

# DARK NIGHTS



## The Bosses Grand Idea - The Olympic Spectacle of Money and Power

*"When the emperors must get their subjects to swallow something disastrous, they organise majestic games."* – leaflet against the 2006 Winter Olympics

Ever since they were founded in 1896, the modern Olympic Games have been more about money, power, and politics than they are about athletics and sport or celebrating some mythical 'common humanity'. The financiers of this palaver and the economic system that underpins it have no 'common humanity' to share with us the excluded, despite the jingoistic London 2012 advertising forced down our throats for months and months now.

The 'Greenest Games so far'?! What a bad joke, as the Olympic sprawl of huge developments further scar the face of the land colonised by the megacity. More contaminated topsoil, destroyed marsh habitat, concrete and fences. All funded by the same global corporations who are devastating the living planet, poisoning and exploiting the people (BP who are responsible for the Gulf of Mexico oil spill and the extraction of highly-polluting tar sands such as in Canada, Dow Chemical (who produced one-third of the Agent Orange defoliants sprayed over Vietnam and producing birth defects even four generations later and who were implicated in the 1984 Bhopal disaster in India which killed up to 20,000 people and injured tens of thousands more, Rio Tinto the number one emitter of toxins near the Utah mine making Olympic medals, EDF who are building 8 new nuclear plants around the UK...).

Across the world the Olympic infrastructures have been raised on the bodies of workers who died in the race to complete these modern-day pyramids of Industrial Progress. Yes, make no mistake, it's these businessmen and contractors along with government bureaucrats and their security services (quick to use a lucrative opportunity to advance social control) who really benefit from this.

Already globally synonymous with the surveillance society, London will host a showcase of the latest control technologies from the booming security and defence sector which feeds off post-9/11 and austerity-era insecurity. This is the bosses grand idea: to catalyse and secure projects of urban development, tourism and infrastructure under the favourable conditions of a world-renowned market scheme. Much beyond a single event, the modern Olympics is an emblem of the system that brought it back to life.

*"Myths about the Olympic industry are promoted almost entirely through the corporate media, who create a common consensus that everyone will benefit from the Olympics, and therefore everyone supports them. Those who don't are either ignored, marginalized as misguided misfits, or criminalized."* - leaflet against the 2010 Winter Olympics

We know that their 'trickle-down' economics is bullshit, the super-rich coming to the UK who can afford to go to the Games swan around posh hotels and shopping districts. The privileged class 'Olympic family' of officials, national bureaucrats and sponsors – and apparently other businessmen secretly offered access for £20,000 each – enjoy 170 miles of their own 'VIP lanes' to travel around during the period in 4,000 chauffeur-driven BMWs alongside the athlete's coaches. They have cleared the way for them and their mates only, with mass evictions and social cleansing of the more unsightly aspects of the class society that they run.

And what are the rest of us to be left after the show is over? Increased rents, more surveillance technology, exclusive commercial areas we are socially, economically and racially frozen out of. Fascist regulation and austerity for most, Disneyland in London for the few. Everything controlled and calculated by the powerful ruining our lives. And the privilege of a few weeks' circus to make us forget the emptiness and desolation of our times.

*"The Olympics are a shop-window of capitalism and domination itself. An advertisement for the world of class slavery and the means to impose it."* - leaflet against the 2004 Olympics

We have already seen the venomous vilification of the "unpatriotic" who during

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the summer might demonstrate, strike or otherwise disturb the waters. We have already seen the rolling numbers of Group 4 Security private guards, army and police forces from across the country who will occupy London for the event. The focus in all the security is explicitly on the 'internal enemy', the black sheep among us... the perfect excuse to roll the troops out onto the streets in a country where it is stigmatised to do so.

In the past the Olympics has been used as a military experiment as part of the giant show-piece and bidding nations must show willing to implement a martial police state.

The biggest mobilisation since the second world war; 18,000 soldiers (possibly more, such is the secrecy – including details of troops deployed from other countries), with unmanned drones, fighter jets, Royal Marines, attack helicopters and the Navy's biggest aircraft carrier will be in London – with a more familiar military parade to make it all more palatable in the patriotic fervour that barely masks the citizens' fear. Fear of the elusive terrorist, rowdy youth or illegal immigrant, but not of cops who can kill people like Ian Thomlinson with impunity? Not of Group 4 Security mercenaries who got away with murdering Jimmy Mubenga on his deportation flight? Not of the soldiers who brutalise, rape and occupy across the world?

