

NEWS[★] FROM THE FIELDS AND BEYOND

newsletter for a global anti-g8 process

No. 0
October 2006

INTRODUCTION

North Germany has come to a stop. Blocked roads everywhere, carnivalesque parties in the streets of Rostock, occupied airports and liberated detention centres, a voice in the radio announces ‚G8 stopped due to massive protests!‘ - Perhaps, merely wishful thinking for the G8 counter summit next year in Germany, at least there are many more steps to go. One of the steps to make this image come true, is this global newsletter.

„News from the Fields and Beyond“ is a concrete communication tool to facilitate the flow of information between the different collectives from different countries engaged in the mobilization against the G8. The idea was born in the fields of ‚Camp Inski‘, an international preparation camp for the G8 protests that took place in August in the North of Germany. The collective working on this newsletter is based on five organizational hallmarks (see box page 4). We consider this newsletter an autonomous project within the Dissent network, the radical-left network mobilizing against the G8.

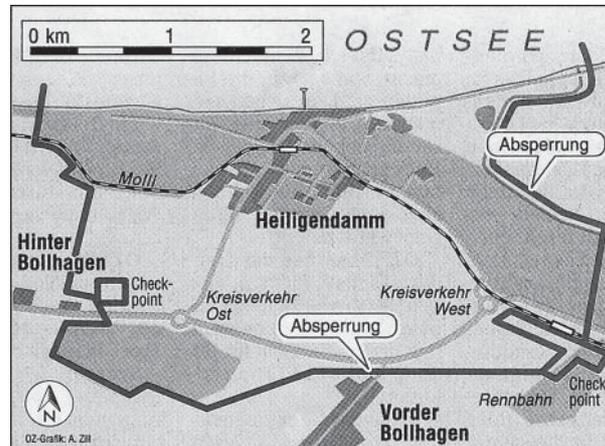
We will attempt to bring information from, and for, all spectrums of the mobilization. In the coming months this newsletter will spread information from and about working groups - in Germany and without, ongoing debates, upcoming meetings and action days, infopoints and websites, news about the local situation in Germany and actions that have taken place already.

As everything else, this newsletter is a collective project. This means: some people do have time to put it together, hopefully you have time to give some input and care for the local distribution. Otherwise, we cannot guarantee that it can be read everywhere. Stop the G8, but do it yourself!

+++ NEWSTICKER +++

+++ 13.07. Stralsund near Heiligendamm: Hundreds of people demonstrate against the visit of George W. Bush and the G8 +++ 14.07. Global Action Day in solidarity with the anti-G8-protests in St.Petersburg/Russia [<http://int.ru.indymedia.org>] +++ 15.07. International Day of Action for Climate Justice, and against Climate Change and the G8 [<http://rtc.revolt.org/node/316>] +++

RED ZONE



only be walked through. They expect 15000 police there (this may be the number for the area only, as we expect a lot more for the whole summit). The fence alone will cost about 10-15 million Euros, right now they think that the summit will cost them around 40 millions. But this is only, if we let them go afterwards...

AGAINST ALL OBSTACLES

Anarchist resistance against the G8 in St.Petersburg 2006

After 10 months of mobilisation and preparation, the „Network Against G8“, the cooperation of anarchists and libertarian activists from mostly ex-Soviet states, but also the rest of the world, staged the actions against the G8 summit in the very centre of St.Petersburg. This happened despite massive state repression, as well as feelings of own impotence and the lack of wider international support. At first - in the days before the summit - the Libertarian Forum was held in Moscow, and then the actions took place on the streets on SPB (hotel blockades, illegal piquets, RTS-like action, street art performances). The number of anarchist which took part in the resistance was about 200-250, of which about 100 got arrested. About 20 internationals were expelled from Russia, while dozens of others, mostly Russian activists, got detained or just stopped from coming to SPB before the summit began. Contrary to the expectations, none of the activists

Last week the police published this map and told the 280 inhabitants of Heiligendamm that their town will be closed off from the rest of the world with a fence embed in concrete 2.50 m high and 13 km long. In the week of the summit in June 2007 inhabitants and holiday guests (?) can enter Heiligendamm by car only through Hinter-Bollhagen, other checkpoints can

be walked through. They expect 15000 police there (this may be the number for the area only, as we expect a lot more for the whole summit). The fence alone will cost about 10-15 million Euros, right now they think that the summit will cost them around 40 millions. But this is only, if we let them go afterwards... had to remain in prison. However, the second wave of repression is awaited now, especially towards the local movement. Of course other leftists groups as well as NGOs? have tried to show disagreement on G8 as well, but in a much more non-confrontational or simply pro-government way (e.g. the Social Forum). But even they have been confronted with repression. The anarchist approach right now is the issue of debate and self-criticism among the Russian (and not only) anarchist networks. However, the fact that their resistance was the most visible and effective can be hardly be questioned, and was even mentioned in various non-anarchist media.

