see it every hour they are on the clock. Which brings us to the last bit to remember about social workers: they are workers. They have all the same attitudes about work that you do. At one time, they were idealists. They believed that with this career they would be improving people’s lives every day and serving humanity. Most of them still believe this, but what’s foremost in their mind while on the clock is what they might do when off the clock. While at work, they want as little interaction as possible with their bosses. They want as many and as long breaks as is possible. They almost never answer the phone or return messages. When they are typing in your answers on the computer they are really thinking about getting drunk, fucking, or the best way to make it out of the building with the computer, any thing but the monotony of work. Usually all these things work to our advantage. Just be aware, it takes a long time for them to get to you, but when you are in front of them you won’t be there for long. The questions will be quick and your answers should be true. Don’t explain any more than they need to know. Lastly, they may require more than your word; they may ask for paycheck stubs, sworn statements, rent agreements etc.

**Bureaucracy -** Government aid is a huge bureaucracy. Be prepared to get the run-around, be there all day, have caseworkers switched with little explanation. Combine caseworkers’ lack of desire to work efficiently with bureaucracy’s sluggish speed and you know you’re in for a wait. You may spend 2 hours of your life in this tar-pit. And the fun doesn’t stop once you leave the building. Expect strange letters in the mail detailing procedures that may not make sense, ordering you to the Division of Workforce Development for further bureaucratic insanity, and possibly even court appearances! And, of course, in 6 months you must return to renew your food stamps all over again.

**Supervisors -** Beware of supervisors. Maybe they too started off as caseworkers did. Maybe they think they are still helping people. But their job is to oversee the caseworkers, keep them in line, make sure they are not giving out too much of the State’s funds, and make sure information is in order and people are not abusing the system. In this endeavor, as in most, the supervisor is your enemy. Don’t be afraid; if you happen to run into them, remember that with a little creativity you can lose them in the bureaucracy.

**You -** Show up early in the week and early in the morning to ensure a shorter line. Bring along identification and either income. When in front of your caseworker say as little as possible! The answer to almost every question should be “no”. You have no money in the bank, no income, no property. You share meals with nobody. Claim single-parent status if possible. It’s fine to lie about bank accounts, but we doubt you will be able to lie about kids, unless you have some killer counterfeit birth certificates. We have heard conflicting stories about their ability to verify your employment status. If you work under-the-table claim to be unemployed. If you must say that you get your paycheck stub. If you get caught lying, which we have never heard of happening, they have the ability to suspend government aid from you for a long time. Don’t let this scare you. Everyone lies and exaggerates about their situation; it’s expected. What’s most important isn’t that you make $0, but rather that all your money goes to paying for utilities and rent, leaving you little to nothing for food. The ratio is important. You need to say that you are taking in less than you need to survive. If they have trouble swallowing your story here are a couple of good lies to fall back on; “Friends are loaning me money to get by” and “Friends are letting me stay on their couch ‘til I get off my feet.” Of course they may ask for statements from them, and again you may easily be forced to get by these. If they deny you food stamps, they will offer the option to appeal it and a free lawyer. Take both. You will, in all likelihood, lose the first appeal, but a lawyer assures us that, almost always, if you push it far enough, you will win.

### Game Over

One thing we must emphasize is that it is in our best interest for you to be open about your food stamps. We need to normalize people receiving government aid. We need to demonstrate to the world that the people in this class war, and that people are not afraid to steal from the enemy. Eliminating the stigma attached to government aid along with subverting ruling-class values has disastrous possibilities for their system. Personal things like getting food are a wonderful way to commu-nicate with friends and family your class perspective. People tend to give ideas a chance, especially dangerous ones which lead to a complete breakdown of the hegemonic paradigm, when they come from people they know and love. So spread the class war every time you sit down for a bite on Uncle Sam’s dime. The more money we get from the government, the worse we have to work. The less we have to work the more time we have to riot. The more we riot the more we are getting, the more simple. Government aid is like a drug, it makes us lose control. We are working the process we have been given, but perhaps too simple. But our goal isn’t more government aid to smooth out capitalism; our goal is the abolition of capital-ism and the State, and its inherent paternalism, brutality, and bureaucracy. As long as we are caught in cycles of work and dependency, we will lie and cheat to get their aid, but never be satisfied. Until the game of food stamps—the game of survival and appeasement—is forever destroyed.
In the crisis morning air we reach for, catching a glimpse of ourselves in the plate glass window bearing our employer’s logo. Eyes bleary from abrupt dream endings, heavy from leaving a child crying for us not to go, head numb from the chatter of the morning news, and limbs sore from a wasted life.


