

# Alternativa Libertaria

News-sheet of the Federazione dei Comunisti Anarchici

www.fdca.it

## Israel Anarchists

The joint Palestinian-Israeli struggle against the wall ignited a wide mass non-violent struggle of the Palestinian villagers most affected, combined with Israeli radicals around the Anarchists Against The Wall and international activists. The struggle contributed, both directly and indirectly through international involvement, to a Supreme "justice" Court stay on the route of the Wall which harms the Palestinian villagers.

While there is a lull in the construction of most of the route, the struggle continues.

The first joint demonstration of the people of Mas'ha with the Israeli anarchists and internationals ended with the establishment of a camp on the route.

At the request of the local villagers, the symbolic joint action continued for months and was a catalyst in igniting the mass activity of the Palestinian non-violent direct-action struggle against the construction of the Wall.

There were many small victories which, though only delaying the construction, contributed to the building of high morale and the involvement of more and more people.

After half a year of struggle, the first damage inflicted by the initiative to the less robust part of the fence at Zabuba, ignited red alarm for the Israeli authorities, who responded to the next symbolic action - physical damage to a gate in the Wall - by shooting to hit with live ammunition at the Israeli activists. This act, which resulted in serious injury to one Israeli activist's legs, caused havoc in the media and public opinion, forcing the authorities into clumsy lies that all Israelis have seen exposed in the main TV channels.

The Anarchists Against the Wall group actively contributes to the delegitimizing of the Wall as a tool for annexation of Palestinian territory and the quiet transfer of the villages. The contribution of the initiative to the upsurge in mass, non-violent direct action by the Palestinians has also been important.

Ilan



22nd October 2004

International day of anarchist solidarity with the Palestinian non-violent resistance against the occupation and the Israeli dissidents



## Peacefully Confronting the Wall in Budrus

I live in Budrus, a village of 1,200 people, west of Ramallah. The Wall will completely surround Budrus and eight other villages, separating us from the rest of the West Bank. There are no hospitals, universities, or civil institutions in these nine villages, and many of the people work in Ramallah. The Wall will prevent thousands of Palestinians from going to work, school, universities, and hospitals. We already live in a prison, surrounded by settlements and checkpoints. So with the Wall, it will become a prison within a prison. As a young Palestinian woman, I dream of becoming a doctor. However, the Wall may prevent me from studying in a university. On Nov 23rd, 2003, Wall construction started in Budrus and we immediately began holding peaceful demonstrations opposing it. The Israeli authorities planned to take 250 acres of Budrus' land and bulldoze our olive groves. The day construction began, the soldiers formed a line to prevent us from reaching the bulldozers, but I was able to cut through the line and sit in front of the bulldozer. We stopped Wall construction that day. We protested peacefully for three months until March 1, when the Israeli authorities said they would move the Wall to the Green Line, so Budrus would not lose land. Recently, they told us that they still want to take 44 acres of our land, and Budrus and eight other villages will also still be surrounded by the Wall. So we will continue to struggle against the theft of our land. Though our demonstrations were peaceful, the Israeli sol-

diers wounded 102 persons. They used sound bombs, teargas, and rubber-coated steel bullets, and beat men and women with clubs. In Biddu and Beitunia, villages near Jerusalem, Israeli soldiers killed six people during protests against the Wall. The Israeli military tried to stop Budrus' peaceful protests by arresting participants. Thirteen men from Budrus, including my father, two uncles, two cousins, and a 15-year-old classmate were arrested. The soldiers' violence scares me, but to make my dreams a reality I have to take part in the peaceful struggle against that Wall. Nonviolent resistance against the Wall requires everyone. Our entire community participated in protests, men with women, elders with children, and Palestinians with Israelis and internationals. I had never dealt with Israelis as friends before. Israelis were always occupiers and soldiers. During the first demonstration I met three women who became my first Israeli friends. They believe the Wall will not bring them security, and they wish more Israelis would see what is happening on the ground. I now have many Israeli friends. A friendly relationship between Palestinians and Israelis is important, because I look to the future when there will be a Palestinian state within the 1967 borders next to Israel. Security and understanding requires friendship. Please support us in ending this oppressive Israeli military occupation of our land.

[From an article by Iltezam Morrar, aged 15, in The Electronic Intifada, 16 July 2004.]

