

BARRICADES IN BRISTOL

On 2nd June Bishopston Community Centre in Bristol was occupied to keep it in the hands of the community. The Parochial Church Council, who own the building, claim they need the building for a new church and so evicted the Bishopston Community Association. The Community Association had offered to buy the building with £1/2 million lottery funding, but the church refused.

Local people believe the church actually intend to sell the building. For 12 years the centre has been run without financial input from the council or the church, providing an impressive selection of activities and events. The current squatters have continued this work, favouring a more inclusive definition of community than that adopted by the church, and acting in defence of community space. A possession order has now been granted, so bailiffs are expected any time. However the building has been well barricaded, and the eviction will be resisted.

Contact 0117 9444401.

David Bailey is the ethically challenged canon of the church responsible. To hear his views on being a good Christian, phone 0117 9248683.

ARTHURS WOOD LOSES APPEAL

The appeal to the House of Lords over Manchester Airport's eviction of the camps at Arthur's wood has been thrown out this month, leaving the camps on eviction alert. However, it is not known whether the airport will wait to evict

until after the bird nesting season finishes in September. If they come in before this, the campaign intends to bring a private prosecution against the airport. Nevertheless, a call has gone out for more people to come and stay, or just visit if they can. If you want to be on a phone tree then ring Manchester EF! on 0161 2266814. Meanwhile the airport is attempting to become designated a 'major development site', which will make it much easier for them to get future terminals, etc. through the planning system

Contact us at: EF!AU, c/o CRC, 16 Sholebroke Avenue, Chapeltown, Leeds, LS7 3HB. 0113 262 9365 <actionupdate@gn.apc.org> www.eco-action.org/efau Subscribe to email edition for free. EF! stickers £1 for 10

EZLN SOLIDARITY ACTION

Over the past month, the Mexican government has intensified its offensive against Zapatista villages in Chiapas causing more than 5,000 people to flee their homes. In response to an email from the Zapatista Front of National Liberation (EZLN), the newly-formed Chiapas Link group in Newcastle (UK) targeted their local Nestle factory in solidarity with the Zapatista struggle. Nestle is a major investor in the food sector in Mexico: in 1997 the company sold over £800 million of processed foods nation-wide, and is planning a further £100 million of investments in Chiapas (hailed by the Mexican President as a great leap forward in the peace process...).

Security guards at the Nestle factory in Fawdon, Newcastle were caught unaware when two protestors walked through the gates and climbed onto the roof of a factory building hanging a banner reading "Nestle: OUT OF MEXICO". Others entered the factory site to speak to workers and leaflets cars, and the entrance was blockaded with a banner reading "Solidarity is Strength". Three police cars turned up, and after occupying the factory for an hour and repeated warnings, the group decided to leave. Local papers and radio covered the protest raising the issue of Nestle's collaboration with the oppressive Mexican regime. For more information on further solidarity actions in the UK, contact Chiapas Link, PO Box 1TA, Newcastle NE99 1TA, or chiapaslink@yahoo.com

ANTI BANK ACTIONS

On Saturday June 12th, demonstrators occupied two banks, blockaded a third and staged an unauthorised march. 100 people marched behind a banner reading 'Global Capital Can Bank On Global Resistance'. Whistle blowing, drumming protesters stormed into the Clydesdale Bank on Hanover Street. Exiting the Clydesdale, the crowd next took over the Abbey National and staged a half hour party inside with drumming, dancing and singing, while the bank's plate glass windows were plastered with posters. Later a 100 strong crowd blockaded the Halifax on George St., then marched along George St. & Princes St., Edinburgh's main street. The day's actions finished with a demonstration outside the Bank of Scotland Headquarters.

Six van loads of police were in attendance but were unable to stop the protest. There were no arrests.

One protester commented that: "capitalism has always been inherently flawed: it reduces people and a beautifully rich natural world to just one dimension: the one that increases profits."

PARK NOOK PROTEST

A 3-acre inner-city green space within the boundaries of Liverpool's Prince's Park is under threat from developers wanting to build 2 blocks of luxury flats. The site is the only wild area in a district with numerous empty properties and local people are outraged at the planned devastation.

With legal challenges being mounted (planning permission has already been granted), local residents moved in 1 month ago to occupy the site: 4 treehouses have been built, and more walkways and lock-ons are being prepared. In the light of the recent House of Lords ruling recognising a disputed village green, hopes are high that victory can be achieved before evictions take place. It is still not clear what the developers, a local firm, are planning to do, they seem to have 2 options: to sell the land on to another larger firm, or to apply for a court order to evict.

Bodies will be needed if an eviction alert occurs - donations (esp. climbing equipment) are welcome.

All are welcome at the Nookstock II free festival: Sunday July 11th, Princes Park. Info: 0403 176 279

Mc DONALDS

A campaign by concerned local residents and parents has forced McDonalds to withdraw their planning application. The corporation had intended to create a drive-through McSewer with its main vehicle entrance opposite a primary school right next to a suburban accident-blackspot junction on Liverpool's busy Smithdown Rd. Petitions garnered several thousand signatures, home-made posters were dotted around the neighbourhood, and the McFilth were tipped off by council officials shortly before the meeting in which their application looked certain to be knocked back. This enabled them to maintain their 'never refused planning permission' boast - funny how co-operative council jobsworths become when faced with big corporations.