The police officers for the Games are militarised even more too, with sonic weapons, water cannons and chemical weapons for the first time on mainland Britain ready to disperse any unruly mob. Any dissent against the 'Olympic spirit' will not go unnoticed by the Met, long granted powers to remove any signs of anti-Olympic sentiment within a certain radius. The display, production or possession of posters/leaflets critical of the Games, government or sponsors has been criminalised, police powers

granted to enter private homes to seize materials. The Olympics Dispersal Zone outside the miles of electric fence allows cops to banish groups of two people or more from the area for 74 hours, and if they're under 16 even escort them home.

The State uses the legitimacy of the Olympics to push ahead the kind of modern totalitarianism that has been its direction in the UK for so long already. When the athletes and tourists have packed up the smoke will clear to reveal the fortress standing taller and stronger than ever. But the struggle against the powerful and their world doesn't come and go with such events, and cops, industrialists and politicians will have to keep looking over their shoulder for the rest of their despicable lives. What terrifies them is the prospect of an uncontrollable fringe who don't buy the friendly image, who aren't cowed into total submission by the show of force, who see how far from a meaningful life these bastards are keeping us and who can find the cracks in the wall which separates the haves from the have-nots. In August 2011, an explosion of anger rocked the centres of poverty and exploitation, and the riots have left a burning legacy which unveils how thin that wall can be.

*Let's go at it once again, harder than ever, until the whole rotten charade falls apart!*

**FOR A SECOND SUMMER OF  
FIRE – DEATH TO THEIR  
DREAM OF ORDERLY MISERY**

**Torch the Olympics**



## 1–10 August 2012: Contra Info call for propaganda actions against repression

*Contra Info are an Athens based counter-information and translation collective for social war.*

We make a call out for ten days of propaganda actions, in as many places as possible, aiming to promote struggles which are more or less known but also entirely unknown to many people. Individuals and/or groups who wish to join in these ten days will choose the thematic and the means according to their own criteria and dynamics, for the strengthening of international and reciprocal solidarity amongst the oppressed.

We are mainly suggesting taking to the streets, painting slogans and dropping banners in solidarity with cases that we believe are important to be heard. We have done this in Athens in the past months, and you must have done it, too, in several occasions. But we need to go a step further and carry out such actions simultaneously at a European level and, hopefully, beyond. Some of us are in the UK, Germany, France, Spain, Serbia, Portugal, Greece, but also in America, therefore we can make out of a simple action something beautiful. For those that feel all alone in places where they live, it might seem harder... but all you need is a sheet, paint or spray, plus a nice location. Wherever you are, call your mates and spread the word.

From the 1st to the 10th of August, we can place banners, post posters and fliers, write slogans on the walls, or carry out any other action that will encourage the diffusion of the anarchist/libertarian discourse beyond state-language borders. So, we look forward to receiving and disseminating photographic and/or written material from comrades' actions, wherever they might be. In early August, we coordinate our efforts and lift our head up high against repression and the society of prisons, against the States and their borders, against the Capital and its profits. We can be many; we can be everywhere.

*Towards an informational guerrilla...  
Translation counter-information network  
ContraInfo.espiv.net*

**Anti-Olympic 2012 on the net:**

[lettheolympicgamesdieintheland.blogspot.com](http://lettheolympicgamesdieintheland.blogspot.com)  
[counterolympicsnetwork.wordpress.com](http://counterolympicsnetwork.wordpress.com)  
<http://325.nostate.net/?tag=olympics-2012>



## Graffiti Raids Across London as Police Sanitise City Ready For Olympics

On 17 July around thirty graffiti writers had their house raided by British Transport Police in anticipation of the London 2012 Olympics. While graffiti writer's homes being raided by the police is not a rare phenomenon, this series of raids came as quite a shock to many of the artists as most had given up painting illegal graffiti some 15 years ago.

Some of the people who were arrested had stopped painting graffiti without prior permission over a decade ago, and now paint commissioned artwork for corporate clients, while others haven't touched a spray can at all in many years. For both types of ex-graffiti enthusiast, a knock on the door from the British Transport Police was the last thing they were expecting.

