

The Power of the Autonomous Human

Theory and practice of attacks on humans

Joost van Steenis

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**downwithelite@gmail.com
<http://members.chello.nl/jstenis>**

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This record from many actions small temporary and independent action groups undertook around the year 1980 is still of great value. The power structure did not change much in the last thousand years. This book propagates a new action method against the power of the elite. It contains many examples of actions that really have occurred.

Several higher placed persons, including the mayor of the Dutch town of Baarn, some higher civil servants of the Ministry of Housing and a Queen's Commissioner, were attacked in their private living space. The action group Sound of Mind/Clean of Body acted against several directors of factories that produced largactil, a tranquilliser used to control patients in psychiatric institutions. Many other actions are described in detail and a critical study is made of the role of the media in connection with actions.

From these actions the conclusion can be drawn that a prolonged attack on higher placed persons is an important weapon in the struggle against authorities. Though the actions were carried out by small groups of activists, it is also possible to attack the private life of leading persons in mass actions. The leading class will be forced to listen to demands of the masses what is hardly the case with old forms of (mass) action. The hierarchical partition of power will be undermined. Masspeople will enter a New World when they start to intrude the up till now safe and prosperous eliteworld.

Written in 1982 by **Joost van Steenis**, rewritten in 2009.

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1. JEAN-PAUL MARAT

One day before the fourth anniversary of the French Revolution Jean-Paul Marat was assassinated in his bath. On the 13th of July 1793 ended the life of a man who devoted the greater part of his life to support the lowest part of the French people. Among other things he propagated that powerless people could get more power by attacking leading persons.

Marat was the leader of the sans-culottes, the people without trousers, the poorest and most powerless people of Paris. During the Revolution he edited the newspaper 'L'Ami du Peuple', 'The Friend of the People'. Because his articles were sharp and agitating, the paper was time and again prohibited and Marat must often hide for the authorities though he succeeded to continue the publication of his paper (I am sure my liberal translations agree with the ideas of Marat):

The 'Friend of the People' has never been directed against common citizens. It has only attacked people in the civil service, unreliable bookkeepers, magistrates who neglected their duties, representatives of the people who forgot their obligations and betrayed their principals. And its respect for justice was so high that the paper even found laudable exceptions in the most corrupt circles.

Marat did not only want to use words against the people at the top. He proposed the formation of Patriotic Clubs that should analyse and examine the deeds of leading people:

Patriotic Clubs will only pay attention to people in the civil services and unite the forces of the people in order to make up for the grievances of citizens. They will punish the agents of the authorities who are guilty, stop the continuation of their bad deeds and safeguard the well-being of the people but we will never be a club that is involved in the process of making decisions. That should be a serious mistake: a free union of citizens is not allowed to meddle in public affairs, to govern or to administrate. That must be clear: a club has only the simple and pure right to make propositions, to give advice and to ask questions. But when the freedom and the safety of the people is attacked it is not only advisor but also agitator, censor, punisher and even killer

The only goal is the punishment of the perpetrators of crimes against public and individual freedom and safety. Therefore the clubs are not open for people who are attached to the Royal Court, for Queens' Commissioners, for members of leading academic clubs, for gentlemen of independent means, for captains of finance, for speculators on the bourse, for attorney-generals, for members of the Parisian military police and for members of the town council. And one should be very careful to admit noblemen, members of the judicature or high army officers.....

Marat did not want the misdeeds of members of the leading class to be judged and

tried by other members of that class as is normal in our present society. And he did not limit the height of the punishments: *When now some heads are spared then in the future much more blood will have to ran in the streets.....* Because of his remark, Marat has been portrayed as one of the most bloodthirsty characters of the French Revolution. But his goal was simple: he wanted to stop corruption and other crimes of the leading class that caused too much misery - and also too many dead common citizens from the lower regions of society. He was very close to an idea common in many revolutionary movements: *punish one in order to educate a hundred.*

In those turbulent times Marat wanted to protect the achievements of the French Revolution with the help of his Patriotic Clubs. He wanted to prevent that the old leading class should regain the power they lost to the people. The current situation in the rich Western countries is not very turbulent and therefore the ideas of Marat have to be slightly adjusted. But the organisation of society in the time of Marat is not principally different from the present situation. His ideas are still valuable. Our democracy has his roots in the French Revolution and the ideas of Montesquieu about the Trias Politica. There still exists a deep separation between elite and masses. The Trias Politica regulates in the first place conflicts inside the elite. The influence of the masses was very small and two hundred years after the French Revolution it is still negligible.

Only masspeople, people without power, can belong to the Autonomous Clubs of Marat. A multitude of such clubs will form a new controlling fourth power next to the existing Trias Politica. The elite may not have any influence on this new power. The three separated powers of Montesquieu increased the freedom of the leading class, the new autonomous fourth power will increase the freedom of the common citizen.

There is a risk that Patriotic Clubs will gradually develop into a new elite which will replace the old one. Then the social organisation will not change. After the Russian Revolution in the former Soviet-Union a new group grabbed power and replaced the old leading class. This new group, the Communist Party, was strict organised and contained the seeds of a new elite. Therefore it is necessarily to avoid that Patriotic Clubs become permanent institutions. Clubs should be temporarily and consist of masspeople who meet each other during a limited time to solve one special problem in which they are all interested. When the problem is solved, the group should disband. Former members of this club could join another group or they could suspend their political activities. These autonomous groups will attack some authorities but they may not become permanent political organisations which are active on many topics.

In this book about the possible activities of Autonomous Humans many actions are displayed of which you could say that they are performed by autonomous groups. The activities of some higher placed people were examined and some of them were punished. This agreed with the ideas of Marat. Marat proposed also to publish every week a paper containing the (mis)deeds of members of the leading class. In practice this was not possible. But it should be proper to publish every week why prominent gentlemen change sometimes their well-known opinions and why their deeds are often in contradiction with their words. So I propose that a multitude of Autonomous Clubs should be formed that analyse the deeds and the words of some leaders and punish when needed.

The activities of autonomous groups differ fundamentally from activities of terrorist groups like the former Italian Red Brigades. They attacked also prominent persons but only once. A second attack on the same person did not occur even when the first attack had failed. When you act in this way, leaders will indeed know they can be attacked but they will consider it as a small risk that is compensated by the rewards of a high position in our society.

An Autonomous Club will initiate prolonged attacks on leading persons. It is self-evident that such Clubs will never kill leading persons. It will try to get a grip on a leader in order to force him to act different. Then other leaders will see that one of their group lost his power to dominate the masses and they will wonder how this was possible. There will be many more Autonomous Clubs than terrorist commando groups because terrorist groups are organisations of specialists that undertake technically difficult actions. Masspeople will never be involved. The necessary specialisation of terrorist groups has an elitist character and when a terrorist group should gain power then a new elite will come into being.

Autonomous Clubs must not govern. High-placed persons are capable but they have to learn that their decisions must also favour the interests of the masses. Authorities are technicians who carry out a political line. So when a politician says that the lack of houses is one of the biggest problems of our time, groups of autonomous people have to make sure that this man will indeed act according to his words. They will attack him when he only propagates beautiful plans in order to keep the people quiet or to get more votes in a next election while the shortage of houses for masspeople continuous to exist.

Of course any action against authorities contains some risk. Leaders can use power instruments against masspeople as for example the police. But the police will find it difficult to do something against the kind of prolonged soft actions against the private life of leading persons that are proposed in this book. The position of the leader and the attacking masses differs. The leader must always defend his activities in the media. Masspeople mostly act in secret. It is the difference between a member of the leading class who is being controlled and a common citizen who controls. In this book some practical actions are described that can be used by the masses. These instruments reduce the difference in power between elite and mass. When all differences have disappeared we enter a new phase in the development of humanity in which eliteworld and massworld are merged in one world in which all people have the same status.

2. NOT LEFT, NOT RIGHT, BUT AUTONOMOUS

The political and economic power in our crazy world is unevenly distributed. A few people are very mighty, most people have virtual no power at all. It is needed to change the balance of power between elite and mass.