CAR PARK CRANE OCCUPIED

Five people hit the site of a new multi-storey car park in Leeds city centre earlier this month. Three handed out leaflets to workers and passers by while the other two climbed a crane to hang a banner and prevent concrete being poured. Work was stopped for about an hour. Aside from a few threats workers were interested and agreed about the stupidity of the council's planning department.

This action was partly planned as an affinity group building exercise and was deemed successful at this role.

Earth First! Action Update

Issue 60 July 1999

"We have got enough resources to deal with anything that might happen" - Met Police, on June 18, 1999.

City of London

HA! HA! HA!

The Monthly Round up of Ecological, and Other, Direct Action from Around Britain

Earth First! is not a cohesive group or campaign, but a convenient banner for people who share similar philosophies to work under. The general principles behind the name are non-hierarchical organisation and the use of direct action to confront, stop and eventually reverse the forces that are responsible for the destruction of the Earth and its inhabitants.

June 18th Special!

"It was not a 'campaign' or a 'message'. It was an attempt to physically prevent the destructive machine processes of capital from going on. It was an act of self defence in a life or death struggle with those who kill to cling on to power and privilege."

It was lunchtime, and 7 enormous carnival heads representing 7 different revolutionary movements across the globe arrived at Liverpool St Station where over 8,000 people had gathered in resistance to capitalism. Some were already dancing to the Samba band. Carnival masks in four different colours; red, green, black and gold, were distributed throughout the crowd; the masks offered an explanation of carnival and instructions to follow written on the back, as well as a unity of identity.

At a signal, the crowd divided according to it's colour into four groups, led by colour-coded streamers via different routes; some tube, some land: toward Upper Thames St. A fifth group, not colour coded ended up at an unintentional destination, London Wall. Here, separated from the bulk of the crowd, around 2000 people bore much of the police frustration. One person was hospitalised after being run over by a police van.

The majority of people reached Upper Thames St which was reclaimed, banners reading "Global Ecology not Global Economy", and "Kill Capitalism" were hung, and the sound systems started. Walls and roads were graffitied with various messages and surveillance cameras were painted over, broken or had bags put over them. A fire hydrant was broken

sending water 40 foot high and flooding out investment buildings, which, it was reported, caused temporary disruption but no permanent damage. Police became more agitated when:

"A number of us who were masked up ran at one of the entrances to the LIFFE building which also houses Cargill, a much hated biotech company, some dragging away barriers while others tried to storm the building. The few security posted there stopped the charge, and then the barriers become our tools, weapons not to keep us out but to get us in, and the glass doors shattered when we used the barriers to batter them down."

Inside the building, computers, mirrors and windows were smashed, files thrown out into the street along with pot plants and furniture. Escalators were dismantled. Conflicting reports state that nobody reached beyond the ground floor although others claim that after fistfights with traders at the top of the escalators the first floor was also damaged. Some reports say trading was stopped and workers evacuated.

At a similar time a group entered McDonalds in Canon St and began to smash windows and damage the interior, before dumping the tills in the middle of the street. The Fleet St branch had it's windows broken. The Stock Exchange was targeted, but people were apparently stopped from breaking open the doors by other protestors, who, allegedly, put paint on their fellows so they could be identified by the police later. Some also tried to de-mask members of the crowd throughout the afternoon.

Later in the day a Mercedes Benz showroom had it's windows put through and some of the cars inside were smashed with scaffolding poles.. Throughout the day a number of luxury cars were redesigned, at least one set on fire, others had their windows smashed. Some reports said that protestors also targeted ordinary cars and:

"These are some of the things that I saw: people

destroying a little cafe that had been serving us food all day; people giving abuse to anyone in a suit/didn't look right, people saying things like 'we're just here to have a party, man' ...little restaurants, newsagents and shops being destroyed... I was scared and not just of the police."

As police lines pushed people back, the people retained ground with missiles including white paint bombs which splattered a number of riot police. The windows of the Dutch Rabo Bank building were smashed, and one newspaper said that Normand Bank was damaged by fire. As the crowd was divided up by police lines, and the sound system led out, an elite wine bar was invaded, alcohol stolen, windows broken, and the interior destroyed. Four of the tube stations on route had been closed, so an easy exit was not possible - some people headed for Waterloo station where the planned mass train jump to Cologne didn't happen, some home, and some toward Trafalgar Square where people partied until late into the night. There were 15 arrests and nearly 50 injured on the day itself. Since then there have been other arrests for criminal damage as police have been viewing CCTV and identifying individuals, many of the crowd having not worn masks.

"June 18th was a great day out, but for me it is not about the day but the process, just one day of many where we refuse and resist the onslaught of global capitalism. One paper warned that capitalism's enemies will be back, but we had never gone away. We are part of our history of resistance, but now we are making links. Our revolution really is global."

