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*Fire to the prisons
(Outside the prison of Rouen, France, September 2, 2008)*

Solidarity & Revolt Across Borders

*Letters from prisoners, solidarity statements and action chronologies
from France and other countries (January 2008 to March 2009)*



*Long live solidarity with undocumented immigrants
Freedom for Bruno, Ivan and the others
(Paris, France, April 5, 2008)*

January 24, Paris (France) – 300 people attend a demonstration in support of Isa and all prisoners but are surrounded by police. People in the area show their support for the demonstration and face-down the police. The cops throw teargas in the street and the subway and charge with batons against the demonstrators, who respond with bottles, fireworks and smoke-bombs. Police arrest 120 people randomly, demonstrators and bystanders, and take them to different police stations.

January 24, Paris (France) – A real estate agency and insurance agency on Condorcet Street have their windows smashed, in an "action of solidarity after the demonstration" and the arrests of 120 people earlier in the day.

January 25, Geneva (Switzerland) – 70 people demonstrate outside the French consulate in solidarity with those arrested at Tarnac.

January 26, Paris (France) – Windows are smashed at the Socialist Party (PS) offices on Gergovie Street and the Union for a Popular Movement (UMP) party offices on Plevel Street. "Solidarity with Isa, Juan, Damien and all the prisoners in struggle. Solidarity with all who revolt, from the demo on January 24 to elsewhere."

January 26, Brussels (Belgium) – "We burned three police cars at the station at Bailli and Ixelles Street. Solidarity with the companions that defended themselves from the police at the demonstration at Steenokkerzeel last week and the prisoners in revolt who set fires. Solidarity with Isa, Juan, Damien, Bruno and all those jailed in the social war."

January 29, Paris (France) – During a massive union demonstration, tens of thousands march under a banner strung across the street that reads, "Solidarity with the prisoners in revolt. Freedom for Isa, Juan, Damien, those of Vincennes and Villiers-le-Bel (an area where riots took place), Julien and the 63,903 others".

January 29-30, Barcelona (Spain) – During the night, as an action of solidarity with the companions in struggle imprisoned in France, all the windows were smashed at the French Institute, located in a luxurious area.

January 31, Paris (France) – Eight police are injured and 15 people are arrested during clashes at a demonstration of more than 1,000 people in solidarity with Julien Coupat.

January 31, Bordeaux (France) – 200 people attend a demonstration called by the committee to "directly sabotage anti-terrorism". Nine people are detained by police.

February 9, Paris (France) – After one year in prison, Isa is released under judicial control, while Juan and Damien remain incarcerated.

March 3, Athens (Greece) – The anarchist group "Gangs of Conscience – Extremists of Perema" sets aflame six units on a commuter train in solidarity with Konstantina Kuneva, a union organizer who worked cleaning for the company that runs the trains and who was attacked with acid thrown on her face, and in solidarity with "comrade Julien Coupat".

This is why we are in prison today. This is the solution chosen by the State for the management of illegalities, of "risk populations". Today it imprisons for longer and longer terms. The controls [random identity checks by police], each time more effective, and the sanctions that create fear also ensures to those who have or profit from power a society where each individual has its place and knows the lines laid out that encircle and repress, that can't be crossed without paying the price.

If we struggle on the side of the undocumented immigrants, it's because we know that it's the same police who control, the same boss who exploits, the same walls that imprison. In going to the demonstration, we wanted to yell "Freedom" in echo with the prisoners, to show that there are many who understand the revolt that they led for many months. Lighting a smoke-bomb, trying to get as close as possible to the gates of the prison, yelling "close the detention centers", with the determination of wanting to live free. This struggle, within which one can recognize oneself, is a terrain for building complicities, a place for the possible expression of our own revolt.

We don't consider ourselves "victims of repression". There is no just repression, no just imprisonment. There is repression and its function of management, its role of maintaining the order of things: the power of those who possess facing the dispossessed.

When the whole world marches in line, it is much easier to hit those who leave the ranks. We hope that there are many of us who want to fully control our lives, who have this rage in our hearts, who want to build and weave solidarities that build revolts.

Bruno and Ivan
April 2008



Destroy the (immigration) detention centres

December 5, Hamburg (Germany) - The French consulate is splattered with black paint-bombs.

December 9, Warsaw (Poland) - Anarchists demonstrate in front of the Greek and French embassies in solidarity with Alex, assassinated by the cops in Athens, and those arrested in Tarnac.

