Notes about the Repression against Anarchists in Italy

OPERATION SCRIPTA MANENT
OPERATION PANICO
OPERATION SCINTILLA-
EVICTION OF ASILO OCCUPATO
OPERATION RENATA
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ABOUT THE REPRESSION AGAINST ANARCHISTS IN ITALY

Unfortunately, Italy has a long history of repressive operations against anarchists.

Since the Marini frame-up in 90s, the waves of repression against comrades, which brought into jail many people with charges of terrorism or criminal association, were countless. Just to name a few of the biggest repressive operations: Cervantes, Croce Nera, Ardire, Mangiafuoco, Thor, Ixodidae, Nottetempo, Fuoriluogo… These operations usually lead to several house raids in all Italy and to the arrest of several comrades who spend 1 or 2 years in pre-trial detention. Then they face trials with charges of ‘association’ and usually they are also accused of several direct actions for which the inquisitors never found any responsible. Sometime the public engagement of these comrades in the anarchist struggle and their open expression of anarchist ideas (direct actions support, prisoners solidarity, running an anarchist magazine or website and so on) is the only evidence that the prosecutors bring into the court. For this reason, in the majority of the cases all the accused are later acquitted at the trial, but only after having spent many months or years in prison.

Besides these huge operations, there is a constant small-scale repression against local anarchist groups which are especially active on the territory, for example with struggles against police repression, evictions, detention centres for migrants, jails, gentrification, corporate interests… In these cases anarchists are constantly repressed with recurring trials and spend much of their time going in and out of prison, house arrest or other restrictions of their freedom. This kind of police strategy of trying to burn out comrades with the aim of destroying the local anarchist group happens in many cities but since many years has been especially strong in Turin.

OP. RENATA

Agnese Trentin (recently been transferred to the AS2 prison section of L’Aquila prison), Giulio Berdusco, Roberto Bottamedi (both detained in Tolmezzo), Andrea Parolari and Nicola Briganti (detained in Ferrara), were transferred to house arrest on May 9.

Here the address of Stecco:

Luca Dolce
C.C. di Ferrara
via Arginone 327
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Italy

OTHER ANARCHIST PRISONERS

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09010 Uta (Cagliari) – Italy

Davide Delogu
Contrada Piano Ippolito, 1,
96011 Augusta (Siracusa) – Italy

Francesco “Jimmy” Puglisi
Casa Circondariale Roma Rebibbia – Nuovo Complesso
Via Raffaele Majetti, 70 – 00156 Roma – Italy

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Seconda Casa di Reclusione di Milano – Bollate
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Since it is impossible to relate about all the trials and repression going on, with this text we concentrate on three main repressive operations for which so many of our comrades are currently being held in prison: operation Scripta Manent, operation Panico in Firenze and the latest one, operation Scintilla in Torino.

**OPERATION SCRIPTA MANENT**

Operation Scripta Manent stroke in September 2016 with a series of house raids and arrests in all Italy. 32 comrades were accused of terroristic association and of some specific direct actions; seven of them are transferred to jail.

The investigation refers to a string of attacks claimed by FAI and FAI/FRI, which occurred between 2003 and 2012 against the armed forces (police officers, carabinieri barracks, carabinieri training centres and RIS), statesmen (mayors, a minister of the interior), journalists, firms involved in migrants’ detention centres maintenance and the director of a migrants’ detention centre. The wounding of engineer Adinolfi, executive manager of Ansaldo Nucleare, is also part of the investigation, an event that had already been dealt with in a trial and had been claimed by the Olga Nucleus FAI/FRI, namely Nicola and Alfredo, in prison since 2012 (they are also accused in this trial).

At various levels there’s also the charge of creating and participating in a subversive association (article 270bis), charges related to specific crimes (article 280) and charges of instigation to commit crime and defending crimes (article 414) because of articles, sites, blogs and anarchist editorial projects – among which an Anarchist Black Cross prisoners support group.

After more than two years, six of them are still held in jail in pre-trial detention while one is on house arrest. Because of the terrorist charge, they are held in special high-security wings inside the prisons where they are kept isolated from the rest of the prisoners and they suffer many restrictions on their mail and visits.
The Scripta Manent trial, which began in June 2017, concerns 40 years’ history of the anarchist movement. The linchpin of the accusatory theorem of this inquest is based on the distinction between ‘good’ and ‘bad’ anarchists and the repression’s instrumental interpretation of the debate within the anarchist movement. The trial distinguished itself for the use it made of debates within the anarchist movement in an orchestrated game of interpretations and differentiations, which the prosecutor in charge tried to use against the anarchists themselves, as the former is seeking to sentence our comrades and put the last twenty years of the history of anarchism and anarchist solidarity on trial. In fact, all demonstrations of solidarity expressed on websites, pamphlets, journals and posters continue to be added to the court papers.

The first part of the trial is due to end in the early months of 2019, with the first-grade sentence.   GO TO PAGE 35

OPERATION PANICO

On the 1st of January 2017 a home-made bomb exploded in front of a fascist bookshop in Florence, and a policeman from the bomb disposal unit lost a hand and an eye.

Immediately several houses of anarchist comrades were searched in the city. The police were hoping to find firearms and/or explosives. An investigation against persons unknown was launched with intention to charge someone with the offences of “manufacturing, possession, and transportation of an explosive or incendiary device to a public place” and “attempted murder”.

At the same time the police began a separate operation called “Operazione Panico” (Operation Panic) at the end of January. Several anarchist houses were searched and some comrades arrested. 35 people were directly targeted, suspected for a series of contested events which happened in the city in 2016. They were charged with the offence of “membership of a criminal organisation”. These events include an attack with clubs and bricks on the fascist bookshop, an explosion at the same

Addresses of imprisoned comrades

**OP. SCRIPTA MANENT**

Alfredo Cospito  
Nicola Gai  
Alessandro Mercogliano  

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– 44122 Ferrara, Italy  
--  
Marco Bisesti  

C.C. San Michele  
Strada Casale, 50/A  
15121 Alessandria (AL), Italy  
--  
Anna Beniamino  

C. C. de L’Aquila  
via Amiternina 3  
Località Costarelle di Preturo  
67100 L’Aquila, Italy  
--  

**OP. PANICO**

Salvatore Vespertino  
Giovanni Ghezzi  
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50142 Firenze, Italy
bookshop and distribution of anti-militarist leaflets at a local market. The operation also lead to the eviction of Villa Panico, one of Florence’s historic squats which had been occupied for the past 10 years.

On the 3rd of August, a joint nation-wide operation between the DIGOS (the police special operations unit), the ROS (the Carabinieri’s special operations unit) and the counter-terrorism police ended up in 8 further arrests: 6 in Florence, 1 in Rome and 1 in Lecce. Five comrades were charged with attempted homicide for the New-eve bombing, the others with the offence of “manufacturing, possession, and transportation of an explosive or incendiary device to a public place”. The second charge relates to a molotov attack against a Carabinieri barracks.

On August 5th, 6 arrested people were released due to lack of evidence against them. One comrade, Ghespe, is still in jail because the authorities claim to have found traces of his DNA on components used to build the bomb. Another comrade, Paska, who should have been released for lack of evidence for the events of New Years eve, is still being held in prison for alleged “membership of a criminal organisation” based on evidence gathered during Operation Panico. A third comrade, Giova, was later arrested and is still in jail. The investigation against persons unknown has therefore been incorporated with Operation Panico.