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J18 media

-Theirs and Ours-

◆ The events of June the 18th were well publicised on the J18 website. Undercurrents, I-Contact video network and the J18 media group got video footage of the critical mass, the animal rights demo, the human chain and the carnival on to the website within 20 minutes of these actions taking place. The server was full to capacity all day with people logging on. Within 3 days of the action a 30 minute video had been compiled by Undercurrents and I-Contact and shown at the Glastonbury festival to packed audiences every night. Visit the website at www.j18.org

◆ A court ruling has gone in the favour of the Press who argued against a police order to hand over their footage of the day. The press argued that it is not the role of the media to be police informers. However, this should not lull us into a false sense of security, as the media have no qualms about endangering protestors liberty by putting their faces on the front page/tv. It should also be remembered that everyone is liable to have their film seized by police on or after the day. Even seemingly innocent footage can be used to secure convictions.

◆ On the issue of journalists; while it is up to each individual to say what they like about themselves (as long as they don't claim to speak for anyone else), mentioning other people to journalists is as serious as talking about them to the police.

◆ Thirty thousand copies of Evading Standards, a 32 page tabloid spoof on London's Evening Standard were given out - twenty thousand of them to commuters in the week leading up to June 18th and the rest at the carnival itself.

◆ The international email list continues to run, and much of the discussion has turned to the possibility of future co-ordinated global days of action. To subscribe, send a message to listproc@gn.apc.org with 'subscribe j18discussion' in the body of the message. But be warned - there is lots of traffic on this list!

D'oh!

Issue 59 of the Earth First! Action Update contained three factual inaccuracies.

1 - We claimed that the road protest at Valley D'Aspe in France had been successful and the scheme was scrapped. It appears that this was an invention which we copied out of the Guardian in blatant contravention of our own guidelines!

2 - We advertised the Big Day Out against Tarmac as being planned for the 17th of August. It is in fact to take place on the 17th of July. See Diary section.

3 - In News In Brief we reported that a Fascist march in Halifax had been cancelled due to militant local opposition when in fact no such march was ever planned. What did happen was that a British National Party candidate stood in the council elections and there was a largish anti-fascist presence at the count. The fascists had to leave from the back door under police protection!

We are sorry - and we do welcome your corrections and your comments.

Autonomous Actions on June 18th

ACTIONS IN LONDON

Hundreds of financial sector workers failed to turn up for the day having been ordered by their firms to avoid the City for fear of possible riots. So, some disruption was caused in the City even before anyone really did anything.

PAINT JOB

Five small groups went to London to splatter 5 places with paint at one minute past midnight on June 18th. Unfortunately due to last-minute organisational problems and police surveillance of the squats they had planned to stay in, only one group set off for its target. Undeterred, this group homed in on the London Metal Exchange and scored a hit, liberally splattering it with pink paint!

ROAD AND RAIL BLOCKADES

Fire alarms in 3 consecutive tube stations on the district and circle lines were activated (the theory being that this would cause the whole line to close). The 4th station couldn't be done because it had been evacuated, suggesting that it works.

Two climbers closed Tower Bridge to traffic by abseiling into the path of traffic from one of the towers. A banner was hung, reading 'Life Before Profit'. They were removed by police climbers who appeared to be ready for this sort of eventuality. They were arrested, but got away with a caution and were released in time for the carnival.

At 8.15am rush hour traffic attempting to enter Moorgate road on its way into the square mile, was blocked off by activists who D-locked steel cable from one side of the road to the other and attached a banner to it reading "warning: steel cable: city closed". It is not known for how long this remained in place as the activists left quickly due to a high police presence!

One group didn't make it to their meeting point due to tube chaos, and joined the animal rights march instead.

CRITICAL MASS

At 7.45 a.m about 5-600 cyclists staged a critical mass cycle ride, disrupting the flow of traffic all over the Square Mile. This carried on all morning, continuing to jam the city streets untill 12.00 noon when it met with the Carnival Against Capital at Liverpool Street Station.

BRIGHTON BLOCKS A BIG BRIDGE!

Before they set off to do their action the Brighton group held 3 training days which included legal briefings, self defence workshops and discussions on the theory and practice of affinity groups. On the day itself 40 people barricaded London Bridge during the morning rush hour.

The plan was to chain together and trash 3 cars, one in each of the North-bound lanes taking traffic into the City. Meanwhile the South-bound lane would be blocked by a chain sporting an enormous red, green and black banner reading 'Stop The City'.

Unfortunately one of the cars broke down quarter of a mile away from the Bridge, so one of the carriageways was left unblocked. A heavy police presence resulted in 3 arrests for fairly minor offences, however, most groups managed to complete their tasks, evade arrest and enjoy the rest of the day.

BUNCH OF BANKERS

The Campaign Against the Arms Trade targeted Lloyds, Natwest and Friends Provident in the City to protest at their support for the arms export trade.

At Friends Provident only a couple of people managed to get inside, but a banner was dropped from the roof reading "Capitalising on Misery". Friends Provident holds over 4 million shares in British Aerospace which is the largest arms exporter in Europe, having sold weapons to Turkey, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Chile.