The powers that be have monopolised violence, masspeople are not allowed to use it. Violent behaviour of masspeople is outlawed but the elitist upper layers often use violence to maintain or strengthen its already powerful and prosperous position. People in the rich Western countries are in a luxurious position because they can carry out peaceful actions against the existing social order and still live a comfortable life. Some of these people applaud masspeople in the Third World when they use violence to get a better life. They are however afraid that this violence will enter their own secluded life at the top of the world (as happened with the WTC-bombing). Even when they acknowledge that the situation is far from ideal and when they agree that the prime cause of the misery in big parts of the world is caused by the excessive power and affluence in the West they prefer to continue their peaceful political games.

Rightist leaders do not want to change the world because they benefit from the unequal partition of power. But in many countries leftist people have also got powerful positions though it changed not much for masspeople. There are still many wars in which only ordinary citizens are killed. Every year tens of millions of poor people die because they do not have enough food. The misery on our world seems to have an eternal life.

Leftist leaders propagate that the world can be changed through the ballot-box and urge people not to be too impatient to get a better world. Our society should be too complex to be changed overnight. But the yearly death of millions of people only because they lack food is already a powerful argument to be impatient. I propose in this book and on my site "Down with any Elite" <http://members.chello.nl/jsteenis> a theoretical and practical method that can soon end the degrading situations for masspeople and that opens the way to a New Humane World. The method described in this book is called Creative Disturbance because the creative spirit of humans is activated. Only small Violence is needed to destroy the restricting structures. But the sitting leftists and rightist powers do not want change. Therefore the proposed method can be characterised by the slogan: not left, not right but autonomous.

From history we know that Jean Paul Marat was right in his fears that the new elite should in the first place promote its own interests. It is necessary to put pressure on powerful people. They have the possibility to bring the wanted change. But when they think in the first place of the interest of the own group the interests of the working masses remain secondary.

Though the elite sometimes seems to listen to the voice of the own masses, the demands of the masses in the Third World penetrate hardly the minds of powerful

leaders. The proposed action method to attack powerful people has in the first place the intention to make leaders clear that also masspeople have right on a decent life. When the pressure from below increases leaders will act more in favour of the lower classes. At the same time masspeople will get more confidence because they see that their actions have some effect. Now masspeople often withdraw from political activities because nothing seems to change.

Leftists did not succeed to change society since Karl Marx published his Communist Manifesto in 1848. Left people only want to change the structure of society and not the minds of leaders. They forgot that after Revolutions in countries as France, Russia and China only another elite took power and that the situation of masspeople remained inferior. There was hardly more participation of In the last two centuries after the death of Marat masspeople hardly got more influence on decisions that influence their life.

In any social structure people have power because of the place they occupy in the hierarchical structure. Man has become subordinated to his function in the social structure. People who are not integrated in this structure have barely any say, also not by the instrument of elections. Therefore masspeople withdraw from political activities. In the United States only half of the people participate in presidential elections.

Social structures are dominated by a small selected group of privileged persons. When structures are replaced by other structures another powerful elite will arise that will rule society. A policy has to be developed in which powerful people have to account for their activities. That masspeople are every four years allowed to choose between people who already belong to the leading class is not sufficient. Leaders have to be forced to contemplate any moment about the influence of their decisions on all people. At this moment prevails the interest of the group to which the decision-takers belong.

Another argument against the continuing importance of social structures is the increasing individuality of humans. Autonomy and individuality demand that people shall not be bothered by structures that restrict the ideas and behaviour of free humans. By diminishing the possibility that some people can use social structures for the improvement of the position of their own group, the freedom of all people will increase.

The proposed action method will give everybody the possibility to exert pressure on people who take decisions. Only then these people will give attention to the demands of common people by taking decisions in favour of all people.

By attacking people who take decisions the attacking people as well as the attacked people will change and the door will open to a new kind of society in which people are more autonomous than in our society in which man is more and more regulated by rules he cannot understand anymore.

The proposed action method demands a more aggressive behaviour than the current leftist political methods. The Left acts mostly in a defensive manner. When workers are sacked, actions are initiated but you hardly see actions in favour of new products or of new workplaces. These decisions are taken on places where the influence of

masspeople is negligible. The defensive policy of progressive forces did cost many lives for example in 1933 in Germany, in 1965 in Indonesia and in 1973 in Chile. The attitude of wait and see gave aggressive leaders the possibility to usurp all power.

In this book I give practical examples of actions against higher-placed people. These people are seldom attacked while attacks on masspeople are frequent. The common citizen is in his personal life continuously harassed by higher-placed people. He is sacked though he is working hard, his wages are changed and he is not asked to give his opinion. He can be removed from school, expelled from his house or even put in prison. The government, the industry, the society in general intrudes in the private life of a citizen who can barely defend himself against decisions that are taken in faraway places. But it is not the government, the industry or the society that takes decisions. It are always elitist people at the top that make new rules. I do not write about better decisions, I only write about the possibilities of otherwise powerless people to exert pressure on otherwise unapproachable high-placed persons.

Power can be attacked by attacking powerful people.

The Italian Red Brigades wrote this in 1974.

A certain amount of violence - but it will be only a minimal addition to the already widespread social violence initiated by the elite - is necessary when one wants to get fundamental changes. This violence will only be directed against high-placed persons, a number that is negligible compared to the vast numbers of masspeople that are hurt by activities of the small elitist group. This privileged group is responsible for the situation that many millions of children do not attend school and are often hungry. This alone is already a decisive argument to use some form of direct action. The results of such direct actions give sufficient reasons to assume that a multitude of small actions against leading persons will change the balance of power and will give humans more freedom than they ever have had.

The attacks of the Red Brigades on leading persons were hard and sometimes even leading to the death of a leader. I think this method is wrong.

Such hard actions can only be undertaken by trained guerrilla groups and the population is never directly involved. Actions must be so simple that anyone can participate. Only a multitude of small actions against elitepeople will lead to a New World in which all people will have the same status. In the current elitist democracy, masspeople may only once in four years be active in the ballot box.

The proposed action method gives the activist a lot of pleasure and compensates the unpleasant pressure elitepeople exert on masspeople. But the attacked eliteperson must remain in function. His mind must change in such a way that decisions will become more favourable to the masses. When a leader is removed from his post, as can happen after the kind of actions proposed by the Red Brigades, the leader is replaced by another leader and activists have to restart the process of putting pressure on the new decision taker.

The attacked leader has many possibilities to defend himself. He can ask the police to help him. Therefore actions should mostly be anonymously. It is also more threatening when the attacked person does not know exactly from which side the attacks come. The powerful person has to live with a ghostly presence of an elusive power. He will find himself in the same position as masspeople who also hardly know from which side a next decision comes that hinders them in their private life. Such decisions are mostly taken anonymously because decision makers hide behind

untransparent structures and inaccessible institutions. But it is always an elite person who made the harmful decision.

The proposed actions have nothing to do with the way Rightist policies because actions are directed against the hierarchical society in general and against authoritarian persons in particular.

The proposed action has nothing to do with Leftist policies that sprouted from revolutionary ideas of a century ago, because the Left has in no way succeeded to solve the big problems in our world. They did not achieve a change in the balance of power between elite and mass.

The proposed action method is based on the growing autonomy of masspeople. It gives citizens the possibility to influence decisions that are now strangling them. This human activity will develop humans when they reject the current political tendencies but abide by the slogan not left, not right but autonomous.

3. ACTION IS POWER

The economic and political power has the form of a pyramid. At the small top you find the elite that comprises a few percents of the population. Power and wealth is concentrated in this group but they do not have an absolute power. They are supported by the in-between class that is sometimes called Middle Class. This class includes about twenty percent of the population. It sometimes supports the masses though it will never cross the legal boundaries that are set by the elite. The majority of the people can be found at the bottom. They are virtually powerless.

Power gives wealth and other privileges and a prosperous, free and safe life. Powerless masspeople can also get power when they start to disturb the power pyramid by putting pressure on the private life of powerful persons. This will open the prospect for a New World in which all people will have the same status. Only then any powerful privileged elite will cease to exist.

