

HERE AND EVERYWHERE AGAINST BORDERS AND THEIR JAILS

Borders are everywhere: in the streets, public transport, offices, banks, temporary work agencies ... Not having the right piece of paper means every identity check can lead to imprisonment and deportation. At the same time, borders separating countries all over the world get more and more sophisticated and militarized for the benefit of the ruling class. Faced with this, a few people with and without documentation, help one another; they resist and rebel. We share here a few of these stories of solidarity, of revolt, and of dissidence.

HUNGER STRIKE, AND ATTEMPTED OF ESCAPE IN THE DETENTION CENTRE OF RENNES

In the detention centre of Saint Jacques de la Lande some ten people started a hunger strike on May 4th. They wrote the following texte :

« We, detained at the detention centre of Saint Jacques de la Lande, have started a hunger strike this morning, May 4th 2012. We protest against our confinement. We do not need your food, or your clothes, or your blankets, we need freedom. We want to make our lives in Europe, build a family and work.

The people detained in the detention centre of Saint Jacques de la Lande. »

They were fortunately all released later on.

Two weeks later, a couple of people tried unsuccessfully to escape from this same prison for foreigners. The detention center police locked them up in an isolation cell. The same night the two detainees broke everything in the cell. They were sentenced a few days later to one month's imprisonment for attempted escape and damage.

TO READ :

The booklet

« Sans papiers : s'organiser contre l'expulsion, que faire en cas d'arrestation ? » is a juridical and practical guide to oppose arrests and deportations. It can be downloaded at :

<http://sanspapiers.internetdown.org>

(Arab and English translations are forthcoming)

TO LISTEN :

The radio broadcast

Sans Papiers Ni Frontières, against borders and their prisons, **every first friday of the month from 7 to 8.30 p.m.**

on the radio Fréquence Paris Plurielle (106.3)

CHEERS FOR ESCAPES



HERE AND ELSEWHERE...

** JUNE 21ST: SUCCESSFUL ESCAPE AT MESNIL-AMELOT !**

Nine detainees managed to escape from the brand new and over-secured detention centre of *Le Mesnil-Amelot*. They dug (or employed?) a tunnel to escape and then simply took the bus at the nearby stop. They were not found again.

** A SERIES OF REVOLTS AND ESCAPES IN THE ITALIAN IDENTIFICATION AND DEPORTATION CENTRE (CIE) **

In *Bologna*, on May 14th, after one of countless revolts, five detainees are taken into police custody for assault and rebellion. Outside, people gather in solidarity.

On May 11th, several fires start in the detention centre of *Modena* and furniture is destroyed. About sixty detainees scream "freedom". The police retaliated with water cannons.

Ten days later, about twenty prisoners of the centre escaped, but some were recaptured.

Still in May, in *Torino*, detainees lighted fires several nights in a row. One night, some sixty mattresses were burnt and a prisoner went up on the roof where he stayed several days. The Red Cross intervened to put out the fire. Outside, people came to express their solidarity with the detainees.

Finally, on the night of July 8th to 9th, seventy detainees escaped from the CIE of *Trapani-Milo*.

** MASS ESCAPE IN MURCIA (SPAIN) **

On June 23rd, about thirty people locked up in the internment centre for foreigners (CIE) of *Sagonera la Verde (Murcia)* attacked the police with pipes and other equipment, which they found on the premises. Twenty-five of them then managed to climb over the external wall and escape. Fifteen of them were taken back by the police, the ten others still run free.

GOOD LUCK TO THEM !

SOLIDARITY AGAINST DEPORTATIONS

Friday January 6st, a man is compelled by the police to board an Air France flight from Paris to Lomé. This is the third attempted deportation of this Beninese man that the French state wants to deport, not to Benin but to Togo, because, the togolese consulate delivers passes to any prefecture simply upon presentation of a name.

This time, the cops are determined to carry out the deportation : the man is handcuffed and his legs strapped. He asks to speak to the pilot, but his request is denied. As soon as he starts shouting, the cops try to prevent him : they attempt to strangle him and choke him by obstructing his mouth. On the plane, many people protest and get involved. The cops speak of rebellion; five border police cars arrive and quell everybody. The deportee is taken out. He will be sentenced to nine months' imprisonment for assault.