Lloyds, one of the primary banks used by arms exporters, was the next target which was successfully occupied by about 9 people, 4 of whom locked on, while a picket was held outside. The occupation lasted from 9.3am-1.30pm, forcing the bank to close for the day.

Nat West was also visited for a hour, and whilst work was not stopped lots of leaflets were given out. Meanwhile at Aldgate Station free food and leaflets were distributed.

Contact CAAT: 0171 281 0297

SCRAP GAP

International Solidarity with Workers in Russia (ISWoR) held an action against the Oxford Street branch of Gap, a clothing multinational, in protest against the brutal exploitation of workers employed by Gap in Russia, who sew for as little as 11 US cents an hour.

The action was originally planned mainly as a phone blitz, as the organisers did not want to pull people away from the City of London. However, a press release accidentally went out stating that there would be a presence at the shop all day, so an action was organised at the last minute.

Labels describing the working conditions in Russia were inserted by protesters all through the stock of clothes, causing disruption, despite the shop's security plan and police presence. Afterwards customers were leafleted with information about the issue. Some of the shop-workers were found to be sympathetic. The 'phone blockade also went ahead as planned.

International Solidarity with Workers in Russia, Box R, 46 Denmark Hill, London, SE5 8RZ

ANTI-MAC

McDonalds on Liverpool Street was picketed, around midday, by several hundred people whilst waiting to gather for the carnival.

At 4pm, a small group of people left the carnival to picket the Aroma cafe in Bishopsgate, McDonalds having bought the Aroma cafe chain earlier this year. They arrived to find a lot of police waiting for them, which turned out not to be a problem as the cafe was already shut, presumably to avoid the protest.

Contact: London Greenpeace. 0171 713 1269

UNIONS TARGETED

About 40 activists, including some from the Northern Anarchist Network, invaded the head offices of the TUC and the country's largest union, Unison. Whilst not actually in the Square Mile, the action was planned to emphasise how unions are hand in hand with Capital. Unions have consistently sold out workers, recent examples being the Liverpool Dockers, the Hillingdon Strikers and the Magnet workers.

Office workers were leafleted and lots of disruption caused. It was felt to be a good action, with no arrests.

M11 (non) OPENING

The M11 link road in North East London was the scene of protest once again on 7th June. The road which has been the subject of protests and resistance since the battle of the Chestnut tree in December '93, when people living in the ancient sweet chestnut in treehouses on George Green, Wanstead, were violently evicted.

Activists had recieved a tip-off that the opening of the road was set for the seventh, so back to George Green it was where 70 to 100 people met to the sounds of a cycle powered sound system, and then converged with others outside the link road offices before processing along the road and onto the way-behind-schedule, unopened and unfinished link road.

People walked the route of the link to sounds of whooping and yipping reminiscent of the abundant 1994 No M11 protests. When they came to locked gates they turned back and found some still-working machinery to occupy.

When work began to be disrupted the police moved in. People moved off onto the roundabout, vans of tactical support officers moved in and began to get heavier, pushing people off the road back to the pavement. At this time one arrest was made of a person objecting to the way someone with a pushchair was shoved from the road to the pavement.

GM ACTIONS

The first commercial-scale trial of genetically modified oil seed rape to be planted in the UK was destroyed by the farm owner on 5th June. The owner of Lushill Farm, near Swindon, ordered the destruction of 25 acres of GM oilseed rape following objections from the farm trustees who feared that a mass trespass would take place.

On 16th June, four people from "Cereals '99 snowball" peacefully uprooted approximately 400 genetically modified sugarbeet plants at the opening day of the Cereals '99 exhibition held at Vine Farm, Wendy in Cambridgeshire. The GM sugar beet was planted last year and formed part of an exhibit on the Monsanto trade stand. Security staff arrived after about 20 minutes but there were no arrests. After the action the 'decontaminators' remained at the site to take responsibility for their actions and explain to the show's attendees, mostly farmers and the Monsanto representatives, why they did it. Contact GenetiX Snowball on 0161 834 0295.

At least 2 genetic test sites have been destroyed this month, bringing the total to over 35 this year. GM trials must be completed before GM crops can be commercially grown, so, the more tests get destroyed, the longer commercial sites will be delayed.

Contact GEN, 0181 374 9516

TOXIC DUMP BLOCKADED

500 cops turned out on the 29th June when 15 people blocked the gates to a toxic waste merchants yard near Glasgow for 4 hours.

The site has 87 types of licences for allowing him to dump a horrifyingly diverse number of different poisons ranging from medical to petroleum waste. The neighbouring residents of his newly acquired site in Gartocher . have decided to take Direct Action to ensure their children's health will not be jeopardised for profit.

Five people were arrested and held overnight after successfully blocking the gates to the site. More actions are planned,

For further info phone:01436 820901 or 01382 770877 or 01382 776956

HACINEDA WEEKENDER

On Saturday 5th June, the OKasional Café (a loose collective of people who've squatted a series of buildings in Manchester to turn them into anarchic squat cafes) reclaimed the Hacienda for the people.