For more analyses of these protests: for english readers: „Abolishing the Borders from Below“ # 26 (September 2006) for russian readers: „Megafon“ (September 2006) for german readers: „Analyse und Kritik“ # 508 (September 2006)

CAMP INSKI 2006

Campinski was a good experience for many activists. Having a look around the protest area of the G8 next year, talking to other activists and getting more intensively organized gave a lot of people new power and motivation to prepare the protests next year. International networks, like those of medical and legal teams, held meetings, new groups, e.g. to publish an international newsletter and website, were started. Finally the 10 days Campinski also gave

activists the opportunity to talk to local inhabitants, to enjoy a beach action in Heiligendamm and some anti-fascist activities - to make our opinions known in the wider public in different ways. More than 100 workshops and seminars were held, in sometimes difficult discussions, activists from different political traditions and countries, searched for common ground in understanding recent developments, like the war in Lebanon. Unfortunately there were not as

many non-germans present, as we had expected and hoped, but those who came, came from 15 different countries. Despite the small number of non-germans, it proved hard enough for our much-too-german structures to handle - we really have to advance our abilities in organizing and communicating across borders and language barriers till next year.

[<http://camp06.org>]

WORKING GROUPS

anti-militarist

The anti-militarist working group is heading for actions against the NATO-airport Rostock-Laage and the planned bombing-range „Bombodrom“ in Wittstock near Berlin. Right now the cooperation between locals affected by Bombodrom and anti-G8 activists is getting more intense, planning the activities of next summer. Up to now the plan is to warm up with some action at the Bombodrom, followed by a march on the NATO-airport Rostock-Laage during the first days of the protests. This is also the place where g8-delegations are going to arrive...

infotour

The Dissent! Infotour started in November 2005, and had many of its first presentations in the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern region of Northern Germany, where the G8 will be held. Our group has trained a good number of volunteers and as of late Summer 2006, has already done 100 presentations in over 10 countries. Activists from many European countries have already started their own Infotour groups to be able to better spread information in various national and regional languages, and to address local organising situations. We have different presentations including a basic presentation of the History of the G8 and struggle against it, we have an anti-G8 Pub Quiz, we can do anti-G8 film nights, a Popular Education workshop and much more. You can D.I.Y (Do Infotour Yourself) by looking at: www.gipfelsoli.org/Media+Tools.html, or write to us at: infotour@gipfelsoli.org

visa & finances

There are people working on organizing visas and raising funds for travel costs. There's not much more to say right now - just that we are quite optimistic from what we found out already.

mass blockades

The working group on mass blockades The objective of different german groups and networks like Antifaschistische Linke Berlin, Avanti - Projekt undogmatische Linke, Gruene Jugend (Bundesvorstand), and X-tausendmal quer; along with individual activists from Attac, Solid, and Werkstatt fuer Gewaltfreie Aktion are blockades in which thousands of people from different political and cultural spectrums, and with experience of different action forms, can take part; in which actions do not only respect and tolerate one another, but where a way is found to genuinely act together. Even if the blockades do have a symbolic meaning as a symbol of resistance and social disobedience, the groups which are involved are not aiming for a purely symbolic action. The objective is a genuine blockade of the 2007 G8 Summit and to cut it off from its infrastructure. The idea is to occupy points through which the enormous number of service providers, translators, ordinary delegation members and so on... need to pass - and the people from the blockade will not leave these points voluntarily. Out of the call: "We are not, however, looking for confrontation with the police. Our objective, rather, is to realise lasting and mass blockades, and to create a situation which is calculably and transparently created by as many blockaders as possible" The groups, planning the

blockades are contactable by email via: blockade@g8-2007.de

There are other groups planning decentral blockades, which will also invite for other forms of resistance, as well. While respecting the mass blockades, these groups definitely aim at not being calculable for the police!

