

Support for Hunger Strikes in Greece *

Dr. Thanatos of Ann Arbor

For the Last Quarter Moon (02.10.07 C.E.)

Inspired by the similar World Social Forum, The European Social Forum (ESF) is a regular conference held by members of the alter-globalization or global justice movement. It brings together a wide-range of activist groups in order to peacefully discuss the impact of our rapidly changing world. The forum is held about every two years with the most recent one being held in Athens, Greece last May, 2006.

Almost 80,000 people participated in ESF 2006 and during the protest a small group people broke free of the larger group and began attacking stores including multinational chains such as McDonald's and Lacoste. Several glass panes were smashed along the street in hit-and-run attacks. These attacks appear to have been motivated by Greece's immigration policy which denies rights to ten percent of the people currently living in the country and also by a large anti-American sentiment which traditionally pervades Greece.

The violence increased as the police moved in with tear gas, and it began to involve the larger group of nonviolent protestors. During the riot, two police vehicles as well as the Citibank building were damaged by petrol bombs. Twenty people were arrested, seven of them have been charged and await trial for multiple felony charges, and three of them have been indefinitely detained. Of the latter three, two have since been on hunger strike in protest of their unfair arrest and treatment.

We, The Frequency Mutineers, support these hunger strikes as the two men (Tarasio Zadarozni and Gerasimos Kyriakopoulos) were detained under vague circumstances. The arrests came a considerable amount of time after the riot and no objective evidence has been offered in support of the charges. Tarasio Zadarozni, in particular, has written elegantly against his arrest:

“Having been incarcerated behind bars and cement for the last six and a half months in Koridallos Prison, I ascertain that they have managed to imprison my body only. All else that is true and free I have managed to keep intact. Consciences are not subjugated, are not incarcerated, are not directed”.

These words were written nearly one month ago and we are not able to determine the current status of either protestor. Nonetheless, tonight's edition of The Frequency Mutineers is dedicated to their courage and to all people fighting for freedom throughout the world.

** Drawn from information provided at Indy Media (indymedia.org) and Inter Press Service (ips.org)*