It is difficult to determine what power is and how much power a certain person possesses. You can determine how much money, how many houses, cars and equities someone owns. But wealth is not the same as power. Wealth is an important factor but other factors include the personal network, the family, the education, the functions and the personality of a powerful person. Powerful people do not always have to prove that they are powerful, other people know that already. Only in exceptional situations a powerful person will use his power basis to defeat an opponent, for example by activating the financial power of family-members and friends.

On the lower levels of the pyramid of power you can sometimes see how power is used. A director can fire someone or deprive him of a well-earned rise in salary and the employee can hardly oppose these decisions. The government can use the judiciary, the police and even the army to support their decisions. But such hard actions are generally only used as a latent threat. Decisions are taken in meetings in which all interested parties participate. But he who has the highest position in the hierarchical society has the strongest position in discussions because everyone knows that he can make use of hidden power instruments. Decisions often favour the strongest party.

Directors can sack workers, but workers can never sack directors. This simple fact makes clear that involved parties have a different power. When only a few workers are in conflict with leaders, they lack power instruments and the outcome will be clear. When many workers are involved, they can use the strike weapon as a power instrument. But this weapon can only be used in some issues and even then the result is limited. Strikes never disturb the hierarchical distribution of power or change the income distribution. Trade unions are lead by people who belong or want to belong to the Middle Class. They look upwards because they are trying to join the Upper Class and you cannot expect that they wholeheartedly defend the interest of people who are somewhere beneath them. Only when an important part of the Middle

Class supports the demands of the Lower Class, something can be reached. Or when the elite is divided and part of the elite uses the masses to get more power. In elections this occurs when populist leaders come forward. But these people will never attack the principle that members of the Higher Classes remain in a better position than masspeople. Directors or leaders of trade unions who decide over the life of common citizens will always earn more than common citizens.

When the common citizen wants to change the unequal distribution of wealth and power he must not be dependent on favours of leaders but he must develop his own independent, autonomous power. Masspeople get power when they disturb the private life of high-placed persons. It is illustrated by the practical examples in this book that high-placed persons take decisions they should never have taken if they were left alone. A huge increase in rent is overruled, a director of a pharmaceutical company offers to meet some unknown activists, a mayor admits he has wrongly confined someone in a mental institution, a Queens' Commissioner is losing his grip on the world. It is caused by simple actions of a few common citizens. These results only happened because masspeople got some power by attacking responsible persons that influenced their life in an unjust way. When such moments occur more the elite will admit they are not the only group with power. Then it will be possible to get another kind of society and the hierarchical distribution of wealth and power disappears.

You cannot expect that powerless people develop on a short notice a power that can compete on equal terms with the power of the higher levels of our society. The elite possesses its power already for many centuries and gives its power (and its wealth) through to its offspring. To undermine this historical power the masses have to work hard to climb out of the swamp in which they find themselves. You cannot succeed by relying on fellow-citizens who are also trying to survive in the morass. You must grasp a branch of the mighty tree that eclipses the swamp and in which the high and mighty live. When the first citizen has reached the tree he can help others to come up. These powerless people can then start to saw the tree down, make planks from the wood and cover the morass with planks. Then the swamp changes in a playing ground for all people. But first you have to make a free space in the tree by evicting members of the elite who live there. The elite will try to push masspeople down in the morass or try to bribe them by allowing some masspeople to live on the lower branches of the tree under the condition that they push upcoming masspeople back in the swamp. Leaders of for example trade unions are examples of people who came up from below and who prevent other people to come up also. They did not reach their privileged position because they fought the elite but because the elite permitted them to live on the lower branches of the tree.

But it is not only necessary to destroy the tree in which the elite lives but also to prevent that a new tree will grow. That happened time and again after mass uprisings. An elite is a more or less closed group of people who use their place in society to enrich themselves and to give their power and wealth through to their children. In the Soviet-Union the old elite was destroyed but a new elite came forward because masspeople had not learned how to defeat any elite. The Communist Party canalised the power of the people to gain power for its own group. After fifty years this group developed hereditary characteristics. Masspeople remained powerless

because they did not acquire any individual power by attacking the private and privileged life of persons from the old elite.

Personal power only grows during long years of struggle against the old elite. The new elite is first very friendly in regard to the needs of the masses. Then it is difficult to fight the seemingly sympathetic elite and it is certainly difficult to develop a new power in a time when the masses are excited about the new regime that chased away a hated elite. Because of its role in the struggle against the old elite the new elite will not be bothered by attacks from the masses. That remains the case when it starts to alienate from its own mass origin and forms a new closed elite that - as was the case with the old elites - thinks in the first place of maintaining its power and its privileged position. Masspeople have to learn that they can attack and destroy any power from any elite when they want it.

In time of wars a comparable situation occurs. A new foreign elite replaces the old national elite but the masses do not know what to do. Most resistance is co-ordinated by parts of the old elite that escaped to other countries where they live safe and happy. Members of the new foreign elite are nearly never attacked. The old elite co-ordinates most of the mass actions and masspeople do not learn to act autonomously. It is of course quite logic that the old elite does not teach the masses how they can get rid of the foreign elite. When these methods should be successful against an occupying elite then they could also be used against the old elite when it returns after the war. You cannot expect anything from the leading class when you want to change the balance of power.

Masspeople must develop new autonomous methods to get power. Elitist people may never control them. Actions must only be directed against people in power and never hurt masspeople. That kind of actions is described in this book. Leftist actions bother masspeople more than authorities. Many masspeople are opposed to this kind of mass actions because they are hindered in their private life. And all energy spent on hindering other masspeople can not be used against elitepeople. That is clear when demonstrators and police who both belong to the masses are fighting each other. But also strikes divide the masses. A railway strike hinders people who have to use a train to go to their work or their family. People with cars are not touched. Strikes in factories are financially more harmful for strikers and their families than for directors. Public money via the tax system often compensates the losses of the bosses. Many masspeople will side with the elite because such actions have a negative influence on their life.

A direct attack on the private life of elitepersons avoids that masspeople oppose actions. The actions will change the minds of the attacked elitepersons. To get rid of this intrusion in their private living sphere they are forced to look into the problems of lower-placed citizens. Common citizens are not disturbed by such actions and will even sometimes even benefit. When the new method of action is accepted, not-involved citizens will remain neutral. Now they often side with the elite. This is particularly true for members of the security forces, people who earn their money by defending the hierarchical system. They will be less inclined to defend the private way of living of elitepersons when they are not hurt by actions and when they realise that the life of elitepersons is very different from their own life.

The results of actions described in this book are not spectacular. But some elite persons were forced to do something they would not have done when some powerless humans had not forced them to act differently. It can hardly be expected that a few small groups can achieve radical changes. But many small actions against leading individuals carried out by many different small groups of mass people have more effect than a few actions carried out in a short time by many people together. A multitude of small actions has more effect than mass actions as blockades, petitions, strikes or demonstrations that are organised by someone else. Everyone can get some private, autonomous and lasting power when he puts pressure on elite persons. Most of the initiative in mass actions comes from elsewhere and demonstrators are cannon fodder. In small actions everyone can develop his own creative power, can determine when and how he will be active and what will be the place and the direction of the action. Human autonomy and creativity does not increase in mass actions. Mass actions are predictable, the power of small actions lies also in the fact that they are unpredictable and unexpected. I prefer small actions.

Many people are compelled to participate in mass actions. The purpose of the action is sympathetic but there is no room for an own contribution. The action is often inspired by misdeeds from the top. When in the seventies some Spanish activists were garrotted, strangled with a piece of rope, many protest demonstrations were organised. When the entrance fees to the university are increased the only answer is a demonstration. Such actions do not help much and the next year nobody demonstrates even when the fees are still too high. The same people who ordered the garrotting or the increase in fees are still residing in their powerful positions. When the police is attacking a demonstration demonstrators fight back, but when some demonstrators meet one of the hitting police officers somewhere else in town, nothing happens. When trade unions ask for a pay-rise they sometimes organise strikes. But again it is only a reaction on a proposition of the employers. A trade union leader will never organise a strike because an employer is incapable to lead the factory though this incapability influences directly the position of the workers.

