



# INTR ODUC TION

## ON THE WRITTEN WORD

Long-form print discourse within radical scenes is a dying form. We have become overly-reliant on think-pieces and social media. For those of us that came into anarchist networks via newspapers and 'zines, it probably feels somewhat alien to hear that people are being radicalized on Discord and Reddit. Yes, there are some advantages to using the internet as a tool for communication, and we don't abstain from it. But every tool has its limits.

A revitalization of anarchist print media is underway. Rupture Mag is the beginning of that here in D.C. In other US cities there is The Chaostar (NYC), Filler (PGH), and Anathema (PHL). Some of these issue will be free locally to those in the know. Unlike other releases from this distro, will have to sell a significant portion of these zines to cover the costs of

Issue #2. That being said, we hope that future issues can be full-color and professionally printed on 11" x 17" glossy paper.

This issue is about reflection. Reflection on past movements and direct actions. Reflection of past strategies can help us forge new ones. In the 'What Went Down' section we will feature a recap of direct actions from 2011-2023. None of the editorials or reportbacks are from 2023, however our future issues will be more topical and relevant.



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# FEATURES

# WHAT WENT DOWN

# T NT DOWN

The following is a condensed and paraphrased list of the history of direct action in the DMV from 2011-2023. Most of this is sourced from Wikipedia and DC Indymedia. It is by no means a complete history, so please let us know what we missed for issue #2:

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# 2011

**Fall:** A call for an occupation of Zuccotti Park in NYC is published in the leftist anti-consumerist magazine *Ad-busters*. They start the occupation in NYC on September 17, 2011, with the Occupy DC contingent beginning on October 1st. Occupy movements be-

gin all over the country after the NYC occupation as a generalized movement against corporate greed and money in politics.

**October 20:** Occupy D.C. holds a protest at Union Station to protest against a Walmart event.

**October 29:** Students from Howard University joined the Occupy D.C. protesters with the goal of bringing more racial diversity to the protest.

**November 4:** Occupy D.C. held a protest at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center where political advocacy group Americans for Prosperity held their annual Defending the American Dream Summit, attended by conservative politicians



and activists. Four protesters were struck by a vehicle while participating in the protest. According to protesters, the vehicle sped up before it deliberately hit the protesters in two separate incidents minutes apart. According to police, the protesters jumped in front of the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle was not cited by police because he had had a green light at the time. The police have

**October 16:** Dr. Cornel West, activist and Princeton University professor, was arrested along with 18 other people while protesting on the Supreme Court steps



opened an investigation into the incident.

**November 19:** Around 200 demonstrators entered or gathered around the city-owned Franklin School, a former homeless shelter and historical building on 13th and K streets. They were protesting plans by City officials to have the building privately developed, wanting it to remain public and

**October 18:** Harvard professor Lawrence Lessig visited McPherson Square to speak about government corruption and propose ideas on how to unite people to address it as a growing problem in the U.S.

possibly reopen as a homeless shelter. Louis P. Cannon, chief of D.C. Protective Services Police Department, stated that 13 people were arrested and charged with unlawful entry, a misdemeanor.

**November 22:** A group of protesters complete their march from Occupy Wall Street (NYC) to Washington, D.C.

**December 4:** After a confrontation with the police, 31 protesters were arrested after refusing to take down and dismount from an unfinished wooden building they had built for

# 2011

the winter. Police claimed that the structure was dangerous, and it was ultimately dismantled despite claims by the protesters that the structure was safe. According to the Washington Post this event was the "testiest [one] since the encampment began some months ago."

**December 7:** A total of 74 Occupy D.C. and other protesters are arrested. Some sixty-two people were arrested (and many charged with obstruction of a public highway) after forming human chains on and around K

Street, Washington's lobbying corridor. An additional 12 protesters were arrested that night for refusing to leave the steps of the Supreme Court.

**December 27:** The two original organizers of the Freedom Plaza occupation divorce themselves from the occupation, rejecting the general assembly's leaderless, consensus decision making process. They deny the general assembly control over the original website and of the donated funds.



# 2012

**January 17, 2012:** A rally and occupation of the United States Capitol, Washington's D.C.'s legislative body and the meeting place of the United States Senate and House of Representatives. The House members were to be returning on their first session of the new year. Thousands of protesters from around the country planned on attending and taking their message to Congress Occupy Congress started at 9:00 AM as a march of McPherson Square and Freedom

**Feb 4, 2012:** Police raid and cordon off sections of the park in order to allow sanitation workers to remove hazardous materials and tents not in compliance with the ban on camping, arresting 11 and leaving around 15 tents.

**February 26, 2012:** In Sanford, Florida, George Zimmerman fatally shoots a 17-year old black boy by the name of Trayvon Martin.

**Jun 10, 2012:** Occupy DC protesters remove remaining tents from

Square Occupy D.C. participants to the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol and then a march to the various Senate buildings for the participants to speak to their respective Senate staff over issues such as SOPA, NDAA, Citizens United. At around 8:30 PM, a group estimated to have included 1,000 to 1,500 people marched in Washington D.C. streets from the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol to the U.S. Supreme Court, where people filled up all the stairs leading up to the front doors

McPherson Square, stating that protests will continue.

**November 6, 2012:** Obama wins his 2nd term in office as president of the United States.

of the building. The march then continued all the way to the front of the White House where at one point, someone threw a smoke bomb over the fence, causing a lock down to occur. The march then traveled all the way back to the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol.

**January 30, 2012:** Eviction notices distributed by police to Occupy DC issue a noon deadline. Unarmed

man filmed being tasered by police was subsequently arrested.

**January 31, 2012:** Deadline passes on Occupy DC eviction, however the police have not taken to action to remove the protesters. Occupy DC protesters erected a big tent, dubbed "The Tent of Dreams", over Gen. McPherson's statue at McPherson square.

# 2013

**January 20, 2013:** An anarchist counter-inaugural black bloc rolls thru Chinatown after a punk show (the 2013 Festival of Resistance - Catharsis reunion show). Handbills explaining opposition to all presidents are handed out. The black bloc took to the streets of Chinatown, smashing the windows of banks, ATMs, and a Hooters restaurant before dispersing without arrests. At the night march, an older guard of black bloc anarchists struggled to find

common cause with a newer generation of Occupy radicals who, for example, understood live-streaming as a form of radically democratic transparency rather than harmful crowd-sourced surveillance. While these marches numbered only in the dozens, they maintained the continuity of anti-authoritarian resistance to the inaugural spectacle despite the desertion of liberals and progressives.



**April 15, 2013:** The documentary 'The Legend of Cool "Disco" Dan' is released, written and directed by Joseph Patisall. The documentary was narrated by Washington, D.C.-native Henry Rollins. The Legend of Cool "Disco" Dan examines the life of mythical graffiti artist Cool "Disco" Dan, while juxtaposing his life against many of the historical events from the 1970s and 1980s that shaped the culture of Washington, D.C.

**July 13, 2013:** George Zimmerman is acquitted of murder charges, sparking the beginning of the Black Lives Matter movement in the U.S. Protests erupt everywhere, including in nearby Frederick, Maryland.

**July 14, 2013:** A protest against the racist George Zimmerman acquittal goes down in DC, starting at Malcolm X Park to join a rally at Howard University.



# 2014

**March 19, 2014:** Chesapeake Earth First! entered the building housing Hill & Knowlton, lobbyists for Enbridge. This was in response to a First Nations call for solidarity actions against Enbridge for reversing the flow of their old #9 pipeline to carry tar sands oil.

During the famous "Redwood Summer," fake Earth First! fliers threatening violence appeared, they were

**December 19, 2014:** On 4 hours notice, civil rights protesters assembled in Anacostia, marched onto the 11th St Bridge, and held traffic. From there they marched onto DC 295 and blockaded traffic, though not holding any one line of cars directly for more than a few minutes. The cops themselves blocked traffic far longer, but the entire freeway action was deliberately limited to one hour. Local participants were nervous about mass arrests, so organizers reminded ev-

later traced to Hill & Knowlton Strategies.

**August 9, 2014:** In Ferguson, Missouri 18-year old Michael Brown is shot by racist cop Darren Wilson. Protests erupt all over the Metro St. Louis area.

**August 21, 2014:** DC residents gathered on the open plaza in Columbia Heights

everyone of DC's "3 warning" law for arresting protesters.