The legendary night-club was squatted to spread information about June 18th, and about counter-culture generally. It was also meant to raise money to support the Reclaim the Streets arrestees from several weeks before.

About a thousand people turned up for the free party, but the police took a heavy line, and decided to besiege the building. People inside had a great party, with techno interspersed with legal briefings in case the police stormed the building.

However, life wasn't so great for those stuck on the outside. Some intrepid party-goers managed to avoid the cops and climb in up makeshift ropes, or along dicey window ledges. After a sudden rush when the doors opened briefly enough to let in loads of party goers but not the TAG cops that followed, the police got heavy. They started battoning people and rode their horses into the peaceful crowd to clear them from the area. Over twenty people were nicked for public order offences.

Eventually, at about 8am, while 70 riot cops were arriving and the doors were being barricaded, people negotiated their way out, to avoid getting there heads kicked in, and mass arrests. no-one was nicked and the sound system and café equipment got out safe and sound. Unfortunately it failed to raise any money, and more people got nicked than on the RTS itself. One organiser said "Again, the police did the job of radicalising many ordinary Mancunians much quicker than we ever could, and due to our street cred going through the roof, interest and enthusiasm about stuff like this is really high currently. We will be back!" Contact the OKasional Cafe 0161 2266814.

NUCLEAR CONVOY STOPPED

A convoy delivering Trident nuclear warheads to the Submarine bases on the Clyde, on the day of the opening of the Scottish Parliament, was disrupted by protesters on the Stirling to Balloch road at Buchlyvie.

Local people from the village of Buchlyvie came out of their houses in support of the protest. The anti-nuclear protesters, mostly from the Faslane Peace Camp, had been spotted in advance and the police presence was massive. The protesters managed, however to sprint up the road, complete with banners, and reached the convoy. One person dived under the first carrier, but 5 coppers dragged him out after about 5 minutes.11 arrests later the convoy, which had left AWE Burghfield near Reading on Tuesday continued on its way towards Coulport.

Meanwhile at RNAD Coulport, the convoy's destination, a Trident Ploughshares activist was arrested for beginning work on dismantling the Trident nuclear weapons store.

RECLAIM THE STREETS!

Two reclaim the streets parties took place this month.

One took place in Cambridge (date unknown) and the other in Newcastle on the 12th of June. Unfortunately the EFAU has no more information on either party. Upcoming street party, Bristol in July and Norwich in September. See Dates for the Diary.

Action Diary

July
10. URGENT conference 01865 721366
10. Bristol RTS. Meet Castle Park at 12 noon. Ring Kebele on 0117 939 9469
10. Gene-free Jamboree 0181 374 9677.
12. URGENT action. 01865 721366
14. GE Free Forests Action. Meet 9.30 in front of University of Oxford National History Museum
17. National action against Tarmac. Somewhere in the Midlands. Ring 07971 755 823 for details. Be prepared to stay over the night before.
18. Stop the Crop March on a farm scale test site , Watlington, Oxford. 2pm. Ring GEN 0181 3749516
30. 4th Anarchist Summer Camp, Germany. Tel: 0531 82909. email: a-camp@gmx.de
31. Smash Genetic Engineering Action. Cambridge For precise meeting point call 07808 191858 or smashgenetics@yahoo.com after 24 July.
31- Aug 2. Setting up Ecological Communities course at Stepping Stones Co-op, mid-Wales 0870 7332538
August
2.-8. European Animal Rights gathering, Norway. noah@noahonline.org
18-23. EF! Summer Gathering, East Anglia. Contact Leeds EF! for workshops or Norwich EF! for offers of help on site
September
 Fifth 'Doin' it in the north'. Newcastle, date tbc.
3-5 The Land is Ours Gathering. Wkshops on land based issues at a farm in Stroud. Bring acoustic music. Phone 01865 722016 for more details.
11. Norwich Reclaim The Streets party - 07931308091
October
18. Veggie's 15th anniversary bash. Our celebrations will be as transnational as Capital. Contact as for Notts EF!

Prisoners

When writing to prisoners you must write your full name and address on the back of the envelope.

One person is on remand after London's Carnival Against Capital, charged with Affray and carrying an offensive weapon (a crowbar).
Charles McBride DC8504, HMYOI Feltham, Bedford Rd., Feltham, Midd'x, TW13 4ND.

Robert Thaxton is also in jail, charged with attempted murder, rioting, and assault after the June 18th events in Eugene, Oregon. It seems the attempted murder charge was added to get him to plead guilty to the assault charge, which carries a minimum 5-year jail sentence.
Robert Thaxton, 1370036, Lane County Jail - 101 W. 5th, Eugene Oregon, 97401, USA. He can ONLY receive hand-written letters, no printed media. The envelope must be less than 1/4" thick.