The trial for Operation Panico started in the summer of 2017 and is still going on. The first degree sentence should be released soon, between march and april 2019.

**OPERATION SCINTILLA**

On 2019 Thursday February 7, early in the morning, hundreds of cops with the help of the fire brigade stormed the Asilo Occupato, an anarchist squat in Turin that has been occupied since 1995 and was very active in the organization of social struggles (against evictions, against prisons for migrants, still a few years ago against the TAV…). People climbed on to the roof, where they resisted for over 24 hours. In the end, the cops managed to get everyone out, evict and smash the building.

**Italy, “Renata” operation: Stecco transferred to the prison of Ferrara**

We inform that anarchist comrade Luca Dolce, known as Stecco, was transferred from the prison of Tolmezzo (in the province of Udine) to the prison of Ferrara, precisely to the AS2 section (“High Surveillance 2”) where the anarchist comrades recently sentenced in the first instance trial for the “Scripta manent” operation are imprisoned. Stecco has been in prison since February 19, 2019, arrested along with seven other anarchists in the context of the repressive operation named “Renata”.
In addition to evicting the premises, the aim of this repressive operation was to arrest some people accusing them of terroristic association. The 6 arrested comrades (a seventh person is on the run) are accused of 21 attacks against companies and institutions (including the French Embassy and several Post Offices) connected to the detention and expulsion of migrants.

In the following days several solidarity gatherings took place in the neighbourhood and turned into wild demonstrations. Two comrades were arrested during the first one of these demonstrations. Two days later a big march with more than 1,000 people crossed the centre of Turin, smashing some corporate and urban targets and fighting with the police. Four people were injured and one of them is in bad conditions for being hit by a police van. Unfortunately another 8 comrades were arrested at the end of this march, were beaten by the cops and were charged with “devastazione e saccheggio” (devastation and pillage) which carry up to 15 years of prison. The day after, like almost every day, a solidarity demo was held outside of the prison of Turin where the comrades are imprisoned. Some fireworks were launched and managed to reach the inside of the prison, causing the explosion of some gas tanks which lead to the complete demolition and collapse of a section of the prison (none was injured). Sometimes “Fire to the prisons” is not just a slogan!

On the 13th of February all the comrades arrested during the march and previous demos were released and the heaviest charges were dropped, they are now free but forced to sign every day at the police station. The other comrades arrested with charges of terrorism remain in jail, the male comrades have already been transferred to a high-security prison.
Call for Solidarity with the Imprisoned of “Operazione Scintilla” following the eviction of Asilo Occupato in Turin

On Thursday 7 February 2019, at 4:40 a.m., the eviction of the squat “Asilo occupato” (“the occupied kindergarten”) in Via Alessandria 12 in Turin, occupied since 1995, began. The eviction was carried out as part of the “Operazione Scintilla” (“Operation Spark”). Several hundred Carabinieri in riot gear, police officers and Guardia di Finanza with machine guns and plain clothes police not only evicted the house, but also arrested six anarchists. A seventh person is still being searched for.

The charges are serious: formation of a subversive association, incitement to crime and the possession, manufacture and transportation of explosives in a public place. The charges are related to the resistance against the Italian migration regime, namely against the deportation camps/prisons CPR and CIE (Centro per l’Immigrazione e il Rimpatrio = Immigration and Repatriation Centre; Centro di identificazione ed espulsione = Identification and Deportation Centre).

The Asilo was evicted as part of this operation because the State regards it as the “logistical and operational base” of this “subversive, insurrectional association”.

The eviction of the Asilo was delayed by the squatters for 36 hours because some of them had retreated to the roofs. In the meantime, sympathizers organized wild demos in the city, where there were clashes with the police. The Asilo was made uninhabitable in the last few days (destruction inside, bricked up windows, etc.). A first court date for the prisoners of “Operazione Scintilla” will follow in about 15 days, i.e. on about 27 February.

During the big solidarity demonstrations there were several arrests and over 300 identity checks. Many arrested people report bruises inflicted to emerge with strength and lucidity.

With their accusations they want to throw us in a basket whose contents are more than rotten; instead we must remain uncorrupted in the face of barbarity.

Barbani continued: “Therefore it’s no longer a question of violence or non-violence; of loving or hating; of understanding or pitying; but a question of struggling strenuously with all our energy of conscious beings in order to extirpate tyranny and eliminate the yoke of material and spiritual slavery; and for this we incite each one to understand themselves in order to understand others at the same time. If tomorrow a new dawn finds us present in the reality of a revolt of the oppressed and human outcasts, we won’t disdain to be present in the uproar of barricades and even then we will be sure we are not committing violence, but are fighting violence!”

The book Memorie di un anarchico [memories of an anarchist] by Giuseppe Mariani has made me think deeply many times, helping me to gain clarity about practices and methods. I end this discourse with the words of Gigi Damiani, from the introduction to Mariani’s book: “… But history teaches us that there are times when violence becomes a social necessity. Only it is necessary, as far as possible, that it does not strike blindly or make the humble pay for the guilt of the great”.

I think that at the present moment, sadly also thanks to the State’s blows against our movement, we have the chance to talk about our ideas, practices and dreams again with even more strength. Spaces, however small, are opening up and we have to criticize reformist movements and those in bad faith. In recent months many people have been questioning various issues concerning the direction that society is taking, especially with demonstrations of opinion that unfortunately have a defensive, reformist character that we cannot share. It’s up to us, to those who agree, to create cracks and stimulate reality so that this tenuous revival of awareness goes to the roots of social problems and it doesn’t let itself be deceived by words such as democracy-rights-
the premises of the regional Direction of FSB (Russian secret services). Three officers were injured and the building was damaged. This dramatic event makes us understand that on the one hand we lost a courageous comrade and on the other the blame for what happened is the State’s. If ideas and freedom are put aside, they will react with the most courageous and determined men and women. It is social conditions that cause such events to occur. And this fact is not ‘terrorism’. Now we can mourn the lost comrade, but even more understand that the struggle must continue till deeds such as these are no longer necessary.

On 20th September 1953 an article by Mario Barbari appeared in the anarchist paper Umanità nova, where the comrade discussed a book by Giuseppe Mariani concerning the Diana episode in 1921 [on 23rd March 1921 a group of Milanese anarchists placed a bomb outside the city’s Diana Theatre, with the intention of striking police chief Gasti, who was believed to be in an apartment above the theatre. The explosion caused 21 dead and many more injured but the intended target was unharmed]: ‘And isn’t the tyrant a ravenous lion – always craving conquest– when in his despotic brutality he doesn’t spare any means against those who try to free themselves from tyranny in the fear that others become aware of the reality that is crushing them? The tyrant is therefore the genuine expression of violence, and those who fight him, are fighting against violence’.

