

Italian Anarchists Under Attack



Freedom For All
Burn the Prisons

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The stated addresses in this brochure might change. Current addresses and information under www.abc.tommyhaus.org.

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Repression in Italy

Since more than one year now, Italian anarchists and other social rebels are facing an hard wave of repression.

This is not meant as during the time before the state apparatus would have been quiet, that's never true, but simply in the last year comrades over there faced an enormous number of operations directed to criminalise the struggles that the people were bringing forward, from the struggle against detention centers for refugees, to the anti-prison struggles. Target of these operations have been mostly anarchists, but not only them, since especially lately a lot of anti-fascists have been targeted.

International solidarity actions have occurred, mostly in Greece and Spain, and in the latter case people over there faced an incredible repression because of their solidarity to Italian anarchists, just underlining how an interesting target they seem to be to police all around...

Not last, some of the anarchists targeted are actively involved with Italian Anarchist Black Cross activities, showing again how the activity of our network and, as well, of other prisoner support/anti-prison groups, have apparently always a "good scent" for international repressive authorities.

We are going to attempt to give a short summary of the last year's events, aiming to give people an idea of the actual situation there, but avoiding any deeper analysis. The summary will follow a merely chronological order.

What is absolutely necessary to say and underline, is that, in all these operations against the anarchists, the justice and the police are trying to



criminalise the form of "affinity groups": the article "270bis", which normally stood for the "classical" subversive association towards terrorism has been lastly modified, in order to include affinity groups.

They assume that the groups against whom they carried these operations are based on a double level: first public level, which would involve organising demonstrations, info events and especially anti-prison events (this aspect has always been underlined by the police), and second level that would see the "affinity groups" carrying on some violent attacks, sometimes federated with other affinity groups.

They see this as constitutive practice of the "anarcho-insurrectionalists", who are seen now, in Italy but not only, as a political evil, really often put on the same level of the radical Islamic terrorism: at least in Italy, in all the informative papers of the anti-terrorism police, the 2 of them are seen, at the moment, as the most active and dangerous phenomena.

Just to mention one thing, as we are writing this brochure, the Italian ROS (the special division of the Carabinieri), in an operation in connection with the Dutch police, arrested on the 16th January Rose Ann Scrocco, anarchist on the run for long time, and sentenced to 30 years, another victim of the Marini trial, and listed by Italian authorities in the list of the 30 most wanted people on the run.

The membership to the F.A.I., Anarchist Informal Federation, a network of clandestine groups active in Italy for a few years, which brought together different groups that are operating in Italy since 2000, is one of the excuses which put a lot of comrades in jail, even though without absolutely any proof...but this is how justice normally works, isn't it?

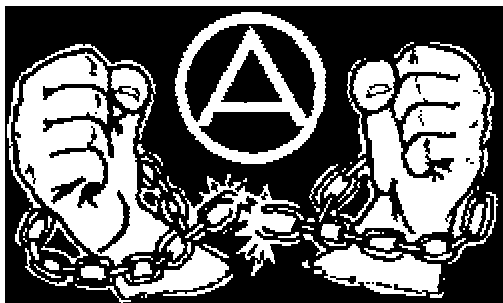


Lastly, it is important to understand that, with this affinity groups theory it is maybe just a question of time before most of us would find ourselves in jail, since apparently it is going to be enough to share some friendship and political ideas with few other fellows to be found part of a terrorist organization.

Like always, it remains up to our "creativity" to face this situation, showing solidarity to the people imprisoned, as well as fighting forward not letting us being frightened of all their ways of repression, being focused both on prisoner support/anti-prison struggle, as well as keeping on being dedicated to our daily insurrection.

In this sense, it is also really important to remember how the Italian authorities always underlined the "existence" of a Southern European insurrectionary triangle, meaning Italy, Spain and Greece.