Steve Greenwood was sentenced to 10 months in April having been nicked protesting against the breeding of cats for vivisection at Hillgrove Farm.. **Steve Greenwood, DJ5857, HMP Woodhill, Rattenhoe Street, Milton Keynes, MK4 4DA.**

Some of the people arrested for organising the June 18th action in Pakistan now face charges that carry the death penalty. The jailed trade unionists are:
Choudhry Riaz Ahmed, Mohammad Shakeel Janjua s.v.p. Pirezada Imtiaz Syed, Ayub Ali Khan, Haroon H Rasheed, Mohammad Inayat Sabri, Mohammad Noveed.

Offers of solidarity can be sent to the union address: APFUTU, Union House, Rang Pura, Sargodha Road Gujrat - 50700 Pakistan; Fax: (+ 92 - 4331) 525302; E-Mail: union@grt.space.net.pk
 Voice your protest to the High Commission of Pakistan on 0171 664 9200 (ask for High Commissioner's office) and to the Prime Minister of Pakistan at primeminister@pak.gov.pk

AUSTRALIA

Adelaide. Two small actions took place: the Wildcat Collective "stuck coins around in strategic places", including the stock exchange, and Everyone for a Nuclear-Free Future plus supporters did a banner walk near the main branch of Westpac - an Australian bank who have invested in the Jabiluka uranium mine.

Perth had three small events on the 18th - a Jubilee 2000 'wake up crawl' of consulates, a demo against Western Mining's desecration in the Philippines and an action against a local engineering company - Clough - that's helping a US/UK/Canadian/Swiss mob called Pangea to plan a major international nuclear waste dump in outback Western Australia.

Melbourne. Highlight of the day in Melbourne was when Kim Beazely, the leader of the opposition, was pied for speaking at a meeting about APEC and Global Trade, sponsored by Shell. The majority of people (along with three roadkilled wombats) met up at the stock exchange at noon, and went off to the local branch of Westpac. A group of people entered a department store and ran amok inside, and there were reports that a Nike store was paintbombed and that ticket validation machines on the tram system were damaged.

Sydney At least three major events took place, alongside other autonomous actions. The anti-business lunch was followed by a 'scumbag's tour' of the business district. Critical mass took place later in the evening, over the harbour bridge and around the town.

ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires A multi-religious assembly against debt and global capitalism in general was staged in front of the I.M.F and Central Bank building, followed by a march through the streets of the financial district of Buenos Aires. J18 was the first in a series of similar events to be held every third Friday.

BANGLADESH

Dhaka. Friday is the weekly holiday in Bangladesh so all the offices of financial institutions were closed on that day. Previously the Domestic Workers Association had decided to organise a demonstration in front of the World Bank's office for Bangladesh .But due to the holiday it was moved to Purina Paltan in the centre of Dhaka. Several hundreds of domestic workers demonstrated for two hours with slogans against the IMF, World Bank, capitalism and TNCs, and exploitation both local and international.

BELARUS

Minsk.Two groups organised a picket near the McDonald's in the centre of Minsk. They handed out pamphlets about multinational corporations and their policy,and handed toilet paper to people entering McDonalds. Any public meetings or demonstrations are illegal in Belarus but nobody was arrested. Also, the "No Corporations"-open air festival was staged without permission by the state.

BRAZIL

Desterro.In Desterro (named by the state Florianopolis) the 12 meters high clock placed in the centre of the city, built by the media giant "Globo Network" was stained with red paint symbolising the blood of indigenous people shed by the European conquerors. The clock, a copy of which is erected in the capital of every Brazilian state, is intended to celebrate the 500 years of "discovery" (read invasion) of this land. At the bottom of the clock was spray-painted: "celebrating what"?

CANADA

Calgary. 30 local activists converged on the headquarters of Shell Canada, in a protest in solidarity with the peoples of the Niger Delta. Slogans were chalked around the foyer of the building, banners displayed and leaflets distributed. After half an hour the protest moved onto the head office of Chevron Canada, conveniently situated only

half a block away.

Ottawa 60-100 people met in Confederation Park and began a march with songs courtesy of the Raging Grannies. The grannies are a group of seniors who use song and humour to highlight social and economic injustice. As they passed the Bank of Nova Scotia 'auditors' were sent into the building to conduct a moral audit of the institution. The parade then paid visits to the US and Mexican embassies, the National Press building, Monsanto, Anderson consultants, closed off a Shell station and finally confronted the headquarters of arms manufacturer Raytheon.

Toronto. RTS Toronto "concluded peacefully, with over 2 thousand cyclists, dancers, pedestrians and protesters participating, presided over by a giant goddess. Police presence was extremely heavy with riot police, horses, bullet-proof vest wearing Emergency Task Force cops and bike fuzz, but despite the burning effigies in the streets (a television/VCR, Mercedes symbol, and a giant asshole"(?!)) There were no arrests.