We anarchists have to set a measure that always distinguishes us from those who use violence for their evil purposes. Malatesta called it ‘moral gymnastics’, thanks to which the meaning of revolutionary violence is different from that of the violence used by the State through its instruments and servants. One of our tasks is to bring clarity to this society based on violence, to struggle so that brutality is at last replaced by fraternity and solidarity for all humankind. Perhaps today staying human is the most difficult battle; getting away from the hatred that surrounds us is even more difficult. If we succeed our goals will be able by the police when they were arrested. At least four people had to go to the hospital because of their injuries. The accusations for the twelve people arrested at Saturday’s demonstration are devastation, looting, resisting orders, bodily harm and possession of weapons. However, in the meantime, these twelve people who were arrested at the demo are again free but have to report daily to a police station (as of 13 February).

Freely translated from the communique of the solidarity demonstration on Saturday, February 9:

‘They wage war on the poor and call it retraining. We oppose the lords of the city.’ The demo concentrated behind this banner. A multifaceted, strong demo, determined to make the hostility against those who benefit from the management of the city concrete and visible.

The atmosphere we breathed was an atmosphere of intense emotional participation in the events of the past few days and growing anger at the militarization of much of the Aurora district, a police presence that still does not seem to be diminishing and that restores the sense of “normality” that the mayor wants to impose on the city. […]

The demo fought its way through the streets, leaving barricades of burning dumpsters and shattered cars behind. […] Unfortunately, a final police action at the end of the demo caused the arrest of twelve demonstrators and the injury of four.

[…]

Yesterday’s demo is only the beginning, now it’s time to start a fierce battle that will produce a new flower from the ashes of this repressive operation.”

Details of the accusations

The allegations: formation of a subversive association; incitement to crime; possession, manufacture and transportation of explosives in a
public place. The six persons were arrested at the request of the anti-terror group of the Turin public prosecutor’s office. The indictment is that the accused “have promoted, constituted, organised and participated in the creation of a subversive association (ex Art. 270 c.p.) which is intended to and can influence national immigration policy through the repeated destruction of the CIE/CPR and through systematic acts of violence and intimidation against the companies involved in the management of the abovementioned structures.”

The arrested are accused of “21 subversive attacks” in various Italian cities: On the one hand, 15 explosive packets were allegedly sent to companies in Turin, Bologna, Milan, Rome (French Embassy) Bari and Ravenna; explosives affected six other offices of the Italian Post Office (Poste Italiane) in Turin, Bologna and Genoa. Poste Italiane was allegedly hit because, as the owner of the airline “MistralAir”, it has held the ministerial mandate for deportation flights since 2011.

Two of the arrested (together with two yet unidentified persons) are accused of having placed explosive devices in front of Poste Italiane ATMs in Turin on 30 April and 9 June 2016.

“In order to establish contacts within CPR, they threw tennis balls with a multilingual brochure and a mobile phone number with which they agreed simultaneous actions within and outside the CPR structure. Then they put matches and everything needed to start a revolt and setting fire in packages of biscuits and other goods.”

Allegedly, the aim of these actions was to weaken or destroy the CPR’s “capacity”

**The political climate in Italy and other notes**

Italy’s politicians want to “crack down with all their might”:

– Police president Messina describes the (imagined) group of detainees as a “highly dangerous cell”.

– At the same time those who escape from the concentration camps financed by the West today are condemned and criminalized, locked up in these camps because they don’t have documents and only by escaping and false documents can they try to get away from the authorities and remain free. This day [April 25] mirrors the hypocrisy of the society we live in, where everything can be the opposite of everything else.

These are sad times. News of indiscriminate massacres follow one another in agonizing sequence. Events in Libya, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Venezuela and all those kept hidden are on the same side of the coin of other massacres perpetrated by various armies all over the world. All of these events speak of indiscriminate, summary, barbarous deaths, inflicted not for aims of emancipation, but to brutalize life for subjugation and power.

In this context of wars and social changes of various kinds, yet again the anarchist movement in its history is being accused of ‘terrorism’. This accusation is a grave offence, and is aimed at denigrating our ideas and methods. The State, which uses the dirtiest and most atrocious methods, out of fear or necessity sets out to strike the more conscious of the exploited who struggle. Anarchists have defended themselves from these attacks in many ways by reaffirming the rightness of their ideas and practices over time.

Now I too want to have a say. Isolation and this cell can’t keep me silent. I’ll never lose the will to seek clarity where the worst confusion reigns. To do so, I’ll mention the deeds and words of a few anarchists.

For many years in Russia anarchists, and not only, have been killed, tortured, their propaganda silenced, family members arrested. In 2001 young anarcho-syndicalist Nikita Kalin was killed by a gunshot in the head because of his activity in the factory where he worked. Many others have been struck by ferocious repression carried out by the State and its fascist servants, who have not ceased to increase in numbers in recent years. On 31st October 2018, at 8:52 in Arkhangelsk, a young anarchist, Mikhail Zhlobitsky, died ripped apart by his bomb in...
now for the most part in AS and are from southern Italy, no longer isolated foreigners who had anything inflicted on them without anybody knowing. The tactic is now a different one. The prison is all split up into various categories: mafia here, mafia there, 41bis, social prisoners, Islamists, anarchists, etc. A tactic that seems to work, if you think that among the few ‘social prisoners’ there are some came to blows for racist insults and various prejudices, to great advantage of the Direction. I think that understanding the evolution of the prisons, their history, the changes in the law, the way investigations are being carried out, not only against us anarchists, is very useful to understand what to say and do today inside and outside.

Today is 25th April [the official day of Italy’s liberation from nazi-fascism was 25th April 1945]. Some prisoners asked me if I was celebrating and it was interesting that in a few minutes everybody agreed that there been no liberation. The history of the partisan movement is very complex. I can show respect for that struggle, but I take sides too. If I think of that struggle, I think of comrades such as Pedrini, Tommasini, Mariga, Mariani and many others, who had struggled against fascism and the State well before September 8 [8th September 1943: Italy signed an unconditional armistice with the Allies following the down-fall of Benito Mussolini in July] and well after April 25. Most importantly, they didn’t struggle for political and power reasons, they didn’t betray the goals that many youths, men and women had set with their sacrifice. It’s also thanks to those comrades, to their experiences, to their stories, that I now have the knowledge to face prison with strength and dignity. For me there exists a subterranean thread that unites me to those comrades, not because I have the same courage – I have never felt on my skin many of the things they experienced – but because I’m humbly trying to carry out the same struggle and ideas. I find it hypocritical that every year in newspapers such as Corriere della Sera, a great photographer like Robert Doisneau is remembered, as he falsified documents for the French Resistance movement during the war, and at

– Italian Interior Minister Matteo Salvini demands “prison for these infamous people” and wants to close all “social centres frequented by criminals”.

– Mayor Chiara Appendino congratulates the police on their eviction.

– Alessandro Ciro Sciretti, a Turin Lega-Nord politician, wishes “no mercy at all” for the demonstrators of the Solidarity demonstrations for the Asilo-Squat. His suggestion: “a little bit of the Diaz school” is needed.

Not all bad news, the following news has been joyful:

Shortly after the demonstration on Saturday, an anti-fascist demonstration took place, like every year, on 13 February, against a fascist commemorative torch march of the Casa Pound in the Vallette district.

The antifascist demonstration ends in front of the prison, where the prisoners of “Operazione Scintilla” are imprisoned. According to the communiqué, this was “a cordial greeting to all the prisoners and especially to the comrades and friends who had been imprisoned for a few days.” A shed in the prison yard catches fire by a happy coincidence [a Molotov cocktail according to the media] and is destroyed.

