

>> January 1 1994>>

The EZLN (Zapatista Army of National Liberation) declares war against Mexico, bringing its inspirational struggle for life and humanity to the forefront of political imaginations across the planet. Within 24 hours the Mexican army responds, bombing communities and killing at least 145 indigenous people. An outraged Mexican civil society retaliates with massive demonstrations calling for an end to military repression. The date of the uprising marks the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which condemns millions of indigenous people, peasants, farmers, and workers across North America to poverty, and accelerates environmental destruction and corporate ascendance.

>> January 27 1994 >>

New labour laws provoke a 24 hour general strike across Spain. Major cities are occupied by police, and rioting erupts sporadically as hundreds of thousands take to the streets. Shops, airports, and railway stations close, and tourists must fend for themselves in hotels

>> February 3 1994 >>

Thousands of Indian villagers gather on the banks of the Narmada River to celebrate victory in their year-long campaign to halt the Maheshwar hydropower dam - the first to be built in India using private finance.

>> March 1994 >>

Campaign against the M11 link road begins in earnest in London, UK, as anti-road activists team up with local people to try and defend their public space.

>> April 1994>>

Peasants form 850 self-defence committees across Bolivia to block roads and resist militarization, the result of the US demand that the Bolivian government eradicate 1,750 hectares of coca production, under threat of an international economic embargo from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank. Filemán Escobar of the Bolivian miners' federation points out: "The Andean world was born with the coca leaf thousands of years ago and the coca leaf and coca chewing are part of our culture... The transformation of coca leaf into cocaine is a problem of the industrialized countries who discovered that cocaine could be extracted. Yet we Bolivians are the victims."

>> April 5-6 1994 >>

More than 150,000 Indians protest in New Delhi against the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) treaty which will become the World Trade Organization. The police react to the demonstrators shooting arrows, and throwing stones and sandals by attacking with water cannons and tear gas. 80 people are injured, including several police officers with arrow wounds.

>> April 15 1994 >>

The treaty establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO) is signed in Marrakesh, Morocco. Trade representatives from 120 countries sign on, presumably having read its 22,000 pages which weighed in at 11,395 pounds.

>> May-November 1994>>

An entire street in London, Claremont Road, is squatted by activists in an attempt to halt the construction of the M11 motorway. Barricading the street transforms it into a car-free community in resistance which lasts for six months. One hundred foot towers rise from the rooftops, a network of tunnels are built beneath, nets are hung across the street, junked cars are filled with plants and used as blooming barricades. When the \$3.3 million eviction takes place, 1,300 police and security guards work nonstop for four days to remove 500 residents and locked-down activists. Activists from this campaign go on to form Reclaim the Streets.

>> a day in June 1994>>

A World Bank delegation appraising the Kaeng Sua Ten dam in northeast Thailand is surrounded by 5,000 angry villagers, who demand that the World Bank leave. "There is no need for any more studies, because we oppose the project," they say. When several consultants return two days later, they are dragged from their car and beaten. No further delegations are sent.

>> July 8-10 1994 >>

The G7 meet in Naples, Italy. The local communist mayor insists on having grand receptions for the heads of state and for participants in "The Other Economic Summit", part of the protests which have stalked the G7 summits since 1984. Seven activists from the poorest countries of five continents send the G7 a message: "Keep your wealth. Enjoy your consumer civilization. Withdraw completely your interest, companies, investment, tourist resorts, and good humanitarian intentions from our countries. Leave us to confront ourselves and face our own cultural values. Leave us to pursue our own indigenous road of self-development. It shall be hard and long. But it will be our own choices to determine it. And we will never find ourselves worse off than we are today."

>> July 9 1994 >>

Sixty-seven workers at a local McDonald's in a suburb of Paris, France pull a surprise strike, closing the store down during its busiest period. Their demands: "Respect of our right to engage in union activity, paid vacations, the right to choose our own delegates and recognition of our personal needs." Less than 24 hours after the strike begins, a contract is signed between management and the General Confederation of Workers (CGT) union. A few days later, McDonald's workers in the town of Ullis walk out. In Nantes, McDonald's workers prepare a week of action with CGT trade unionists.

>> July 12 1994 >>

Four thousand United Rubber Workers in five states of the US walk out, beginning a bitter strike against Bridgestone/Firestone, the world's largest tyre manufacturer, which leads to a lock-out lasting 27 months. The workers respond to slashes in wages and benefits, and a threatened implementation of around-the-clock production with seven-day weeks and 12-hour shifts. Imaginative actions take place, including demonstrations at car races, a protest camp outside the corporate HQ, international solidarity-building campaigns launched in Japan and Europe, and a successful boycott campaign. The company eventually agrees a deal and reinstates all strikers who were discharged.

>> July 20 1994 >>

One million Turkish workers stage a one-day strike to protest cutbacks ordered by the World Bank and private lending sources. The government threatens arrests, but is overwhelmed by the sheer size of the walkout.

>> August 6-9 1994 >>

The Zapatistas organize the National Democratic Convention, held in rebel territory in a newly built convention centre called Aguascalientes, in honour of the 1914 site of the constitutional convention during the Mexican revolution. Over 6,000 people representing a broad range of civil society come from across the country to join the Zapatistas in planning what the government is refusing to discuss or negotiate – a fundamental reform to the Mexican state that would ensure democracy, justice, and a peace with dignity and social justice. In the opening ceremony, Subcomandante Marcos expresses the wishes of the Zapatistas, saying: "We hope that the horizon will open up so that we will not be necessary anymore, we the dead since always, who have to die again in order to live. We hope... to disappear in the same way we appeared, one morning, without a face, without future. To return to the depths of history, of the dream, of the mountains..."

>> September 1994 >>

Italy's infamous Tute Bianche [white overalls] movement is born, when the neofascist mayor of Milan orders the eviction of the squatted social centre, Leoncavallo, saying: "From now on, squatters will be nothing more than ghosts wandering about in the city!" Activists respond humorously, dressing in ghostly white overalls and taking to the streets; riots ensue, and the squat is saved. The white overalls, symbols of the invisibility of those excluded from capitalism, spread across the world, from Finland to Mexico.

>> September 21 1994 >>

Doctors in 25 Bangladesh government hospitals walk out over demands for higher wages, promotions and new employment, virtually paralyzing the public health sector.

>> September 29 1994 >>

A nationwide strike is held in India called by the National Platform of Mass Organizations in protest against the structural adjustment programmes (SAP) of the World Bank and the signing of GATT (WTO). The strike affects functioning of banks, financial institutions, and public sector units across the country, and is the eighth in a series of protests against SAPs during the previous two years.

>> October 2 1994 >>

Bolivian workers fight back against World Bank-ordered 'reforms,' which require that the country cuts wages of public workers and privatize the national phone system. The resulting general strike, hunger strikes, and road and rail blockades result in the government declaring a state of siege. After 23 days, the government agrees to wage demands, and backs down from privatization.

>> October 2-4 1994>>

Eleven people scale overhead beams of a conference centre in Madrid, Spain, and shower thousands of dark-suited delegates below with fake dollar bills that say "50 Years of Destruction" during the opening ceremonies of the IMF/World Bank's 50th anniversary meetings. The financial institutions face their biggest demonstrations since they were run out of town a day early in Berlin in 1988. Outside the building, a carnivalesque march of 5,000 people declare their opposition to IMF policies. Press conferences and banquets are further disrupted by infiltrating activists. The 50 Years Is Enough network is founded at a counter-conference. Simultaneous protests take place in several countries.

>> October 6 1994>>

One thousand French workers invade the Paris stock exchange, halting the billion-dollar trade in financial futures and options for the entire day, in protest against the partial sale of car maker Renault, and all privatizations in France. One huge poster reading "Sacrifices, Unemployment, Privatizations" obscures the computer screens which normally provide prices for stock options. "If we called the police there would be a complete riot," one security guard complains.

>> October 9 1994>>

Over 100,000 people march in London, UK, against the Criminal Justice Bill, which criminalizes direct action, rave music, and squatting, as well as terminating the right to remain silent under interrogation. A diverse group takes to the streets opposing the law – festival and party goers, squatters, travelers, hunt saboteurs, anti-road protesters, and gay rights groups. The day ends with rioting in Hyde Park.

>> October 26 1994>>

All schools in Sierra Leone are shut down as 35,000 teachers go on strike. Demanding prompt payments of salaries and allowances and a 30 per cent pay increase, teachers also demand of the military government that they repeal a decree banning the right to strike.

>> October 27 1994>>

More than 15,000 workers in Siberia and the far east of Russia take to the streets in the first stage of a nationwide protest against falling living standards and huge salary arrears. Similar protests take place across the country, with the participation of well over two million people.

>> November 8 1994 >> At

least 40 people in masks ransack a McDonald's in Mexico City's fashionable Zona Rosa, protesting an anti-immigrant ballot initiative passed in California. Windows are broken, bins tipped over, cash registers hurled to the ground, and graffiti with messages of solidarity and anti-imperialism painted. The new law denies all social services to illegal immigrants in California, clearly showing that voters have by and large forgotten that California was stolen from Mexico (and from Native Americans before that) by force and that the definition of "illegal immigrant" is an insult to those originally inhabiting that land.

>> November 24 1994 >>

In Beirut, Lebanon, striking dockers completely shut down the port for six days.

>> December 1 1994>>

United States Congress approves joining the WTO without having read the treaty. Prior to the vote, an offer of a \$10,000 donation to the charity of choice had been made to any congressperson who had read the entire thing and could answer ten simple questions about its contents. Not one member of congress accepted, until after the vote was postponed, and then one Republican, a "free" trade supporter, stepped forward to the challenge. He answered all ten questions correctly and then held a press conference, stating that he had planned to vote in favour, but after reading the text of the agreement, he had changed his position.

>> December 2 1994>>

Hundreds of indigenous people from Chile, Mexico, Peru, and Bolivia march in Temuco, Chile to protest against Chile joining in the North American Free Trade Agreement, decrying the ease with which multinational corporations would be able to take their land.

>> December 3 1994>>

Police arrest thousands of people heading for a demonstration in Bhopal, India, on the tenth anniversary of the chemical leak from the Union Carbide plant that caused 7,000 deaths. As one Bhopal activist puts it, "Bhopal is not something unfortunate that is only happening to the people of a central Indian city. It is happening everywhere around the world. The routine poisoning of living systems that accompanies the storage, transport, production, consumption and waste treatment of hazardous chemicals are part of our industrial society. The silent and slow Bhopals that are happening in everyday life often go unnoticed and are seldom resisted."

>> January 1995>>

Wildfire wins a victory as a result of one of the most successful actions of Earth First! at Warner Creek, Oregon, US. Activists maintain an 11 month blockade of logging roads, through harsh winter snowfall, and frequent visits by curious tourists! The camp, christened Cascadia Free State, features a watchtower, a moat and drawbridge, a wide variety of barricades, and frequent trainings and planning meetings for establishing other "Free States". As part of the fallout of new "salvage logging" legislation, the forest service had plans to log over 1,200 acres after the second largest wildfire in the region. In addition to the blockades, activists hold a thorough educational campaign explaining the ecology of fire, and the natural regeneration that will occur if allowed. The blockade ends when a presidential decree withdraws the salvage sale and the forest is allowed to continue its cycle.

>> January 1 1995>>

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) becomes the World Trade Organization (WTO).

>> January 25 1995 >>

Protesting tuition hikes and education cuts, the Canadian Federation of Students take action on the Pan-Canadian Day of Action, as 16,000 students take to the streets in Montreal, and at least 100,000 participate nationwide. As a result, tuition fees are frozen in the provinces of British Columbia and Québec.

>> February 12 1995>>

Over 100,000 people demonstrate in Mexico City demanding that the military withdraw from Chiapas, in response to the issuance of arrest warrants for 11 Zapatistas, the "unmasking" of Subcomandante Marcos as a former philosophy professor, increased military aggression in Chiapas, and the government's breaking of the ceasefire with the EZLN. The aggression backfires, as not only do the Zapatistas fight off the Federal Army troops and retain control of most of the southern regions of the state, they turn the offensive to their advantage by organizing a popular consultation of the people, or consulta.

>> April 13 1995 >>

Huge solidarity demonstrations erupt in Tierra del Fuego, Argentina, following the brutal eviction of 200 workers who had occupied their electronics plant and shut it down, demanding their back pay. The police attack, killing Victor Choque, a 37-year-old construction worker, and wounding 60 others workers. The Metalworkers' Union and the Union Front, which includes government employees, teachers, taxi drivers, and sanitation workers, organize a general strike.

>> April 15 1995 >>

International protests take place to mark the 40th anniversary of the opening of the world's first McDonald's restaurant, and to celebrate ten years of coordinated international resistance to the corporation. There are actions in at least 20 countries including Aotearoa/New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, Ireland, Poland, Denmark, Australia, Czech Republic, Croatia, Netherlands, Germany, Finland, US, and the UK

>> April 19 1995>>

Following a six week strike against privatization by Bolivian teachers, a general strike is called in solidarity with them, and against the neoliberal policies of the government. Roads are blocked throughout the country and one southern province declares independence from the government. The government imposes a 90-day state of siege, and over 1,000 trade union, student, peasant, and political leaders are arrested.

>> April 24 1995>>

The government's firing of 12,000 bus drivers and its closure of bus routes in Mexico City generates a demonstration of 50,000 people. The bus drivers, members of SUTAUR, the independent and militant Mexico City Bus Drivers' union, continue their daily protests. Two days later, students seize several buses in support of the drivers and hold them for several days. The following year, after a dogged struggle which includes countless marches, constant clashes with the police, the year-long imprisonment of 12 union leaders, several 40-day hunger strikes, and an offer from a union leader to crucify himself on Good Friday, the union becomes a worker-owned cooperative, taking control of two of the ten newly privatized lines, and struggling to increase their control and regain jobs for the thousands who remain unemployed.

>> May 1 1995>>

One and a half million demonstrate in Mexico City calling for an end to NAFTA, an increase in salaries, and declaring their support for the EZLN. The government declares a ceasefire, for the time being.

>> May 3 1995>>

Declaring "The oil is ours," 50,000 workers at Brazil's government-run oil company, Petroleo Brasileiro, walk off the job over pay cuts and a plan to privatize the company. The strike is reinforced by a strike of thousands of rail workers and truckers, as well as tens of thousands of other government workers demanding higher wages and an end to privatization.

>> May 14 1995>>

Two cars collide and block Camden High Street, a busy shopping district in London, UK. The drivers argue, and then begin smashing up the cars. Suddenly, 500 people pour out of the underground station and occupy the street. The first Reclaim the Streets street party begins, challenging the privatization of public space by the car, while bringing together the spirit of carnival and rebellion, rejuvenating creative forms of direct action.

>> June 1995 >>

Health-care workers occupy hospitals throughout Cordoba, Argentina. Nurse Ana Maria Martoglio says, "We've taken over this hospital because they haven't paid us in two months and because the government has sent the health-care system to hell."

>> June 1 1995>>

About 5,000 Argentinian students surround the Congress, preventing deputies from entering, and forcing the government to postpone discussion and voting on President Menem's proposal to introduce tuition fees for the first time. Days later, the vote is in favour of fees, and riots erupt throughout the night.

>> June 5 1995>>

Over 3,000 people occupy the Mexico City stock exchange, protesting against election fraud in the state of Tabasco. Three hundred people arrive on foot, having walked 500 miles from Tabasco to draw attention nationwide to what has become known as "Tabascogate".

>> June 8 1995>>

South Korean President Kim Young Sam warns unions that a planned strike at the state-owned telephone company would be akin to "an attempt to overthrow the state".

>> June 15-17 1995>>

The Halifax People's Summit in Canada brings together international non-governmental organizations (NGO) and local networks of activists, linking global issues with local concerns. Workshops, protests, carnivalesque street theatre, and outdoor picnics prevail, while the G7 meet under extremely low security, with delegates freely walking about the city, and meeting in a Maritime Museum which features, ironically, a deck chair from the Titanic.

>> June 19 1995>>

Workers at Hyundai Heavy Industries in South Korea approve a provisional wage agreement providing for a 5.6 per cent wage increase and bonuses of three months pay. >> July 13 >> Energy workers in Ecuador begin a long strike that threatens to halt electricity and petroleum production. The unions demand the repeal of laws restricting the right of public workers to strike. Administration buildings of the state-run companies are occupied by workers.

>> July 17 1995>>

Some 50,000 teachers in Costa Rica strike, closing about 4,000 public schools, as well as four state universities. The teachers demand a presidential veto of a recently approved pension law. Another 10,000 state workers join the teachers' strike two days later, protesting government plans to reduce the work force. Meanwhile, the central labour union in Costa Rica prepares for a general strike.

>> July 21 1995 >>

One thousand mothers and children march in Toronto, Canada against proposed cuts in social services, including changes in child care benefits which would no longer grant teenage single mothers free day-care.

>> August 1995>>

Coal miners in the Ukraine go on strike for back pay, higher wages and pensions, and better medical benefits. "I haven't been paid in two months," says Aleksy Tsybin, a miner from the eastern town of Makayevke. "This is a gross violation of workers' rights." The miners, who have launched sporadic strikes at some of the country's 246 mines in the past few weeks, are also demanding more control over the industry, such as setting coal prices and their own wage scale. The miners' union has warned the government that a broader strike is likely in the winter if negotiations collapse.

>> August 5 1995>>

In a campaign to get multinational corporations out of India, the Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha (KRRS, Karnataka State Farmers Association), a ten million strong direct action movement of Indian farmers, manages to close down India's first Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet on health grounds. At the same time billboards belonging to KFC owner PepsiCo are destroyed by activists throughout the state, while the KRRS sets up training centres in organic agriculture and seed banks. The KFC eventually reopens under full-time guard.

>> August 7 1995>>

Oil workers in South Trinidad begin a six-week strike over wages, resulting in a seven per cent pay increase.

>> August 7 1995>>

One hundred thousand striking teachers, state workers, oil workers, and others march in San José, Costa Rica, in one of the largest demonstrations in 25 years. Some of the strikers occupy the Inter-American Court of Human Rights after the march, saying they will remain until the government listens to their demands.

>> August 8 1995>>

Nearly 600,000 public workers in Turkey go on strike against the government's austerity programme. Three days earlier, 100,000 workers marched through the capital city, Ankara, calling for an increase in the minimum wage, higher pay, and broader trade union rights.

>> August 12 1995>>

Nearly 1,500 landless peasants try to occupy the National Bank for Housing in Guatemala. Many are beaten by police. The peasants demand the land promised to 2,800 landless and homeless families. Lorenzo Pérez, a representative of the Guatemala Council for the Displaced, says 500,000 of the two million inhabitants of Guatemala City are displaced peasants who live in extreme poverty and are homeless.

>> August 27 1995>>

The Zapatistas hold the first international consulta, with the participation of over 1.2 million Mexicans, and more than 100,000 people from outside of Mexico. Voters overwhelmingly agree with the principal demands of the EZLN, call for a broad united opposition to struggle for those demands, and agree that women should be guaranteed equal representation and participation at all levels of civil and governmental responsibility. In a country where the ruling PRI's own plebiscite on its economic plan only managed to achieve a voter participation of 600,000 voters in the spring of 1995, the Zapatista's success at dialogue with national and global civil society is illustrative of the will to change.

>> September 27 1995 >>

Hundreds of Honduran students clash with police during protests against a rise in urban bus fares.

>> September 28 1995>>

More than half a million teachers in Russia go on a nationwide strike to protest against unpaid wages, low pay, and severe government underfunding of social services.

>> September 28 1995>>

'Reclaim the Future', an alliance of Reclaim the Streets, rave activists, and the Liverpool dockers commemorate the anniversary of the dockers lock out. Activists break through fences, occupy cranes, and fly the RTS flag from the roof of the corporate headquarters. The actions trigger a 24 hour strike by tug boat captains. No vessels enter or leave Liverpool, and Mersey Docks shares fall a further 14p, despite the company's claims of continued normal operations.

>> October 10 1995>>

During their annual meetings in Washington DC, US, the IMF/WB are stunned by four days of demonstrations when activists from the Native Forest Network and Earth First! hang banners from a crane at the construction site of the lavish new World Bank headquarters. A crowd of demonstrators gathers on the sidewalk, heckling World Bank and IMF employees on their way to work. Five people are arrested; the two white people are released while the three people of colour are charged.

>> October 20 1995>>

Security services disperse 20,000 Romanian students after three days of protest against Bucharest government control over education in the post-communist era. The students win a victory when the government withdraws controversial taxes on students who fail exams.

>> October 31 1995>>

Some 5,000 people participate in a 'Death of Education March' in Honolulu, US, to protest against budget cuts totaling \$50 million over two years. Governor Benjamin Cayetano is shouted down by protesters while telling University of Hawaii faculty members and students that the state administration had no choice but to slash the school's budget.

>> October 31 1995>>

Riots break out in Bryansk, Russia, as car workers demand payment for over five months' back wages. Coal miners and other workers have organized strikes and demonstrations also demanding back pay. The Russian government has accumulated massive debts to hundreds of enterprises in attempting to adhere to a budget arranged with the IMF last spring.