“I've been in the hole for over twenty years for stabbing a guard at M.S.P. [Missouri State Penitentiary]. I got tired of working ten hours out of everyday for ten cents an hour. They smiled and tell you you’re doing a good job, but to me, I know only they profit from my sweat, tears, and solitude. I woke one day and said no more, I got two knife type weapons and went to work- funny no more came with a smile on their face saying, “You did a good job!”... A wolf has come and the sky is now fall-ing upon their dreams.”

-Missouri prisoner in Bonne Terre, April 29, 2004

Only when we actualize that we are each capable of acting will we understand clearly what we now only sus-pect: We can break the system. The recent events in St. Louis have shown us the developers are scared, the cops are scared, and the banks are most definitely vulnerable. Dumbstruck faces of South City developers greet us on the evening news. Fearful Illinois prison guards stand roadside picketing for better protection from those they cage. Business owners frantically call the cops and media to hunt down graffiti vandals. Teary-eyed Kirk-wood cops reach on all fours to clean a desecrated memorial with toothbrushes. Every available cuppea creeps through the blacked-out city sweeping the streets with floodlights hoping to catch us creeping in the shadows, hand gripping crummbol, eyes locked on Schnucks. Anxious school officials race back to the meeting room to make sure the kids don’t walk out all day. All because of the actions of mere people in a region of millions. Some call us naive to think the system can be broken; we think it naive to think it can’t.

Kids, full of themselves, laugh condescendingly at the South Grand wheatpaster’s rage against a mental health system that destroyed him. They are too quick to mock one who has broke the chokehold and began to speak on his own. They haven’t lived. They are hardly lived a moment when they can’t accept the voice of others as their own. A situation that is, without a doubt, much more worthy of mockery...

This is our second attempt to speak for ourselves against the crushing weight of the world we were born into. With near-total understanding of certain aspects of this society and limited understanding of others, we con-tinue. We believe state and money power never let up their attacks. There is no social truce- only constant social conflict. We don’t get a break for rent, but, like the recording cameras, or the silent surveillance cameras. And those who force us into these compromising positions shouldn’t and don’t get a break either. We don’t be-lieve in just waiting for “the right moment” to strike back against the violence of this society, or the right social move-ment to come sweep us away. Right now is the right time and moment. And, we and our everyday fight-back, are the social movement.

If you feel the spirit of this publication existing, then we encourage you to photocoppy it and to share it with your friends, family, co-workers, and cell-mates or simply leave it around. By doing so, you’re making public your own attempt to make sense of and combat this miserable society.

For now, you can contact us at war_on_misery@hotmail.com

“THE RULES”

Walk into the nearest Department of Social Serv-ices, Family Support Division office (in the city either 3545 Lindell or 4411 N. Newstead), through the metal detec-tors, and approach the information desk. Tell them you are applying for food stamps. You will get a form to fill out and a number. Fill it out and wait.

When your number is called, approach the window. You will be assigned a caseworker and told to wait again. This is the longest part of the day. You can talk to the window clerk at the window behind you who has waited more than 15 minutes (30 to 45 or even an hour is common). It sometimes speeds up the process.

If your caseworker calls your name, follow him or her back to a computer, and answer a series of questions. After that, they’re done. Congratulations, if you gave the correct answers, you now have food stamps.

“THE PLAYERS”

Caseworkers - For the most part, they want to help you. They are liberals, people who be-lieve that capitalism can be made less exploitative. They see no es-sential difference between the two states of society. Instead, they see the same machinery which need reforms; rough spots to be smoothed. They find govern-ment aid to be lacking. They see first-hand the paternalism and clumsy bureaucracy that makes it harder for people to improve their lives. They also see the effects of budget cuts first-hand. To most of us, when politicians slash social spending by X we cannot possibly un-derstand how that affects individual people. Social workers do. They

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Brag to his friends at cocktail parties. Laclede Gas reveals that last year more than 2,000 cases of illegal gas hookups were discovered. The revelation is prompted by an audit of the units had turned the gas on themselves to avoid payment. In the months prior, Laclede had increased its rates by 40%.

A man; December 30, Wentzville.

The front window of Wentzville Pay Day Loans is smashed.

noticeable traffic problems. Local police

January 15, Warrenton.