Practical solidarity

A lot of money is needed, long prison sentences are imminent – people are very grateful for solidarity contributions to the following account:

Giulia Merlini e Pisano Marco
IBAN IT61Y0347501605CC0011856712
ABI 03475 CAB 01605
BIC INGBITD1
Those arrested during “Operazione Scintilla”:

Antonio Rizzo,
Lorenzo Salvato
Silvia Ruggieri
Giada Volpacchio
Niccolò Blasi
Giuseppe De Salvatore

LARRY, SILVIA, NICCO, BEPPE, GIADA E ANTONIO FREE!
SOLIDARITY WITH THE COMRADES IN TURIN!
SOLIDARITY WITH THE ASILO OCCUPATO!

It is the third time in 8 years that the State has accused me of ‘terrorism’ along with many of my comrades, and I know the procedure a little, even if this time I’m one of the ones who ends up in jail. As they got us out of the barracks, everything had been well arranged: sirens and flashes set up for photos for miserable journalists stationed along the road. I understood that the anarchist-hunt had been studied in the most disgusting details so as to make an impression on those above, whose speeches against freedom – today sadly backed by many of the exploited – are being strengthened and promoted in the spotlight.

Another conviction that kept me and keeps me tranquil is that whatever happened and will happen to me, not only my comrades are there for me, they have the strength to react to this latest attack. Breathing the atmosphere in Turin gave me strength, even if only for a short time. The same strength that has spread in many other places from the comrades and people in solidarity. The feeling of a tenacious, determined atmosphere can only be good for all, in spite of the difficulties of recent times. The cascade of telegrams and letters we received confirmed my sensations.

For many years I’ve thought about what my comrade Roberto said: ‘I’ve always known it, to struggle for freedom also means to risk losing it’. Simple, clear and above all true words. Now that I’m in prison, I see and hear things that had escaped my attention (my first two short experiences in prison were only a foretaste of what I’m experiencing now). Now I can see much of what I had been thinking during these years of struggle actually happening. To be here in Tolmezzo means to see how the State and its repressive apparatus are constantly working and updating the ways of isolating those who persist in struggling against it. And the conditions inflicted on our comrades in L’Aquila, in that Hybrid between AS2 and 41bis are even harsher.

They want to relieve this prison [L’Aquila] from the notoriety of being a place of torturers and thugs gained at the time of ex-governor Silvia Dalla Barca, even if those brutes are still there. Only the prisoners are
Arrests and searches following a repressive operation against anarchists in Trentino, Italy

During the night and the morning of Tuesday, February 19, 2019, seven anarchists were arrested in various places in Trentino: Agnese, Giulio, Nico, Poza, Rupert, Sasha, Stecco. One person was placed under house arrest while all the others were imprisoned in various prisons.

The main accusations are “subversive association for the purpose of terrorism and subversion of the democratic order” (article 270bis of the penal code) and “terrorist attack” (article 280 of the penal code), with reference to some direct actions that took place in Trentino during the last few years. Other offenses of which they are accused are: “interruption of public service”, “damage”, “sabotage of telematic devices”, “fire” and “transport of exploding material”.

At the same time 50 searches were carried out, with about 150 policemen and carabinieri mobilized in the repressive operation (which was given the name “operation Renata”, apparently a name taken from the nickname given to a car used by some comrades).

The investigations were conducted by Digos (state police) and ROS (carabinieri). On the same day of the arrests, a press conference took place in Rome, organized by anti-terrorism. It is clear the attempt to hit the anarchist presence in Trentino, pigeonholing and describing the relations between anarchist comrades within a phantom “subversive association” (with leaders, gregari, cashiers, responsible, “covi”, etc.), an accusation trying to distribute as many years as possible in prison.

It is probable that soon the comrades will be transferred to other prisons (therefore the addresses will change). Below are the latest updated addresses.

Words from Stecco from the prison of Tolmezzo

Dear comrades,

The time has come for me to say something about what happened in February.

Less than two months have passed since our arrest with operation ‘Renata’, and I can say that I’m calm and strong, as sure as ever that the struggle continues in spite of the blows inflicted by the State.

My arrest in Turin, in the vicinity of Corso Giulio, took place at around 5pm quite peacefully. As I was leaving the comrade I had been with, I noticed a typical plain clothes policeman in front of me at a tram stop; a few seconds later I found myself surrounded. I can say that all this happened in great tranquillity, and with annoying ‘courtesy’ I’d say, unlike the way my comrades in Trentino were treated.

Before being moved to Trento I thought that my arrest was due to pending proceedings whose conclusion I’d been expecting for a while. I did perceive something strange: too many people wearing badges in that corridor of the Turin police station. Only at the first visit of the lawyer did I find out that measures alternative to prison had been confirmed on the very day of my arrest. A mere coincidence? Anyway, at around 8pm they gave me a warrant to search me and the house where I live. Obviously I noted ‘our’ fatal 270bis, 280bis and a string of other offences. At that moment the dates and places in the list were incomprehensible, but my reaction was. While I was reading, I was not surprised at what was happening; no agitation or palpitations, but the simple certitude of my ideas and convictions, the certitude of having always struggled for ideals of justice, freedom, equality among all men and women.

So, in this strange tranquillity I faced the journey at 70 km an hour to Trento along with four ROS officers. As soon as we got to the carabinieri barracks in Trento, at around 2am, I became aware of the vastness of the operation. The barracks was a hive of men and women both in uniform and not, huge folders, papers and crap papers.
Revolutionary solidarity with the imprisoned anarchists!

Giulio: Giulio Berdusco
Rupert: Roberto Bottamedi
Nico: Nicola Briganti
Stecco: Luca Dolce
Poza: Andrea Parolari
Agnese: Agnese Trentin

* * *

Solidarity against the repression

Rome, Italy: Cash machine attacked

March 18, 2019

‘Ouch!’ the window said, but the cash machine didn’t answer because they had shut its mouth.
In the night of 7th March a window was damaged and a cash machine put out of use at the premises of Intesa San Paolo in Rome in solidarity with comrades in Turin and all those who struggle every day.
Against borders
Against cages
Against patriarchy
Against gentrification
Against every State, every boss, every husband, every party

Update about “Renata” operation: five comrades transferred to house arrest

On May 9, five anarchist prisoners from February 19, 2019 following “Renata” repressive operation were transferred to house arrest. They are Agnese Trentin (who had recently been transferred to the AS2 prison section of L’Aquila), Giulio Berdusco, Roberto Bottamedi (who were detained in Tolmezzo), Andrea Parolari and Nicola Briganti (who were detained in Ferrara). Comrade Luca Dolce (known as “Stecco”) remains in prison because of other final sentences. While another comrade, Sasha, who was also arrested on 19 February and immediately placed under house arrest, had this last “precautionary measure” transformed into an obligation to stay and return home from 9.00 pm to 7.00 am, with the obligation to stay in the municipality of residence.