>>November-Dec. 1995>>

In protest against the French government's liberalization of labour laws in an unpopular effort to reform the welfare system, five million union members and students go on strike, demanding that telecommunications and all other services not be privatized, and that more funding be allocated to overcrowded state universities. Hundreds of thousands take to the streets. The transport strike results in a 350 mile traffic jam in Paris. Strikes spread to Belgium and Luxembourg. The French government eventually backs down.

>> November 10 1995>>

Protests against Shell erupt around the world as the Nigerian government executes nine environmental activists, including writer Ken Saro-Wiwa, who were imprisoned on fabricated murder charges. The activists were resisting Shell's environmental destruction of Ogoniland, Nigeria, which has resulted in the loss of agricultural land to oil wells, spillage, pipelines and blowouts. In Ken Saro-Wiwa's closing statement at his trial, he predicts that "the ecological war that [Shell] has waged in the delta will be called to question, and the crimes of that war duly punished."

>> December 4 1995>>

To the accompaniment of bagpipes, 500 Earth First! activists storm the largest stone quarry in England, in Whatley, Somerset, swarming over gates, scaling fences, and erecting a tripod blocking the rail line leading out from the quarry. Sixty-five feet of railway track disappear; the surveillance system falls apart; a two-story crane is pulled to bits; three control rooms are dismantled; and several digging and conveyer belts break down. At the end of the day, the media reports that \$163,000 of damage occurred, with an additional loss of production of \$325,000.

>> December 13 1995 >>

Students, professors, and university staff in Managua, Nicaragua, rejecting proposed tuition hikes and administrative fees, demand that the government abide by the constitution and allocate six per cent of the national budget for university education. Riot police break up demonstrations at the National Assembly with tear gas followed by gunfire. Two students are killed, one loses a leg, and more than 60 are injured.

>> December 13 1995>>

Members of the Machinists' Union in Seattle, US, celebrate victory with a new contract with Boeing, Inc, which finally capitulated after a strike of 34,500 workers. They picketed 69 days in almost non-stop rainstorms and sacrificed \$6,000 per worker in wages.

>> January 1 1996>>

During the first hours of 1996, the EZLN announce the formation of the Zapatista Front of National Liberation (FZLN), "a civil and nonviolent organization, independent and democratic, Mexican and national... A political force which does not struggle to take political power but for a democracy where those who govern, govern by obeying... Our word, our song and our cry, is so that the dead will no longer die. So that they may live we struggle, so that they live we sing."

>> January 30 1996 >>

Continuing their campaign to rid India of multinational corporations, the KRRS chooses the anniversary of Ghandi's death to dismantle a Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet in Bangalore. Its windows are smashed, furniture broken, ledgers burnt, and utensils flung into the streets. Over 100 people are arrested, and the KRRS spokesperson, Professor Nanjundaswamy, is accused of attempted murder. He uses Ghandi's words to defend his actions against property: "If you had a goods train carrying arms, blowing it up does not amount to a violent act. It would however be violent to blow up a passenger train."

>> February 1996>>

In Britain around 5,000 march against the construction of a road to bypass the town of Newbury and in support of the hundreds of protesters in living tree-houses and protest camps along the route.

>> February 7 1996>>

Over 20,000 students in 30 cities across Canada go on strike in a national day of action against cuts in education and social programmes by the federal government.

>> March 10 1996>>

The largest gold mine in the world, located in West Papua, a colony of Indonesia, and owned by US company Freeport McMoran, is closed down for six days by riots. The company has dug out the top of a sacred mountain, an act Papuans describe as "beheading our mother". More than 90 per cent of the mined mountain ends up as tailings, poisoning rivers for miles downstream. The company has also been responsible for the murder and torture of independence fighters who have fought a long struggle against the company, and the colonizing Indonesian military who get rich defending the mine.

>> March 28 1996 >>

Thousands of people take to the streets in La Paz, Cochabamba, and Santa Cruz, Bolivia, demanding a raise in salaries and denouncing the privatization of Bolivia's oil fields. In Cochabamba, 250 people, most of them elderly, are detained while on hunger strike, protesting for the same reasons. On the same day, workers in Paraguay initiate a general strike demanding salary increases of 31 per cent and calling for a referendum on the rapid privatization of their nation's wealth and resources. Meanwhile, in São Paulo, Brazil, more than 5,000 students are attacked and detained by the police while protesting against tuition fee hikes and other neoliberal policies on education.

>> March 29 1996 >>

Adding their voices to the continent-wide uprisings, thousands of farmers in southern Chile block national highways in protest against Chile's imminent inclusion in the 'free' trade agreement, Mercosur, which will result in the unemployment of at least 80,000 Chilean farmers. At the same time, street vendors in Lima, Peru, confront the police and defend their right to work as the police attempt to expel them from the historic (read, touristic) centre. And in Santa Ana, Costa Rica, thousands protest against the installation of a waste dump in their town which would add more than one thousand tons of rubbish a day to the heap already dumped on them by neoliberalism.

>> April 1996 >>

Hundreds demonstrate against the military government as a UN team tours the Ogoniland region to investigate the execution of writer and activist Ken Saro-Wiwa.

>> April 17 1996 >>

About 1,500 families of landless peasants from the Movimento Sem Terra blockade the highway near the town of El Dorado dos Carajas in the state of Paraná, Brazil, demanding land reform and defying the authorities' insistence that the occupation of a wealthy landowners' farm nearby end. Military police, their ID tags removed, open fire on the demonstrators. Nineteen dead men are left beside the highway, though survivors talk of an open grave containing women and children hidden nearby. 69 are wounded. The MST are still seeking justice. In memory of this day April 17 is henceforth declared International Peasants' Day.

>> April 18-21 1996 >>

Via Campesina, a network of peasants and farmers groups fighting globalization, meets for its second conference in Tlaxcala, Mexico. 69 different groups from 37 countries meet; they range from the Thai Assembly of the Poor, to the Brazilian Movimento Sem Terra, to the French Confédération Paysanne.

>> May 30-June 2 1996 >>

About 1,000 people from 26 European countries participate in a "Continental Meeting for Humanity and against Neoliberalism" under the banner of "Ya Basta - Enough!" in Berlin, Germany. The meeting is organized by the Mexican branch of the Berlin Research and Documentation Centre on Chile and Latin America.

>> May 30 1996 >>

Driven to desperation by food shortages fostered by the peso devaluation, drought, and the impact of NAFTA and GATT trade rules on peasant farmers, 400 women and children stop and loot a train near Monterrey, Mexico, carrying away 40 tonnes of yellow corn in buckets and plastic bags.

>> June 19 1996 >>

Large parts of the South Korean car industry are shut down as workers at Kia Motors Corp., the country's second largest auto corporation, go on strike over a wage dispute.

>> June 27-29 1996 >>

The G7 meet in Lyon, France. Eight counter summits take place and for the first time in the G-7's 21-year history, 25,000 trade unionists take to the streets, protesting against job cuts, labour deregulation, attacks on public services, and the "sinister impact of the global economy." The summit, as always more ceremony than content, costs \$40 million to organize, and delegates promise next year's meeting will be a cheaper, scaled down affair.

>> July 23 1996 >>

London Reclaim the Streets occupies the M41 motorway with a 10,000 person street party. Lurking near the sound system are 20 foot high carnival figures in hoop skirts, which conceal jack hammers busily digging up the tarmac. Trees are then planted in the fast lane.

>> July 27-August 3 1996 >>

In Chiapas, Mexico, the Zapatistas organize the first Intercontinental Encuentro for Humanity and Against Neoliberalism. Thousands of people representing social movements from all five continents attend the seminars in the autonomous town of La Realidad, where they identify a common struggle and develop and strengthen networks of resistance.

>> August 1996 >>

Enraged mothers organize a march of more than 150,000 campesinos in the provinces of Guaviare, Putumayo, and Caqueta, Colombia after aerial spraying of Ultra Glyphosate pesticide on 45,000 acres causes convulsive vomiting and hair loss among children, part of US-sponsored 'Plan Colombia'. Colombian federales diffuse the protest with false compromises, then assassinate march organizers. The US then insists that Colombia allow it to switch to the far more poisonous tebuthiuron.

>> August 8 1996 >>

An estimated 90 per cent of all Argentinean workers honour a general strike, decrying President Menem's neoliberal policies and the IMF-imposed structural adjustment, which has privatized virtually anything of value in the country, including highways and zoos.

>> August 16 1996 >>

Riots break out in Karak, Jordan, after IMF-imposed subsidy removal results in the price of bread tripling. The king suspends Parliament when it refuses to support price hikes. Protesters also target the Ministry of Education because of drastic increases in school fees - also imposed by the IMF.

>> August 21-31 1996 >>

Active Resistance, a gathering in Chicago which coincides with the 'Democratic' Party's national convention, brings together nearly a thousand people who engage in intensive work on building sustainable communities of resistance. Police harass activists, particularly those involved in creating alternative media, make 14 arrests, and raid the site, pepper spraying participants and confiscating (and damaging) equipment and personal belongings. Yet the seeds of inspiration are sown for Indymedia and other new ways of resisting.

>> August 23 1996 >>

Three hundred Africans occupy a church in Paris in an effort to bring attention to the plight of immigrants, and to demand regular papers. The French government refuses to negotiate with them, and they are eventually evicted.

>> September 1996 >>

In the ongoing campaign to save the ancient redwoods, 8,000 people gather across from a Pacific Lumber mill in northern California, US, to defend the Headwaters Forest. Over a thousand of them are arrested for trespassing before the police run out of plastic handcuffs.

>> October 1 1996 >>

The longest strike in the United States steel industry begins against WCI Steel Inc. over diminished job security and deep cuts to pensions. Eight communities in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia buckle under the collective loss of \$5 million in weekly wages. Steelworker families in the Ohio and Mon valleys are going to food banks instead of the grocery store. Strikers target banks and financial institutions linked to the corporation.

>> October 16 1996>>

The global day of action against McDonald's coincides with the UN's World Food Day. Actions take place in over 50 cities in 21 countries, and include distribution of the now-infamous 'What's Wrong With McDonald's?' leaflet. The leaflet prompts the 'McLibel' suit, which goes on to be the longest libel suit in British history.

>> October 25 1996>>

One million people take part in a general strike in Toronto, protesting against massive national health care cuts and the widespread homelessness exacerbated by a 50 per cent increase in evictions in the previous year.

>> November 8-17 1996>>

The World Food Summit is held in Rome. The Hunger Gathering, a counter summit, brings together diverse groups ranging from Bangladeshi farmers to the Brazilian MST. Their work lays the foundation of protest against genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in Europe.
>> November 20 >> Massive student strikes in Québec City, Canada take place, demanding an end to cuts in education funding, lifting of new restrictions on loan qualifications, a tuition freeze, bans on administrative fees, and abolition of a restrictive enrollment policy.

>> November 22 -25 1996 >>

Mass mobilizations against 'free' trade occur throughout the Philippines during the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit. The authorities ban certain foreigners (including Archbishop Desmond Tutu and former French first lady Danielle Mitterand) from entering the country as they might cause 'disharmony'. The government bulldozes shantytowns to create a fantasy of technological and social wealth for delegates. Protests include a march of 130,000 which is stopped by police blockades as it heads for the summit, as well as a massive blockade of the road connecting Manila to the summit site of Subic Bay.

>> November 23 1996>>

On the US' National Day of Mourning, also known as Thanksgiving, Native Americans converge in Plymouth, Massachusetts and bury Plymouth Rock to protest against the celebration of genocide.

>> December 1996 >>

The culmination of a year-long campaign against GMOs by German eco-anarchists results in prevention of one third of all test sites nationwide being sown, and the sabotage of many more. Squatted protest camps sprout throughout the nations' fields; the squatters experience unprecedented support from inhabitants of the surrounding villages and small towns. People from all ages and social groups give money, bring food, and live there for days or weeks at a time. One camp produces its own electricity with donated solar panels from a local company. Prior to the occupations of many of the plots, a broad coalition of activists and local citizens collected thousands of signatures in order to prevent the experiment.

>> December 16 1996>>

Two Sanyo Universal Electric PLC buildings are torched by Thai workers after wage negotiations break down, marking a break in Thailand's record of relatively harmonious labour negotiations. Labour disputes have more than doubled since 1991, and strikes and lock-outs are becoming more confrontational.

>> December 23 1996>>

Subcomandante Marcos receives a used pipe in the mail from Denmark. A group of activists occupying the Parliament building and the office of the Minister of Foreign Relations took the pipe from the Minister's desk and mailed it to the mountains of the Mexican southeast.

>> December 26-29 1996>>

The largest series of strikes and walkouts in South Korean history, involving hundreds of thousands of workers, takes place to protest against new labour legislation that allows companies to lay off and fire workers more easily and to avoid paying overtime in a more flexible work system.

>> January 1997>>

South Korea is rocked by a three week wave of massive general strikes – the largest in the country's history – as workers protest new casualization laws. The strikes costs \$3 billion in lost production. The government backs down and withdraws the new laws.

>> February 1997>>

A leaked copy of the draft Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) text – secretly being negotiated at the 'rich-man's club', the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) – is posted onto the internet. Up to this point negotiations are conducted in relative isolation – the revelation sparks off a world-wide campaign, which scuppers the agreement before it can pass.

>> February-May 1997 >>

In Thailand, a coalition of 20,000 disenfranchised farmers, refugees of dam flooding, and other rural people from the Assembly of the Poor stage a 99-day protest camp in front of Government House in Bangkok.

>> February 5 1997>>

IMF restructuring in Ecuador forces overnight price rises of electricity (500 per cent), gas (340 per cent) and telephone charges (700 per cent), among others. A general strike brings over two million people into the streets under the slogan, "No one stays home." Leaflets circulating before the event declare: "We invite all Ecuadorians to the giant going-away party for [President] Bucaram... This event will take place in the country's plaza and streets... Dress informally. The entrance fee is a street barricade, a burning tyre, and the will to save the country's dignity." President Bucaram flees and is dismissed by Congress two days later.

>> March 9 1997>>

In Glasgow, Scotland over 50 people occupy the City Council chambers for 19 hours, in an attempt to prevent the Council from announcing nearly \$131 million worth of cuts, 1,500 redundancies, the closure of 130 community projects, and a 22 per cent rise in council tax. George McNeillage of the North Pollock Community Council says, "We have as much right as the councillors to be in this building; they were voted in two years ago in a stand against cuts and redundancies. Now they have betrayed every citizen of Glasgow and should resist or resign."

>> April 1997>>

One of Britain's last colonies, the tiny island of St Helena, goes into open revolt against its dictatorial British Governor, setting the island's only police van on fire.

>> April 1997>>

A large white tent is erected in Buenos Aires. It will play host to 1,500 teachers on a rotating liquid diet strike, and to more than 5,000 personalities and 3 million supporters. Known as the 'White Tent of Dignity', it is erected by a teachers' union as part of a campaign for an increase in funding to guarantee the future of the Argentinean public education system. Within a few weeks, however, the tent far exceeds this original purpose, and becomes the focus for other popular demands – and eventually the symbol of a social movement opposed to the spread of official neoliberal policies. Other 'white tents' spring up around the country.

>> April 12 1997>>

In Cutral-Có and Plaza Huincol, south-west Argentina, protest flares into outright rebellion when police attack a protest of unemployed workers and fatally shoot Teresa Rodriguez, a 24-year-old domestic worker. Roads are blocked with barricades and burning tyres, preventing police reinforcements from entering the city at several strategic points. "This is Chiapas," says a frightened police chief as he orders his forces to withdraw and the government is forced to send aid packages and work subsidies to the area.

>> April 12 1997 >>

The March for Social Justice takes place on the eve of the general election in London, UK, demanding a repeal of the Criminal Justice Act, the reinstatement of jobs and union privileges for sacked workers, and more. It is organized by a unique alliance between Reclaim the Streets, the Liverpool Dockers, Women of the Waterfront, and the Hillingdon Hospital Workers. The original plan of squatting government buildings is foiled by police, but 20,000 people march through London and end up enjoying what the music media describe as "the best illegal rave or dance music party in history". The radical coalition is clearly a threat to the authorities; police confiscate all printed propaganda and try to frame people with the "attempted murder" of a policeman.

>> April 17 1997>>

The streets of Brasilia, capital of Brazil, are lined with 120,000 people to welcome thousands of Brazilian landless (MST) ending a two month march from São Paulo to demand land-reform and protest against the violent clampdown on their movement, arriving on International Peasant Farmers' day, the one-year anniversary of the massacre.

>> April 28 1997 >>

Two factories of workers making Nike shoes for subcontractors near Jakarta, Indonesia, go on strike separately on consecutive weeks to demand a ten per cent wage increase.

>> May 1997>>

Throughout the month protests against unemployment and privatization take place in numerous provincial towns of Argentina. In Libertador General San Martín, where unemployment is over 33 per cent, the highway is blocked for three days and police attack with rubber bullets. Defending the police, Argentina's President declares, "I am not going to allow them to block my highways. This is a legitimate and democratic government."

>> May 20 1997>>

In La Plata, Argentina, police provoke rioting by removing street vendors. After occupying the TV station, vendors seek refuge in the university where students protect them against mounted police charges, though many are injured. In Buenos Aires, outraged students hold rush hour actions in solidarity, blocking major avenues at five key points and organizing teach-ins and rallies. As they march, they are greeted with confetti raining down from balconies and cheers from the local residents.

>> June 8 1997>>

The first (known) action against GMOs in Britain takes place outside of Cambridge. Activists stage a rousing game of cricket with a test crop of GM potatoes, destroying the entire crop.

>> June 14 >> The European march against unemployment, job insecurity and social exclusion converges in Amsterdam, Netherlands, arriving from all points in Europe and culminating with a demonstration of 50,000 during the EU summit. Several thousand Italian activists commandeer a train from Italy to Amsterdam. Throughout the course of the summit, 750 people are arrested, in the largest mass arrests in the Netherlands since 1966.

>> June 19 1997 >>

The McLibel case, England's longest ever trial, ends after 314 days. McDonald's was suing two activists for handing out leaflets criticizing the corporation. The verdict devastates the corporation. The judge rules that they exploit children with their advertising, produce misleading advertising, are culpably responsible for cruelty to animals, are antipathetic to unionization, and pay their workers low wages. But the judge also rules that the activists had libeled McDonald's and should pay close to \$98,000 damages. They refuse and McDonald's declines to pursue it further, having already spent over \$16 million on the trial, unintentionally inspired a global solidarity campaign, and generated an enormous amount of negative exposure.

>> June 20-22 1997>>

The G8, having officially brought Russia into the group, meet in Denver, US. Several counter-summits take place, including a Women's Summit which features a 'hunger banquet' to show up the feasting going on inside. A trial is held of the eight most industrialized nations and their multinational corporations in front of an international panel of judges from eight indigenous nations. Unsurprisingly, the G8 are found guilty.

>> July 1997>>

Financial crisis hits Southeast Asia and reverberates across the world's markets. The IMF steps in to rescue the region with a \$100 billion restructuring programme, generating protests across the region. Social movements from Indonesia to Thailand link the crisis to economic globalization and predatory financial speculation.

>> July 26-August 2 1997>>

Over 3,000 people gather in Spain for the Zapatista-initiated Second Encuentro for Humanity and Against Neoliberalism to continue the first Encuentro's work by building networks of resistance and communication to link struggles around the globe. A decision is made to target the Second Ministerial meeting of the WTO in Geneva in May 1998.

>> July 31 1997>>

A 24 hour general strike brings Bangladesh to a standstill; ports and factories close, and all public transport grinds to a halt. Workers demand that the government agree to an eight point plan, which includes safeguarding jobs, guaranteeing a minimum wage, and reopening abandoned factories.

>> August 1997>>

Thailand's economy collapses, causing a domino effect of social and economic crisis across Southeast Asia. Unrest ripples out across the region.

>> August 14 1997>>

A general strike called by unions and government employees wreaks havoc through much of Argentina. Bridges, ports and roads are blockaded, and teachers walk out of their schools. The government continues to make empty promises and forges ahead with free market policies and social spending cuts.

>> August 21 1997>>

"It's a good day to pie!" The Biotic Baking Brigade (BBB) emerge from their secret headquarters and ovens, located somewhere in the mountains of the Californian northwest, and commit their first act of pie-rect action. Infamous corporate raider and Maxxam CEO Charles Hurwitz receives an apple pie on top of his head for his role in clear-cutting ancient redwoods in Headwaters Forest. He responds "Too bad it's peach. I like blackberry." As Special Agent Apple says, "What does one say about a man who can't tell an apple pie even when he and his stained suit are wearing one?"

>> August 22 1997>>

Earth First! activists in Humboldt County, California, US lock down a gate at Pacific Lumber's main entrance into the Headwaters redwood forest. Blocking the road is a 'living room', with couch, coffee table, and smashed up television. The activists are covered in mud to spotlight the local town of Stafford, which recently experienced a mud slide from a Pacific Lumber clearcut. Three arrests are made. Three weeks later, 7,000 people converge for the third annual mass rally for Headwaters, and help Stafford residents sandbag their homes.

>> August 23 1997>>

One thousand Hondurans from the Lenca indigenous nation arrive in Tegucigalpa for what they called the "First civic day for the dignity of the Lenca people." After a march, a public meeting takes place in which they outline their demands to the government: land titles; the creation of a National Council of Ethnic Groups; definitive delimitation of municipalities; recognition of the National Lenca Indigenous Organization of Honduras (ONILH) as the only legal organization representing the Lenca people; and community development programmes, among other demands.