December 16, Berlin (Germany) - Rocks and bottles full of paint are thrown at a police station and its vehicles in solidarity with those on trial in Germany as presumed members of the Militant Group and those arrested in France, and in response to the cops' murder of Alex in Greece and Oury Jalloh in Germany.

December 23, Paris (France) - 40 people gather with banners and chanted slogans to demand Isa's freedom at the palace of justice, but Isa's release demand is rejected.

January 14, Paris (France) - A small group of people take over the radio broadcast of France Culture to talk about the situations of Ivan, Bruno, Isa, Juan, Damien and those arrested on November 11, as well as to make an announcement about the two solidarity demonstration to be held on January 24 and 31.

January 14, Trento (Italy) - A BNL bank branch's cash machine is damaged and graffiti tags around it declare solidarity with French comrades arrested in November.

January 18, Paris (France) - Within the scope of the callout for a new Week of Solidarity Without Borders for Isa and all prisoners, about 100 people gather outside the prison of Versailles with smoke-bombs, fireworks and banners that declare, "Destroy all the prisons" and "Freedom for Isa, Juan, Damien and all the prisoners." The prisoners wave their hands and shout "We want freedom" to the demonstrators.

January 18-19, Grenoble (France) - With super-glue and paint-bombs, seven banks have their windows tarnished and their cash machines sabotaged. Several government building are tagged with the graffiti slogan, "Freedom for Isa, Juan, Damien, Yildune and Julien! We sabotage anti-terrorism with rage and joy!"

January 18-19, Paris (France) - "On the night of January 18 to 19, the cash machine of the Popular Bank on Alesia Street, the cash machine and all the windows of the *Société Générale* [a financial company] on Sarrette Street and all the windows of the Adecco [temp labor] agency on Alembert Street were demolished. From banks to work, we destroy what destroys us. Solidarity with Isa, Juan, Damien and all who revolt."

January 19-21, Lille (France) - "On the night of the 19th to 20th and of 20th to the 21st of January, we sabotaged 9 bank machines. Like the Greeks in revolt, we have more than enough justifications to attack the structures of capital. As part of the week of international solidarity, we show our solidarity with our companions arrested under the anti-terrorist laws. Freedom for everyone always. Revolt without borders."

Chronology of Events & Solidarity in France from January to June of 2008

January 19, Paris - Ivan, Bruno and Damien are arrested by a police patrol before a demonstration outside the immigrant detention center of Vincennes where immigrants had been in revolt for a month, engaging in a hunger strike and refusing to go back to their cells. Damien is released under judicial control (he's forbidden from leaving the country) but Ivan and Bruno are taken to prison.

January 23, Paris - Isa and Farid are arrested during a road check/control by the police near Vierzon. In the trunk, the police find sodium chlorate, plans for a juvenile prison (EPM) and manuals for sabotage. Isa and Farid are imprisoned under a special anti-terrorism jurisdiction. The cops accuse them of planning to attack an EPM and Isa is also accused of trying to sabotage a police vehicle.

April 5, Paris - Tens of thousands of people demonstrate in the streets against the repression of immigrants. Smoke-bombs and a huge banner declare "Long live solidarity with undocumented immigrants, Freedom for Bruno, Ivan and all the others". The demonstration continues in a wild form, going to Vincennes and Joinville where undocumented immigrants had been assassinated by the police. There are graffiti slogans left behind, a municipal police car is attacked, advertising signs are torn down, and surveillance cameras are obscured in the train station of the Vincennes area.



*Long live solidarity with undocumented immigrants
Freedom for Bruno, Ivan and the others
(Paris, France, April 21, 2008)*

On Sabotage as One of the Fine Arts

You'd have to truly be blind not to see sabotage as a classic weapon of the exploited. And you'd have to truly have a short memory to forget that in every social war, many rebels refuse to wait for everyone to move before expressing their own anger.

From the riots of November 2005 to the First Employment Contract (CPE) riots of Spring 2006, from factory occupations and kidnappings of bosses to the numerous acts of sabotage during the railway workers' movement of November 2007, it's clear to many people that we can't bring an end to our situation of misery and exploitation by begging for it.

In this prison society, we're expected to believe, as we're hit with tazer shocks or given election ballots, that we're in the best of possible worlds: commodity democracy. But wars and the poisoning of the planet in the name of money are still a clear reminder that capitalism is a system of death and that the State is an enemy.

And so we must fight to destroy what destroys us. Struggle individually and collectively wherever we are for a world freed from the bonds of exploitation and domination. And it's not their legal codes nor their morality that dictates what we'll do, but the rage and ethics of each and every one of us.

