

# What's in a name?

Open Road or Closed Road, We've been wondering for quite a while. Why call us **Iron Curtain**? True there were mix-ups in the beginning of our paper's name. **Iron Guard** were obscure Romanian fascist groups who later collaborated with Nazi occupation forces in World War II. At first not aware of similar sounding meaning in name. We thought that as punk anarchists that we were a new generation and wanted a name to that effect. **Iron Guard** was a real bad choice.

Then we opted for **Black Guard**. We were MISINFORMED that this name was also fascist sounding like SS or something (**Maximum Rock'n'Roll** said that). On the contrary 'Black Guard' would have been a very fine choice as the 'Black Guards' were anarchist martyrs in Moscow in 1918, who fought the bolshevik secret police and Lenin's consolidation of power. Instead we opted for **New Iron Column**, named after a Spanish revolutionary militia - which fought both Franco's fascists and Stalin's communists. Since A.N.I.C. I we have been exposed to A literature from all over the world - WE LEARN. Maybe you thought we were naive and politically immature - so not worth communicating with. Smacks of elitism on your part. We've sent A.N.I.C. many times. Maybe they are not all getting through? We have had this happen often.

On Porn Issue: We couldn't agree more with you! We've been subjected to much the same ridicule. Not so much B. Black or Fred as I would say... Al Medwin or Hank Purcell Jr. or Billy Mick or 'Ministry of Truth' or 'Factsheet Five'. Sexism in society as a whole is the problem, porn a reflection of this. Prostitution a similar issue. Women are victims in a larger 'game' and porn or prostitution are symptoms of this. State censorship is NO answer. We have never advocated this - but Direct Action and social revolution... Yes!

The Libertarian Party is a favorite target of ours here. Since Orange County is home base for the L.P. There is a saying here: living behind the 'Orange Curtain'. And I assure you we don't like it or the high tech militarist, affluent/rightist 'libertarian' - Bircherist death culture within it (the county). We are just stuck here - lumpen prole/vagrants from the depressed east and midwest. Displaced. Others of us grew up in LA/Watts area here. Poor. We are creating plenty of havoc in the belly of Reagan Country. We have come for their children. We have successfully penetrated local high schools - area prisons - punk scene here in general (which is rather large), inspiring the current surge of A youth mobilisations here. And not without risks... we have sustained numerous attacks and threats and one thwarted bombing attempt on us a week ago ('wiring' attempt on a car). We need your support. We certainly support **Open Road**. Articles on Big Mountain and Wollaston - excellent! We support V-5!

A New Iron Column  
1728 W. Ball #4  
Anahelm CA  
92804 U.S.A.

Dear Open Road,  
I saw the advertisement you put out in **Maximum Rock'n'Roll**. Be-

ing involved in punk rock for a while can get someone sick as shit of circle A's all over everything. I've been interested (although fairly ignorant) of anarchism for years, how it ties into peace, and letting people be themselves without outside hinderance.

Whenever my friends and I are hassled by the police (never for a crime however, but for being young) it is ironic to see people with 'anarchy' written all over them sit passively giving police all they ask for (I.D., etc.) while one or two of us ask questions.

J.S.  
Baltimore, MD, U.S.A.

Dear friends,

Received the **Open Road/Resistance** and greatly enjoyed it. But I read in their "On the Road" statement that they were going to dictate the type of communiques you would print in the future. I greatly object to this, anyone attacking the ruling system should have some sort of English language media to issue their statements. At this time you alone serve this purpose, regardless whether they are anarchist or ML, do not desert the true freedom fighters.

For total revolution  
J.P.

## STANDING DEER

Greetings to all my brothers and sisters,

From the dungeons of Babylon I send love and strength to all of you who struggle for the sake of our unborn generations. Thank you for the excellent coverage **Open Road** gave me, Albert Garza and Leonard Peltier during our 42 day religious fast we did in 1984 at the federal prison in Marion, Illinois. Thank you, to, for the continued coverage that you gave my brother Leonard as his struggle for freedom continues. There was one slight error in your 'Leonard Peltier Update' which appeared in the Spring 1986 issue. The United States Penitentiary where Leonard is now being held is a maximum security prison rather than minimum security as reported. It is true that after the horrors of the dreaded Marion political prison, Leavenworth seems like a minimum security prison by comparison.

I have been kicked out of the federal prison system and am now being held held captive in Greed's Ironhouse at McAlester, Oklahoma. Since the riot of Dec. 17, 1985, this entire prison population has been subjected to vile and incredible reprisals. We are being held on 24-hour-a-day deadlock solitary confinement in tiny sealed-tomb tiger cages. I have been sentenced to 180 days in the hole for liberating a prison bus in honour of the great people's victory on the streets of Saigon on April 29, 1975. My comrade, Rickke Green #8244, who gets your paper, has been on deadlock almost the entire time since I escaped nearly 11 years ago. So far as I can determine, he is the only bone fide black revolutionary political prisoner left in an Oklahoma prison.