After the blockade ended, protesters marched back into Anacostia and up Good Hope Road, bound for a 7PM youth summit to discuss next steps. Although in the streets, this march was structured as an educational event, and every effort was made to get cheering bystanders to join the march.



on 14th st to demand justice for Michael Brown, murdered by police in Ferguson, MO. At the rally there was talk of starting a serious Cop-watch program here in DC to reduce

the danger of a similar police shooting here.

On the same day, reports emerged that the authorities in Ferguson are now using cell phone jammers in an attempt to prevent live video from being broadcast at selected times, such as when police charged into the crowd.



hood Watch T-shirt desecrated the memorial.

**December 26, 2014:** A vigil was held at 28th and Naylor Road (Anacostia), for 29 year old Raymond Robinson, who was shot and killed by DC Police on Christmas Eve. Police claimed he fired on them, but multiple witnesses said police fired first. Not long after the vigil, a man in a neighbor-

# 2015

**March 10, 2015:** DC Ferguson activists packed a DC Council Judiciary Committee oversight hearing on MPD. They were there to demand nothing less than a complete end to "jump-out" police tactics that terrorize communities of color in DC. Former cops testified that their training justified any and all police shootings, and someone named Trayvon White said cops are even conducting cavity searches during those jump-outs. A

**June 21, 2015:** DC Ferguson marches in solidarity with Charleston, South Carolina against racist terror. DC Ferguson marched in solidarity with African-Americans in Charleston, South Carolina. On June 17, a white supremacist invaded the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston and opened fire. Nine people were killed and one more person wounded. Signs in the DC march read "Stop the war on Black America".

**December 16, 2015:** Protesters opposing fracked gas export from Dominion's LNG project in Calvert

jump-out is when cops swarm out of unmarked cars with the intent of intimidating someone into consent to a search.

**March 12, 2015:** Metro Transit Police shot and killed a man in the tunnels near the Potomac Ave station.

**March 13, 2015:** DC Ferguson met at Chinatown, got on the Metro, then got off at U street to block the inter-

County, MD showed up at the Dupont Circle branch of Bank of America. They were there to deliver a letter to the bank manager and give out fliers outside. Bank of America locked their doors, not only refusing the letter but locking out all their customers, some of whom had paid to park their cars nearby. Bank of America owns 1.4% of Dominion and lent them \$4 billion for the Cove Point gas export facility. The Dupont Circle protest was part of a regional day of action against Bank of America's investments in gas export and especially Dominion's dangerous Cove Point facility. After about two hours protesters moved

section of 14th and U streets. One person was arrested by police at the end of the action-again as it was ending and people were dispersing. This is the second time this has happened, last time around Montgomery County police essentially jumped out on an alleged organizer after the New Years Day protest inside Wheaton Plaza had ended.

to another Bank of America branch on 14th st in Columbia Heights. This time they were able to get inside, deliver the letter to the bank manager and leave-only to have a metal gate come down and close this branch too as soon as they were outside. This was the second closure of a Bank of America branch in DC in a matter of hours over BofA's investments in Dominion and gas export.

**March 14, 2015:** The man murdered by a lone longtime Metro Transit cop on March 12 was identified as 35 yr. old Bobby Gross. A Washington Post report says he was unarmed except for a tree branch, not even a knife. Apparently he was in the tunnel walking between the Stadium-Armory and Potomac Ave stations and was reported by a train operator. The result was his death at the hands of Metro Transit Police.

# 2016

**Summer 2016:** The planning process for a disruption of the 2017 inauguration begins (later called Disrupt J20) well before people knew that Donald Trump would win.

**September 26, 2016:** Black Lives Matter activists gathered at 3rd and M st to remember Terrence Sterling, shot off of his motorcycle by DC Police at 4:20AM on Sep 11, 2016. Demands at the rally included releasing all video from the shooting plus the names and addresses of the officers involved. A

**November 14, 2016:** The #DisruptJ20 counter-inaugural campaign officially begins. Crimethinc and Sub-mediaTV published a video in multiple places made in the Anonymous style promoting the upcoming protests against Trump's inauguration on Jan 20, 2016. The video explicitly states "the parade must be stopped" and advises "wear black."

**November 18, 2016:** The "suit-and-tie Nazi" National Policy Institute (NPI) attempted to hold a quiet dinner meeting on the subject of white supremacy at an Italian restaurant on Wisconsin

Avenue further demand was that the DC police be disarmed, their guns be taken away. As morning rush hour reached its peak the group marched onto NY Ave and shut it down with a curb to curb blockade.

**November 8, 2016:** Donald Trump wins the 2016 election, beating Hillary Clinton. Protests erupt in DC that night with highways blockaded.

**November 9, 2016:** Protesters march on Trump Hotel, burn US

Ave called Maggiano's. Anti-fascist protesters stormed the restaurant and got most of the way up the stairs to the second floor where NPI was meeting. A few got in via the elevator. The Washington Post is reporting that "a foul smelling liquid" was sprayed on NPI President Richard Spencer, notorious for peddling "white nationalism."

**November 19, 2016:** The alt-right, Neo-Nazi National Policy Institute met in the Ronald Reagan Building. As they tried to hold a press conference, a crowd estimated by one

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flag, throw paint. The first march started at the White House and marched to Trump Hotel chanting "No Trump, no KKK no racist USA." A second, equally large march arrived from U before that first massive siege of the hotel could entirely disperse, and contained some militant activists. One group burned the US flag, which will be the flag of Donald Trump after Jan 20. Shortly thereafter someone threw a paint projectile, scoring a direct hit on the building.

speaker at over 1,000 anti-fascists laid siege to the event, marching around the building, pursuing any Nazi they spotted. One of NPI's own reporters was seen on video saying she was "covering the battle," then she got sprayed point-blank in the hair with spray paint. Another Nazi with her received a head injury and ended up in the hospital after assaulting a protester only to be taken down by many more antifa. The building gets defaced with a tag reading "fuck Trump". Two people were detained by police but at least one was confirmed released

**November 11, 2016:** An anti-capitalist/antifascist march took to the streets against Donald Trump. Also present were many Black Lives Matter activists. The climax of the march was a moving, marching occupation of the I-395 tunnel near 3ed st. Immediately prior to that the march blocked NY Ave to mark 2 months since DC police shot Terrence Sterling off his motorcycle.

at the scene, no clear reports of any actual arrests.

# 2017

**January 13, 2017:** Julia Flores, a 15 year employee of the P St Whole Foods who was fired from her job for organizing workers and informing them about such laws as the minimum wage. On the 13th of January, Many Languages One Voice escalated the campaign demanding her job back by blocking the streets in front of another Whole Foods in Foggy Bottom. They were supported by the IWW in this picket.

**January 18, 2017:** Queer Dance party on Mike Pence's lawn: A packed crowd marched from the Friendship Heights Metro to Western Ave and Tennyson St, as close to the home of Mike Pence as police barricades on the side street would let them get. Most of the crowd had to stay on Western Ave simply due to its size. The message of the crowd was simple: the hate and bigotry Pence stands for will



not be tolerated. This was a Disrupt J20 and Twerk for Peace event.

**January 19, 2017:** Rape apologist Mike Cernovich's Deploraball was held at the National Press Club. This "alt-right" event for the neo-Nazi wing of Trump's supporters, was named after Hillary Clinton's "basket of Deplorables" remark concerning racists and misogynists supporting Trump. At 7:30 PM, just after the start of the protests against the Deploraball,

venes at Logan Circle and rolls down 13th street, wrecking everything in its path. A limo is set ablaze and many cops are injured from bricks & stones. At the L & 12 NW intersection 200+ protesters are kettled into what became a mass-arrest, the largest illegal mass-arrest in the city since the 2002 anti-IMF protest arrest that resulted in a massive class action lawsuit payout. The Metropolitan Police Department tortures & sexually harasses many arrestees, even engaging in mock executions with a group of detainees. All 270 arrestees are charged with felony 'Conspiracy to Riot' and end up facing 80 years in prison. Also, Neo-Nazi Richard Spencer gets punched earlier in the day. To learn

there were conflicting reports of smoke or mace used, along with sounds of "explosions."

**January 20, 2017:** Donald Trump is inaugurated as the 45th President of the United States. The Disrupt J20 demonstrations begin early in the day, blocking off most of the inauguration entrance checkpoints in the city. A anti-capitalist black bloc con-

more about J20, watch the SubMedia Trouble Documentary 'Conspiracy To Riot: The Case of the J20 Resistance' <https://sub.media/trouble-16-conspiracy-to-riot/>

**April 1, 2017:** The Trump National Golf Course in Sterling, Virginia was found with anarchist symbols dug into it and the word "resist" emblazoned in bleach on a fairway. The damage was found one day before Trump was due to appear there in person for a round of golf with Sen Rand Paul. A communique appeared on itsgoingdown.org claiming this action

# 2017

as a solidarity action for the over 200 people arrested during the DisruptJ20 protests against Donald Trump's inauguration. This act of militant direct action is a shot across the bow those who think cops and jails can stop the resistance to fascism and to Donald Trump.