Nearly all mass actions are a reaction on something that has happened shortly before the action. People seem to have a short memory. A powerful person is hated when he does something wrong but is a month later applauded when he acts friendly. The elite however is only active when it wants something, it rules because it wants to continue its privileged position. Powerless people only act when the elite is going too far, when mass people are hurt too much. They seem to be adjusted to a life in which they are always constrained. Only when repression becomes too much they act. I prefer actions which are independent of recent acts of leaders but which attack because leaders have taken too many decisions that were in favour of their own group and harmful for the masses. Only then people can develop an autonomous power that is exclusively directed against persons who are responsible for the lasting unsatisfactory situation of the masses.

I propose a different action method. It is the decision and the responsibility of every individual person if she or he wants to use this method. I think that only in this way mass people can escape from a position in which they always will be less than elite persons. I want to disturb the hierarchical pyramid of power. That is only possible when many people become active in an autonomous way. From my own experience I have learned that you become freer when you attack leaders. The powerlessness of

masspeople in regard to the state apparatus will decrease and citizens will be more able to determine their own fate. The growing alienation in Western societies (football hooligans are only one sign of this development) will diminish and citizens will be less bullied and ruled by a small group of people that have some power because a still smaller group of elitepeople gave them some power.

The autonomous activities of many citizens against a small group of authorities will change the current organisation of society. But that is music of the future. Ideologies as communism, anarchism, socialism but also liberalism and fascism promise masspeople a heaven on earth. Though these political ideas exist already for centuries this heaven is never realised.

The action method I propose does not promise a heaven on earth. It only advances the idea that masspeople become freer when they are active in an autonomous and creative way and that this activity paves the way to a different kind of society.

4. ACTIONS FROM A DISTANCE

The next three chapters describe actions that are not connected to each other. The last four chapters contain case studies about long-lasting actions. All actions intend to disturb the private life of high-placed persons and will cost the common citizen only some time. The result will be positive when actions are continued for months or even years. I am convinced that everybody can think of more actions when the imagination takes power. In this way you can become a powerful autonomous human who is creative and full of initiative and who gets pleasure from actions, from the reactions of attacked persons and from the positive result.

Telecom, the post, mail order companies, taxi companies, travel agencies, newspapers, etc. Many companies offer services, often unsolicited. Modern actions have to take advantage of a changing society in which contacts are more and more anonymously laid with the help of the modern means of communication. In the eighties internet was still non-existing but it gives many possibilities for actions. In this book based on actions in the eighties internet and other modern possibilities are not highlighted.

The proposed action method is fairly safe because the activist does hardly comes into direct contact with the target. He will even activate other people to contact the culprit. He does not want personal benefits but a change in an unsatisfactory situation. Before any action can be carried out, data have to be collected about the person that will be attacked. Telephone numbers, bank account numbers, signature, house addresses, e-mail addresses, the kind of car, hobbies, favourite restaurants, holiday places, etc. Knowledge can be power.

Many data can be found in garbage. Besides really dirty stuff garbage contains a wealth of data. When you have washed the dirt from your hands you can marvel at the data you have found. Everyone throws away things he does not need anymore. Nobody ever thinks that rubbish can be used against him. Rubbish is thrown away by using dustbins, boxes and bags that are put in the street. Later it is collected and carried away by organisations that collect garbage. In the meantime the activist can do the same. By using a motorcycle it is easy to grab a sac. Even a casual passer-by will find it difficult to see that something abnormal is happening. You have of course used an illegible number plate so you are not easy to trace.

Seemingly unimportant things can sometimes be useful. A receipt from a pharmacy gives the name of the place where more tranquillisers can be ordered for the wife of the attacked person because she becomes stressed by the attacks on her husband. With some luck you can find the signature of the culprit which can be used to order products. Addresses of friends and family are important because information about the action can be sent to them and the action will be discussed on parties and anniversaries. Membership cards, bills from pubs and restaurants he regular visits, the address of the flower shop or the address of his second house can come in handy.

More information can be acquired by following the culprit to get a better insight in his habits. It is even possible to become a member of one of his clubs and speak to him. Tats is not dangerous because it can be done before the attack materialises. When enough data are collected the action can begin. Then direct contacts with the target must be avoided. It will become more difficult to get additional data. The attacker decides autonomously when the action starts and how the attack is carried out. The 'normal' situation in which the citizen is dependent on the activities of leaders will be reversed. The attacked person becomes dependent of the activities of the attacker.

The proposed actions (and their effect) are possible because of the collected knowledge and because of the complexity of our society. You can start with possibilities that are offered by the postal services. At the post office you can find a form you can fill in and the post will see to it that many of the contacts of the culprit will get a change of address. All his post will be forwarded to this new address. Just indicate on the form which bank, insurance company, newspaper or magazine but also the Consumers Union, the Red Cross and other well-known organisations you want to be notified about his new address. Maybe the target did not get any post from some of these institutions mentioned but that is not important. Most if not all of his post will be sent elsewhere. And when the situation is corrected, the culprit will still wonder if he did not lose some contacts.

The post office supplies free post-cards on which you only have to mention the change of the address. A stamp is not necessary because the post will ask the receiver to pay the dues. The receiver will tell the culprit he had to pay some surcharge because he had been so stupid to forget the stamp on the card. And the culprit does not want to explain again and again that some awful things are happening to him.

When you know (from the garbage) which papers and magazines he is reading, you can stop his subscriptions by phone. And you can order other papers for him even if he does not want to read them. Do think of the hundreds of scientific magazines, which all will sent him several times reminders that he has to pay. Use your imagination and nearly everything is possible. Nowadays you only have to surf on internet and fill in the many forms you can find there. Even when he only gets an e-mail that asks him to confirm the new subscription, he will be remembered of the fact that somewhere someone is trying to disturb his life. Any message from an unknown source will strengthen the idea that he is not anymore alone on the world.

You can also send gift-subscriptions to his friends and family. They will like the gesture and will call him to thank him for the present. Then he has to tell them he did not order the subscriptions and he has to take some initiative to rectify the order. But it is a little awful to cancel gift-subscriptions and to tell friends and acquaintances they do not get a present.

Nobody likes it when he is released of some money. Of course you are not going to pick his pocket because it is not you who want to have his money. When you have acquired his signature and his bank account number you can transfer money to anyone. A few dollars to some friends can be the start of a discussion in his circle of friends about the strange things that are happening to the culprit. The action is

carried out from a distance and other people who also live at a distance will approach the target. You can also add an intriguing message on the transfer form. In the case of largactil this method was several times used to send money from one of the attacked persons to the other. So they were forced to make contact with each other and maybe they have even discussed how to stop the production of largactil.

On television and elsewhere charitable institutions and foundations always ask for financial support of citizens. You can fill in a form in which you promise that every month a small amount of money will be transferred to for example the Aids Foundation or the Squatters Movement. The culprit will probably not like it that some money has vanished from his account. It is easy to ask your bank to get the money back from the Squatters Movement though some banks are not so helpful when the money is already transferred. But does he want to get his money back from the Aids Foundation? Maybe he has an acquaintance who is seropositive. Will he support his acquaintance or will he help his own purse by asking the money back? By the way, sometimes he will think his wife has sent the money and his reaction will be too late to get the money back. But remit always small amounts of money, when you transfer ten thousand dollars it is easy to turn the tables around. But is he willing to explain to the Aids Foundation that he does not want to give every month twenty-five dollar? Again he does not like it when he is forced to think about something he has not initiated. He wants to use his brain for other things, he wants to keep his own life in his own hands.

The post-office is a friendly place where you anonymously can carry on with your activities. The same is the case with many companies and organisations that are eager to send products before they are paid. A call or an e-mail is sufficient. You send them from a safe place (telephone-box, internet-shop) and it costs not very much. It is also possible to send telegrams by using the name and the telephone number of the culprit who has to pay later. The necessary procedure was once extensively published in the biggest Dutch newspaper, De Telegraaf.

The influence of many anonymous telephone calls can be seen in the chapters about the case studies. The culprit will change his telephone number or ask for a secret number. A letter once found in the garbage proved that that solves not all problems because a far friend of one of the culprits complained that he could not reach the target anymore and asked why he had changed his telephone number. Even secret numbers are not as secret as thought. The Dutch ex-prime minister Van Agt had to ask for another secret number when his old secret number became known. On internet we found many secret telephone numbers that were published on the site of the Foundation Internet Domain Registration in the Netherlands (SIDN).