Sadly, the lack of solidarity actions towards Italian anarchists in the rest of Europe, might just be another kind of proof in the prosecution case: it is, once again, up to us, to show that it is not just of a "triangle" that the system has to fear of, but of every single individual treading on the earth's ground....



***Forever in struggle –
Anarchist Black Cross
Berlin, January 2006.***

Operation C.O.R.

On the beginning of June 2004, repression started against some comrades in Pisa. Around 10 houses were raided, as well as the place of the anarchist ecological group "Il Silvestre"; 7 people are arrested during the operation and brought to prison.

Eleven people are under investigation under the crime of the "270bis": they are accused to be part of a group named C.O.R., Cells of Revolutionary Offensive, active since 2003, who carried out several incendiary attacks targeted against fascists, trade unions, and cops.

One of the "granitie" proof taken during the raids has been a letter sent to the newspaper "Terra Selvaggia" (an anarcho-primitivist newspaper published from the Il Silvestre group) from the C.O.R., and found in one of the houses raided.

One of the more "funny" things of this judicial construction, is that the documents written by the C.O.R. show their marxist/leninist political orientation, a bit difficult to be connected to the anarchist ideas expressed from Il Silvestre and the other defendants.

Most of the people have been released; some are under house arrest and Willy spent until the 27th of July in jail, then was placed under house arrest. Francesco, one of the people arrested during this operation, escaped from house arrest, being on the run for several months, and finally, sadly, arrested in Barcelona from an operation that brought together Italian and Spanish political police.

He has been in the Spanish jails, being heavily under pressure from the



warders inside, as well as spending a long time under an isolation regime with high restriction on post and possibility to meet people. He has been then transferred to another prison, after having showed inside his solidarity to Rafa, another anarchist prisoner victim of warders 's violence.

On the 7th of December, the first hearing took place in Pisa: the judges refused to change the restrictive measures for Alessio and Willy, who remain under house arrest. Meanwhile, Spanish judges just decided positively about Francesco 's extradition to Italy. Next hearing is going to take place on the 13th February. His new address is:

Francesco Gioia
c.c. Via Maiano, 10
06049 Spoleto (PG)

Here is the address for sending money:

Conto c/o BancoPosta
on the name of a Bonamici Federico, n. 000053580528
(CIN O, Cod. ABI 07601, CAB 14000)
Specify the reason.



Operation Cervantes

On the 27th of July 2004, more than 40 searches and 4 arrests occurred all over Italy. Four comrades have been imprisoned with the accusation of the infamous article "270" and "270bis" : subversive association and subversive association towards terrorism respectively.

The 4 comrades were accused to be responsible for some of the actions, mainly letter bombs and rudimental bombs directed against cops and institutions connected with the prison system, for which the responsibility had been claimed from the F.A.I. : Anarchist Informal Federation, a network of different underground anarchist group active since 2000. The operation is named after the attack to the Cervantes institute in Rome, targeted on the 17th June 2003 in solidarity with the comrades imprisoned in the F.I.E.S. system in Spain.

The head of the operation are, once again, the infamous R.O.S., already well know special section of the Italian Carabinieri, extremely active in this kind of operation against anarchists (remember the Marini trial), helped by the Digos (Italian political police), and the Anti-Terrorism team of Rome, who is carrying on the investigation.

One of the people imprisoned, Marco "Tombolino", had been already a target of a police operation, being already accused of the beating of an undercover cop during a demonstration in October 2003, episode for which he spent an year in prison, being afterwards discharged from the accusation and found innocent.

Also another of the four people, Sergio, had been already arrested for the same crime of which he is blamed now, the setting of a self-made bomb in



front of a butcher shop in Arezzo, for which he spent already 3 months in custody, and at the time of his new arrest was serving home arrest.

During last year, a lot of solidarity actions took place, a lot of them heavily repressed by the state forces, and, unuseful to be said, all extremely criminalised by the media. These imprisoned comrades face really hard conditions of detention, against which they also have done some hunger strikes.