**April 30, 2017:** The IWW showed up at the Whole Foods on P st, demanding reinstatement of a worker named Julia who was fired for union organizing activity. In addition to the

**June 10, 2017:** No Justice No Pride lock-downs kick MPD, Wells Fargo out of their parade slots. No Justice No Pride first marched over the Capitol Pride route, then used hard lock-downs to block the MPD, Lockheed-Martin, and Wells Fargo contingents. The rest of the parade rerouted around the blocked streets. MPD's contingent withdrew, unknown if they managed to get back into the parade. Wells Fargo got stuck, had to rejoin the parade at the back by the garbage trucks. Lockheed-Martin's contingent was also blocked. No re-

picket, someone dropped a banner with the same demand on it. In an ugly development, alt-right organizer Mike Cernovich showed up, posting photos to his Twitter account. One chant at the picket was "Overpriced organic slob, union busting must be stopped!" Some people taking fliers proceeded into Whole Foods anyway, but others read the fliers and then chose to shop elsewhere according to reports on Twitter.

**June 2, 2017:** Alexander Reid Ross,



the author of the book 'Against the Fascist Creep' holds a discussion at the Potter's House about the history of fascism and how it relates to current events. Four neo-Nazis in MAGA hats showed up and barged in. Antifascists posted guards all around the Nazis and photographed them. Several were followed out back to their Uber.

**June 9, 2017:** No Justice No Pride opened the mobilization against corporate/assimilationist fake Pride with an evening march through some of

ports of arrests, even at the blockades.

**July 26, 2017:** Daniel Hogg, a.k.a. prolific graffiti writer Cool "Disco" Dan passes away at the age of 47.

**September 11, 2017:** On September 11, 2016, MPD officer Brian

the most yuppified streets in DC's GLBTQ community. A highlight of the march was a solidarity stop at Matchbox, a pizzeria being picketed by some of their workers because they fire people who object to problematic working conditions.

Trainer shot and killed Terrence Sterling at 3rd and M street NW at about 4:20 AM. One year later at the same time, protesters gathered at the same intersection demanding that Brian Trainer be fired. The first protest was a vigil from 4AM until about 9AM, at 6PM protesters returned for a march on the FOP and MPD headquarters.



# 2018

**January 19, 2018:** The 411 Collective presented DC Rises: A Year of Resistance, an art show to benefit and support J20 defendants and the J20 Legal Defense Donations fundraiser.

**January 20, 2018:** The Messthetics, Gauche, Bacchae, and Weird Babies play a J20 benefit show. Doors at 6 pm. The show was downstairs at St Stephens; all ages, co-hosted by Positive Force DC.

yuppies to demand that the US Government drop all charges against all J20 defendants and cancel the trials. The keynote speaker was Chelsea Manning. The night before, DropJ20 graffiti appeared in Columbia Heights.

**May 26, 2018:** A banner drop over Route 66 in solidarity with the J20 defendants was reported to itsgoing-down.org. On May 23, the chief judge overseeing the J20 cases agreed with defense attorneys that the government had committed a Brady rule violation by concealing a portion of

**May 1, 2018:** On the 1st of May, DC's annual Mayday march proceeded from Columbia Heights to Malcolm X Park. Expected fascist counter-protesters were a no-show and the entire event was uneventful and mostly family-friendly. It was announced during the DC march that at that time (noon Pacific time) every West Coast port was shut down, and marchers in Milwaukee descended of the offices of the sheriff over his decision to join ICE's 287(g) program. In Seat-

the Project Veritas tape they plan to use as "evidence" from the defense. Sanctions against the prosecution will be decided on May 31.

**June 2, 2018:** Sex workers and their allies rallied in Ward 6, home of DC Council member Charles Allen. Allen will decide the fate of a bill introduced by Council member David Grosso to decriminalize sex work in DC. The closure of sites like Backpage.com in the wake of the SESTA/FOSTA bills has created a crisis, with many sex workers becoming homeless as there

tle, marchers descended on ICE. The Proud Boys showed up for a counter-march there but abandoned the field after maybe half an hour. In Portland, Oregon police cars were damaged, and a major battle between police and anarchists was fought in Paris.

**May 11, 2018:** Ac-



tivists held a protest in Franklin Square park in front of lunchtime

is less money to be made working the streets.

**June 4, 2018:** The first of four defendants in the second J20 trial group was acquitted of all charges, and all charges dropped against the remaining defendants who were to begin trial that day in another trial group. On the 6th of June, another defendant was acquitted of all but one charge, with the jury deadlocked on the final charge of "participating in a riot." On the 7th of June, the third defendant was acquitted of APO and the jury deadlocked on all other charges. Fi-

nally, a mistrial was declared on all counts against the fourth and final defendant, the jury deadlocked.

**June 27, 2018:** A poster series 'Police Everywhere, Justice Nowhere' is released by Crimethinc illustrating MPD Police violence.

*"The same police terrorize protesters, harass sex workers, and murder black and brown people. Just as police rounded up Jewish and Romani people in the Holocaust, sent dissidents to gulags in the Soviet Union, and imposed apartheid in South*

# 2018

*Africa, today in the United States police kill a thousand people a year and deport and imprison millions more. The fight against the #J20 prosecution is just one small part of the struggle against police oppression that targets countless communities. Let's take it on together."*

**July 26, 2018:** Crimethinc releases a new zine about DC anti-fascism titled 'The Long Struggle against Fascism in DC An Incomplete History of Anti-Fascism inside the Beltway'. From Crimethinc: "In Washington, DC, at the heart of the white settler-colonial state, local communities have long defended themselves against many different forms of oppression. In the following historical overview, we trace the roots of anti-fascist organizing in DC through the first two decades of the 21st century. Like our earlier text, "How Anti-Fascists Won the Battles of Berkeley," this text offers some important background as anti-fascists in Washing-

**July 1, 2018:** The Metro DC Democratic Socialists of America marched on the home of recently retired ICE director Thomas Homan. He has said undocumented migrants "*should live in*



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"*Unite the Right*" rally this coming August."

**August 12, 2018:** On the 12th of August, WMATA broke their promise to ATU Local 689 by running a special train just for a few dozen Nazis from the Vienna Metro to Foggy Bottom. Once

*fear*" so the DSA threw him a retirement party at his house in Virginia.



there, the fascists had to run a gauntlet of thousands of counter-protesters, nearly get kettled by counter-protesters at Lafayette Sq, and when the rains began to fall had to be removed by a different route from the park to return to Metro. Counter-protesters were

**July 6, 2018:** The 6th of July, 2018 will forever be known to some as "V-J20 day," the day prosecutors threw in the towel and filed a motion to dismiss all remaining charges stemming from Trump's Inauguration without prejudice. Defeated by two juries and judicial sanctions for willfully hiding exculpatory evidences, prosecutors have finally given up and Disrupt J20 has won.

incensed that neo-Nazis would dare to commemorate August 12, the day one of them murdered Heather Heyer in Charlottesville, VA. From Crimethinc: *"Another anarchist organizer: I wanted to make Nazis too afraid to come to DC. I also wanted to block their march. The former did not happen due to some last minute infighting, but the latter did happen.*

*Overall, I would say the action was an overwhelming success. Anarchists provided a great deal of labor in every aspect of the mobilization."*

# 2019

**February 23, 2019:** On the evening of the 23rd of February, several punk bands with Anti-Flag headlining played a Rojava (Kurdish) benefit show at St Stephens. The show was entirely sold out. At several times, anti-Fascist and pro-YPG/YPJ chants alternated with the music. A film from the war front against Daesh and Turkey was shown, and several speakers were invited to the stage as well as the bands

**December 31, 2019:** Supporters of imprisoned grand jury resisters Jeremy Hammond and Chelsea Manning protested outside the Alexandria Detention Center. It has been confirmed that the noisemakers were heard and the protest seen from the inside. Protesters deployed fireworks, flares, and a laser in addition to noisemakers. Graffiti reading "Free Chelsea Manning" and "Fire To The Prisons" is seen around the area.