>> September 1997>>

Workers in Ecuador occupy the Paute Power Works in an attempt to prevent privatization of the company during a wave of threats to publicly-controlled health care, social security, oil, telecommunications, ports and docks, education, water, and irrigation.

>> September >> Workers protest against a World Bank/IMF meeting in Hong Kong, saying they take inspiration from workers resisting lay-offs and privatization in Sichuan, China and in South Korea.

>> September 8 1997>>

An international day of action for dockers who were sacked in Liverpool, UK, for fighting casualization results in dockers taking action in 21 countries spanning five continents. Every port on the West coast of North America, from Mexico to Alaska, is shut down.

>> October 3 1997 >>

The peoples' movement Narmada Bachao Andolan (Save Narmada Movement) bring together 10,000 villagers in Mandleswar, Madhya Pradesh, India, who will be displaced by the proposed Maheshwar dam. The villagers call for a work stoppage and review of the project in consultation with residents. The company responds with a speed-up of work, and the police seal off roads to prevent an occupation. However, the villagers reach the dam site in the middle of the night, using pathways only known to area residents, and the occupation begins.

>> October 6 1997>>

Workers in a Hyundai-affiliated maquiladora (Mexican sweatshop) in Tijuana, Mexico, vote overwhelmingly for an independent union, despite the company's efforts to sway the vote by paying unemployed people to illegally vote. The union would be the first in the vast maquiladora system along the US border. All other maquila workers are 'represented' by a company union with close ties to the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) dynasty. Days later, the company fires the pro-union workers, and one month later the election is declared invalid by the National Conciliation and Arbitration Board.

>> October 15 1997 >>

Zimbabwe's impoverished farm workers, the largest single group of workers in the country, win a hefty wage increase as a result of their first organized national strike against the country's wealthy, predominantly white, commercial farmers. Farm workers, who walked out at the end of September, were demanding wage increases and additional leave days. During the strike, thousands of singing, chanting workers blocked highways, invaded farms, and chased union officials from a tea plantation after suggestions that the strikers return to work.

>> October 15 1997>>

Thousands of members of two Zambian public workers unions, the Civil Servants Union of Zambia (CSUZ) and the National Union of Public Service Workers (NUPSW) start a three day strike, demanding implementation of a 1997 contract. Hospitals, courts, and all government offices come to a virtual standstill nationwide. On the second day, with thousands more joining the strike, the government declares the strike illegal, threatening unions with deregistration and individuals with jail sentences. The unions comply, and call on their workers to return to work the next day.

>> November 10 1997>>

A US coalition of labour, environmental, farm, and other groups block the passage of 'fast track' legislation which would have allowed the president to negotiate new trade agreements without Congressional approval. This defeat is seen as the first major check to the growing power of trade regimes.

>> November 11 1997>>

A two day general strike in the Dominican Republic is declared 80-90 per cent effective in the capital and 100 per cent effective in much of the interior. Strikers' demands include a 40 per cent wage increase, lowered prices on basic goods and fuel, improved transport and electricity services, and reincorporation of workers fired from the state-run electricity corporation. The president declares the strike illegal, as his government's efforts to neutralize the strike, which included preemptive arrests of hundreds of organizers and journalists, and the distribution of about \$4 million had so clearly failed.

>> November 16 1997>>

Over 250 unionists and activists from 20 countries participate in the Western Hemispheric Conference Against Privatizations and NAFTA in San Francisco, US, to hear testimony from across the Americas of the effects of Mercosur, NAFTA, and rampant privatization. Strategizing occurs about how to fend off the MAI and the FTAA. A call for a common day of action at next April's FTAA meeting in Chile is developed from the conference.

>> November 25 1997>>

Canadian students protest against the annual APEC summit in Vancouver, BC, and are met with preemptive arrests and an unprecedented attack with pepper spray, leading to a national inquiry known as 'Peppergate'. Intelligence files later released show that police requested the arrests of, and specified criminal charges for, certain activists "with a view of eliminating some of the more high profile members" of anti-APEC groups.

>> November 28 1997>>

MST members establish a protest camp in front of the state Rural Development Secretariat in Fortaleza, Brazil. Military police attack as the protest begins, injuring five peasants. The camp survives the attack, remaining in place for over two weeks until 1,000 military police agents surround the group of landless protesters, sealing off the area, and harassing and attacking journalists.

>> December 1997>>

Support groups around the world protest at the news that 45 unarmed peasants have been massacred by paramilitaries in Acteal, Chiapas, in one of the worst incidents of repression during the Zapatista conflict.

>> December 2 1997>>

About 120 people from the Committee of Unemployed of Central Montreal carry out a 'Commando Bouffe' food grab at a posh hotel in Montreal. They storm the exclusive buffet restaurant and reappropriate the food, taking it into the street to feed fellow homeless and unemployed people. Riot police are called and 108 of the commandos are arrested.

>> December 3 1997 >>

In Brasilia, Brazil, a group of people from the MST seize the Ministry of Land Policy and the national headquarters of the National Institute of Colonization and Agrarian Reform for four hours. The protestors issue a list of ten demands, including the immediate settlement of the landless families in encampments set up on expropriated lands, the expropriation of 20 more rural properties, and the provision of grants and seeds to those already living in the encampments. This action is one of a series of similar, and mostly successful, MST protests in five states.

>> December 9 1997 >>

The Bolivian Workers Central (COB) labour federation stages a national 24-hour strike and a march in La Paz to protest the gasolnazo, or governmental fuel price hikes. The march in the capital brings together nearly 8,000 teachers, campesinos, factory workers, miners, retirees, university students, oil workers and even small-scale business people and artisans in a broad-based rejection of the government's economic policies. The strike is widely honored in Cochabamba, site of a second mass demonstration, which also pays homage to Pablo Rocha, a miner who recently died of silicosis.

>> December 10 1997 >>

Julia 'Butterfly' Hill climbs 'Luna', an ancient redwood in the Headwaters Forest, California, US. She lives in the tree for over two years, protecting the trees surrounding her and helping to draw international attention to the destruction of the redwoods.

>> December 11 1997 >>

More than 30,000 people, mainly auto workers, march in São Paulo, Brazil, to defend their jobs and to protest against the central government's economic policies, including a rise in interest rates to 40 per cent. The protest takes place in the industrial zone, San Bernardo, where most of the automotive factories are located. Workers' Party leader Luiz Inacio 'Lula' da Silva speaks at the protest, blaming the central government for the economic crisis and demanding that authorities lower interest rates.

>> January 17 1998 >>

The Global March against Child Labour kicks off in Manila, Philippines with over 10,000 participants, largely children. One march continues for 14 weeks, passing through several Asian countries and hosting educational forums. Many of the marchers regroup in Geneva in June for the annual conference of the International Labour Organization.

>> January 18-19 1998 >>

In Stockholm, Sweden, activists from Action for Social Ecology severely damage four road building machines, temporarily stopping the construction of the southern link road. The link is a part of a large road building project that has extreme environmental impacts. After much hard work in the courts and on the streets, the road project is canceled.

>> January 30 1998 >>

In a dramatic midnight announcement the Indian government orders work on the Maheshwar dam to stop. The site of the enormous hydropower project has been occupied for three weeks by up to 8,000 demonstrators from 2,200 families in 61 villages whose homes would have been submerged by the reservoir. Resistance to the Narmada Project had been ongoing. The people demanded a complete halt to construction warning that they intended to launch a major campaign against the project if it was not halted by 31 October that year. People from all over India hail the importance of this victory, seen as not only the first milestone in the fight against the destructive development symbolized by dams, but as an important symbol in the on-going struggle against economic globalization.

>> February 4 1998 >>

In Brussels, Belgium, Bill Gates, the Microsoft CEO, receives a cream pie in the face while on his way to give a talk on education. The action, carried out by the International Pastry Brigade, gives light to the fact that the richest man in the world has standards higher than can be met by Belgium's renowned patisseries. In what is sure to become an international scandal, Gates is overheard complaining that the pie "didn't even taste that good."

>> February 23-26 1998 >>

A network called People's Global Action Against Free Trade and the WTO is born at a meeting of about 400 people from all continents in Geneva, Switzerland. Inspired by work done at the Zapatista encuentros, PGA's intent is to coordinate global days of action, and to link activists worldwide through face-to-face meetings and improved communication channels.

>> March 1998 >>

Three thousand Nepali protesters demand an end to child labour in the country as part of a global drive to highlight the situation of the world's 250 million child workers.

>> March 23 1998 >>

A battle against a new uranium mine in Australia's tropical Kakadu National Park in Jabuluka kicks off when 9,000 people protest in three major cities. Weeks later, two people chain themselves to machines while 50 more enter the site. A blockade is established, and the Mirrar Gundjehmi people, who are the aboriginal land owners and are working closely with environmental activists, vow to prevent development of the mine until the project is abandoned.

>> April 1998 >>

The Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI), negotiated by the 29 rich nations that form the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development in a bid to open up the world for "free" trade is postponed after a vigorous international campaign by anti-corporate activists.

>> April 1 1998 >>

Hundreds of health care workers, in Tameside, England, defy their union and go on strike against pay cuts, saying, "We realized in the first few weeks of the strike as we traveled round the country that this wasn't just happening to us... Everywhere you go, it's privatization and slashing wages."

>> April 22 1998 >>

Construction begins again illegally on the Maheshwar dam in Madhya Pradesh, India, and over 4,000 people penetrate police barricades to stop it. Despite sweltering heat, police block the protesters' access to clean drinking water and shelter, forcing people to drink oil-contaminated river water. That evening, police arrest 1,200 people. Hundreds more return the next day and are beaten, charged by horses, sexually harassed, and 800 more are arrested. They are replaced by surges of new protesters who, in their determination to prevent the dam's construction, set up seven continuous blockades of the key entry points to the construction site.

>> April 27 1998 >>

Half a million Danish workers go on strike (ten per cent of the population) demanding an extra week's holiday and a 35 hour work week. The strike lasts ten days and virtually shuts down heavy industry, transportation, construction, and even newspapers. It ends with a weak compromise between union leaders and the government.

>> May 1998 >>

For 250 miles, a shipment of high-level radioactive nuclear waste running through Germany meets numerous demonstrations as 10,000 activists along the way blockade train tracks with cars and their own bodies in an attempt to stop what's referred to as "mobile Chernobyl". Many residents living along the route are relocated, and some areas are enclosed by fences. Some people lock themselves to the rail tracks, and eventually police are forced to pull up the entire section of track and lay down a new one. Throughout the length of the transport, people resist riot cops with water cannons, dogs, and the military police using up to ten helicopters at a time. Though the shipment eventually reaches its destination, the anti-nuke movement is regvanized.

>> May 2 1998 >>

Hundreds of thousands of peasants, agricultural labourers, tribal people, and industrial workers from all regions of India take to the streets of Hyderabad to reject neoliberal policies and demand the immediate withdrawal of India from the WTO, against the backdrops of a growing wave of peasant suicides.

>> May 5 1998 >>

The indigenous Maori in Aotearoa/New Zealand arrive in Auckland after walking 375 miles to increase awareness of and resistance to the MAI.

>> May 21 1998 >>

The Indonesian government falls after insurrection against the Suharto dictatorship and the country's IMF-dictated austerity policies. Police kill six students.

>> May 27 1998>>

Korean unions hold a general strike against the global rule of capital, denouncing the IMF and MAI.

>> July 6 1998>>

A 48 hour work stoppage entitled the Peoples' Strike Against Privatization takes place across Puerto Rico, protesting against the privatization of the state telephone company. The country is brought to a standstill as the largest demonstration in the island's history shuts everything down, including shopping malls and the airport.

>> July 27-August 25 1998 >>

One thousand indigenous people from the Pemón, Karina, Arawaco and Akawaio tribes join together to roll massive logs onto the only highway connecting Venezuela and Brazil. The move reinforces their determined resistance to a proposed 450-mile long electrical transmission line that will rip through their rainforest homeland, particularly damaging the Imataca rainforest, a nine million acre natural reserve. Twice the size of Switzerland, Imataca is home to an extraordinary array of wildlife including jaguars, bearded bluebells, marmosets, and the world's largest eagle, the endangered harpy. After 11 days, the national guard violently disperses the encampment, and bulldozes the crops of nearby villages. Yet the blockades continue for over a month and the government eventually concedes.

>> July 30 1998>>

In Chile, hundreds of indigenous Pehuenche people blockade access to the construction site of the World Bank-funded Ralco dam of the Biobío River, thus enforcing the 1993 Indigenous Law which requires written consent from all 400 Pehuenche that would be displaced by the dam. Nicolasa Quintreman, whose family has owned and lived on the same land for 500 years says, "The only way I'll leave here is dead." Riot police tear gas the blockade, and arrest four people, and the government concedes, demanding that construction be halted until resolution of the dispute is found. A constant vigil is established at the dam site to ensure that the order is obeyed.

>> August 1998>>

Fifty children aged between seven and thirteen launch a hunger strike in New Delhi, India to protest at being forced to work as bonded labourers in carpet factories.

>> August 5 1998 >>

Ten thousand people take to the streets in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, protesting against privatization of the nation's largest telecommunications company.

>> October 1 1998>>

The streets of La Paz, Bolivia are quiet except for squads of trade unionists patrolling to enforce a general strike in the city. Public and transport workers form the core of the mass protest against rising telephone, water, and electricity prices. Unions blame the price hikes on large-scale privatization of public services in 1994, and community groups threaten to seize the water and power companies if prices don't drop.

>> October 1 1998>>

In Ecuador cities grind to a halt and schools shut down in a general strike against the IMF austerity package that has triggered currency devaluation, and 400 per cent increases in energy prices. 12,000 police and military troops are deployed in Quito alone, and a bomb explodes outside the US embassy. During clashes, four people are killed and over 90 arrested.

>> October 1 1998>>

In Peru, following demonstrations against president Fujimori's pro-IMF policies, hundreds storm the presidential palace, looting the storage room of the presidential guard and painting the walls with graffiti. Thirty people are arrested and marches the following day demand their release.

>> October 7 1998>>

"Mr. Friedman, it's a good day to pie!" says Special Agent Apple of the Biotic Baking Brigade, as he flops a coconut cream pie in the face of Milton Friedman, neoliberal economist extraordinaire. Friedman is in San Francisco, US, at a conference he organized on privatization of public education. As the agent is dragged away, he is heard shouting, "When it comes to defending the Earth from the scum of the corporate universe, the pie's the limit!"

>> October 18 1998>>

Activists in the Earth Liberation Front Network reduce North America's largest ski operation in Vail, Colorado, US to ashes, causing \$26 million in damages, in order to halt expansion of the resort. The 12 miles of planned roads and 885 acres of clearcut would decimate the last and best remaining lynx habitat in the state.

>> October 30 1998>>

World Trade Organization Director-General Renato 'Rocky' Ruggiero gets lemon pieed at a London, UK, conference on trade, investment and the environment. Three members of the People Insurgent Everywhere, or PIE division of the Biotic Baking Brigade catch Rocky by surprise, calling out references to landmark WTO rulings: "That's a present from the dispossessed!" Sploosh! "And that's from the turtles!" Sploosh again. "Are you bananas Mr. Ruggiero?" Splat! The adrenalized trio disappear into the West End crowds, shouting, "We are everywhere!" while Rocky sulks back indoors.

>> November 1998>>

A massive internet campaign against the MAI convinces the French government to withdraw, leading to the total collapse of the negotiations and sending a wake-up call to business elites. Lasting results of the campaign include a global network of connected activists primed for the next battle: that against the launching of a new round of 'free' trade negotiations at the upcoming WTO ministerial in Seattle.

>> November 1998>>

In an impressive nationally coordinated action, crops in over thirty UK GMO test sites are destroyed in over a dozen cities on the same night.

>> November 23 1998 >>

Following the October pieing of Monsanto's CEO, Robert Shapiro, Operation Privatize This! is launched in Berkeley, US in the form of a vegan pumpkin pie to the face of Douglas G. Watson, president and CEO of biotech giant Novartis. According to BBB Special Agent Tarte Classique, the pumpkin pie symbolizes the estimated 60 per cent of food on American tables for Thanksgiving which will contain genetically-engineered products. At the same time, UC-Davis Chancellor Larry Vanderhoof receives a banana cream pie to the face, for the "strategic alliance" he has contracted with the other biotech giant, Monsanto. Agent Cow Pie remarks, "We speak pie to power, and send this epicurean treat to His Honor the Chancellor with love from the BBB."

>> November 28 1998 >>

Operation Cremate Monsanto begins in the village of Maladagudda, India, with the destruction of the first test site of Monsanto's genetically modified cotton. Mr. Basanna Hunsole, owner of the field where an illegal genetic experiment is being conducted without his knowledge, local peasants, and members of the KRRS, together uproot the genetically modified plants. Afterwards, all the plants in the field are set on fire. "We send today a very clear message to all those who have invested in Monsanto in India and abroad: take your money out now, before we reduce it to ashes," declares the KRRS.

>> December 1998 >>

Responding to a call by Mon refugee Buddhist monks, Thai activists begin a three month occupation of the proposed route for the Yadana gas pipeline, which, after slicing through Burma's rainforest, is heading for neighbouring Thailand. Oil company's Unocal and Total contracted the Burmese portion of the pipeline with the Burmese military junta, which instituted a scorched-earth campaign along the pipeline route, relocating and destroying entire villages. For three months, construction is stopped, but eventually police move in with construction crews and disperse the crowd with water cannons, arresting 50.

>> December 7 1998>>

A unusual coalition of locked-out steelworkers, members of the International Workers of the World, the International Longshore and Warehouse Workers' Union, and Earth First! successfully blockade a ship in Tacoma, Washington, US. The ship belongs to MAXXAM Corporation, whose subsidiaries, Kaiser Aluminum and Pacific Lumber, are responsible for locking out 3,000 steelworkers and logging old growth forests, respectively. Some people picket the port, others lock onto a conveyor belt, and a flotilla of small boats blocks the waterway. Most dramatically, braving 75 mph winds, activists hang suspended over the water with a banner, blockading the entry to the dock. Members of the ILWU refuse to cross the picket and when the ship does dock, it remains unloaded for several days as the port's conveyor belt has been mysteriously damaged to the tune of \$50,000. "[CEO] Hurwitz Cuts Jobs Like He Cuts Trees," reads the banner above the climber's bodies.

>> December 9 1998>>

School is definitely out for the kids of Greece: pens and note books are exchanged for petrol bombs and face masks as a wave of mass demonstrations hits 44 cities and 10,000 schools are occupied. Pupils and teachers join forces to oppose legislation which links education directly to fluctuations of the economy with a torrent of actions resulting in imprisonments and a hunger strike. The occupations last for several months, despite massive repression.

>> January 1999>>

The twelve year campaign to save Headwaters Forest reaches an important milestone when two ancient groves are transferred into public ownership and five other groves are protected under a 50 year cutting ban. Earth First!ers continue their campaign against the MAXXAM corporation, and strengthen their defence of still-unprotected forest in the area.

>> January 1999>>

Years of campaigning pay off for the semi-nomadic Penan tribe of Sarawak, Malaysia. After a decade of vigorous repression against anti-logging activities, with hundreds of Penan people receiving long jail sentences, the police and inform the communities that the Lajung Lumber company has been ordered to leave the area and compensate the Penan for violating its agreement not to log without their permission.

>> January 1999>>

Students in Benin City, Nigeria, begin an indefinite strike to protest against conditions at the school. Student stipends, which are paid out sporadically, "have been the same for 21 years," says student council president Alphonse Late Lawson-Helu. "It's really a pittance. The cost of living has gone up tremendously, and the university now houses 16,000 students, but was built for 6,000."

>> January 3 1999>>

People without legal papers from Congo, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Algeria, Tunisia and elsewhere occupy a church in Ghent, Belgium, reclaiming their autonomy, declaring their solidarity with the thousands of people without papers occupying churches all across the country, and demanding papers for all.

>> January 4 1999>>

To celebrate Ogoni Day, and in solidarity with Nigerian activists, UK activists occupy the offices of Shell's directors, declaring their intent to send a message to Shell and other corporations that 1999 will be a year of increased globalization of protest. Live footage of the protest is relayed directly from Shell's own offices to an activist website.

>> January 29 1999>>

Thai Greens protest in front of Leonardo DiCaprio's hotel. His new film, The Beach is destroying Maya Bay, in a protected National Park. The bay's beach has been planted with 100 non-native coconut trees to give more of a 'tropical' feel!

>> Febuary 1999>>

Students continue an indefinite strike at the University of Benin, Togo, to protest conditions at their school. Student stipends, which are only paid out sporadically, "have been the same for 21 years," said student council president Alphonse Late Lawson-Helu. "It's really a pittance. The cost of living has gone up tremendously, the univeristy now houses 16,000 students, but was built for only 6,000."

>> February 5 1999>>

Twenty-seven students in Washington DC, US occupy the office of Georgetown University's President, demanding that the administration adopt anti-sweatshop policies.

