

CONTRA - INFORMATION SHEET No1

JANUARY-FEBRUARY - MARCH 2013

FEBRUARY-MARCH GREECE

7.2.2013

A riot broke out on Thursday night in a detention center in Fylakio, Orestiada, near the Turkish border.

The riots started at 20.30 and were ended round 3.00 when heavy police forces arrived. The immigrants, who were protesting after finding out that their time in detention would be extended, by up to one year, managed to break bits of steel of doors at the facility and threw them at guards along with bricks and tiles, and also put fire on their mattresses. The police along with the fire department forces entered the building using cutting wheel, they put off the fire and 8 immigrants were arrested. ☒

12/2/2013

The chief of the police station of Egaleo was arrested charged over blackmailing immigrant shopkeepers in the center of Athens.

The two cops were controlling different immigrants' shops, on the pretext of searching tax-free cigarettes, and then they were blackmailing and threatening the owners.

In early February, an immigrant from Bangladesh, shop owner (mini market), was blackmailed by the chief of the police station of Egaleo and another policeman in retirement. As a collaborator of the two policemen was an immigrant from Pakistan.

The fact: The two cops, in civilian enter the shop pretending to be customers. They ask for cigarettes but the shopkeeper tells them that he's not selling cigarettes in his shop. After that, the 2 cops revealing their service IDs were asking if there is anything illegal inside the shop and they will search to find, if any. The immigrant tells them again that he has nothing illegal and they can search if they want. Finishing their research without finding nothing, one of the cops calls a person (immigrant also) that was standing out of the shop and was holding a plastic bag with cigarettes in it. The cops then say to the shopkeeper "now

you have cigarettes". They blackmail him asking for 10.000 euros "in order not to close his shop", as they were declaring. The owner, terrified, tells them that he doesn't have all this money and after some negotiations they ask him 1.000 euros. The shopkeeper didn't have this money also. Finally the cops took all the money they found in the cashier (about 300 euros) and many cell phone time cards. The other immigrant, collaborator of the two cops, undertakes to pass again the next day to collect the remaining amount.

So done, next evening the collaborator of the two cops arrived, taking this time 200 euros. Additionally, he tries to explain to the shopkeeper and his son, being also there, that from now on he is able to find them cigarettes to sell, if they wanted to, without having any problem with the police. He announced them that they own no more money and also that he would give them a paper certifying that for the next two years no one would annoy them. The shopkeeper denied the "new deal" once more. He locked the doors and he called the police. A few minutes later the two blackmailer cops arrived trying to break the door, without result. Finally, the official police arrived and arrested all of them. They were brought to the police station of Aghios Panteleimonas where all the cops were trying to hide the truth and terrify the owner of the shop by blackmailing or bribing him. But the immigrant shopkeeper decided not to stop and he went to another police station and sued the two cops and their immigrant collaborator. The Internal Affairs police sector investigated the fact and found out the role of each person in this. Despite the fact that all evidence were against them, the policemen were found not guilty by the court that took place on 29/3!!

12-17/2/2013

A protest took place on Sunday 17/2 at the police station of Drapetsona against the beatings of immigrants happening in this police station.

Some days before, at the police station of Nikea, 12 immigrants, being accused for not having papers and detained for a long period, began hunger strike claiming their liberty. The police decided to disperse them in different police stations and 4 of them were transferred to the police station of Drapetsona. From their first hours there, they came face to policemen who were demanding the break of the hunger strike.

According to the denouncement of Farouk Mohamad, a police officer ordered other prisoners to beat him in order to stop his hunger strike. He was beaten so much that he was transferred to Thriasio hospital.

The hunger strike began on Tuesday 12/2 at the police station of Nikea, after the beatings an immigrant suffered by a policeman. The detention conditions to this police station are really inhuman as 12 people are held to a cell made for 3 persons. The police brutality began when a prisoner demanded to transfer them in an other cell, with enough space, so as they can sleep. Since then they were sleeping in shifts, half of them sleeping and the others standing, due to lack of space. The last period many immigrants are beaten and maltreated to the police station of Nikea. For instance, these days, there is an immigrant with broken arm because of the police blows.

All this does not surprises us, as the police station of Nikea is known all this years for its humiliating treatment and tortures over immigrants, leading even to death the migrant Mohamad Kamran Atif, from Pakistan, in October 2009.

