination. WE WANT TO DESTROY THEM!

The supposed differences between electoral parties don’t matter to us, nor do the lies and promises of Peña Nieto, AMLO, Marcelo,

Vasquez Mota. THEY MAKE NO DIFFERENCE TO US BECAUSE WE FIGHT AGAINST DOMINATION, WHETHER RIGHTIST, LEFTIST, POPULIST, OR REVOLUTIONARY.

Comrades, when the time comes to attack, if you don’t join in then don’t get in the way. This is a struggle until the final consequences, until total Liberation.

Neither exasperated, indignant, nor broken—we are Arsonists! We are all the Conspiracy of Cells of Fire!

The Conspiracy of Cells of Fire isn’t an ORGANIZATION or a single group. Rather, it is the antagonists’ expression of rage and contempt toward domination and its institutions.

To spread the Conspiracy of Cells of Fire, you only need gasoline, matches, and the desire to fight for total liberation.

We have begun the war against the existent order.

Long live antagonistic struggle!

— Conspiracy of Cells of Fire – Mexico / Informal Anarchist Federation”

Cars Belonging to Police Officers Set on Fire by Anarchists in Russia

The communique:

“Partisan action in Volsk Saratov region.

Early in the morning, around 4:00, October 15, 2011 burned vehicles Aqaba Alexei Berezin and his wife, parked near the house of 222 on the street. Lenin. “Harmony” 10-th model and the “Skoda Octavia” burned all the way! Officially, both machines are listed as a relative of the policeman - 60-year-old Tatiana Latysheva. The official version of the occupation authorities - fire because of his professional activities.”

Windows of Illinois School Hosting Homophobic Event Smashed Out

The Christian Liberty Academy in Arlington Heights was vandalized early Saturday morning, police said.

When administrators arrived at the academy at 502 W. Euclid Ave., they discovered a number of broken windows and door panes on the east side of the building, which were shattered by bricks, Arlington Heights Police Capt. Nicholas Pecora said. There are no suspects yet. A communique taking credit for the action was later posted to Chicago’s Indymedia. One brick had a note attached to it threatening the administration to cancel the event unless they wanted the vandalism to get worse.

NATION & WORLD



Riot pigs in Greece get lit up with Molotov cocktails during the country's 48 hour general strike in mid-October

General Strike in Greece, Demonstrators Clash, 1 Killed

Strikers shut down Greece October 18th and 19th, filling the streets with a level of rage that has become customary at anti-austerity protests in the country. Anarchists and other demonstrators clashed with Stalinists protecting police and politicians, as well as with riot police all over the city. One demonstrator, a Stalinist, was killed after a heart failure likely caused from inhaling tear gas.

Banks and other symbols of capitalism were attacked during the protests, and the police were doused with more flames than usual this time, likely due to their brutal behavior during other protests. Some reports indicated live ammu-

nition was fired in the anarchist stronghold of Excharia by police. More information on the Greek struggle can be found at occupiedlondon.org/blog

Roman Occupation Protest Pops Off

Scumbag Corporate Media Report: What was initially planned as a peaceful "Occupy Rome" protest turned into a violent demonstration in the Italian capital. Police reportedly used tear gas and water cannons to disperse crowds of angry Italians.

Protesters wearing masks and helmets threw rocks, bottles and other objects at police in riot gear. Some wielded clubs, while others were armed with hammers. The demonstration against the govern-

ment's economic policy, with a crowd estimated at 200,000, descended into violent chaos when groups of angry protesters set cars on fire, smashed windows and attacked shops.

Protesters also attacked the Defense Ministry and set a wing of the building on fire. Residents and peaceful demonstrators have been forced to find shelter into buildings and churches as militant protesters ran amok. Smoke is rising over many parts of the city center. Some of the peaceful demonstrators, however, clashed with the more militant protesters and turned them over to the police.

At least 70 people were wounded in clashes with police, who used tear gas and water cannons against the protestors.

On Rome's San

Giovanni in Laterano Square, an estimated 25 people received onsite medical treatment, while others were brought to hospitals in the Italian capital, three of them in serious condition.

The mayor of Rome, Gianni Alemanno, declared that those who have been smashing windows and burning cars are not the protestors, but a group of well-organized provocateurs who joined the rallies on purpose to provoke violence and unrest. "Today in Rome we have seen the worst that is in Europe," he said.

Dozens of demonstrators and police were injured, including one protester who was taken to the hospital with critical injuries, Reuters quoting officials as saying. At least 30 policemen suffered. Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said those responsible for the violence must be identified and punished, calling the rioting "a very worrying sign for civil society... They must be condemned by everyone without reservation," Reuters reported.

Rome Mayor Gianni Alemanno blamed the violence on "a few thousand thugs from all

over Italy, and possibly from all over Europe." The protests in the Italian capital were modeled on the "Occupy Wall Street" demonstration against capitalism and austerity measures, which went

global Saturday with dozens of marches and protests worldwide. The website for the international movement said 951 cities in 87 countries were ready to "Unite for Global Change" – the official slogan of the rally. Sizable protests were held in Spain, the UK and New York.