**July 6, 2019:** A laundry list of extreme-right figures spoke at the "Demand Free Speech" rally at Freedom Plaza. Some of the speakers were no-shows, and Laura Loomer "blamed" anti-fascists for the event ending an hour early. Some of the speakers have been seen elsewhere in swastika armbands. Late afternoon, many of the fascists were tracked to Harry's Bar and police were setting up something at Trump Hotel. Anti-Fascists marched in and members of the Proud

Boys assaulted a anti-fascist, whom police proceeded to arrest even though he was the victim.

**August 26, 2019:** DC, Extinction Rebellion DC, DC Climate Strike, Sunrise Movement DC, DC United Against Hate and others gathered at the Brazilian Embassy to protest the destruction of the Amazon rain forest and the continued oppression of indigenous peoples by President Jair Bolsonaro's far right regime.

**November 2019:** National Mall and Memorial Parks sweep the New York and H Street area. NPS removes benches.



# 2020

**March 2020:** The Covid-19 pandemic and lock-downs officially begin in the United States. In the wake of this several mutual aid groups form in order to help newly unemployed people, as well as produce cloth masks.

**March 13, 2020:** Chelsea Manning has just been released from jail after defeating the second grand jury to attempt to

**May 31, 2020:** Businesses and government buildings ransacked as uprisings begin to escalate.

**June 1, 2020:** Park Police officers used tear gas, flashbangs, and rubber bullets to clear the streets bordering Lafayette Park so Trump could do a photo-shoot in front of St. John's Church.

**June 15, 2020:** The 15th of June fea-

question her. Any attempt to subpoena her to a 3rd grand jury will now run afoul of coronavirus restrictions on court activities. Oddly, this release coincides with a suicide attempt and a Federal judge had to order her release, raising questions



ured one of the near-daily blockades of I-395 that have gone on for the better part of a week. In this case, the march started at the same place Trump's stormtroopers fired tear gas at protesters so he could walk across H st to St John's to bluster threats.

about whether the Feds intended to keep her locked up unlawfully after the grand jury expired.

**May 25, 2020:** George Floyd is murdered by the cop Derek Chauvin in the Midwestern city of Minneapolis, MN. The video of his murder by asphyxiation goes viral on social media, sparking wild unrest in all cities. This would result in the 3rd precinct getting burned down in Minneapolis on the 28th of May.

**June 19, 2020:** A massive party took over 14th and U towards evening, and a "Fuck the Police" march set out from the White House at sunset. This march wound it's way to MPD's headquarters-and proceeded to pull down the statue of Confederate general Albert Pike located right next to MPD.

**June 22, 2020:** MPD pushed protesters off of H st, only to have protesters circle the block and retake the street. As cops fled, protesters set multiple

**May 29, 2020:** A massive march from 14th and U descended on Trump's White House to protest the police murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis. As the action kicked off, police attempted to make arrests, but their first arrest ended with police surrounded by the crowd and having to release their prisoner in order to escape. There were other arrests later, and mainstream media reported the White House had to lock down. Trapped reporters wrote stories about the protests.

layers of barricade to defend their position.

**June 23, 2020:** Mayor Bowser's cops forcibly drove protesters on BLM Plaza back to 16th and I street. Protesters held out until late in the night cops abandoned their position and protesters retook Black Lives Matter Plaza. A massive fence has now been erected at Lafayette Sq. Not long after police opened up with flashbangs, pepper spray, swarming bike cops and multiple arrests but still had lost

# 2020

the area. Cops took it back again sometime after 3AM.

**June 24, 2020:** Protesters again were in possession of the Black House Autonomous Zone at and around 16th and H street. Police attempted to provoke multiple incidents, in one case assaulting an elder and in another assaulting a medic. Nothing gave them enough for Mayor Bowser to order another assault on the position.

marched. Afterwards, fights swirled throughout the city, as Proud Boys beat several activists and stabbed at least one. Body armor reportedly stopped another knife attack.

**December 12, 2020:** The 12th of December saw intense fighting all over downtown DC as another "March 4 Trump" descended on the city. The Proud Boys and militias were with them, and attempted assaults on BLM Plaza ranged from minor skirmishes to a full-on charge. By evening, police lines intended to prevent fights had the opposite effect as

**June 28th, 2020:** Protesters marched on the massive, palatial DC home of Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos. They brought a mock guillotine with them and set it up right in front of Jeff Bezo's home.

**August 30, 2020:** DC police assaulted protesters on Black Lives Matter Plaza with tear gas and rubber pucks fired from guns for the 2nd night in a row. Shortly thereafter, bike cops attacked, making multiple vio-

anti-fascists activists found their access to their own side of the battlefield blocked off.

**December 19, 2020:** Karon Hylton's mother was arrested after confronting MPD cops at their 4D station for killing her son. This triggered an hours-long siege of the station by protesters ending in the release of Karon's mother. Threats to mace protesters and bike cops riding around to threaten a kettle failed to disperse protesters. In the end, MPD threw in the towel.

lent arrests. A total of 14 arrests were reported by the end of the night.

**September 2, 2020:** The DC police (MPD) shot and killed 17 year old Deon Kay in SE DC. In response protesters laid siege to 7D, which the killer cop is most likely based at. At one point, protesters chanting "Move Back!" were able to drive the cops into their completely-surrounded station. A nearby CVS on Georgia Avenue is looted and trashed. From

Newsweek: ""They took my baby, they just took my baby from me," his mother, Natasha Kay, said at her home hours after the shooting according to the Washington Post.

**November 14, 2020:** The Nov 14 "Million MAGA March" over the disputed 2020 election devolved into rioting and assaults by the Proud Boys and other far-right extremists. Mainstream media estimated as many as ten thousand Trump supporters



# 2021

**January 6, 2021:** On the 6th of January, reactionary Trump supporters attack the Capitol building in retaliation for the election results. In the process of this several on their side die or are killed by Capitol police. The fallout of this is a massive federal investigation and security theater in all of downtown near the mall.

**April 26, 2021:** Babuk ransomware attack targets DC's MPD (Metropolitan Police Department). A 250+ gigabyte treasure trove of stolen data

other known modified sign read "Fuck Jason Bagshaw." Bagshaw is famous for among other things commanding police assaults on protesters at 4D after Karon Hylton was chased into traffic and killed by a cop near Georgia Ave NW.

**May 1, 2021:** In the week prior to Mayday, a prisoner trapped in the DC Jail's dungeons died. In response, Decarcerate DC and community ac-

is publicly released by the digital activist group Distributed Denial of Secrets (DDoS). From Vice News: "The gang, known as Babuk, published the claim on its official website, where the hackers post some of the stolen files from their victims in an attempt to extort them. The goal is to scare the victim into paying before the hackers release all the information. "We will not comment this time: Even such an organization has huge security gaps, we advise them to get in touch as soon as possible and pay us,

tivists descended on the jail shortly after nightfall on Mayday for another noise demo and teach-in. Part of the teach-in was about the Attica Uprising, a repeat of which is one of the greatest fears of any jailer or warden.

**May 1, 2021:** On Saturday, May 1, DC's annual Mayday march began at its traditional Malcolm X Park gathering point and marched to the White House, ending on H st due to the

otherwise we will publish this data," the hackers wrote. Some data allegedly stolen from the MPD include police reports, mug shots, personal details about people arrested, and internal memos. Some of the folders

B a b u k showed that it hacked from the MPD are n a m e d "Gang Conflict Report,"

fence still blocking off

most of Lafayette Square. It was the 2013 iteration of this same march that so famously stormed the GOP over the Rana Plaza sweatshop building collapse in Bangladesh.

**May 12, 2021:** Over the weekend, a ransomware attack forced Colonial Pipeline to shut down the distribution pipeline that supplies half of all

"BLOODS," and "BEEFS - CONFLICTS." ". The released data reveals that MPD had a gang database that included actual children.

**May 1, 2021:** As Mayday protests wound down, at least two DC electronic street signs showed hacked messages. One read "MPD are pigs" and the



liquid fuels to the Southern

and Eastern US. On Wednesday, gas stations ran out just as the pipeline was resuming operation.

**July 2021:** Burke and Gompers -- National Mall and Memorial Parks encampment sweep "address public safety concerns, removal of a hazardous tree, and to remove encampments and clean up the park".

# 2021

**July 31, 2021:** National Capital Parks East encampment sweep --- 2nd and D Street NE “prune and possibly remove two hazardous trees”.