An indicative case of how the police treat the hunger strikers is that of Faraz Ahmet, refuge from Palestine, when during his 8th day of hunger strike (22/3) collapsed and was taken rushed to the hospital because the cops gave him to drink shampoo telling him that is medicine.
http://anarxiko-resalto.blogspot.gr/2013/03/blog-post_24.html



23.2.2013

Another hunger strike has began on Saturday the 23rd of February, at the detention center of Amigdaleza, this time because some "illegal" immigrants have been held 94 days and a new decision has been taken extending the detention of some of them for more 1 year! Also the conditions are inhumane and the detention center resembles to prison, the place is isolated from resident area or other buildings, fenced all around with barbed wire. The police presence and control is quite strict, even during the visiting time. The living conditions are very bad; there were people inside without wearing a pair of shoes. To our questions concerning the previous day's revolt the cops denied it happened or they avoided answering giving some ridiculous reasons, such as, "I was out of duty that day...!!!"

2.2.2013 BELGIUM

Collective escape from the immigrants' detention center at Merksplas of Belgium. Seven detained escaped during the night of 2nd February. Until the guards of the center perceive their escape, the detained were already far away. The investigation continues without results until now. ☒



18.2.2013 ITALY

During the night of 18th February 2013 detained of the immigrants' detention center at Gradisca of Trieste, near the frontiers of Slovenia, tried to escape. Thirty (30) immigrants get out of their cells using a key they had on them and came face to the guards. Five of them succeeded to escape. The rest of the immigrants were accused for their action and there is still investigation running trying to find where did the immigrants found the key. The next day new riots began : detained tried to destroy the security cameras and then they burned their furnitures and their mattresses out of their cells.

<http://sanspapiersnifrontieres.noblogs.org/post/2013/02/21/revolte-et-evasion-au-cie-de-gradisca/> ☒

18.2.2013 ITALY

On Monday 18 of February a revolt broke out at the immigrants' detention center of Ponte Galeria, at Rome. Some decades of immigrants climbed the walls and burned their mattresses. Μερικές δεκάδες κρατούμενοι σκαρφάλωσαν στους τοίχους και έβαλαν φωτιά σε στρώματα. The cause that bursted the revolt was the refuse of a young Nigerian to accept his deportation. His resistance and the police brutality uprised the solidarity of the rest Nigerian detained. According to different witnesses the man's wing of the detention center was totally burned and the it took 3 hours for the firemen to control the fire. According to the authorities only Nigerian immigrants, who are 43 of 132 detained immigrants of the center, took part in the revolt. According to other detained, the revolters took all the mattresses and all the blankets from the cells and burned them. Victor, the young Nigerian who refused his deportation, was not deported. In contrary, 8 detained were arrested and taken to prison. In Italy, this period , many immigrants without legal papers commit desperation

acts. A few days ago a desperate man jumped on the subway's rails and an other one who received negative answer to his asylum application burned himself on the airport of Rome. The revolters, despite their desperate condition, with their struggles are a note of fresh air in this days. Unfortunately, their voice remains enclaved and does not succeed to break the walls. Solidarity to the 8 detained and all those who resisting to the deportation of one of their comrades, created and shared these little moments of freedom.

<http://sanspapiersnifrontieres.noblogs.org/post/2013/02/21/rome-revolte-au-cie-de-ponte-galerie-18-fevrier-2013/> ☒

22.2.2013 ITALY

A big revolt to the detention center of Corso Brunnelleschi, at Torino of Italy on 22 of February 2013.

All started at about 21:00 o'clock when some detained tried to escape climbing the high fences but they were seen and arrested by the police. Immediately riots broke out to the whole center, some detained climbed to the roof and others put fire to their cells. The reaction of the police was extremely violent, using mass tear gases , making the atmosphere unsustainable, even outside of the center. The solidarity manifestation called through radio announcements and messages was hit many times by the special police troops. According to the police, 15 anarchists arrived outside the detention center throwing fireworks and sparklers. After a police attack, the demonstrators reacted, throwing stones and tipping over rubbish bins. Finally, many detained were badly hit and transferred to the prison of Vallette.

