




ZYKLOTRON

STELL DIR VOR ES IST KRIEG
UND KEIN  KOMMT HIN

Die Neue Bahn 

**KEINE

DURCH
TIROL**

STOPPT DEN KRIEG AM GOLF!
KEINE PANZER DURCH ÖSTERREICH!
NEUTRALITÄT WIEDER HERSTELLEN!
KOMMT ZUM FRIEDENSCAMP
IN DIE SILLSCHLUCHT.
SA 9.2. 14" AKTION AM BAHNHOF
INFOS: TEL. 577109 ODER 494666

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“Sometime they’ll give a war and no will come.” I was carried away by this simple flyer the first time I held it in my hands. Apart from the allusion to the poem by Carl Sandburg, at first glance, the context was not clear to me. Soon it turned out that it was an action against the (first) Gulf War. On January 17, 1991, the Austrian parliament amended the War Materials Act, which allowed NATO tanks to pass through Austria by rail. The trains loaded with tanks passed through Tyrol to Italy, where they were shipped to the Persian Gulf. A “Platform for Peace and Neutrality” formed in Tyrol to protest against the transports and, if possible, to block them. An autonomous women’s group acted independently, but in coordination with the platform.

These flyers are from the women’s group. Their graphics satirize various advertisements of the time. For example, under the text “Sometime they’ll give a war and no will come,” one reads “The New Railway,” back then an advertising slogan of the Austrian Federal Railways. In the slogan “No through Tyrol” the logo of the Tyrolean tourism advertising is used. None of the flyers have a printer’s imprint or other identifiers that could traced the authorship back to the autonomous women’s group. The women’s group courageously engaged in acts of resistance against the transports several times, succeeding in briefly blocking the trains twice. This history and especially the role that the women’s group played in it are preserved thanks to feminist documentation work and several articles written in the magazine „Zyklotron“, which was published by the Autonomous Women’s and Lesbian’s Center Innsbruck.

What particularly moved me about this protest was the realization that war is not just happening somewhere far away, but what happens here also contributes to wars. Even here in Austria, a seemingly neutral country, profits are made from wars. Knowing this is an important step to take action today as well. In January 2022, for example, activists blocked access to the Rheinmetall MAN plant, which supplies military vehicles to the Erdoğan regime, among others. The Turkish government is conducting military operations against the Kurdish population in Syria. The activists protested in solidarity with the Autonomous Administration of Northern and Eastern Syria, also known by the Kurdish name Rojava, as well as against militarism and the climate crisis. Another example: recently, in London as well as in Biarritz, villas of Russian oligarchs were occupied by activists demanding they be transformed into quarters for refugees.

Let us not be paralyzed by mourning, but turn our anger into resistance – against the war in Ukraine and against all wars! Or in the words of the people of Innsbruck: “Anger and mourning over [every] war. Against powerlessness and resignation.”



Foto / photo: Jakob Dietrich

ENTRÜSTET EUCH! [DISARM YOURSLEVES, GET OUTRAGED!], 2022

Sekretariat für Geister, Archivpolitiken und Lücken /
Secretariat for Ghosts, Archival Politics and Gaps

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The project was developed for the exhibition AGGRESSIVE PEACE
at Kunstraum Memphis in Linz (May 14 - June 8, 2022).