“One man's riot is another man's rebellion...”


Materials on spectacular social disorder, pro and con.

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2. Castro Sweep Police Riot: October 6, 1989. San Francisco: Castro Sweep Project, 1999. 4p., 5.5x8.5 inches, pamphlet accompanying the exhibition "marking the 10th anniversary of the Castro Sweep police riot ... the single most massive official attack on queer human rights in the history of San Francisco" - p. 2, very good in pictorial self-wraps. (#119007) $12.00
Cover photo by Marc Geller of riot squad subduing unarmed gay man.

This issue of the student paper is devoted to the campus takeover the previous day by black revolutionaries. "The great number of black people recruited from ghettos and other campuses came in for a rumble. They listened little to the advice of their leaders." Describes a scene of indiscriminate violence and chaos, completely out of the control of the Black Student Union. "A group of about 10 white students sat on the wet lawn all during the commotion beating on plastic pots with carrots, singing 'All you need is love' over and over again."

4. Greek Fire: from riot to social rebellion [handbill]. Palo Alto, CA: Collective Reinventions, [2009]. 8.5x14 inch handbill printed both sides, top edge creased. (#244392) $12.00
Anarchist analysis in support of Greek insurgents.

5. Inside the L.A. riots what really happened - and why it will happen again, essays and articles by more than 60 of America's leading independent writers and journalists. New York: Institute for Independent Journalism, 1992. 153p., illus. in text, 8.5x10 inches, first printing, very good in wraps.
Contributions by Marc Cooper, Rúben Martinez, Frank Chin, Mike Davis and many others. (#168184) $12.00

Overview of chemical riot control agents used in Berkeley by police, with two black and white photos on back cover.
7. Julia Luna Mount: una voz del barrio. Los Angeles: Peace and Freedom Party, [1971]. Four-panel campaign brochure, text in English and Spanish, uneven toning; laid in is an 8.5x11 inch leaflet listing endorsers. (#206679) $20.00
The Executive Secretary of the Barrio Defense Committee, Mount was running in a special election for the state senate, 27th district. "After the fires and bloody heads, politicians talk of ending violence. But riots will only end when people know they belong to the country, and the country belongs to them."

Outlines a new form of revolt based on pirate traditions to replace Black Bloc; the main meeting is called a Swagger.

9. Poll tax riot 10 hours that shook Trafalgar square. Dedicated to all working class heroes. London: Acab Press, 1990. 69p., illustrated with documents and on the spot photographs; high-gloss color photo 8.25 x 5.75 inch wraps with a wraparound shot of cops attacking, very faint signs of handling. (#72333) $15.00
"This is a series of accounts of what happened in Trafalgar Square and the surrounding area on Saturday 31st March 1990 that has been solicited by Acab Press [acronym unknown] with the sole intention of giving the other side of the story. All accounts were anonymously passed to Acab Press in the weeks following Saturday 31st March after an appeal was circulated." Critical of Trotskyist reactions to the riots.

Critiques of "ally" politics in the white liberal community. "Ally has also become an identity, disembodied from any real mutual understanding of support. The term ally has been rendered ineffective and meaningless... But we need to know who has our backs, or more appropriately: who is with us, at our sides?" With illustrations in support of the riots at Ferguson, though the slightly earlier texts are about the Oscar Grant actions in Oakland, etc.
11. "The streets of our country are in turmoil. The Universities are filled with students rebelling and rioting. Communists are seeking to destroy our country. Russia is threatening us with her might and the republic is in danger. Yes, danger from within and without. We need law and order. Yes, without law and order our nation cannot survive. Elect us and we shall restore law and order."

Adolph Hilter, Hamburg, Germany, 1932. [poster depicting Nixon as Hitler]. n.p.: n.pub., n.d.. 22x17 inch poster, photo of Nixon at microphone altered to add Hitler moustache and hair down his forehead, "law and order" pin on lapel, text in blue to left. Very good. (#186972) $95.00

This fake quote attributed to Hitler appeared in various radical media as a comparison to Nixon's attacks on student demonstrators.

12. This summer NYC may see a war at home as horrible as the war against Vietnam! [handbill]. New York: Fifth Avenue Vietnam Peace Parade Committee, [1968]. 8.5x11 inch handbill, printed both sides, somewhat smudged mimeograph. (#233056) $30.00

 Warns that police are stockpiling riot gear for use against the Black community, and calls for emergency demonstrations if such attacks materialize.