## Anarchists worldwide

Hello friends and comrades of the world,

We hope you're all fine wherever you are and still struggling for dignity, freedom and social justice. The reason I'm sending you this message is considerably important and we would like you to consider a proposal we'd like to make from here in Greece, a proposal which demands the coordination, action and passion of all of us who want to call ourselves libertarians.

We are a group of comrades from Heraklion in Crete, and we've thought about organizing an event of solidarity with the Palestinian people (not the fanatic fundamentalists) who struggle and get brutally murdered every day and, on the other side, with the Israeli conscientious objectors who have refused to join the army of their country in the occupied areas and who, because of this, are now in jail.

The reason we address you is because we wish this event to take place in all parts of the world where there are anarchists, ON THE SAME DAY. We all know that crimes like those committed every day in Palestine (and in Iraq, Afghanistan...) are the results of the world's leaders' plans, and strategies. They are crimes that are committed because of and due to their global web of interests and correlations. That's why we believe we have to face them GLOBALLY. That is to say, if 200 persons demonstrate here in Heraklion, none of those criminals will be bothered, none will listen to our voices. THEY MUST FEEL THE PRESSURE. And, under the conditions that dominate in the world now, we'll succeed in this only if we start demonstrating massively, dynamically, all together, coordinated and at the same time.

From Heraklion of Crete, Greece, and on behalf of the circle of comrades that took this initiative. Warm greetings,

Nikos

Participating will be anarchist groups from:

Canada  
USA  
Mexico  
Costarica  
San Paolo, Brazil  
Argentina  
Peru  
Spain  
Greece  
Poland  
Australia  
Israel  
Malta  
Italia



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## How much is this occupation costing us?

From October 2000 to the end of January 2004 there have been killed 2,376 Palestinians, amongst whom 445 minors, and 600 Israelis, amongst whom 74 minors. In the last 3 years more than 500 kids under 18 were killed in the region. The violent Israeli occupation, the illegal settlement project (paid for by the Israeli government from taxes), and the atrocities against the civil population in the occupied Palestinian territories, brought about harm to [Israeli] civilian society within the Green Line. The harsh conditions cause despair, frustration and the taking of extreme steps.

The Israeli government found a "solution": building a twisting 8-metre high wall and barbed-wired fence as a supposed partition between the Palestinian and Israeli populations, but in reality the fence not only separates us from our neighbours. The fence, which is more than double the length of the Green Line and is built deep in the occupied territories, separates many villages from near-by towns and other villages and also separates the villagers from hospitals, children from their schools, and the villagers from their fields and workplaces. On this side of the Green Line, the building of the wall also separates old people from proper care, children from food and proper education, and separates us from security... all because of the "budget deficit". Above all, The wall separates us from peace, justice and security.

The budget deficit? A third of Israel children live below the poverty line. More than half a million people are hungry. More than 13% of the population of the Gaza Strip suffer from malnutrition. There is more than 50% unemployment among the Palestinian population of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The cost of the separation wall is about US\$2.2m per kilometre - about US\$1.4 billion for the whole fence. Every shekel for the building of the fence and the settlement means one shekel less for food, education, health care and development.

**THE FENCE IS NOT SECURITY!** It is aimed at annexing territory and expanding the settlement project!

**NOT IN OUR NAME!** We demand to live in dignity and security - for us and for our Palestinian neighbours!

It is important to stress that there is a continuous non-violent movement of Palestinian people against the occupation and the prolonged lack of justice. We have to cooperate with them in the struggle against the atrocities **WITHOUT HARMING THE INNOCENTS** and with no walls! Just in the last week, in the village of Biddu, Israeli soldiers killed 4 demonstrators and dozens were wounded during a joint Israeli-Palestinian protest activity against the building of the Wall on their land!

[distributed at a Critic Mass in Tel Aviv]

## We will not be stopped! No to the apartheid fence! No to State violence!

Monday, October 18th will see the start of the court hearing of 11 activists who demonstrated against the apartheid wall at the War Ministry compound in Tel Aviv on 23rd February 2004 - the day the International Court in the Hague started its deliberations on the apartheid wall. That day, tens of activists demonstrated in front of the War Ministry compound and blocked Kaplan Street in protest against the building of the separation fence by the Israeli government, after they were blocked from reaching a demo there were to carry out with Palestinian people in the Tulkarem area, where the fence separates them from their fields which have been declared by the authorities as a "closed military zone".