The comrades were initially accused of “subversive association with the purpose of terrorism and subversion of the democratic order” (art. 270bis c. p., in four persons) and of “terrorist attack” (art. 280 c. p., all), plus other related crimes (“interruption of public service”, “damage”, “sabotage of telematic devices”, “fire” and “transport of explosive material”), because they are considered responsible for some direct actions taken in Trentino in the last two years. Subsequently the aggravating circumstance of terrorism fell, therefore the main accusation became of “subversive association” (art. 270 c. p.).
Montevideo, Uruguay: Paint attack on the Italian embassy (25/02/2019)

Solidarity with the comrades in Turin

On the morning of February 7 the police of the city of Turin deployed all their repressive apparatus with the intention of clearing the “Asilo Occupato” Social Centre of the Aurora neighbourhood. A social centre for more than twenty years in the area, which fought against borders and racism. A horizontal, self-managed space, which fights against social inequality, facing a more and more cruel capitalism. For these and many other reasons we have to light the spark of solidarity with the comrades who resisted on the roof for over 36 hours.

On Friday February 25 we decided to attack the Italian embassy in Uruguay by throwing paint bombs on its disgusting façade and writing “Asilo Occupato resiste” on its walls.

For the comrades arrested under the antiterrorist law
Against evictions
For Anarchy
Direct Action

Graz, Austria: Car of Sodexo set on fire

In the darkness of the 6th of march we set a car of the company Sodexo in Graz on fire. Sodexo makes a profit with the deportation system by delivering shitty food to deportation centers. All companies that profit from this industry are our enemies and just deserve our hatred.
We feel connected to all accomplices who are fighting against the domination in this world. Above all, those behind bars and those who support them, we want to show our revolutionary solidarity through this fire!

Through the walls we specifically send a burning hug to all recently detained anarchists in Turin, Trento and Rovereto. SILVIA, NICCOLO, BEPPE, ANTONIO, STECCO, RUPERT, AGNESE, SASHA, POZA, NICO, GIULIO tutti liberi!

We also send a burning greeting through the bars to Loiæ! We hope that you will feel supported by such acts in your unbending attitude.

For this action, we used fire accelerators that we filled into emptied beverage cans. We put the cans on the floor under the tires of the car. After 5 to 10 minutes, the tires burn and the car flares off.

Fire to Sodexo!
Fire to all cages!

* * *

“Scintilla” repressive operation (Italy): Niccolò transferred to Cuneo prison

Niccolò Blasi, anarchist arrested 7.02.2019 in the context of the repressive “Scintilla” operation – which involved the eviction of the Asilo Occupato in Turin and the arrest of six people (two of whom were subsequently released from prison following the fall of the “subversive association” accusation) -, was again transferred, this time from the prison of Ivrea to that of Cuneo.

In the days that followed, other practices that are typical of 41bis regime continued to emerge and the constant objection to them prompted a series of disciplinary reports, a popular local practice: we were given 9 in the first week and 6 in the second, for futile reasons and arbitrary, if not imaginary interpretations. These include: the obsessive use of metal-detectors every time we enter and exit our cells, from our outdoor time to our social time, not to mention the times we go for showers – we’ve counted around 12 to 16 times; the ban on CDs and CD players to listen to music (they are only allowed for the mysterious and unclear purposes of “study”); the number of books allowed in the cells which is set at 4, with the addition of the Quran or another religious text and the Italian Penal Code (when asked about substituting religious or legal books with something a little more appropriate…the GOM display a poor sense of humour); the limited items of clothing allowed in the cells, as well as the few other basic necessities and goods permitted, are kept in a small external cabinet which is accessed under the visual control of the guards who count everything with their special chart; the inability to bring pen and paper outdoors; order, control, the GOM’s count – they meticulously count everything and update their appropriate lists for all the things kept in the cells and in the storage room which are then verified during the two weekly searches.

Outdoor time is in a small space (8x10 meters) and so-called “social time” is a bad joke which, all at the same time and in the same barren room (an old visiting room), includes social activities (only one table with 4 chairs), a gym (only one exercise bike) and a place to pray. The breakdown of the imposed daily routine (7am cell doors open, 7.15am post collection, 7.30am breakfast trolley, 8.00am cell bars checked, 9-11am outdoor time, 11.30am food, 12/1pm eating together, 1-3pm social time, 3pm cell bars checked, 3.30-5.30pm outdoor time, 5.30pm food) along with almost constant direct visual control because the cell door slot must be kept open until 8pm - other than for an hour and a half
‘The most beautiful present’ – Antonio, Beppe, Lorenzo and Niccolò from the prison of Ferrara

‘Over the years we often happened to play with our imagination and imagined how and when Asilo would be evicted. How many police would invade the neighbourhood, how long the barricades would hold out, how long those who managed to reach the roof would resist, whether the eviction would coincide with a repressive operation, what the response outside would be like.

Two weeks have passed, and today many of these questions were answered. But we still can’t make any sense of it. It might be because they took us away, one after the other, first to Le Vallette in solitary, then to the social unit of Ferrara prison. Struck by an investigation that depicts us as an internal sect hidden by the wider structure of those who organized at Asilo throughout the years. A committal for trial that disgustingly selected and twisted pieces of private, political and friendly conversations with the intention of confirming the thesis of the investigation. A reconstruction that in no way can catch the variety of rebel tensions, ideas and impetus unleashed from that place to the surrounding world.

It might be because we didn’t see armoured vans and antiriot cops closing down entire areas of the neighbourhood for over a week, as they kept away anyone who didn’t live there or couldn’t prove so in order to isolate what is by now an ex den of subversives. It might be because we didn’t hear workers striving day and night to put the building out of use, but above all uninhabitable.
It might be because it doesn’t interest us after all. These first days in here didn’t pass in nostalgia for the many memories and moments lived in that place, for what it meant to each of us, for the struggle that started from there and stayed throughout the years, but in the regret for not having been with you during these days outside there: in the streets from the centre to Aurora, in animated meetings, in a bar recovering from teargas.

For if with the eviction someone lost a home, a place to get organized and discuss, many felt deprived of a piece of freedom, torn off with such force and modality as to mark a point of no return. A ‘spark’. A declaration of war to which everybody wanted to respond to and whose echoes have reached beyond the kilometres, walls and bars that divide us.

This is the most beautiful present you could have given us: knowing that the eviction of Asilo and the response to the investigation were occasions for each one to express their malaise, anger and rebellion well beyond the single struggles and initiatives of those who constantly organized in there for years.

And then it doesn’t matter if we won’t recognize Asilo for what it was when we get out; we’ll find in the eyes of those who’ll be there the same love and anger that can be found today in Turin.

There’s hope. A hope that is not in an occupied Asilo, but in the hearts, minds and hands of those who have decided.

‘the prisoners’
Antonio, Beppe, Lorenzo and Niccolò’

Ferrara, 18th February 2019

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**CHRONICLES OF A JOURNEY AND LANDING IN THE KINGDOM OF L’AQUILA**

Early wake-up call Saturday 6th April: 3 of us are transferred to L’Aquila from the AS2 section (high security) in Rebibbia prison in Rome. In practice the AS2 section in Rebibbia was shut down in the days following our transfer and may have been converted into an AS3 section given the overcrowded conditions for prisoners accused and/or convicted of criminal conspiracy - Art. 416 of the Italian penal code (a similar thing happened in March 2017 when the entire female AS2 section of Latina prison – communists and anarchists – was moved to Rebibbia and later converted into an AS3 section).