<http://sanspapiersnifrontieres.noblogs.org/post/2013/02/23/turin-revolte-au-cie-3/> ☒



4.3.13

During the last few months , almost every day, a strange incident happens. In buses 838 and 914, from Omonia to Redi, P.Kokkinia, three particular (the same each time) ticket collectors enter to these buses between 17:00 and 21:00 o'clock in the evening. They are asking tickets exclusively from dark skin immigrants being that time inside the buses. If some of the immigrants do not have a ticket they draw them down, they hit them and they take all of their money. They do this on a bus station on Petrou Ralli, where is dark and there is no lights. They take the money from the immigrants justifying it as a fine for not having ticket but they return no receipt of the fine. If the immigrants have no money on them they take their ATM cards beating and forcing them to withdraw all the money they have in the bank. If some of the immigrants have a ticket, these three guys ask for their papers. No matter if they have papers or not, they blackmail them that they will call the police. In this way they draw the immigrants down again doing what was described above. Many complaints are done to the police for these three persons but nothing it is done until now. This fact, that has happened many times until now, is confirmed and can be also confirmed by everyone who wants to.

http://rozkarta.blogspot.gr/2013/03/blog-post_6491.html ☒

12.3.2013

On Tuesday 12/3 there was a demonstration in Athens against the mining activities in Chalkidiki (in Northern Greece, near Thessaloniki)

For years, local residents have been opposed to the activity of the mining factory in Chalkidiki as it will destroy the surrounding forest (one of the rarest European primordial forests) and there will be significant danger to their health due to the mining process.

Eldorado Gold company (the Canadian company that has obtained mining rights for the area), politicians and mass media only have to say that the mining factory will offer jobs and will help local economy.. Of course, the mining rights purchase in extremely favorable terms for Eldorado Gold was orchestrated with the assistance of Greek politicians.

Recently, mining activity has been increased and the resistance by local residents has grown even stronger. There are local assemblies, activism and demonstrations by the residents of the area and solidarity actions all over Greece.

On February 17, the Skouries gold mine was attacked with Molotov cocktails, damaging machinery, containers and vehicles. The following days, police and undercover police were all over the area. Several local residents were detained by the police. Detainees "disappeared" (their friends/relatives/lawyers couldn't get info) and they were subjected to (illegal) DNA tests. Besides that riot police attacks to locals in villages round the area and mass media talk against anyone who participates to the struggles.

But those who fight against the mines are not alone. The struggles will not stop:



OUR STRUGGLES HAVE NO FATHERLAND

As long as we are part of this struggle, we stand not only against the environmental destruction but also against the State and the Bosses, both local and foreign. Their country of origin is of no importance, since their intention is profit and not "development of the region" or "national interest".

In a period that everyday survival becomes a struggle and ever larger parts of society are being impoverished, the interests of the powerful are christened national, destruction is named development and the threat of society's fascistization is becoming a reality.

What is at stake for our struggle against the gold mines, is not whether they will be under a Greek or a Canadian company's control or if they're under the state's control, but that they should not even exist. In this scope defending "the forest, the water and our lives" is not related with any sense of "patriotic duty". Because, just as the bosses' profits, the dignity of those who resist knows no borders.

What is more we never thought of putting our hopes in the Council of State, its role as a part of the State is not to block but to facilitate the functions of the capitalist system. Besides, even the Constitution is clear. When it comes to national economy and hence profitability, the environment and our lives come second.

This struggle just like any other fight should rely on our own forces, and not wait for a deus ex machina to save us. We perceive ourselves as part of the struggles that are currently given worldwide against the oppression of our lives and environment.

FROM PERU TO INDONESIA AND FROM CANADA TO CHILE
THE STRUGGLE IS ONE

Open Coordinative of Thessaloniki against the goldmines



February-March 2013

Mobilizations are taking place the last month against the new law concerning higher education. ("official name : Athena plan). The new law plans to close or merge different faculty departments around Greece and change the way universities are managed. Most of the Greek universities are occupied (ASOEE is one of them) and many demonstrations are taking place in Athens and other cities.