Just a few minutes it took the riot police to arrest 13 of the activists using excessive violence that was documented by 4 video cameras. The video tapes refute the police claim that a "policeman was attacked while on duty", which is what the demonstrators were accused of... after having submitted a formal complaint to the "department for investigating policemen" about the violence against them. One of the 13 arrested was even taken to hospital for treatment to a seriously damaged nose, while another activist lost consciousness and a female activist was sexually harassed while in custody. The 13 demonstrators - one of them underage, were detained for the night at the Abu-Kabir detention facility. The next day they were brought to court where the judge refused to allow the police demand to release them with conditions that would limit their right of demonstration in the future.

This was the first time action was taken against "Anarchists Against The Fence" by bringing them to court, since the incident at the Mas'ha village gate on 26th December 2003, when Gil Na'amaty was shot in the legs. Next month will also see the start of the court hearing in the case against other underage activists also accused of blocking streets in Tel Aviv. It seems this is the beginning of a chain of harassment and political persecution culminating in an urgent and substantial danger to the freedom of expression and demonstration in Israel.

Before this demonstration and even since it, there have been dozens of political and social demonstrations in which roads were blocked, but no court

indictments have ever been made. Never before have the security services bothered to send a representative to a police station, as happened with our people, to interrogate and warn the detainees.

We intend to transform the trial into a trial against the fence. With the help of our supporters, we will stand in the court and insist on conveying the message for which we blocked the road: The apartheid fence will only lead to despair and hatred.

[Members of Anarchists Against the Wall]

*A few days ago Tel Aviv anarchists issued a call for a noise demo. We gathered at the location of the Friday vigil of the Women In Black and joined them with black coffins and placards.*

*When we started to march,*

*we were joined by other radicals of the left from the Friday vigil and from the refusnik movement. The police tried to block us from marching as there were too many of us and we had no permit.*

*They even detained 6 people, but failed to stop us. Instead marching as one contingent of 70 we were divided by the police efforts to block us into three main groups - each marching on the pavements with placards, a coffin and shouting slogans, along the streets towards the war ministry compound.*

*After an hour of vigil people went to the scheduled meeting of the refusnik initiative in the downtown park.*

*On the public radio news, they "reported" the police lies - that they had detained 6 of us because we had quarrelled with passers-by and caused disturbances... and falsely claimed they dispersed us...*

[report on A-Infos 08.10.04]

Number 2: Reflections on the Economy

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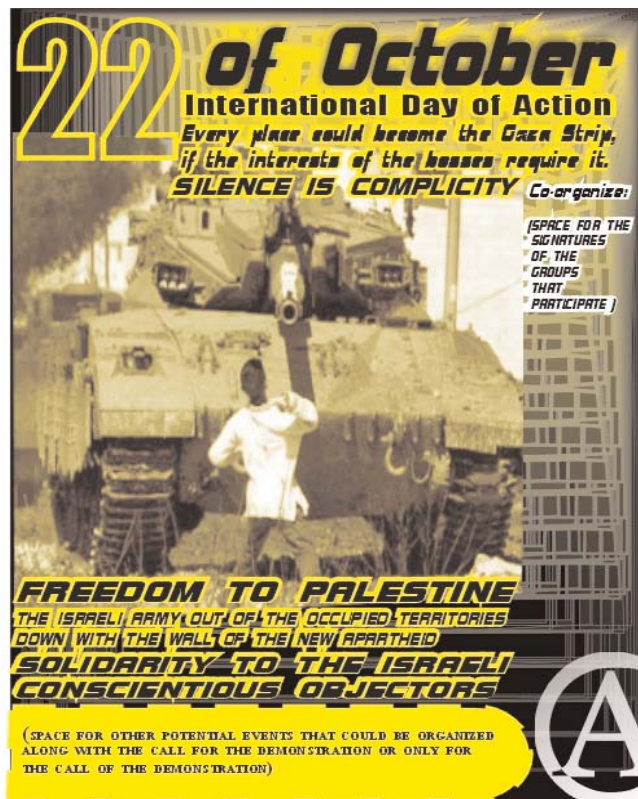
## A N T I P O D I

Being at the antipodes can mean being upside down in the other hemisphere with respect to the dominant society; but in a round world defining just who is upside down depends on how you look at reality.

Looking at it from another point of view, being at the antipodes means having your feet firmly planted in the reality you want with respect to the world which is upside down, having lost the ability to reason properly. Let's start looking at reality from this point of view - it might be useful along our path to the economic and social reality that we want.

Number 3 out soon  
Wars

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Israeli anarchist leaflets