

BIG BROTHER



IS WATCHING YOU

South Chicago ABC Zine Distro
Agitation - Education

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THOUGHT BOMBS

#23



Artwork by Ken Lamb

INTRODUCTION

Greetings! It has been several months since the publication of the last issue of *Thought Bombs*, back in March, 2004. It's already October. I try to put out three per year, but it looks like only two this year. Anyway, I'm still plugging away, none-the-less!

In April, after a series of several meetings, the B-PAC Convention took place in Harvey. I did a presentation for that, tabled a bunch of literature and screened an interview with Anarchist political prisoner, Ojore Nuru Lutalo, a BLA prisoner of war/political prisoner, severely oppressed in a supermax dungeon in New Jersey.

Ever since August of '03, I had been trying to organize what became known as the "Prison Abolition Conference" here in Chicago, which took place August 13-15. This was a very difficult and time-consuming endeavor. Also, ever since February of '03, my wife and I had decided we were going to move from our home, which we have lived in since 1990.

I rented a farmhouse building on the property of the farmer I did the first of three No Airport crop circles. I began storing the dozens of boxes of papers, zines, books, furniture and other things to begin to get a handle on this massive project. We started looking at other houses and so on.

During June, my wife, Leslie, asked me to do an innocuous chore, that being, transplanting a couple of rose bushes. Like something out of a fairy tale where the wicked witch pricks the princess, I was pricked by a rose thorn. Soon enough, my hand began to swell up and the middle finger on my right hand was particularly inflamed. My doctor prescribed strong antibiotics and even gave me a shot in the butt, but the problem just became worse. I insisted on seeing a disease specialist and she figured out that it was a rare fungal infection, commonly called "rose gardener's disease" that sees only 200-250 cases per year, here in the U.S.

It was very strange and I had to get these weird pills, which cost \$350 per month! Luckily, I have decent medical insurance and they "only" cost me \$35 per month. They say it takes several months to "heal" and may never heal completely. So, I'll have a permanent arthritic-like condition in the middle of my hand. After almost five months, it is better, but I still can't make a fist and that hand is partially disabled. For the Incas in the mountains of Peru, this condition affects 1 out of a thousand, per year.

This led to my looking more closely at my health in general, getting pills for high cholesterol, getting a stress test and so on. But, even at 51, I'm pretty healthy, and I like to think I *don't* have "one foot in the grave!"

The conference came, we had a rally and march at Cook County Jail on Friday the 13th, had a full day of speakers on the 14th at Truman College (moved, as UIC had gutlessly rescinded our agreed upon space there.) We had a cool show at the Peoples' Church that night, another post-party party on a rooftop of a loop office building and more discussions and workshops the next day at the Electrical Union's hall. We had a lot of excellent tablers, three people videotaped the proceedings and a lot of good things came from it. It was nice to meet and talk with other people, especially anarchists from around the country who do serious prisoner support work.

There were problems, too, of course. It was under attended, some workshops were cancelled and there was a nasty situation at the show.

The next month, September, saw the unveiling ceremony at the Haymarket site. All during this period, I was in contact with the people organizing this event, to try to get some input from actual anarchists. I did speak at this event and maybe thirty anarchists attended this ceremony. So, these things are what this zine talks about.

I ended the zine with a report about the sordid situation, here in Illinois, about the election campaign and the ongoing siege of the people living around Peotone, which has been targeted for a monstrous airport. In a couple of days, my brother Jim, my friend Mike (who I started STAND with) and I will go up to Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation in northern Wisconsin for a little time off.

After this disgusting, near hero worship display, I got a chance to speak with Obama. I said: "I don't want your autograph! Just answer this question for me. How can you consider yourself an 'environmentalist' and still be for the Peotone Airport? It's the largest sprawl project in the country!" I handed him a booklet I put together analyzing the complex mess these predators have made and what can be logically expected. He replied: "We'll talk." 58

As for the status of the people and land around Peotone, Illinois officials are waiting for a bunch of pre-determined environmental studies being conducted by the FAA, which will pave the way for Illinois officials to get more aggressive with the acquisition of land in the "footprint." They are trying a "foot in the door" policy of acquiring 4,200 acres in the heart of the "footprint," so they can slap down one runway and a small terminal, before eventually expanding to a huge 23,000 acre mega site (37 square miles!) This, in the richest soil on Earth!

Personally, I feel, since the domestic airlines can't and won't use this airport, even if built without their money, this airport might eventually be used by the federal government to long range bomb countries in the Middle East and elsewhere. They are now busy building 17 major airports inside Iraq! So, our family farms will be transmogrified into a massive killing field from afar!

They have been "land-banking" this small section, acquiring roughly 2,500 acres of it, along with other parcels in the larger "footprint." This has been done through scare tactics, threats, economic pressure, misinformation and so forth. Once the Feds give them the green light, they will pursue the rest of this land more aggressively, using "eminent domain" and if need be, "quick take." This won't happen until about 18 more months. Then they'll force homeowners and farmers, some who have been farming this land for several generations, into the street. So we'll have to be prepared.

Recently, they shaved a couple of thousand acres off of the huge "footprint" and will sell back some of the parcels of land already acquired. This was in response to pressure put on the state by the citizens of the Heatherbrook subdivision, who have mansions on the edge of the "footprint." We'll argue that all of the land coerced from citizens for this project be returned to the not so "open market." At least some of this land should be turned over to Native Americans who were murdered off of this land in the first place in the 1800's. Free the land!

In the meantime, we'll hold an educational forum in Peotone in the spring of '05. We'll have experts on farming, high speed rail, the airlines, environmentalists, land, air and water specialists and activists to analyze the situation from a pro-citizen standpoint.

What should happen, of course, is that citizens realize that the government is nothing more than organized crime, preying on people and destroying everything in its path to accommodate their capitalist bosses. As all laws are based on "private property" of land ownership, the whole history of American society is an uninterrupted story of theft, pillage and murder. We must return to native ways, end this global criminality and return the land and the bounty it produces to the rightful owners – everybody and nobody (in particular.)

Anthony Rayson - co-founder of STAND
Shut This Airport Nightmare Down!

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Published on October 16, 2004

Edited by Anthony Rayson / free to prisoners
(otherwise \$2 in the "free" world)

Since the publication of the last Anarchist Black Cross Network newsletter in mid-January, Chicago ABC has been involved in several projects and actions. Although pursued and participated in for their own sake, there's been a continuous effort to promote and organize for the upcoming prison abolition conference, scheduled for August 13-15, here in Chicago. This includes attendance at numerous meetings of other prisoner support groups, anti-war organizing meetings, tablins and readings at various citywide events and so forth. Add to this, the daily support work, such as letter writing, phone calls, making copies for legal challenges, the sending of free zines to prisoners. As well, several new zines have been formatted or just added to the South Chicago ABC Zine Distro in 2004.

On January 16th, an article in the Chicago Reader, a free weekly with a print run over 100,000, printed a story about a monument being commissioned through the Public Arts Program of the Department of Cultural Affairs of the city of Chicago. Essentially, they will have a ceremony on Labor Day to unveil this sculpture, which is of a speaker's wagon on the site of the Haymarket (police) riot. The interesting thing about this is, they claim to have gotten "everyone involved" - community groups, labor and the police - but no anarchists. They want to "take Haymarket away from the anarchists and turn it into a free speech issue." They even mocked anarchists - "Who would they have represent them?"

For Anarchists especially, this is an intolerable situation, so I wrote a letter that the Reader printed, blasting the city for this nonsense. I contacted Nathan Mason, who is the point man on this project and am in negotiations with him. I have volunteered myself to speak for the anarchist position about all of this - the history of Haymarket, the fact that conditions are basically the same today, war, repression, coercion, demonization and targeting of anarchists continues, etc. and I am crafting a sort of reality check address that I will give at Haymarket on that day, whether I am allowed to speak at the official podium or not.

A related situation is the naming of a one block park of asphalt to be renamed "Lucy Parson's Park" for the woman dubbed "more dangerous than a thousand rioters!" The authorities are looking for brownie points and so want to add more notable Chicago women to the names of their parks. In doing this, they are trying to turn her into a non-revolutionary. They're saying she can't be blamed for the activity of her husband (martyred Albert Parsons.) Like at Haymarket, they want to turn our beloved and true anarchist mentors into "reformers." At one point, they likened her to Ronald Reagan, who was also unsatisfied with government. Of course, there is a difference. Reagan wanted to make it more corporatist (fascist) whereas Lucy was a bonafide anarchist who fought to abolish all governments! They're complete opposites!

Jane Doe (lucyparsons@hotmail.com) is on the case in this one!

On January 23rd, I went to a conference at the University of Illinois, in Urbana to participate and table at a conference concerning the close, conveyor belt type relationship between schools and prisons. This was hosted by the noted abolitionist professor, David Roediger and his colleagues. Later that night, I gave a lengthy talk at Anacrotan House, an

now also clamoring for militarized global empire or its sad inevitable need! Obama is *already* ominously talking about the "need" to bomb Iran and Pakistan to "curb their nuclear threat." Republican or Democrat, liberal or conservative, they are pretty much *all* delusional madmen, dressed nattily in suits and ties, "fashionable" though they be - but, who are (obliviously &/or maliciously) accelerating the timeline for World War III, the "Big Daddy" of them all, that will see all life-forms vaporize or choke to death, except for a hearty species of beetles (or several thousand.) Meanwhile, they must deal with the Heydrich-like tasks of "administering" occupational, racist/capitalist, tentative conquests, in Iraq, Haiti, and before long, Iran, Cuba, Korea, etc.

Their "patriotic" (read: brainwashed into being Capital's Pinkertons and cannon fodder) duty, compels them to carefully, dutifully, continuously, watch, stalk, and capture America's young Black people and other's of unacceptable slave mentality, (the rebellious kind) who have decided to fight. They must now massively subjugate, increasingly incarcerate, impoverish and otherwise bully, while daily lying in a kaleidoscope of cartel controlled media. This deliberate forced mass political confusion is designed to drive Americans to despair, irrationality, hopelessness, atomization and blind obedience to the murderous villains running the show, every single day. We are living in the time of Big Brother, not ten, but *twenty* years after 1984! It's so amazing that the mere whiff of truth is treated as more horrible than the daily mass murder caused by this hideously aggressive government!

These politicians *cannot* be substantially different, for they are the elite members of the system and since the problems are systemic, they are not willing to go anywhere near the root causes of social problems. For, the system provides them with power, prestige and privilege. In return, they have willingly forfeited their credibility and legitimacy to the people, lying to us shamelessly, while making deals for business and unleashing economic and military aggression around the world to ensure compliance. While they are pampered in opulence and splendor in the august corridors of power in Washington, thousands die of starvation and preventable diseases daily throughout the world, due to their policy decisions.

At a recent black tie gala at the Conrad Hilton in Chicago, put on by the Illinois Environmental Council, Barak Obama was the keynote speaker. He was praised for having a 100% voting record environmentally, while serving in Springfield. The IEC has avoided Peotone like a social disease and spends their corporate grant money funded time schmoozing with legislators. They congratulate themselves for their minor role in enacting meaningless legislation designed to mask the rampant ecocide being waged by industry (with governmental connivance,) with a few minor industry checks and regulations, buried in the mountain of pro-corporate laws. These laws, which legislators don't even read through, allow Illinois industry to rape the environment and fleece the citizens, in their never-ending quest to maximize profits. The same happens in every other state, with the most devastating effects levied on poor and Black communities, Native American areas, barrios, and particularly, other, non-white countries. Economic exploitation and ecocide go hand-in-hand, locally, nationally and globally.

I attended this fancy gathering and sat with the table of actual grassroots environmentalists, invited at a reduced rate. There were four Blacks at our table and only two others in the whole rest of the packed ballroom - besides Barak Obama, of course!

otherworldly "shock and awe" bombing of Baghdad in March of 2003. He's also embroiled in the latest city scandal, known as the "Trucks for Hire" scandal, starring John "Quarters" Boyle and others. Boyle got his moniker after stealing \$3 million from the Illinois Tollway a few years back. This is par for the course in Illinois, the home of Al Capone, the legal lynching of the Haymarket Martyrs and the executions of Fred Hampton & Mark Clark. ⁵⁶

This brings me to the Peotone Airport, which is potentially, the largest sprawl project in the nation and which could lead to the Atlanta-ization of Chicagoland. This is the project that envisions a monster airport, three times the size of O'Hare that the struggling airlines have never been interested in, forty miles south of Chicago, to be erected in productive family farmland, presently lacking any type of infrastructure. This is being pushed despite the fact several Midway-sized airports already ring Chicagoland, clamoring for more business. Naturally, the mainstream press is unrelenting in their bleating support for this boondoggle project, which has already seen \$100 million in state tax monies, poured down the sluice gates of those so profitably involved.

Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr. is the main bulldog on this project, which is pretty much his sole agenda. He was snookered into this Republican business sprawl project by the repulsive Congressman Henry Hyde and then Secretary of State George Ryan among other insiders, soon after he first became elected Congressman. This cabal of crooks is heavily connected to the mob-run construction industry, who bankroll their campaigns in exchange for state contracts and friendly laws paving the way for their unctuous, albeit "legal" social predation, which masquerades as every day, normal business life. What Big Business wants, they get.

Jackson Junior gave the word to Obama and Keyes about Peotone and hence forth, both have been parroting the official lies concerning Peotone. In Orwellian America, certain Big Lies must be adhered to and smaller ones (like Peotone) likewise accepted, to grease the wheels of "legitimacy" for this predatory, class society.

Briefly, they claim an airport in Peotone will: 1) solve the transportation problem, 2) provide living-wage, benefit-laden jobs to the unemployed and 3) revitalize the whole south side of Chicago. Like much of the rest of the country, the industrial base here has been uprooted, with governmental connivance, so companies could seek higher profits and lower wages in places like Mexico, and now for super-exploitation in places like China, facilitated by NAFTA, the World Bank, WTO, the U.S. military, etc. in order to satiate the unconscionable greed of industry.

What the Peotone Airport will actually do (if built,) is: 1) waste much more precious tax resources, denying them for genuinely needed projects, 2) line the pockets of politically connected land speculators, politicians, developers, other business interests, lawyers and other leeches, 3) destroy longtime, irreplaceable, fertile, family farmland, 4) pollute the environment and 5) create massive, unhealthy, wasteful sprawl. For sprawl is the real plan here. Peotone is the last pristine piece of land within an hour of Chicago's loop. It's all about trucks, cars, strip malls, Wal-Marts, cookie-cut subdivisions, warehouses, oceans of asphalt, concrete, glass and steel toms, McDonald's, gated communities, etc.

This pervasive, predatory scenario exposes the lie that mainstream "progressives" like Jesse Jackson, Jr. and Barak Obama, are, fundamentally any different from their reactionary colleagues like Henry Hyde and Alan Keyes. They are all corporatist politicians, who lie incessantly and push business agendas exclusively, to the detriment of real citizens. They are

anarchist living space. Much literature was distributed this day, mostly ⁵ prisoner zines and ABCN Newsletters. The infoshop in Champaign was visited and the post-conference party were both heavily saturated with zines.