Companies are inclined to send products to anyone who asks for them but they often are very nasty when they do not get the expected money - even when the client did not order anything.

The biggest mail-order company in Holland was Wehkamp, so the Wehkamp method came into being. By the way you are not restricted to Holland because in other countries many more organisations exist that first send products and later ask for money. And you can never do it wrong. When an action did not go right a next time you can improve. When you order a TV something can go wrong, so the next time

you order a truck full of TV's from a place in Germany, an action that once indeed did occur and succeed. The first time you order ten cubic meters black earth for the garden, later you order a hundred cubic meters to be delivered on the sidewalk in front of the house of the culprit. And you can send nearly the whole world to the house of the culprit. People who want to advise about a new kitchen, about a new financial investment, about a new roof on the house, about the garden, etc. Our society has become so complex that control has become too expensive. That is one of the reasons that this kind of attacks on leading persons are not working so well in the Third World. People are more used to interruptions and strange happenings in contacts with other people and companies. Leading people in those countries will not be very disturbed by this kind of actions that in our countries will upset the otherwise quiet life of the leading class.

I have collected from the newspapers a list of goods people ordered by using the Wehkamp method. It proves that many people know how to harass other people but I want to apply the method only as one of the elements in an action that will penetrate in the mind of leaders. Then these minds will change in such a manner that their decisions will change, that they will acknowledge that they must not in the first place favour their own group but must take into account all the people in the country (in the world?).

Tens of cold buffets, a disco-show, hotel rooms with and without call-girls, a memorial service with ten funeral coaches, the Municipal Service to exterminate cockroaches, several plumbers and carpenters, a house-painter with a mammoth-crane, a machine to make coffee for fifty people, funeral wreaths, 50 dollar of meat, water softeners, a truckload of flower bulbs, several encyclopaedias and Collected Works of famous writers, a load of hat-and-coat stands, a shipment of logs of wood, all kinds of flowers through Interflora, a nurse to lay-out a dead person, a correspondence course in psychology, 27.000 towels, 4.000 pieces of soap, the controller of the Commodities Act, a shipment of expensive brandy, an undertaker, etc.

Besides you can call the police, the fire brigade and many other people who want to offer their services sometimes for free, other times for money. So you order a taxicab and another and another so often that the taxi company will never again send a taxi to the house. The culprit has to explain time and again he did not order anything and in the end his house will be put on a black list and he cannot order any taxi anymore. Even the fire brigade will not come when the house is really burning. And the police will stay away so the activist can approach the target house without fear to be apprehended.

The Wehkamp method was once used by someone who during eighteen years ordered goods as bedroom suites, standing clocks, refrigerators, TV-sets, tens of encyclopaedias, linen bedclothes, golden watches, jewels, etc. It did cost the receiving family thousands of dollars to return the unwanted goods. But this was a revenge action, not an action against a top leader. It had something to do with an exchange of houses and the family could never satisfy the teasing sender. After eighteen years the police arrested the perpetrator. But he was only sentenced to a fine of one hundred dollar. It was too difficult to prove what the man had done so punishment was low. However you never know what judges will say when you attack important people.

Newspapers are very co-operative to accept all kinds of demands over the phone. So several papers published in a death notice that public prosecutor C.J Overbeek (who was in some way connected to the largactil-case) had died and that he should be buried in a few days. It is fairly certain that he did receive some disturbing condolence calls but it was a one-time action and not part of a long series of small pinpricks.

Advertisements can be a weapon in the struggle. You can warn shopkeepers not to sell goods to the wife of the culprit because her husband will not pay any bills. You can set his house for sale or tell people that some antiques will be sold on a certain date at a certain time. Many people will ring the doorbell and every time the culprit has to explain

Another joke uses old books. You buy some cheap but old books. You stamp in the book that the owner does not want to lose the book and that the finder is requested to bring the book back. He will get a certain reward. Then you leave the book somewhere in town near people who like to return a book for ten dollar.

It is striking that even a single person with a single grudge can exert pressure on top-leaders. A certain Mr. Bruns had had an accident and though he did receive some insurance money he wanted more. He went to the Dutch headquarters of the insurance company Zürich and during seven weeks he picketed the head-entrance with texts like 'Zürich stinks' and 'Zürich cheats people'. He got some attention in the media and Zürich admitted a fault by giving Bruns an additional ten thousand dollars. Bruns was not content, cashed the cheque and continued the action. Several years in a row you could see Bruns with his boards in front of the Zürich-building. Nothing happened anymore. Then he got the advice to take his board to the private house of one of the directors of Zürich. Bruns agreed with the idea and distributed some pamphlets in the neighbourhood. Then he occupied with his boards the sidewalk in front of the private house of the director. But only for a few hours. The police came and a few days later a judge prohibited Bruns to come in the vicinity of the director. Once again it was clear that judges have more ear for the sorrows of the top than for the plights of common citizens. The first payment after the accident had taken the company five years, the chasing away of a demonstrator took only a few days. But it proves that the pressure on the director did increase so much that he had to call in the support of one of the power instruments of the elite. Unfortunately your chronicler does not know if lone wolf Bruns did continue with his action after the ordeal of the judge.

But again, do not fear any failure. You can always carry out another action. Try to let the goods to be delivered at a time nobody is at home. The goods will be left on the doorstep and the bill will be left in the post-box. Because the culprit is living in an elitist quarter the shop owner will expect that people in such respectable neighbourhoods will pay their bills.

Remember always that all actions have the purpose to influence the mind of the culprit, not to harm or to kill him. A leading person who does not have a function in society can neither take good nor bad decisions. Actions have the sole purpose to increase pressure on people who belong to the elite. Wishes of the population are now hardly taken into account by members of the elite whose motivation is in the first place the continuation of the power and the wealth of the own group.

The idea behind the action was very clearly put into words by a Dutch mayor who was chased away from his post by angry citizens. Actions started with threats over the telephone. The mayor recorded more than five hundred calls. Then the action hardened and many times the windows of the bungalow of the mayor were broken. He even built a special wall to protect his windows but the actions went on. An inhabitant of the village even drove several times his car against the garage of the mayor what resulted in a demolished car and a destroyed garage. The man was apprehended and sentenced to three weeks in prison. Afterwards the mayor said: "I have never thought they could succeed..... But when you are harassed for months, you are starting to feel it. We got stressed and the noise of every new stone thrown through our windows become louder and louder.I am glad I am again a common citizen. You are powerless as mayor. Even when they break your windows you cannot do anything.....".The only thing the mayor did not understand that common citizens are always powerless against decisions and machinations of people at the top.

5. ISOLATION OF AN INDIVIDUAL

Activists, spectators and passers-by should have enjoyed that the castle of Queen's Commissioner Geertsema was wrapped up in barbed wire and surrounded by tin soldiers, policemen who for many hours had to stand idle waiting for non-existing demonstrators. Only a few demonstrators did come along to observe how Geertsema was making a fool of himself. You can wonder how he has explained this demonstrative exhibition of power and fear to people around him. Was he afraid that something should happen? But nothing occurred! Geertsema was ridiculed but when such events happen only once he is not damaged.

Man is a social being, for his existence he needs contacts with other humans. His family and his friends give him emotional information. Through many other contacts he gets material goods. These lines with the outside world can be severed. Many people cannot afford that their telephone will be blocked by an action because they cannot ask for a secret telephone number. The action method, which prevents that any taxi will ever reach the house of the culprit, can be applied to many business contacts. Shopkeepers can be told that it is better not to deliver anymore any goods to the house of the culprit. Because the target is a relatively small customer, the shopkeeper will probably listen to urgent demands of activists. Businesses can be disturbed by the spread of rumours. Schools, clubs, restaurants, etc. are all in some way vulnerable. After some time most of them will make the best of a difficult choice and sever - they will tell the target that it is only temporally - ties with customers who cause unexpected disorders. For as far your chronicler knows this method is never systematically applied.