Bank of America Smashed in Seattle Because Occupiers are Fucking Boring

Communique from Puget Sound Anarchists: "mic check!!! we got a little tired of the drama in the GA and decided to take some direct actions and smash out the windows of a bank so maybe think of doing it yourself. spread this info everywhere in seattle and at the GA. were against the bank right? we love you all. -anarchistcrabpplz"

IGNITE! OP/EDS

Contribute by emailing us at ignitedenver@riseup.net. You can remain anonymous. We reserve the right to edit for space, grammar and content.



Anti-Fascism and the Doctrine of Free Speech

by Andy Sewal

It would do little good to try to convince racist, sexist, homophobic, nationalist, ignorant bigots of the error of their ways. Let us look at one aspect of the bigotry-racism. What good would it tell such an ideologically entrenched racist about the flaws in racist conceptions? For example, would they believe the fact that there are more genetic

differences within ethnicities than between them. What good would it be to tell them that pigmentation of skin is an evolutionary response to climate and geography, where distinct ethnic groups migrating North and South over thousands of years may have become whiter and blacker several times over, in the pre-historic era. Would a racist understand that science informs us that natural selection does not preclude altruism, even beyond one's own species, and that Darwin's theory of evolution described only competition between species, not between individuals within them? Would they understand that cooperation and collective species-wide mutual-aid underlies many aspects of evolutionary dy-

namics from the microbial community to our closes relatives, apes? Do white racists understand that Europeans were the most ignorant, unsophisticated, and disorganized barbarians of Eurasia for most of known history? Would they understand that we are all descendents of black Africans, not only genetically, but also culturally? Would they understand that the evolutionary law of diversity, that the degree of diversity is directly proportional to the stability and success of a species? Such assertions are immediately discounted as false or irrelevant. This fundamentally anti-empirical logocentric thought that is ideological racism does not accommodate any evidence that cannot be assimilated into its paradigm. This is what stops people from questioning their assumptions and considering the real nature of social antagonisms, class warfare. There comes a time when rationality fails, when social structures and learned patterns of behavior can ignore any fact, discount any argument, or attack any dissenter from the adopted mythology. The social phenomenon of ideology takes root, and given the backing of material control of substantial resources by some of its promoters, forms institutions. The effect of this is that the ideology cannot be peacefully dislodged. This is the legacy of fascism, its source of power. While fascism is not the only, or even currently among any of the most powerful institu-

tionalized mythologies that dominate the planet, it is one of the most dangerous, virile, and brutal ideologies that the world has ever seen. Its tendencies, if not its mythos, exist and thrive in almost every institution. Under these conditions there is no debate in which to engage, no forum for quarrels to be disputed, or jury for questions to be decided. There is only propaganda and the resistance to it. The forces of fascism will ever use every means in their arsenal to promote their ideology; those who resist must fight back with equal tenacity. In the end, to do otherwise is to risk no less than the total destruction of our way of life as we know it. Secondly, Freedom of Speech is a social myth, <<<cont. pg 16

IGNITE! OP/EDS

DOC- TRINE:

from pg. 15>>> an individualistic sophistry of the highest order. Without delving into the erroneous ideology of Natural Rights Theory and European bourgeois politics from which the concept of Freedom of Speech arose, it is enough to comment on its abstract, idealization of social relationships which do not correspond to reality. Without any sense of community or the egalitarian distribution of the capacity for expression ? the lack of which patently mirrors the state of almost the entire world today - the concept of Freedom of Speech is the set of rules which rig the game. Silencing those who are already drowned by mass media, isolated by economic structures, and subverted by academic collaborators, Freedom of Speech enforces inequality, where the ability to speak effectively is directly proportional to one's material capacities. A profoundly capitalist doctrine, fascism has had no hesitations in using it to silence its critics and enforce its ideology.

It is from this understand-

ing that we act. The survival of society and the planet as a whole depends upon the collective assertion of our voices over all mediums, and the dismantling of all ideologies - institutionalized mythologies of self-sustaining logic that is divorced from reality. To hope that the current unequal exchange of ideas which is the capitalist totality will always, in the end, promote the truth is literally psychotic. Freedom of Speech is a function of current property relations, and its results are likewise determined by them. Truth, debate, and empiricism should be valued, not systems which subvert and suppress such values. This is why we must stamp out fascism in all of its forms, not because we fear the persuasive power these particular ideas, but because life cannot withstand their success. Likewise, as a function of capitalism, Freedom of Speech should be contested whenever it is used, as it almost always is, as a vehicle for the unequal material imposition of ideas. This is the basis of our actions, why stomping nazis is defending life, why smashing fascism is restoring justice, and why destroying ideological propaganda is egalitarian appropriation of space for thinking.

The Ignite! editorial board would like to use this space to remind demonstrators locally and everywhere to wear masks and nondescript clothing to protests that could potentially become rowdy for whatever reason or see arrests. So-called "members" of Occupy Denver have turned video over to the police that resulted in at least one person having felony charges filed against them for assaulting a police officer. We hope those snitches are dealt with soon. Fuck the cops and their collaborators.

News all month at ignitedenver.wordpress.com and follow us on Twitter @ignite_denver. Also, sorry this issue kind of looks like shit. Rushing sucks.