On February 19th, an article in the Chicago Sun-Times reported that the Chicago Police had infiltrated and spied upon five activist groups in the Chicago area in 2002. These included the American Friends Services Committee, Chicago Direct Action Network, the Autonomous Zone, Not In Our Name and Chicago Anarchist Black Cross. The five groups met and decided to stage a joint press conference right in front of police headquarters - 35th and Michigan Avenue on February 25th. I was able to bring Fred Hampton, Jr. to speak of where this type of activity can lead - the outright assassination of his father and Mark Clark, in 1969. This was well-covered by the press and parts of Anthony's statements were shown on television and the newspapers. Gale, aka Jane Doe, also gave a strong address at this press conference.

Obviously, the spying has not stopped. The cops said they were concerned only with thwarting terrorism and protecting the citizens of Chicago. If this were true, they'd march down to city hall and arrest Mayor Daley - the biggest terrorist in Chicago. He was the one who bulldozed Meigs Field into permanent disrepair and has orchestrated the dynamiting of dozens of high rise apartment buildings, throwing thousands of citizens into the streets. The police, of course, did not prevent these assaults, but rather, stood guard during them. Also, Mayor Daley was Cook County State's Attorney when many of these deathrow railroadings were going down in the seventies and eighties. Just a couple of days ago, the eighteenth deathrow prisoner was released after decades of wrongful incarceration. There are more innocent people on deathrow all across the country. Hundreds of thousands of prisoners are innocent of the charges they were convicted of or are "guilty" of "crimes" that have no victims.

Being actively harassed by the police spy units demonstrates that our work is having some positive effect. For the last thing they want is for people to have access to the unbridled truth! Also, from the heavy news accounts of this and the strongly worded sound bites people got a rare opportunity to see in print, helps legitimize our group as seriously and articulately opposed to the lies and bullying of city government. People respect and appreciate it whenever regular people challenge the state!

During this time (January thru March) a lot of energy was being gathered and shared by a group called B-PAC (Black Political Action Committee.) Some of their weekly meetings drew over a hundred people. This is spearheaded by Southside and South suburban community organizers, preachers, family members of the incarcerated and regular citizens, who are totally fed up with the Jackson/Rainbow PUSH domineering of the black Chicagoland political landscape. It's needed new energy!

A convention was held at Chicago Metro Hotel in suburban Harvey from April 2 - 4. Anthony gave a lengthy presentation/workshop at this convention. Much literature was made available and hours of serious discussion took place. A video of an interview with anarchist prisoner Ojore N. Lutalo, was also screened. Serious ABC work is definitely welcomed in the black community! This is what the cops don't want to see!

On May Day, many activities were occurring all over the city, country and world. Personally, I ended up in Joliet to help the Joliet ARA (Anti-Racist

Action) and ASAP (Anarchist Skins and Punks) challenge a demonstration by the Klan and Nazis, who were rallying for their fallen Fuehrer, Matthew Hale. He's the guy who does the Church of the Creator out of Aurora, Illinois. One of his dupes went on a shooting spree and murdered Rickey Byrd, the former basketball coach at Northwestern and another (Indian) man outside a church in Indiana. He also wounded several people in front of a synagogue in Skokie, before being cornered by the cops and killing himself.

So, Hale, who was recently framed by the Feds for conspiring to kill a female judge, is loathed by many, as are his unctuous followers. We had maybe fifty people to their twenty. It was an unusual spectacle for the people in the area, with the nazi flags counterpoised against anti-racist anarchists. Many people coming out of the stores and restaurants, joined our ranks and shouted their own epithets! The cops were there in force, but couldn't stop the expression of opinion. I handed out all the literature I brought, a whole satchel full, mostly of ABCN Newsletters. It got to be a tense situation, later at the home of the local nazi, as the demonstrators followed them there. The next day, this house was shot at by somebody.

The media also came and I managed to give several statements that made the nightly news. It was the front page story in the next day's Joliet daily. My main point was that these nazis are America's biggest cheerleaders, who love the fact we are murdering dozens of Iraqis daily and hold millions of black people, and others of color, in gulags throughout the country.

A new coalition of anarchists began meeting, conveniently enough, at UIC! Chicago ABC joined this group, first called CAAAC (Chicago Anarchist and Anti-Authoritarian Coalition.) The name has since been shortened to CAN (Chicagoland Anarchist Network.) It's a sort of clearinghouse for citywide anarchist projects, such as demonstration planning, anti-war articulating and distributing, support for striking hotel workers, - many, many projects, including organizing for our Prison Abolition Conference.

I'm also delighted to announce the creation of a new, Books to Prisoners Program, here in Chicago!

Midwest Books to Prisoners, Chicago 2004

We are a newly formed collective that sends much needed reading materials to prisoners in states of the Midwest (we don't reject anyone.) We would like you to notify your incarcerated contacts that we are eager to send them reading materials. Please ask them to send a letter with their request(s) and mailroom stipulations to:

Midwest Books to Prisoners
1573 North Milwaukee Ave PMB #460
Chicago, Illinois, 60622

Thank you,

Midwest Books to Prisoners Crew

Feel free to contact us: mwbtp@riseup.net

http://www.azone.org/index.php?name=EZCMS&page_id=37&menu=13

We're now meeting weekly, forming committees to cover the myriad tasks that lay ahead. Students for Social Justice, located at UIC, (University of Illinois at Chicago) is procuring the lecture rooms and auditoriums we will require for this conference. UIC is located just west and south of Chicago's

As I write this, it is only two weeks until the U.S. election. Here in Illinois, things are pretty much already decided. John Kerry will get the nod here and Barak Obama will be easily elected as Senator, becoming only the third Black man to join this select and powerful, patrician body of big business sycophants.

His main Democratic primary opponent, Blair Hull, and his post-primary Republican challenger, Jack Ryan, both had their campaigns blow up in their faces over past marital abuse and sordidness, respectively. Their views were within the allowable norms, but their personal lives, fed by the voyeur-style of newsgathering, sealed their doom. It's tawdry, unfunny, "politics as usual."

Jack Ryan, a multi-millionaire, was forced to quit, pressured by the Illinois Republican establishment, but none of them had the guts to take on the task of challenging Obama themselves, so these power-brokers settled on the Rhode Island import, the right-wing radio talk show host & marginal presidential candidate, Alan Keyes.

The one man who did have a legitimate claim to face Obama, James Oberweis, is also a multi-millionaire, who came in second to Jack Ryan, in the heavily paid-for, primary. But, he was passed over by his party for - get this, being "too extreme!" His big issue was a nasty, crude, racist, xenophobia against non-white immigrants. "Supporting our troops" as they murder thousands of people in Iraq is fine and dandy, but an open display of racism (which many white people agree with) is a no-no! They were all vying for the seat vacated by yet another Republican multi-millionaire, Peter Fitzgerald, who had basically bought his seat.

Barak Obama had been a rather obscure State Senator until he won the primary. He was then tabbed by the desperate Democrats to give the keynote address at their national convention in Boston. This was an attempt to demonstrate them as a "party of inclusion." Meanwhile outside, they erected a Guantanamo Bay - style open air, "free speech" protest pen, under a railroad viaduct.

In other area news, Scott Fawell, ex-Governor George Ryan's longtime right hand man, already serving 6 1/2 years in an Arizona federal prison for extensive corruption, has finally begun to talk to the Feds about his boss, spurred on by his new fiancé and former assistant, the also convicted, Alexandra "Andrea" Coutrets. This will no doubt make George Ryan the third ex-Governor to serve time since the 70's, following Otto Kerner and Dan Walker.

This is highly unusual, for politicians, although constantly involved in serious criminal behavior, rarely are prosecuted for it. Sometimes, rival politicians have scores to settle, as in Kerner and Walker's cases. They headed commissions that wrote unusually honest assessments of the 60's urban rebellions (Kerner) and the police riots during the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago (Walker.)

With George Ryan, though, it has been brazen, across the board, long term corruption, highlighted by the gruesome burning deaths of the six Willis children, shortly before his fixed election for Governor, in 1998. As Secretary of State he had sold many truck licenses to unqualified drivers to blot his campaign coffers, leading directly to this highly publicized tragedy.

In Chicago, the FAA is levying a \$33,000 fine for the middle-of-the-night sabotage of Meigs Field, carried out under orders from Mayor Daley, which he'll make the taxpayers pay for. This was done under cover of the

PRE-EMPLOYMENT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUSTICE SYSTEM PERSONNEL

54

Because you are an AMERICAN living in the FREEST nation on the entire Earth, in a land guaranteeing ALL EQUAL, JUSTICE FOR ALL, UNALIENABLE RIGHTS, LIBERTY, etc., etc., if you were alive at the time, would you have condemned the evil, but LEGALLY ENACTED LAWS that permitted:

Yes/No

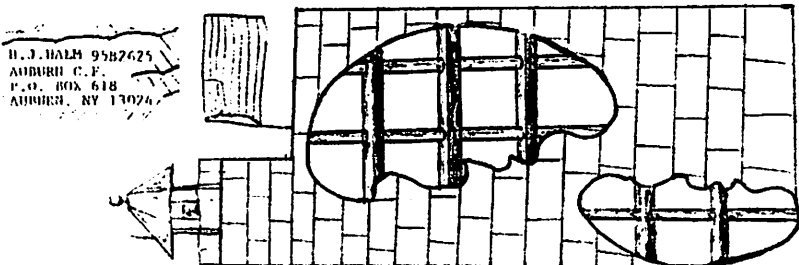
- _____ 1. The CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY slavery to have flourished for 240 years?
- _____ 2. Women to be jailed for merely being 'bad wives' into the 1900's?
- _____ 3. Young children to work, and often die, in mines, fields and factories until 1938?
- _____ 4. Women to be denied the right to vote until 1920?
- _____ 5. Rich and fertile lands to be taken away from the native Americans that had lived on them for thousands of years?
- _____ 6. Blacks to be continually denied basic human and legal rights until the 1960's?

If you answered 'no' to any question then you can accept any position that deals with laws in America. You believe laws should never ever be questioned, even in America, if legally enacted.

If you answered 'yes' to all the questions you're a TRUE AMERICAN and so must not be involved in any way with America's system of justice. Sadly, even today many of America's laws are motivated by the same politics, power, greed and racism that caused the creation of the laws enumerated above.

Today the most frightening and horrendous example of an unamerican system of laws deals with the WAR ON DRUGS. As a TRUE AMERICAN you of course condemn any law that is not universal because we are the FREEST LAND ON EARTH. You would demand that our drug laws at the very least duplicate the laws in a 'less free' nation like Holland. You would demand that all our laws at least equal those of 'less free' Finland where they imprison about 90% fewer people (per 100,000 citizens) than are imprisoned in this FREEST, MOST JUST, MOST ENLIGHTENED country on the planet. You would demand immediate hearings on this devastating, unwinnable and effectively racist prohibition. You would demand no law exist in America that is not based on CRIMINAL SCIENCE, PENAL SCIENCE and the least harshest laws in existence. And, you would demand that never again would a law in this AMERICA be motivated by politics, power, greed and racism.

"This is a court of laws...not of justice" Oliver Wendell Holmes



H. J. HALL 9587625
ALBANY, C. E. B.
P.O. BOX 618
ALBANY, NY 12024

Loop, easily accessible by public transportation. A website has been established by Chicago ABC which will provide more detailed information - directions, contact persons, scheduling, workshops, speakers and other activities, such as the shout-out support rally and march on Friday the 13th of August at Cook County Jail (3 to 5 pm) meals, lectures, shows and so forth.

You can email us as well at ChicagoABC@hotmail.com

You can write us at P.O. Box 721, Homewood, IL 60430 or at HACO (Human Action Community Organization) Eraina Dunn 16028 S. Halsted, Harvey, IL 60426 (708) - 339 - 7902 My number is (708) - 534 - 1334 Anthony Rayson

The website is: Chicagoabc.org

The conference is still being planned at this stage. Some workshops have been pretty much set, but there is still an opportunity to add input and get time and space to present information during this time. Also, we want to actively encourage serious tabling of information. AK Press is coming, as will several other distributors. I'll give a brief rundown about the conference.

We are planning on bringing such notables as Pam and Ramona Africa, Tom Big Warrior and Robert King, among others. Throughout Chicagoland and the Midwest are several support groups that are interested in doing presentations about various subjects. They will be posted on our website as they become more in focus. There's still time to propose a workshop!

These include workshops about women prisoners, Books to Prisoners Programs, transgendered, gay and lesbian prisoners, Native American prisoners, New Afrikan prisoners, Hispanic prisoners, drug war prisoners, innocent prisoners, the fight to abolish deathrow and local political prisoners, such as Kathy Kelly of Voices in the Wilderness, Khalifani Malik Khaldun, Zolo Agona Azania, among others. The connection between the war in Iraq and the war at home will be dissected. I'm doing a workshop entirely created by prisoners. AIDS, rape, hepatitis C, torture, neglect, abuse and cruelty in many respects, will be delved into. Many local activist and support groups will be given an opportunity to explain their work. Family members of prisoners will have a strong voice. It's an educational and networking opportunity that we are making a point to be inclusive about. After all, our work is about the people and the families being menaced by the state - poor and "non-white" mainly. The strength of anarchism is in organic community work.

This is the third such anarchist-organized prison abolition conference whose purpose also includes specific collaboration and discussions with ABC Network chapters (and sister groups) to strengthen our network and increase our effectiveness. We want to help spawn new ABC chapters and increase the levels of support for the prisoners we work with. So, ABC people need to make a point to come to Chicago this August and participate. Send in your ideas. Talk to us. Become proactive with us.

In the next 75 days, we will participate in many meetings, actions, tablings, shows and countless discussions with the goal of making this a productive and accommodating conference. It will not be easy to match the incredible work done by last year's Break the Chains collective and the one previous, worked-up by the collectives in Texas, but we shall try! Come to Chicago!!

B-P.C. of Illinois

Black Political Convention of Illinois
10736 S. Michigan Av. Chicago, IL. 60628
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Anthony Rayson Introduces Himself

I've been invited to write a column, which I consider both an honor and an opportunity. First off, let me introduce myself and give you some background.

I grew up in Tinley Park back when it was a small, all-white town, surrounded by corn fields. In the seventies and eighties, I lived in Hazel Crest and since 1990, my family and I, have lived in rural Monee, in the Peotone airport "footprint."

I was very lucky in my upbringing, for my father, Leland H. Rayson was an unusually principled progressive politician. He trekked down South to defend the Freedom Fighters in the mid sixties. He marched with Dr. King through Cicero and Father Groppi, up in Milwaukee. All the while, he took his children, all seven of us, with him. He was a delegate to the '68 Democratic Convention, yet was teargassed in the streets with the demonstrators

I've co-founded several grassroots groups, such as STAND (Shut This Airport Nightmare Down) which is now a 2,500 household member citizens' group, based in Eastern Will County. I also helped start the Southside Citizens' Coalition, South Chicago Anti-Racist Action, Chicago ABC (a serious prison abolition group) and I run the South Chicago ABC Zine Distro, which has published over 250 pamphlets on history and politics, with an emphasis on prison issues, featuring a lot of strong input from conscious prisoner writers and artists.