>> February 6-9 1999>>

At Nairobi University, Kenya, students and others struggle to defend the Karura Forest against development. Riot police attack, and for three days pitched battles fill the streets. Three MPs are arrested and charged with inciting violence, while Wangari Maathai of the Green Belt movement (having been beaten in January when she tried to plant saplings in the forest) barricades herself in her own home to avoid being arrested as well.

>> February 13 1999>>

In Libreville, Gabon, police use force to disperse demonstrations by high school and university students who have been on strike since November 1998, carrying out road blockades to protest shortages of school buses and other facilities.

>> February 22 1999>>

Fifty thousand farmers descend on Brussels to protest at the EU Agricultural Policy. Tear gas is fired and water cannons hose down the farmers. A large part of the city is enclosed behind razor wire barricades. The state closes roads and schools and forbids residents from hanging the EU flag from their windows. Farmer Joseph McNeely from County Donegal said: "I don't know what we'll do if this agriculture reform goes through. It will depopulate our part of Ireland still further. I am the fourth generation of my family to farm our land but I am doubtful if we can carry on."

>> March 1999>>

Five thousand civilian Zapatistas conduct a week-long programme of popular education throughout the country, in preparation for a popular referendum, or consulta, on indigenous rights and culture. Over three million Mexicans vote at thousands of polling stations, agreeing that the San Andrés Accords should be implemented.

>> March 10 1999>>

The Ecotopia Cell of the Biotic Baking Brigade (BBB) delivers just desserts in the form of three blueberry tofu cream pies to the head of Chevron CEO Kenneth T. Derr, just before he delivers a speech to school kids in San Francisco, US. Special Agent Blueberry says: "From the forests of Colombia to the platforms of Nigeria down to the waters and workers of our own Bay, large petro-chemical corporations display callous disregard for human life and the future of this planet... To their lies, we respond with pies."

>> March 24 1999 >>

Thousands of workers denouncing government austerity measures march through Romanian cities and threaten a general strike next month unless their demands are met. Demands include: indexation of wages, new labour legislation, an end to redundancies, lower utility prices for consumers and a grace period for companies unable to pay their debts.

>> March 24 1999>>

In the United States seven Oglala warriors maintain a tipi camp at La Framboise Island in the Missouri River to protest the controversial Mitigation Act, which would turn nearly 200,000 acres of their land over to the state of South Dakota.

>> March 26 - April 5 1999>>

An eight day partial strike against privatization by Spain's Iberia Airlines workers causes the cancellation of about 400 flights, affecting nearly 100,000 passengers.

>> March 31 1999>>

Bahaman telecommunications workers stage a walk-out, accusing the government of deceiving them in negotiations over privatization of the state phone company. Consultants recommend reducing the work force of 2,100 to under 1,000. The walkout leaves BaTelCo with only a skeleton crew as it tries to repair Nassau phone links knocked out by sabotage.

>> April 8 1999>>

In Mexico, State police occupy the autonomous community of San Andrés Sakam'chen, site of the historic San Andrés Accords, and install a PRI mayor. The following day, 3000 unarmed Zapatistas nonviolently force the police to leave the town and re-install their elected representatives.

>> April 17 1999>>

Two members of Argentina's Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo - the vocal mothers of those who disappeared during the right wing dictatorship - travel to Belgrade, Yugoslavia, to deliver a message of peace and dignity to the war-torn capital. "We are not here to support one sector against another, but to say to all of you that the only enemy is imperialism. This Yugoslav land today is fragmented by the interests and the manipulations of the great powers. Beloved Yugoslav mothers, dear women who struggle: we are here together with you to struggle for peace and dignity. We, the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, will carry our message to the world, because we don't believe that missiles and bombs are the way to build a peace. We believe in the word, in dialogue, and in the love of life."

>> April 19-21 1999>>

In Jamaica a new tax is implemented to compensate for the \$37 million budget shortfall. The tax results in a 30 per cent rise in fuel prices, leading to three days of rioting, which closes down major roads, schools and most businesses throughout the island. Police kill nine people, arrest 152, and eventually the shaken government backs down, cutting the new tax in half.

>> April 20 1999>>

Students at the National Autonomous University of Mexico begin a general strike against a 3,250 per cent tuition increase - from two cents to \$65 per semester - and for administrative reform. The strike, which completely shuts down this university of 270,000 students for nine months, catches the attention of people worldwide and inspires many others who are dealing with similar budget cuts, privatization, and the general undermining of public education. Though military police brutally take back the campus the following winter, the Mexican student movement, an inspiration to the world, continues its fight for free education for all.

>> April 20 1999>>

Students occupy Nicaragua's Central Bank in Managua, demanding that the government allocate six per cent of the national budget to the universities as mandated by the constitution. One is killed by a police officer, 21 others are wounded and 77 are arrested. In response, students take two hostages, burn a vehicle, and attack the building with homemade mortars. That night, they maintain a continuous occupation of the highway passing by the campus' main entrance.

>> April 20 1999>>

South Korean docks are idle as shipyard workers walk off the job to protest Daewoo Heavy Industry's threats to auction off its shipbuilding division in order to eliminate half of its \$49 billion debt and meet the terms of a \$58 billion loan being issued them by the IMF.

>> April 21 1999>>

In Ouro Preto, Minas Gerais, Brazil, 25,000 people protest against rising unemployment and IMF austerity measures. The peaceful No Confidence demonstration calls for President Cardoso's resignation, suggesting that he ought to face criminal charges for his role in the Central Bank scandal.

>> April 26 1999>>

South Korean striking subway workers stand off against 2,000 riot police who are trying to evict them from their protest camp at Seoul's National University. The strike against layoffs is declared illegal with the government threatening to sack any worker who does not return to work immediately.

>> May-June 1999 >>

An intercontinental caravan of 450 activists - the majority of them Indian farmers - from Southern grassroots groups travel around Europe to protest at centres of capital and make links with European social movements.

>> May 4 1999>>

A violent six day national strike by Nicaraguan transport workers ends with the government agreeing to lower fuel prices.

>> May 7-10 1999>>

At least 1,700 delegates attend the second Zapatista encuentro in La Realidad, Mexico. Members of civil society who organized the recent popular referendum discuss the results of their work, and make plans for the future.

>> June 5 1999>>

A street party against economic globalization erupts in Prague, Czech Republic, with between 5,000-8,000 people participating. The US embassy receives a torrent of bottles and cobblestones, seven broken windows, and a barrage of words against NATO's involvement in ex-Yugoslavia.

>> July 1 1999>>

An unofficial "call in sick to work day" keeps one in four Jamaican police officers at home, following a ban on police officers taking industrial action and an ongoing dispute over pay raises. The government brings in the army to help maintain public order.

>> July 5 1999>>

Outraged at IMF-directed social cuts, and massive hikes in food, gas, electricity, diesel and water costs, thousands of Ecuadorians rise up in protest. Taxi drivers block roads, bringing cities to a standstill, demanding a reduction in fuel costs. Indigenous groups also block roads, occupy state electricity offices, and take over communications towers. Teachers, health care, transport, and banana workers all go on strike demanding back payment. Ironically the police also find themselves unpaid. In Latacunga, indigenous groups charge a military vehicle full of troops and the vehicle flees. In all, at least 13 people are shot and 400 are arrested, with the government declaring a state of emergency.

>> July 7 1999>>

Thousands of Iranian university students in Tehran begin demonstrations which rapidly spread throughout the country, and last for six days. In the largest demonstrations since the revolution, people call for a restructuring of the political system and even an overthrow of the religious state. The students' organizing involves many other sectors of society, particularly the unemployed and high school students, and the demonstrations seem to announce a new era in Iran.

>> August 12 1999>>

A McDonald's in Millau, southwest France is dismantled just days before it was due to open. On a sunny afternoon a crowd of farmers, activists, union members, and local families remove doors, roofing, and electrical plates using a tractor, axes, and chain saws and load the rubble onto trucks and tractors, driving it through town and dumping it outside City Hall. The action takes place to protest against the US-imposed 100 per cent import tax on Roquefort cheese (among other European goods) in response to Europe's refusal to allow sale of US hormonally-tainted beef.

>> August 23-26 1999>>

The second conference of Peoples' Global Action is hosted by the KRRS, in Bangalore, India. It is called to plan for global actions against the looming meeting of the World Trade Organization in Seattle in November. A hundred delegates meet from 25 countries agreeing that, as the Indian slogan goes, they must "kill WTO before it kills us".

>> August 25 1999>>

More than 90,000 Brazilians converge on the Congress building in Brasilia, demanding an end to President Fernando Henrique Cardoso's IMF-sponsored austerity drive. "If Cardoso resigns, it would be a gracious gesture, but Cardoso has no grace," says Luis Inacio 'Lula' da Silva, president of the leftist Workers' Party.

>> August 25 1999>>

Rail workers occupy the San Pedro station in Cuzco, Peru, shutting down the line to the ancient Inca city of Machu Picchu. Pickets block freight trains at Cosicha, near the capital. Army helicopters start a replacement service between Cuzco and Machu Picchu. The workers are protesting a deal handing the state-owned railways to a private consortium for 30 years. They are demanding a guarantee of five years' work instead of the one year promised under the deal, and severance payments of \$5,000.

>> August 29 1999>>

South Africa sees one of its biggest protest actions in years, as thousands of teachers, with civil servants and nurses strike and take to the streets against low government wage offers.

>> August 31 >>

Twenty million people from Colombia's labour unions, students, and indigenous groups begin the first day of an indefinite national strike in protest at the government's IMF-backed privatization plans and social spending cuts. The demands also include a moratorium on all debt repayment. Small businesses use the strike to begin a campaign of civil disobedience marked by non-payment of taxes, and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) carry out an occupation of the hydro-electric plant, demanding a cut in electricity tariffs and securing an agreement that a regional forum on the issue will be held. An IMF delegation cancels a trip to Bogotá and after three days the government releases all arrested during the strike, and agrees to set up a working group to discuss demands.

>> September 11 1999>>

Several thousand people from diverse groups march to the stock exchange to protest against the dictatorship of the marketplace in Stockholm, Sweden.

>> September 14 1999>>

Despite heavy-handed police tactics, protests and counter-summits shadow the APEC meetings in Auckland, Aotearoa/New Zealand. Meanwhile Chinese Premier Jiang Zemin demands that police disperse the crowd before he will consider attending the banquet, and arrives an hour and half late after they have complied. Protesters are moved out of the Premier's sight; buses are used as visual barricades, and police sirens blare out in an attempt to drown out the sound of opposition.

>> September 24 1999>>

Canadian university students smash up the Montreal stock market and build a bonfire while demanding that budget surpluses be spent on education. "The stock exchange is a symbol of capitalism and the business class who ask the government to make cuts," says one student. Eighteen people are arrested.

>> September 26 1999>>

Fifty people protest outside the annual meeting of the IMF/WB in Washington, US. The IMF's official documents begin to make conciliatory but empty gestures to the growing demands for change by stressing the need to promote both growth and poverty reduction. Little do they know that this will be their last chance to meet with so little opposition!

>> October 6-12 1999>>

Seventy thousand steelworkers stop production of auto parts and 4,333 cars in 15 plants located in the greater São Paulo area, Campinas, and Vale do Paraíba, Brazil, with the objective of receiving a salary raise. Local strikes, referred to as the Strike Festival, take place once a week in different Brazilian states.

>> October 7 1999>>

Over 1,000 men and women from grassroots organizations converge on the capital city of Brasilia, Brazil, having walked 995 miles from 23 states. The Popular March for Brazil meets with more than 200,000 on the way, in schools, churches and associations of all kinds, discussing ways of developing a new politics, holding forums on the economic crisis, and developing proposals for alternative economies.

>> October 21 1999>>

Eighty thousand Filipino farmers protest against feudal exploitation and globalization in nationally coordinated actions. Thousands of farmers caravan for three days to Manila, holding rallies along the way. They denounce the Estrada government's plan to grant 100 per cent foreign ownership of land, demanding genuine land reform instead. Simultaneously, 10,000 farmers and fisherfolk refuse to allow a real estate project that would turn fertile agricultural lands into a tourist paradise for the rich; more than 300 peasant families defend their claims on a portion of the former Clark US Air base in Pampanga which they have tilled for years, and 1,000 peasant families in Bukidnon, Mindanao resist eviction from the government-owned lands of the Central Mindanao University.

>> November 21 1999>>

The Landless Movement (MST) in Brazil occupies land at Igarassu, Pernambuco State, and 620 families set up new homes.

>> November 23 1999>>

More than 300 indigenous people from the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh blockade the World Bank building in Delhi. Covering the building with cow dung, mud, posters, and graffiti, they sing traditional songs, protesting the impact of World Bank forestry projects which threaten their rights to land, forest, and fishing. "We fought against the British and we will fight against the new form of colonialism that you represent with all our might," they declare.

>> November 24 1999>>

Demonstrators in Manila, Philippines break through security lines at the meetings of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). A few days earlier, many homeless families who were living near the summit building were brutally evicted so as not to spoil the view of foreign dignitaries on their way from the airport to their hotels. More than 7,000 police and soldiers control the streets, while firefighters turn high-pressure hoses on the crowds.

>> November 25 1999>>

Five thousand French farmers gather with their sheep, goats, and ducks for a picnic under the Eiffel Tower. Feasting on regional products, they denounce the impact of 'free' trade and the WTO.

>> December 1999>>

Over the course of this year, anti-biotech activists have destroyed all the field trials of genetically modified trees in England.

>> December 7 1999>>

Twenty thousand people take to the streets of Seoul, South Korea, demanding a shorter work week and an end to privatization. Organized by the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, the workers defend themselves with bamboo sticks and metal rods against an attack by riot police, which injures 160 people.

>> December 11 1999>>

In Mexico City, 10,000 striking UNAM students protest outside the American embassy in solidarity with people arrested in the Seattle WTO actions, and also with US political prisoner Mumia Abu Jamal. Police attack and arrest 98 people, charging dozens of them with mutiny.

>> January-February 2000 >>

Activists break through police lines and invade several immigrant detention centres across Italy, allowing journalists and human rights observers to document inhumane conditions. The invasion is only part of a long campaign against the centers, involving occupations, marches of tens of thousands, and legal pressure. Following a three-day roof occupation, the Via Corelli camp in Milan is closed by the government, but later reopens.

>> January 3 2000>>

The Zapatista Air Force bombs a Federal Army encampment in Chiapas, Mexico with paper aeroplanes.

>> January 11 2000>>

Four thousand peaceful protesters of the Narmada Bachao Andolan (NBA) occupy the site of the Maheshwar dam in Madhya Pradesh, India, bringing work to a halt. Police attack and arrest 1500 people on their way to the dam site action. The past three years have seen strong resistance against the Narmada dam construction.

>> January 15-22 2000 >>

Protesting the dollarization of the Ecuadorian economy, 40,000 members of various indigenous groups converge on Quito to demand the resignation of the president. Thousands more blockade highways throughout the nation. Transportation and oil workers and street vendors declare an indefinite strike to support the indigenous movement. Despite the presence of 30,000 police and troops, protesters occupy the Congress building and the Supreme Court. For a few hours, a three-man junta of indigenous and military leaders takes power, but is soon dissolved by the army, under threat of sanctions by the US. The protest is called off and Vice President Noboa assumes the presidency, continuing with the IMF policies. However, the coup is supported by 71 per cent of the population, and the uprising simmers beneath the surface of everyday life, erupting for years to come.

>> January 27 2000>>

Two thousand industrialists, politicians and other self-proclaimed 'global leaders' meet for the thirtieth World Economic Forum (WEF), in the Swiss ski resort, Davos. Small demonstrations have taken place here since 1994 but this year over a thousand protesters turn up and a counter-conference takes place. The ski-resort's McDonald's loses its windows, and protesters throw snowballs at the police who respond with hard plastic bullets.

>> February 15 2000>>

As Michel Camdessus prepares to give his last major address as head of the International Monetary Fund to the delegates of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Bangkok, Thailand, he is greeted unceremoniously with a fruit-and-cream-pie to the face, delivered, according to the pie slinger, "to give a warning to his successor that we expect different policies". One senior UNCTAD official comments, "Everybody will tell you they disapprove of the act, but I still have to meet somebody who was unhappy that it happened to Camdessus."

>> February 15 2000>>

Hundreds of people gather to defend the Jardin de la Esperanza (the garden of hope) in New York, US. The garden is bulldozed and 31 people are arrested a few hours before legal protection of the garden is issued.

>> February 18 2000>>

One thousand Thai activists march on the UNCTAD conference, burning effigies of IMF director Michel Camdessus, and calling for radical changes to the global financial system, that keeps much of the world locked in poverty. Inside the conference, Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika says in a keynote speech that the African continent is being rubbed off the map by the trade policies of richer nations.

>> March 8 2000>>

Youth activists of colour in San Francisco, US storm the corporate headquarters of Chevron, Hilton, and Pacific Gas and Electric. These corporations are guilty of, among many other crimes, giving tens of thousands of dollars to a campaign to put a proposed juvenile 'justice' measure (Prop 21) on the ballot which would give prosecutors the power to decide whether children as young as 14 are tried and jailed as adults. 175 people, mostly high school students and their parents, are arrested at the Hilton in what is referred to as "the first hip-hop generation sit-in".

>> March 12 2000>>

Over a million people in Spain take part in an unofficial referendum on 'Third World' debt. More than 97 per cent vote in favour of Spain's cancellation of external debt with poor countries. The referendum goes ahead despite the Spanish Electoral Committee's ban and despite attempts by the police to shut down voting booths.

>> March 16 2000>>

Pressured by the IMF, the Costa Rican government passes a law allowing the privatization of the state telecommunications company. Widespread protests erupt, resulting in five protesters being shot, one killed, and 60 police officers injured as riot police clash with demonstrators. At least 100 students are arrested. Days later, 40 protests take place all around the country. The following week, 10,000 people descend on the presidential residence demanding the withdrawal of the bill.

>> March 27 2000>>

Three thousand people, including undocumented migrants, occupy trains to take them from Italy to Paris to participate in the Solidarity and Open Borders in Europe demonstration. Everyone travels without identification or travel documents in support of the free movement of citizens regardless of nationality or income. The train drivers union, on strike that day, grant an exception and guarantee their journey to the French border. The train is stopped nine miles from the border and all crossings without documents are banned by the Prime Minister, despite the Schengen Agreement which guarantees EU citizens freedom of movement within the EU. The protesters walk to the border and are trapped in a tunnel by French riot police and Foreign Legion soldiers.

>> April 13 2000>>

A demonstration in Nairobi, Kenya calling for debt relief and an end to the IMF's economic conditions is broken up by riot police with 63 protesters arrested, including 13 nuns and 2 priests. Brother Andre, one of the priests, later writes, "The IMF and World Bank have power over the financial decisions of poor countries. Poor countries have totally lost their autonomy. They are often recolonized, with the powerful countries dictating the terms."

>> April 10 2000>>

After a fierce and bloody struggle, the people of Cochabamba, Bolivia regain control over their water supply and evict US corporation Bechtel, which had imposed rate hikes of 400 per cent.

>> April 15-17 2000>>

Thirty thousand converge in Washington DC, US, to protest the World Bank / IMF annual meeting. Groups from across the world are represented, including affected peoples from South Africa, Guatemala, Haiti, the Philippines, Nigeria, Uganda, and Eastern Europe, as well as labour unions, church groups, NGOs, students and more. During the lock-down blockades, a 1,000 strong Black Bloc keeps on the move all day, keeping the cops distracted, and providing welcome solidarity to activists holding intersections. A total of 678 are arrested and report widespread abuses in prison. Though unsuccessful at blockading the meetings entirely, the protests lead to widespread debate in the media. Parallel protests are held in several countries including South Africa, Hungary, Turkey, and Kenya.

>> April 26 2000>> Scores of protesters in Lusaka, Zambia's capital, demanding an end to IMF austerity measures, picket the hotel where the IMF is meeting with the government. Organized by a leading civil society group, Women for Change (WfC), the protesters blame the IMF and World Bank for continued poverty in their country. "The IMF are killing us, especially women and children," says Emily Sikazwe of WfC. The protesters are eventually dispersed by armed riot police.

>> April 26 2000>>

Workers belonging to the Confederation of Turkish Labour Unions begin a walk to Ankara to protest against privatization, to demand their union rights and employment security as well as an end to political labour discrimination. The Confederation's Aegean Region chairman Mustafa Kundakci says; "We are walking for workers' rights and to reject the government's economic policy. This march is the last warning for the Government. If it does not listen to the workers, we will turn Turkey to ashes."

>> May 6 2000>>

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) meeting in a luxury hotel in Chiang Mai, Thailand, is blockaded by farmers and students calling for ADB loans to Thailand to be scrapped. Thai police say they had never seen such a determined crowd, as 5,000 activists break through police lines and crowd control barriers during the opening ceremonies. Later, 100 students manage to scale the wall of the hotel. Weeraporn Sopa, the 33-year-old leader of a farmers' confederation from Thailand's northeast, said the demonstration built on the WTO Seattle protests he attended. "I have to warn the ADB and organizations like it - they should listen to us. When you still have a conscience, you can control the streets."

