



Indymedia Italia Print .:SPECIALE GENOVA:.

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Our history under judgment

Since March 2nd one court hearing every Tuesday. In the bunker court of the Genova Tribunal the process is underway against 25 people who had gone to demonstrate against the G8 summit. The charges are "devastation and robbery". The sentence? from 8 to 15 years imprisonment. The main evidence against them is a DVD consisting of mixed images, a three-hour video edited by a policeman to show that the anti-G8 protests were a planned act of subversion. The DVD was compiled by the policeman under request by the Public Prosecutor of Genova. We have seen it: it is a cut and paste, more cut than pasted. The scenes showing guilt remain, while the scenes which show the police charge before the throwing of stones and the beating of demonstrators after the smashing of a shop window have been cut out. The video is a compilation of the recorded images of the thousand eyes which were at the Genoa G8: tv teams and surveillance cameras, national police and local police, citizens and demonstrators. Thanks to confiscations and donations the public prosecutor has been given all they require. And police officer Corda has artistically edited the film with music and subtitles, (later removed following protests by the defense). At the end of June the trials of 47 high members of the Italian police force charged with tortures at Bolzaneto. The Public Prosecutors have announced further trials: the first one for violence in several hospitals, the second one against 50 demonstrators. It might not be the last: "The aim" - they say - "would be a big second trial."



July 2001- july 2004: have you ever been to Genova?

3 years have passed since July 2001, but what happened is still very much in our minds. And trials are still going on which should clarify what really happened and who was responsible: nobody has been found guilty of Carlo Giuliani's murder, nobody is officially guilty of the devastation in the Diaz school, although it is quite clear that the police have deliberately constructed false evidence and made false statements. Now, though, the ongoing trials have reached an important point. On 26th July the trials will begin of 29 police officers accused of the abuses committed on 21st July 2001 in the Diaz school. The police officers are charged with violence, defamation, and false testimony. The judge for the preliminary hearings should decide whether a real trial should take place or not, and only after such a trial would there be a final judgement. The victims can have a direct role in the trial process by associating themselves with the public prosecutor and suing for and moral damages. This is also an option available to the family of the victims. The Genova Legal Forum is coordinating the legal action and providing lawyers for those who require (contact info@veritaegiustizia.it).

The trial of 25 people is also underway for devastation and robbery. One major proof is a DVD edited made up of images taken from bank and traffic surveillance cameras, police videocams, and videomakers who were at the demonstrations. But, as the defense says, the images have been cut and pasted with the express intention of painting the demonstrators in

a bad light and generating negative emotions. The days of the Genoa G8 are the most documented political event with videos, photos and articles. Indymedia was in Genova, the history of Genova, our history is about to be judged and the proofs used are the thousands of eyes which were there during those days. These images are not impartial: the prosecution is using them for their purposes and to prove their case.

The defense lawyer has to use the same instruments.

The GLF has a large archive of documents, videos, pictures, audios, and texts.

This archive, though, needs to be digitalized to be integrated with the huge amount of new material coming from these trials.

Italy Indymedia has there-

fore decided to deal with it and take it as proof. From June to October 2004 we are going to be in Genoa once again. 4 people are working every day on this G8 archive, trying to construct an instrument which could be used for the legal task in hand, but also a readily-understandable archive for the historical collective memory. In addition to these 4 people, other activists will work from their houses, helping the collective work by updating the Genoa G8 dossier of italy.indymedia.org.

We have decided to launch a campaign to finance the work of the people who will work in Genova, as well as the technical and material costs of research and archiving in the GLF offices.

It's the first fund-raising campaign that we have worked on and we need your help.



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