ANTIFASCISTS ACTIONS JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH 2013

15.1.2013

Approximately 30 fascists were passing out their texts for the second time on one of the city's avenues. A group of nearly 60 antifascists attacked the Nazis, who wore helmets and carried sticks with the national flag. The Nazis ran away in fear, after a five minute's clash. More than five Nazis were wounded and needed stitches, while they received concussions and had broken limbs, too. At the same time, three antifascists got injured from the stones and needed stitches. Both Nazis and counter-protesters ended up in the same hospital. While solidarians waited for the injured antifascists to leave the hospital, they slashed the tires of four cars belonging to Nazis outside.

https://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=el&article_id=1450027

9.2.2013

Antifascist march against the opening of an office of Golden Dawn in Mesoyion street and with a massive participation of around 2.000 persons.

https://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=el&article_id=1456217

10.2.2013

Antifascist demo in Paleo Faliro with around 800 participants of all ages.

https://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=el&article_id=1456282

14.2.2013

Demo in Athens for the murder of Babacar Ndiaye (street vendor) by cops of the municipal police at Thissio on the 1/2/2013 and for the murder of Sahtzat Loukman (worker of the popular market) by fascists of Golden Dawn on the 17/1/2013 at Petralona, with the participation of more than 400 persons, locals and immigrants. The demo started from the place of the murder of Babacar Ndiaye at Thissio and ended in the train station of Petralona, passing by the place of the murder of Sahtzat Loukman and the office of the municipal police.

On the same day demos took place in Ioannina in the streets of the center, with the participation of around 100 persons, anarchists, leftists and immigrants, and in Thessaloniki with the

participation of around 400 persons. Only the immigrants were around 200, from Senegal, Bangladesh, Maghreb and Turkey.

https://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=el&article_id=1457047

16.2.2013

Antifascist intervention at Pagrati.

On Friday afternoon, around 18.30pm (and while the attempt of reoccupation of the squat Skaramaga was taking place in the center of Athens), 40 gorillas-Golden Dawn members, with flags of their party and of Greece, went out to share texts (for around 30min). Their walk was followed by around 15 motorbikes of the DELTA and the DIAS police forces, who were their only supporters. Also, when they were passing in front of a shop, a indignant client went out yelling at them "shame on you fascists", while from the balconies there were some people shouting "fascists get out of here, the fascists out of Kaisariani", etc. The bunch of fascists passed in front of the indignant client looking at him aggressively and suddenly, one of them got close to the client yelling at him "communist you are gonna die", pulled out of his sleeve a stiletto and pressed him on the wall. The rest of the clients started yelling (but didn't went closer) and at the last moment an other member of Golden Dawn grabbed the one holding the stiletto and pulled him away. When the man that was attacked asked the cops that were following the fascist group "Well, you didn't see that he was attacking me with a stiletto ? You're following them or you're protecting them ?", the cops ignored him ostentatiously... The next morning 2 members of Golden Dawn showed up at this particular shop asking for informations about the client.

As a first answer, the same night around 22pm, 80 antifascists did a march in the streets of Pagrati holding a banner saying "Nor at Pagrati, nor anywhere - Smash the fascists in every neighborhood", sharing texts, writings slogans and pasting posters.

https://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=el&article_id=1457381

1.3.2013

Antifascist demo in Rethymno in the island of Crete which was called by KEEFΦA with the participation of more than 150 people. They participated with the banner of KEEFΦA, ΣΥΡΙΖΑ and of the student's collective organisation of psychology and many social fighters.

https://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=el&article_id=1460127

2.3.2013

Antifascist demo in the island of Samos https://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=el&article_id=1460503

2.3.2013

Antiracist demo against the detention camp for immigrants in Giannena.

<https://athens.indymedia.org/calendar/event.php?id=42955>

2.3.2013

Antifascist march in Kallithea https://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=el&article_id=1460266

3.3.2013

Antifascist gathering in Heraklion, Crete, for the reasons of the presence of members of Golden Dawn in the city.

https://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=el&article_id=1460242

8.3.2013

Antifascist demo for memory in Nikea, Athens.

"More than 400 people, comrades, locals of the neighborhood of every age and antifascist solidarians, marched against the racist attacks, the rise of the fascism, the police State, the state and para-state terrorism that lead to more material, spiritual and emotional misery."

The central slogan on the banner of the demo said : "Struggles against fascism - Memory against the oblivion"

<http://sinialo.espiv.net/?p=10741>

NI POLICE, NI CHARITÉ !

VIVE LA LUTTE DES
SANS PAPIERS !