So, in the coming weeks, I would like to explore the issues that truly concern the south suburbs and acquaint you with the real champions of our communities. I'll describe the labor of love struggles they are involved with, in their communities - whether it is stopping an unwanted women's prison in hardscrabble Hopkin's Park, down in Kankakee County or an unneeded boondoggle airport in the farm fields around Peotone.

The major forces in contention are the same - corporate-dominated political and economic expansionism versus the genuine needs of citizens, our neighborhoods and our communities. Many people can't see beyond working through the system, usually in a futile attempt to get politicians to see reason and "do the right thing." Many more are disgusted and want nothing to do with "politics." I believe we must begin the task of educating and empowering ourselves and creating the vehicles that will drive our own liberation outside the confines of a corrupted and unresponsive system. We need People Power!

Who's at the forefront of the work of articulating the issues of the Black community during these perilous times of massive incarceration, stepped up police repression and economic depression? **Come to the three-day B-PAC (Black Political Action Committee) sponsored convention April 2, 3 & 4, 2004, in Harvey, at the Chicago Park Hotel, 17040 S. Halsted. Call (773) - 445 - 7891** Thanks for hearing me out. I can be reached at:

P.O. Box 721, Homewood, IL 60430 email: anthonyrayson@hotmail.com

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The same massive injustice that the Haymarket Martyrs fought so hard against - wage-slavery, repression, racism, destitution, class and race-based incarceration, police brutality - continues without let-up today. Look at the recent death of May Molina and the frame-up of Aaron Patterson, not to mention the thousands of Chicagoans that are forcibly funneled through Cook County Jail, every single, dreadful day. Repression is occurring without let-up every single day in every single country at an accelerating, doomsday pace. It is truly a never-ending crime against the very soul of humanity!

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Nothing has changed, since 1886, as far as systematic criminality is concerned. The oppression and mass murder has been globalized and billions of more people are under the boots of these demons. The technology of death, brainwash and torture has gotten much more sophisticated and lethal, but no real change for the better has ever really occurred.

Illinois' biggest "mental hospital" is Cook County Jail! The economic salvation of rural communities, gone to seed, is a sickening prison! The options for the young, especially those of color, are seriously stark. It is either an early grave, a truncated life of self-loathing, depression, addiction, obsession with pointless diversions &/or prison, impressment into an imperialist army or a shitty non-union job at Wal-Mart or McDonalds. There's your "American Dream" in the nightmare of present-day reality! This is the sign of a seriously demented and evil society that deserved to fall like all the past decadent empires. The unborn generations demand that we act with alacrity!

Down with locked down Amerikkka - with their trained torture-states throughout the world! Down with the slave system of laws, capitalist economics, imperial occupations, vacuous culture and all of their putrid politicians! For a world of sanity, equality, freedom, solidarity, mutual aid and wild liberty! Anarchy - forever and a day!

~ Anthony Rayson - A Haymarket, Chicago Idea Anarchist!
[Chicagoabc.org](http://chicagoabc.org) http://www.anarcha.org/abc_audio

**SOUTH CHICAGO ABC
ZINE DISTRO
POB 721 HOMEWOOD IL 60430**

anyway, right? Just snicker and think of me as some kook who can't seem to deal with it. Life is all about a fancy new car!

How much mass murder, sadism, genocide, ecocide, 52
infanticide, mass incineration and so forth, can you stomach, America? How much?? When do your dreams become affected with the nightmare of revelation?

As for Haymarket on this September 14th, where three years and three days ago, quite a few chickens came home to roost, money extorted from the Illinois taxpayers to pay for this area, does not begin to fathom the strength of the message that the Haymarket Martyrs so bravely gave their lives for. We must study and implement their actual words, study their strategies and work to build a modern-day mass anarchist labor movement, not succumb to the nicey-nice spin given to governmental criminality that snuffed out their strong voices and several others! We can draw strength from their courage and insightfulness. In fact, we need their example, now more than ever! Where's the clarity and courage today that can compare to the scaffold death scene, here in Chicago?

No matter how hard government tries to hide their crimes or lies about our history, you can never kill an idea that righteous people have died for. This is especially true if the idea is anarchism! Anarchism is the philosophy of universal humanity and its thoughtful implementation. It's the open-ended, unrestricted opportunity for all of us to flower as the best we can possibly be. It's love. It's truth. It's beauty. It is everything!

Haymarket was just another sordid episode of social repression by a capitalist oppressor. It's happened countless times before and will continue to occur throughout the four corners of the Earth, until people can finally put an end to it! Haymarket is uniquely significant because of the strength and fervor of the voices of these Chicagoans, directly before their forced strangulations. Because of this, they remain human examples of the highest order. They are forever immortal!

It won't be possible to turn these awe-inspiring anarchist revolutionaries into mere "reformers." Good luck trying, you rad-lib types! Lucy Parsons will never be considered akin to the jerk-puppet, Ronald Reagan, Mister Revisionist historian, Bill Adelman! You are truly a dumb-ass! Lucy Parsons lived her whole life as an anarchist revolutionary - some 89 years - fool! The people yearning to learn more about the real meaning of Haymarket won't swallow your labor sell-out lies. They'll know the truth! Shame on you, you non-anarchist, apologist/shill!

The Incarceration Holocaust 9

First, let me introduce myself. My name is Anthony Rayson and the reason why I am here really, is because I detest injustice and love freedom. I'm a lucky man. My father, Leland Rayson, was a bona-fide social justice crusader back in the day and taught me well.

But, I've taken it a few steps further. I'm not all that interested in getting a corrupt, rigged system to "reform." It's time for fundamental change! Some people call me an alarmist. Good! Because the times are alarming and it's our duty to answer the call! I don't advocate violence. That is the method of government. The reality is very stark, but must be understood for what it really is. We can't begin to effectively deal with the situation until we are willing to stare it square in the face and learn the "why" of how this prison system works.

I consider myself an Abolitionist. I don't believe in slavery! Slavery did not end with the Emancipation Proclamation nor was it abolished by the enacting of the 13th Amendment. It was merely modified a bit. Blatant chattel slavery was switched to prison slavery. Wage slavery continued on. Read the 13th Amendment very carefully. Slavery is still very "legal" and "Constitutional!" Legal decisions by judges are based on the clause allowing human slavery for the convicted!

Today, we're in the maelstrom of what even the ivory tower academic experts are calling the "incarceration frenzy." 2.2 million men & women, boys & girls are encaged in U.S. prisons and this doesn't even include those being held in local and county lock-ups, court buildings and so on. That's more prisoners than Russia. It's more than China and they have five times as many people as we do! With 4.5% of the world's population, America holds 25% of all the world's prisoners. This doesn't even include prisoners we are holding in other countries. Add the millions on parole, probation or waiting to be sentenced themselves for any one of millions of "crimes" and you have a huge chunk of our people having been taken out of the life of our communities. This helps lead to the destitution, degeneration and the pervasive degradation, we all see. And it certainly has no real positive effect on the so-called "crime rate." The "drug war" is a real war alright, but it's not a war on drugs. It's a war on people - *our* people! Don't get me wrong! Many people in the prisons on both sides of the cages are not angels. But not a one of them was born to be a criminal!

The rate of incarceration among young black males and increasingly, young black females, is truly astronomical! It more than doubles that of South African apartheid at its worst!

The body snatchers of the state are very well-trained and seriously indoctrinated into belief and defense of this lie-based, almighty dollar, slave system. They work diligently and have vast taxpayer paid for resources and technology to work with. These resources are also enormously supplemented by the

confiscation (outright theft) of their victim's possessions and money. Yet, we spend our time blaming the young victims if we even think about this vast, open, social sore at all!

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It's a deep, dark mark of oppression that we readily accept this! Logic and strength have given way to denial and hopelessness! But we can and shall overcome! Just a couple of months ago the peasants of Bolivia flooded into their capital and the corrupt, pro-American business interests president, had to flee - to where all the other overthrown dictators go to - Miami!

Let's not delude ourselves any further as to who our real enemies actually are. It's not some CIA-groomed dictator hiding in a cave somewhere! It's the same system that came to our country from Europe, decimated the Native American Nations and evilly wrenched millions of people from the heart of Africa and forced into slavery. These slaves and other wage-slaves basically built everything up to what we see today. It's all been slave labor and still is! The people of Iraq hate us because they are under a murderous military occupation. Yet, we have nice things to say about the U.S. government, even though they have stolen the lives of our very ancestors, and own, our own *children*! We must transcend this self-enslaving mentality! We must develop clarity and purposefulness. It's our solemn duty, Brothers and sisters!

I'll say it right now. It's going to take a massive, sustained social upheaval of heretofore unseen proportions, with many comrades falling along the wayside, before we see a glimpse of a genuine "promised land!" It'll take courage and heavy *work*!

Look what it took to stop the mass slaughtering in Southeast Asia! Millions of Vietnamese, Cambodians, Laotians and others, perished for their liberation! America left them in a poisoned wasteland. Look at all the civil rights struggles that took place, just in order to change a few words in a few law books. These have since been vastly superseded by racist drug laws, racial profiling, three strike laws, "mandatory minimum" type sentencing, jobless ghetto existence, prison tracking in the schools, demonizing of young people as so-called "gang members" and the virtual military occupation of our 'hoods. We've actually *lost* a lot of ground!

I focus my attention and concentration on the prisons because it is "ground zero" in the global struggle, here at home. It's the ultimate expression of this extreme capitalist system. What is really going on in there and what the articulate and courageous among the prisoners say about it all, is the last thing the government wants you to know about! For, as Malcolm X has said: "Don't be surprised that I was in prison. We've all been in prison. That's what America means - prison!"

Without prisons, America could not get away with all of the depleted uranium bombing, the forced impoverishment, AIDS epidemic, ruthless death squad puppet regimes, the environmental devastation, starvation and sweatshop misery that it so callously

Turn the T.V. off and smash it with a hammer or something! Why do you think they are on 24 hours of every day in all of the restaurants, laundromats, bars, prisons and psycho wards??? 51

Every last one of us is not just capable of exponentializing the days of our lives. We have the brainpower to basically figure it all out, ourselves! You don't have to settle for being a variation of an ROTC cadet, mentally! You can learn how to think! If you don't, your brain is just a simpleton's computer, ripe for manipulation by the professional brainwashers.

The truth is out there and it *will* set you free and it should compel you to chain reaction, if you're worth your salt and willing to deal with it! Otherwise, you're in bed with monsters and complicit in constant criminality! There's no other way around it, in my, not so humble, opinion.

This latest mess of the Western Hemisphere occupiers, will only get worse. There's no "fix!" Kerry's already talking about putting 100,000 more cops on the streets and adding another 100,000 soldiers in Iraq. When Clinton added 100,000 cops, it practically doubled the prison population during his regime. They (Clinton, Albright, the U.N., etc.) also saw to the "worth it" gruesome toddlercide in Iraq, during the 90's. Rwandaesque!

So what are we supposed to do? After all, we've got the "freedom" to "protest" cocooned by a thousand Darth Vader ninja turtles, armed to the teeth with the latest crowd suppressing surprises, as the Nazis in Washington plot their next evil invasion of Cuba, North Korea, Iran or wherever!

Think about it! Negroponte, who is now the Mengele of Iraq, oversaw the beyond hideous death squad debauchery throughout the eighties in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua. But, remember also, what Henry Kissinger said about the decade-long genocide in Southeast Asia - "We should have never been there, but that's 'history!'"

So, who cares? Necroponte is mainstream now, like the Sabra and Shatilla butcher Ariel Sharon, also is. All that killing just doesn't count or impinge on our idolatry of these monsters! Ahhh... the joys of living in a "democracy" where if anything, we care too much about others! We care enough to kill, but not enough to bury, except maybe with bulldozers. We don't even know or care who it is we actually kill! It's just a video game to those involved and a ho-hum article in the *Tribune*.

Excuse me! Might I just say, just go ahead and live the lie, appreciate the sculpture and this spruced up area. Why worry about what the Haymarket Martyrs said and how we can apply it to today's reality? We can't do anything about anything.

vile beyond belief! And then - go into the prisons! The more 50
horrible it gets, the blacker it gets! It screams for all-out popular
revolt! Montjuich, Abu Ghraib, Cook County Jail are the same!

Without the morbid, crowded prisons and jails, without the
police, without the lawyers, judges and prosecutors, politicians,
economic tyrants, the crusading religious fundamentalists -
without all of that hideousness - you don't have "chaos." What
you do have lack is of oppression, otherwise known as
freedom! People are basically reasonable social animals, if left
unmolested. But, we are never left "unmolested" now, are we?

We're pressured into joining the U.S. military so we can be
trained how to murder people, who are very much like us, poor
and disempowered, but they live in countries that have
resources that U.S. corporations want to profit from &/or have
impudent governments, usually initially trained to be evil by the
U.S. but who have demonstrated an independent streak. Of
course, they may very well be deadly to their own people,
being predatory governments, themselves, taught how to
repress their own people in places like the "School of Assassins"
down in Georgia. Manuel Noreiga, Osama bin Ladin, even
Saddam Hussein had the CIA seal of approval starting out.

How and why can you give the American genosadists any
credence? How can you sit by through a decade of
infanticide in Iraq and still wonder why they now might possibly
"hate us?" Wouldn't you??? Their "crime" is that they live in
another country that the U.S. government is in the process of
demonizing and pulverizing, while turning ordinary citizens into
their bloody accomplices! How can we live like this? Where's
the goddam outrage I'd like to know? Where's the courage?

That, to me, is cause for revolt on every level! I'm not willing
to live my one and only life as a disgusting anti-human living lie/
order-taker! It's not worth any phony promise of "safety."

In fact, I'm not willing to put up with any of this absurd
nonsense! It's called being responsible to yourself and others.
It's a pre-requisite of social legitimacy on a personal level. You
must start with yourself! I'll figure out a way to transcend my
fear, my lifetime of force-fed lies and hopelessness! In place of
the fascist's sick cry of - "Long Live Death!" I say, "Long live life,
creativity, human decency and doing what is right!" I'll strike
out on my own and seek the company of real people, whether
I have to live in the *Fahrenheit 451* forest, or not! As well, I'll
figure out ways to warn and educate many people I meet. For,
it is a crisis situation and everything is not "all better!"

forces upon the rest of the world. We've a uniquely 11
important mission in the belly of the beast. A lot
depends on how hard and smart we are going to work!
Platitudes don't cut it! We've got to roll up our
sleeves and begin survival programs in the hardest hit
areas. The Ten Point Program of the Black Panther
Party, stands up amazingly well as a blueprint for what
needs to be understood and done in the Black community.
That's the truth, folks!