**September 10, 2021:** Rock Creek Park NPS encampment sweep --- Pennsylvania and M Street NW “The National Park Service has determined that this park closure is necessary for the protection of human health and

safety, protection of nearby private property, as well as the protection of natural and cultural resources.”

**October 15, 2021:** National Capital Parks East sweep --- 3rd Street and Massachusetts Avenue “remedy hazardous conditions and provide needed maintenance to the park”.



# 2022

**June 1, 2022:** Union Station/ Columbus Circle --- National Mall and Memorial Parks encampment sweep “address public health and safety issues and unsanitary conditions”.

**June 1, 2022:** 11th Street and I Street NW --- National Mall and Memorial Parks encampment sweep “Turf Rehabilitation, cleaning and maintenance of the park area, and mitigation of rodent infestation”.

**June 4, 2022:** Community activists returned to the fenced-off Adams-

Morgan Plaza. Once there, they restored the memorial on the fence to Miguel Gonzales. Miguel was murdered by Truist Bank when they took his blankets while clearing the plaza by force. He died shortly thereafter from hypothermia.

**August 24, 2022:** National Mall and Memorial Parks NPS --- K Street and 9th Street NW encampment sweep “Turf Rehabilitation, cleaning and maintenance of the park area, and mitigation of rodent infestation” Between June 1 and Aug. 24, 2022 city

and federal government agencies conducted 17 encampment engagements, including one outside of the Church of the Epiphany, which houses the offices of Street Sense Media.

**October 3, 2022:** "Defend The Atlanta Forest" discussion at Eaton House. Free 'zines, food & books were provided,. A long discussion about diversity of tactics and how the movement in Atlanta is utilizing both direct action and legalistic means to prevent the city from advancing on the cop city project.

**December 21, 2022:** On Dec 21, Killer DC cops Terrence Sutton and Le Andrew Zabavsky were found GUILTY on all charges, murder included for the death of Karon Hylton. Both were released on GPS monitoring, unlike Karon's mother, who was arrested inside the courtroom. Unlike the killer cops, she is scheduled to spend the holidays in a hellhole of a Federal detention center. Pure retaliation by cops and US Marshalls.

# 2023

**January 18, 2023:** Just after 9AM on the 18th of January, the cops went to guns against the Atlanta Forest Defenders. Cops entered with guns drawn ahead of Brasfield and Gorrie's construction equipment and the situation blew up. Witnesses reported a sudden barrage of about 12 shots, and when it was over, a cop was wounded reportedly by another cop's bullets and a protesters (reported as a bystander by some) was dead.

**February 15, 2023:** In recent months, McPherson Square had hosted a tent city set up by those evicted by Mayor Bowser's sweeps of so many other camps. On Feb 15, US Park Police and hazmat-suited trash collectors stormed McPherson and destroyed the tent city, evicting everyone and arresting two people who stood their ground. This date was moved up from April 15 at the request of the usual anti-homeless, racist and classist real estate and upscale business interests who control the Mayor and the city government. The date

**January 28, 2023:** On Jan 28, an Atlanta Forest Defense solidarity march assembled in Logan Circle and took to the streets in DC. As bike cops swarmed around the march, marchers chanted "Every City is Cop City! Stop Cop City!" The bike cops were



was moved  
no doubt  
because

wealthy and middle class office workers etc were afraid to eat their lunch in McPherson Square. That would be the "imminent hazard" city officials were yakking about. A real imminent hazard now exists: many former residents of the McPherson Sq tent city lost their tents and everything they

dressed in black and yellow above all else, same colors as the Proud Boys.

**February 9, 2023:** On the 9th of February, the fight against Atlanta's "Cop City" police training range proposed for the Weelaunee Forest again came to DC. Protesters



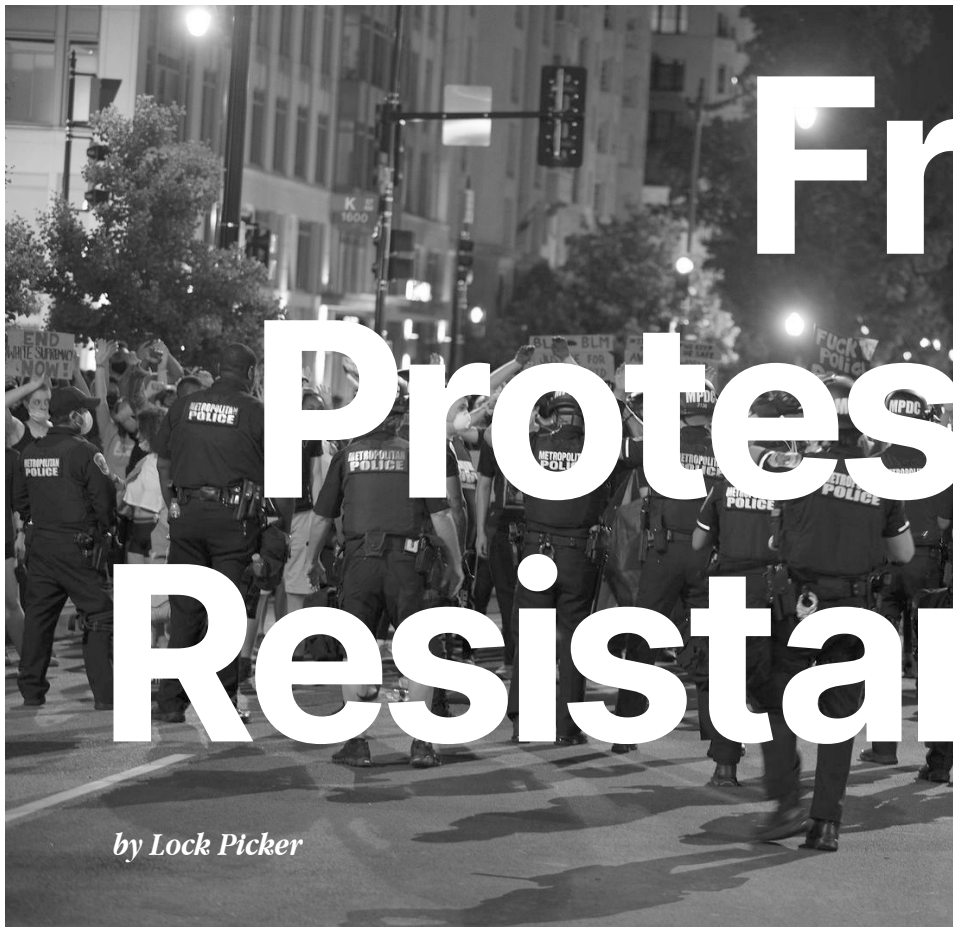
owned, and cold, heavy rain is due to arrive in DC on Thursday night.

This is also the second time a tent city in McPherson Square has been violently assaulted by police. On Feb 4, 2012 US Park Police stormed Occupy DC's camp at the same site, sparking

marched on Cox Enterprises (owner of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution newspaper), and on Wells Fargo (a major funder of the project) with just one demand: Drop Cop City!

a tough all day battle as Occupy residents fought back.

**April 8, 2023:** On the 8th of April, another drag queen story hour was successfully held on Barrack's Row in SE Washington DC. A stout defense by umbrella-wielding drag defenders deterred anyone from mounting a serious attack and shielded the kids and performers from low level harassment.



# From Protests to Resistance

*by Lock Picker*



MUCH INK HAS ALREADY been spilled<sup>1</sup> about the events of Summer 2020, but it all begins something like this:

On May 25th, 2020, George Floyd is murdered by the cop Derek Chauvin in the city of Minneapolis, MN. The video of his murder by asphyxiation goes viral on social media, sparking wild unrest in all cities.

This would result in the 3rd precinct getting burned down in Minneapolis on the 28th of May. The pent up rage towards the anti-black nature of policing (and governance) in the USA had reached its boiling point and exploded for several weeks nationwide. During many of the national mainstream news pieces on the uprisings in multiple cities there were interviews with abolitionist organizers such as Mariame Kaba. But very little attention was given to the actual nuances of abolitionist theory and strategy. How we feel about policing and its potential alternatives is one thing, but how do we actually get there?

When we say that we “oppose policing”,

what we are saying is something that is, on a conceptual level alone, very massive. The apparatus of the police is intrinsically attached to so many other institutions in American life, such as law, property relations, technology, education, the family and the design of cities.

Furthermore, the flow of policing itself is more than the police, but rather the physical & social infrastructure needed to keep it in place. After all, where would the police be without informants? There has to be a large network of property owners and other private citizens feeding the police relevant information. Nowadays this functions via surveillance tech such as Nest and Ring doorbells. Snitches interact on social media apps such as Nextdoor and Citizen in order to display the faces of those they deem “suspicious”.