As they were escorted by officers back to the BTP headquarters in Victoria, the retired graffiti artists overheard radio chatter which made it clear to them that raids were being carried out on addresses across the length and breadth of London. Once they arrived at the station, the ex-graffiti writers spotted thirty or more familiar faces from the past – and realised that they weren't the only ex-graff scene dweller to be arrested [*cops later claimed only four people were arrested*]. Retired graffiti artists had been pulled in a big way. They have been bailed until November on the condition that they do not use any form of railway in London (overground, tube or tram), carry spray paint (or other graffiti tools, presumably) at any time, or travel within a mile of any Olympic area. That includes the Olympic Park, the ExCel center and other Earls Court locations, Greenwich park, Hampton Court Palace, Hyde Park, Lord's Cricket Ground, North Greenwich Arena, The Mall, The Royal Artillery Barracks, Wembley Arena, Wembley Stadium, Wimbledon and a host of out-of-London locations.

**Fuck the Cops and Fuck the Olympics**

**Get up and keep bombing.**

*Edited from the London Vandal blog*

## International Call for Solidarity with those raided by the FBI in the Northwest of America

On Wednesday July 25th, the FBI conducted a series of coordinated raids in Portland, Olympia, and Seattle. They subpoenaed several people to a special federal grand jury, and seized computers, black clothing and anarchist literature. This comes after similar raids in Seattle in July and earlier raids of squats in Portland.

Info here:

[waronsociety.noblogs.org](http://waronsociety.noblogs.org)



## Solidarity with Kelly Pflug-Back, G20 Black Bloc militant jailed in Canada

Ontario based anarchist Kelly Rose Pflug-Back appeared in court July 19 to finish sentencing. Pflug-Back, 24, had accepted a non-cooperation plea bargain, pleading guilty to six counts of mischief and one of wearing a disguise with criminal intent. Kelly was sentenced to 15 months in prison. Her sentence is reduced by 4 months to a total of 11 months in prison do to time served. Following her prison time she will be on probation for 3 years. This is after already being on house arrest and strict conditions for nearly a year preceding her trials completion.

Kelly is a long time community organizer, activist, published writer,

poet, artist and musician. Kelly works as an editor with various anarchist publications including The Fifth Estate, and Iconoclast Magazine based out of Ontario. A collection of Kelly's poetry titled These Burning Streets is being published by Strangers In A Tangled Wilderness to support her.

**Kelly Pflug-Back**  
Vanier Centre for Women  
P.O.Box 1040  
655 Martin Street  
Milton, Ontario  
L9T 5E6 Canada



## DIRECT ACTION CHRONOLOGY

*As usual, an international sabotage, action and attack time-line covering the past few weeks, and, as always incomplete...*

**26 July, Bloomington, Indiana, USA:** Noise demo for those raided by FBI. After a small anti-repression assembly in Bloomington there was a spontaneous solidarity demo at the Monroe County Jail.

**24 July, Bristol, UK:** Anarchists attack the offices of GDF, a contractor for the London 2012 Olympic Energy Centre, breaking many windows and leaving graffiti slogans. Here is an extract from the claim: " ... GDF are the company providing facility management for constructing and maintaining Avon and Somerset's two new police stations, new operations base (Bridgwater), two custody and crime investigation centres (Patchway and Keynsham) and a firearms training centre (Portishead) to share with police from Wiltshire and Gloucestershire. GDF's collaboration with the forces of law and order extended to equipping cops with a mobile Smart CCTV system for use at the G20 summit of world leaders in Cannes last November. The GDF Energy Centre in the Olympic Park claims it will reduce the emissions of the London Games – a ridiculous attempt to greenwash one of the crowning jewels of world capitalist

rule, which is in reality a disaster for the environment and the exploited everywhere it goes. ... An example of this is GDF's building of the Jirau hydroelectric dam in Brazil. This project is infamous for its total disregard for a vast rainforest ecosystem, deforesting the region, threatening to eradicate tribes who are in voluntary isolation or who are totally uncontacted, and bringing several migratory fish species to face extinction."

The action is also claimed in solidarity with the known case of the **rioters who ambushed cops with firearms in Birmingham, during the August 2011 uprising, who recently got sent down for long terms**, and lastly for those accused and sentenced in **Genoa, Italy, for the anti-G8 riots of 2001**, - and **Carlo Giuliani**, who was killed by police during those days.