Vancouver. About a hundred people "quarantined" the Vancouver Stock Exchange and the headquarters of the timber giant Macmillan Bloedell and Global Corporation.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Numerous actions took place in conjunction with J18, organised by a coalition of local and national groups. The first street party outside Prague took place in Brno on May 22nd with more than 800 people attending. The 3rd Prague street party on June 5th attracted a crowd of more than 7000 in the city centre. It was timed to coincide with the planned arrival of the Intercontinental Caravan, which was refused entry to the country, and staged as solidarity with the J18 actions. After plenty of entertainment, a spirited march headed towards the historic centre of the city. The conveniently placed US embassy was attacked with bottles and stones despite the presence of 1000 police with water canons, horses and helicopters. More damage was done on the way back from the Prague castle into town. A police station, several fast food stores and one TV station were attacked. 114 arrests. On June 18, a much smaller crowd of 350 gathered in central Prague to stir more trouble at bank branches and corporate headquarters. However, being outnumbered by the police 3:1 and confronted with bad weather, everybody decided to call it a day fairly early. Nevertheless, the massive police presence managed to tame the traffic in the city for the day. There were also direct actions around the whole of Czech, and activists in different cities ran infoshops to inform about J18 and actions around the world The first solidarity action with PGA and actions around the world in Slovakia was held on 12 June, although we don't have any more details.

FRANCE

Bordeaux. A group of 50 took a ramble around 20 local bank branches. At each bank they carried out a symbolic occupation, demanding that the branch managers send faxes denouncing neo-liberal economic policies to the French finance minister and other financial institutions.

GERMANY

Cologne. Events in Cologne, where the G8 ministers were meeting, proved somewhat less spectacular than expected. The 'laugh parade' planned for the day was effectively stopped by thousands of police. Indians and others from the Intercontinental Caravan for solidarity and resistance, arriving at Cologne after a month of action all around Europe were stopped by the police before entering the subway to the city centre, where many were beaten up and 30 arrested. 500 European participants on the way to the parade were similarly surrounded. The following day's big march (not the Jubilee 2000 event - that was separate) through the city attracted about 10,000 people including a large Kurdish contingent. Other

successful actions included the invasion of a police vehicle compound where several vehicles were damaged, damage to the doors of banks and investment houses, and a demonstration by Iranian women outside the cathedral while the world leaders were having a service said in their honour.

GREECE

Athens. About 2-300 people took over the streets in Athens and made lots of noise. There were reports of



people burning pallets and setting up barricades, and two busloads of riot police were there with all the gear on, but there were no serious clashes.

ITALY

Bologna. The most important action organised by Anarcociclisti in Italy for J18 was a walk-about through the city of Bologna. Anarcociclisti and members of the AIS (Associazione Italiana Sprecisi) created a multitude of autonomous zones in the centre of the town for the night, blocking the traffic and involving people in their performances. Cash machines were stickered. Similar actions happened in Milano, Roma, Siena, Firenze and Ancona but unfortunately we have no further details.

ISRAEL

Tel Aviv. The 'Goodbye to the Mall' Street party was held on the streets of Tel-Aviv's financial district

MALTA

The Movement Graffiti staged a rock concert under the banner "Malta not for sale"

NEPAL:

"Unfortunately there was no physical action or protest regarding J18 in Nepal. However, we composed a memorandum and gave it to the Nepal representatives of the Asian Development Bank, IMF, and the World Bank."

NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam. "Around 50 activists gathered in front of the Amsterdam stock exchange. A 6 by 8 metre banner was hung between two lampposts to transform the pseudo-classical front of the building, leaving a gate for the moneymakers. At one stage the protestors moved towards the front door of the stock exchange (which miraculously closed very rapidly!) and officially closed the building with a colourful ribbon and cheap cider. Once closed, 10 Statements For The Reform Of The Financial-Economic System were presented and virtually hammered onto the front door, in the style of Luther in 1516."

NIGERIA

Port Harcourt. Thousands of people from all walks of life gathered at the Port Harcourt International Airport to wait for the return to Nigeria of Dr. Owens Wiwa, younger brother Ken Saro-Wiwa. Owens was forced into exile in North America four years ago.

The crowd then moved in a convoy to Agip Junction in Port Harcourt where a street named after ex-dictator Abacha was unofficially re-named after Ken Saro-Wiwa with the old signpost pulled out. The crowd also stormed Agip offices where two mock coffins where deposited in its front in protest against the human rights atrocities of the Italian company. Agip has been responsible for the murder of eight people in the Ijaw region in April. The demonstrators also blockaded the gates leading to the

was currently on hunger strike over government suppression of unionism, and one of Korea's most famous film actors speaking about the threat to the Korean film industry from US investment liberalisation

SPAIN.

Barcelona's day of action started at 8am when 25 people closed off two of the city's main streets, transforming one of them to look like a beach. Elsewhere 100 people took a piece of land where the police had demolished a squat after evicting it. They cleared the stones away, and by the end of the day there was a garden there, with vegetables, medicinal herbs and a little lake. The neighbours were impressed. Bike demos started off during the late afternoon-one group of 13 cyclists riding in to join the main demonstration from 20km outside Barcelona managed to close the entire motorway. At 7pm all the groups converged in the Plaza Universtat for a Reclaim the Streets Party. The sound-system van broke down, so had to be pushed around the city by the 700 partygoers - who also covered the walls with anti-capitalist graffiti.