13. Watts Cooking / We Want Work [pinback button]. n.p., [1965]. 1 inch diameter pin issued after the Watts Riots; very good. (#209698) $25.00


 From the publisher: "An exploration of nihilism, as expressed particularly by Conspiracy of Cells of Fire [Greek Anarcho-Nihilists], but curiously generalizable to young populations globally. "The current nihilism amongst the youth is not arising from nothing. It is a reflection of the total failure of both resistance and capitalism. Many see no alternative and want nothing else other than the complete destruction of the beast that feeds them: the city."


 The issue's introduction states, "With this Summer 1968 issue, Viet-Report turns to the nation’s number one foreign policy problem: domestic racial and economic insecurity. It is an open question-to be solved in political combat-whether the American people will tolerate the economic inequities and social injustices which the aggressive pursuit of empire abroad has produced. In the ghetto, the people have decided: submission is intolerable. Rebellion has become the black man's lobby; he has no other."

17. Bullock, Paul, ed. Watts: the aftermath; an inside view of the ghetto by the people of Watts. New York: Grove Press, 1969. 285p., minor toning of the paper else very good condition in dj with minor edgewear except for the front flap edge with is creased and worn with closed tears, first printing. (#72909) $12.00


   Mentions the arrest of Andrea Dworkin, then just 18.

20. Corsaro, Kim, editor, David Lamble, Sue Zemel, Carmen Vasquez, et al. Coming up! May 1982; a night of fury remembered; the voices of May 21st. San Francisco: Coming Up! Inc., 1982. 12p. tabloid newspaper, news, reviews, columns, features, ads, services, resources, calendar of events, photos, mild toning otherwise very good on newsprint. (#235450) $35.00
   The above-the-fold story is on the 3rd anniversary of the White Night Riot

Another issue from the Allan Coult interregnum, before the return of Max Scherr as owner. Cover features photo of Telegraph Ave. street people, as does the issue centerspread. Giant headline: Race Riot at Treasure Island, then site of a Naval base. Inside: article and diagrams for making a chillum, report on hoopla associated with forming a Black Studies dept. at UC Berkeley, other news of the day and an uptick of sex ads.


Calls for the release of all of those arrested during the LA riots.


Includes works by Allen Ginsberg, Wanda Coleman, Hubert Selby Jr and Charles Bukowski.

Main story is "Outrages of emergency law in SF" about the measures taken after the Rodney King verdict. Includes discussion of police chief Richard Hongisto's tactics against demonstrators, and his ultimate firing as a result of confiscating issues of the Bay Times with an unflattering depiction of him on the cover.

28. May 21st Defense Fund. Revolution is the poor people's crime of passion / May 21st 1979 / Support the May 21st Defense Fund [poster]. San Francisco: the Fund, 1979. 16.5x22 inch poster, very good. Features the classic graphic of a burning police car that was adapted from a press photo. (#202616) $450.00
The Fund defended those arrested in connection with the "White Night riot," which was a reaction to the lenient sentence given to Dan White for the assassinations of Harvey Milk and mayor Moscone.

Bright color cover with LA Explodes above the fold.

"Who will protect the public when the police violate the law?"

31. [National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders]. Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders; summary of report. New York: A. Philip Randolph Institute, et. al., [1968]. 29p., wraps slightly browned else very good condition, 4.5x7.5 inches. (#130272) $15.00

32. No Apologies, No Regrets Committee. AB101 Arrests: Update no. 4 [handbill]. San Francisco: No Apologies, No Regrets Committee, 1991. 8.5x11 inch very good handbill printed in black on white stock. (#191829) $45.00
At the height of the AIDS crisis and in the midst of a wave of queer militancy in the early 1990s, California Governor Pete Wilson vetoed AB101, a statewide gay and lesbian rights bill. In response, angry demonstrators took to the streets around the state. Time Magazine summed up the story a few days later: "It was a week of rage in California, as gay activists
smashed windows in government buildings, torched the California flag and burned Wilson in effigy. The governor had betrayed them, the protesters declared..." In San Francisco, nearly 10,000 people rallied on Castro Street on Sept. 30, 1991, the day after the veto. Thousands then marched to the California State Building on Van Ness Avenue—and with emotions running high, continued to the Old State Building in Civic Center. Outnumbered, San Francisco and California State police retreated to the lobby as a full-scale riot broke out, with protesters smashing windows, spray-painting walls and setting the building aflame. Known as the AB101 Veto Riot, the uprising was the most recent of the three queer riots in the city, following the Compton's Cafeteria Riot of 1966 and the White Night Riot of 1979. The 1991 event resulted in 11 arrests, and according to police reports, caused almost $245,000 in damage. A sharp debate ensued, with some in the LGBT community condemning the damage to state property and others insisting that it reflected justified outrage. The following year, the California Legislature again passed AB101—and the governor signed it into law.