Without prisons, there would be no "criminalization
of a generation," racist drug war, massive round-ups,
despair, hopelessness... Imagine! We'd have no need for
smarmy lawyers, Nazi judges and lizard-like prosecutors.
No prisons would mean we have finally won and slavery
itself would be abolished! It would mean the arch-
criminals, those lavished with praise millionaires, who
so arrogantly and heartlessly orchestrate the murder and
torture of many poor people in this world, have *finally*
been brought to justice! It would mean an end to state
predation.

To get to this goal of genuine equality, we must
seriously educate ourselves in careful detail, so we can
empower ourselves and dedicate ourselves fully and most
effectively to the struggle and genuinely become Red
Heart warriors that others will feel compelled to
emulate and struggle with. We must seriously
demonstrate our righteousness consistently and bravely.

To do that, we need two things. We must learn from
our elders, who have proven their worth in the crucible
of struggle, and we must open ourselves to the energy,
passion, yearning and desires of our youth. For, it is
their future that is now a life or death issue! In
their hands rests the fate of Mother Earth herself.
They must save the world for *their* children!

Out of the hell that is prison, are forged some of
our bravest, most insightful soldiers. We must learn
from the Malcolm X's, George Jackson's and Lucy Parsons
of today - who haven't already been killed off, in their
sleep or in their cells, beat down or drugged into
submission. These are *our* warriors!

These young black men were not born to be
criminals! But, they *have* been criminalized! They're
no longer needed for field slave labor or even wage
slave labor. But, as *prisoners*, they are worth \$30,000
to \$40,000 per man or woman, per year, to an exploding
punishment industry! Their prison slave labor, although
increasing, is but icing on the cake! This "growth
industry" is all funded by tax dollars that the
government takes from us - not to improve our
communities - but to massively incarcerate us! Think
about it!

For these and many more reasons, we are organizing
a prison abolition conference this August 13 - 15, at
UIC. Angela Davis is perhaps the most well-known prison
abolitionist. We'll have electrifying guest speakers
from all over the country, such as Pam and Ramona Africa
of MOVE, Bonnie Kerness of the American Friends Services
Committee, Robert King of the Angola 3, Fred Hampton,
Jr., Aaron Patterson and many others. It's time to up
the struggle and get real frank!

Saying all that, I'd appreciate your attention, so we can learn from this unique interview with Ojore Lutalo of the Black Liberation Army. Despite being intensively tortured in one of America's Dante-esque Super-max dungeons, he remains strong, true, focused and totally human. I have pamphlets of his work, along with many other brilliant prisoners. I encourage you to contact these people and the various prisoner support groups. The movement can only grow from the ground up!

Thank you.

~ Anthony Rayson ~

* The space at UIC was rescinded by their gutless administration. We moved to Truman College and the Electrical Worker's Union Hall. Bonnie Kerness and Tom Big Warrior were unable to attend due to health reasons. Aaron Patterson was set-up and arrested days before the Prison Abolition Conference. Kathy Kelly, Lorenzo Komboa Ervin, Randy Ryder and others, did speak.



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ripped out of your very chest! Basic, mutual aid and a desire to right wrongs, mixed with an empathy for others have been replaced by a tattoo lover-boy idolatry of the almighty dollar sign in place of day by day morality! This is absolutely abominable! Hannah Arendt called it: "the banality of evil." Amerika is the most ignorant, callous and delusional society ever! The slaughter of thousands, even millions, means nothing!

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What do "hard struck" communities, such as the Black communities, which are under de facto military occupation, have to look forward to, in the hunky dory, Unbridled Snakes of Amnesia? How about a nice prison? If you're lucky and avoid the dragnets, you could work at Wal-Mart! Or maybe, you'd prefer to flip burgers at McDonald's! Have it your way! You're lovin' it! When will the seething rage surface and erupt?

Oh, but we're beyond worrying about any of these trifles. The U.S. gods have ordained us as the "greatest country in the world!" Besides, we have a baseball team in second place and a new bunch of T.V. shows coming up! There's a new scary movie I want to see, too! Our political analysts are ex-football coaches! This government boasts the biggest liars, with the most state secrets, undercover agents, chemical, biological and nuclear arsenals, which they have used often! But, none of the tens of millions of murders count, of course, because state violence never counts as "terrorism" – only the desperate responses of the targeted! Little crime is hammered on and big crime is rewarded with the utmost in slavish praise.

The "problem" with anarchists as far as the authorities are concerned, is that we refuse to say anything but the truth! They don't want this infestation of ideas to spread! That's why we are classified as a "terrorist gang" by the press, the politicians, other policy-makers and their ungodly goons in the gulags! Long live lavish lies! Truth is trouble!

All governments are organized crime! Taxes are pure extortion! Laws systematize predation! There's no such thing as "institutional racism" without coercively enforced "laws!" Court buildings are headquarters of ongoing criminal behavior, perpetrated by agents of the state. It's a vast, sordid money-making charade, greased by unctuous lawyers, prosecutors and judges, who daily railroad young black men and women, into becoming tortured captives, after the police have rounded them all up. Remember that movie, me *The Time Machine*? We are being served up to the Warlocks! And the armed menacers of society – the police – protect these sickening suit-and- tie scumbags! This whole everyday routine is

lord over an anti-human system of greed-based immiseration, for-profit criminalization, forced hopelessness and built-in, 48
recidivist incarceration. All aspects of our lives are now locked down! Freedom is slavery and war is peace!

We are at the epicenter of the penultimate degenerating dynasty, murderously creaking along, flailing and firing their evil weapons menacingly, almost indiscriminately, to one and all.

Mass murder, the Big Lie – the profanization of everyday life, is a minute by minute reality, all across this tortured world of ours. It exists as a function of coercion and lies and the prestige we, wrongfully, give this hallucinogenic American government, in particular. The ability to think and act as a genuine human being has been stolen at psychological gunpoint! We are a nation on political angel dust! We know next to nothing!

Everybody lives not to be “found out” and we know more than anything, what not to say think and do. It reminds me of Sartre, Kafka, Orwell, Chomsky, Churchill but more scarily, it reminds me of that book describing the daily, forced dreadfulness of Stalinism, described in the revelatory Russian trilogy – specifically the middle book, entitled Fear.

Our “goal” in life is to sidetrack ourselves out of fear, perhaps performing cute or clever endeavors, while we are busy abdicating our responsibility to our children’s futures! In other words, do everything in your power to *not* have to truly act upon anything of genuine importance! And all the while, act as if this is not even the actual case! I would call that being a prostitute to one’s own life! Screw signing onto racist Empire!!

Wage-slavery is over and done with? Who are we kidding? The NAFTA globalizers, who have uprooted the south Chicago land manufacturing base, replacing it with non-union, minimal wage jobs at a scarcity, have long since fled to Mexico. A \$1.00 an hour wage (without benefits) was still too much for these sweatshop slavers to pay, so they’ve moved again to places like China, where slave labor conditions are similar in oppression to what the Haymarket movement fought against. This is “communist” China gone capitalist, with a vengeance! Yet, they still have far fewer overall prisoners than the U.S. – even though they have five times as many people to subjugate! These are ultra-exploited workers, making profits for U.S. companies, much like the prison slave laborers, here at home! But do Americans even give a damn or know what the situation really is? Hardly! That societal reality – the lack of concern for the human condition and a thorazine-like ignorance of the truth, is a sure sign of generalized hopelessness, an unfought surrendering to having your soul

Don’t Become a Trained U.S. Killer &/or Casualty

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1. It is not like a regular job. Once you join, you can’t quit. If you do (go AWOL) you’re a hunted fugitive and will likely be prosecuted and imprisoned, if they recapture you. Either kill people or be jailed!
2. Even if you join the National Guard, you’ll be sent to Iraq (or Afghanistan, Haiti, etc.) and have your stay extended, at the whim of the Nazis in Washington, many of whom avoided service during Vietnam.
3. You’ll be shipped to “third world” (meaning severely exploited by the U.S.) countries to suppress and murder poor people of color – rarely to a “white” country (except to recover or die from your injuries.)
4. If you are injured or traumatized (Gulf War Syndrome, post-traumatic stress disorder, severe battle injuries, flashbacks, toxic reaction from forced immunizations, effects from depleted uranium poisoning, etc.) the government abandons you, denies your disabilities and refuses treatment.
5. Due to advances in battlefield life-saving techniques, many hundreds of U.S. soldiers are still “alive” – but barely. Their injuries are so severe (and painful) that they might as well be dead. It’s a “life” of eternal suffering.
6. The Iraq War was based on lies, deceit, imperial conquest, violates International Law and is condemned by the vast majority of the world’s people. It’s a fascist occupation of another country, not “liberation.”
7. This vile conflagration is growing into a global war of U.S. subjugation over all others, especially those of color and other religions. So, basically, you’re fighting the rich, “white,” corporate war against your own people!
8. There are other ways to fund your education and start in life – student loans, community colleges, independent education and other jobs that don’t force you to murder other people, (including women and children!)
9. Think of your family. What would they do if you are killed or severely wounded? What will you do with suicidal depression, permanent disability, constant pain, the knowledge that you’ve murdered innocent people, etc.?
10. Don’t join the U.S. military! Don’t ruin your life, just as it is beginning to flower. Your life is yours, not the property of the bloodthirsty U.S. government! Fight for human liberation, not corporate fascism!

CHICAGO

CHICAGO
A.B.C.
ZINE
#2

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LEARN
HOW, NOT
WHAT, TO
THINK...

TERRORIST #1

A B C

KEVIN
RASHID
JOHNSON '02

Art Attack

ZINE

**PRISON ABOLITION CONFERENCE
BLACK AUGUST, 2004 CHICAGO**

The fateful night of May 4th, as the several thousand person Haymarket rally was dwindling to a handful, Chicago police ⁴⁷ were set upon the crowd. A bomb was thrown and shots were fired. Some eyewitnesses claimed the shots preceded the bomb! One policeman was killed by the bomb and several were killed by police bullets. Also several demonstrators were shot to death. Scores were injured. Only the police were armed and fired weapons. I liken it to the assault on Attica, where the assault forces killed ten guards and dozens of prisoners. Those guards were also felled by "friendly fire."

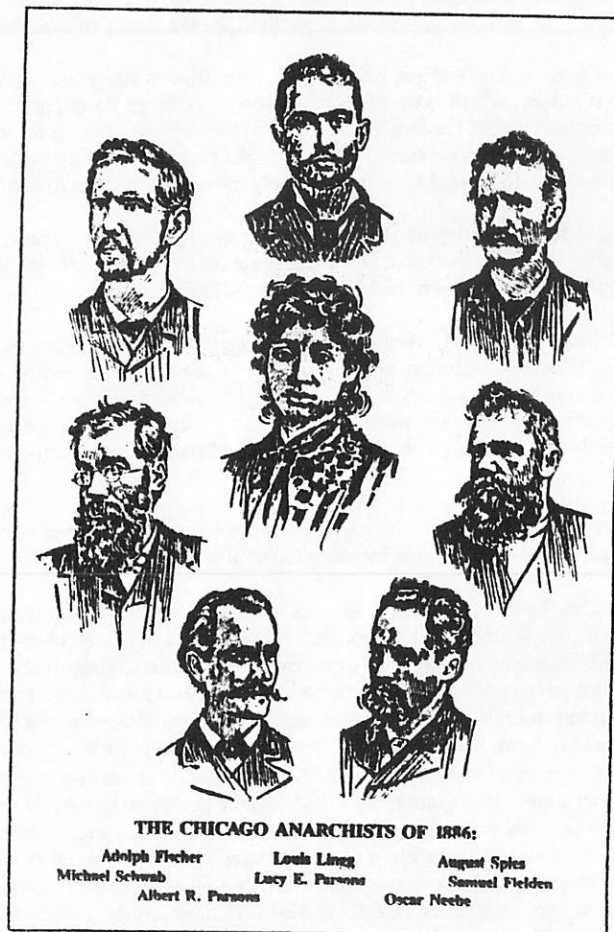
Suddenly, coordinated police actions and round-ups captured thousands of Chicago citizens, supposedly involved in "criminal behavior" because of their clamoring for simple, social justice. Seven Anarchists were singled out for particular vilification and an early, Stalinesque, although uniquely American, show trial followed. That's because the state wasn't done. Its thirst and call for blood and pogromism continued, as did their hyenas of the mainstream rags and their industrial overlords. A monstrous trial saw the Anarchists unwavering and exemplary in their humanistic oratory. Here were five John Browns - all at once! Louis Lingg died the day before, cheating the judicial hangman. There's now a Louis Lingg League!

After the rabid dog press, fed bone-lies by the order-givers, got their vicarious Abu Grhaib rocks off, the die was cast. These now four men must die to satiate the arch-criminals calling the shots. August Spies, Albert Parsons, Adolph Fisher and George Engle live forever in our heart of anarchist hearts! The "Chicago Idea" school of anarchism, which they had just begun to articulate, resounds where ever it is known!

What is so astounding and electrifying about the Haymarket "tragedy" is the crystalline awareness and steadfast courage of these unique men. The statements that somehow weren't censored, from the scaffold, thrill the souls of every single person who longs for freedom and justice. That is what immortality means, folks. You don't "die and go to Heaven." You live your one and only life, here on Earth as righteously as is humanly possible - no matter how hard the local Nazis try to make your life miserable - or you die, courageously, trying!

The blunt, clear Chicago-style anarchist truth these local heroes called forth reverberates longer and louder today - like a political "Big Bang!" than at any time in our untold history! For, we are facing the Orwellian Mammon, square in the face! The same type of monsters who choked their voices, are still running the charade. They continue to lie, kill, suppress, and

Haymarket was organized in response to the murder the night before by cops of striking workers at McCormick Reaper Works, since renamed International Harvester. Three days earlier, on May 1st, 1886, 80,000 Chicagoans marched down Michigan Avenue to spearhead the nationwide drive for the eight hour day. People were being forced to work at least twelve hours – often every day. This powerful workers' movement was concentrated in Chicago, organized by serious Anarchists... Meanwhile, the business community, their politicians and police forces were plotting a coordinated, Gulf of Tonkin type of response. Serious repression is often preceded by a set-up, to make the impending victims appear as the aggressors. Hitler did the same thing before invading Poland.



The Chicago Anarchists of 1886: A 1901 engraving.