In the spirit of Crazy Horse  
and comrade George

Standing Deer  
A.K.A. Robert H. Wilson #83947  
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## "Libertarians" and the CNT

Colegas,

We are very glad to know that **Open Road** is still hanging in there. Issue 18 looks great and, although **Malahierba** hasn't put out an issue in over a year, we will gladly make use of **Open Road** in Radio Klara y Libertaria, a free radio here in Valencia which broadcasts 18 hours a day in stereo and reaches three provinces. You may have heard of **Radio Klara**, as they've tried to close us down on several occasions, but we've come back each time stronger and stronger. What constitutes a Free Radio is: no financial backing from any political party or labor union, no advertising, and no support from any government organisation or related institution. Radio Klara calls itself "Libertaria" but there are groups which do programs at the radio that are not "Libertarians". There are various communist groups and others who have no idea of anything. However, the majority is "Libertarian" and are people who were in the CNT for many years but have had to abandon the CNT due to internal strife which has made the CNT an abysmal place for "Libertarians" to be (If I put "Libertarian" in quotes it's because there are many people who call themselves "Libertarians" who are, in fact, not "Libertarians" at all. A "Libertarian" is judged by actions and not by his/her words. Unfortunately, in both CNTs (the CNT has always been divided as the article I have included in this letter explains)\* there are certain individuals who are rather authoritarian in their attitudes. As a result, there are many "Libertarians" outside the CNT, waiting for the eventual "reunification". These "Libertarians" in the meantime are not sitting around doing nothing, while the internal battles between the two groups calling themselves the CNT are being fought out. These "Libertarians" are working in anti-militarist groups and feminist groups. Some have put their necks on the line and formed Free Radios. (The "communists" are now taking advantage of what the "libertarians" have done over the last few years in creating "Free Radios", risking jail of fascist violence to do it. Now that these stations are becoming more or less tolerated, all of a sudden you find

"Free Radios" sprouting up all over that are communist backed or just plain commercial. But it was the "Libertarian" movement which gave rise to these stations, and above all "Libertarians" who found themselves out of the CNT. Because all they were doing in the CNT was having to deal with the eternal internal "question".)

You will find in the article I have sent you, ...a more authentic exposition of the problem of the division in the CNT than what you published in issue #18. I tell you this not because I take any sides. As a matter of fact I sympathize with CNT/AIT, but I am not a member of either CNT, and will not be until their differences are resolved. The issue is very complex. Like me there are thousands of colleagues waiting for the reunification. The only thing that articles like the one you published in #18 do is divide the CNT even more. Lately there seems to be a strong desire to bury swords and come together. But there are still individuals who feel

the need to avenge certain injuries. You will find this especially among the old colleagues, those who lived the revolution and the early post-war repression. There are many divisions between them and these problems have also been passed on to the younger colleagues. The victim has been the CNT and the benefactor has been the state.

Try to familiarize yourselves a little bit more with this very delicate problem at a time when so many people are waiting for this thing to get straightened out once and for all so that the CNT can finally become a strong base for Libertarian activity. The division has only served to strengthen the 'left' PSOE+/communists and liberals. As you know, there is a very strong anarchist tradition in Spain. If the CNT manages to iron out it's differences (and mind you many of these differences have very little to do with ideology and more to do with old arguments and vengeances) perhaps there might be a very powerful Libertarian resurgence on the peninsula again. But we've got the police and the state doing what they can to divide us, and individuals in the CNT who won't sit down and work their differences out. Neither the one nor the other CNT is completely at fault. Both of them need to have a real desire to work to work out the problem. And until this happens, thousands of "Libertarians" will continue working on their own, waiting. Please, anything that divides us any more can only work against us. If you must publish something about the CNT or the Libertarian movement in Spain, please do it in such a way that will tend to support it's growth, and not divide it even more.

Salud y Anarquia Siempre!!!  
Russell

\* The article mentioned in this letter is a reprint from an issue of **Solidaridad Obrera Barcelona [CNT-AIT]**. At present we have not obtained a translation, but copies are available from **Open Road** for \$1.00 including postage. If possible the article may be reprinted in a future issue.

† The PSOE are the ruling party in Spain (social democrats).

The address of Radio Klara is:  
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OPEN ROAD needs writers...  
and photographers and artists.

Our aim is to be a forum for the international anarchist movements. To do this we need written and graphic contributions from people on the spot. We need first-hand accounts of your aims, your struggles, and successes, what works and what doesn't. You can make the **Open Road** the paper you deserve. Send any and all contributions to:

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