Then of course, the police have their own cameras as well. MPD has a network of live cameras on main streets such as Georgia Avenue, 14th street & 16th Street. By utilizing remote “nerve centers” they can monitor all of this information in real time, along with tools used to aggregate social media content such as Tigerswan or Palantir. For the police, information is power. We can think of the line by The Invisible Commit-

tee here: *“Power is logistic, block everything!”*

As Tom Nomad writes in ‘The Master’s Tools’,

*“Policing functions as a logistics of action, held together conceptually through logistical supply lines, uniforms, command structures, communications, and so on. This logistics enters into everyday life in a mythology of the unity of time and space as defined by the occupation, but this unity never actually functions, possibility is never actually defined.”*

*Policing is a deployment of force in a vain attempt to define actions, and in the process it must be positioned. It is not some ethereal force that exercises control over actions (although police violence definitely acts as a deterrent). All they can do is inject more or less organized action, which carries more or fewer consequences, in the attempt to control action, an attempt that is never fulfilled.”<sup>3</sup>*

For many of us, mid 2021 felt like a shock. Things quickly went ‘back to normal’ as the vaccine rolled out and unrest faded away. We found ourselves at an impasse, with the waves crashing down all at once. But nothing can last forever. It would be frankly unrealistic to expect endless action on the streets. We need time

for reflection and healing too. This also allows us to better understand how to build better protest logistics. If we are being honest, I think that the 2020 uprising caught all of us by surprise, even those of us that were used to national anti-police demonstrations. The history of social movements is the history of peaks and valleys.<sup>2</sup>

For those of us who were radicalized post-Occupy, we have been lucky to see street mobilizations grow in DC. In 2014, there were massive protests taking over I-395 in solidarity with people in Ferguson. At the time, it seemed like the 2017 J20 inauguration protests were the peak of this. Massive coalitions using all kinds of different direct action tactics blockaded most of the entry routes for right-wing inauguration attendees.

However, much of what takes place now in 2023 is regular mutual aid and skill-sharing events throughout the city, and the historical context of direct action in DC is seldom discussed. While some organizations do have reading groups, it does not seem like this history is discussed within these groups.

The history of the use of black bloc tactics in direct actions dates back to West Germany, before the

fall of the Iron Curtain. As 'The Black Bloc Papers' describe:

*"Black blocs first appeared in West Germany in the early 1980s. This militant tactic was embraced by anti-authoritarian leftist youth (commonly referred to as Autonomon) as a response to four escalating factors: 1. The increasing confrontations between police and protesters at anti-nuclear demonstrations. 2. In defense of squatting communities. 3. Germany was the scene of massive demonstrations in solidarity with the armed actions of the left-communist Red Army Faction. There it was common for major conflicts to break out between protesters and state forces, and a practical means of self defense became increasingly evident. And 4. The rise of Neo-fascist street gangs accompanied by violent demonstrations / counter demonstrations made such formations as the bloc appealing as an effective mode of street combat.*

*Within the decade the tactic proved itself effective in countering state police forces and Neo-fascists in the public arena. This demonstrated effectiveness compelled anarchist, Autonomon, and radical left forces throughout Europe to adapt Black Blocs as a means to engage in street battles with the*

*state, short of an armed uprising. Very quickly the tactic spread to other northern European nations. By the mid-80s the tactic spread to southern Europe. By the late 80s the tactic jumped across the Atlantic, making its first appearances in North America. By the twenty-first century, the Black Bloc reached east into the former Warsaw Pact nations, as far west as the Pacific coast of the US, and south into Mexico.”<sup>10</sup>*

The use of the black bloc tactic in the DC area (and the US more broadly) has become de-contextualized and stripped of these practical uses. When the tactic was utilized in North America for the first time, it was used in order to defend peaceful civil disobedience at mass mobilizations during the alter-globalization era<sup>8</sup>. Somewhere along the way, the questions of a mass bloc being used as a defensive measure went out the window. When the proposal for bloc attire comes up, there is usually very little discussion about the tactics used with said attire. Now it is used purely for anonymization in the face of a growing surveillance apparatus, with legal and economic ramifications being a true threat for many. That being said, simply walking away from a demonstration unscathed isn't enough, we have to build

power in the streets when we decide to take direct action.

One possible way that affinity groups and organizations can begin to understand police crowd control is to start by reading the source material together. ‘Standard Operating Procedures’<sup>11</sup> are the blueprint for crowd control for MPD, although they have at times gone ‘off-script’ (such as the mass-arrest at L & 12 on J20). A group could also intentionally call for a slow-moving bloc and then measure the police response time for everything, track the route using GPS and study how many cops show up. This can only be used to study specific contexts though, it is important to remember that although the police operate via manual, they can also at times break their own rules.

One of the tactics that has been suggested over the past few years is the use of ‘gray-bloc’ as opposed to black-bloc. This often means wearing clothing that still obscures facial and identifying features (such as piercings, tattoos, birthmarks, etc.) while also dressing in a way that is more situationally appropriate. This can mean casual dress when you are doing direct action on somewhere like U Street, or even dressing like a yuppie in Georgetown.

During the 2020 uprising there

was a large FBI effort to spread photos of participants online in large PDF documents and Twitter posts. The DC field office even made sure to post photos of participants as electronic Metrobus station adverts. But there were other more organic forms of snitch culture proliferating in the form of people at nights of unrest filming everything, especially the (presumably) experienced frontliners engaging in property destruction. In Atlanta during the Rayshard Brooks uprising, this digital snitching led to the arrest of Natalie White for the torching of the Wendy's. Unbeknownst to literally everyone, Natalie was the girlfriend of Rayshard Brooks, and was likely carrying out the arson as revenge.

Regardless of her own motives, the digital snitches doubled down on account of her being a 'white outside agitator.' This behavior was not isolated to Atlanta, and many of us saw authoritarian personalities show up to the protests with megaphones and peace policing everyone that they deemed too militant.

In most cases, this led to burnout and paranoia among many DC anarchists, all the while certain newly formed groups would take control of long marches to nowhere, with no real material goals or purpose

other than social media attention to the cause.

*"Many draw back when faced with affinity. It is, in fact, a lot easier and less demanding to sign up for something, be it an organization, a permanent assembly or a scene, and to take up and reproduce formal characteristics, rather than embarking upon a long and never-ending search for comrades with whom to share ideas, analysis and eventual projects. Because affinity is exactly this: a reciprocal knowledge between comrades, shared analysis that leads to prospects of action. Affinity is therefore directed, on one hand, towards theoretical deepening and, on the other, towards intervention in social conflictuality."*<sup>25</sup>

Affinity groups are often the default form of organizational groups in anti-authoritarian spaces. But what exactly is an affinity group? If the affinity group model is based on trust, what level of trust do we mean? There has to be a constant state of communication about trust with one another.

For some, especially those with actual trust issues, trust takes a very long time to build. In other words, just because two or more people share the same ideology or political affiliation, does not mean that we can automatically trust one another.

This means a more intentional form of communication among 2-5 people, discussion shared goals and carving out a strategy. It cannot mean that we simply go with the flow, whether that means a march route or a planned day of action. In order to build affinity, we must know what we want both individually and collectively.

*“Stop wondering what’s going to happen, or why nothing’s happening. Get together with your friends and start deciding what will happen. Don’t go through life in passive spectator mode, waiting to be told what to do. Get in the habit of discussing what you want to see happen—and making those ideas reality.”<sup>7</sup>*

Many of us can remember a time before social media dominated discussion of protests, even a time before smartphones used for live-streaming demonstrations was the norm. Call it the wheel of progress turning, but around 2014 it became a regular occurrence to see amateur journalists wielding smartphones to update people on protests in real time using platforms such as Periscope.

*“It is important to remember that on top of unfriendly or irresponsible live streamers, the press, and closed circuit cameras, many police de-*

*partments are now filming protests themselves. Police footage is used for documenting activity, identifying individuals, and understanding protest tactics. With the proliferation of body cameras, many officers have become walking surveillance units.”<sup>8</sup>*

The general assembly is a form of meeting that became especially popular during the Occupy era of organizing. In Occupy, people used specific hand signals to ‘vote’ on various propositions. The issue is that this often took up a lot of time voting over a lot of minutia. When large groups need consensus to form decisions over (frankly useless) issues it can eat up a lot of time. In Greece, anarchists use the general assembly form to instead propose and discuss ideas, rather than coming to a formal decision together. This way people can explore concepts and strategy freely without having to come to a decision. This could be used as a model to explore ideas as an alternative to theory discussion groups.