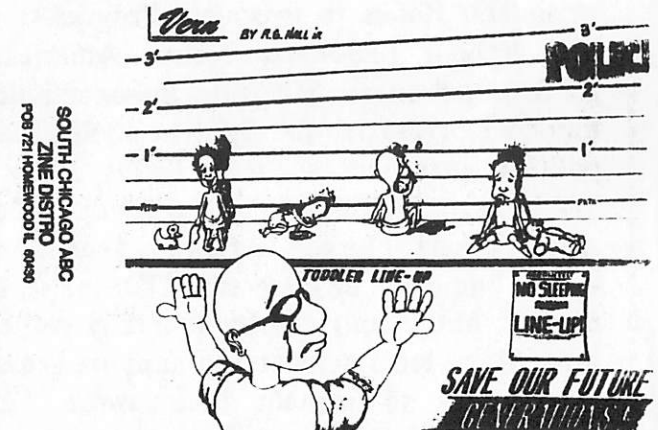
Last August in Eugene, Oregon at the Break the Chains Conference, Chicago Anarchist Black Cross agreed to host the next (3rd) such conference. The first occurred in 2002 down in Austin, Texas and from that the ABC Network was created of ABC's that are unaffiliated with ABCF.

Obviously, we want to further the work of ABCN and build on our ties with other serious prisoner support groups around the city, country and the rest of our besieged world. After all, solidarity is one of the main principles of Anarchism! Prison is the epicenter of the oppression, here at home!

Most importantly, we want to give voice to our entombed Brothers & Sisters, their families, friends and other supporters. For, they are the most articulate, insightful and dedicated Freedom Fighters in this demented society! We must learn and draw strength from them and vice versa. It behooves us to be there for them, as they are there for us!

Down with Gulag America!

Chicago ABC Collective



Workshops will deal with such subjects as: 1) how the schools funnel kids into prisons, 2) Mothers who are prisoners, 3) who the Midwest political prisoners are, as well as other political captives and what they have to say, 4) a workshop specifically conceptualized by prisoners, 5) torture of prisoners, diseases, medical neglect, rampant rape and beatings, etc. 6) hunger strikes, prisoner labor unions and other inside actions, 7) the increasing targeting and abuse of political activists, 8) what to do if you are arrested, 9) Control units, death row and the differences of the various levels, how the coercion works, 10) The correlation of war and abuse abroad and here at home.

Many other subjects shall be explored. Statements from such political prisoners as Mumia Abu Jamal and Chicago's Kathy Kelly will be heard. Plan to participate. Contact us:

708-534-1334 (Anthony) 708-339-7902 (Eraina) chicagoabc.org

Anarchist Black Cross 3rd Annual Prison Abolition Conference

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August 13-15, 2004 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

UIC Harrison & Halsted
Chicago, Illinois

**Contacts: ChicagoABC P.O. Box 721, Homewood,
IL 60430 Anthony Rayson, 708-534-1334 HACO
(Human Action Community Organization) 16028
S. Halsted, Harvey, IL 60426 Eraina Dunn, 708-
339-7902 www.chicagoabc.org**

We are planning on bringing such notables as Pam and Ramona Africa, Tom Big Warrior and Robert King, among others. Throughout Chicagoland and the Midwest are several support groups that are interested in doing presentations about various subjects. These include workshops about women prisoners; Books to Prisoners Programs; transgendered, gay and lesbian prisoners; Native American prisoners; New Afrikan prisoners; Hispanic prisoners; drug war prisoners; innocent prisoners; the fight to abolish death row; and local political prisoners such as Kathy Kelly of Voices in the Wilderness, Khalfani Malik Khaldun, Zolo Agona Azania, among others. The connection between the war in Iraq and the war at home will be dissected. AIDS, rape, hepatitis C, torture, neglect, abuse and cruelty in many respects, will be delved into. Many local activist and support groups will be given an opportunity to explain their work. Family members of prisoners will have a strong voice. It's an educational and networking opportunity that we are making a point to be inclusive about. After all, our work is about the people and the families being menaced by the state - poor and "non-white" mainly. The strength of anarchism is in organic community work. This is the third such anarchist-organized prison abolition conference whose purpose also includes specific collaboration and discussions with ABC Network chapters (and sister groups) to strengthen our network and increase our effectiveness. We want to help spawn new ABC chapters and increase the levels of support for the prisoners we work with.

Haymarket Observations

45

I had a nice, long address for you, but I'm going to spare you that. If you're interested, I have written copies and even a couple or so audio tapes of it. I'll just mention a few points I'd like to make. I'll keep the "reality check" short!

1. Haymarket is internationally important history, involving the suppression of a powerful labor movement, centered in Chicago, spearheaded by serious anarchists. It was never about "free speech!" Their voices were choked by legal lynching and the criminals responsible were never brought to any kind of "justice." They will forever be known as "freedom fighters" by those who genuinely struggle for social justice, as exemplary, revolutionary Anarchists! That is what "Haymarket" will always mean and that can't be taken away from Anarchists or those who sympathize with Anarchist ideals.
2. It is not about "free speech" now, either! This place is now a magnet for Big Brother surveillance cameras and not a place of refuge or solace. What happened here in 1886 and what it has meant since, transcends any attempt at trying to revise its meaning and turn it into a tourist trap and gateway to gentrification of the near west loop. You can and will try, but it's a lie! Eternal gratitude and strength are the legacy of these brave men!
3. The money used to do all of this was extorted from Illinois taxpayers. It came by way of Illinois First money, which is the same pile of corrupt George Ryan pork money being used to force citizens out of Eastern Will County in the Peotone area for an unwanted, unneeded airport. It could have been a grassroots effort, with voluntary contributions, but wasn't! Haymarket will always mean what it truly means - Anarchist love of humanity!
4. Anarchists were never considered for participation in the planning of this project and only got involved once we found out about it and approached the people involved, which was after all of the main decisions had been made. Although, a friendship was forged!
5. The conditions for which the Haymarket Martyrs so bravely gave their lives fighting against - wage slavery, destitution, police brutality, prison slavery, imperialist wars, authoritarian domination of *all* aspects of our lives, judicial murdering of innocents, etc., not only still exist today, but now threaten every single person on Earth and all other life forms! These threats to life *herself*, are being launched from *this* country, onto *our* world!
6. The "Chicago Idea" School of Anarchism, which these murdered men were just *beginning* to articulate, is now more important, useful and inspiring - than ever!
7. One last point. As for "terrorism" - the U.S. government has the market cornered! Mayor Daley is Chicago's biggest "terrorist!" He bulldozed Meigs Field under cover of the otherworldly bombing of Baghdad (a city even bigger than Chicago!) and also blew up dozens of densely populated, (albeit miserable) high-rise apartment buildings, throwing thousands into the streets! That is serious, *ongoing* terrorism - which the cops merely watched point for, making a mockery of their "concern" for ordinary citizens and all the crocodile tear piety about our "safety!" They truly lie about everything! State crime - be it capturing, incarcerating, shooting, forcing human beings into a miserable job, sometimes ordering young people to *murder* (mostly young - even infant!) people, here and abroad (or assault them, etc.,) lying incessantly about day by day reality - is a never-ending, constant, global *crime* against the very soul of Humanity! Thus, the need for our serious efforts - across the board - to deal with these *urgent*, cataclysmic threats.
Hurrah for Anarchy! ~ Anthony Rayson - An 'Alleged' "Chicago Idea" Anarchist ~

Wording of the Four Haymarket Plaques

44

From: Mary Brogger <mbrogger@earthlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2004 11:05 PM
To: anthonyrayson@hotmail.com
Subject: Haymarket text

Hello Anthony,
Here is the text of the four bronze panels that will appear on the "Haymarket Memorial." It has been the intention from the start of this project that additional plaques might be submitted by differing groups to be placed on the memorial as time goes on. My and Nathan Mason's main concern with the development of the policy as to how plaques get submitted and accepted is that there is no editing of voices. The way I see it, as long as the identity of each statement is clearly presented, everyone should be able to say whatever they please. I.E. "The anarchists of Illinois condemn the pretext of this memorial as a monument to the issue of freedom of speech. We view this historical event as a murderous example of..."

I'll let you know as soon as I know something new on this subject. In the meantime, I hope that you find that the text below does a fair job, in a limited space, of describing an overview of the event.

Talk again soon.
Sincerely, Mary Brogger

SITE OF HAYMARKET TRAGEDY

On the evening of May 4th, 1886, a tragedy of international significance unfolded on this site in Chicago's Haymarket produce district. An outdoor meeting had been hastily organized by anarchist activists to protest the violent death of workers during a labor lockout the previous day in another area of the city. Spectators gathered in the street as speakers addressed political, social, and labor issues from atop a wagon that stood at the location of this monument. When approximately 175 policemen approached with an order to disperse the meeting, a dynamite bomb was thrown into their ranks.

The identity and affiliation of the person who threw the bomb have never been determined, but this anonymous act had many victims. From the blast and panic that followed, seven policemen and at least four civilian bystanders lost their lives, but the victims of the incident were not limited to those who died as a direct result of the bombing. In the aftermath, the people who organized and spoke at the meeting, and others who held unpopular political viewpoints were arrested and unfairly tried, even though none could be tied to the bombing itself.

Meeting organizers George Engel and Adolph Fischer, along with speakers August Spies and Albert Parsons were put to death by hanging. Activist Louis Lingg died violently in jail prior to his scheduled execution. Meeting speaker Samuel Fielden, and activists Oscar Neebe and Michael Schwab were sentenced to prison, but later pardoned in 1893 by Illinois Governor John Peter Altgeld, citing the injustices of their trial.

Over the years, the site of the Haymarket bombing has become a powerful symbol for a diverse cross-section of people, ideals and movements. Its significance touches on the issues of free speech, the right of public assembly, organized labor, the fight for the eight hour work day, law enforcement, justice, anarchy, and the right of every human being to pursue an equitable and prosperous life. For all, it is a poignant lesson in the rewards and consequences inherent in such human pursuits.

CONFERENCIA PARA LA ABOLICION DE LAS CARCELES



13-15 de agosto
2004 | Chicago

VIERNES 13 DE AGOSTO

3-5 pm | Manifestación y
marcha a las afueras de la carcel del

Condado de Cook, Calle 26 y California

6 pm | Cena Mexicana estilo buffet

Décima Musa Restaurante, 1901 S. Loomis
\$6 por persona; Musica y conversación

SABADO 14 AGOSTO

CONFERENCIA

Truman College, 1145 W. Wilson (parada línea roja)

Películas, arte, guardería de niños,
revistas, libros, pláticas, comida gratis.

Los ponentes serán **Ramona Africa, Pam Africa,
Tom Big Warrior, Robert King, y otros invitados especiales.**

Aprenda la verdad de los sistemas carcelarios en los EEUU.
Después de la conferencia una fiesta al estilo Chicago.

DOMINGO 15 DE AGOSTO

10-6 pm

CONFERENCIA CONTINUA...

EU Hall, 37 S. Ashland

Talleres, discursos, comida.
Se realizará? redes de contacto.

?Bajo un gobierno que encarcela
injustamente, el verdadero sitio para
un hombre justo es la carcel.?

— Ricardo Flores Magon

Informes: (773) 276-9345
chicagoabc@hotmail.com

www.chicagoabc.org

prison_abolition-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

We're gathered at Ground Zero, Chicago in the U.S. war on the world. This is the hideous place the authorities drag our sons and daughters off to and do who knows what to! Beatings are pretty much standard. But how about all the assaults and suspiciously staged "suicides?" What really goes on? It's like that police station in Kosovo!

There's the notorious Abu Ghraib in Baghdad, and the equally hated, Cook County Jail in Chicago! Thousands of kidnap victims are forced through these doors, every, single day. "Justice" is what the rulers say it is and these days, we know it to mean an all-out war on the poor!

We must come to realize that government - in Washington, Chicago, Springfield, wherever, is our mortal enemy. They have no credibility! They are thieves and liars, kidnappers and murderers! Why give them any prestige, any loyalty?

They want to reinstitute the draft to force our kids to be their brutal killers in Iraq and elsewhere. The other option they're being given is prison! People cannot tolerate living under a fascist regime and hope to retain their self-respect and that of their family and neighbors without open, vocal and sustained resistance!

We must stand forward, like the people in Iraq are doing to this monstrously evil, international predator! Going along with lies has got to stop! A sane society does not rely on gulag torture chambers, police state overkill at any and all political and social gatherings and the constant bombing of other countries. That's called empire - which the whole world is against. People all around the world are counting on our homegrown resistance to start having some positive effect in stopping this Murder, Incorporated brutality.

This urban concentration camp is overflowing with our young Black, Latino and other men and women. The incarceration rate for young black men is double that of South African apartheid at its worst. It's called by the experts, a "frenzy" to incarcerate! In some cities, the rate of ensnarlment into the punishment industry for black men in their twenties is well over 50%! We're

talking Warsaw Ghetto treatment! It's worse than Russia, worse than China. It's the worst of all!

It's not the physical extermination Najaf is being made to suffer through this very day; it's a slow death. It's a stealing of one's life and

Again this year, on September 11th, many folks around the country will put on ceremonies to mark the attack three years ago. Mostly, they'll be flag-waving affairs meant to "support our troops" - our sons and daughters turned into trained killers and forced into participating in a ghastly invasion and brutal occupation in Iraq. Support "our" bloodthirsty, imperial agenda, based on lied and greed - drunk on power!

Which brings me to Haymarket... For, also in this momentous morning, the City of Chicago will host a ceremony at the site of the Haymarket "tragedy." Indeed, it is always a tragedy when the city sends its cops to suppress and kill citizens.

The time of the ceremony, which will feature the unveiling of a of a sculpture of a "bomb proof" wagon, is sometime in the morning, depending on when or if Mayor Daley shows up. Now there's a "freedom fighter" for you! He's been fighting against freedom since the day he was born!

Being sensitive to the wishes of the Haymarket Martyrs, they are hoping this will help open up the Near West Side to commercial development and increased tourism. As well, they're looking to "take Haymarket away from the Anarchists and make it a 'free speech' issue" by denying Anarchists the opportunity to speak freely.

1984 was twenty years ago, so most folks are comfortable with the idea that war is peace and freedom is slavery. The police will get a chance to speak, luckily enough. They lost several men that day, too. We can console ourselves, knowing they were at least felled from "friendly fire."

Annoyingly, Anarchists are still skulking around Chicago and insist on their morbid habit of blurting out the unbridled truth - no matter how many times they are bludgeoned into submission. They simply will not go along with the brain dead program!

Worldwide, most people harbor similar impudence, no matter how hard we try to bomb "democracy" into their autonomy-loving heads. Maybe we just care too much!

HAY MARKET!

THIS IS ALL A BIG LIE!!

LEARN THE TRUTH ABOUT

WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED

HERE & WHAT ANARCHISM

TRULY MEANS!

TO: MURDER SURRENDER
ANARCHY SLAVERY REVISIONISM
FOREVER!! EMPIRE Helplessness!!

With 2.1 million prisoners and daily round-ups occurring throughout the country - mostly of people of color, but now increasingly activists - this is a very serious situation. So, a person like me, with the talent and courage to speak genuinely freely about politics is essential - especially in this demented, McCarthy-like atmosphere we find ourselves in today. 42

The ideas of anarchism are growing by leaps and bounds, as they are so in contrast to the lies and coercive tactics of the state and their agents. Naturally, they try to paint us as wild, violent, dangerous, "gang-like" terrorists, etc. Nothing could be further from the truth and this venue will offer us an opportunity to demonstrate to one and all that we are in fact dedicated citizens interested in the welfare of people and the future of our children. We don't feel obligated to live under a regime bent on war abroad and repression at home and will not stand meekly by and allow it to happen!