G8 PREPARATIONS AT PGA CONFERENCE

The two workshops organized during the biannual European conference of the People's Global Action (PGA) network did not only deliver concrete personal contacts (for example collectives that want to function as infopoints in their respective countries). It also provided a space for global discussion and exchange about counter-summit strategies. Especially, at the centralized part of the conference in the beautiful squat 'Les Tanneries' in Dijon activists from all over Europe brainstormed over the goals of counter summit mobilizations, constructive lessons from previous experiences and new forms of action. This way, the PGA conference formed another step in making the mobilizations against next year's G8 summit a truly global process. (for more reports about the PGA conference see www.pgaconference.org)

COLOFON

Collector's collective contact:
fabarticles@lists.riseup.net

News from the fields and beyond is an autonomous part of the mobilization process against the G8. We do not strive to represent, but to reflect on all the developments within the mobilization campaign.

+++ 20.07. Berlin: The autonome anti g8 sports league sets fire to 6 fiat cars and attacks a police station with paintbombs and stones in memorial of Carlo Giuliani killed 5 years ago during the protests in Genoa [interim 640] +++ 04.08-13.08. Camp Inski [see article above] +++ 28.08. A town near Schwerin: The People de Seattle (P.D.S.) wake up the prime minister of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Harald Ringstorff with paintsbombs and stones. They criticize him for hosting the G8 while enforcing deportations and tolerating bad living conditions of refugees [interim 641] +++

A GLOBAL CALL written at CampInski, August 2006

... and now for something more and completely different.



For a worthwhile education learn the 3 „R“s:

Resist, Rebel, Revolt!

international working group on resistance against the next G8, are just a group of people sitting in a field, wanting to change the world.

We call for people all over the world to join us in expanding the basis for a strong and effective resistance here and now against the G8 summit in Heiligendamm in 2007 - and in the future - against the entire bloody capitalist circus.

Looking beyond this mobilisation, we will make this the next building blocks of a strong, continuous global resistance, drawing strength from our diversities. We call for the creation of lasting networks sharing and expanding discussions and ideas across borders, which in the future will make it unnecessary for us to even consider them.

To make resistance against the G8 as effective as possible we wish to facilitate the participation of people across the world - in the preparations, sharing their experience and in the actions themselves - both abroad and in Germany.

Practically this means several things: We will publish a two-way newsletter - firstly to provide relevant news and information about the preparations and discussions in Germany and abroad. In addition to this, there will be an English lan-

guage website and mailinglist as a forum for communication between the working group and activists, creating a strong international network in advance. To achieve these goals we call for you to contribute with information, experiences, issues, forms of action, views and ideas for practical resistance. Also we call for help with translation and distribution of information - the creation of a pool of translators to help make information accessible to everybody and volunteers to help by printing and distributing the newsletter to their local communities.

We invite everyone interested to get involved in the working group itself. Especially we invite you to participate in the international meeting in the first or second weekend of February. The location for the meeting has not yet been selected but it will be outside of Germany. The meeting will provide a space for everyone to get up to speed so we can all participate on an equal footing. To enable people to be present both at the upcoming international planning meeting and at the protests in Germany we will provide real, up to date, practical information about acquiring visas and travelling, and if possible to help financing visas.

This and many other projects of the working group will require funding, therefore we also call for all who are able to help raise the funds needed.

We will help make the process as well as the actions open as widely as possible, by coordinating and providing clear and relevant information as well as easily accessible ways of communicating.

We want change - not just for our children, but for ourselves.

We call for you to join us in making this mobilisation yet another stepping stone, another nail in the coffin of international capitalism.

DISSENT IN THE NETHERLANDS

Also in the Netherlands the Dissent network is kicked of. There will be a self-organized Infotur through 15 cities this autumn. During a meeting in september many plans were made about how to organize the mobilizations for next year. During the activist festival 2Dh5 (www.2dh5.nl) in december several workshop will prepare the practical aspects of the actions against the G8.