On November 11th, ten people were arrested after a new operation by the Ministry of Terror and accused of sabotaging the high-tension electrical wires of French National Railway (SNCF) train lines over the past weekend. Journalist-cops, politicians, and jackals came from all sides to hurriedly denounce an imaginary "anarcho-autonomist" movement. On the same pretext of an "association of criminals with terrorist aims," three comrades had already been arrested, and some held for over nine months, accused of an attempt to burn a police vehicle in Paris in May 2007, during the explosions of anger that arose to greet the last presidential election.

In a time of "crisis," when the State is showering the capitalists with billions of dollars, it's also attempting once more to isolate a few "bad rebels" to better eliminate them all. But it's of little importance whether they're guilty or innocent; we'll leave those categories to the robe-wearing toads and their supporters.

Because in the same way that the passion for freedom can't be captured in an acronym, what domination fears is a diffuse and anonymous multiplication of these attacks. Solidarity against State terrorism, with the means that each and every one considers adequate.

Let's derail the train of everyday routine,
November 12, 2008

[Text that appeared on a French Indymedia website]

embassy vehicle is attacked, "against all states". A communication explains that BNP supports the cops against the undocumented and the Red Cross helps deportations in France and manages detention centers in Italy and Belgium. That same night, the office of ANAEM (foreigner and migration agency) has its windows shattered. "Solidarity with those who rebel in the prisons, detention centers and police stations."

May 4, Grenoble - There is a concert in support of Bruno and Ivan at the Palm Bitch squat.

May 4, Paris - Hundreds of people demonstrate at the Vincennes detention center where the detained are on hunger strike. Demonstrators yell "social collaborators" at the socialist deputy of Paris, George Pau-Langevin who attempted to speak and was forced to escape with the help of the police and a member of the "9th" *Sans Papiers* (undocumented immigrants) collective. Keny Arkana and Kalash perform music outside the center.

May 8, Toulouse - 30 to 40 people gather behind the Tribunal of *Grande Instance* in solidarity with all prisoners, including Ivan and Bruno, whose public letter is given out.

May 10, Paris - The radio broadcast of France Culture is interrupted and a text is read aloud ending with "Solidarity with Ivan and Bruno and all the imprisoned. Shit to the undertakers."

May 13, Grenoble - A demonstration takes place outside the Administrative Tribunal in solidarity with all undocumented immigrants and Ivan and Bruno. About 80 people distribute leaflets and the public letter from Ivan and Bruno. Smoke-bombs are set off and the group meets up with demonstrating high-school students.



Long live solidarity with undocumented immigrants
Free Bruno, Ivan and the others
(Grenoble, France, May 13, 2008)

Chronology of the Week of Solidarity Without Borders from June 9 to 16 of 2008 and beyond

June 8-9, Paris (France) - Three banners are put up in the 18th district of Paris (a working class neighborhood): "Let's resist the controls, no papers at all"; "Riots in the detention centers, solidarity"; and "Solidarity with undocumented immigrants in struggle".

June 8-9, Lyon (France) - Five institutions that actively participate in the hunting and the 'managing' of undocumented immigrants are attacked, their windows are smashed and their façades are painted with slogans. The ANAEM (National Agency for Receiving Foreigners and Migrants) that manages the foreign work force and organizes the 'voluntary returns' to countries of origin. "L'ANAEM deports and humiliates". Air France that allows the daily deportations of undocumented immigrants. "No to the deportation of undocumented immigrants". The Air and Border police (PAF) that repress, control and deport undocumented immigrants. "PAF=NAZI". An office of Bouygues Real Estate that constructs prisons and detention centers: "no to prisons". A BNP bank branch that exploits and helps deport undocumented immigrants. "Solidarity with the imprisoned, with or without chlorate!".

June 9, Geneva (Switzerland) - The poster entitled, "who are the terrorists?", is put up on a dozen squats that had been evicted since last summer.

June 9-10, Brest (France) - As part of the week of solidarity and against all prisons, graffiti tags appear on the walls of the city reading, "social war"; "the state assassinates, re-appropriate violence"; "better unemployed than military"; "free the others"; "our revolt makes our solidarity and vice versa"; "under the paving stones, the cops"; "death to the pigs"; and a banner is hung from an express train bridge, "Against all prisons".

