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> Edited last night by: Claire Delivered this morning by: Christine

March 4th, 2024

"GRANVILLE'S LARGEST DAILY PUBLICATION"

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"IOF. KKK. CPD. THEY ARE ALL THE SAME."¹

Ali Imran '24, Student Submission

On February 22, 2024, Colin August Jennings, a black queer man, was killed by the Columbus Police Department. Jennings was experiencing a mental health crisis and the police responded by killing him. 5 people have been killed by the police in Ohio this year, black people are 4.3 times more likely to be killed by police in Ohio compared to white people, and most police shootings of black individuals involve individuals with disabilities. It is well-known that the institution of the Columbus Police Department functions to perpetuate violence against the Black community instead of safety.

On February 29, 2024, the IOF (Israeli Occupation Forces) opened fire on hundreds of starving Palestinians as they were waiting for an aid convoy in Gaza City. Firing on a civilian population is itself a war crime but when have war crimes and genocide been anything but tools to further colonial projects? This "Flour Massacre" resulted in the killing of 112 Palestinians and wounding another 750. There are 17,000 children being categorized under WCNSF (Wounded Child No Surviving Family) and the rubrics to capture an entire population's debilitation seem unending.

While 'Israel' claims a "right" to "exist" and "defend itself" against a population that it both denies rights and occupies, the carceral system in the 'United States' targets Black people it has systematically exploited and oppressed for hundreds of years in the name of "public safety". These institutions that have the might of world military and imperialism behind them feign vulnerability in order to justify their violence against subjugated populations. Powerful, deep-rooted narratives about racialized people (the Other) are always in the work of justifying the violence whether that be enslavement, incarceration, colonial occupation, or genocide of indigenous populations.

In October 2023, the Atlanta police Department (APD), which has an active training program with military-police in Israel, staged training exercises to remove "Hamas terrorists" in Atlanta. At the same time, forces of the State, including the ADP, have intensified their efforts to crush the Stop Cop City movement that aims to prevent the expropriation of Welaunee land, as it is known to the native Muscogee people, for a militarized police facility. The facility will function to quash rebellion against state brutality as it erupted in the wake of the Black Lives Matter movement in Atlanta. Both the Palestine solidarity movement and the Stop Cop City movement are under attack using imperialist "domestic terrorism" laws that have a long history as tools to crush Black liberation and Palestinian liberation efforts in the United States. The links are many, from joint millitary/police training, torture practices mutually perfected by US and Israel, to manufacturers like Elbit Systems and Raytheon. These solidarities against imperialism, colonialism, and capitalism are being increasingly articulated between liberation movements.

On Saturday, Denison students joined hundreds of others in Goodale Park in Columbus, Ohio to protest the US backed Israeli genocide of Palestinians. Despite multiple attempts by the organizers to take over the streets, the overwhelming police presence forced us back and threatened arrests. So whenever the traffic lights turned green, we started crossing the streets in protest. The law enforcement started tampering with the traffic lights but the crowds stayed creative. It wasn't long before we started chanting "IOF, KKK, CPD, THEY ARE ALL THE SAME" and staying on the streets as much as we could. These chants have echoed all across Turtle Island (so-called United States and Canada).

These networks of organizing, political awareness, and a will to take action is what threatens those in power the most. One of the most common chants at Palestine solidarity protests has been "No Justice,

¹ IOF (Israeli Occupation Forces), KKK (Klu Klux Klan), CPD (Columbus Police Department)

Cont'd from the front: "IOF. KKK. CPD. THEY ARE ALL THE SAME."

No Peace": a revolutionary call originating in the Black rebellions against state-sponsored violence. This chant flips depoliticizing liberal lies on their head, it asks who will be left out or sacrificed to maintain the violent status quo? It refuses to leave any of us out: "all of us or none of us." Palestine liberation and solidarity activism threatens to not only free Palestine but also make these inter-linked forces of oppression impossible to ignore - especially on college campuses. The Palestinian Youth Movement writes that "our vision of freedom in this life and the next requires us to confront and challenge the entangled forces of oppression in Palestine and in Turtle Island, and to identify the sites of tension upon which these systems distill their forces". College administrators and their benefactors are afraid of an entire generation of students becoming politicized to think through these entangled forces of oppression and become unwilling to continue with status quo and business as usual.

If the preservation of current institutions seems antagonistic to calls for liberation for all, are we willing to privilege liberation for all over our fidelity to current systems? Those who refuse to work against current systems are either benefiting from the oppression of others or suffering from a dearth of imagination or both. There is no place for half-truths in anti-racist, anti-imperialist and anti-colonial solidarity movements. We do not believe in these systems and we must not invest in them. Abolition calls for a radical re-imagining of the world and the dismantling of oppressive structures like the prison-industrial complex, capitalism, and settler-colonies like the United States and Israel. It all sounds like a mouthful and utopian but from Stop Cop City to Palestinian resistance, people are already organizing and articulating their solidarity towards the abolition of these systems of oppression.

WHAT HAPPENED ON MARCH 4th?

Christine Trueh, Won't tell you if she won, but there will be signs...

March 4th, 1791: Vermont was admitted to the United States as the fourteenth state. What the hell happens in Vermont??

March 4th, 1837: The city of Chicago was incorporated. Chi city!!

March 4, 1861: Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated as president.

March 4th, 1909: The US prohibits interstate transportation of game birds. Didn't know pigeons played Monopoly.

March 4th, 1924: The song "Happy Birthday To You" was officially published. What were they singing before then??

March 4th, 1976: Hypnotize was released. Biggie Biggie Biggie can't you see? Sometimes your words just hypnotize me...

March 4th, 1979: Hall & Oates recorded "Rich Girl"

March 4th, 2005: Martha Stewart is released from prison.

March 4th, 2011: Rango was released. Can't lie, probably one of Johnny Depp's best performances in cinema.

March 4th, 2019: The Bullsheet suggested "Sauerkraut and Scream and Shout" as a potential mixer theme. Pickled cabbage and Britney Spears will always go together. Change my mind.

March 4th, 2024: Christine won the lottery. It's good to manifest.