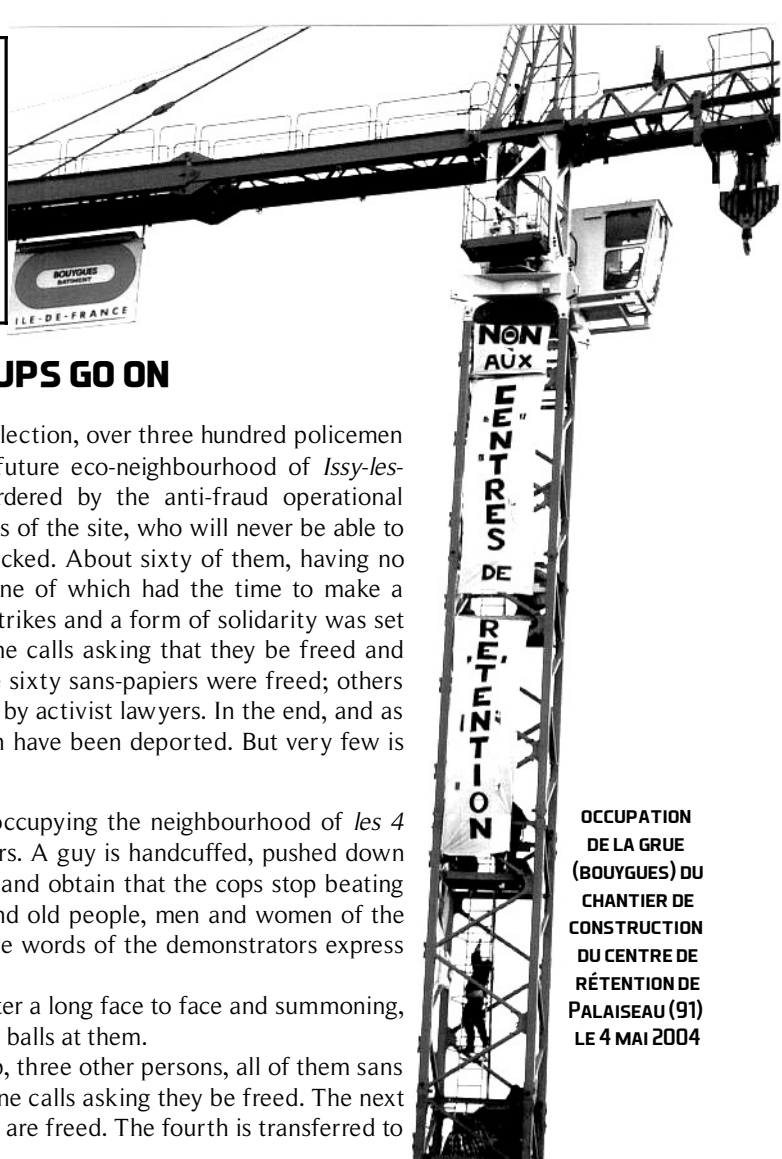
Two passengers who manifested their solidarity were taken out of the plane by force. They are charged with rebellion and impeding the circulation of an aircraft. Taken into custody and then released, they are submitted to a juridical supervision and **will be tried on September 13th starting at 13 p.m. by the 17th room of the criminal court (Tribunal de Grande Instance) of Bobigny. Let us be there to support them.**

Opposing deportation does not always lead into jail. Some time ago, a sans-papier detained in Vincennes said : « They tied my thighs and my feet with tape and handcuffed me with my arms behind my back. Then, they fastened my seatbelt. They had brought me into the aircraft like a bundle. There were five of them. I was very shocked. They hit me in the arms and strangled me to prevent my screaming. The passengers protested : they were not ok whith this. They saved me [...] There is a guy who resisted 5 times and was then set free after the 45th day. »

TO SEE:

On the blog <http://sanspapiersnifrontieres.noblogs.org>. Broadcasts can be found at this address, as well as previous issues of the journal, information against detention centres and borders, on those who build and manage them, and on the society which generates them.

Dates of demonstrations, discussions and other initiatives are regularly updated, as well as information on borders, struggles and revolts in the prisons for foreigners.