>> May 10 2000>>

Half of South Africa's work force - 200,000 people, since eight out of ten are unemployed - honor a general strike across the country, demanding an end to neoliberal policies which have resulted in mass job losses. **>> May 12 >>** Eight thousand Honduran hospital workers go on strike, demanding a pay raise after the IMF mandates cuts, including the privatization of telecommunications, electricity, social security, and the pension system. 23 public hospitals and 500 clinics are affected, and riot police are deployed in and around the hospitals to maintain order.

>> May 15 2000>>

Labour unionists and human-rights activists in Zomba, Malawi try to march to the New State House, where a consultative group of Western donor countries are meeting government officials. The protesters, carrying placards protesting against the effects of structural adjustment, are stopped by police and dispersed by tear gas.

>> May 15 2000>>

In Ecuador the National Educators' Union goes on strike for five weeks over the proposed IMF cuts in spending and salaries. President Noboa says he will take a tough stance: "I'm willing to go all the way with this. If they want to strike for a year, let them do it. We're not going to back down." Protests by teachers in Quito are dispersed by riot police using tear gas.

>> May 24 2000>>

In Genoa, Italy 10,000 people respond to a call to action against a gathering of pro-GMO scientists and corporate leaders. Among the protesters are members of India's KRRS, and members of Tute Bianche who wear full body padding and carry shields, demanding the right to enter the exhibition hall to debate the issues. Despite a helicopter flying only 33 feet above their heads, and constant attack by police, they manage to push the police line back to the entrance of the hall and block it. The conference is shut down for the rest of the day. The Italian government withdraws its endorsement of the event, and eventually bans GMOs from the country. The media christen the event "Italy's Seattle".

>> May 29 2000>>

Thousands of Bolivians block the nation's most important highway in Alto, the poorest city in the poorest country in Latin America. They issue three separate demands: the creation of an autonomous university, repeal of IMF-imposed tax-reforms, and revocation of increases in charges for electricity, fuel, and sewage systems. About 20,000 people converge at City Hall, where they are tear gassed by police. Chanting slogans denouncing the genocidal former dictator and current president Hugo Banzer, they enter the building and smash furniture, computers and windows, setting fire to the building. Police disperse the crowd hours later and arrest six people.

>> May 31 2000>>

Protests against the IMF austerity plan in Argentina which will raise taxes, reduce social spending, and cut salaries, culminate with 100,000 people taking to the streets of Buenos Aires. Protesters liken the IMF to a financial dictatorship and promise "fiscal disobedience" by refusing to pay taxes, which have jumped from 8 to 22 per cent.

>> June 4-6 2000>>

The US-Canada border is shut down on the occasion of the meeting of the Organization of American States in Windsor, Canada, preventing thousands from demonstrating against the planning session for the FTAA. The Canadian Auto Workers join members of the US and Canadian steelworkers' unions, service employees and Ontario public employees in the streets. The meeting is surrounded by a ten foot high fence of mesh steel. A member of the CAW said: "The corporations have their global links with institutions like the WTO, IMF, and OAS in privatizing everything, taking away our self-determination. As their agendas increase globally, so must ours. Workers must fight for each other."

>> June 5 2000>>

The Nigerian government imposes IMF-mandated cooking fuel price hikes, and in response the country is crippled by the most serious general strike since the end of military rule. Oil workers are joined by public sector and transport workers in shutting down Lagos' port, highways, airport, and all petrol stations. Sporadic violence is reported across Nigeria's cities, leading to 40 dead, hundreds injured, and more than 1,000 arrested. After a week the government backs down. One observer comments: "In a country where, after several doses of Monetary Fund medicine, the average income is somewhere between one quarter and one tenth of what it was in 1980, SAP is practically a swear word."

>> June 9 2000>>

In continued defiance of the new IMF-prescribed labour laws, Argentina is paralyzed by a 24-hour general strike supported by more than 7.2 million workers. The president, Fernando de la Rúa, is reported as saying that the government has no choice but to meet targets set by the IMF.

>> June 14 2000>>

Chanting Zapatista slogans, members of Italy's Tute Bianche, anarchist groups, and communist groups work together and blockade the OECD summit in Bologna, Italy, preventing delegates' access for several hours. Demanding access to the summit so that their voices can be heard alongside those of corporate lobbyists, they advance slowly. The 6,000 police attack with truncheons and tear gas, as the Minister of Industry cries, "Let us meet!"

>> June 15 2000>>

Ecuador's new President faces his first general strike, organized by trade unions and church groups, against continued IMF economic reforms. Among those striking are more than 30,000 doctors, who join with teachers, oil and public sector workers in a 72-hour sit-in. In Quito, protesters who try to march on the government palace are met with tear gas and riot police, who open fire on the crowd, wounding a bystander. In Guayaquil, a bomb explodes outside Citibank and demonstrators are dispersed with tear gas.

>> June 15 2000>>

Rural villagers from Altiplano, Bolivia bring their deformed dead sheep to the city of Oruro to prove the seriousness of contamination caused by a massive oil spill from Enron-Shell's pipeline. The spill contaminated 120 miles of rivers and irrigation canals, and affected water used by 127 farming communities. When the police attack the demonstrators, they respond by throwing rocks, sticks, and fetuses of dead sheep. They then march to the corporate offices of Enron-Shell and break windows, hurl stones and Molotov cocktails, and then throw themselves to the ground and refuse to leave when the police attempt to disperse them with tear gas.

>> June 21 2000>>

An unknown group hacks into the official Nike web site and all visitors are automatically redirected to an anticapitalist site prepared for the upcoming actions in Melbourne, Australia against the World Economic Forum. In the six hours it takes Nike technical workers to undo the reroute, the activist site receives almost 900,000 hits.

>> June 22 2000>>

A 48-hour general strike is called in Paraguay in response to the government's plans to privatize its telephone, water, and railroad companies. The privatizations are conditions of an IMF programme that Paraguay must meet in order to access \$400 million in World Bank loans. Police meet the protesters with violence almost immediately, resulting in 20 injuries and at least ten arrests. About 300 protesters are dispersed by police with water cannons.

>> June 26 2000>>

Thousands of Honduran workers take part in a national strike demanding an increase in the minimum wage. Protesters block main roads and the state-run port company, and a number of banana plantations are shut down.

>> June 30 2000>>

In an effort to defend the forests surrounding Bloomington, Indiana, US, activists in the Earth Liberation Front network spike trees in areas designated to be logged this summer. Communiqués are sent and the area containing the spiked trees is clearly marked in order to prevent logger or millworker injury.

>> June 30 2000>>

One Hundred thousand people descend on the tiny town of Millau (population 20,000), France to support José Bové and nine other defendants from the Confédération Paysanne, on trial for causing \$114,000 damage to the McDonald's they helped dismantle last August. An enormous festival commemorates the event, with bands, and speakers. "Yes, this action was illegal... The only regret I have now is that I wasn't able to destroy more of it," says Bové, who is sentenced to three months in prison.

>> July 17 2000>>

The Earth Liberation Front destroys two acres of genetically engineered corn and several greenhouses of seedlings in Cold Spring Harbor, New York, US. Graffiti highlighting the hazards of GE adorns the walls.

>> July 21-23 2000>>

The G8 meet in a luxury beach resort on a remote peninsula in Okinawa, Japan, protected by 20,000 heavily armed police, six navy warships and a mile and a half nautical exclusion zone. Debt campaigners send 200,000 protest emails to the G8, protesting that the \$750 million cost of the summit would have been enough to cancel the servicing of one year's debt from Guyana, Rwanda, Laos, Zambia, Nicaragua, Benin, Cambodia, and Haiti. Numerous counter-summits and protests take place, including a human chain of 27,000 Okinawans with gags over their mouths surrounding the US' Kadena Air Force Base, demanding the withdrawal of the 26,000 US troops permanently stationed on the island.

>> August 3 2000>>

Over 700,000 Colombian workers go on a 24 hour general strike to protest IMF-imposed austerity measures. The 2001 budget is announced by the Finance Minister as "the budget of sweat and tears," with 5,000 public sector jobs to go and wage increases to be kept below the rate of inflation. The conditions laid out in the \$2.7 billion IMF loan require Colombia to further open its economy, privatize public companies and cut back spending. "This is a protest strike, it's a political strike, to call the Colombian peoples' attention to the need to tell the government that we are not inclined to keep carrying the rich people of this country on our shoulders," says the president of the National Federation of State Service Workers, Wilson Borja.

>> August 16 2000>>

The Biotic Baking Brigade's division on Prince Edward Island successfully carries out Operation "Pie Minister", launching a Roundup-Ready Frankencream pie in the face of Canadian Prime Minister (and first head of state to be pied) Jean Chrétien, in an effort to highlight his failure to take a stand against the introduction of genetically engineered foods into Canada.

>> August 24 2000>>

A 24-hour general strike opposing IMF-backed economic reforms sweeps across Honduras. Organized by the Popular Bloc, and comprising farmers, workers, and students, the protest closes universities, affecting 60,000 students, and blocks services at hospitals and major highways.

>> September 7 2000>>

Over five million people vote on an independently organized referendum asking if Brazil should discontinue IMF reforms. Organized by the National Council of Bishops and Jubilee 2000, the 'unofficial' referendum is an overwhelming success, with nearly everyone rejecting the IMF presence. To mark the end of six days of voting and Brazil's Independence Day, a demonstration draws thousands of protesters under the banner of 'Cry of the Excluded'. All of Brazil's major cities see widespread participation, with more than 100,000 people in São Paulo, despite the government's assertion that the referendum was "a stupid, isolated project undertaken by 'minorities'." Solidarity marches take place simultaneously in Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia, Argentina, Mexico, Honduras, and Paraguay.

>> September 11-13 2000>>

A week-long Carnival for Global Justice takes place in resistance to the World Economic Forum meeting in Melbourne Australia. Activists erect a tent city opposite the casino where the Forum is meeting, and 10,000 activists surround it, preventing one-third of the delegates from entering, and forcing a quick cancellation of the delegates' banquet at the Hilton. Several delegates' presentations end up being canceled, including Bill Gates', because of the overwhelming protester presence.

>> October 1 2000>>

Thousands march to the US naval base on the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico, and 65 people cut the surrounding fence and trespass onto the base, for which they are arrested. The US Navy controls about 70 per cent of the island and uses it to conduct military exercises which have stunted the island's economy, displaced many people, and decimated the environment.

>> October 19 - 20 2000>>

Twenty thousand workers and students erupt onto the streets of Seoul, South Korea against the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) which is sealed off by 30,000 riot and plain clothes police officers and an exclusion zone. "We Oppose Neoliberalization and Globalization!" shouts a banner, as the march heads towards the conference centre.

>> November 16-18 2000>>

In Cincinnati, US, thousands protest the meeting of the Trans-Atlantic Business Dialogue (TABD); 500 picket at a supermarket which refuses to support striking farm workers; an "End Corporate Rule" banner is hung during a symphony for the TABD delegates, resulting in a police attack under the chandeliers; and a picket greets the TABD delegates at their banquet. On the final day, the police turn up costumed in brand new riot gear, and busy themselves harassing and issuing tickets to activists. They disrupt the closing march, arresting and tear gassing the group, and the day ends with martial law imposed.

>> November 19-22 2000>>

Fighting the privatization of their water, the Sri Lankan National Alliance for Protection of Water Rights holds four days of action. People from three different parts of the country caravan to Colombo, holding picket lines, distributing handbills exposing and denouncing the WB and WTO policies, and collecting signatures along the way.

>> November 26 2000>>

A caravan of 150 Egyptian people bring donations of food and medicine to Palestine. Intending to set up an art exhibit in tents at the Egyptian border of Palestine in Rafah, the activists are shocked when Egyptian border guards refuse them crossing. They are forced to surrender the donations to representatives from Palestinian NGOs in the city of Aarish, 12 miles before the border. Unexpectedly, demonstrations arise throughout Aarish and on the Palestinian side of the border. Thus is born the Popular Committee in Solidarity with the Palestinian Intifada.

>> December 6-8 2000>>

At least 90,000 people demonstrate in Nice, France, despite the lifting of the Schengen Agreement, which leaves thousands of internationals stranded at the border, and the halting of many domestic Nice-bound trains. The protests are against European Union expansion of 'free' trade negotiating rights, and are the largest Northern protests of their kind to date. Tear gas and pepper spray are used liberally by the 15,000 police, who in their zeal, also manage to gas delegates inside the meeting due to faulty ventilation systems, sending President Chirac into coughing fits during his opening speech.

>> December 9 2000>>

Thirty people from six different countries storm the stage during a closed session of government negotiations over global warming at the UN COP6 climate summit, in Den Haag, Netherlands. The hall is eventually cleared of delegates and sealed off to press while the protesters are assaulted by security. Meanwhile, five activists drop a banner from the roof in protest at emissions trading. Another banner is hung directly outside the Congress Centre, which says "Climate Talks = Money Talks."

>> January 1 2001>>

Zimbabwean public workers go on strike to protest against the government's 15 per cent wage increment. With inflation at 70 per cent, the workers argue that the rise is insufficient and leaves them unable to meet the costs of living.

>> January 8 2001>>

Angolan public sector workers go on general strike for four days in most provinces in reaction to government proposals to lower the minimum monthly salary. The state-owned media refuse to report the events.

>> January 20 2001>>

Thousands line the streets of Washington DC, US to protest the inauguration of unelected President George W Bush.

>> January 21 2001>>

Ecuador erupts as indigenous groups are joined by farmers, students, and labour unionists blocking roads in half the country's provinces. The police and army disperse peaceful demonstrations using tear gas, batons, and rubber bullets. In response, over 10,000 people march on the capital. The protesters, led by a large indigenous coalition, continue to block roads, and establish a camp at the main university, declaring that they will not be moved until the government reverses its plans to impose austerity measures.

>> January 25-30 2001>>

Over 11,000 activists from social movements in 120 countries declare that "another world is possible", as they converge on the Brazilian city of Porto Alegre for the first World Social Forum, an alternative gathering to the WEF meeting in Davos. Taking a break from the thousands of workshops, cultural events, and discussion groups at the Forum, 1,300 farmers destroy five acres of genetically modified Brazilian corn and soybean fields at a nearby farm managed by US biotechnology firm Monsanto. They pull up crops, burn seeds, and destroy documents in the company's offices before returning to the Forum.

>> January 27 2001>>

This year the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland is turned into a fortress and all protests banned once again. However, protest messages from across the world are sent to a website and projected by laser beam onto the nearby mountain where all can see them. Police use water cannons in the driving snow to drive back 500 protesters who somehow have snuck into the fortress-like ski resort. Meanwhile, inside the conference, some of the richest and most powerful business leaders in the world engage in direct action of their own. Having lost patience with the perpetual security sweeps of the building required by the US security services, the delegates stage a bizarre sit-in which delays President Clinton's speech.

>> February 2001>>

Members of the grassroots farmworkers' union, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, join with students across the state of Florida, US to launch a campaign for fair wages and improved working conditions. The campaign involves a boycott against Taco Bell, the largest purchaser of tomatoes picked by union members. The CIW marks among its long term successes the establishment of a food cooperative providing food to members at nearly wholesale costs, weekly radio programs in Spanish and Haitian Creole, and an education and leadership development program focused on skill acquisition and the integration of culture and politics. "When you look at the difference in power between us as farmworkers and Taco Bell as a billion dollar corporation, you may think we are crazy for taking them on. They have all the money and political power, and we have only one weapon. But that weapon - the truth - is the most powerful thing on earth, so we are certain that we will prevail," says Romeo Ramirez, a member of the Coalition.

>> February 1-7 2001>>

A coalition of indigenous and labour union activists occupy the IMF offices in Quito, Ecuador's capital. The following day the government announces a state of emergency. Undeterred, protesters escalate actions. Hunger strikes begin at the university protest encampment, road-blocks intensify. Protests spread across the country, closely followed by repression, during which four people are killed by troops, 25 others are shot, and hundreds are injured. A week later the government backs down on price hikes and agrees to dialogue with protest groups. An enormous victory march snakes through Quito. The talks last two months and break down because the government refuses to engage seriously.

>> February 8 2001>>

Three hundred angry, naked women confront biologists attempting to conduct a census of the endangered Tana River colobus monkey in Kenya - a project funded by the World Bank. The women strip and charge the biologists in a protest against the Bank's plan to turn the area into a nature reserve for the primates, which would result in the displacement of at least 2,000 families.

>> February 16-March 7 2001>>

The struggle against Daewoo in Pupyong, South Korea reaches a peak, as the union responds to an attempted plant closure with a partial strike. 4,000 riot police seal off the plant and brutally attack the strikers and their families, including children who have come to support the workers. The workers resist the police with their own home-made water cannon, Molotov cocktails, and large sticks. Solidarity demonstrations by students and social movements erupt across the country. Meanwhile the Daewoo Motors Joint Struggle Headquarters Arrest Squad, set up by activists, travels to Europe to locate and bring to justice Kim Woo-Choong, the corrupt CEO responsible for the company's bankruptcy, who has been in hiding since 1999. They find him hidden in his luxury villa in France, where he remains, as the South Korean government refuses to extradite and prosecute him.

>> February 20 2001>>

Protests take place outside development meetings between African leaders and heads of the IMF in Bamako, Mali. Banners outside the meetings announce that the World Bank and IMF are assassinating African people, and causing poverty and catastrophe.

>> February 20 2001>>

Direct actionists in the Earth Liberation Front network burn a research cotton gin at Delta and Pine Land Company in Visalia, California, US. Their communiqué announces that the warehouse was chosen "because it contained massive quantities of transgenic cottonseed in storage". No one is injured in the action.

>> February 21 2001>>

Indian farmers disobey police orders, and march towards the port in Mumbai to stage a symbolic protest against import of food grains and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Police arrest over 51,000 of them, release them after several hours, and then disperse the crowd with water cannons.

>>February 24-March 11 2001>>

Following the historic route of Emiliano Zapata into Mexico City, 23 Zapatista commanders and Subcomandante Marcos caravan through 13 Mexican states on the March of Indigenous Dignity. They are joined by thousands of members of national and international civil society. Their demands are constitutional recognition of indigenous rights, the release of all Zapatista political prisoners, and the removal of seven of the more than 250 military bases from the state of Chiapas. Comandante Esther makes the first address to Congress by an indigenous woman in Mexican history; however, as yet, none of the Zapatista demands have been met.

>> February 26-27 2001>>

The World Economic Forum meets in a luxury hotel in the resort town of Cancun, México, behind solid metal fencing and lines of riot police. Around 500 activists brave intense surveillance by local, federal, and immigration police - some stage a symbolic face-off, others parade naked between the rows of activists and cops, and other sit down and block the road, while still others attempt to infiltrate the meeting from the beach side. After a few hours, as people begin dispersing, the cops open the barricade and violently batter the stragglers. Media and local support for those imprisoned and hospitalized is enormous - food is delivered to the protesters' encampment, a solidarity demo happens the next day in the capital, local journalists organize their own protest against police brutality, and the WEF scuttles out of town without releasing their customary celebratory communiqué. Popular pressure leads to the release of the prisoners, and even the ruling party condemns the police action, with President Fox apologetically appearing on television days later.

>> March 2-4 2001>>

Thousands of activists gather in Trieste, Italy to protest against a preliminary environmental ministerial meeting of the G8. 3,000 police barricade the streets surrounding the palace where the meeting takes place. Protesters launch fireworks and colored smoke bombs over the barricades and dance to music from a mobile sound system.

>> March 12 2001>>

A four-month-long strike by the San Salvadoran Social Security Union ends favorably, having garnered the support of nearly 12,000 doctors and workers who demand an end to the privatization of the country's health system, the reinstatement of fired workers, and an increase in pay.

>> March 17 2001>>

Twenty thousand protesters take the streets in demonstrations against the Global Forum Conference on e-government, in Naples, Italy. A security cordon rings the conference. The agenda includes discussing introducing an electronic ID card in Italy. Father Vitaliano Della Sala, who took part in the Zapatista march to Mexico City the previous week, says, "It was easier for Subcomandante Marcos to reach Mexico City than for these kids to reach Piazza Plebiscito."

>> March 21 2001>>

Thousands of protesters descend on Johannesburg, South Africa, to demonstrate against the privatization of the city's water supply. The municipal company was sold to the French multinational, Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux. The South African Municipal Workers Union is appalled that the ruling party, which came to power in 1994 with promises of providing free basic public services to those who cannot afford them, is inviting profit-driven multinationals to run the city's water.

>> March 23 2001>>

A 1,000-strong rally in Lagos, capital of Nigeria protests the government's continued persistence to phase in the deregulation of fuel supplies. "We can not pay world prices because we do not earn world incomes," says one speaker. The unions oppose deregulation and liberalization because these reforms inevitably lead to a rise in prices on basic necessities.

>> March 26 2001>>

Ecuadorian transport workers go on strike, bringing cities to a standstill in response to a government increase on Value Added Tax, which will result in many of them going out of business.

>> March 29 2001>>

The Arctic Baking Brigade in Helsinki, Finland serves up just desserts to the director of the World Bank, James Wolfensohn, by splooshing two tofu cream pies in his face during a press conference. A surprised Wolfensohn comments, "Mmmm, tastes good, but I'm on a diet." ABB Deputy Commander Marzipan expresses great satisfaction at being the first to throw a pie in Finnish history, saying "We managed to cancel the press conference. It's hard to give an impression of a respected economic leader with your face covered in soya cream." Wolfensohn declines to press charges, although the Finnish prime minister's office later files an official criminal complaint against the two entarteurs.