The direct environment of the culprit, his family and neighbours, will become involved when a long-lasting action is initiated against the private life of the target. In the beginning they will feel a bit uncomfortable, in the end they will detest that they are involuntarily drawn into an unpleasant situation. The culprit will be less upset by actions because they are caused by his job and all jobs have less agreeable sides. He knows actions can occur and he expects actions are only short-lived.

Most (leftist) actions occur only around the time the target has taken an important decision that does not please some opponents. After a reasonable short time most actions stop. Almost never an action is carried out because in the far past a wrong decision was taken. When - many years ago - squatters in Amsterdam were threatened to be evicted from one of their important squatted buildings they were very active during the three weeks before the eviction took place. Many actions were carried out from street theatre to the breaking of windows of some banks but responsible persons were left untouched. Then they lost the building and all activity stopped though the result had been negative. When a next building was threatened actions were repeated. Authorities assessed the damage of the actions and evicted many squatters. The problem was reduced to a financial problem, it was not anymore a political problem. Though the private life of squatters was disturbed, leaders were only involved when they were in their office. Leftists leaders are against any intrusion of the private life of leaders and they are also against the continuation of actions

when decisions have been taken. And that is strange because it is proved that seemingly indisputable decisions can still be reversed later.

One of the purposes of actions against the private life of responsible persons is the isolation of a culprit from his environment. His family, his neighbours and his acquaintances are not involved in his decisions and most of them have nothing or near to nothing to do with his job. They want to carry on with their own activities and they do not want to be disturbed by third persons with whom they have no conflict. But they will be influenced by actions in their vicinity. They are powerless and cannot defend themselves against what is happening. The target has the power to stop actions, the people around him can only put some pressure on the target and urge him to do something to stop the awful situation. In the beginning however they are indignant and direct their wrath against the activists. After some time they understand that this does not help their own situation and they become more demanding towards the culprit even when they acknowledge that in this manner they help the activists. The growing tension in the relations between the culprit and his environment influences the behaviour of the leader, at home as well as in his job. The hysterical screaming through the phone of some of the wives of attacked persons shows that above-mentioned reasoning is not a dead theory but a living reality.

Family members live a comfortable life mostly because the culprit provides the money. They do not want to be stressed by nocturnal calls or other nuisances. When family, neighbours, acquaintances but also business contacts find it more and more awful or even dangerous to be associated with the culprit because they can become fellow-victims, they try to minimise contact. The barbed wire is a remarkable example of an isolation in which activists but also friends are discouraged to enter the castle. The taxi-action is subtler and makes it impossible for those who live in the same house as the culprit to order a taxi. One of the connections with the outside world has been severed. The environment will try to escape from the situation but the culprit cannot quit his job because then his family will lose its comfortable life. So he will develop an anti-reaction towards his employees. It is difficult to describe what will happen exactly but at a certain moment some people around the mayor in the case study of chapter eight started to avoid him.

Pamphlets can be distributed to inform people who live in the neighbourhood of the target. In the case study beginning with chapter ten an explanatory letter was made with the name, the address and the telephone number of Slagmulder and some of the consequences of the use of the tranquilliser largactil. The pamphlet was headed by the words: THIS MAN LIVES IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD.

Mostly you can rely on the culprit to inform his environment that something strange is happening. Mr Slagmulder did not understand that most actions were carried out from a distance. So he installed big lamps that illuminated his house from the outside but flooded the neighbourhood as well. The ever-present surveillance personnel of a private security firm was also not appreciated. Neighbours will especially dislike this situation when they want to sell their house. A potential buyer will not believe that he is buying a house in a safe and respectable neighbourhood. The neighbour will probably blame the activists that he gets less money for his house but the only one he can really tackle is Slagmulder who is the cause of the disturbances.

Against Mr Van Winzum, the other culprit in the largactil-case, a similar method was used. In the pamphlet was said that he was a prominent member of the pharmaceutical industry that charges too much for its products. An example was given of the price of Adremycine, which cost 3.24 guilder while a similar product (without a brand name) could be bought for only 0.07 guilder. The dubious ideas of Van Winzum were confirmed by something he had once written: "Medicines cannot be produced for lower prices and in Holland they do not use enough medicines". It takes however a lot of time to isolate someone from the people around him. In the beginning neighbours will stand behind him. In the case of Van Winzum one of the neighbours wanted even to start a juridical procedure against activists. Only he never found out who the perpetrators were.

You can also let the neighbourhood know that something is happening in their vicinity by throwing some plastic bags with paint against the front of the house. In a respectable neighbourhood where nothing ever happens it will be outstanding especially when you use different colours. All these actions must however take place at the start of the action period. Later people will be more alert and the danger grows that activists will be apprehended. And when you are in prison you cannot carry out any action.

Sometimes it is even possible to organise a demonstration in front of the house of the target. This has happened several times but higher civil servants get soon protection of the police who generally is not very friendly against demonstrators. (Their direct boss is attacked!). The small groups, which carried out most of the actions described in this book, lacked the power to organise mass demonstrations.

Illegal transmitters were in the eighties used to give more publicity to an action and nowadays we have internet. But activists do not want general publicity, they only want to make the action known to people in the environment of the culprit. General publicity will in the end be generated by the target himself when he wants to mobilise other people to defend himself and when he wants to explain that he is acting in a strange way because he is under some pressure. Actions to attack the private life of leaders differ in this way from mass actions and terrorist actions. These actions mostly try to activate other people and the media to make a wrong situation known in the hope that the democratic apparatus will listen. But the media are not important when you attack private persons. The action method intends to give direct power to people and to impress in the mind of leaders that they are less powerful than they thought they were. It demands that leaders change their basic motives from defending the position of the own group to promoting the welfare of all people.

6. OTHER ACTIONS AGAINST INDIVIDUALS

Many actions are carried out against the private life of people but mostly against people living nearby as neighbours and family-members. I propose to act only against members of the elite. I do not know if actions are tried out in practice but most of them merit the effort to be tried out though I do not always agree with the proposed actions.

On Amazon you find many books (use the word revenge in www.Amazon.com).

- Byte Me! : Hayduke's Guide to Computer-Generated Revenge
- The Big Book of Revenge: 200 Dirty Tricks for Those Who Are Serious About Getting Even
- High-Tech Harassment
- Screw Unto Others: Revenge Tactics For All Occasions
- 21st Century Revenge: Down and Dirty Tactics for the Millennium
- Revenge Encyclopaedia
- The Revenge Book
- Don't Get Mad Get Even: The Fine Art of Revengemanship
- High-Tech Harassment

The car has changed from a simple instrument to move from one place to another to one of the most cherished possessions. When the car is attacked the owner is hit in his heart. A car can easily be destroyed. You put some petrol in a small container, push the container under the car and light it with a piece of cloth drenched in petrol. That is not such a good idea. The insurance pays and a new car replaces the old one not only in the garage but also in the heart of the owner. Such an act is punishable and moreover it does not fit in a long-lasting psychological war. Other actions that change the appearance of the car or prevent the use of the car are more appropriate.

A car uses petrol. It is fairly difficult to put sugar in the petrol tank, it is easier to use a good glue to fix the lid that closes the petrol tank. When the target wants to fill up his tank he cannot open the lid. Then he has to make up some story for the people who work in the petrol station. By the way glue can be used in many other places for example to prevent that the door of the garage opens. Especially in the winter it is awful because you have to go to your work with public transport and when you have a car you hardly know where you can find a bus. And in respectable quarters public transport rides often not too frequent.

A car has to be clean, shining, undamaged and beautiful. It is fairly difficult to throw a bag of wet cement over a car but a simple can with paint has the same effect and is a second layer to protect the car against rusting. The opposite effect is reached by using a piece of iron when walking casually along the car. It is not so nice because it gives an awful noise. So you better use a piece of cotton wool submerged in paint remover. You can even write some words on the side of the car so that passers-by can read what is written. But look out for damage to your own hands, paint remover is really dirty stuff.

A car needs good tires. You can let the air escape from the tires by using a match and sticking it in the valve but it makes a lot of noise. You can also use a pricker or even an injection needle. To stop a car from moving through the street you can throw some crow's feet on the street but they have to be welded. Nails that are pricked through a piece of cloth so that they are standing up cannot hurt car tires. Only cyclists will lose the air from their tubes. The disadvantage of this action is that also other people can be hit and we want only to strike at the culprit. It is easy to remove the tires when the car is parked on a remote parking place. The car is left behind standing on four logs of wood.