The spokes-council model was a decision making model that existed in DC from 2016-2019, largely before anti-fascist mobilizations. This model was similar to the General Assembly decision making model of Occupy DC, with some key differences in how meetings are delegated

to reach consensus. Ideally the way that this would work is that each org / affinity group would have a group delegate, with group members sitting behind them.<sup>12</sup>

Some of these spokes-council meetings were poorly planned with vague OPSEC guidelines based around 'vetting', which were too subjective to mean that somebody was safe to trust with certain information. Better security guidelines would need to be prepared for future spokes-councils when there are mass mobilizations in DC again.

The point of a direct action or a public demonstration is ideally to flip the script: instead of a situation where things are unpredictable for us, it should become unpredictable for the logistics of policing. Oftentimes so many leftist strategies on the ground avoid unpredictability: social media calls for action, slow to start black blocs, demos that are swarmed by movement streamers and peace police.

During the first week of the uprising here in DC, there was a tendency to have demonstrations in front of or near the White House. This choice of location ended up being largely symbolic, and was potentially a byproduct of leftist rejection of the Trump regime. Rather than having protests that blockaded po-

lice precincts there was a gravitation towards the most surveilled and policed parts of the city (core downtown near all of the monuments).

At first, there were some major strategic successes, such as causing Trump himself to go on lockdown inside the White House basement bunker. Military police had to keep protesters away from Lafayette Park property in case people could begin throwing projectiles close enough to the White House lawn. This spectacle also brought out a fair amount of journalists to the scene, often standing right next to militants facing off against the cops. However incredible this was, it was still largely symbolic and a media spectacle. And of course, Trump decided to fight back with a spectacle of his own by using the Park Police to teargas protesters in broad daylight for his own infantile photo op.

*“Occupation of the Kasbah in Tunis and of the Syntagma Square in Athens, siege of Westminster in London during the student movement of 2011, encirclement of the parliament in Madrid on September 25, 2012 or in Barcelona on June 15, 2011, riots all around the Chamber of Deputies in Rome on December 14, 2010, attempt on October 15, 2011 in Lisbon to invade the Assembleia da Republica, burning of the*

*Bosnian presidential residence in February of 2014: the places of institutional power exert a magnetic attraction on revolutionaries. But when the insurgents manage to penetrate parliaments, presidential palaces, and other headquarters of institutions, as in Ukraine, in Libya or in Wisconsin, it's only to discover empty places, that is, empty of power, and furnished without any taste. It's not to prevent the "people" from "taking power" that they are so fiercely kept from invading such places, but to prevent them from realizing that power no longer resides in the institutions. There are only deserted temples there, decommissioned fortresses, nothing but stage sets—real traps for revolutionaries.*

*The popular impulse to rush onto the stage to find out what is happening in the wings is bound to be disappointed. If they got inside, even the most fervent conspiracy freaks would find nothing arcane there; the truth is that power is simply no longer that theatrical reality to which modernity accustomed us.<sup>16</sup>*

Ultimately protests moved away from the White House after the National Guard used low flying helicopters to intimidate everyone in the area. There were also different crews of looters all throughout the city on

those nights getting busy. These groups were targeted by the FBI in the aftermath of it all (and many did not do enough to protect their identities), but at the moment they were able to swiftly attack one or more stores to get the merchandise and exit.

This mentality could be (incorrectly) interpreted as opportunistic, but it could also be seen as a potential model for us to follow. Why bother staying in the most surveilled part of the city, swarming with police and press, when we could go after strategic targets instead? The DC Police Foundation has corporate donors, such as Bank of America and Verizon Wireless. There are MPD dome cameras mounted all over the city on main streets, as well as various volunteer networks of surveillance cameras by private entities. A frontal, static engagement with police assumes that we can outgun or overpower the police for sustained periods of time. This can temporarily happen, and the police can make strategic exits.

But generally speaking, they have a budget and pool of resources that will always outmatch us militarily. They are adept at using violence to enforce the law, we are not hiding behind the law nor are we seriously experienced with using violence to

get our way. We can, however, move much faster than the police if we desire.

### **ENDNOTES:**

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<sup>2</sup>Anarchist and Insurgent Self-Critique of Recent Tactics. Monadists. Lib.edist.ro. Retrieved October 2, 2022, from <https://lib.edist.ro/library/monadists-anarchist-and-insurgent-self-critique-of-recent-tactics>

<sup>3</sup>The Master’s Tools. Nomad, Tom. In lib.edist.ro. Originally Published 2013, from <https://lib.edist.ro/library/tom-nomad-the-master-s-tools>

<sup>4</sup>Who are you streaming for? three criticisms of livestreaming. (n.d.). Originally Published January 1, 2020, from [https://ia902306.us.archive.org/0/items/who-are-you-streaming-for/who\\_are\\_you\\_streaming-for-imposed.pdf](https://ia902306.us.archive.org/0/items/who-are-you-streaming-for/who_are_you_streaming-for-imposed.pdf)

<sup>5</sup>Anonymous. “Nothing Is Finished.” Internet Archive, Salto: Subversion & Anarchy, Nov. 2012, <https://archive.org/details/NothingIsFinished>.

<sup>6</sup>Committee, The Invisible. “To Our Friends.” *The Anarchist Library*, Semiotext(e)/MIT Press, Oct. 2014, <https://theanarchistlibrary.org/library/the-invisible-committe-to-our-friends>

<sup>7</sup>Collective, CrimethInc. Ex-Workers. “How to Form an Affinity Group.” *CrimethInc.*, 6 Feb. 2017, <https://crimethinc.com/2017/02/06/how-to-form-an-affinity-group-the-essential-building-block-of-anarchist-organization>.

<sup>8</sup>Collective, CrimethInc. Ex-Workers. “The Power Is Running: A Memoir of N30.” *CrimethInc.*, <https://crimethinc.com/2017/11/30/the-power-is-running-a-memoir-of-n30-shutting-down-the-wto-summit-in-seattle-1999>. Accessed 29 June 2023.

<sup>9</sup>Ellis, Ralph, et al. “Woman Charged in Atlanta Wendy’s Arson given \$10,000 Bond in First Court Hearing.” *CNN*, Cable News Network, 24 June 2020, <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/06/23/us/>

[natalie-white-wendys-arson/index.html](#).

<sup>10</sup> Anarchist Collective, Green Mountain, et al. “The Black Bloc Papers.” *The Anarchist Library*, Little Black Cart, 29 Oct. 2017, <https://theanarchistlibrary.org/library/the-black-bloc-papers>.

<sup>11</sup> “STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES HANDLING FIRST AMENDMENT ASSEMBLIES AND MASS DEMONSTRATIONS.” *STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES HANDLING FIRST AMENDMENT ASSEMBLIES AND MASS DEMONSTRATIONS SOP-11-01 (Handling First Amendment Assemblies and Mass Demonstrations)*, Metropolitan Police Department, 3 July 2013, [https://go.mpdconline.com/GO/SOP\\_11\\_01.pdf](https://go.mpdconline.com/GO/SOP_11_01.pdf).

<sup>12</sup> “The Spokescouncil: A Decision-Making Process for Large Groups.” *Seeds for Change*, 5 Sept. 2017, <https://seedsforchange.org.uk/spokescouncil#largecdm>.



