Breaking: The APPO Wins an Important Battle Against the PFP

By Gregory Berger 02-Nov-2006

The APPO has forced the PFP into a retreat from its attempted incursion into the Benito Juarez University. But the war is far from over.

After a six-hour siege on the Benito Juarez Autonomous University, which is the home Radio Universidad, voice of the APPO, the Federal Preventative Police (PFP) was forced to retreat just moments ago.

As helicopters, tanks, and scores of armed federal police approached the University campus, "la doctora," the now famous host of radio APPO, urged the citizens of Oaxaca to rush to the scene to aid in the defense of the campus and particularly, of the radio station.

Scores of neighbors and students reportedly surround the PFP troops. Simultaneously, APPO supporters in Mexico City marched from the hunger strikers' encampment near the Senate to the offices of the PFP to demand a retreat from the campus.

Mexican law prohibits the incursion of law enforcement into autonomous universities, unless requested by the university rector. The rector of the Benito Juarez University categorically rejects the presence of the PFP and did not give his approval to the agency to enter the campus.

Although it is unclear whether or not the retreat will be followed by a return to the scene tonight, one thing is quite clear at this moment: the APPO has dealt an important blow to the PFP and has proven that they are indeed capable of defeating the invading army.

The assault also marked an increase in the brutality of the PFP's methods; at least 40 protesters were injured, according to radio universidad. Another "innovative" technique by the PFP today was the use of a staining agent mixed into the water shot by tanks at demonstrators. The staining agent presumably marks protesters for subsequent arrest.

There are additional reports of more prisoners being flown off into custody in helicopters, and also word of tear gas having been shot directly into private homes in the vicinity of the University.

The hosts of Radio APPO are currently reminding listeners that although this battle may indeed represent a turning point in the war to rid Oaxaca of the PFP and of discredited Governor Ulises Ruiz Ortiz, it is important not to become over-confident.

Nevertheless, in the coming hours the spirits of the APPO and their supporters is sure to be on the rise.

Many observers predicted from the outset that the PFP's occupation would not be successful and would soon become unsustainable.
Portland Residents
Protest Police Killings
author: pirate  Oct. 22, 2006

Portland, OR—Around fifty people gathered at the North Park Blocks in downtown Portland today to protest police brutality and the recent death of James Chasse who died in police custody. The event was held in conjunction with similar events around the country to highlight police abuses, but was organized autonomously of the national coalition. Most participants dressed in black to show support for the families of people killed by police.

People started banging on plastic bucket drums and a parade formed behind the banner "Cops and Klan go hand in hand." People paraded through downtown streets chanting against police abuse and the system that fosters it. Portland police remained mostly out of sight except for a few plainclothes officers videotaping the crowd.

The parade ended in Pioneer Square where people unrelated to protest held signs reading "free hugs." Many people accepted the free hugs. People soon gathered again to talk about police abuse and why they were there. The names of people killed by the police in the Portland area were announced over the megaphone. One man spoke in detail about how his cousin Fouad Kaady was murdered by police.

These speeches attracted more people from the square who were curious what was going on.

The event ended without incident. Some participants expressed the need to do more outreach and education to get more people involved in the future. Others expressed the continued importance of people standing in solidarity with the families and friends of people victimized by the police.

Milwaukie Peace demonstration continues

This Peace demonstration has now become a weekly gathering.

When people began standing for Peace at McLoughlin and Oak Grove Blvd. in Milwaukie early this year, they were coming to the street on the first and third Saturdays of each month. Gradually the group grew and enthusiasm from citizens made it seem right to be out there every Saturday. Today there were 20 to 25 people with signs, waving and flashing the Peace sign to motorists who for the most part honked and offered support. Jan Samoge and Greg Flynn brought their guitars and harmonica and sang. Though we stand for Peace in all seriousness, the added gift of the music lightened our spirits greatly. I noticed a lot more positive support today than when I was last at this vigil, though we still got a few (very few) thumbs down and other not so supportive gestures. We are not daunted. We will stand there with our message until this war is over.

BLM Plans to Slaughter Oregon's Last Ancient Forest
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Thousands of acres of ancient forest in western Oregon are on the chopping block. As terrible as these existing timber sales are, if the BLM gets way with it's current plans of throwing out key provisions of the Northwest Forest Plan, for instance NWFP riparian reserves, this will be just the tip of the iceberg. These good ol boys and their Oregon timber baron masters must be stopped.

BLM Plans to Slaughter Oregon’s Last Ancient Forests

The following two BLM timber sales are just a sample of upwards of 30 timber sale projects in the works.

South Myrtle Creek Regeneration Harvest

The Roseburg BLM is proposing to clearcut 585 acres of mature and old-growth forests, leaving as few as 6 trees per acre, in the South Myrtle Creek watershed between Roseburg and Canyonville.

This is a combination of two older sales that we stopped years ago: Class of ’98 and the Upper South Myrtle Regeneration Harvest sales. Umpqua Watersheds stopped these sales because they harmed endangered salmon. Unfortunately, all salmon in the Umpqua Basin have recently lost all of their protections under the Endangered Species Act. As a result, these sales are now being re-offered.

There are at least eight pairs of northern spotted owls that use these forests for foraging. Logging will occur so close to some owl nests that the BLM thinks there could be an "incidental take" of five pairs of owls. "Incidental take" means these owls might indirectly die, not because their food source on 585 acres will be eliminated, but directly because of logging.

To add insult to injury the Roseburg, Coos Bay, Medford BLM have received a good ol boy sweet heart deal exempting them from surveying for and protecting the red tree vole, a Survey and Manage species under provisions of the Northwest Forest Plan. Only Coos and Douglas Counties and the Middle Fork Ranger District of Willamette have this exemption throughout all of Oregon.  Read More at portland.indymedia.org