>> March 29 2001>>

South Africans take to the streets of Durban to protest pharmaceutical companies' imposition of patents on essential AIDS medicines. Linking their struggle to that in Brazil, where the drug giant Merck threatens legal action on the same morning as the march, they surrounded Merck's headquarters and hold a rousing rally, complete with traditional toyi-toyi dancing and poetry readings. >> March 31 >> Mass demonstrations by unions and civil society groups clog the streets of Istanbul, Turkey, protesting the financial crisis that began in 2000, and the austere IMF bailout package. "Our problems cannot be solved unless the IMF and World Bank policies are given up," they declare.

>> April 9 - 12 2001>>

Hundreds of angry black residents of Cincinnati, US storm the local council meeting days after the fifth police killing of a black person in six months, this time, the unarmed 19 year old Timothy Thomas. By end of the night an organic and spontaneous rebellion erupts, lasting over three days and fueled by the firing of lead pellet bags at mourners leaving Thomas' funeral. 800 arrests and at least 25 hospitalizations occur, as well as some bridge-building between white antiracist activists and the black communities rising up.

>> April 23 2001>>

A two week long March for Life and Sovereignty, which has gathered 30,000 participants from across Bolivia, converges in La Paz. Met with tear gas and repression, the marchers are joined in the struggle by retirees staging a hunger strike to demand raises in their pension.

>> May 8 2001>>

Harvard University students begin a three week occupation of the President of the university's office, demanding that the school pay its employees a minimum hourly wage of \$10.25. A year later, janitors' and security guards' wages increase and raises for food service workers are negotiated.

>> May 9 2001>>

Five hundred Guatemalan fisherfolk in Retalhuleu begin removing fences installed by privately owned shrimp companies to enclose shrimp breeding grounds. The police open fire on the protesters, killing two young men, 14 and 22 years old, and injuring at least five others.

>> May 9 2001>>

The Asian Development Bank, relocating from its planned meeting place of Seattle for fear of protest, finds itself greeted by activists on the streets of Honolulu, Hawaii despite the largest domestic security operation in US history, which cost an estimated \$14,000 per protester present.

>> May 10 2001>>

Panamanians take to the streets against a 66 per cent increase in bus fare and are met with gunfire from the police. It is apparently the most violent demonstration since the US invasion in 1989.

>> May 16 2001>>

Years of organizing against the reroute of Highway 55 outside of Minneapolis, US pays off with the passage of a law protecting the flow of Camp Coldwater Spring, sacred to several Native American tribes. The new law forces the Department of Transportation to halt construction for as long as the law remains intact.

>> May 17 2001>>

Greece is brought to a standstill for the second time in three weeks as pensioners, unionists, and young people demonstrate against economic reforms and a general strike closes down most cities. Even state television goes off the air, and radio news stations broadcast only music, interspersed with taped messages from the journalists' union explaining the reasons for the strike.

>> May 17-19 2001>>

More than 1,000 migrants converge on Berlin, Germany and set up a protest camp near the Reichstag, where they conduct workshops and organize small actions. They denounce the illegitimacy of the recently passed Residenzpflicht law (which assigns them to live in a very restricted area). The final day of the camp sees a demonstration of several thousand Berliners in solidarity with the migrants' plight.

>> May 18 2001>>

Thirty-five thousand indigenous and Afro-Colombians march to the city of Cali, Colombia, demanding recognition of their rights to life and autonomy, and expressing their solidarity with the Zapatista caravan.

>> May 22 2001>>

Kenyan state-employed air traffic controllers in Mombasa's main airport go on strike demanding better terms of employment and salary increases.

>> May 23 2001>>

Four hundred children reach Buenos Aires at the end of a mammoth 1,242 mile trek aimed at bringing attention to child poverty. It is estimated that 43 per cent of children in Argentina are living below the poverty line.

>> May 25 2001>>

Airline workers set up blockades by parking planes across the runways of the Ezeiza airport in Buenos Aires, Argentina to protest cut-backs and lay offs on Aerolineas Argentinas. Riot police are brought in to disperse workers' actions inside the airport.

>> May 26 2001>>

A coalition of Pakistan's NGOs protest outside the World Bank building in Islamabad. Protesters carry banners saying: "IMF: International Monetary Fraud," and, "World Bank policies: poverty elevation or alleviation?" In a press statement the coalition states that the IMF and World Bank have violated Pakistan's national sovereignty by trying to influence the country's budget.

>> June 3 2001>>

Haitian Cointreau orange workers and local farmers occupy a plantation protesting discrimination against their union's organizers. Every year during off-season the plantation owners distribute land parcels, allowing the workers to grow millet and corn, and requiring that they give half of the harvest back to the owners. Union organizers are frequently assigned to the smallest portions of the least fertile land.

>> June 7 2001>>

Demanding that the government revive the industry, 12,000 miners converge on La Paz, Bolivia, and vow to stage daily marches and blockades until their demands for better housing, working conditions, nationally negotiated contracts, and debt forgiveness are met.

>> June 7 2001>>

Massive demonstrations shut down much of Colombia's urban centres as a month of strikes and work slow-downs by teachers, state workers, and students culminate in actions targeting an IMF meeting with the government. Major riots take place across Bogota, and the police respond with water cannons, tear gas, and truncheons, while the city bans liquor sales indefinitely. Highways are blocked nationwide.

>> June 15 2001>>

The All-Indonesian Trade Union organizes a massive strike against the government decree proposing to dilute labour laws and cut severance pay for retiring and resigning workers. Under the threat of the strike, the Government backs down.

>> June 15 2001>>

Over 50,000 workers from 126 South Korean unions stop work, despite the strike being declared illegal by the government. All Korean Airlines flights are canceled and efforts by the police to arrest 14 union leaders of the airline are blocked by workers. Nearly 9,000 hospital workers later join the strike, taking action against government plans to restructure.

>> June 15-17 2001>>

Thousands converge on Gothenberg, Sweden to participate in the For Another Europe conference and the Reclaim the City street party, counter points to the summit meeting of EU heads of state. Despite protest groups' prior negotiations with authorities, a campaign of criminalization, including scare stories in the media about "armed terrorists" creates a climate of fear and tension. Police SWAT teams armed with laser-guided machine guns besiege the convergence centre, using freight containers to barricade streets, while police with dogs and horses attack, arresting 200 people inside. This pattern of containment and provocative policing continues throughout the summit, culminating in police firing live rounds into the crowd at the street party, hitting three people, and sending thousands into panic. Months later, despite conclusive evidence that Swedish police creatively edited video footage used as evidence, heavy jail sentences are passed on many of the 600 arrestees. UK prime minister Tony Blair declares that "there is no place in democracy for an anarchists' traveling circus that goes from summit to summit with the sole purpose of causing as much mayhem as possible."

>> June 18 2001>>

Students and ordinary citizens join striking bus drivers in the streets of Jakarta, Indonesia, jointly declaring that the proposed removal of fuel subsidies will make it impossible for bus drivers to earn their living without raising fares. Police respond with plastic bullets and tear gas, and 42,000 Indonesian military personnel are put on high alert after running battles in the streets. Local authorities decide that rather than maintaining subsidies, they will increase bus fares by 30 per cent, vastly compromising the ability of poor people to get to work.

>> June 18 2001>>

In Zimbabwe, protesters block roads in response to a 70 per cent rise in fuel prices. The Congress of Trade Unions renews its threat to call a general strike if the Government does not revoke the price rise.

>> June 21 2001>>

Special Agent Chocolate Supreme generously delivers a blueberry tofu cream pie to the face of Enron Corporation CEO Jeffrey Skilling in San Francisco, US, where he is scheduled to speak on "The Roles and Responsibilities of the Energy Industry". Agent Chocolate Supreme pies Skilling, saying: "This is for the millions you've stolen from California's real working people." The accomplished entarteur continued, "Mr. Skilling, who personally made \$132 million this year, creamed us - so I, Agent Chocolate Supreme, felt obligated to cream him back."

>> June 22 2001>>

Municipal workers go on strike in Kakamega, Nigeria, to demand payment of their salary arrears. Workers say that without payment of salaries they cannot continue to meet family obligations and buy basic necessities.

>> June 24 2001>>

Unions and activists stage a celebratory march, having prevented the World Bank from holding their annual meeting in Barcelona, Spain. World Bankers around the world regret the loss of the opportunity to snack on tapas together ostentatiously as they are forced to conduct their meeting online. A major scandal erupts in the following week as it is disclosed by the mainstream media that police broke windows, started fights, and instigated riots at the end of the march.

>> June 26 2001>>

Students stage a five-day blockade of university and government buildings in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, in protests against World Bank plans to privatize national assets like the PNG Banking Corporation and Air Niugini. As they exit the university with their hands up, the police fire shotguns and M-16s at close range, killing four people and injuring twenty. The students' demands are the expulsion of the IMF and World Bank, the cessation of Government borrowing from the Bank, and the resignation of the Government if this does not happen. After the refusal of local police to disperse them, Prime Minister Mekere Morauta transfers riot police from their usual job of protecting pipelines and gold mines owned by the US and Canada. A month later the Government's privatization plans falter and the students claim a partial victory.

>> July 1-3 2001>>

Thousands manage to slip across the militarized border and join Austrians in protest against the WEF meeting in Salzburg. Despite 5,000 police who threaten to shoot at protesters, and a ban on most protests, the main demonstration is quite lively until it is surrounded by police, penning people in for six hours.

>> July 18-19 2001>>

Argentina's main union calls a two-day strike following President De la Rúa's public admission that the country is forced to implement IMF-imposed austerity measures because the country's "sovereignty is limited" due to difficulties in repaying its \$128 billion debt. Outraged at proposals to cut public salaries by 13 per cent and cut pensions benefits, tens of thousands of workers take to the streets, blocking roads, shutting banks and government offices and marching on Congress.

>> July 25 2001>>

Ten million Indian state employees go on general strike against privatization plans and call for a halt to IMF, World Bank, and WTO policies. A union spokesperson said that the government policy of backing globalization is selling the country to the transnational companies and foreign interests, adding that: "This will serve as a warning to the government against their anti-worker policies."

>> July 31 2001>>

More than 500 Nepalese protesters denounce a 40 per cent electricity price hike by the Nepal Electricity Authority, which succumbed to pressure from the Asian Development- and World Banks to raise prices as a precondition for fresh loans on water resource development.

>> August 6 2001>>

In Maputo, Mozambique a strike by the railway services and dockworkers at the port brings the south of the country to a standstill. The workers protest plans to cut the work force, one of the largest in the country, by half under a World Bank restructuring program. In the third week, strikers fire their union leaders and set up an independent negotiating team. The few trains that continue operating do so under armed guard.

>> August 7 2001>>

Frustrated by failed attempts to persuade the government to give subsidies and to end food imports, Colombian farmers join rural communities in setting up roadblocks across the country. Two protesters are killed by police. Meanwhile, labour unions in Bogota go on solidarity strike in support of bus and taxi drivers, who are protesting increased taxes. Hector Fajardo, Secretary-General of the United Workers Federation says: "We [are out in] the streets to support Bogota's drivers and protest against the neoliberal program emerging in Colombia." Meanwhile, in Sydney, Australia, a group of 25 Colombians take over the Colombian consulate, demanding an end to US influence over Bogota.

>> August 13 2001>>

Strikes and protests gather momentum in Argentina with a nationwide mobilization of piqueteros, the militant unemployed movement, which shuts down over 300 highways across the country. Over 100,000 unemployed workers participate and the economy is effectively paralyzed. Thousands are arrested and five killed, but the movement continues building momentum and support.

>> August 15 2001>>

Activists in Mauvezin, France tear up three plots of land where genetically engineered corn trials are growing. It is the third action since June when the Agriculture Ministry was forced to publish the list of GMO test sites.

>> August 16-20 2001>>

The Dignity in Resistance Congress in Toez, Columbia sees 20,000 indigenous people gather to approve by consensus their position and plan of action for peace.

>> August 16 2001>>

The Yes Men send their WTO 'representative' to deliver the keynote address at the 'Textiles of the Future' conference in Tampere, Finland, where he models the Management Leisure Suit, with its gilded Employee Visualization Appendage.

>> August 28 2001>>

Angolan teachers defy a ban on their three day strike and take to the streets, demanding that the Education Ministry adhere to the agreed wage package negotiated by their union.

>> August 28 2001>>

Teachers in Blantyre, Malawi demonstrate, demanding payment of back salaries, and the reinstatement of benefits, cut as part of austerity measures. Police respond with tear gas.

>> August 29 2001>>

Farmers in South Cotabato, Philippines join with local Earth First! activists to destroy genetically engineered corn. Tearing down fences and tearing up fields, the activists destroy the test site in five minutes. Police leave the scene when confronted by the media, while Monsanto employees photograph the protesters, all of whom escape successfully.

>> August 30-31 2001>>

All major South African towns and cities are nearly shut down as nearly four million people participate in a two day strike against privatization and lay-offs. A union spokesperson says: "We want to broaden the public sphere and limit the space in our society that is dominated by unelected, undemocratic, profit-driven forces."

>> August 31 2001>>

Over 20,000 people march against the UN World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa, saying that racial apartheid has been replaced by economic apartheid.

>> September 2-7 2001>>

A massive grassroots campaign, the Cry of the Excluded, organizes a national popular referendum throughout Brazil on the internal and external debt. Over six million Brazilians vote that the government should cease payments on the external debt.

>> September 4 2001>>

Environmental groups protest outside the Brazilian Congress in response to a controversial bill which would allow farmers to clear larger areas of the Amazon for agriculture. The new bill stands to increase the proportion of forest that can be cleared for export farming, from 20 per cent to 50-80 per cent.

>> September 10 2001>>

Two thousand people defy security forces and flood Midan al-Tahrir in central Cairo, Egypt, in solidarity with the Palestinian intifada. Demanding an end to US aid to Israel, the protest is the first public demonstration in the square since 1977, and launches a revitalization of Egyptian activism, particularly among women and students.

>> September 13 2001>>

Mexico City is brought to a standstill as thousands protest in response to plans to impose taxes on certain foods and medicines.

>> September 13 2001>>

Villagers from the Kajang community of South Sulawesi, Indonesia carry out a traditional ritual as part of a demonstration against Monsanto's genetically engineered Bollgard cotton. The protesters wear black headbands and brandish swords while burning scarecrows along with two tons of GMO cotton. They demand that all transgenic crops be banned from South Sulawesi.

>> September 17 2001>>

One hundred-thousand farmers gather in New Delhi, India in a last ditch battle against plans by the World Trade Organization to liberalize agriculture. Farmers are worried about highly subsidized imports of agricultural goods from rich countries flooding their country. Mahendra Singh Tikait from the Bharatiya Kisan Union says, "Unless you organize and come into the streets, nobody will listen to you."

>> September 17 2001>>

In Cochabamba, Bolivia, the third conference of Peoples' Global Action begins, despite having been described as a meeting of "potential terrorists" by the Governor. Post-September 11 panic among security forces results in the stranding of thousands at the Bolivian border, threatened deportation of delegates, and immigration authorities stating, "Visas for PGA people are no longer valid." In this chaotic environment, 300 delegates meet from 35 countries, and reaffirm their commitment to the struggle against capitalism and for life.

>> September 17 2001>>

Activists in Ayvalik-Sarimsakli, Turkey storm the conference hall where the twelfth Biotechnology Congress is taking place. Wearing Frankenstein masks, they hang banners and distribute leaflets until security forces attack and evict them.

>> September 29 2001>>

Kenyan teachers strike in opposition to a government housing allowance initiative, which subsidizes the rent of some teachers but not others. The strike, which lasts for over a week, ends up with running battles with the police. Meanwhile, Mombasa Council workers start dumping municipal rubbish in the streets to protest against continued non-payment of three month's salaries. The littering protest continues until the Council promises to pay.

>> October 2001>>

Hospital workers in Blantyre, Malawi stage a three week strike over non-payment of promised wage increases. The central hospital is looted during its shut down, and a large supply of drugs stolen. The strike is resolved when the government agreed to pay interim monthly awards until the wage increases are implemented.

>> October 4-13 2001>>

Massive protests rock the region of occupied Western Sahara and southern Morocco, as demonstrators converge on town halls in Asrir, Assa, El Layoun, and Smara demanding self-determination and independence of the indigenous people, a release of political prisoners, and an end to repression of the Saharawi people. Meanwhile, in order to expedite the plunder of resources, the Moroccan government illegally grants concessions for off-shore oil exploration on the entire Saharan coast to oil companies from the US, UK, South Africa, and France (Kerr-McGee, Enterprise Oil, Energy Africa, and TotalFinaElf).

>> October 26 2001>>

In São Paulo, Brazil, police captain Francisco Roher is pied while attempting to present his master's dissertation thesis on human rights, while 150 protesters block the room in which he is meant to present. Captain Roher was commander of the force that violently repressed demonstrations against the FTAA six months previously. As a result of his command, 100 people were injured, 69 were arrested, 10 were tortured in prison, and one was shot. His dissertation, apparently without intended irony, is on community policing, and explores the difficulty police officers trained during the military dictatorship face under civilian rule.

>> October 30 2001>>

In solidarity with their striking teachers, Nigerian students invade the main highway into Lagos, blockading the road and bringing rush-hour traffic to a standstill. The professors, who are not being paid and have been on strike for several weeks, reiterate their opposition to the government's position on salary payments and conditions of work.

>> November 6 2001>>

500,000 people rally in New Delhi, India to protest the World Trade Organization. The Indian Peoples' Campaign Against the WTO calls for a sustained movement to stop the Government from surrendering India's economic sovereignty and destroying the Indian economy and peoples' livelihoods.

>> November 8 2001>>

Local government officials and thousands of people stage a mass rally, organized by labour unions, in Ankara, Turkey, protesting the government's subservience to IMF policies.

>> November 15 2001>>

Students in Ghana siege government buildings and about 300 more blockade the University of Ghana campus in protest against non-existence of loans promised to them for their studies.

>> November 19 2001>>

More than 2,000 demonstrators converge on three major dams in the southern African nation of Lesotho. Protesting the lack of compensation for property lost to the dams, the people demand a ten per cent share of royalties generated from the dams and an inquiry into the dams' impact on local people. The Lesotho Highlands Water Project is the World Bank's largest infrastructure project in sub-Saharan Africa, and is designed to divert water from Lesotho to the urban and industrial Gauteng region of South Africa (including Johannesburg). The first three dams in the plan of six have displaced 27,000 people, only 2,000 of whom have been resettled.

>> November 21 2001>>

About 30 Okinawa citizens begin a hunger strike to protest the dispatch of Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to lend noncombat support to the US military operations in Afghanistan. The hunger strikers hold their protest at an open space in front of the Okinawa prefectural government office in Naha.

>> November 21 2001>>

Angry protesters storm the Buenos Aires stock exchange after MerVal, the leading stock index, falls more than six per cent, leading to the resignation of a top economic aid to Finance Minister Domingo Cavallo. Trading is halted for 20 minutes as chanting and drumming protesters take control of the exchange.

>> November 26 2001 >>

Thousands of workers rally in Seoul, South Korea, demanding shorter working hours and the release of Dan Byong-Ho, leader of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, who was arrested for organizing 'illegal' protests in October.

>> December 2 2001>>

Activists in various capital cities sabotage what newspapers describe as "the most idiotic protest ever," the Walk for Capitalism, or D2, as the organizers call it. No protest draws more than around 25 attendees and in many places protesting capitalists are outnumbered by global justice activists, who dress in thrift store suits and carry signs saying, "Child labor=huge profits," "The more efficiently you work, the more of you we can lay off," and "Our stock is more important than your family."

>> December 10 2001 >>

The Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan holds a demonstration in honour of International Human Rights Day in Peshawar, Afghanistan. Two hundred people gather and condemn the Northern Alliance for their continued patriarchy and lack of democracy, while calling for the participation of women in the political process of building a secular democratic state.

>> December 11-13 2001>>

Moroccan teachers' unions stage a three day strike with nearly 100 per cent participation by the 215,500 teachers in the public school system. Teachers stage sit-ins in front of the Ministry of Education and the university president's offices, demanding adherence to commitments to raise wages and improve conditions.

>> December 12 2001>>

In Zambia, over 2,000 Lusaka City Council workers go on strike against the nonpayment of over three months' salary.

>> December 14 2001>>

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 3,000 students of the University of Kinshasa take to the streets demanding a reduction in tuition fees. Earlier in the week, tuition fees in Lubumbashi were reduced following demonstrations in which two students were killed by police.

>> December 18 2001>>

Workers at the Brukman textile factory in Argentina take control of their workplace when its owners abandon it. The action serves as an inspiration to workers across the country, and countless other factories are occupied and run under worker control.

>> December 18 2001>>

In Zomba, Malawi, the university is closed because of protests by students and other citizens against unemployment and the increasing cost of living, including soaring maize prices. Police, who use live ammunition, rubber bullets, and tear gas, kill one student while breaking up the demonstrations.