In Italy the prosecution can extend the period of preventive detention up to 2 years, having to renew it every 6 months. From the 7th April 2005, Sergio is under home arrest.

On the 30th of November, the trial started in Rome concerning this operation as well as the Crocenera operation, which is also part of the Cervantes one, and about which we report here later.

After the first hearing, 5 of the people were released to house-arrest, having all restrictions possible, 3 remained in prison; after the second hearing, they have been temporarily transferred to the Rebibbia jail, in Rome.

Within the next hearings, they have seen their request for house arrest accepted by the judge. Marco, Titto, and Simone are finally out of prison after 1 and a half years in jail, they obtained house arrest. Sergio, who had to sign to police station everyday, saw it reduced to 2 per week.

Operation Nottetempo

On the 12th of May 2005 the Italian police forces conducted an anti-anarchist raid that resulted of more than 20 searches all over Italy and the arrest of 5 comrades from Lecce (a city in south Italy), plus more than 10 people under investigation because of the same crime. The anarchist squat "il Capolinea", also in Lecce, was evicted.

The comrades are blamed with the "270bis" article: the inquirents accuse them to have carried some attacks against some banks and petrol stations, as well as against the company Benetton, in solidarity with the Mapuche struggle, but especially against the administrator of the local detention center for refugees, an infamous priest called don Cesare loDeserto.

The story is particularly interesting, since thankfully to the work of the local anarchists, who really worked hard in order to raise awareness around, as well as supporting the refugees struggles, and to the many refugees who took courage and made their stories public, the priest himself was found guilty because of mistreatments and other crimes against the refugees detained in the detention center of which he was the "chief" literally. Sounds then the best way for the state apparatus to try to smash a group of comrades who are too active and becoming so dangerous that are able even to put a "respected priest" in such a bad light...

On the 9th November, first hearing took place in Lecce: 2 persons (out of the 18 on trial), have seen their charges completely dropped. For the others, the charge concerning the incendiary attack against the priest's house as well as against on doctor who was working in the detention center for migrants was dropped. Next hearing is going to take place in Lecce on the 19th of January.



One of the comrades arrested in the operation, Salvatore, had already once been arrested one year before, as with other people, for trying to support a riot taking place inside the detention center, where some refugees attempted to escape, and the cops charged the riot supporters and arrested and beat him. At the moment he is also serving prison in isolation, facing also post restriction and heavy pressure from the cops inside.

The addresses of people arrested in this operation are:

Salvatore Signore
Casa Circondariale di Sulmona
Via Lamaccio 21
67039 Sulmona (AQ))

Saverio Pellegrino
Via Prati Nuovi, 7
CAP 27058
Voghera (Pavia)

Marina and Christian are serving house arrest:

Ferrari Marina
via XXI aprile, 29
73042 Casarano (LE)



Christian Paladini
Via De Mura
C2/73100
Lecce

Annalisa Capone has been freed from house arrest.

To sustain the legal expenses for this operation here is the account number: c.c.p. num. 56391345 in the name of Marina Ferrari.



Operation Fraria

On the 19th of May 2005 another operation against the anarchists from Sardinia took place, named after the anarchist circle to which some of the people belong to: 7 people were arrested under articles "270bis" and "272" (apology and subversive propaganda), the other 19 people are under investigation for the "272" and more than 40 searches took place all over Italy. Measures against the arrested have been from the very beginning house arrest.

The anarchists all belong to the anarchist circle "Fraria" in Cagliari, blamed immediately by the prosecution and the media as the centre of anarcho-insurrectionalism in Sardinia. Three of the arrested people had already been arrested in 2004, allegedly trying to sabotage an electoral stand of Forza Italia (Berlusconi's party). Police accuse the comrades to have carried some attacks against police and Carabinieri targets during the past 2 years and against some political parties, all of which happened in Sardinia.

