

## GRAPO interview - 2002

---

Published: *"Resistencia" #57, January 2002*

Transcription, Editing and Markup: Paul Saba and Sam Richards

Copyright: This work is in the Public Domain under the Creative Commons Common Deed. You can freely copy, distribute and display this work; as well as make derivative and commercial works.

Please credit the Encyclopedia of Anti Revisionism On-Line as your source, include the url to this work

---

**Q.** What did you think when you learned that GRAPOs were included in the famous list of "terrorist organizations" by EU member states?

**A.** In truth, we were not surprised. Since our birth (1975) as an Organization, we have always been under the fire of fascism. Although the spokespersons of the regime tried to discredit us and obscure our own existence, in the end the reality imposed itself: the fact that today, overnight, we saw ourselves included in the "black list" of the Yankee imperialists, godfathers and protectors of the Spanish fascists, supposes a full recognition of the failure of the extermination policy taken to the extreme against our activists and those of other organizations of the Political Movement of Resistance.



In the end, they were forced to admit that they had failed to finish us, that we continue there and that we still represent a real danger to their interests. And that not so much for the quantity of our actions, as for their quality, for their links with the contesting aspirations of the popular movement, to be as determined as they are and for the choice of the best political moment to execute them, always seeking to weaken the regime and raise the consciousness of the masses.

In addition, Yankee strategists are fully aware of the anti-imperialist character of our Organization, since on various occasions their military interests and installations in our country have been attacked by our commandos in solidarity with the peoples suffering from their aggression. They also know that we have always continued to establish internationalist links and contacts with other organizations and movements which resolutely fight against fascism

and imperialism in their respective countries. For this they decided to give us this "preferential" treatment.

**Q.** It has been over a year since we last read a press release from your organization. If it is not, that from time to time, the newspapers attribute to you such or such action letting appear that you are in a phase that we are going to call "Guadiana oculto". What is this silence about? It has something to do with the arrest in Paris of 2 members of your Directorate?

**A.** It is certain that at the moment we did not release any press release, but the same as since the arrest of part of our leadership we have not stopped acting.

When an arrest affects the "Commando Central" there are always sections of the infrastructure which suffer significant damage. The majority of the actions that we carried out during this period (expropriation of money and weapons) were directed with the aim of repairing the said damage and restoring the affected sections, at the same time as we put in place the restructuring of the Organization which was already planned before the arrests and which we are strengthening with the incorporation of new combatants.

Today, we can affirm that, which is fundamental, we have healed the wounds which the repression had inflicted on us and that we are in good condition to respond to the needs of the Political Movement of Resistance.

Not to treat in a spectacular way our actions carried out until the end, one can have the impression that indeed we are inactive. However, the fascist state is aware of our actions that make him suffer directly and he is enraged to be fully aware of the military preparation of our commandos and of the damage that these may cause him when we decide to do so. . We give as an example, the expropriation of funds in Santander, last November. During the confrontation of our combatants with the Guardia Civil and other repressive forces, the latter became afraid, not being able to avoid the orderly withdrawal of the commando.

**G.** How to insert the execution of a policeman in Madrid a little over a year ago in the type of action done recently, related to your reformation?

It was a one-off fact linked to the escalation of the repression of the regime. It was in a context of prosecution against the Antifascist Resistance Movement and its avant-garde and the state of emergency barely hidden in Euskal Herria; the incarceration in Paris of part of our "Commando Central" and of the Direction of the PCE (r) had just occurred and it was necessary to show the regime that it had not weakened us and that its objective of putting an end to the armed resistance struggle was once again doomed to failure.

However, we maintain very clearly that we will not be trapped by the police who, with their provocations, wish to bring us to this terrain as unfavorable as direct confrontation with the repressive forces; we know that the armed struggle, by itself, cannot currently reverse the new fascist tide. It requires an apogee of workers' and popular struggles, an increase in their

radicalism and the confrontation against the regime to isolate it even more and contribute to weakening it.

It follows that our actions were not directed in order to give an answer to all this violence, if not to guarantee the continuity of the armed struggle of Resistance and the strengthening of the Organization in order to find ourselves in the better conditions to wait for the tasks that the evolution of the situation, in the future, will require of us.

**Q.** What do you think of the actions of September 11 in NY and Washington? What changes have occurred in the world since that date?

The attacks at the heart of Yankee imperialism are a logical consequence of the policy of genocide which turned into a veritable war of rapine with the enslavement of a multitude of nations and peoples all over the planet.

Taking as a pretext the actions of September 11, the imperialists unleashed a real witch hunt in their respective countries to destroy the workers' opposition to their military policy of aggression. The accelerated fascization of the imperialist states has been reinforced by the approval of new repressive laws, genuinely exceptional, which have made these countries real convicts for the workers. Since September 11, more than one thousand detainees "suspected of terrorism" have disappeared in Yankee prisons, in Great Britain they have approved internment without a judicial order, the massacre of revolutionaries in Turkish prisons continues, in France the detentions of Basque activists increase as well as their surrender to the hands of Spanish torturers, etc.