Currently, we are in the AS2 section of the Abruzzo region which now holds the sad record of being the only female high security section in Italy classed as AS2. It’s a very small section comprising four single cells and is known as the “sezione gialla” [“yellow section”]. The space was set up and used in the past as a female 41bis section [41bis is the hard prison regime set up in Italy in the early 90s] and is one that now – other than us “new arrivals” (forgive the excesses of inmate terminology but there you go) – also holds a muslim prisoner classed as AS2 who, following the transfer of two other prisoners held in the same section in February, spent more than 20 days in isolation. We can therefore assume that our arrival helped the DAP [Italian department of prison administration] avoid any embarrassment regarding the conditions of her detention.

From the very beginning the GOM’s [special unit used in 41bis sections] militaristic and ridiculous management of the section was evident (they are the ones managing it here) as were their attempts to apply the rigour and control typical of the 41bis regime. In any case, this prison has male and female 41bis sections (where the only female communist prisoner classed as 41bis has been buried alive here for years) a REMS
An update on “Renata” operation against anarchists in Trentino

[Note from roundrobin.info website]: We are posting, delayed due to a technical problem, this update received on 20/03:
The judges of the review [“giudici del riesame”, in Italian] considered the accusations of terrorism to be non-existent, therefore the 270bis accusation and the aggravating ones. The alleged crime is now of 270 or rather “subversive association”. In any case, the comrades remain in prison for now.

All free!

* * *

Milan : Postamat [post office cash machine] under attack in an action of solidarity

We receive on Thursday 27th February and spread:

Last night we destroyed two postamats, the windows and entrance door of the post Office in Via Franco Tosi in Milan.
Freedom for Nicco, Larry, Silvia, Giada, Antonio and Beppe.
Freedom for Rupert, Agnese, Stecco, Giulio, Nico, Sasha and Poza.

the court of review. On top of that, house arrest was refused because the two comrades’ records make the risk of recidivism very likely. On the contrary, Silvia remains in jail because her anthropometric profile, in terms of gait, height and body shape, would be compatible with that of the person filmed by cameras while he/she was placing a can of inflammable liquid outside the premises of a Poste Italiane office. The anthropometric discipline is destined to become an increasingly important instrument for investigators in the near future, and we need to come back to this with reflection and deeper analysis.

We end this update pointing out that censorship on letters has been confirmed for the three comrades; according to the judge this is due to the wide and lasting solidarity developed since the comrades’ arrest and the eviction of Asilo.

Meantime it’s urgent to break the isolation, which Silvia is particularly subjected to, a way to dent the brutality of prison.
Rome, Italy: Enijoy cars under attack

We receive and spread:

ENI kills and pollutes in Italy and abroad. In the night between 26th and 27th February 3 incendiary devices were left in 3 enijoy cars. Solidarity with all imprisoned anarchists.

*Translation note: ENJOY is a ‘sustainable’ vehicle sharing company run by energy company ENI and public transport operator Trenitalia

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Milan: Action in solidarity with the comrades arrested in Turin

We receive and spread:

MILAN. In the night between Friday 8 and Saturday 9 [February] we attacked the branch of Poste Italiane in via d’Agrate. Windows, entrance door and cash machine smashed with hammers. Writings ‘FIRE TO CPRs’ and ‘IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE COMRADES ARRESTED IN TURIN’ were left.

Video-conferencing is also being extended to different kinds of prisoners. Initially reserved for prisoners under 41bis, where it’s automatic, it was later applied to prisoners accused of terrorism so to all those considered dangerous, regardless of the charges contested in the trials. Videoconferencing is a particularly heavy instrument, as not only does it make legal defence more difficult and limits the possibility to make declarations in court, it also denies the prisoner the possibility to meet, albeit in a court, some friendly faces and break the prison routine.

Coming to more strictly legal matters, we consider it important to highlight the reasons why the comrades arrested following operation Scintilla are still being held in prison. After the charge of subversive association was dropped, Beppe and Antonio remain in jail for the publication of the pamphlet ‘The sky is burning’. This being a list of individuals at various levels responsible for the existence of detention centres for migrants, a list addressed to an anarchist area might be expected to make bad use of it, the mere act of publishing it justifies this charge by
Italy : from the prisons and courts

May 7, 2019

Silvia, Agnese and Anna were transferred from the AS2 (High Security) unit of Rebibbia to that of L’Aquila over a week ago. In the prison of L’Aquila, the capital of the Abruzzo region, nearly all the prisoners are subjected to the 41bis regime. This regime of harsh imprisonment involves 23-hour confinement a day, reduction of time in the exercise yard, impossibility to cook in the cell, where light is dimmed by the presence of opaque transparent plastic panels, only an hour visit with family members, which also takes place with glass partitions with no possibility of contact.

Moreover there’s no way you can have more than four books in the cell, letters are always subjected to censorship, it’s impossible to attend trials other than via video-conferencing. In prisons where there is 41bis, the shadow of this regime extends well beyond the units concerned and ends up changing prison conditions for the rest of the prisoners.

Silvia, Agnese and Anna are in single cells, with locked armoured doors, in an area that was once the women’s 41bis unit. Their day is marked by wake-up at 7am with the opening of the spy-hole; at 8am the guards bang on the window bars to test their resistance; the comrades have two hours in the exercise yard in the morning and two in the afternoon. Every move outside and inside the cell is marked by metal detector control; they are checked 12 times a day on average and a general personal search is inflicted on them every day. They have only an hour of sociality in a small narrow room. Their cells have a television set and a toilet, but they have nowhere to keep clothes, food, books and belongings. They have a small cupboard outside the cell where they can keep a maximum of 7 items of clothing; anything they remove or place inside is checked and what remains is counted. They can have only three books in the cell. The radios have been sealed and the time

Pinerolo : Solidarity attack

Thursday 21 February 2019

During the night we attacked the Poste de Pinerolo office [near Turin] with hammers as a gesture of solidarity and complicity with the anarchists arrested in Turin and Trentino and with the comrades imprisoned for the Florence affair and operation Scripta Manent.

Salvini hatchet man – Asilo is everywhere

* * *

Turin : Demo in the streets of Aurora

Yesterday, Thursday 21 February, a wild demo/carnaval of about 200 people went through the Aurora district, still militarised following the Asilo eviction. (A few days ago the inhabitants of the surrounding streets had to show their documents to the cops before they could pass and get to their homes). A leaflet pointing out the role of artists in the “requalification” of the neighbourhood was given out. The cops blocked them in the main streets of the area for hours.

* * *

Action in solidarity in Cremona

Sunday 24 February 2019

Following the arrests and raids in Trentino we put an optic fibre cabinet out of use during the night. Silence the techno-world to let the living flesh scream. Also in solidarity with the comrades in Turin, the comrade of Fermento, the prisoners of operation Scripta Manent and Panico. In the fog of Cremona we don’t swallow the pill of repression either.
Athens, Greece: Occupation of the Italian Institute of Culture in solidarity with the Asilo Occupato eviction in Turin

Today (22/2/19) at noon a symbolic occupation took place at the Italian Institute of Culture in Athens. Texts were shared, leaflets were thrown inside and outside the building, two banners were put up in Greek and Italian and were also emailed from the institute’s address to the state-owned Italian services. This move is a minimal sign of solidarity with the arrested comrades during the eviction of Asilo Occupato in Turin but also over the following days, within the framework of the general repression and the war launched by the Italian state and capital against those who resist.