For more information:

<http://squat.net/dissent-nl>

infodissentnl@multipleks.org

CHOREOGRAPHY OF RESISTANCE

to be discussed and decided at the Rostock Conference

Saturday	2.06.2007:	Opening demonstration in Rostock
Sunday	3.06.2007:	Cultural Happenings & Antimil Action at Bombing range Wittstock
Monday	4.06.2007:	Action Day: Migration Conference & Demonstration
Tuesday	5.06.2007:	Action Day: War & Militarization Blockade of Airport Rostock-Laage
Wednesday	6.06.2007:	Beginning of G8 Summit Blockades everywhere Alternative Summit
Thursday	7.06.2007:	Still blockades all over the place Alternative Summit probably another big demo (at the fence?) Concert of Herbert Grönemeyer (at the fence?)
Friday	8.06.2007:	End of G8 Summit

+++ 10.09. Eberswalde: Autonomous groups put the arson attack they attempted against a company dealing with genetically manipulated corn in the context of anti G8 protests [interim 641] +++ 17.09. Schwerin and Greifswald: At least some hundred people protest against the neo-fascist party NPD, that entered the parliament of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern with 7.3% in the provincial elections. +++

AGENDA

07. October - 3rd - Day of Migration-Related Actions all over Europe and beyond

In May 2006 the plenary of the European Social Forum in Athens decided to call for actions against the European border regime, illegalization and deportation and to support the multiple struggles of migrants outside and inside of Europe. You find the call and supporting groups in many countries at <http://www.hier.geblieben.net/>

14.-15.October - G8, Flight & Migration

Meeting in Göttingen to plan a mass action at the G8 summit in Heiligendamm. <http://nolager.de/blog/node/457>

27.- 29. October - Next meeting of Dissent! Germany

in Osnabrück. A lot of us feel the need to intensify the concrete planning and coordination of blockades and actions now.

10.-12. November - International Action Conference

at Rostock University. The announced plan is to internationally bring together the political plans & ideas for action of all factions mobilizing against G8. Therefore the whole Conference is promised to be held in both German and English. Preparations for the different kinds of activities that are being planned (i.e. rallye, alternative summit, activities on migration, civil disobedience, the camp and political events before the summit) will be presented and are to be discussed and developed in working groups. These discussions should end in binding agreements about a joint international preparatory process. (www.heiligendamm2007.de) Hopefully a militant and activist perspective will also be present - the conference will take place exactly during the time of the Castor-Transport, when many activists will participate in the anti-nuclear protests in Wendland.

1st-3rd December 2007 - Meeting of International Medics group.

1st or 2nd weekend of February 2007 - International meeting outside of Germany to get ready against the G8.

Last weekend of April or 1st weekend of May 2007 - Meeting of International Medics group.

5 organizational hallmarks

A very clear rejection of capitalism, imperialism and feudalism; all trade agreements, institutions and governments that promote destructive globalisation.

We reject all forms and systems of domination and discrimination including, but not limited to, patriarchy, racism and religious fundamentalism of all creeds. We embrace the full dignity of all human beings.

A confrontational attitude, since we do not think that lobbying can have a major impact in such biased and undemocratic organisations, in which transnational capital is the only real policy-maker.

A call to direct action and civil disobedience, support for social movements' struggles, advocating forms of resistance which maximize respect for life and oppressed peoples' rights, as well as the construction of local alternatives to global capitalism.

An organisational philosophy based on decentralisation and autonomy. Fieldsandbeyond is a tool for coordination, not an organization.

LOOKING BEYOND

The next fields and beyond will bring to you first ideas about a concept of decentral blockades & actions, as well as first decisions about where and how to camp. We will tell you about the plans of the working group on migration and the one on agriculture. The coordinations of legal teams & the autonomous medical service, as well as WomenLesbians will introduce themselves. Last but not least we hope to have more and more connections & articles about actions and discussions in other places than Germany in the future fields.



INFOPOINTS AND WEBSITES

general info-mail: g8-int-contact@riseup.net
mailinglist: g8-int@lists.riseup.net
international dissent website: www.dissentnetwork.org
dissent wiki: www.dissentnetwork.org/wiki
website 'Interventionist Left': <http://g8-2007.de>
website NGO platform: www.g8-germany.info
website revolutionary alliance:
<http://free.pages.at/nog8/home.php>

website Romania: <http://nog8romania.wordpress.com>
website Greece: <http://www.2007-g8.tk/>
website Mexico: <http://contrag8.revolt.org>

Map with action targets in Germany:
<http://www.deu.anarchopedia.org/index.php/G8-Aktionskarte>