- A tractor

January 17, Edwardsville (IL)

trailer drives off with $775 worth of un-paid gas in its tank. Two days earlier the gas station reported a $285 theft.

- Several people

- Two prisoners

October 17, Marion (IL)

- Of

September 27, St. Louis City

- Four prisoners

- Two prisoners

December 9, St. Louis City

- Two prisoners

September 28, Roxana (IL)

- A man

October 8, Buffalo

age the homes of two city council members who, the night before, spoke in favor of adding more police to patrol the city.

November 19, Spanish Lake

- Four prisoners

January 7, Columbia & St. Francois County

- A man

January 28, Hillsboro - Three teenagers

January 30, Vienna (IL)

- Two prisoners

February 1, Maplewood

- Around 40 people gather out-side police headquarters to protest.

WWW.HTXTH.COM/NEWS/TODAY/2272

FOOD

WHY WE PLAY

Because work never pays enough, and the real material value of our work has been stolen from us by our bosses. Because everything should be available to those who need it. Because being on food stamps means $150 a month we don't need to worry.

Because the more people get on food stamps the harder it is for politicians to take action. Because the rubbish, the working class, and the people who work for us are worth a damn.

The GAME

Food stamps are the crumbs keeping us from both starvation and revolt. The State never grants us these crumbs out of generosity. Underlying all government aid is a carrot, and now, as never before, we see that the carrot is paternalistic, stigmatizing, and obviously, never enough. Paternalistic because they dictate what we can spend the credit on. The message being, we are not mature enough to decide where to spend our money and what to spend on. So we are given an allowance only to be used on certain foodstuffs (not the prepared variety, vitamins, or supplements) and only from accepting stores (anywhere within the United States). Additionally, they force us to provide documentation, more concretely as our own words, as proof of our starvation. Stigmatizing because we must provide a card every time we buy groceries, altering the cashier and other customers that we cannot make ends meet. Of course, within that stigmatization is the enormous potential for subversion, which we will get to later.

Food stamps, like all crumbs, are not our goal. We don’t want a bigger allowance, or a nicer, safer capitalism. Our goal is life. Food stamps are the result of our actions, the result of our attempts to live (read: riots, occupations, shoplifting, looting, general strikes, rent strikers, bank heists). They are re-expropriation. In short, food stamps are a small victory in a long war against our class enemies.

2005

April 7, Manchester

- In the last issue we reported on how a police officer from the Laclede County Sheriff's dept. had to drive his Buick Somerset to Saint Louis City police cars had their windows knocked out. We overlooked the fact that on this same day, 5 St. Louis police cars had their windows knocked out. We overlooked the fact that on this same day, 13 tires were slashed on 9 Manchester police vehicles.

Sometime in April, Fort Leonard Wood - An overseas deployment to Iraq, Kyle Snyder, a combat engineer with the U.S. Army, deserts his Missouri Unit and flies to Canada.

October 17, Marion (IL) - Two prisoners escape from the Federal Prison Camp by walking away at an opportune moment.

November 19, Spanish Lake - Four teenagers, responding to their friend's recent murder, ambush and steal a rental car as a basis for getting to a safe place.

December 9, St. Louis City - Someone breaks into a Maryland Heights Police officer's car and steals a wallet, blank checks, and gun.

December 22, Wayneville - One-hun-dred miles southwest of St. Louis, the Pulaski County Sheriff's office fires one of its jailers for allowing a prisoner to have sex with a Courvelle in a room in the jail. She could have given him an AK-47, sticks of explosive or 300 pounds of pyro-cyninic," Sheriff J.B. King says. "It's a total breach of security." There is no evidence the jailer took a bribe.

December 23, Columbia & St. Francois County - More than fifty taxi drivers meet and pool their money to help two fellow drivers who were justooted white-suited police who fired a volley of shotguns at them. The driver's suit against the Metropolitan Taxicab Commission. The commission's rogue inspe-ctor, who is the most notorious cop in the group, was named "kangaroo court," drives cannot really challenge the police's claims because the cop who witnessed the shots fired has no corroboration. The decision is announced: "The Commission is not responsible for the attacks or the damage done. The commis-sion's "kangaroo court," drivers cannot really challenge the police's claims because the cop who witnessed the shots fired has no corroboration. The decision is announced: "The Commission is not responsible for the attacks or the damage done. The commission's rogue inspector, who is the most notorious cop in the group, was named "kangaroo court," drives cannot really challenge the police's claims because the cop who witnessed the shots fired has no corroboration. The decision is announced: "The Commission is not responsible for the attacks or the damage done. The commission's rogue inspector, who is the most notorious cop in the group, was named "kangaroo court," drives cannot really challenge the police's claims because the cop who witnessed the shots fired has no corroboration. The decision is announced: "The Commission is not responsible for the attacks or the damage done."