With this move, we declare ourselves in solidarity and accomplices with the prisoners and comrades accused under Article 270.

freedom for Antonio, Lorenzo, Silvia, Giada, Niccolò, Giuseppe

Solidarity with Asilo Occupato

Fire to all prisons!

Anarchists

Operation Scripta Manent
Five comrades sentenced
24/4/2019

A first instance sentence was issued in the trial that began in June 2017 regarding the “Scripta manent” operation, which on September 6, 2016 led to the arrest of five anarchist comrades and the notification of pre-trial detention to two other imprisoned anarchist comrades (Alfredo and Nicola). The requests for sentences proposed by the public prosecutor R. Sparagna for 22 accused anarchist comrades exceeded 200 years.

On April 24th the sentences were issued, as reported in Croce Nera Anarchica website:

Anarchist comrades sentenced:

Alfredo Cospito 20 years
Anna Beniamino 17 years
Nicola Gai 9 years
Alessandro Mercogliano 5 years
Marco Bisesti 5 years

The other accused were acquitted.

HEALTH IS IN YOU!
Spain: Poster in solidarity with the resistance in Turin and those arrested in “Operazione Scintilla”

On the 7th of February the police evicted the Asilo Occupato, a social centre managed for 24 years.
At the same time an antiterrorism operation was taking place against other comrades, linking them to the struggles against the C.I.E.[detention centres], institutional racism and borders.
16 people were arrested, of whom 7 are presently in prison. Those released have been put under precautionary measures, some of which are quite complex.
The comrades on the roof of the Asilo resisted for 36 hours, while there were numerous expressions of support and solidarity all around.
The following days various demonstrations in solidarity took place, all were repressed and there were more arrests. In spite of that THE RESISTANCE CONTINUES.

FREEDOM FOR NICCO, ANTONIO, BEPPE, SILVIA, GIADA E LARRY!

“They make war on the poor and call it regeneration. Let’s oppose resistance to the bosses of the city.”

Terragnolo (Trentino): Fire to a relay antenna in solidarity with the imprisoned anarchists

We see from the local papers that a telephone and television relay was burned in Terragnolo, in the Potrich area of Trentino, on April 16 at around 22.00. Tags « In solidarity with the anarchists in prison, against videoconferencing (which replaces transfers to court) and blocking of post » and « the spirit continues » were found at the spot.

Of the four incendiary bottles used, only the one against the cables would have caught, the other three placed inside the electrical transformers having fizzled out “due to lack of oxygen” according to the carabinieri carrying out the investigation. It was a neighbour who noticed the flames from the road that called the fire fighters, who arrived too late to prevent many of the cables from being burned. This site is also among those selected to experiment with 5G in the area.

Technicians managed to restore the television during the night, but the mobile telephony remained extremely disturbed.

Freedom for all,
Fire to the prisons!
Thessaloniki, Greece: Action in solidarity with the comrades in Turin

On Saturday 9th February we attacked the Italian-Greek Chamber of Commerce in Saloniki, leaving an explosive device in front of the main entrance; an action that was concealed by the media. This attack is a response to the repression carried out by the Italian State, the latest example being the eviction of Asilo Occupato in Turin. In the early hours of Thursday 7th February the squat was evicted and that same morning six comrades were arrested and accused of subversive association. The squat had existed for 24 years and was a point of reference for constant actions against detention centres for migrants, against evictions of social housing and the gentrification of the neighbourhood.

This repressive blow came after a period of persecutions that have been striking anarchists in Turin in recent years with arrests, compulsory residence orders and much more. This attack is a signal of solidarity with the comrades carrying on the struggle in Turin. It is also a signal of solidarity with Spyros Christodoulou, who has been on hunger strike since 14th January. Keep strong Spyros.

Let’s create links of solidarity across the borders that divide us for a world without prisons solidarity with Asilo Occupato freedom for the 6 arrested freedom for Cesare Battisti, death to the state

For a Subversive May 2019 in Solidarity with the Imprisoned Comrades in Italy

Against All Authority and Repression!

In Turin and Trento, 14 people are accused of forming a subversive association, inciting crime, and possessing, manufacturing and transporting explosives to a public place. Furthermore, the operation “Scripta Manent”, where the public prosecutor’s office demands a total of 204 years in prison for the attacks of the Informal Anarchist Federation and the operation “Panico”, where 3 comrades are accused of having attacked a fascist library with an explosive device, is still running.

Those who have decided to oppose any domination in the social conflict must live with the constant uncertainty of sooner or later being held accountable for their own actions by the opponents of freedom and self-determination. The idea and the longing for a society liberated from exploitation and oppression can then be nipped in the bud.

This is especially the case for the anarchist movement in Italy. This is being tackled by the state. The affected prisoners are to be buried alive in their cells with draconian sentences. Their accomplices and the solidarity environment unequivocally profess their permanent enmity against the regime with regard to their kidnapping.

The understanding of an anarchism that has set itself the goal of fundamentally criticizing, denouncing and attacking society and its morals of alienation and incapacitation also has an international component. Therefore, the responsibility and solidarity for comrades who fall into captivity lies with all those who recognize themselves in the will to subvert and the ideas of freedom. Yes, the lived subversion puts us in danger, but it also gives us the liberating possibility and moments of self-empowerment and self-determination.
We are sending our solidarity to the arrested and the persecuted from ASILO OCCUPATO and the Renata operation, as well as all those that are locked up in the dungeons of the Italian state.

We declare, through action, that we are equally guilty with them in every way.

Texts, posters, protests and attacks are our own means of struggle. Besides, solidarity [like the struggle generally] will be total or it will not be anything, simply clustered and harmless ...

Group for the Reconstruction of the Mediterranean Anarchist Triangle

FREEDOM FOR THE PRISONERS OF OPERATIONS SCRIPTA MANENT AND PANICO FOR ANARCHY

* * *

Athens Greece : Banners in solidarity with Asilo Occupato

February 17, 2019

We have hung banners in Exarchia and at the Polytechnic (addressed to the institute of Italian culture), in solidarity with Asilo Occupato and against the eviction by the police and the arrest of the comrades.

In the banners: solidarity with Asilo Occupato – Turin; Fire to all prisons; Freedom for Nicco, Silvia, Larry, Beppe, Antonio and Giada.

* * *

Greece: The Italian consulate in the city of Patras attacked with paint

last night, 12/2/19 in solidarity with the social center AsiloOccupato and the arrested comrades in Turin.
Athens, Greece: Responsibility Claim of 28.3.19 by Group for the Reconstruction of the Mediterranean Anarchist Triangle

CONCERNING THE RECENT PROSECUTIONS IN ITALY

At the beginning of February the eviction of the squat ASILO OCCUPATO was ordered, a structure of the movement in the city of Turin, with a history of 24 years. The police don’t ‘play’ alone and the evacuation lasts one and a half days because of the resistance from the interior of the squat. Simultaneously all over the city gatherings, meetings, violent protests are being carried out. The carabinieri, in order to silence the reactions, transform entire neighbourhoods into quarantine zones, with blockades, arrests and the prohibition of circulation of traffic. Finally the authorities, as well as the eviction, arrest 6 comrades on charges of subversive activity based on actions against the CIE/CRP [detention centres for immigrants] as well as for solidarity with the revolts that have broken out inside them.