Exhaust fumes have to leave the motor. When you want to prevent that the air becomes polluted you can clog up the exhaust pipe with pieces of cloth, potato's or firecrackers. And you can remove the registration plates. Only the police will notice that and the culprit has again to explain why he is driving around without plates. A car has to be parked in public places. When a car is standing in town you can chain the car to a parking meter. When the target uses a bicycle it is even easier. Chain it to another bicycle and just wait and see from a distance what is going to happen.

When the culprit is somewhere driving around it is very rude to call the wife of the culprit by impersonating a police officer. You tell her that her husband had a small accident and if it is possible that she has to go to a hospital in some remote town. Another time it happened that a man called a housewife and asked here how old her daughter was. When she said that she was nineteen, the man said that he had abducted the daughter and he wanted to set her free when the mother gave him 10.000 dollars. This man caused a lot of stress in several families. But nobody appeared to have paid.

When you know the culprit is travelling abroad you can hide some hashish in his car and call the customs. Or you call the customs with a tip that someone will carry heroin on his body and that this person, who is described in such a way that it can only be the culprit, will travel on a certain plane on a certain time. Imagine what will happen to the target.

The house of the culprit may be guarded but the things he uses in his free time are probably unguarded. So you can have a look at his second house, his boat or his caravan. You can do what you like (and he dislikes) with these objects and it is fairly safe because there are no people around as is mostly the case in normal living quarters.

You need some data but then you want to carry out some tricks connected with travelling and holidays. You can cancel his reservations for his plane, hotel or holiday house. You may distribute some pamphlets warning people that a dangerous or a very famous man will be staying in the area. When you use his photograph it is sure that people will stare at him. Most people do not like that. But stay in your own backyard, act only in your own country. In foreign countries there are other habits and other laws and as a foreigner you can become conspicuous. In your own country you are like a fish in the water, elsewhere you never know when the pond is drained.

When someone lives in a flat it is possible with the help of a gimlet, four screws and a lock to lock a door from the outside. When the culprit awakes he cannot leave

because he is locked in. The weekend is the best time to do this because it is more difficult to get assistance.

You can put the house for sale, not only by putting an advertisement in the papers but also by looking for free advertisement possibilities for example in super-markets and on internet. Ask possible customers to come at a strange time, at seven o'clock in the morning.

You can use a kite to drop something on the house of the culprit - from plastic bags with paint to burning candles. The American Mafia used once an electronic guided plane to drop a bomb on the twenty-first floor of a huge building. Then they used a remote control to get an explosion.

Once it happened by coincidence that a physician who had nearly the same telephone number as a culprit, was flooded with calls. He could not ask for a secret number because he had patients. In this way it is possible that a third person is forced to make contact with the culprit and force him to do something so that the disturbing calls will stop.

Most actions in this book are carried out by individuals or small groups who try to remain anonymous. But mass action is also possible. Most mass actions have the purpose to inform the public through the media. The elite has the possibility to bring its case forward in the press, the voice of the citizens is only heard when they bring their message loud and clear forward on the street. Most actions do not go any further and many citizens indeed think that when their message has become known all will be better. They should know better. Information is one side of an action, to get satisfaction other actions are needed. Then people have to develop some power.

Another purpose of a mass action is to make clear to the government, the politicians or other power centres that many people are dissatisfied. But in a demonstration people are only asking and not demanding and they certainly do not force leaders to act differently. When you participate in such an action you have to be convinced that leaders will listen. The elite only listens to its own interests. Demonstrative mass actions are only successful when part of the leading class endorses them, when demands are connected to ideas that are already present in leading circles and when demands do not affect the existing relations between elite and mass. When you demand that hundreds of thousands cheap houses have to be built to stop the housing-problem of the youth and the poor, you will never succeed when you only demonstrate peacefully. Lasting actions against the private living situation of the top are less spectacular but more effectual. Once people demonstrated several days in a row in front of the house of the Minister of Education. But they stopped when the disputed decisions were agreed on in the parliament. The action had no continuity, it started too late and stopped when decisions were taken. But even then the Parliament or the Minister can reconsider the decisions.

Organisers enthusiastically invite people to participate in demonstrations. But when the result is negative many demonstrators are frustrated and will never again participate. Besides it demands a lot of energy to organise a demonstration and everyone, including the elite, knows that a next big demonstration cannot be organised on a short notice. A big mass demonstration is unpleasant for leaders but

really big demonstrations only occur not often and leaders learn to live with them. On the other hand, small actions against the private life of a leader promote the autonomy and the creativity of the activist. The culprit never knows when the action will stop. When he just has returned some articles he did not order, he has to think about the tires of his car - do they still contain enough air? - or about the mast of his sailing boat - is he still in tact or is he sawed through (of course only halfway). The uncertainty in his life is more forcing than all difficulties caused by mass actions.

In the beginning of the eighties the Squatters Movement in Amsterdam had a huge following. Big demonstrations were organised when the town council ordered that inhabitants of some big squatted houses had to be evicted. Many windows were broken of banks that financed the new expensive houses that were to be built on the place of the squatted houses. The demonstrators avoided clashes with the police and went from one bank to the other. The Movement asked to continue the breaking of windows but only a few complied with this demand. The many hundreds of persons who had participated in organised violent mass actions did not do anything when nobody urged them to be active. To act autonomously is difficult because during many centuries masspeople have learned that they must wait till someone organises actions. In the Squatters paper you could find some tips that people could use against banks. Disturb the administration, visit receptions, throw bags of paints inside banks (and not only against the outside walls) and even visit directors in their private houses. But only a few autonomous actions did take place.

Political parties and most action groups favour mass actions - mostly by rejecting all other kind of actions and of course by rejecting any kind of violence. Organisers at the top want to control everything that happens. Even the text on placards is often decided by the organisers. Activists alienate from such actions because they are only cannon fodder and do not have an individual contribution. This alienation does not exist in actions that attack individuals. The activist has to be active because when he does not anything, nothing will happen. When you do not participate in a demonstration there are always other people who walk around. The result of personalised actions depends in the first place on the own activity.

Mass actions are mostly disappointing. Big mass actions against nuclear reactors in the beginning of the eighties resulted in the closing of one of the reactors in 1997 (because it was too old). The other reactor should close in 2004 but is still operating. Mass actions for the preservation of squatted houses, against mass dismissals or against nuclear weapons had even less positive results. Political parties say that mass actions offer a good perspective but the real world shows the opposite. Socialism, communism, pacifism and anarchism that relied in their activities on mass movements and mass actions could not change society. The many wars, the arms race, the continuing of the inhuman situation of about half the world population are positive proof that leftist actions were not successful. The abolition of slavery and many other human-friendly decisions were even taken by the elite and not caused by leftist mass actions.

Not all mass actions have to be rejected. A big mass action in Nijmegen that lasted several days forced the municipal authorities to change a plan they had already approved of. There have only been a few mass actions against the private life of leading persons that continued for a longer time even when such actions are easy,

peacefully and not hurting the activists. When activists are always in the vicinity of a leader (openly of course because activists are only present and do nothing outside the law) the target will first laugh about it, then he begins to be disturbed, then frustrated and then he will become insane. You start with his house where always some people hang around. Any time he leaves his house some people will follow him. Any public place he enters - and where activists are also allowed to enter, otherwise they remain in front of the building - he will be confronted by people who he does not want to see. When he is shopping, when he gives a reception because he is married for twenty-five years, when he goes to his sport club, etc. Some will continuously look at him, others will throw a pie, an egg or a bag of paint. And on the street someone will walk up to him and try to talk to him or just collide with him - and then offer his excuses. He can also be followed when he goes away on a holiday. Anyone can think of new tricks and you have not to wait till some organiser tells you what you should do. But this kind of mass actions will remain an illusion when masspeople do not develop there own autonomous way of making life for elitepeople more difficult.

7. THE TOP CIVIL SERVANT

"I just met someone who had participated in an unusual action in the small university town of Delft."

Was the action directed against the private life of high-placed persons?"