>> December 19-21 2001>>

Argentina's largest and most widespread protests in over ten years erupt across the country. The protests last for two days, despite (or in response to) the imposition of a state of emergency which bans all demonstrations. Over a million people banging pots and pans take to the streets of the capital, and hundreds of thousands more occupy the streets of other cities, leading to the Financial Minister's resignation, followed by the resignation of the President, who escapes his residence in a helicopter. Riot police attack, killing at least 35 people and wounding countless others.

>> December 21 2001>>

An international coalition of Women in Black in occupied Palestine remove one of the Israeli roadblocks which prevent Palestinian villagers going to work. They lie in front of Israeli tanks rolling down the streets of Ramallah in the West Bank, to draw attention to the 800 Palestinians killed by Israeli troops during the last year and the occupation of Palestinian land. The tanks stop at the last minute, after firing shots in the air.

>> December 21 2001>>

The regional farmers' organization Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) of Haryana, India launches its campaign against the privatization of electricity and water in the region under World Bank auspices with a 20,000 strong rally. Police open fire and farmers respond with stones and traditional weapons, forcing the police into retreat. The agitation continues for four months, and warrants for the arrest of 63 peasant leaders are issued under new terrorist legislation.

>> December 25 2001>>

Protesting against imminent privatization, 800 Colombian workers occupy the 17 story headquarters of Bogota's water, electricity, and telecom company EMCALI. The occupation is the culmination of ten months of community organizing, which included the donation of utility usage to the poor on weekends. Thousands of people provide constant support outside the building, including a community kitchen and concerts. Solidarity marches, strikes, and road blocks also take place. After a month of occupation, the union wins its demands to keep the company in public hands and maintain low utility prices for the poor.

>> December 30 2001>>

Argentina erupts again, this time against the newly formed Government coalition. The Parliament building is stormed by protesters and set on fire. One demonstrator says: "The Government has changed but the economic policy is just as bad", as another Government falls.

>> January 4 2002>>

India's banking sector completely grinds to a halt because of the decision by Standard Chartered Bank to forcibly relocate about 30 administrative staff. About 70 per cent of all bank workers - more than 600,000 staff - refuse to work in response.

>> January 9 2002>>

A nationwide general strike shuts down Bangladesh as people protest against price hikes on fuel, gas, water, and electricity, which despite remaining at the minimum levels on the international commodities market, are being priced at maximum levels, according to organizers The Awami League.

>> January 15 2002>>

Over 7,000 people in Santa Fe, Argentina take to the streets and attack banks with eggs, rocks and hammers, in protest against devaluation of the national currency, when everyone's savings accounts were reduced by two-thirds overnight. Police attack with tear gas and plastic bullets. Similar scenes occur throughout the Jujuy province, where government employees, who had not been paid in six weeks, attack five banks, throwing computers, bookshelves, and office furniture into the streets. Others destroy the facade of the provincial energy company, which had repeatedly raised its rates until they were unpayable.

>> January 16 2002>>

Despite being declared illegal by the government, a 24 hour general strike in Nigeria paralyzes most of the country's main cities and brings commercial life to a standstill as workers protest against an 18 per cent rise in fuel prices.

>> January 25 2002>>

In Bologna, Italy, an immigrant detention camp under construction is invaded and completely dismantled. Hundreds of activists from the Italian movement of Disobbedienti (which replaced the White Overalls), including members of Parliament, take part in the action, which is attacked by riot police who beat up many, including MP's and one of the negotiating police officers.

>> February 1-4 2002>>

Defying 10,000 militarized police as well as those who said that protest couldn't happen post-September 11, 20,000 people hit the streets of New York City, US to protest the World Economic Forum's meeting. The action is organized entirely without the support of unions or NGOs, still under the misconception that protest is over. Declaring their solidarity with the people of Argentina, demonstrators chant "They are Enron! We are Argentina!" outside the offices of Andersen Consulting, (Enron's disgraced accountants), and hold a milonga (tango dance party) in the streets, then move on to the Argentinean consulate. "This is a provocation. While thousands of New Yorkers are still burying their dead... the richest and most powerful men on earth have decided to come and party on the wreckage - to celebrate, no doubt, the billions of dollars of taxpayer money they've just been handed by their respective governments and explore new opportunities to profiteer from permanent global warfare," said the Anti-Capitalist Convergence in its statement for the weekend protests. Referring to recent actions of fire-fighters shut out of the clean up of the Twin Towers wreckage, the statement continues, "As our heroic fire-fighters have shown us, the moratorium on direct action in New York is over. We are the future and the future is of resistance!"

>> February 1-5 2002>>

The World Social Forum gathers again in Porto Alegre, Brasil, with 60,000 global activists converging. Even the Financial Times is forced to admit, "The strong turnout showed that the movement had regained some of the momentum it had lost after the terrorist attacks in September." Meanwhile, regional social forums begin to spring up on every continent.

>> February 8 2002>>

Ukrainians in Kharkov say "Nyet!" to McDonald's, as 6,000 turn out to stop the construction of a new franchise in the city centre. Dressed in bloody aprons and wielding dripping knives, the people decry the company as the leading serial killer (of animals) in the world. Local authorities concede to demands, and prohibit the construction from taking place!

>> February 9 2002>>

Following days of protests and blockades by coca workers, resulting in several deaths, Bolivian officials agree to suspend coca eradication efforts and guarantee the normal functioning of the coca leaf market at Sacaba, Cochabamba, for 90 days while a commission of government representatives and campesino leaders reviews laws which criminalize the transport and sale of coca leaves. Many of the protesters' deaths are attributed to the Special Security Group, a police unit popularly known as Dálmatas (dalmatians), which was trained by the US military. One Dálmata officer claims that the unit has "a certain specialty and an affinity for dealing with confrontational civilian groups."

>> February 18 2002>>

Thirty Korean students from Hanchongryon (Federation of Korean University Student's Association) barricade themselves in the American Chamber of Commerce in downtown Seoul to protest against a range of military and economic issues associated with President Bush's visit. Occupying the office in the World Trade tower for four hours before being arrested, they knock out windows and replace them with a large sign which reads, "No War! No Bush!"

>> February 18 2002>>

In Buenos Aires, Argentina, a group of hundreds of depositors, whose savings accounts have been 'structurally adjusted' by the government, tour the financial district. Banging pots and pans, they demand the return of their money, and smash up 17 banks in broad daylight and in full view of the police, who follow them sheepishly from bank to bank.

>> February 19 2002>>

Dutch activists from the group Amsterdamse Radicale Klimaatactivisten cause a stink at a carbon trading conference in Amsterdam. Wearing blue wigs and armed with water pistols and farting-gas to emphasize that "carbon trading stinks", they occupy the conference room, holding up the conference for two hours, and forcing delegates to be relocated. Outside the conference, in hail and icy gusts of wind, a group distributes flyers, plays samba music, and does street theatre for the passersby.

>> February 20 2002>>

Public employees, teachers, doctors, the unemployed, account-holders, pensioners, and students flood the streets in Buenos Aires and at least ten provinces of Argentina. Unemployed workers protest at the central offices of Repsol-YPF, a transnational oil company, demanding "50,000 real jobs and urgent food aid". The head of the teachers' union says, "Every day, another 1,700 workers are left without a job and enter the circuit of poverty. And those of us who do not lose our jobs have to put up with salary cuts, unpaid wages, and restructuring in the midst of an inflationary process."

>> February 20-25 2002>>

Indigenous people, farmers, and municipal workers occupy the oil industry infrastructure in the northeastern provinces of Sucumbios and Orellana, Ecuador. Local residents erect roadblocks, blockade the airport, and occupy oil wells, demanding compensation for ecological damage wrought by a crude oil pipeline. The President declares a state of emergency; one person is killed and nine seriously injured by the police. The following month, a tree village established in an attempt to protect the Mindo-Nambillo forest, is brutally evicted. The Government eventually concedes and declares that ten per cent of revenues generated by the pipeline will return to local communities affected by it. So the IMF withdraws a loan, as they oppose the ten per cent allocation.

>> February 26 2002>>

The Korean Confederation of Trade Unions leads massive strikes of more than 50,000 workers in 94 workplaces in the railway, power, and gas sectors against privatization. The President of the railway union is arrested. Lee Sang-youn, head of the Confederation, states, "Public services are the property of the nation. It is not acceptable to sell people's property without their permission or agreement".

>> March 2002>>

The month sees mass demonstrations of workers and farmers across China, protesting against cuts in benefits and subsidies. For two weeks, 50,000 people gather daily at the Daqing oil field in Heilongjiang province. In industrial Liaoyang, 600 workers block the highway to the provincial capital, and are dispersed violently by police at midnight. Another 1,000 lay siege to city hall, demanding unpaid wages and the release of four detained labour leaders. Smaller demonstrations take place in Beijing, and across the province of Sichuan, as the country moves towards neoliberalism.

>> March 7-13 2002>>

In Fortaleza, Brazil, over 40 finance ministers and presidents from three Latin American countries meet with businessmen and diplomats to discuss the policies of the InterAmerican Development Bank (IDB). Large parts of the city are cordoned off to prevent protests, and many buses carrying protesters are turned back. Nevertheless, various actions take place including a public assembly in a poor community which will be evicted due to an IDB project which will widen their street and replace their homes with fancy hotels.

>> March 15 2002>>

Despite the closing of borders and a simultaneous football match across town between Madrid and Barcelona, 400,000-500,000 people take to the streets of Barcelona, Spain to protest the EU summit. Promoting over 25 decentralized actions, organizers explain, "We didn't want the terrain they were preparing for us, the direct confrontation where we had to lose". Three activists leap onto the football pitch and chain themselves to the goalposts, halting the game until they are removed and arrested. Speaking of the need to remain flexible, one protester says, "We are not afraid. The entire police strategy is based on creating a state of exception, where people stay inside their houses, and an activist elite confronts 10,000 police. Given this reality, the movement should go back to using its creativity and decentralization. Achieving, through that, a more complete visualization of the resistances, of their diversity, beyond the framework of a medieval joust, which is what the police are proposing."

>> March 19 2002>>

The construction site of a new McDonald's in Voronezh, Romania is blockaded. For six days, activists prevent work from taking place in the former public park by sitting on diggers and pulling down fences, until the police break up the blockade and construction resumes.

>> March 21 2002>>

In South Africa, the Soweto Electricity Crisis Committee (who illegally reconnect people's electricity if they are cut off due to non-payment) and the Anti-Privatization Forum stage a protest to demand that cut-offs of service for those too poor to pay are stopped. According to the Government's Human Sciences Research Council, nearly ten million South Africans have had their power disconnected, and over two million have been evicted from their homes because they cannot afford their water or electric bills.

>> March 24 2002>>

Egypt's Palestinian solidarity movement organizes 450 people to join a second caravan to the border town of Aarish, carrying over 90 tonnes of food and medicine. When the Egyptian security prevent them from entering the town, they occupy the streets. Three months later, a third caravan brings 150 tonnes of food and 600,000 Egyptian pounds worth of medicine, and organizes a public conference about Palestine in Aarish.

>> March 28-30 2002>>

Backed by a Korean drum group, and shouting "The working class has no borders", close to 1,000 people occupy the Los Angeles International Airport in protest against a week of raids by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and against a state supreme court ruling which denies back-pay to undocumented workers fired for union organizing. The people are part of a coalition of immigrant rights groups, unions, and community and religious organizations. Southwest Airlines participated closely with the INS in Operation Tarmac, launched in the wake of 11 September. The airline is profiling passengers with one-way tickets, cash purchases, and Latino-sounding surnames, and is allowing undercover agents to demand identification, often chasing fleeing workers into oncoming traffic.

>> March 29 2002>>

Over 1,000 people assist refugees to escape from Australia's Woomera Detention Centre.

>> April 1 2002 >>

After a 30 year campaign involving direct action, popular education, and constant legal challenges, forest activists in Aotearoa/New Zealand achieve massive victory when the government bans all logging of publicly owned temperate rain forests. National parks are extended, and two new conservation parks are created, resulting in the West Coast region having over 85 per cent of its land protected as public preserve. Padlocks are removed, fences come down, and public access is restored to the spectacular region. Using words unfamiliar to most capitalist policy-makers, the forestry minister tells Parliament, "These lowland forests are considered by many New Zealanders to be a unique and significant part of our natural heritage, too valuable for logging of any sort to continue."

>> April 3-5 2002>>

Continent-wide demonstrations in solidarity with the Palestinian struggle take place across Latin America. More than 1,000 Brazilians, including members of the MST, march to the US consulate in São Paulo. In Brasilia, Via Campesina members hold an overnight vigil and encampment in front of the Israeli embassy, while 500 people in Rio de Janeiro protest at the Israeli consulate. 1,000 people, most of them of Palestinian descent, march in Santana do Livramento, and across the border in Rivera, Uruguay; in Chile 1,000 people gather in Santiago to condemn the Israeli assault. In Quito, Ecuador, a protest takes place at the Israeli embassy and in Lima, Peru, about 100 Palestinians demonstrate outside the Israeli embassy. In Nicaragua, 2,000 people march to the UN office in Managua to present written demands calling for the withdrawal of the Israeli army; participants included many Nicaraguans of Palestinian and Arab origin and members of the leftist Sandinista National Liberation Front, among others.

>> April 6 2002>>

More than 100 members of the Soweto Electricity Crisis Committee, in South Africa, a group which reconnects power lines when service to poor communities gets cut, gather outside the home of Johannesburg's mayor's home, and attempt to deliver a memorandum, when they are fired upon with live ammunition. Chanting slogans, flinging garbage around the garden, and otherwise trashing the house ensues in the outraged aftermath before 87 are arrested

>> April 9 2002>>

After six years of bitter struggle, the Cascadia Forest Alliance celebrates the cancellation of Eagle Creek timber sales in the Mt. Hood National Forest, Oregon, US. While not technically old growth, many stands of trees are 150 years old and naturally regenerated after wildfires in the late 1880s. The forest has been defended by road blockades, sit-ins, and three years of continuous occupation of threatened trees. Tragically, 22-year-old Beth 'Horehound' O'Brian falls 150 feet to her death in the days between the announcement of the cancellation and the receipt of documentation, as activists continue their constant vigil, having learned from experience that the word of the Forest Service is virtually worthless.

>> April 10 2002>>

Farmers in Nairobi, Kenya take to the streets in protest against a new policy instituted by the National Cereals and Produce Board where they will receive payment in seeds, fuel, and fertilizer instead of cash. In the past, the Board offered a guaranteed minimum payment for the crops of all small farmers. The farmers demand cash, as they need it to pay IMF-imposed school fees.

>> April 12 2002>>

Taoiseach Bertie Ahern (Prime Minister) had an unfortunate run-in with Secret Agent Whatever of the Irish division of the Biotic Baking Brigade, which resulted in the second pieing of a head of state in eight months. When pressed for comment, Agent Whatever said, "We have no idea who our next target will be. There is no shortage of corrupt politicians in Ireland. A pie thrown randomly near any government building would have a hard time not hitting some corrupt old git. That's the main reason we have been inactive so far; it isn't really much of a challenge."

>> April 16 2002>>

Ten million state-employed workers in India strike to protest recently approved liberalization of labour laws, which allow for easier firing. Trade unions are also concerned about the government's plans to speed up the privatization of nationalized industries. In West Bengal, planes and trains in Calcutta are halted by workers, who block access to the airport and railway stations. Most coal miners and dock workers also honor the strike nationwide.

>> April 16 2002 >>

Italian industry grinds to a halt in the first general strike in 20 years. An estimated 11-12 million workers put down their tools of trade and took to the streets to protest against Government labour reform plans, which reduce the national jobless fund and makes it much easier to fire workers. Temporary employment agencies are occupied, or find their entrances sealed shut with glue. The strike virtually shuts down air, rail and local transport, hospitals provide emergency services only, and no newspapers appear on the streets, as printers and journalists participate en masse.

>> April 17 2002>>

A rally of 200,000 coconut farmers in Dharwar, India is organized by the KRRS and the Green Brigade on the occasion of World Farmers' Day. A spokesperson for the KRRS uses the opportunity to issue a demand to Chief Minister S M Krishna: that he spend some time studying science before introducing genetically modified cotton seed into the state. The spokesperson points out that leading scientists representing 36 nations have submitted a report to the UN recommending the ban of such seeds, and that until Minister Krishna has their level of education, he should refrain from tampering with biodiversity.

>> April 20 2002>>

In a mass global coincidence, the International Monetary Fund responds to a call for an international day of action by having their annual meeting. A call for an international cacerolazo in solidarity with Argentina, put out by Argentinean anticapitalist activists, and the day is to commemorate the five month anniversary of the uprising. Cities respond worldwide, some banging on pots and pans, others on bells and drums, some unaware that their actions are linked to Argentina, others unaware of the links to the IMF. Actions take place in Washington DC, New York, Seattle, London and São Paulo, among others.

>> April 20 2002>>

Students take to the streets in Nairobi, Kenya in protest against World Bank-imposed privatizations and restrictions on university admissions.

>> April 22 2002>>

Rejecting the notion that Coca Cola is an acceptable substitute for water, 2,000 indigenous people and dalits (oppressed castes) gather at the gates of the Hindustan Coca Cola factory in Plachimada, Kerala, India. The company has been mining groundwater, drying up many wells, and contaminating the rest. The villages demand restoration of the damaged groundwater aquifers and long term water supply to all those affected. The picket is sustained for 49 days, with the company continuing its excavation under police guard. On 9 June, the police attack, violently arresting 130, including children and infants, and harassing and tearing clothing off several women.

>> April 27 2002>>

Five hundred Roma people set up a protest camp in Essen, Germany to protest their imminent deportation to ex-Yugoslavia. Then they set off on a caravan to bring attention to their plight. Passing through Münster, Köln and Berlin, arriving in Dusseldorf on 20 June, where they establish another camp. Conditions in the camp are hard, as the Roma endure racist attacks and constant police harassment. But they insist that Germany has an obligation, after its Holocaust policies against the Roma, to allow them to stay.

>> May 2002>>

Police in the district of Rohtak, India try to arrest the Regional President of the farmers' organization, Bharatiya Kisan Union, and are taken hostage by the villagers. Similarly at Kandela, five state officials are held hostage. Thousands swarm into Kandela district to fortify it against state retaliation. Three or four rings of men and women, armed with stones and traditional weapons, stand guard until 2,000 armed police arrive to release the hostages. Road blocks multiply, shutting down the entire region. 11 peasants are killed by police; hundreds are injured and hundreds more arrested. The involvement of women in the struggle inspires them to start a women's organization. In opposition to World Bank diktats, the state government agrees a 75 per cent reduction in electricity charges, plus compensation to the families of the dead.

>> May 2 2002>>

Workers begin an occupation of the Ozarów Cable Factory in Ozarów, Poland, in response to the factory's closure by new owner Telefonica. The brutal six day eviction of the occupation begins on 26 November, with police and a drunken private security force paying threatening visits to the kindergarten where worker's children are in school. When they attack, they target women and supportive community members, arresting 50 and sending four to the hospital. The workers maintain that they will continue the struggle.

>> May 3 2002>>

Victory not only for the U'wa people of Colombia and for all communities fighting against the devastation of resource extraction around the world comes as Occidental Petroleum announces that it is returning oil concessions on the U'wa land to the Colombian Government, and abandoning its plans to drill in the region. OXY has decided there is no oil under U'wa land despite eight years of assuring investors of a major oil strike. The announcement comes nearly a year after OXY retreated from a site which thousands of U'wa, local campesinos, trade unionists and students had occupied to prevent oil drilling. After using the Colombian military to brutally evict the protesters and militarize the region, OXY was unable to find oil at the site. This came as no surprise to the U'wa whose Werjayas (wise elders) had spent months praying to move the oil away from OXY's drills.

>> May 6 2002>>

Over a thousand Ecuadorian banana workers go on strike at the plantation complex Los Alamos. Ten days later, armed men break through the picket line of nonviolent, unarmed workers and take 25 of them as hostages. Eventually, they are freed by their fellow strikers, though two workers are wounded by shotgun fire. The gun-toting thugs are employed by Presidential candidate Alvaro Noboa, whose fiercely anti-union company exports bananas.

>> May 12 2002>>

About 80,000 people demonstrate in Tel Aviv, Israel in the largest peace rally since the beginning of the second intifada 19 months ago, demanding that Israel withdraw from the occupied Palestinian territories. Also 150 members of the Arab-Jewish group Taayush (co-existence in Arabic) visit the Kissufim crossing point between Israel and the Gaza Strip and call on soldiers stationed there to abandon their posts and return home.

>> May 15 2002>>

Hundreds of families in Caloocan City, Philippines stage a noise protest against new charges to their electric bills. Bills are sent in, unpaid, and marked "Under protest." In Sawata, thousands protest the charges by refusing to use electricity at all. The protests spread across the country throughout the year.

>> May 17 2002>>

Activists in Québec City, Canada march to demand social housing, concluding the march by occupying a house, which is then used by the local community as a gathering place, and children are participating in painting and decorating it. They have three main demands: that the house be transformed into a self-managed housing cooperative, that a moratorium on any new condominium projects be implemented until the vacancy rate goes up 3 per cent, and that the provincial government start a program to build 8,000 social housing units a year.

