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Portland ABC
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About The Portland Anarchist Black Cross:

Industrial civilization, capitalism and the state are pushing our world to the brink of complete ecological collapse. All the while millions of people are being slaughtered in the states unending wars of imperial conquest the world over with over a million estimated civilian deaths from the Iraq war alone. Domestically over 2 million people are in prison with many millions more being on some form of state supervision such as parole or probation. In the streets in this county many hundreds of people are murdered with impunity by the states henchmen in blue year after year, with well over 1000 perishing just last year, consider that only 22 occupying US soliders died in 2015 in Afganistan and we can get a better picture of the actual function of the state in our society. We have seen the rise of the NSA and the deepening of the security state's probes into our daily lives as most of socities communications become increasingly digitalized. Edward Snowden reminded us that George Orwell's 1984 nightmare scenario of an every watchfull and intrusive security state has never seemed so close to reality. For those of us not distracted by the latest media spectral we understand our world to be in a dire situation.

We were raised to believe we live in a democracy when in reality we live in a dictatorship by the ruling class who buy and sell legislation and politicians with the ever increasing aid of the courts and justice system

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with Supreme Court rulings such as Citizen's United being no small example. The gap between the rich and the poor in this country has never been greater. An entire generation was sold on the American Dream that turned into a nightmare of student debt and now face existence in a bleak economy that promises perpetual wage slavery. How does one create political change in an undemocratic society? We understand that it is the right of anyone who lives under an oppressive regime to rebel. We support those rebels. We understand that "Fear is the mind killer". It is fear of being arrested and thrown in jail that encourages the poor to respect oppressive private property laws that alienate them from the fruits of their labor, it is this same fear that guarantees we only behave and take political actions in the way the establishment approves of. It is this same crushing fear of state oppression that lends us to the belief that we will never have real power over the shaping of the cities we live in or the course of history of this world.

This fear is state terrorism, it is created by the gulags of the state's prison system, the murderous actions of its mercenaries in blue and by its numerous secret police agencies (NSA, FBI, CIA, NSA) that dedicate themselves to "counter-insurgency" efforts such as COINTEL PRO to keep our communities and movements divided and powerless. The Portland ABC exists to fight in solidarity with those freedom fighters who have lost this fear and found themselves behind enemy lines and those bold rebels who challenge the system from the inside and the outside.

It has been said that during the Russian Revolution the average revolutionary could have been expected to have served at least 10 years in prison. We expect that statistic to be no less should people ever come to know real freedom on this continent we know as Turtle Island and thus those of us who have such a desire to live such a life have our fates inextricably linked to those of our comrades behind bars. As we refuse to be forgotten by history we refuse to forget those in the clutches of our enemies in state power.

Dare to Struggle!
Dare to win!

Anarchist Black Cross originated in Tsarist Russia to organize aid for political prisoners. Today ABC is found in many countries around the world. In the late 1960s, the organization worked to aid prisoners of the Spanish resistance fighting the dictator Franco's police. The current evolution of ABC in Portland began in February of 2012. The Portland Anarchist Black Cross does more than just support political prisoners although it is central to what we do. We would very much enjoy one day living in a world with out prisons and recognize there are many variable steps, approaches and barriers to realizing the impossible, but we enjoy experimenting. The PDX ABC is an ANARCHIST organization, and we like the following definition.

“As anarchism is the theory that we are the ones who directly engage with life, not representatives (whether politicians, NGOs, or community leaders), not systems of control (statistical, bureaucratic, or functional), and not specialists in freedom (authors, etc.), then we embrace it. We doubly embrace it if somehow this engagement with life also means the absolute destruction of the system-as-it-is but we know that this destruction—whether called revolution, evolution, or communization—is not guaranteed or even likely in our lifetime. This means that our theory interfaces with the reality of politics and other people every day but without the burden of the correct revolutionary ideology that has in no way been more successful than anarchism, just more bloody.” -Aragorn

Uprisings	A Day Mournful and Over-cast	an “uncontrollable” from the Iron Column.	This text was written by a member of the Iron Column, a revolutionary militia active in the Spanish Civil War. It was written in response to the impending militarisation of the militias by the Republican government
Situationism	The Joy of Revolution	Ken Knabb	Ken Knabb's book The Joy of Revolution which examines the pros and cons of diverse radical tactics and speculates on how a stateless, classless, post-revolutionary society may function.
Situationism	Spectacular Times: Cities of Illusion	Larry Law	In the Society of the Spectacle we live in a world of carefully constructed illusions—about ourselves, each other, about power, authority, justice and daily life. These illusions are both constructed and reflected by education, advertising, propaganda, television, newspapers, speeches, elections, politics, religion, business transactions and the courts.