January 7, Warrenton - Paintballs are shot at a police speed trailer covering it with paint balls.

January 9, Potosi - At the maximum-se-curity prison where a death row prisoner repeatedly stabs a 19-year veteran unit manager (responsible for overseeing one of the prison's seven housing units) and injures two other prison workers. The attack occurs in the manager's office, where inmates sometimes go for meet-ings or to air complaints. Tim Watson, a retired Dept. of Corrections officer, was convicted of first degree murder, but got cut in the arm and stabbed in the shoulder... It's once or twice a month that the walls start to move in dangerous situations. Very life threatening... You could be in a housing unit where there's just one guard watching 200 people. You don't know who is around. You don't have anything but a radio and a prayer.

January 12, Millstadt (IL) - During the week of unusually warm weather, local skateboarders take over streets, disobeying all traffic laws and causing noticeable traffic problems. Local police issue a public statement warning the youngsters they are violation state law and asking parents to talk with their children about the dangers of driving in a state of carelessness.

January 15, Warrenton - A tractor trailer drives off with $775 worth of un-used gas at a service station in St. Louis. The gas station reported a $285 theft.

January 17, Edwardsville (IL) - A va-cant 5,000 square foot, $440,000 home in the Pinebrook Estates subdivision is destroyed in a suspicious early morn-ing fire. In late 2004, vandal-ists targeted and heavily damaged an Edwardsville subdivision construction site because the builder was building homes and sabotaging construction equipment.

January 28, Hillsboro - Three teenagers push at two officials, commander an employee's car, and escape from a state juvenile detention center. Two are later caught and one is at large.

January 30, Vienna (IL) - A young man in the custody of the Johnson County's Sheriff's department, escapes after a deputy briefly left him unattended in the booking room.

November 19, Spanish Lake - Four prisoners

- A man

September 29, Affton - Around 30 anarchists behind a large banner reading, "FUCK Y'ALL Social Liberation, Not Anti-Immigration" crash the white-supremacist Council of Conservative Citizens’ annual picnic. After the CoCo started a brawl, a picnic table lay overturned and a 2-year-old girl was trampled. (See more at: www.stltimes.org/news/newswire/display/2272)

October 5, Wellston - Molotov cocktails dam-age a McDonald's restaurant.

October 6, St защиты, fighting the night before, spoke in favor of adding more police to patrol the city.

October 13, St. Louis County - At least 63 of 36 prisoners at the St Louis County Detention Center attempt to break out en masse. They kick a hole in the ceiling of a cell block, smash the glass on the second story windows, and pull out cameras, and stuff pages of a dictionary over a fire at a food stamp office. They leave fire on the lobby, burn to hoping to burn through the lobby barrier and gain access to the

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We started this publication because we saw those around us, the soul of the media and the baton of the police and resign themselves to the miserable state of this society - despite millions of signs, and oftentimes their own experience, suggesting it didn’t have to be this way. We crafted War on Misery to radiate exactly this spirit of defiance, joy, and possibly not to dwell on the despair that saturates our streets, and the sometimes the violence of Capitalist becomes so vile and is so much worse, that the world’s miserable normal. So here we deprecate from words of hope and possibility because our eyes are too watery, hearts too heavy, and blood too boiler to swallow the reality. Listed below is the alarming number of those whose future will be shared with us.