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C  
s

# OTHER STUFF

EDEN

# EDEN

*by Eve*

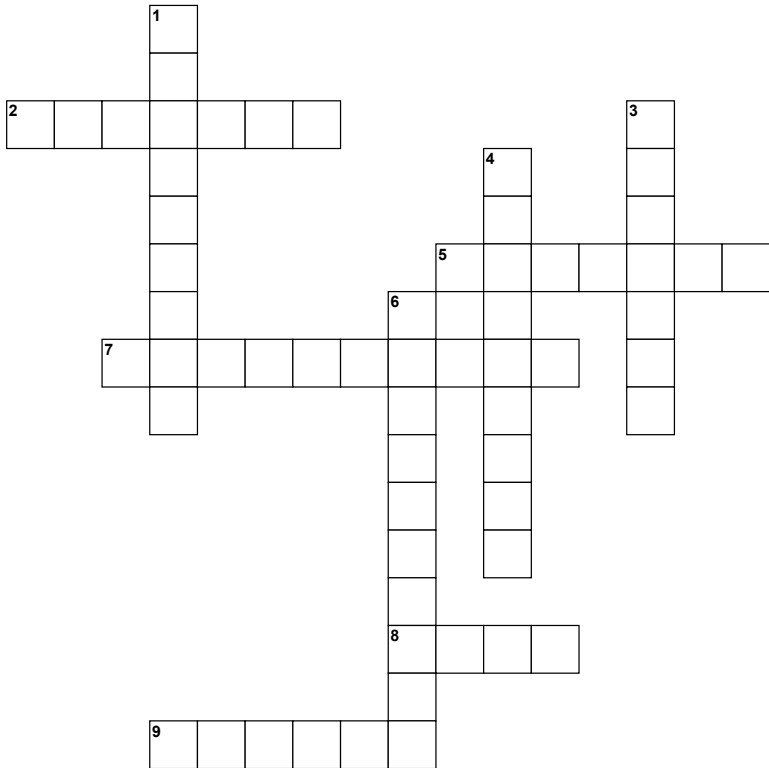
if you  
pick the apple,  
there is no going  
back.  
from the moment  
the flesh touches  
your lips,  
and you can  
feel the world  
for what it really is,  
when the juice  
rolls down your chin,  
and you can taste the  
tangy sweetness of your  
soul,  
you will be forever  
altered, forever  
cursed,  
forever lost.

for the crime of  
knowing who  
you are  
you will leave

the garden -  
cast out  
of the gilded  
cage of everything  
you've ever known,  
you will wander  
the long road  
until it rises up  
to meet you,  
and swallows you  
whole.

so when you  
pick that apple,  
Eve, fill your bag.  
fashion garments  
from what you  
can. take everything  
not rooted to the soil.  
carve from your ribs  
Adam's bone.  
your father's house  
was never really home.

# PUZZLES



**Across:**

- [2] Not the crime family though
- [5] drink, not ribbon-pact
- [7] riot dog
- [8] four letter acronym, not ACAB
- [9] once a city-state

**Down:**

- [1] it's a tactic, not a group.
- [3] WTO '99
- [4] formally the prince
- [6] known as the "Syntagma Archer"

	3				9		1	2
	5				2	6		
				5			8	
3						9		
5		9			6	3	2	
						8		6
2	7		9	6				4
	8		4	3	7	2	9	

Fill in the puzzle so that every row across, every column down and every 9 by 9 box contains the numbers 1 to 9. Use a pencil just in case you make a mistake.

# RADICAL INDEX

## PLACES:

Smash! Records  
2314 18th St NW 2nd Floor,  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
202-38-SMASH  
smashdc@gmail.com

Joint Custody Records  
1530 U St. NW,  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
202-643-8614  
<https://jointcustodydc.com/>

ONE DC Black Workers & Wellness  
Center  
2500 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE,  
Washington, D.C. 20020

202-232-2915  
[bwc@onedconline.org](mailto:bwc@onedconline.org)

HacDC  
1525 Newton St NW,  
Washington D.C. 20010  
202-556-4225  
<https://www.hacdc.org/>

Potters House Books  
1658 Columbia Road NW,  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
202-232-5483  
[info@pottershousedc.org](mailto:info@pottershousedc.org)

Sankofa Bookstore  
2714 Georgia Ave NW, Washington,  
DC 20001, USA  
202-234-4755 Store  
202-588-7061 Cafe  
<https://www.sankofa.com/>

## RECURRING EVENTS:

Food Not Bombs DC  
Every Saturday @ 2:30 PM  
McPherson Square Park

Feed The People (A)  
Every Saturday from 3-5 PM  
Dupont Circle

## SHOWS:

7/27 @ THE RUNAWAY: THELMA  
AND THE SLEAZE, THE DEAD

RINGERS, SAD ROACH 8:30 PM  
\$17

<https://www.dciww.org>

<https://mdcdsa.org>

7/27 @ PIE SHOP: CRYPTIC VOID,  
DELIRIANT NERVE, BRAINPAN,  
SOIL OF IGNORANCE, HUMAN  
OBLITERATION 8PM \$15 ALL AGES

<https://www.stompoutslumlords.org>

<https://www.harrietsdreams.org>

7/27 @ ATLAS: THE FUSS,  
THROWN OUT BONES 3PM \$12

<https://dcindymedia.org>

<https://labornotes.org>

7/28 @ DWELL: JETTY GROVE,  
FOOT TRAFFIC, SPARK ISLE 7PM

<https://fillerpgh.wordpress.com>

8/3 @ THE LITTERBOX: SUPPRES-  
SION, FED ASH, IXIAS, SEVERED  
\$12 7PM

<https://untorellipress.noblogs.org>

<https://www.littlemouse.fun>

8/11 @ PIE SHOP: CARTILAGE,  
ORGAN DEALER, CASTLE FREAK,  
GOETIA \$15 8PM ALL AGES

<https://uprising2020.noblogs.org>

<https://warzonedistro.noblogs.org>

8/15 @ THE RUNAWAY: APPEN-  
DIX, COKE BUST, VAXINE, K.O.S.,  
R.D.X. 8:30PM \$15

<https://counterflow.noblogs.org>

<https://fugitive.keybase.pub>

**OTHER LINKS:**

<https://www.prole.info>

<https://itsgoingdown.org>

<https://azinelibrary.org>

<https://anarchistnews.org>

<https://detritusbooks.com>

<https://theanarchistlibrary.org>

<https://belliresearchinstitute.wordpress.com>

<https://lib.edist.ro>

<https://antistatestl.noblogs.org>

<a href="https://www.sproutdistro.com">https://www.sproutdistro.com</a>	<a href="https://dissonance.libsyn.com">https://dissonance.libsyn.com</a>
<a href="https://ruinsofcapital.noblogs.org">https://ruinsofcapital.noblogs.org</a>	<a href="https://www.dischord.com">https://www.dischord.com</a>
<a href="https://crimethinc.com">https://crimethinc.com</a>	<a href="https://riseup.net">https://riseup.net</a>
<a href="https://deletia-distro.tumblr.com">https://deletia-distro.tumblr.com</a>	<a href="https://kolektiva.social">https://kolektiva.social</a>
<a href="https://no-new-ideas-press.tumblr.com">https://no-new-ideas-press.tumblr.com</a>	<a href="https://kolektiva.media">https://kolektiva.media</a>
<a href="https://libcom.org">https://libcom.org</a>	<a href="https://social.edist.ro">https://social.edist.ro</a>
<a href="https://rosecitycounterinfo.noblogs.org">https://rosecitycounterinfo.noblogs.org</a>	<a href="https://archive.org">https://archive.org</a>
<a href="https://north-shore.info">https://north-shore.info</a>	<a href="https://1337xto.to">https://1337xto.to</a>
<a href="https://tension.noblogs.org">https://tension.noblogs.org</a>	<a href="https://distrowatch.com">https://distrowatch.com</a>
<a href="https://civfucks.noblogs.org">https://civfucks.noblogs.org</a>	<a href="https://hackaday.com">https://hackaday.com</a>
<a href="https://oplopanaxpublishing.wordpress.com">https://oplopanaxpublishing.wordpress.com</a>	<a href="https://www.hackthebox.com">https://www.hackthebox.com</a>
<a href="https://mongoosedistro.com">https://mongoosedistro.com</a>	<a href="https://www.thingiverse.com">https://www.thingiverse.com</a>
<a href="https://personsunknown.noblogs.org">https://personsunknown.noblogs.org</a>	<a href="https://artprimo.com">https://artprimo.com</a>
<a href="https://darkmatter.noblogs.org">https://darkmatter.noblogs.org</a>	<a href="https://scenes.noblogs.org">https://scenes.noblogs.org</a>
<a href="http://www.anti-politics.org">http://www.anti-politics.org</a>	<a href="https://dcindymedia.org">https://dcindymedia.org</a>
<a href="https://www.hackthissite.org">https://www.hackthissite.org</a>	<a href="https://firetotheprisons.org">https://firetotheprisons.org</a>
	<a href="https://www.akpress.org">https://www.akpress.org</a>
	<a href="https://www.csrc.link">https://www.csrc.link</a>

## REQUEST FOR SUBMISSIONS

# RUPTURE MAG

We are accepting submissions for  
Issue #2!! Send all artwork,  
editorials, jokes,  
puzzles, short-fiction, reportbacks,  
correspondance, comics & poetry to:  
[rupturemag@proton.me](mailto:rupturemag@proton.me)

Deadline for submissions is September 1, 2023