It is clear that there are many more reasons for this operation. ASILO OCCUPATO has taken part in a lot of struggles which bothered the State mechanisms and the bosses. It opposed the destruction of the Val di Susa valley, participating in the movement NO TAV. It gave fights against the detention centres, against the repression and control and the regeneration and gentrification of entire neighbourhoods of the city. Neighbourhoods whose transformation into sterilized regions of consumption and amusement is desired by the bosses. For the above

For all these reasons, our group last Thursday 28/3/19 visited the Italian Archaeological Service located in the area near the Acropolis. After we wrote solidarity slogans on the marble front of the neoclassical building where this service is housed, we torched a van that was parked outside. In the building of the Italian Archaeological Service last week [Monday to Friday] a seminar took place for the policing of archaeological sites by the Italian Carabinieri to their Greek counterparts, the pigs of the Greek police. What better opportunity for us to express close to the Italian cops found on site for the last day of the seminar, that their “deeds” are not left unanswered.

As well as communicating to the administrators of the service that providing space for such events to the carabinieri has a cost, since they fully align themselves with repressive operations in Italy that have no relationship with culture and civilization which they advertise they are working with…

The cooperation of the two States in the field of security is long-lasting, whether it concerns the police or the judiciary and that is what we want to demonstrate, among other things, with this action. The Carabinieri group is the necessary repressive tool to fulfil this “job” with special zeal and hatred against the anarchists in Italy.

Here from the city of Athens we remind them how similar zeal, but for struggle, we also have and hatred of the police regardless of their country of origin too. They should not forget it, we never leave our comrades alone.
escalating riots in demonstrations and they don’t forget to refer to interventions by the solidarity movement but as always they alter/remove their true content.

In this light, for example, can be understood the relentlessness of the Italian State for the court case of the 5 Greek comrades who were arrested after the end of the wild clashes that took place at the demonstration against the EXPO in Milan. They think that by hitting our solidarity and our political relations they can put us in a difficult position. We let them live with their illusions. The passion for freedom is not subdued, not persecuted or imprisoned. It is here and will remain their worst nightmare and their number one enemy.

These are the real reasons for their existence, of the latter as well as the previous repressive operations of the Italian State. They hit our comrades because they proclaim that they are anarchists, conscious enemies of the State and capitalism. Because they are guilty indeed, they participate in a multitude of struggles standing in solidarity with immigrants and prisoners. Because they are opposed to the plague of city gentrification, because they house their ideas in social centres and squats instead of sitting at home like peaceful citizens. Because they write and propagate their thoughts, creating breaches in the regime’s normality, throwing sand in the gears of capitalism’s murder machine. Because they don’t just stop at words, but set to action being a lifetime on the attack against multinationals, biotechnology structures and environmental destruction, cops and fascists. They are guilty because they make an example and a cry for breaking the silence imposed by the Italian State for the maintenance of peace between classes. Guilty because they are dreaming and carrying a new world, a world of freedom, equality and solidarity that will sweep away the old one.

reasons the occupation and the 6 comrades were targeted by the repression.

Of these 6, 4 remain held under special detention, while 2 were given parole. A few days later another repressive operation takes place, named RENATA, in the region of Trento and in neighbouring cities. Special police groups, the DIGOS and the ROS, assaulted 35 spaces [houses, workplaces, anarchist centres and movement structures], confiscate computers and files, printed material, tools, flags etc, which led finally to the arrest of 7 comrades. The charges they face are heavy and concern sabotage actions against biotechnology structures, radio-television antennas, police vehicles, banks, private work employment companies, offices of fascists and taking part in violent protests.

THE REPRESSION OF ANARCHISTS IN ITALY, A NEVER-ENDING PROCEDURE

Clearly the mother of all the repressive attacks of the Italian State against our comrades is the Pontelungo operation, which became widely known as the Marini trial [by the name of the prosecutor – inventor of the same-named theory] and which in court lasted for ten years. In 1994 arrests of comrades took place and they were charged with armed robbery. As the trial the next year seems to be reaching its end, a giant operation across Italy started to set up charges of armed gang action and a host of other accusations, under the umbrella of an organization-ghost, an invention that will be used in the years to come. Several dozen are the persecuted and many will eventually end up in jail for many years. The Marini theory displays the anarchist space structured
in two levels, with public and hidden activity under one central administration. This way the whole of anarchist activity is incriminated from the pamphlets to the attacks, the differences disappear and these all suffice to send someone to jail. Anarchists are categorized as pacifists and criminals, friendly and political relations are criminalized, homes are called safe-houses, newspapers and magazines are named terrorist manuals, tools are named weapons and the social centres and squats as the attackers’ strongholds.

The wild repression with the anti-terrorism law and its articles 270 and 270bis brings imprisonment, people held hostage through lengthy court cases, house arrests, closed newspapers and magazines and online counter-information websites. It uses wire-tapping methods, which in the coming years are enriched with the use of new technologies such as gps, the use of genetic material etc. At the same time wild propaganda [with the help of the media] is carried out in order to isolate and criminalize the anarchists so they can be hit more easily and lose their social and political affiliations. Of course where repression and slander are not enough, comes brutal violence and death as occurred in 1998 with the murders of Eduardo Massari and Maria Rosas Soledad who were found hanged, the first in his cell at Vallette prison in Turin and the second in her home being under house arrest.

Since then and until today, the same play has been repeated steadily and relentlessly with the same characteristics, even exported to Greece as it seems from the nature of similar persecutions in the recent past. At the end of the judicial evolution of the Marini trials a new one began, operation Cervantes in 2004. After that three new ones followed the next year as part of the previous one, operation Nottetempo, Fraria and Crocenera with allegations of a subversive organization carrying out actions of the FAI. The same happened and the subsequent persecutions that make the catalogue look endless. Spring 2006 operation Gruppi di Affinati, autumn of 2007 operation Brushwood, summer 2009 operation Shadow. Spring 2011 operation Outlaw, summer and autumn 2012 operations Mangiafuoco and Ixodidae as well as Ardire and Thor for actions that concern FAI-IRF. In the same year persecutions were being conducted against anarchists who took part in the fierce clashes with police forces on July 3 in the Susa valley against the construction of the high-speed train line TAV which aspires to connect Italy with France. On summer of 2017 operation Scripta Manent sets off and a few months later Panico.

The tools and the methods for these police operations are well known and tried by the Italian State and its mechanisms, the police and judicial services. Recent Italian history is full of such prosecutions.

THE REPRESSION HAS NO BORDERS, THEN AGAIN ALSO SOLIDARITY

Another part of the repression concerns the strike against solidarity to the imprisoned and persecuted anarchists in Italy. The Italian State, trying to block the wave of solidarity and political relations between comrades in the two countries, presented the theory of the Mediterranean anarchist triangle of Italy, Spain and Greece portraying us as apolitical criminals who conspire with the purpose of acts of terrorism.

Constantly throughout the years, they have published articles about contacts, connections, trips to make preparations for attacks and