- A worker at LMC Industries in Arnold was killed in an industrial accident. December 2005.
- Wesley Dunn, 48, a truck driver for Williams Industrial Coatings, fell into the Mississippi River from the Jefferson Barracks Bridge, which he had been painting for the U.S. Air Force. He was trapped on a scaffolded at the side of the bridge for over an hour before a tower hit and killed him. December 2005.
- A St. Louis (MO) woman, 20, on her way to her second day of work at a Security Armored Car Service, Inc. van as he was walking into a check cashing business at N. Kingshighway and Page Blvd. around 10am.
- A man demands money from a teller, receives the money, and escapes with it on his bicycle.
- A 73-year-old worker for AmerenUE repairing a block-long, upscale condominium development under construction at Grand Ave. and Flad Ave. in St. Louis City.
- A worker at LMC Industries in Arnold was killed in an industrial accident. December 2005.
- Henry Jefferson Heath, Jr., 58, an IDOT worker directing traffic in a construction zone on Interstate 70 (I-70), was hit by the trailer of a jack-knifed big rig and pushed into a parked IDOT dump truck, killing him instantly. April 26, 2006.
- Jeffrey Staley, 40, a highway construction worker for Collins & Staley, Inc. in a construction zone on the Mississippi River Bridge, fell into the Mississippi River and drowned. May 25, 2006.
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A Cop Shot Dead - All Out to Defend Rockhead!

His conviction depends on the testimony of his neighbors. Whether they are lying and trying to settle a score with Rockhead or are snitches, we don’t care. Rockhead, a.k.a. Kevin John-son, is running up against the full force of the law. This March, those who know nothing of life under the boot-heel of American law & order will be filling the courtroom behind the city’s best prosecutors working to send him to death row because one of their own, Kirkwood cop Sgt. William McEntee, took some of them out. In the middle of a whole squalor, the whole plan equals. Just like those who defaced McEntee’s memorial, those who allegedly intimidated the prosecution’s witnesses, and those who have refused to cooperate with the police, we stand by Rockhead and encourage everyone reading this to do the same. His trial date is set for March 29, 2007 (subject to change at any time). We will be a constant at the courthouse. We are the people who know what happened to Kevin John-son, for McEntee’s death.

May 1, 2007 - Around 4am, a man escapes from Alton City Jail by cutting away a window screen and jumping into a rain gutter. He is later captured and reported to be not likely to reoffend.

June 17, 2007 - Shortly after 4:00pm, three people hold up Olin Credit Union and flee with $35,750 into a waiting getaway car.

June 22, 2007 - Pursuers of a suspect in this case are looking for the fugitive to the west of the city. The suspect is reported to be at large and potentially dangerous.

July 29, 2007 - A prisoner at the maximum-security state prison repeatedly stabs a guard who had cited him for a conduct violation earlier in the week.

August 2, 2007 - A man robs a bank on New Halls Ferry Rd. and flees in a car.

August 4, 2007 - A man robbs Southern Commercial Bank at 7201 S. South Broad St. He escapes in a car after handing the teller a note demanding cash.

August 12, 2007 - A man escapes from Bond County Jail at 11:20pm by wearing a guard’s uniform he stole from a storage room and walking through the front door.

August 18, 2007 - At 10:45am, a man robs the William St. U.S. Bank at 11am. He escapes in a car.

A man robs a bank at 4:00pm, two men for attempted arson as they approach a new multi-family construction site on the 6600 block of Minnesota. Police report one man had agreed to pay his nephew cash to set the fire.

August 2, 2007 - Imperial on the banks of the Lake of the Ozarks. Twenty-four lakeside condos are incinerated totaling an incredible $7 million loss.

August 5, 2007 - Shortly after noon, the Human Bank by opening his briefcase and displaying a handgun to the teller, who hands over an undi-achievable sum of money. The robber escapes in a car with no plates.

August 7, 2007 - Someone douses an accelerant on the car. The car and its radio equipment, valued at $42,000, are destroyed and a nearby squard car is also damaged. The day before, police in neighboring Belleville shot gunshots as three men wanted on shoplifting charges.

August 9, 2007 - Someone douses an accelerant on the car. The car and its radio equipment, valued at $42,000, are destroyed and a nearby squard car is also damaged. The day before, police in neighboring Belleville shot gunshots as three men wanted on shoplifting charges.

August 10, 2007 - Webster Groves - While driving a bank, a man robs the St. Louis County Bank at 7300 Big Bend Boulevard. The improp-ised device does not explode or cause any damage.

August 12, 2007 - Cape Girardeau - A man robbs the William St. U.S. Bank at 11am. With a St. Charles County Sheriff’s deputy on the scene, a man holds up the Pulaski Bank at 415 Delavalie Ave. and escapes into a car with an undisclosed amount of cash.

August 18, 2007 - Farmington - An armed robbery at Farmington Auto Car Service truck while its guards refused a gas station. The man later abandoned it on a remote road.

ChRONICLES, continued on page 10
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But life itself. So the development projects is nothing new: construction dumpster fires, sabota-
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