>> May 23 2002>>

Several hundred Russians burn American flags to denounce President Bush during his summit talks in Moscow. Braving identity checks, detention, and intimidation by snipers on the rooftops, protesters speak out against the indefinite war on terrorism and the neoliberal policies which have sent their country into extreme economic turmoil.

>> May 23 2002>>

The Korean Health and Medical Workers' Union launches strikes in 16 hospitals; two engage in full-scale walkouts, while the others initiate partial strikes. Demands include abolishing the distinction between full- and part-time workers. On the same day, 5,000 members of other unions hold a sit-in at Jongmyo Park in Seoul in opposition to privatization plans.

>> June 4 2002>>

Peasants march 87 miles from Coronel Oviedo to Asuncion, Paraguay to demand the revocation of a law allowing for privatization, and to prevent the sale of the public telephone company, a sale which has been suspended six times due to corruption investigations. The 7,000 peasants attempt to break through a police cordon in order to continue the march, and are attacked. A farmer is killed by a bullet to the head, another is critically wounded by a shot to the stomach, and several others are injured. A general strike takes place two days later, with the nation's main trade union demanding that the government, "reject the prescription of the IMF and WB and defend our sovereignty".

>> June 4 2002>>

The Dutch network GroenFront!, a branch of Earth First!, occupies a construction crane set to build a new docking pier in the expansion of Schiphol Amsterdam Airport. Work is stopped. Banners hang from the crane, saying "Stop Jet Expansion" and "Nature Will Strike Back". This action adds to GroenFront!'s ongoing campaign, which has included digging up a new landing strip in the Transport Minister's garden.

>> June 7 2002>>

One hundred people protested against the WEF in Durban, South Africa, bringing attention to the New Plan for African Development (NEPAD). "NEPAD will deliver in Africa, but only to the elite. The poor will just get poorer. President Mbeki is looking after the interests of the emerging elite in Africa", says Ashwin Desai of the Concerned Citizens Group. "We regard NEPAD as a new form of colonization with the consent of African leaders", adds Professor Dennis Brutus of Jubilee South Africa. Protesters are confined to Speaker's Corner, about 110 yards away from the WEF meeting, but about 30 manage to slip away engage WEF delegates in discussion about NEPAD until police remove them.

>> June 13 2002>>

Massive demonstrations in Arequipa, Peru's second largest city, and in Tacna on the Chilean border turn into riots after 90,000 police mobilize and attack. Protests nationwide are underway due to the government having auctioned two state-owned electricity companies to Tractebel, a Belgian company, for \$167 million. One demonstrator is killed after being struck by a tear gas canister. Protesters vandalize the airport, smashing landing lights and stealing equipment, and blocking runways with burning tyres. Days later, as protests continue to spread and tanks roll in Lima, the President cancels the sale, promising that the companies will remain in state hands after all.

>> June 20 2002>>

Coinciding with the EU summit, undocumented North African immigrants occupy several buildings at the Pablo Olavide University in Seville, Spain, demanding regularization papers and job security. The 400 immigrants represent 5,000-6,000 strawberry pickers who have worked for years in the region's fields, have made significant organizing efforts, and have garnered local support for their struggle. This year anti-Arab discrimination has combined with corporate profit-seeking and led to the contract going to Polish workers, who have virtually no knowledge of local conditions, nor likelihood to attract local support. The North Africans are allowed only to work during breaks, and not provided with food, housing, or health care. Half of the occupying workers are given papers, the other half is evicted after two months, and 128 immigrants are locked in a detention in Ceuta, Spain, on the North African coast.

>> June 25 2002>>

The head of the IMF's delegation to Argentina is cornered outside his Buenos Aires hotel room by television reporters. They hand him a set of large, plastic Halloween vampire teeth. "We found these lodged in President Duhalde's neck," they tell him, "and wanted to return them to you."

>> June 26-27 2002>>

The G8 retreat to the remote mountainous resort of Kananaskis, Alberta, Canada, protected by \$300-400 million worth of security measures. Meanwhile, in the nearby city of Calgary, activists challenge the police to a soccer match. The police forfeit, but refuse to fulfill conditions of forfeiture which includes handing over their expensive bicycles and arresting the eight heads of state at their meeting.

>> June 28 2002>>

The largest strike by city workers in Canada begins, with a walkout by 23,500 municipal workers, paralyzing Toronto. After nine days, piles of rotting rubbish line the streets and the strike is joined by Toronto's indoor municipal workers. Fearful of losing jobs if the city privatizes public services, the workers are striking over job security, not money. After 16 days, the strikers are forced to return to their jobs, due to newly passed national back-to-work legislation. The city's Mayor predictably asks, "Where are we going to get the money to meet their demands?" Maybe he's unaware of the expenses of the G8 summit in Kananaskis....

>> July 8-18 2002>>

Women in Ughorodo, Escravos, Nigeria take control of the Chevron/Texaco oil terminal and threaten to remove their clothes - a traditional shaming gesture aimed at humiliating the company. The 600 women from villages around the terminal block access to the helipad, airstrip, and docks. They are demanding that the transnational invest some of its riches in development of water supply, schools, electricity hookups, and clinics, as well as reparation of mass erosion damage from dredging. Seven hundred company employees - Nigerians, Americans, Britons, and Canadians - are trapped in the terminal while negotiations are held between a representative of the village chief and an oil executive. Meanwhile, in the air-field, two dozen women dance in the rain alongside four helicopters and a plane, singing "This is our land!" After 11 days, the company concedes to their demands, and the occupation ends.

>> July 11-16 2002>>

Peasant farmers of San Salvador Atenco, Mexico demonstrate against government plans to build a new international airport on top of their farmland on the outskirts of Mexico City. Rejecting an insulting offer to buy the farmland for about .60¢ per square yard, the community blockades highways and use machetes and Molotovs to fend off more than 10,000 riot police, who kill one protester and injure countless others. The repression backfires and support for the farmers' cause increases exponentially - police cars are burnt, Coca-Cola trucks are seized and used to blockade the national highway, and 13 government and police officials are taken hostage in a successful bid to free their own prisoners. Days later, victory is celebrated as the government announces the cancellation of its airport plans. The peasants vow to continue struggling, declaring their opposition to Plan Puebla Panama and the FTAA.

>> July 15 2002>>

Activists from the KRRS and the Green Army in Davangere, India invade a shop selling genetically engineered Bt cotton seeds and set fire to the seeds. The KRRS notes that they are merely fulfilling a commitment they made to the government, that if Bt cotton seeds were sold, they would destroy them immediately.

>> July 17 2002>>

As the Escravos protest ends, over 3,000 women in Abiteye, Makaraba, Dibi, and Olero Creek, Nigeria occupy four more Chevron/Texaco flow stations, and have their demands quickly agreed upon.

>> July 18-28 2002>>

A No Borders camp, organized in large part by immigrant organizations from France and Germany, sees 3,000 people gather from across Europe, North Africa and Latin America in Strasbourg, France for discussion and action. Strasbourg was chosen because of the Schengen Information System computer which is located there, and contains information on all the known immigrants and asylum seekers in Europe. Despite police attacks with tear gas and rubber bullets on numerous occasions, resulting in a broken leg, countless other injuries, and at least 30 arrests, the camp perseveres.

>> July 22-23 2002>>

Healthcare workers across Niger go on strike, providing minimum health services for emergency cases only. They demand a housing allowance, and more training, as well as more secure jobs for auxiliary staff.

>> July 25 >> During the Pope's visit to Toronto, members of the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty occupy a building in Toronto, Canada and name it the Pope Squat. It serves as a thriving community centre for over three months until its eviction.

>> August 4 2002>>

Farmers of the KRRS destroy two acres of Bt cotton in Rudranakatte, India, after convincing the farmers cultivating the crop that it poses a grave threat to the environment. Police are therefore unable to intervene, as the farmers participate in destroying their own crops.

>> August 4 2002>>

Montevideo, Uruguay sees the largest demonstrations in a decade as thousands respond to a general strike called by 62 unions. The strike, accompanied by looting, is in response to the closure of banks and the devaluation of the peso, as Uruguay shares the economic catastrophe of Argentina.

>> August 7 2002>>

Several thousand dockworkers in Szczecin, Poland invade the Odra clothes factory where women workers have not received pay for several months. The textile workers are on partial strike; they stop working for six hours a day. The intruders throw eggs on the boss, and perform the age-old firing-your-boss ritual of driving him out of the factory in a wheelbarrow. The police refuse to intervene, due to "fear of enraging the demonstrators."

>> August 14 2002>>

Perseverance pays off for farmers of Karnataka, India where the state government decides to ban the cultivation of genetically engineered Bt cotton as a commercial crop until experts produce a report on potential adverse effects. Sown in other Indian states, the Bt cotton crop fails dismally come harvest time.

>> August 20 2002>>

In New York, US, the city sells 11 apartments buildings for \$1 a piece to a nonprofit agency who passes ownership on to the squatting inhabitants, many of whom have lived there openly for over ten years. Acquisition of the 167 apartments is an immense victory – the buildings were nearly lost in a 1995 eviction, which was overturned in court.

>> August 30 2002>>

About 500 protesters gather in Helsingborg, Sweden for a street party and a friendly game of dart-throwing at artfully displayed election propaganda. While a sound system rages outside, a summit entitled 'Partners in Prevention' is held by a coalition of representatives from NATO, EU, UN, and OSSE. The demonstration focuses on the use of terror by these organizations to criminalize dissent, and highlights the cancellation of the planned educational forum due to police pressure on the property owner.

>> September 1 2002>>

Following up from the Seed Satyagraha begun in 1993, Indian farmers in Jyothigowdanapura, Karnataka, India inaugurate an international centre for sustainable development called Amrita Bhoomi, or The Eternal Planet. The facilities are comprised of over a hundred acres of land, have a national seed bank to collect and conserve seeds from all available indigenous varieties of plants, trees, and medicinal herbs, and contain a Green School which offers classes on environmental issues and civil disobedience techniques and philosophies. Run by national and international advisory bodies and held as a public trust, the centre promises to provide support to international movements in designing a way of life to live with nature without damaging it.

>> September 6 2002>>

Tens of thousands of workers in Colombia stage a national strike against the new President's adherence to IMF economic policies, and against the violent intimidation campaign against trade unions.

>> September 10 2002>>

Months after forcing the government to abandon airport construction plans, the radical farmers of San Salvador Atenco, Mexico declare the town to be autonomous. It is one of the first autonomous municipalities outside of the southern state of Chiapas, where Zapatistas run some towns. "We are aware that the Government will not recognize this action by the people, but they have no choice but to respect our decision," a new, 14-member People's Council said in a statement read at their swearing-in ceremony. Council members said Tuesday's declaration, developed through neighbourhood assembly meetings, meant that police and government officials would no longer be allowed to enter the town so that villagers could decide for themselves how to meet their community's needs.

>> September 16 2002>>

Dawn breaks on Mexico City, 192 years after Mexicans declared their independence from Spain, and reveals a redecoration campaign throughout the capital. Over 30 statues of the heroes of the independence struggle have flowers at their bases and are dressed in black balaclavas, red bandanas, and are draped with the flag of the Zapatista Army. Several streets bearing the names of the independence fighters are also bedecked with Zapatista flags and stickers. Several other municipalities also report particularly well-dressed statues and a surge in pro-EZLN graffiti.

>> October 2002>>

Over 240,000 teachers in Kenya go on strike for four weeks, demanding that the Government pay a salary increase agreed upon in 1997.

>> October 2 2002>>

University professors at the only public university in Angola go on strike demanding an increase in wages and payment of salary arrears. Four days later, students take to the streets in an attempt to pressure the Ministry of Education into meeting their teachers' demands.

>> October 24 2002>>

A massive crowd of over 15,000 protest in Colombo, Sri Lanka against the passage of 36 bills passed by Parliament which will expedite privatization of state institutions and natural resources, believed to be directly legislating IMF-recommended structural adjustment programmes. It is the first time that a large protest against capitalist globalization has happened in the nation.

>> October 26 2002>>

About one million people around the planet demonstrate against the US plans to attack Iraq. With nearly 100,000 in San Francisco, US, tens of thousands in Zaragoza, Spain, Berlin, Germany, Washington, US, and thousands more from Seattle to São Paulo, people around the globe make it clear that they are organized and strongly opposed to war.

>> October 31 2002>>

Thirty badgers armed with water pistols storm a Starbucks in London, UK, claiming it as their ancestral home. Using the logic of Israeli settlers the badgers evict some of the customers and erect the first badger settlement in London. With placards proclaiming "If it works in Palestine why not here" and "It's ours because we say so" the self-styled Badger Defence Force set up checkpoints to inspect shoppers and tourists for concealed weapons. "If they're not a badger, they could be a terrorist" a spokesbadger said. The badgers have selected the store for their settlement because of the role of its CEO as a major supporter of the Israeli state.

>> October 31-November 2002>>

Ten thousand mostly indigenous activists converge on Quito, Ecuador to protest the FTAA meetings. A delegation of about 40 people manage to get in and directly address the hemisphere's trade delegates, who stared uncomfortably at their shoes while listening to the words of Leonidas Iza, the President of CONAIE (the Ecuadorian indigenous federation): "We are in desperate shape. You couldn't possibly understand, you who were born in golden cradles and have never suffered. But we don't have food to feed our children... We have no way to live, and the FTAA will only make it worse. When we complain, the US government calls us terrorists. We are not threatening anything, but we are hungry and tired and things have to change."

>> November 4-5 2002>>

Over 30,000 members of the Korean Government Employees Union hold a public rally, opposing proposed legislation which would deny all civil service workers the name and status of a trade union as well as the right to organize. Twenty-seven leaders of the union were preemptively arrested days prior to the rally, which is violently attacked by the police, injuring many unionists, and resulting in the arrest of thousands. The police then surround the union headquarters, block the entrances, and raid the place, confiscating documents.

>> November 6-10 2002>>

A European Social Forum takes place in Florence, Italy with hundreds of activists gathering for in-depth reflection, democratic debate, free exchange of experiences, and planning of actions leading towards building a better world. The Forum culminates in a march against the looming US war on Iraq, with half a million people participating. >> November 7 >> In Minsk, Belarus a peaceful demonstration against the war takes place, organized by the Belarussian Anarchist Federation.

>> November 11 2002 >>

Three hundred people march through the streets of downtown Montreal, Canada demanding an immediate regularization of the status of the more than 1,000 non-status Algerians living in Canada. Stressing that the situation for Algerians is one of asylum and protection, not immigration, the march is comprised of First Nations activists, members of the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty, and students, and points out the contradiction of deporting asylum seekers to a nation under a Canadian travel advisory warning due to the ongoing civil war.

>> November 12 2002>>

Hundreds of nurses and hospital workers go on strike in Wroclaw, Poland, occupying a hospital and demanding payment of the nurses' back wages. A broad coalition of supporters come out in support, Food Not Bombs serves food at the hospital, neighbours help blockade a major street, and local anarchists help defend nurses' homes under threat of eviction. Police attack the street action and send 11 people to the hospital, two of whom are arrested for throwing potatoes and eggs at the police. Meanwhile, the Polish government knows where its priorities lie as it hems and haws over which war planes to purchase for several billion zloty.

>> November 13 2002>>

Activists in Prague shut down a seminar on NATO and EU cooperation without even leaving the pub! Police arrive at the scheduled location of the seminar about half an hour before it is to start and tell the delegates that a huge anarchist action is planned against them. The terrified delegates panic, and send for their chartered buses to whisk them away to the EU embassy on the other side of Prague, where the meeting commences under great tension. Activists are delighted to hear the news, as they never knew the meeting's location, and had no intention of protesting it.

>> November 14 2002>>

Thousands take the streets in Homebush, Sydney, Australia, to protest the WTO meeting and the US war, and to highlight the connections between military adventurism and corporate rule. A sound system pumps beats from a rubbish bin on wheels, and the route of the march is determined by games of Spin the Bottle with a six-foot paper maché bottle, which is confiscated by police. "It's bad enough the police stopped us getting to the hotel, but when they stop us snogging each other, it's just un-Australian," says a member of the Bottle Bloc. The next day, a pirate radio broadcast by the Institute for Applied Piracy jams commercial radio signals for ten minutes to transmit across all stations a report on the WTO and its abuses against human and worker rights, public health, and the environment.

>> November 15 2002>>

After a two month long national strike by health care workers, the people of El Salvador win an historic victory. The legislature passes a law outlawing privatization of health care, and defining the state's obligation to provide accessible quality health care to every Salvadoran near their home, regardless of ability to pay. Strike leaders urge striking workers and supporters to throw their weight and experience into the struggle against privatization of electricity and against the Central American Free Trade Agreement, which would supersede the new law and mandate privatization of all services.

>> November 16 2002>>

An estimated 10,000 people marched in Auckland, Aotearoa / New Zealand today for a GMO-free nation. The colorful, diverse crowd take their carnival to a park where they dance to live music and eat GMO-free food.

>> November 20-21 2002>>

Banging pots, pans, and drums while declaring their solidarity with the Argentinean people in their struggle to build a new society, activists from Eastern Europe gather in Prague, Czech Republic to protest against the NATO summit. While official delegates enjoy a posh banquet, hundreds of people give out free food under anti-war banners. Under the oppressive gaze of the heaviest surveillance ever seen in the country, with some organizers being detained as many as 15 times daily, 4,000 people take the streets under the close watch of 12,000 police, unknown numbers of soldiers, and US Air Force jets. The action leaves people exhilarated; many come from communities with very small resistance movements, and most feel empowered after having built and strengthened networks of resistance across the region.

>> November 21 2002>>

In Timisoara, Romania, a massive postering campaign takes place before dawn, resulting in the entire city proclaiming anti-NATO and anti-war slogans from its walls. Additionally, two banners are dropped over major highways, sending the police into a confused flurry, fearing that major demonstrations might follow. The propaganda campaign gets enormous media coverage, even more than did the announcement of NATO's invitation to Romania to join, and many interviewed on the streets are in agreement with the campaign.

>> November 27 2002>>

In Tbilisi, Georgia, activists protest outside the office of the Georgian International Oil Company, who has partnered with British Petroleum to construct the Baku-Ceyhan pipeline. The pipeline would run 1,090 miles from Azerbaijan, through Georgia and into Turkey, creating a two and a half mile wide militarized corridor, destabilizing the region, increasing human rights abuses, and degrading the environment.

>> December 1 2002>>

About 1,500 people converge at Wat Don Chai in Song district, Thailand for the largest protest in 13 years against the proposed construction of the Kaeng Sua Ten dam. After erecting a 20 foot teak pole to invoke the spirits in Hor Daeng village, they set afloat a banana leaf container, to carry away bad omens, and later burn a straw effigy of Somporn Chuenkam, the Phrae senator who supports the dam.

>> December 6 2002>>

More than 200 sans-papiers (people without papers) and support groups occupy the International Employment Office (IOM) in Paris, France. Many foreigners working under IOM contracts receive no social benefits, are not entitled to welfare funds, are required to pay 170 euros for an annual medical exam, and never get residency visas, no matter how long they work in the country. The occupiers demands are that the IOM comply with France's social legislation, and that all sans-papiers be legalized, receiving permanent work permit and equal access to social benefits. The occupation ends when it becomes clear that the police are about to intervene and another action is planned later this month.

>> December 9 2002>>

The government of Zambia makes a surprise announcement that the planned privatization of 51 per cent of the national bank would be halted, due to public and union pressure. In immediate retaliation, the IMF declares that Zambia will not receive debt relief, saying "If they don't sell, they don't get the money. Over one billion US dollars could be delayed." Days later, thousands march in Lusaka in support of the decision. The President of the Federation of Free Trade Unions speaks at the rally saying, "Now let somebody out there tell us, having privatized 80 per cent of our economy, why is it that we have become one of the poorest countries in Africa and in the whole world?"

>> December 10 2002>>

"The farmers are walking towards death", says Alberto Gómez, executive director of UNORCA, a national union of 30 regional peasant groups protesting today against agricultural provisions of NAFTA in Mexico City, Mexico. More than 2,000 peasant farmers gather outside the Congress building, denouncing new trade liberalization - part of NAFTA's time-released formula - that is scheduled for implementation in January, eliminating tariffs on 21 farm products. If the implementation were to be suspended, it would mean the revocation of Mexico's recognition of the treaty. This seems like a small price to pay - in only nine years of existence, NAFTA has resulted in the loss of over 24.7 million acres of cultivated land, pushing at least 15 million peasants off the land and into urban centres or into clandestinity in the US, according to a study by UNAM. Protests continue into the next year.

>> January 1 2003 >>

Thirty-thousand Zapatistas from across Chiapas converge on San Cristóbal de las Casas, for the anniversary of the 1994 uprising. Each carries a machete, a bag of fire wood, and a festive but determined sense of dignity. The evening is marked by fire-lit speeches from the Zapatista commanders. They are punctuated by the clanking of machetes and impassioned chants of: "The three powers of the Mexican government are racist", "Long live the rebellion in Argentina", and "PAN is the same as the PRI". Then the cold of the mountain night dissipates as each adds their wood to the blazing bonfires. As flames leap 30 feet in the air, a sea of machetes held aloft in thousands of small hands reflects and magnifies the message and the warning of the Zapatistas.

>> February 15 2003>>

>> To be continued everywhere ... >>