In the meanwhile, another grotesque episode occurred: Pierleone P. , a comrade of the imprisoned people, wanting to ask directly to the magistrate a few questions about the arrests, went inside his office but was immediately stopped by the police, who accused him of resistance and he has been finally condemned to more than 7 months of house arrest. On the 19th of July, 3 comrades obtained, as a restriction, to sign everyday, while the other 4 people are still under house arrest.



Operation CroceNera **(Operation Black Cross)**

On the 26th of May again another operation: more than 80 searches and 10 arrests. Two different "procura" are investigating this time: one from Rome and one from Bologna. The first one ordered the arrest of Danilo, Claudia, Valentina, Stefano and Massimo. They are charged, once again, under the articles "270bis" and "272".

They are accused of a bomb attack against the tribunal of Viterbo (2004) and another (2003), failed, to a structure, also in Viterbo, connected to the prison system (all accused of the latter beside Massimo, who was in prison at the time). Massimo is also accused of the destruction of a McDonalds during a demonstration in 1999.

He has also already served 1 year and 2 months of preventive prison, being accused of the beating of an undercover cop during a demo, and afterwards found innocent, but he has been made "famous" by the usual media as "the leader of Italian Anarcho-Insurrectionalists". The operation is lead by the Rome procura, is part of the Cervantes operation. The other procura, the Bologna one, ordered the arrest of 7 people, among them Danilo and Valentina, already arrested after the other investigation, and charged all of them with the same crimes.

They are accused of some attacks which happened in 2001, namely some explosive letters sent to a Carabinieri station, to a Benetton office, to a right-wing journalist and to the Catac (the Spanish prison police trade union) as well an explosive pot placed in front of a police station in Genova. They are also accused of being part of the F.A.I. (Anarchist Informal Federation). Two of them have also been accused to have taken



part in a failed bank robbery in December 2001.

They are also accused of apology and subversive propaganda through the creation and the distribution of the Anarchist Black Cross bulletin, of which the website was closed by the postal police but re-opened afterwards on another server.

Connected to this, it is important to remember the fact that the postal police went one year before to Aruba, one of the companies which host the server where the ABC website is (Autistici/Inventati, a radical left server, more you can read on their website www.autistici.org), asking to this private company for access to the ABC website, and the company gave them access to all the mailing list and mail hosted on the Autistici/Inventati server, without informing the server's keepers: this means practically that the postal police spied for one year on all the mailing list and emails, having big interests in it since thousands of comrades have their email on this server. As seen already many times, repression walks also strongly the digital path.

On the 11th of June, the tribunal of Bologna removed the order of custody in prison for the 7 defendants, although 2 of them remained in prison due to being defendants also in the Rome inquiry. On the 25th August the Bologna tribunal made finally public the motivation of their decision, saying that there are not any proofs at all to justify the custody of the 7 people arrested and their connection to the facts, that probably the F.A.I either never existed or other people are responsible for those actions. Instead, the people under investigation from the Roma procura have sadly seen their arrest confirmed.

Meanwhile, on the 26th of August the Carabinieri conducted 5 searches in



Genova and Rovereto, raiding the apartments of some anarchists, taking with them computers and info material: the comrades are not yet charged with anything, the Carabinieri are looking for something that could connect them to some of the bombings happened between 2001 and 2004, for which the F.A.I. took responsibility. At the moment, all the defendants are serving house arrest, Massimo being the last one who, on the 22nd December, finally obtained this less restrictive measure.