I realize you are under restraints yourself. After all, you work for the city of Chicago! I also realize the decision to allow me to participate this day is not your decision alone to make. But, you asked that I write a letter, so here it is. Does the name Noam Chomsky ring a bell? He's recognized as the most brilliant political analyst and has been for decades. He's an anarchist! So was Proudhon, Peter Kropotkin, Emma Goldman, and many of the world's most selfless and brilliant thinkers.

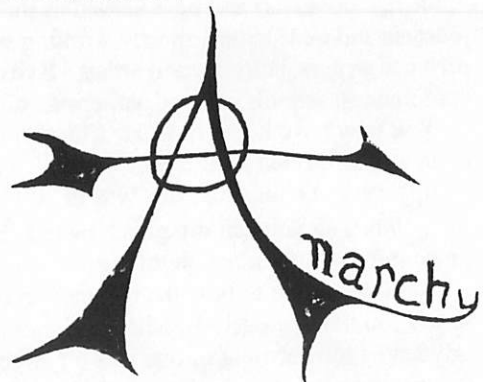
I don't really expect much to come of this. The people you work with have an agenda to "take Haymarket away from the anarchists and make it a 'free speech' issue" however disingenuous this truly is. I don't speak for anybody but myself, including other Chicago anarchists. But, I am a serious Chicagoland anarchist, who considers himself a dedicated student of the Haymarket martyrs. I am driven by a thirst for justice, peace and freedom!

"The first victims of war are the children. The second is the truth."
Take care!

Anthony Rayson

anthonyrayson@hotmail.com

P.O. Box 721 Homewood, IL 60430



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being forced to live as a targeted zoo animal. Crime and punishment is a total farce! Punishment is crime, when done by criminals!

The major criminals of this world are the ones orchestrating this vast, criminal charade! They are of course, beyond prosecution, much like their international genocide campaign cohorts.

Look at Mayor Daley! He's the town's biggest terrorist. He destroyed Meigs Field, dynamited dozens of high-rise apartment buildings and threw thousands of citizens into the streets. The cops didn't arrest him! They watched point out for him!

Only the poor get convicted of one of a million laws, written by and for lawyers to profit from. The cops, judges, politicians and profiteers also gorge on this wildly profitable punishment industry, paid for in full by the cowed and coerced taxpayers. It's a huge criminal enterprise, whose only product is human misery. It's an abomination upon the very soul of our humanity!

It's a slave system and always has been! The 13th Amendment didn't "abolish" slavery. It merely moved it into the prisons. Now the slave-prison system is in full production.

We're abolitionists! That means we are against slavery. We're against murder, genocide, racism, sexism - capitalism. For, capitalism is a slave system of economics. Like the Abolitionists of the 19th Century, we must fight this monstrous, slave system with all of our energy and fervor!

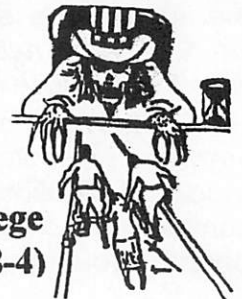
Thank you!

Anthony Rayson, Prison Abolitionist



PRISON ABOLITION CONFERENCE

August 13-15. Truman College
1145 W. Wilson (Sat/Aug. 14th 8-4)



Introductory Statement "Fight Crime!"

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First, I want to dedicate this conference to the life, spirit and loving work of May Molina Ortiz, whose life was snuffed out, while in police custody a few weeks ago. Her memory will linger in our hearts forever! I also want to thank everyone here today for coming. You could have gone to the Bud Billikin Day Parade, where 1,000,000 people are marching through Chicago's south side. It's the largest parade in the country!

Some of you have traveled from far away, such as Houston, Texas, Portland, Oregon, Lawrence, Kansas, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Boston, Massachusetts, New Orleans, Louisiana – all over the country! Some have spent months, years and even decades in the horrible prisons of America, or have loved ones penned up, as I speak. Some have lost loved ones in prison, or on the streets, either killed by police or caught up in social violence, which this extreme capitalist and virulently racist, sexist society, breeds as if in a Petri dish. There are a lot of killers loose in America today, most all of them trained and employed by the government.

For the obscene wealth of the chosen few relies on the unjust laws that only apply to the poor, heavily weighted as to race. Couple this with the colossal lie that oppression equals "freedom" and you have a seriously demented, immoral society. It is organized crime gone wild, unchecked and beyond prosecution.

In place of genuine, mutually supportive community, free will, environmental sustainability, unmolested autonomy and so forth, we have a cowed country of order takers, relentlessly badgered by fascist cheerleaders. We're supposed to be satisfied with a bought and sold escapist culture and Big Brother somnambulization, where the worth of our lives is measured in the level of the accumulation of plastic products, we don't even need. For this mockery of real social life, a monstrous edifice of oppression functions.

With 4.5% of the world's population, the U.S. usurps 30% of the world's resources! Yet here at home, tens of millions live in squalor, destitution, despair, anguish, hopelessness, homelessness and imprisonment. Hundreds of millions of people throughout the world suffer on the brink of starvation in

Nathan Mason
Public Art Program
Department of Cultural Affairs
78 E. Washington
Chicago, IL 60602

May 30, 2004

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Dear Nathan – Greetings! This letter is in regards to the upcoming event, which I believe will be held on Labor Day, 2004. I'm referring to the unveiling of the sculpture commissioned by the city at the Haymarket site. Now, we've talked about this somewhat, so you know what I'm referring to. Briefly, an event taking place at a seminal place in anarchist history, does not have any actual anarchist voices. To rectify this anomaly, I volunteer myself to articulate the anarchist position as to the real history of Haymarket, this event and how it relates to free speech, political repression and the demonization of anarchists (among others.)

I would like the opportunity to speak freely for ten minutes from the podium of this event. I assure you it will not include any profanity or personal attacks, although it will certainly be a "reality check" type of address. I believe in speaking the unbridled political truth!

I have written a rough draft of this talk and plan on delivering it during this event, whether I'm allowed to speak like the other speakers or if I have to speak from a bullhorn, or whatever. So, these anarchist ideas and the analysis I will bring this day will be heard and the text of this address will be widely disseminated. Ideas cannot be suppressed, nor imprisoned!

I believe I have legitimate credentials to speak on behalf of the anarchist position. I have done extensive argument crafting, editing and speaking. I was valedictorian at Prairie State in 1995. I have co-founded several grassroots groups, such as STAND (Shut This Airport Nightmare Down,) Southside ARA (Anti-Racist Action,) Chicago ABC (Anarchist Black Cross,) ABCN (Anarchist Black Cross Network,) Southside Citizen's Coalition and am involved in other groups, such as B-PAC (Black Political Action Committee,) Chicagoland Anarchist Network (CAN) and others.

I've written, edited, published and distributed hundreds of zines (self-published booklets) and have served as the main distributor for several journals and newsletters, mostly working with conscious and often brilliant prisoner writers, activists and artists. I've done presentations at major conferences, schools, shows, gatherings of all sorts and continue to do so.

You may have heard how our Chicago ABC collective has been spied upon and infiltrated by the Chicago police, along with four other activist groups, here in Chicago. This was in 2002. It is now 2004 (twenty years post 1984!) so you can imagine how the spying has increased, especially since they've embarked on their insane war in Iraq!

So, I can relate to how the Haymarket martyrs were set up by this city. I know I'm being closely watched and monitored, even though I have never advocated the harming of one hair on anybody's head! It is still very much a "war of words." For, make no mistake, we are at war, home and abroad.



Samuel Fielden

If you are a member of the propertied class, you can crawl out of anything you want to, for law is for sale; that is to say, whoever can purchase the lawyers, stock the jury, and bribe the court can win. There is only one law for the poor, to wit: Obey the Rich.

Albert Parsons

His last words, cried out from the scaffold, were: "Hurrah for Anarchy! This is the happiest moment of my life!"



Adolph Fischer

I protest against my being sentenced to death because I have committed no crime. I was tried... for murder, but I was convicted of Anarchy. I protest against being sentenced to death, because I have not been found guilty of murder. However, if I am to die on account of being an Anarchist, on account of my love for liberty, fraternity and equality, I will not remonstrate.

John Brown broke the laws of Virginia, to his honor be it said. Our martyrs broke no Illinois law. Judge Gary could find no law in "the books" which they had broken, and he said so. The enemy did not wait for them to break any law—they could not afford to wait for that. The murdered men were carrying on such a labor agitation as had never been known before or since. They had found them out, and the thieves saw that if they were not stopped, the whole country would be made aware of their rascalities. There is no question that for months the clubs frequented by the businessmen of Chicago were discussing the anarchists. The newspapers were full of them; the churches frequently referred to them. It may not be susceptible of positive proof that the act with which they were charged was the outcome of the deliberation of the clubs and business organizations, the procuring of the bombthrowing and the laying of the blame upon the pestiferous agitators, thereby stopping the mouths of the men who were above all others the mouthpieces of discontent and the most feared. Certain it is that an intelligent consideration of the evidence adduced at the trial, considered in connection with the conditions prevailing previously and at the time—certain it is, I say, that this conclusion would be far more reasonable than that drawn by the jury.

The state's-attorney said here that "anarchy" was "on trial."

Anarchism and socialism are as much alike, in my opinion, as one egg is to another. They differ only in their tactics. The anarchists have abandoned the way of liberating humanity which socialists would take to accomplish this. I say: Believe no more in the ballot, and use all other means at your command. Because we have done so we stand arraigned here today—because we have pointed out to the people the proper way. The anarchists are being hunted and persecuted for this in every clime



GEORGE ENGEL

Webster defines socialism thus: "A more orderly, equitable and harmonious arrangement of social affairs than has hitherto prevailed." Anarchism is aiming at this; anarchism is seeking a more just form of society. Therefore every anarchist is a socialist, but every socialist is not necessarily an anarchist. The anarchists again are divided into two factions; the communistic anarchists and the Proudhon or middle-class anarchists. The "International Working People's Association" is the representative organization of the communistic anarchists. Politically we are anarchists, and economically, communists or socialists. With regard to political organization the communistic anarchists demand the abolition of political authority, the state, we deny the right of a class or single individual to govern or rule another class or individual. We hold that, as long as one man is under the dictation of another, as long as one man can in any form subjugate his fellow man, and as long as the means of existence can be monopolized by a certain class or certain individuals, there can be no liberty. Concerning the economical form of society, we advocate the communistic or co-operative method of production.

Autobiography of Adolph Fischer

40

21 sprawling shantytowns, refugee camps &/or under the heel of death-squad type dictatorships, mostly trained, armed and ordered about from Washington. Chicago's own Kathy Kelly, who is our next speaker, just recently got out of prison, for the "crime" of stepping on the sacred ground at Fort Benning, Georgia, where the "School of Assassins" is based.

The United States has a nuclear gun to the head of every man, woman, child, plant and animal on Earth. The U.S. military has already demonstrated countless times, that mass incineration of tens of thousands of people at a time or the forced starvation of hundreds of thousands of children are merely options they can, have and will use in response to any presumed threat. They are truly pitiless and genocidal.

I think there are two basic assumptions you can either accept, reject or attempt to ignore. One is that genocide and massive imprisonment are acceptable in support of the American empire or they are not. The other is that the lives of so-called "white people" are more important than those of people of color and that to maintain this abomination of "white skin privilege" all forms of institutional crime are acceptable, either actually fought for, as a member of the military, police or imprisonment regiments, or acquiesced to. Or, if you don't have much protective melanin in your skin and pass as "white" you can become a "race traitor" and become a legitimate member of the human family.

Of course, to be a moral, self-respecting humanist individual, these cannot be agreed to, which can only lead to an abolitionist, revolutionary perspective and conduct. Reform may lead to an isolated lessening of suffering and that's important. But as a philosophy, it is a surrendering to the criminality of Empire.

Of course, everybody here pretty much knows all of this. But, many many do not, so relentless and pervasive is the Orwellian brainwashing, here in Amerikkka. This is backed up by the quite legitimate fear of reprisals. Look at the set-up of Aaron Patterson, just last week, two days after a judge ordered Jon Burge from his vacation nest in Florida to begin to answer for his torturing of suspects. At least Aaron is still alive, unlike May Molina Ortiz!

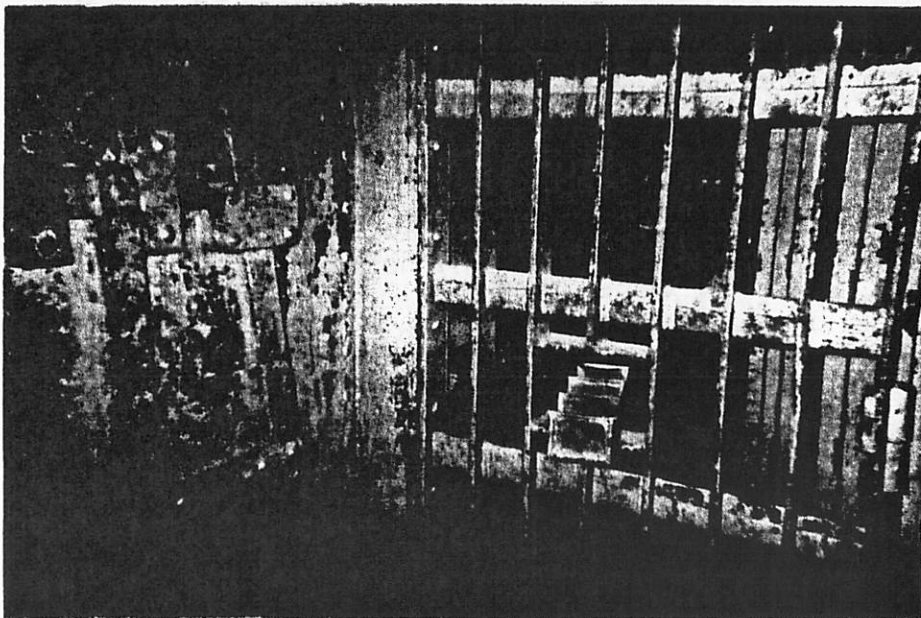
But overcome our fear we must. It's high time to reclaim our birthright and dignity, which is that of a highly intelligent and adaptive, caring, mutually supportive and spiritual social animal. Social harmony cannot be coerced!

WAR IS TERRORISM

So, why are we here? We're here to bring out the brutal truth concerning all aspects of America's most sickening secret here at home – the vast punishment industry. Slavery never ended! Check the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution! Prisoners are legally considered slaves. Lawsuits brought forth by prisoners challenging their enslavement by the prisons, have been dismissed by the U.S. Supreme Court, citing this clause of the Constitution. It's the ultimate in cynicism and hypocrisy to claim this as a beacon of rights and freedom, when in fact, it has always been a slaver's document!