**23 July, Cubao Quezon, Philippines:**

Anarchist bloc launches surprise uncontrollable demo against the SONA 2012. A group of roughly 30 anarchists wearing masks, and all in black clothes, unpredictably showed up from Aurora Avenue, Cubao Quezon City staging uncompromising rebellion against the State of the Nation Address or SONA. The demo was mobile, occupying streets and vandalism was irresistible. The surrounding landscape of the protest area was overtly spray-painted and smashed with "unlawful" messages questioning the root causes of oppression and domination. For the complete abolition of the "State and Capital" and the underlying social institution that engineers inequality, slavery, colonization and death.

**21 July, Mexico City, Mexico:** As an act of insurrectional solidarity with injured anarchist **Mario "Tripa" Lopez**, the **Earth Liberation Front** bombed the Federal Electricity Commission with a device consisting of 3 butane gas canisters as an explosive charge, a rocket engine as starter and a cigar as a time delay.

**21 July, Buenos Aires, Argentina:** Anarchist cell **Friends of the Earth / FAI** took responsibility for several arson attacks. An ATM of the Nation of the Argentine Republic Bank was burned, as was a private security vehicle, five luxury cars, two automobiles, two trucks and a car. "*Direct attack on property, attack against authority, destruction of the State/Capital, no dialogue with Power, there is no truce, the social war is now. ... In Italy compas are repressed by the State, and they continue carrying out offensive attacks for freedom; in Greece*

*the struggle continues; in Chile, in Mexico, insurgent compas show signs of the rebel spirit that moves them to destroy the construction of this authoritarian world that is advancing over everything. And in all parts of the world the new Anarchy of praxis makes its actions heard, because the new world that anarchists carry in our hearts cannot wait too long in analyzing with words."*

**19 & 21 July, Khimki forest, Russia:**

Eco-activists attacked a highway construction site in Khimki forest causing \$2,000,000 damage. Corporate representatives stated that an assault took place on the 19th: one of the workers tried to prevent eco-activists from entering the construction site. In the following fight his arm broke. On the night of the 21st, special construction vehicles were torched: several brand new harvesters and a hydraulic excavator was completely destroyed by fire. Material damage is estimated to be over \$2,000,000. The same company filed a complaint about unknown people opening fire on construction vehicles (supposedly from "Saiga", a civil 12-mm carbine) and torching workers sheds with molotovs.

**18 July, Goole, UK:** Olympic rings installed at the clock tower in Boothferry precinct, Goole, have twice been attacked by vandals. Elsewhere in Goole, anti-social graffiti was written on sports facilities in West Park. The walls of the changing rooms have also been spray-painted. Nobody has been arrested.

**18 July Seattle, USA:** A Wells Fargo bank had its windows smashed by anarchists as a "*small gesture of solidarity*" with **Gabriel Pomba da Silva**, anarchist imprisoned in Germany, and with **Doug Wright**, one of the **Cleveland 5**.

**8 July, Frascati, Rome, Italy:** Two molotovs and an incendiary device were thrown at the Unicredit bank and the BNL bank by **Subversive Anti-Civilization Individualities FAI/IRF**. "*Dedicated to those who are in prison, wanted by police, sentenced and searched.... to the anarchists hit by the repressive forces of the State/Capital ... We found but never met practical allies all over the world, united in the new anti-authoritarian guerrilla against the existent. Anarchist of action bound by a unique force, total liberation of the living, the individual (especially oneself), the Earth, for the total destruction of the State, religion and military authority."*



**INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF COUNTER-INFORMATION & TRANSLATION**

Germany  
[directactionde.ucrony.net](http://directactionde.ucrony.net)

Greece, UK, Worldwide  
[actforfree.nostate.net](http://actforfree.nostate.net)

USA, Worldwide  
[anarchistnews.org](http://anarchistnews.org)

Greece  
[athens.indymedia.org](http://athens.indymedia.org)

Russia  
[blackblocg.info](http://blackblocg.info)

Latin America, Europe, World  
[culmine.noblogs.org](http://culmine.noblogs.org)

Greece, World  
[contrainfo.espiv.net](http://contrainfo.espiv.net)

Italy, Europe, World  
[informa-azione.info](http://informa-azione.info)

Latin America, World  
[liberaciontotal.lahaine.net](http://liberaciontotal.lahaine.net)

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Belgium  
[suietcendres.blogspot.com](http://suietcendres.blogspot.com)

Finland  
[takku.net](http://takku.net)

Europe, Latin America, World  
[thisisourjob.org](http://thisisourjob.org)

USA, Worldwide  
[waronsociety.noblogs.org](http://waronsociety.noblogs.org)

France  
[non-fides.fr](http://non-fides.fr)