June 9 & 11, Moscow (Russia) - Gathering of 30 anarchists in front of the French embassy. They distribute pamphlets and shout slogans in Russian and French. A banner is put up at the embassy with the slogan, "Solidarity with undocumented immigrants and the anarchists that face repression". Smoke-bombs are set off.

June 11, Rouen (France) - A banner is put up on the Art Theatre where a concert is taking place. It reads: "Destroy the detention centers, Freedom for Isa and all the prisoners". Pamphlets about the solidarity week and copies of the letter from Bruno and Ivan are thrown off the roof.

June 11, Grenoble (France) - A gathering is held in front of the prefecture. Later, the Museum of the Resistance is occupied for a couple of hours by 50 people. Banners are put up reading, "Solidarity with undocumented immigrants, we're still in resistance, no prisons, no borders, no guards, no charters (deportations)". Numerous tracts are distributed.

June 12, Paris (France) - Around 30 people attack the APIJ (Public Agency of Justice Real Estate) which primarily constructs prisons. A big quantity of trash was thrown in the hall and on the façade: paint bombs, oil, stink bombs, litter, flour, and other trash. Slogans are tagged at the entrance: "social war", "fire to the prisons", "state terror is here".

June 12-13, Paris (France) - Two companies that collaborate with the State are attacked. Air France had all its windows smashed and a slogan was tagged: "Let's sabotage the deportation machine". An agency of Bouygues Telecom had its windows smashed and a slogan is tagged: "fire to the prisons".

June 13, Thessaloniki (Greece) - Around 60 anarchists, anti-authoritarians and autonomists gather in front of the French consulate for half an hour and continue on with a small demonstration.

June 13, Turin (Italy) - The Black Out pirate radio show talks about the situation in France (the struggle in detention centers, the taking of DNA and anti-terrorist operations), and the letters from Bruno and Ivan and other documents from the brochure, "Bad Intentions", are read out.

June 13-14, Santa Cruz, California (United States) - Some windows of the Court House are smashed in solidarity with all prisoners and specifically with some imprisoned comrades in the US, Canada, Germany and France: Eric McDavid; Marie Mason; Daniel McGowan; Leonard Peltier; John Graham; Mohawk warriors of Tyendinaga and Six Nations; rioters in Olympia Washington; Lukas Winkler, Stephanie Trager, and Sven Maurer (squatters in Munich); and Isa, Farid, Damien, Bruno and Ivan (of France).



*Freedom for the comrades prosecuted under the anti-terrorist law
(Thessaloniki, Greece, June 13, 2008)*

In four months, I've explored the female penitentiary of Fleury-Mérogis and the women's section of Lille-Séquedin. In a month, I'll enter the prison of Rouen... What to say about this unexpected dislocation that jerks our feet off the ground and our heads out of the clouds to compartmentalize us, to divide us, to reduce us to a thousand times and spaces, to a thousand places and realities, in a jumble of "self", of self image, of multiple misshaped and amnesic faces?... How to define my uncertain paths between police, justice and prison?... Every step is a step forward in a jungle of cages that interlock like Russian dolls, silent and censored. Every step has to be a return to yourself in order to bring back together the dispersed pieces of your mind, and to destroy the bars that slowly take shape inside your body. It would be ridiculous if my prison situation was getting under my skin! To deny our own consciousness for a paranoia of the State is an act of suicide!

I don't know exactly how to articulate the power and responsibilities between judicial and penitentiary authorities. The fact is that my transfer to Séquedin was "officially" motivated by the drawings I made of my cell and the yard, with the possibility of damaging the safety of the institution (as a pretext)... So, a dream of escape is probably the most just reason to keep a prisoner awake (but anyway, going from there to actually taking that step is a complicated reality...!) Apparently my immediate transfer to the Parisian region would be disturbed by this kind of complication: the delicate question of specially surveilled prisoners (DPS)... Well, if I'm not free by then, there's a transfer scheduled to Fresnes in September... In the meanwhile, Rouen is the only temporary solution that is proposed to me on the way to Paris, which I've accepted because that penitentiary is more accessible to my relatives. But I won't forget the precariousness and the illusion of my rights as a defendant presumed innocent, which until now seem to be concordant with imprisonment, an investigation on accusations and then my supposed dangerousness. This implies a reinforced control and justifies my removal and isolation from my relatives and from my defense.