The economy is also slave-based and always has been in America! Corporations are fascist organizations, which the political and legal institutions cater to. Tens of millions toil in slave-like working conditions and millions more are locked out of even that, ripe as raw material for the prison slave system.

Amazingly, Martha Stewart got five months. Every now and then, they go after one of their own, for the wrist slap treatment, although the Tyco guy was just acquitted. Enron can devastate the futures of tens of thousands of workers without any real consequences. Meanwhile, a black kid on the corner with a little crack rock in his pocket, will almost automatically receive a ten year sentence, without so much as a blink of the eye from a judge. This type of "justice" happens tens of thousands of times every day in the assembly lines of injustice – the courts.



HAYMARKET ANARCHISTS MURDERED FOR ADVOCATING REVOLUTION !

FISCHER: Hurrah for anarchy—

ENGEL: Hurrah for anarchy!

FISCHER: This is the happiest moment of my life!

Chicago anarchists, just before being hanged for
"conspiracy" in the Haymarket bombing,
November 11, 1887

GOVERNMENT IS FOR SLAVES;
FREE PEOPLE GOVERN THEMSELVES.

Albert Parsons

I tell you frankly and openly, I am for force. I have already told Captain Schaack, "if they use cannons against us, we shall use dynamite against them."

I repeat that I am the enemy of the "order" of today, and I repeat that, with all my powers, so long as breath remains in me, I shall combat it. I declare again, frankly and openly, that I am in favor of using force. I have told Captain Schaack, and I stand by it, "if you cannonade us, we shall dynamite you." You laugh! Perhaps you think, "you'll throw no more bombs"; but let me assure you I die happy on the gallows, so confident am I that the hundreds and thousands to whom I have spoken will remember my words; and when you shall have hanged us, then—mark my words—they will do the bombthrowing! In this hope do I say to you: I despise you. I despise your order, your laws, your force-propped authority. Hang me for it!



LOUIE LINGG

"Anarchy" is Greek and means, verbatim, without ruler-ship; not being ruled. According to our vocabulary, anarchy is a state of society in which the only government is reason.

MICHAEL SCHWAB, courtroom speech after being sentenced to hang for Haymarket bombing (later commuted), 1886



Now as to anarchism. Anarchism is order without government. We anarchists say that anarchism will be the natural outgrowth of universal co-operation (communism). We say that, when property has vanished and education is common property of the people, that then reason will reign supreme. We say that crime will belong to the past and that erring brethren can be righted by other means than those of to-day. Most of the crimes of our days are engendered directly by the system of to-day, the system which creates ignorance and misery.

Anarchism does not mean bloodshed; does not mean robbery, arson, etc. These monstrosities are, on the contrary, the characteristic features of capitalism. Anarchism means peace and tranquility to all. Anarchism, or socialism, means the reorganization of society upon scientific principles and the abolition of causes which produce vice and crime. Capitalism first produces these social diseases and then seeks to cure them by punishment.

Now, if we cannot be directly implicated with this affair, connected with the throwing of the bomb, where is the law that says "that these men shall be picked out to suf-



August Spies

Whoever prescribes a rule of action for another to obey is a tyrant, usurper and enemy of liberty. This is precisely what every statute does. . . . In other words, a statute is the science of rascality, or the law of usurpation.

Albert Parsons

Every great robbery that was ever perpetrated upon a people has been by virtue of and in the name of law.

Albert Parsons

We have recently learned that the A Zone collective has invited Bill Adelman to speak at one of their events. We urgently request that this invitation be rescinded in the name of anarchist solidarity and in the spirit of the Haymarket martyrs. Please do not perpetuate what we have come to view as the "second Haymarket tragedy".

At the recent small, but vocal, demonstration against the statist commemoration ceremony at the Haymarket monument, we were encouraged by the presence of an A Zone contingent. We had visions of, perhaps, a closer relationship with the A Zone collective. Or were these merely illusions? Inviting Adelman in to speak would dash any hopes of future solidarity.

We would not presume to decide matters for the A Zone. Your actions are clearly up to you. We are asking you to reconsider your decision for the health of the local movement. Passions are running high over this issue. While we acknowledge your right to invite Mr. Adelman to speak and, certainly, his right to speak, we also feel that the event could attract a very hostile audience which could express its unwillingness to tolerate Mr. Adelman's scalpels-to-history butchery of the anarchist legacy. The anarchist martyrs themselves would cry out at the injustice.

You may, perhaps, be answering that uninviting Mr. Adelman would be an authoritarian ploy denying the open exchange of diverse points of view. Do not be deceived! It is Mr. Adelman who is the spokesman, the apologist for authority. He has not innocently misinterpreted history. He will not be persuaded by the gentle arguments of appreciative "anti-authoritarians". Adelman, the Illinois Labor History Society, the labor politicians who spoke at the government plaquing of the Haymarket monument, their priest, and their brass bands, have an agenda. That is Social Democracy! Social democracy has never been a friend to the people or to the anarchist movement. It is but one cloak from the costume closet of the state. Mass graves of comrades from the Urals to the Andes attest to this. These people are the enemies of freedom, the enemies of anarchy!

The Haymarket martyrs were social revolutionaries. They lived and died for their ideals. They made it clear at every turn, in their editorials, in their speeches, in their trial testimony, on the gallows! We cannot allow the Adelman erasure to continue. He already has his forum. He has his politicians, his business agents, his friends in the local papers. We beseech you not to give him yet another forum for his whitewash. Let us preserve our anarchist history and rescue it from the footnotes of a statist rewrite.

"Hurrah for anarchy!"

In Hopeful Solidarity,

Steve Craig
Some Chicago Anarchists

Albert R. Parsons

Anarchists propose to "crop off the head" of the private-property beast. . . . It is more than probable, however, that in the effort to slay this "monster" it will be necessary to "crop off" the heads of a large number of its progeny (capitalists), who will stoutly defend the life of their parent.

**IS IT NOT COMPLETE HYPOCRISY TO LOVE
THE MARTYRS AND HATE THEIR ANARCHISM?**

LOUIE LINGG LEAGUE c/o S C A
Box 163 1340 W Irving Pk. Chicago, ill. 60613



Murder, kidnapping, torture, extortion, rape – these are serious crimes! They're also the definition of what America does to people, here and abroad. The real crimes and the real criminals, whether perpetrated by the policies of government or industry are never even thought of as up for consideration as criminal behavior!

So, you have a situation where America sent 57,000 Americans to their deaths in Vietnam, killed 3 million plus, and ruined a whole sub-continent. Yet, one of the arch-criminal masterminds of this decades-long genocide, Henry Kissinger, can blithely state: "We should have never been there, but that's 'history!'" During the mid-late seventies, most of the prisoners in the states were Vietnam veterans! "Welcome home" from the government that put you through this hell!

Meanwhile, several hundred thousand young people today, are having the best years of their lives nightmarishly destroyed by being held captive by the state in one of their hideous gulags for the "crime" of the possession of a medicinal plant that grows wild! This may very well be utterly insane, but it is the reality that we are forced to deal with.

Tens of thousands of others are innocent of the charges they were convicted on, sentenced by nebulous "conspiracy" laws, convicted of "crimes" without victims, or guilty of criminal behavior that is dealt with by the systematic crime of for-profit punishment by a slave-based regime. This incarceration industry, whose sole product is human misery, is wildly profitable because it is primarily funded by working stiff's, who, after their companies rip off their labor for profit, the government steps in and rips them off again in taxes. For this, we're expected to be ever so grateful and willing to offer up our sons and daughters to become trained killers in their imperialist wars and also to help suppress their fellow citizens, here at home! It's called "democracy!"

We're here to network our asses off! We must get to know each other – replace animosity and suspicion with respect. Let's not cointelpro ourselves! We can learn from each other, listen to those who've been there, done that and had their loved ones wrenched from their embrace. We need to embolden each other, gain resolve and receive valuable instruction from those chained in the dungeons of America, today. We have to pool our resources and support each other's projects. Solidarity is the only way to increase the



Hungry for Change A malnourished boy lies in bed at a feeding center in Awassa, Ethiopia. After decades of drought and famine, around 4 million Ethiopians require food aid.

pressure on the authorities to help our incarcerated Brothers and Sisters gain some relief.

Of course, our big goal is to free the slaves and get the governmental monkeys off of our backs, altogether! We're Abolitionists which means we are against slavery.

Mostly, we want real freedom, genuine justice – total liberation. We want an end to coercive authority, an end to oppression. People are fully capable of living harmoniously without the Paul Wolfowitz's of this world and their trained goons unleashing human carnage all of the time! We want our prisoners set free! We want this monstrous, criminal system abolished. We are against crime and the system that breeds it. So, the mass murderers running the show have to be stopped. We need successful revolution!

To get to there from here will require our utmost efforts. We must jack up our agitational and educational efforts, several notches. We can't tippy toe, with hat in hand in the face of this Murder, Inc. system. We must demonstrate some courage, dedication and consistency to the communities suffering the worst from this incarceration frenzy – this holocaust in the Black community.

We are the steward's of our children's futures. Many young people today see their future as one of three things – an early grave, gang-pressed into a murderer's army or forced into a prison cell. Malcolm said it best: "By any means necessary."

Thankyou. Anthony Rayson / Chicago Anarchist Black Cross

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Long Live Anarchy!


Jon Bekken, member
Lucy Parsons Collective

7 July 1998

Fellow Workers,

I was shocked to learn yesterday that the A Zone is planning on hosting a talk by the notorious falsifier Bill Adelman next week, especially so soon after his role in the desecration of the Haymarket Monument. I am writing to urge you to withdraw this invitation, and to let Adelman know in no uncertain terms that you will not stand idly by while he parades his slanders and lies against our martyrs.

Bill Adelman is notorious the whole world over for his efforts to paint the Haymarket Martyrs as Jeffersonian Democrats, flag-waving Americans, etc. In his tour guide on Haymarket and in his talks he has never once admitted that the Martyrs were revolutionary anarchists, dedicated to tearing down this rotten capitalist system. Instead, he tries to steal the legacy of our movement and our martyrs for the labor fakers who butter his bread. When Adelman was wandering the city back in 1985-86, trying to harness the Haymarket Martyrs to the Democratic Party, his goons attacked Fred Major and I when we challenged him during one of his lying speeches. (Fortunately eight Stalinist goons were no match for two anarchists, and we were not seriously injured.)

Just two months ago Adelman and company hijacked the Haymarket Monument – built with contributions from anarchist workers, many of them living in the most desperate of circumstances – for a National Park Service ceremony installing the monument into the government's registry of historic sites. Adelman and company arranged to have a sky pilot desecrate our Martyr's graves with pious ravings, a chorus and brass band sing "America the Beautiful," and an endless parades of labor fakirs and bureaucrats and politicians to abuse their memory. Anarchists who attended to tell the truth about the Haymarket Martyrs were assaulted and threatened with arrest.

I can not understand how an anarchist organization could invite so despicable a slanderer of our dead to speak from its platform. I urge you to reconsider this bizarre decision.

Daley backs plan to name park after anarchist

BY FRAN SPIELMAN
City Hall Reporter

Mayor Daley on Tuesday embraced the Chicago Park District's aim to name a Northwest Side park after a self-declared anarchist whose husband was executed in connection with the killing of a Chicago police officer during the 1886 Haymarket Riot.

Daley said the Park District is "paying tribute to women" in general and a "social reformer" in particular by naming a plot at 4712 W. Belmont Lucy Ella Gonzales Parsons Park.

"We're honoring Lucy Parsons. I'm not honoring her husband. . . . As an individual, she was highly regarded among social reformers for her efforts to promote civil rights," Daley said. "Please don't blame the wife because of her hus-

band's actions. That is sexist."

The city, through its Department of Cultural Affairs, already recognizes Lucy and Albert Parsons with a "marker of distinction" at 1908 N. Mohawk, where the couple once lived.

Fraternal Order of Police President Mark Donahue, who is marshaling opposition to the park naming, called the "sexist" label absurd. He said opposition to Lucy Parsons has nothing to do with her husband.

"The woman was an anarchist. She promoted the overthrow of the government and the use of dynamite in getting their way, [including] a dynamite bomb thrown into the midst of police officers at the scene" of the Haymarket Riot,

Donahue said.

If Daley is searching for deserving women to honor, he should look no further than his political nemesis, Jane M. Byrne, Donahue said.

"It's a travesty. The first woman to be mayor of this town should have a proper place of recognition somewhere in this city. I don't see her name anywhere," Donahue said of Byrne, who has long been a favorite among police officers for granting them their first written contract.

According to Park District policy, a person must be deceased for at least a year before a park can be named in his or her honor.

Contributing: Andrew Herrmann



Lucy Parsons
To be honored

DID WE TRULY DIE IN VAIN?

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This is the ultimate insult! The very state against which we struggled, the very state that murdered us for our anarchist ideals, that very state is now to be guardian of our monument? That is beyond irony. It is a mockery! It is a dishonor to our memory.

Remember, we are anarchists, first and foremost. We have always been revolutionary anarchists. We weren't 'labor leaders' or 'activists for social reform'. Most of us even rejected the 8-hour movement. Remember our words in Albert Parsons' *The Alarm* in December 1885: "Let us take what we can get, say our eight-hour friends, else by asking too much we may get nothing. We answer: Because we will not compromise. Either our position that capitalists have no right to exclusive ownership of the means of life is a true one, or it is not. If we are correct, then to accede the point that capitalists have the right to eight hours of our labor, is more than a compromise, it is a virtual concession that the wage-system is right."

How can you forget our trial? The state made it clear that anarchy was on trial. We were sent to the gallows for our anarchist beliefs. We used the trial as our forum, rail as we did against all government, you obscure our words with more calls to government, with more paeans to social democracy, with more speeches by reformist historians. Please reject their lies.

Remember Adolph Fischer's words at our sentencing: "If a centralized power--government--is ruling the mass of the people (no matter whether this government 'represents the will of the majority of the people' or not) it is enslaving them, and a direct violation of the laws of nature."

Please stop defiling this monument to our cries for freedom, our cries for anarchy! Keep the state's bloody hands off our memory. Keep the revisionist historians and their 'commemoration' speeches from making our ears bleed anew. How final can we make our plea? We can only repeat our final words from the gallows--

"HURRAH FOR ANARCHY!"

LUCY PARSONS

Lucy Parsons, the Black woman Anarchist militant, fought for the rights of workers, Blacks and women in the USA.

In her speech to the founding conference of the revolutionary union - the Industrial Workers of the World - in 1905, Lucy Parsons paid close attention to the oppression of working class women. She noted how that oppression was used by the bosses to reduce the wages of the entire working class: "We, the women of this country, have no ballot even if we wished to use it... but we have our labour... Whenever wages are to be reduced, the capitalist class uses women to reduce them."