Race/ Whiteness	White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack	Peggy McIntosh	“My schooling gave me no training in seeing myself as an oppressor, as an unfairly advantaged person, or as a participant in a damaged culture. I was taught to see myself as an individual whose moral state depended on her individual moral will.”
Race/ Whiteness	Accomplices Not Allies	An Indigenous perspective	This zine presents a strong critique of the political identity of “ally” and the activists who have built an “ally industrial complex” based on their anti-oppression credentials.
Uprisings	Anarchism in the Middle East: The Rojava Revolution	Anonymous	The people of Rojava are engaged in one of the most liberatory social projects of our time. What began as an experiment in the wake of Assad’s state forces has become a stateless aggregation of autonomous councils and collectives based on the ideas of Murry Bookchin
Uprisings	Eternal War on Hitler Youth	Anonymous	An interesting and little known aspect to resistance against Nazi Germany by youth gangs operating autonomously.
Uprisings	A Day When Nothing is Certain	Anonymous	This pamphlet is a collection of some of the best writings to come out of the Greek insurrection of 2008.

Category	Title	Author	Description
Anarchy	Machinery of Hopelessness	David Graeber	Hopelessness isn’t natural. It needs to be produced. To understand this situation, we have to realize that the last 30 years have seen the construction of a vast bureaucratic apparatus that creates and maintains hopelessness.
Anarchy	Black Mask and Up Against the Wall Motherfuckers	Anonymous	The Up Against the Wall Motherfuckers was an anarchist affinity group based in New York City. This “street gang with analysis” was famous for its Lower East Side direct action and is said to have inspired members of the Weather Underground and the Yippies.
Anarchy	Libertarian Municipalism: An Overview	Murray Bookchin	Libertarian municipalism is a political program developed by libertarian socialist theorist Murray Bookchin, to create democratic citizens’ assemblies in towns and urban neighborhoods. The assemblies in these free municipalities join together to replace the state with a directly democratic confederation.

Anarchy	What About Human Nature?	The Anarchist FAQ Editorial Collective	Anarchists argue that anarchy is not against “human nature” for two main reasons. Firstly, what is considered as being “human nature” is shaped by the society we live in and the relationships we create.
Anarchy	The Anarchist Revolution	Nestor Makhno	Nestor Ivanovych Makhno was a Ukrainian anarcho-communist revolutionary and the commander of an independent anarchist army of over 100,000 troops in Ukraine during the Russian Civil War of 1917–1922.
Communization	To Our Friends	The Invisible Committee	To Our Friends is a report on the state of the world and of the movement, a piece of writing that’s essentially strategic and openly partisan. Its political ambition is immodest: to produce a shared understanding of the epoch, in spite of the extreme confusion of the present.
Colonization/Decolonization	Colonization and Decolonization: A manual	Gord Hill	A Manual for Indigenous Liberation in the 21st Century

Prisons/Law Enforcement	Fugitive Thoughts	Sean Swain	Sean Swain is held hostage by the lawless rogue state calling itself “The State of Ohio.” In fall of 2012, prisoners calling themselves the Army of the 12 Monkeys (A12M) got rowdy at Mansfield Correctional, and the prison authorities assumed “that anarchist” Sean Swain must have been behind it. This is a story of prison resistance.
Race/Whiteness	Back From Hell: Black Power And Treason To Whiteness Inside Prison Walls	Lorenzo Kom’boa Ervin	A short history of black rebellion in the prison system.
Race/Whiteness	Black Anarchism	Ashanti Olston	An investigation into the development of anarchism with a critical racial component by former political prisoner and member of the Black Liberation Army, Ashanti Olston.
Race/Whiteness	Anarchism and the Black Revolution	Lorenzo Kom’boa Ervin	Thoughts on anarchist struggle in the context of white supremacy and racism, originally published in the early 1990’s by former black anarchist political prisoner Lorenzo Kom’boa Ervin