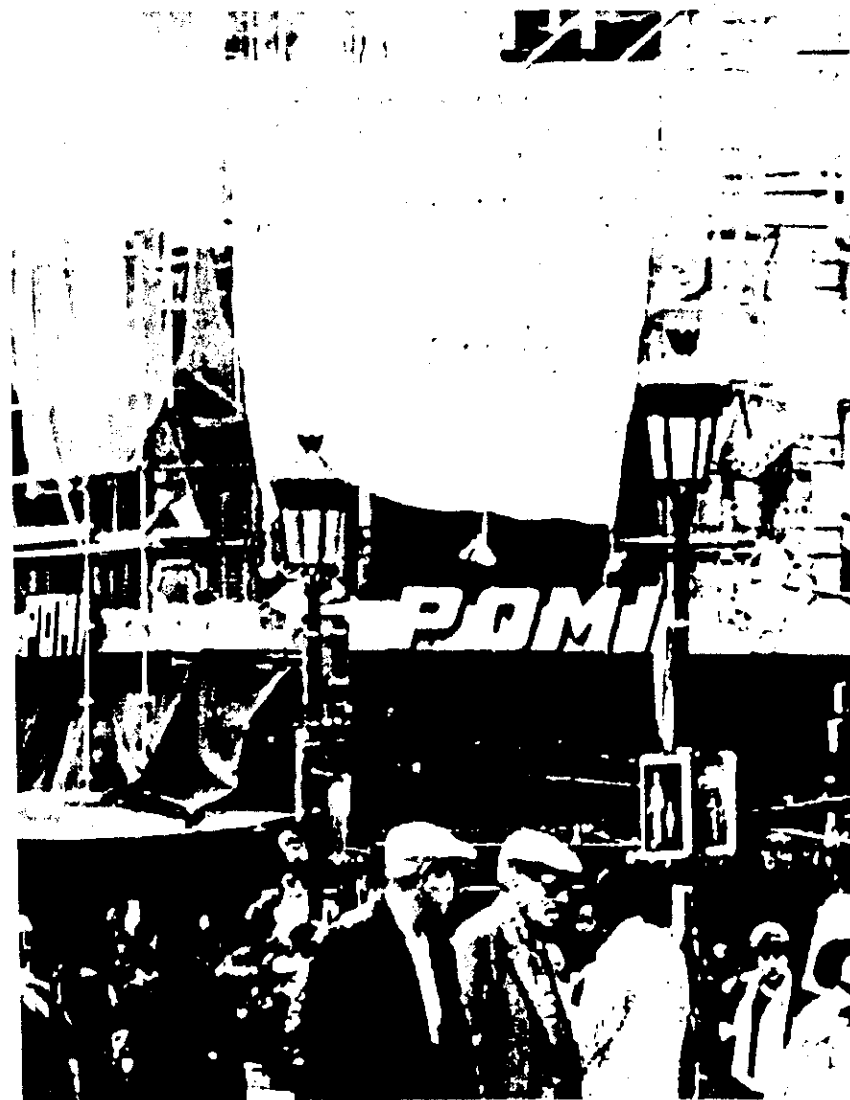
To illustrate the insignificance of this condition I could for example recount how I spent two and a half hours in a cage in a police truck, with my hands cuffed, a few air holes, hardly any daylight, without food or water, until my arrival at the court in Paris. There I spoke for a few minutes with the lawyer whom I had not seen since my last transfer and then with an unbearable headache I was finally interrogated by the judge, knowing I had to look forward to the same thing on the way back again. That is a thorough and precise representation of our rights. And that is well known.

To go back a little, arriving in the prison was an terrible shock. After a nightmare of five days under pressure, under arrest and observation, with heavy accusations and in proportions which I could not have suspected, the never ending waiting has started... Until when? After two months I found a certain balance, linking experiences... But they preferred to break me a bit more, in a logic of punishment and revenge, and I've ended up in Lille-Séquedin, a modern prison that arose from the earth five years ago.

Once again, I lost my bearings. I ended up in an environment with more apparent security, smooth, clean, but icy. Long lit-up hallways filled by cameras behind protective covers, a small soulless yard under video surveillance, covered in tar and surrounded by a double row of fences and

and possession of incendiary or explosive substances" and is still in the prison of Lille-Séquedin.

June 22, Paris (France) - The day after a Tunisian prisoner dies in the detention center of Vincennes a riot breaks out there. Two wings of the center are simultaneously set on fire and completely destroyed. All the prisoners are evacuated to a nearby police school. Some people pass-out from the fire and at least one person has his arm broken in the intervention of the cops. Around 200 people gather in solidarity in front of the center and some are pushed away with the cop's CS tear gas.



*Resist the (police) controls, no (government) documents at all
(Paris, France, June 9, 2008)*