In the case of our country, due to the perpetuation of fascism after Franco's death, this whole process was much more acute.

We only have to take as an example the continuous imprisonment of workers and young anti-fascists, the increasing illegalization of all these parties, organizations, associations which fight for authentically democratic freedoms, which denounce repression and which encourage solidarity with its victims, etc. Ultimately, the broader criminalization of all social movements that confront this situation of lack of freedom and authentic terror.

In any case, we are at war and, to return to September 11, the peoples have the right to defend themselves against imperialist aggression and are obliged to do so if they want to survive.

**Q.** How does this war situation in which we live affect your plans as a guerrilla organization at the heart of imperialism?

Spain is in the midst of war. Its troops are already deployed in the Balkans and in Afghanistan. The alignment of the regime with the aggressive bloc commanded by the Yankees led it to accentuate its policy of over-exploitation of workers with the aim of amplifying its repressive apparatus and its military-industrial complex. The money to finance new weapons projects is going to be drawn from the guts and blood of the workers once again and we already

know what it means: more unemployment, misery and repression. And youth will be used as cannon fodder. All this will stimulate the resistance of the popular movement.

Our position is very clear: we will do everything we can to ensure that the Spanish fascist regime does not succeed in winning even a battle in this war. All the projects that we are currently holding at arm's length are directed at accumulating forces and experiences, at consolidating the infrastructures of the Organization and its commandos to develop the armed guerrilla struggle with the aim of weakening the political apparatus and military regime, isolate it politically and speed up the process of its rout, at the same time with our actions we support the movement of the masses, extending armed resistance to increasingly diverse sectors of the population.

In this task we will not skimp on strengths and sacrifices, since we are convinced that this is the only way to get strong at the moment when the Spanish fascist and imperialist state will be weakened to the extreme by the proper development of war and guerrilla action.

By that time, conditions, currently unfavorable for the popular movement, will have changed, all the accumulated hatred of workers and peoples of oppressed nationalities will be at its peak, so we can go on the offensive, merging with the general insurrectional movement of the vast masses, with its political vanguard at the front, in order, all together, to overthrow the fascist state and implant the People's Republic.

**Q.** Given this situation of growing militarism and increasing repression in our country, what would you say to the young people who feel those who are most directly affected by this situation?

Indeed, today the majority of youth movements (nationalists, squatters, rebellious, anti-fascists, anti-imperialists, etc.) have suffered increasing repression which seeks to demoralize them, pushing them to the most absolute impotence and to its neutralization. The regime does not allow them, under this "security legality", the most minimal manifestation of opposition to growing fascism. You only have to take a look at the illegalization of political organizations, the super-supervised demonstrations, the police evictions of the occupied places one after the other, the gagging of free radios, the criminalization of the alternative press and all types of "anti-terrorist" montages which increase and end in front of the Audiencia Nacional.

Do not delay, just for distribution of a fanzine, they will not lose sight of you.

In front of all this it is necessary to adopt a consistent position of confrontation with the regime, not to back down in the resistance, but already in other forms of organizations and methods of struggle outside their control and taking into account of the situation and the approaching war. We must intensify the fight in a more determined and radical way, extend sabotage to the bellicose machine which starts, fight all tendencies to demoralization and pacifism and prepare ourselves on all grounds not to let us lead like sheep at the slaughterhouse.

On this path of struggle, we will meet and bring to this movement all the support that is within our reach.

Through the propaganda of our Party, the PCE (r), you have already seen that we repeat the calls to the workers, to the youth in particular, to provide you with all kinds of help and support. Now that you have the floor, could you say in concrete terms what you need as a type of help, what practical support can you be given?

The GRAPO we do not fall from the sky. We are part of this broad movement of resistance which clashes daily with the regime, of this movement from which we feed and from which the new combatants emerge. From here, we appeal to strengthen the links between this movement and the guerrillas.

First, any consistent anti-fascist, anti-imperialist and democrat who wants to fight fascism with weapons in hand, regardless of ideology, has a place in our Organization. Without the revolutionary armed struggle it is impossible to rout fascism. This fight, to triumph, requires the involvement of all.

From your zine, your neighborhood, your city, you can transform yourself into the eye and ear of the guerrillas, send us a multitude of information to which, on several occasions, we do not have access, given the conditions of strict clandestinity in which develops our activity. Data on entrepreneurs, cops, soldiers ... Where does this or that torturer, exploiter or balance, where does he live, what are his habits ... Where is there an economic objective ( banks, vans, entrepreneurs ...) which allows us to expropriate funds to intensify and develop the fight ...

Ultimately, we need collaborators of all types, no matter how small or insignificant the aid that may seem useful to you in guerrilla warfare may be, it is necessary, since revolutionary struggle is everyone's business. The fact that you are limited to remaining "expectant" only the plan can benefit. If for throwing a molotov cocktail on an interim agency they lock you up for life, think about whether it is not worth doing something more ...