OCCUPATION
DE LA GRUE
(BOUYGUES) DU
CHANTIER DE
CONSTRUCTION
DU CENTRE DE
RÉTENTION DE
PALAISEAU (91)
LE 4 MAI 2004

GOVERNMENTS GO BY, ROUNDUPS GO ON

Tuesday May 22 at dawn, that is two weeks after François Hollande's election, over three hundred policemen and gendarmes descended upon the huge construction site of the future eco-neighbourhood of *Issy-les-Moulineaux*. It is an operation against illegal workers that was ordered by the anti-fraud operational committee of the department (CODAF). Almost seven hundred workers of the site, who will never be able to afford the accommodations which they are building had their ids' checked. About sixty of them, having no papers, were brought to the police station of Issy-les-Moulineaux. One of which had the time to make a phone call to somebody he met during some undocumented workers strikes and a form of solidarity was set up very quickly. The police station received massive amounts of phone calls asking that they be freed and some forty people gathered in front of the police station. Many of the sixty sans-papiers were freed; others were transferred to detention centres. A few are located and defended by activist lawyers. In the end, and as far as we know, very few of the people arrested during this operation have been deported. But very few is still too many!

On Monday June 11th in the late afternoon, several policemen start occupying the neighbourhood of *les 4 Chemins* in *Pantin-Aubervilliers* to harass street sellers and check papers. A guy is handcuffed, pushed down and beaten; blood spills on the sidewalk. Several people get involved and obtain that the cops stop beating the man. The cops send gas all around and hit. Very quickly, young and old people, men and women of the surrounding gather and block the crossroad to protest the violence; the words of the demonstrators express the feeling of being fed up with the everyday harassment of the cops.

Very large police staffs arrive, both in uniform and in plain clothes. After a long face to face and summoning, they have the people going back on the sidewalk by pointing their flash balls at them.

During the evening, along with the young man who has been beaten up, three other persons, all of them sans papiers, are arrested. The police station of Pantin is harassed with phone calls asking they be freed. The next day, three people, including he who had suffered the blows of the cops, are freed. The fourth is transferred to the detention centre of Bobigny and freed three weeks later.

Les 4chemins is not the only neighbourhood which the police occupy every day. Every day at Couronnes, Belleville, Barbès, Porte de Montreuil, to quote just a few, the police shows up and displays its force in order to remind poor people in general who the masters are.

BUILDINGS OCCUPATIONS, WITH AND WITHOUT PAPERS

In *Paris*, since the beginning of June, people with and without papers, settled in an empty building at 260 rue des Pyrénées. An open assembly takes place in the occupied building every Sunday at 5 p.m., where people can organize, discuss their living situation and houses to occupy. In their various actions, this gathering of "angry, unrelenting and poorly housed precarious people" demand houses and papers for all.

In *Brest*, various places have been occupied for several weeks so that in order that migrants could find long-lasting housing solutions. Here, again, people with and without papers organize together to force to yield those who, from their seats as managers, ruin the lives of poor people every day.

On July 2nd, a hundred CRS (riot police) emptied the squatt les Griffes in *Dijon*, on behalf of the (PS) municipality, which worried about the place being "insalubrious". About three hundred asylum seekers had been occupying the building since January 26th in order to have a place to live in and to collectively overcome the red tape wall which faces them. A court decision had previously allowed them to stay until July 15th; but it seems that the self-organization of migrants is not to everybody's liking and that some preferred to see them back in the streets as soon as possible.

JUNE 2012 : OPERATION « RETURN HOME »

This is the name of the first large-scale operation aiming to arrest and deport African born sans-papiers in Israel, referred to as the "filtered in." The home minister described foreigners as a "cancer" and also declared that Israel belonged to "the white man," while the prime minister accused foreigners of endangering the "Jewish and democratic character of the Israeli state." This barefaced racist discourse does away with any complex in the part of the population which in May and June committed racist assaults on African shops, apartments and collective homes.

Teams of policemen set up especially for this purpose rounded up 350 people in less than one week in some parts of Tel Aviv and Eilat. Some of them have already been deported; others have been placed in special prisons in the Neguev desert. Moreover, the state plans the construction of the largest prison for foreigners in the world in this desert, which is already a vast detention camp for Palestinians. This new centre will be able to close in up to 12 000 people. The government has passed a law which punishes a person of three years' imprisonment for the mere fact of being without papers.

THERE IS NO GOOD MANAGEMENT OF THE MIGRATION FLOWS: EVERYDAY THE BORDERS REINFORCE THE ORDER OF THINGS AND EXPLOITATION.

WE REFUSE THAT MILLIONS OF LIVES DEPEND ON PIECES OF PAPER.