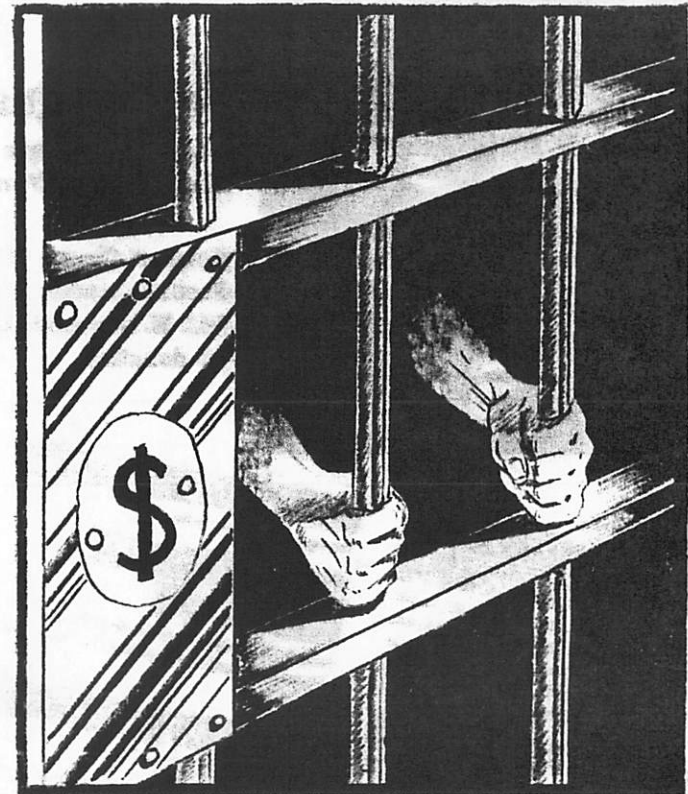
At a time when the left tended to ignore the plight of prostitutes, Lucy Parsons told the conference that she also spoke for "my sisters whom I can see in the night when I go out in Chicago".



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HAYHARKET



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**David
Boykin**

According to the Chicago Reader, Boykin "sounds like he could have come out of the New York free-jazz renaissance of the 90s, but he's in fact one of Chicago's best kept secrets." Boykin hosts a weekly improv jazz jam every Sunday Night at Pilsen's Cafe Mestizo.

Nikki Patin

Honed by the Chicago winds, her poems/songs range from deeply contemplative self-explorations to scathingly honest commentaries on body image, race, and gender.

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DROP THE CHARGES AGAINST THE HALSTED 3!

Robert Bernstein, Jeremy Hammond, and Neal Rysdahl

The Halsted 3 are facing false felony charges resulting from a police riot that occurred at the Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade of 2004. A verbal confrontation ensued between anti-gay extremists and the queer anarchist contingent, organized by the Queer and Trans Caucus of the Chicagoland Anarchist Network and invited to the parade by Equal Marriage Now.

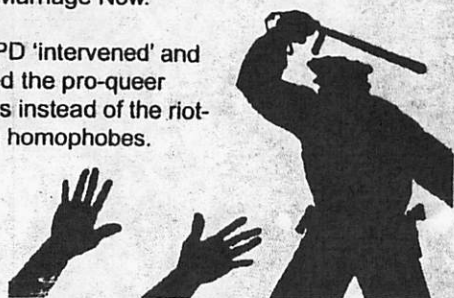
The CPD 'intervened' and arrested the pro-queer activists instead of the riot-inciting homophobes.



Robert Bernstein attacked by anti-trans CPD officers at the Gay Pride Parade



Jeremy Hammond thrown to ground and scapegoated for Gatorade 'attack' on CPD



STOP THE VIOLENCE - DROP THE CHARGES!

Help is needed to ensure that these community activists avoid felony convictions. See reverse side for details on supporting the Halsted 3.



On Sunday, June 27, on the 35th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion, Chicago's Gay Pride Parade was set to begin. The anti-capitalist contingent initiated by the Queer and Trans Caucus of the Chicagoland Anarchist Network (CAN) was participating after a long feeder march through several adjacent neighborhoods. Unbeknownst, a group of anti-gay religious extremists were fraudulently invited to participate in the Pride Parade by Republican "Family Values" Congressional candidate for the 4th District, Anthony Lopez-Cisneros. The homophobic bigots invaded the parade carrying signs that read "God Hates Fags," "Homosexuality is a Sin" and "AIDS is a Cure Not a Disease" and marched two blocks before running into the queer anarchist contingent. III. When the Fred Phelps-style religious fundamentalists were confronted by the anarchist contingent along with several members of Chicago Anti-Bashing Network and Equal Marriage Now, the homophobes became even uglier and attacked queer and pro-queer anarchists while yelling anti-gay epithets. In the ensuing moments, police arrested three participants in the queer anarchist contingent, each of whom were later charged with two felony counts of aggravated assault on a police officer and resisting arrest, and one count of misdemeanor reckless conduct. None of the homophobic thugs were arrested.

We are outraged that the police can target, harass, beat and arrest three queer/pro-queer activists on our day of celebration, on our day of pride. We Demand that the charges against the Halsted 3 are dropped immediately.

Voices in the Wilderness

A Campaign to End the UN/US Economic Sanctions Against the People of Iraq

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Conference Exposes Crimes of Prison System

By Lou Paulsen, Chicago

Activists, including former prisoners, gathered in Chicago on Aug. 13-15 to expose the crimes of the U.S. prison-industrial complex. The third national Prison Abolition Conference, organized by Chicago Anarchist Black Cross, featured a demonstration at Cook County Jail, workshops, and an impressive lineup of speakers.

Aaron Patterson, an African-American activist and exonerated death row inmate, was scheduled to be a featured speaker—but was being held in solitary confinement in a federal lockup. Patterson was arrested on Aug. 5 on drug and gun charges.

Supporters say that his arrest is a racist frame-up intended to derail his damage lawsuit against the Chicago police for torturing him and framing him for the murders of an elderly couple in 1986.

Despite testimony from ministers and community activists that Patterson has been an "asset to the community" since Gov. George Ryan pardoned him in January 2003, Judge Morton Denlow, relying entirely on the government's assertions, has ordered him held without bail.

Pam Africa and Ramona Africa, of the MOVE organization and the International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal, called on participants to work to free Patterson and all the victims of Chicago Police Lt. Jon Burge. Burge has sent as many as 100 African-American men to prison by torturing false confessions out of them.

"When Aaron got out, he didn't just say, 'I'm out, that's cool,'" said Pam Africa. "He understood that the DA and the cops must be exposed. We must have massive

demonstrations at the prison and the homes of the judge and the DA, in the neighborhoods where they're seen as acceptable."

She also called for unity in demanding Mumia Abu-Jamal's freedom from Pennsylvania's death row. And Africa encouraged people to organize for the Million Worker March on Washington, set for Oct. 17.

Kathy Kelly of Voices in the Wilderness spoke movingly of the women prisoners she had met while serving a three-month federal sentence in Pekin, Ill., for participating in an anti-war demonstration. The median sentence at this minimum-security women's prison is over eight years, mostly for first-time non-violent offenses.

"Why are these women kept there, away from their children?" she asked. "They aren't dangerous; the only fence there is around the visitors' area."

The women are used as a labor force for the adjoining male high-security prison, where the median sentence is 27 years and the prisoners are locked up almost continuously. Products of the prison industries include parts for military personnel carriers and cages used for deporting immigrants.

Robert "King" Wilkerson of the Angola Three described how he joined the Black Panther Party in the Louisiana prisons in 1971, was framed for murder and held for 29 years in solitary confinement. Wilkerson was exonerated in 2001, but Albert Woodfox and Herman Wallace are still in the Angola, La., penitentiary, after being convicted in the killing of a guard.

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SIX REASONS TO QUESTION THE IDEA OF "MENTAL ILLNESS"

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- 1) There's no legitimate proof that anything typically called mental illness—the conditions labeled clinical depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, manic-depression, schizophrenia, attention-deficit disorder, bulimia, alcoholism, etc.—is caused by a "genetic defect" or "chemical imbalance." All the research claiming these are "brain disorders" is done by those with a financial and/or political stake in convincing people that emotional problems are illnesses that need medical treatment.
- 2) Medical treatments for "mental illnesses" are much less effective and much more dangerous than we're told by doctors and drug companies. Psychiatric drugs don't "correct" anything—they "work" through a placebo effect and by suppressing normal brain function. These drugs can cause many significant problems, including irreversible neurological disorders, addiction, a risk of violence to self or others, depression, damage to the reproductive system, and extreme withdrawal symptoms. Electroshock generally causes severe memory loss. People should be able to choose to use drugs—with real informed consent—but no one needs these treatments. Safe, non-medical alternatives are possible, and should be emphasized.
- 3) Though doctors claim "mental illness is like any other illness," psychiatry is the only branch of medicine based on force and coercion, seeking out "patients" and treating them whether they like it or not, "for their own good" and for "public safety," because "the mentally ill" may be "a danger to themselves or others." But psychiatrists can't predict dangerousness, and self-destructive people aren't helped through incarceration in institutions, seclusion and restraint, forced drugging and shock. And since people under 18 have very few rights, all psychiatrically labeled youth are involuntary patients by definition.
- 4) The concept of "mental illness" is a form of social control over people who haven't broken laws, a way to label, isolate, and punish those whose emotional suffering, creativity, spirituality, sexuality, or political beliefs annoy or disturb others. Psychiatrists function as a sort of *emotion police* and what's defined as "mental illness" and "mental health" is influenced by current societal biases, not science.
- 5) Like all types of eugenics, biopsychiatry is used to cover up social injustices by locating problems in individual people who need to be "fixed." It's the ultimate form of *blaming the victim*—people react to society's oppression and alienation by becoming sad or crazy, then are treated as inferior. Why pay attention to power/wealth imbalances in the world if you think you've got imbalances in your head?
- 6) The mental health system claims that calling emotional problems medical illnesses will "reduce stigma" and people will take these problems seriously. But it does just the opposite, convincing physically normal but troubled people that they're defective and should be treated differently for the rest of their lives. It says their pain has no meaning—it's just the symptom of an illness, that they can't do anything to help themselves but must rely on doctors and drugs indefinitely, that they can't turn to friends and family when they're hurting but must see experts instead. The medical model of "mental illness" can keep us isolated from each other and afraid to change the world.

By Katherine Hodges (hoydenish@aol.com) 2000

For Immediate Release: Dated July 12, 2004
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First Court Hearing Date for 3 Pride Parade Arrestees (Halsted 3)

Arrestees face felony charges of aggravated battery in altercation with anti-gay fundamentalists who invaded the Parade.

[Chicago] On Thursday July 22nd at Branch Court 42 (Belmont and Western, Room 2) at 9 am, defendants Robert Bernstein, Jeremy Hammond, and Neal Rysdahl will attend their first hearing regarding the altercation that occurred at the Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade involving a confrontation between anti-gay protesters and the Queer and Trans Caucus of CAN, culminating in the arrest of the 3 anarchist pro-queer activists.

The incident stemmed from Republican "Family Values" Congressional candidate for the 4th District Anthony Lopez-Cisneros who fraudulently invaded the Pride Parade with a contingent of homophobic religious fundamentalists. We're asking why the three defendants were arrested, rather than the bigots who violently ambushed Pride. In turn, why did Chicago police officers perpetuate the violence by assaulting the 3 defendants and other Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and straight allies?

Outside the Branch Court 42 (Belmont and Western) there will be a support rally in defense of the Halsted 3 at 9:00 am. We demand that Cook County State's Attorney Dick Devine drop all the charges against the Halsted 3 immediately. Following the court hearing there will be a press conference outside Branch Court 42. We are inviting all members of mainstream, GLBT and independent media.

Later that night, on Thursday July 22nd at No Exit Café (8970 N. Glenwood) at 8:00 pm there will be a benefit to raise funds for the Halsted 3. The evening is part of an ongoing queer words and music night called Homolatte, which is hosted by Scott Free. Scott Free will be performing original music from his two previously released CDs as well as a forthcoming CD. Liberte unLocked and Jennie Mutation from the Queer and Trans Caucus of the Chicagoland Anarchist Network will be the featured readers. Chris Piss from the melodic queer punk band Three Dollar Bill will be performing a rare solo acoustic set.

Legal defense contributions can be made payable to the Chicago Anti-Bashing Network (CABN), with "Halsted 3 Defense" in the memo, and sent to: Chicago Anti-Bashing Network, 4404 N. Magnolia Suite #420, Chicago, IL 60640.

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BOOKS TO WOMEN PRISONERS
Chicagobwp.org



STOP the FRAME UP of AARON PATTERSON

**Once again, Aaron Patterson has been kidnapped and framed!
Once again, THE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE IS NEEDED TO FREE
AARON PATTERSON/the Chicago 3!
Stop the Frame! Free Aaron Patterson!**

International Spokesperson: Chairman Fred Hampton Jr., Prisoners Of Conscience Committee, P.O. Box 368255,
Chicago, IL 60636, Stillnotfree@sfbayview.com

As the torture continues... **So does the Resistance!**

Aaron Patterson was kidnapped, framed, and tortured by the infamous Lt. Jon Burge and his terror unit at area 3 police headquarters for the 1986 killings of Vincent and Rafaela Sanchez. The blood stained walls, electroshock of sex organs, and brutal beatings of innocent men had become so widely known that area 3 was dubbed the "House of Screams."

Prosecuted by then State's Attorney (now Mayor) Richard M. Daley and Assistant State's Attorney (now State's Attorney) Dick Devine, Aaron Patterson was one of the countless numbers of innocent men who were sentenced to death. After serving 17 years on death row for a crime he did not commit, the support of the people freed Aaron Patterson!

The victim can not continue to be labeled the criminal!

- A decision came down for Jon "The Torturer" Burge to be brought back to Chicago to face questioning relative to the reign of terror and torture of Aaron Patterson and more than 60 Black men. On this same day, Aaron Patterson, Ike Kitchen, and Mark Mannie – the Chicago 3 – were kidnapped by the feds and charged with varying counts of intent to sell and/or distribute guns and drugs.

- Patterson announces run for State Representative. One day later, former Governor Ryan (who in 2003 pardoned Patterson and others on death row) is indicted by the feds with varying charges of conspiracy and fraud.

- The state claims that as a result of a 5 month investigation, Patterson/the Chicago 3, conspired to purchase, sell, and/or distribute guns and drugs. However, none of the alleged guns or drugs were in the possession of the 3 accused when arrested.

- Patterson and Kitchen, deemed a flight risk and threat to the community according to the state, have been denied bond. As stated by one of Patterson's attorneys in court... "Patterson has produced 3 credible witnesses with positive stature in the community who have testified on his behalf, stating emphatically Patterson is no danger to community and has deep roots in the community." The state, on the other hand which has the burden of proof and allegedly speaks for the community (people) has not produced 1 member of the community to support their accusation of flight risk and danger to community.

CAMPAIGN IN
SUPPORT OF

NUMBER
PRISONERS
SETTING A STANDARD FOR FURNESS

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Tribune file photo
Former Chicago Police Cmdr.
Jon Burge boasted "about
power," says the sister of a former
detective.