Prison/ Law Enforce- ment	Wildfire: Anarchist Prisoner Solidarity Magazine Issue: 3	Various	Wildfire is a newsletter focusing on solidarity with U.S. anarchist prisoners, support for prison rebellion, and anti-authoritarian struggle against prison.
Prison/ Law Enforce- ment	The Sun Still Rises: Conspiracy Cells of Fire Im- prisoned Members Cell	Varios	In Greece anarchists have constituted themselves as a social force through their continued aggression against domination, with a practice of carrying out attacks that has forged strong revolutionary individuals, agile affinity-based groups and a combative presence. These are the stories of the imprisoned members of CCF.
Prisons/ Law Enforce- ment	Survival in Solitary	Various	A manual written by & for people living in control units
Prisons/ Law Enforce- ment	The Colo- nizer's Corpse	Sean Swain	A liberatory approach to maintaing mental health while subject to isolation in prison.

Coloni- zation/ Decloni- zation	We Shall Live Again	Gord Hill	Articles on the confrontations and resistance between Indian peoples and the colonizer state of Canada Articles on the Treaty Process, radicalization and weaponization of British Columbian authorities, call to action,
Coloni- zation/ Decloni- zation	500 Years of Indig- enous Resistance	Anonymous	This article is intended as a basic history of the colonization of the Americas since 1492, and the Indigenous resistance to this colonization continuing into 1992.
Gender/ Patriaar- chy	Under- standing Patriarchy	Bell Hooks	Patriarchy is the single most life-threatening social disease assaulting the male body and spirit in our nation. Yet most men do not use the word "patriarchy" in everyday life. Most men never think about patriarchy—what it means, how it is created and sustained
Gender/ Patriar- chy	Queering Anarchism	Deric Shan- non & Ab- bey Willis	Queering anarchism means complexifying it. Concretely, we propose that we can apply some of the ways that we (might) love to the ways that we think about political theory.

Gender/ Patriarchy	Queer Fire	Anonymous	The story of the underground army from the 1970;s known as the George Jackson Brigade and their imprisoned members continued struggle behind bars with the group Men Against Sexism.
Gender/ Patriarchy	Gender Anarchy	Various	A compilation of writings by the radical trans women's prison collective Gender Anarchy.
Gender/ Patriarchy	Women Imprisonment in the US	Nancy Kurshan	Prisons serve the same purpose for women as they do for men; they are instruments of social control. However, the imprisonment of women, as well as all the other aspects of our lives, takes place against a backdrop of patriarchal relationships.
Nihilism	Towards the Creative Nothing	Renzo Novatore	It is difficult to find anarchist works in English that are at the same time "individualist" and explicitly revolutionary, that emphasize the centrality of the aim of individual self-determination to a revolution that will "communalize material wealth" as it will "individualize spiritual wealth".

Prison/ Law Enforcement	Alt. Analysis (Authority, Rights, Privilege) And Alt. Ed. Format	Zero	An introduction into anarchist education from a prisoner perspective.
Prison/ Law Enforcement	Kardashianism	Patrick Morris	A zine on the madness of celebrity under the carnival capitalism of today from a prisoner perspective.
Prison/ Law Enforcement	Cointel Pro: The Danger we Face	Anonymous	"COINTELPRO" was the FBI's secret program to undermine the popular upsurge which swept the country during the 1960s. Though the name stands for "Counterintelligence Program," the targets were not enemy spies. The FBI set out to eliminate radical political opposition inside the US.
Prison/ Law Enforcement	The other side of the COIN: counterinsurgency and community policing	Kristian Williams	This essay outlines the current counterinsurgency model, with an emphasis on its domestic application in the United States. It shows that many contemporary counterinsurgency practices were developed by police agencies inside the U.S., and illustrates the transfer of theory, strategy, and technique from domestic police to the military - and back.