Madrid. A street party on June 18th ended 7 days of action for social rights. People partied under clothes lines strung across the street, in defiance of an archaic law which banned the practice. Earlier in the week the Spanish stock exchange was invaded by 100 individuals who occupied the traders' posts and papered over the trading board, disrupting trading for over an hour. An employment agency was also occupied during the week.

Ovideo, Aviles, Gijon (Asturias) In all three cities, info stalls publicised the consequences of globalisation. Afterwards, banks, property developer's offices and McDonalds' branches were picketed. People gathered later in the evening outside the Asturias parliament for music, dancing and the painting of a mural.

Valencia. To the rhythm of drums, a carnival of 400 people wound its way through the streets of Valencia, stopping at Lladro's - one of Valencia's most hated land speculators, and on into the main financial centre.

SWITZERLAND:

Geneva. "At midday some 50 people washed down some of the main banks in the centre of the city with ladders, brooms, packing-cloths, water, and soap, getting a very good reaction from the public and also from the bank employees. Then in the evening, some 100 people made a mobile Carnival in the city, blocking the streets, painting them, dancing, serving black-current syrup to the car-drivers who got caught up in the traffic. Two small actions, but with lots of energy which has inspired people to plan an escalation of similar monthly actions."

Zurich. "About 300 people - that's a lot for this small provincial town! - occupied a construction site in a part of Zurich which is being redeveloped along similar lines to London's docklands. It was a really great atmosphere - the best party for years. Two bands played, along with a rave and a screening of the Reclaim the Streets film. The police weren't too impressed of course, but who cares - they eventually left, and the party continued all night."

URUGUAY

Montevideo. The central square of the city was turned into a "trade fair " for the day, with entertainment and stalls informing about work, education, local culture, consumerism, media manipulation and free radio and other issues. The day was ended with a "recycled parade" through the city, during which the Banco de Montevideo and the stock exchange were also occupied. Environmental and trade union campaigners worked together on this event, including workers of the "El Cine" supermarket who have been in occupation of the supermarket for the last two months.

USA

Asheville, North Carolina Around one hundred protesters gathered for a street party, blockading the road

using a broken down car. "Although small, we were in solidarity with thousands across the world!"

Austin, Texas A critical mass bike ride of about 50 people turned into a street blockade as a construction barricade and chairs from a nearby cafe was moved into the street for a party. Abuse was shouted at the cops when they turned up, and they proceeded to snatch-squad three people.

Boston. More than 100 activists joined in a street theatre performance in front of Bank Boston in the centre of the city's financial district. Bank Boston is closely connected to International Paper, a company involved in the exploitation of the Chiapas region of Mexico and the displacement of its people. At the end of the day, the crowd promised to return, far stronger than before, to end the rule of capital over our lives.

Eugene June 18th activities in Eugene Oregon kicked off with 20 arrested and eight police injured during a five hour reclaim the streets that saw bank windows smashed and tear gassing of demonstrators on what had been expected to be just a street party. It is unclear just how events escalated. Corporate news accounts indicate that the initial spark may have come when police moved in after a protester climbed a U.S. Bank sign and put his fist through it. By the end of the day several downtown banks, a leather retailer and a "Taco Bell" restaurant had lost windows. Unfortunately there were also reports that some people were behaving aggressively to drivers who got caught up in traffic jams. One person is currently in prison for the riot and facing five years - see prisoners section, page 7, for details.

Los Angeles' first Reclaim the Street party took place on June 18th. A truck full of an 'instant skatepark,' with rails, launch ramps, and funboxes waited nearby but didn't manage to get past the police into the party but the soundsystem van did as did a trashed car which had been donated for people to graffiti. The party became mobile after a while to prevent the soundsystem being confiscated. There were a total of 17 arrests. The police compounded the traffic chaos by keeping several blocks shut for hours after the RTS crew had all gone home, and even sent the bomb squad in to deal with the trashed car! **New York.** A non-violent street carnival was organised to protest against the annual meeting of the Group of Eight (G8) economic superpowers. For nearly 2 hours, 500 costume clad protesters took over the streets, tying up traffic in New York City's Financial District and rallying in front of the New York Stock Exchange on Wall Street. Five people were arrested as they attempted to chain themselves together around a large sculpture of a globe and another 32 for blocking traffic while taking over the streets.

Olympia A Street party was held a few days before the big day, on June 12th. Police grabbed the signs cones and barricades used to block the streets, and then went to grab a couch, but were thwarted when loads of partygoers jumped onto it.

Washington, DC. 600 demonstrators formed a human chain around the U.S. Treasury Department, co-ordinated by Jubilee 2000.The crowd was boisterous and participants chanted and sang and danced.

WORLDWIDE

In solidarity with Mexico's Zapatista communities, the Electronic Disturbance Theater launched an international blockade of the Mexican embassy in London. 18,000 people from 49 countries joined the call to point their internet browsers at the embassy using a program which sends multiple reload commands to the website, clogging it up for the day.

ZIMBABWE

Harare The day was not marked by big demonstrations but five people were on the streets of Harare spreading information to raise awareness about globalisation issues.