To contribute to the legal costs:

From Italy

conto corrente postale n° 65424897

Account Name: Marco Bisesti

Rest of the world

Account Name: Marco Bisesti

IBAN number: IT 05 H 07601 03200 000065424897

To contact the Italian Anarchist Black Cross:

Address:

CROCE NERA ANARCHICA

C.P. 90

RM TORPIGNATTARA

00177 ROMA

Email: croceneraanarchica@riseup.net



Repression Against Antifascists

In the last years Italy have seen a dramatic escalation in terms of militant fascist activities, not including the incredible and widespread wave of revisionism dominating society: several social centers and squats have been attacked and burned, activists have been stabbed to death (Davide Cesare "Dax", Milano 2003) and others almost as near, as well episodes of violence on the streets against the usual target of the fascist scum: migrants, non-heterosexual people and people who generally have big conflicts with this society. The state repression apparatus chose to concentrate itself on anti-fascist activities, showing an already used and old movie: how fascist activities and state repression always walk together in order to smash down social movements.

In the month of June, a fascist attack occurred against Barocchio, an anarchist squat in Torino (a few days before in Rome, fascists attacked the social center Forte Prenestino, managing to stab a person in the neck who is still badly affected by the wound): 2 squatters were stabbed, one of them seriously and needed an urgent operation.

Among other activities, an antifa demo took place on the 18th June to respond publically to the attack: several hundreds people took the streets of Torino, and were charged brutally by the police as the demo wanted to enter the center of the city. A barricade was erected to defend the demo, and small clashes occurred to happen: undercover cops were also noticed by the demonstrators smashing a few windows as the clashes started.

On the 20th of July, 10 people were arrested and 10 more are under investigation in relation to that demo: 2 of them in relation to another demo in front of a detention center for migrants: the charges are



devastation and plundering, same charges as for the defendants in the Genova 2001 trial, from a minimum of 8 till a maximum of 15 years in prison. In the same day, a squat, Fenix, was evicted and a wall has been built to prevent people going inside again.

Important to be noticed, that the inquirers who are behind all this farce are 2 already sadly well know magistrates, Tatangelo and Laudi, who are among the ones responsible of the death of 2 squatters from Torino in 1998, Sole and Baleno, who both committed "suicide" in jail. On the 8th of August, finally the 7 imprisoned comrades obtained house arrest. Currently, all of them have seen their request for ending the house arrest refused.

Recently 2 other squats, Rrosalia and Alcova, located also where The Fenix was located, have been evicted by state forces, to make place and order for the upcoming Torino Olympics game.

Furthermore, another comrade has been arrested, now serving house arrest, on the 22nd December, after being followed by cops after a solidarity rally for the anti-fascists. They are accused of throwing a bottle at a cop during one of the spontaneous demonstrations which happened after the brutal police violence on the 6th December against the demo against the high velocity train in Val di Susa.

The current situation for the imprisoned antifascists is:

On the 17th January, in relation to the riots in front of the detention center for migrants, 3 of them have been sentenced to 6 months for resistance, 4 to 10 months for resistance and offence, and 1 to 1 year and 2 months for the same crimes, but having past convictions.



Concerning the riots after the anti-fascist demo, the prosecution case has been confirmed, so all the defendants will go to trial, which will open on the 27th of June 2006. On the 20th of January, 3 of them were released from house arrest, while 5 still have to sign 3 time per week at the local police station.

On the 9th of July Flavio, an anti-fascist from Taranto, South Italy, has also been arrested and held in jail. He is accused of attempting to murder a fascist: he allegedly tried to stab him. The fascist himself is by the way the boss of the local Forza Nuova section, a very active and violent fascist organization from Italy. All the operation is a typical farce, without witnesses able to recognise him, another farce against an active anti-fascist in a place where fascist activities are really high.

On the 27th of July, some days after he was refused house arrest, he was moved to another prison for " security reasons". He recently obtained at first house arrest, which was then reduced to signing at the police station.

During the time we are writing this little brochure, more and more fascist attacks against social centers and activists have taken place all over Italy.

As a really last note, we would also like to remind people that in Genoa the trial against 25 people accused of plundering and devastation, in relation to the riots against the G8 summit in Genoa 2001, is going on since a long time: the defendants are risking from 8 up to 15 years of prison, they also should not be forgotten.