33. Progressive Labor Club. The Epton Trial [handbill]. New York: Progressive Labor Club, [1966]. 8.5x11 inch handbill, mimeographed both sides, mild toning. (#202794) $35.00
Announces an event at Columbia University's Harkness Theater about Bill Epton's trial on charges of inciting the 1964 riot. Epton was called "Mao's man in Harlem" by Time Magazine. The leaflet cites statements of support by Bertrand Russell, Jean Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir.

34. Raushenbush, Winifred. How to prevent a race riot in your home town ... New York: The Committee on Race Discrimination, American Civil Liberties Union, 1943. 16p., wraps slightly worn and creased, 4x9 inches. The author, secretary of the Committee, analyzes the dangers and lists the race riots that occured in the US, 1830-1943. (#27150) $45.00

35. Rodriguez, Spain [signed] and various. The East Village Other; Vol. 4, No. 1, Dec. 13, 1968. New York: The East Village Other, Inc., 1968. 24p., folded tabloid, illus., lightly tanned with a bit of foxing at the spinefold, a dog-ear or two, mailing label at cover logo, else very good. (#231184) $35.00
Iconic riot cop cover by Spain Rodriguez, autographed by him in 2010. Long LNS report by Todd Gitlin on the student strike at SF State, all the usual columnists: Dean Latimer, Bob Rudnik and Dennis Frawley, Yaakov Kohn, etc. Back cover is Douglas Records ad (for Richie Havens) by Vaughn Bode, depicting himself with Alan Douglas in comic strip monolog instructing Bode on how to do the ad.
Tabata summarizes his feelings as an African revolutionary witnessing the aftermath of Watts.

37. Simon, Peter; photographer. [Photograph of MIT riot, November 1970]. Brattleboro, VT: the photographer, 1970. 7.25x11.25 inch image on slightly larger sheet, mild irregular crease, penned note on reverse "MIT riot Nov 1970." Image captures a surge of young protesters clashing with police as reporters film the spectacle. (#184157) $22.00


Refers to the police raid on the Elephant Walk bar at 18th and Castro in what many saw as retaliation for the White Night riot.


41. [United States Senate]. Communist Anti-American Riots: Mob Violence as an Instrument of Red Diplomacy.
Bogota--Caracas--La Paz--Tokyo. Staff study of the subcommittee to investigate the administration of the internal security act and other internal security laws to the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, eighty-sixth congress, second session. Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1960. 66p., wraps, very good. (#178542) $12.00


44. Virginia Commission on Constitutional Government. Every man his own law [cover title: "In those days there was no king in Israel..."]. Richmond: the Commission, 1967. 24p., very good in wraps. (#177388) $15.00

Conservative Southern perspective "concerning the unparalleled lawlessness in the streets of the Nation today." Includes citations from the Code of Virginia dealing with the suppression of riots.


Reprint of a 1949 article from the Race Relations Journal. On a riot that began with a conflict between an African teenager and a young Indian shopkeeper. Describes Durban as still sitting on "a volcano."


Includes six pages on "The 'Miami Model' in context: a quick history of crowd control," discussing the use of force on FTAA demonstrators in 2003.

47. Wimberli, Sigemonde Kharlos. Ghetto scenes; poems. Chicago: Free Black Press, 1968. 44p., wraps; red pencil inscription by Eugene Perkins on title page (Perkins also has a blurb on the back cover); second printing of the first edition. African American poet from Chicago. (#155207) $35.00

48. Wolf, Eleanor Paperno, Alvin D. Loving and Donald C. Marsh. Negro-Jewish relationships. Detroit: Wayne University Press, 1944. 7p., wraps. First in a series of studies cosponsored by Detroit's Jewish Community Council and NAACP chapter on the conflict between the two groups that manifested itself in the city's 1943 race riots. (#46079) $35.00
49. [Zhang, Rebecca; Natalie Ng]. This is Hong Kong, not China. Not yet [together with] Stand with Hong Kong [and] No rioters, only tyranny [and] Be water, my friend [and] Liberate Hong Kong, revolution of our times [set of five zines]. Los Angeles, 2019. [32 to 36p. each], staplebound zines, very good; the first issue is a third printing. All are high-quality productions combining text from social media and news sources with photos of the demonstrations against the controversial proposed extradition law in HK (which was tabled for the time being due to the outcry). The third issue includes a handwritten note explaining the series, stating that a fourth issue was originally planned but events had overwhelmed the people working on the project. In fact, however, two subsequent zines were published, which are included here. The creators are USC students with ties to Hong Kong. (#239614) $25.00