"Yes indeed, the people involved were higher civil servants from the Ministry of Public Housing."

"Had the action anything to do with the Squatter Movement?"

"Not at all, it was caused by a huge rise of the rent of houses owned by the Catholic Housing Association Saint Hippolytus."

"Is it important that it is a Catholic Association?"

"Mismanagement can happen everywhere but the religious aspect caused that some tenants were deprived of their democratic rights. Tenants, who are member of the Housing Association, can control the management. But in this case only Catholic tenants could be members. Non-Catholic tenants only had the right to pay their rent, they had no influence on what the management was doing."

"What went wrong?"

"Long articles appeared in local papers. One was headed: 'Hippolytus and the power of the people with knowledge'. The people with power were found in the management, the tenants were the people without power. They had manipulated the situation from the time the houses were built. When the flats were rented out, the management feared they could not get enough tenants and therefore they advertised with rents that were far too low. After some years they revised the rents and tenants had to pay about fifty percent more."

"But is it really possible to increase the rent with fifty percent in one blow?"

"That is possible because the Ministry of Housing agreed though they did not know the reason of the rise in rent."

How do you know that?"

"The action took place in 1976 and then the management had not yet produced the financial reports of the years 1970 and 1971. That is already fraudulent. The management was obliged to submit every year a financial report to the local authorities but it had never done so. In October 1971 it wrote in a letter to the local authorities that the report of 1970 was almost due. Local authorities waited some

more time but on the second of March 1973 they asked the management why the promised report of 1970 was retarded."

"When a tenant is behind with his rent, local authorities act generally much faster."

"Yes, there is a big distance between local authorities and tenants. Local authorities and managers are two of the same kind. It does not matter if the mayor belongs to a left or to a right political party, he meets regularly managers and seldom tenants of low-cost houses. Therefore he will support managers. On the 28th of September 1973 the management sent a new letter, saying that the report was retarded because they just had employed a new financial controller. This letter was only written after the local authorities had written a second demanding letter. On the 25th of March and on the 6th of May 1974 more demands were sent to the management. On the 21st of June 1974 the management replied they could not send the report because one of the directors was on holiday. In the meantime someone at the Ministry smelled a rat and near the end of 1974 a letter was sent to the management in which was asked for an explanation. The Minister was social democrat Marcel van Dam who had been the ombudsman who often talked about the wrongdoings of leaders. As ombudsman he always demanded for appropriate actions of the government. Now he was part of the government and he refused to act. On the 26th of March 1975 local authorities wrote another letter in which they asked why the promises made in the letter of June 1974 were not yet realised. And they asked the Association of Dutch Municipalities to investigate the case. This organisation declared later that the financial report of 1970 should probably be produced in September 1976. But before that date the Ministry of Housing had already approved the increase in rents though its employees did not have any knowledge about the situation in the Housing Association. Financial figures did not exist and the Ministry must know something was wrong. But they believed the fairy-tales of the managers of the Association and so the managers were again protected by their peers. They should have understood that there must be some swindle."

"How do you know that the management had manipulated the finances for their own benefit?"

"I will return later to your question but first I want to determine who was to blame for the financial swindles and the increase in rent. In the first place of course the management but high-placed civil servants of the Ministry of Housing have the obligation to control the management. The houses were built with public money and civil servants have the task to control if such money is well spent. They did not control anything and when not enough rent was paid they solved the problem by approving an increase in rent by fifty percent. In this way they let helpless citizens pay for financial swindles of others. Yes indeed, financial swindles. You can wonder why the financial reports were never produced. One of the local reporters did some research and found out that the delay in the publication of the reports was not caused by the appearance of a new financial controller nor by the holiday of one of the directors but because some obscure business had to be covered up. The managers of the Housing Association were not allowed to get any financial benefit from their job besides a fee of about \$ 400,-. Indirect benefits were neither allowed. But some of the managers did get financial benefits, one because of his plumber's firm, another because of his building company, a third because he was an architect. These

companies got many orders from the Association. And the financial advisor who later became vice-president did indeed not have the time to make financial reports because he was too busy to manage all insurance contracts of the Association through his own company. That was very profitable because the Association owned more than 2500 houses."

"But That is stealing! When these facts were published the managers were arrested and brought to justice?"

"Of course not. The high-placed know how to defend each other because nearly all high-placed earn money through comparable sidelines."

"Did the tenants do anything, did they attack the managers?"

"That should have been possible but my informant had a different opinion. Indeed managers had received financial benefits but nobody had hindered them. Local authorities and the Ministry had failed. They had not looked after a big bag of public money and left it somewhere on the street. It is of course wrong that managers took the bag away but still the controllers were more responsible than the managers they had to control. Civil servants have the task to control that tax money of citizens is well spent. And they have the power to act when something goes wrong. But they did not do anything, even worse they approved an increase in rent when they should have known that this increase was caused by the mismanagement and the financial swindles of the management."

"What happened then?"

"The Housing Association had a huge deficit and the management solved this problem by increasing the rent by fifty percent."

"But when you have rented a house for a certain price it should not be possible to increase the rent so much. Your personal financial planning can hardly cope with a rise like that."

"You should think so but it was written in the contract - in those very small letters nobody ever reads - that the first rent was provisional and that the definite rent was to be determined later. The law seemed to be on the side of the management."

"And nobody revolted?"

"Dutchmen are not that rebellious. They complain a lot but a revolution is a bridge too far. But still something happened. A Tenants Committee was formed and a demonstration was organised in front of the Ministry. Then the Committee was invited to listen to a discussion about rents between management and civil servants. But they were not allowed to participate in the discussion. By the way the increase in rent was at that moment already approved. But the Committee believed that an approval so easily given could be made undone in the same casual way. But some people wanted to do something more than only listening to some high-placed persons. A short time later a first pamphlet was distributed. I will cite some sentences:

You have rented a flat. Now the rent is increased by a vast amount. Take another example. You buy a TV-set for \$600,-. A year later the salesman asks you another \$300,- because he had miscalculated the price. Then you will ridicule him because you paid a reasonable price and you handled in good faith. For a reasonable price and in good faith you rented some years ago a house and now they want more money because they did something wrong.

The pamphlet contained also the names, the private addresses and the telephone numbers of the two highest civil servants of the Ministry because they were in the first place responsible for the ridiculous increase of the rent. The pamphlet continued: *You and your family can spend every month \$ 50,- or \$ 100,- less. It is right that people who are responsible for your loss will suffer also You only have to make sure that in the coming years the two persons who failed most in their duty will time and again be remembered of the irresponsible and unfair decision they have taken. That is what they merit. Of course you can attack the managers of Saint Hippolytus but they have not the power to bring your rent back to the level you paid before. You have to attack the people who are really to blame and who have the power to turn the decision around. You are touched in your private life and they who are responsible for your agony will continue hurting other people when they can go on to live their own pleasant life. You have to undertake something."*

"Are there also some practical tips about what you can do against these leading persons included in the pamphlet?"

"It looks a bit like a litany and I will read it out loud and clear:

- 1. Call them time and again by preference at a time they do not want to be disturbed.*
- 2. Do ask the Telephone Company to connect his telephone to some unknown number in a foreign country.*
- 3. Do send telegrams - by using their telephone number - to arbitrary persons. The costs will be subtracted from their accounts.*
- 4. Sent them all kinds of goods by ordering them, out of their name, by a mail-order company.*
- 5. Organise a demonstration in front of their private houses and not in front of the Ministry.*
- 6. Try to use their signature to remit some money from their account to a charitable institution.*
- 7. You may also use some actions that are punishable - they have also committed many crimes that are punishable though they are never punished. Break a window, throw a can with paint over their car, empty a can with used oil in their garden, do something against their second house, against their boat, etceteras.*

And the letter ends with the words: *These are only some hints, you can think of much more what will harm their private life.*

This action group is unlike other action groups. It expects that tenants think about what is happening to their life and that they can act individually. Most action groups determine what members have to do and do not like it when third persons also become active. This action group says: *it is your life, when you do not undertake something to improve your situation it is better you accept that new situation."*

"That is rather cynical."

"Yes indeed. But you may never depend on other people to solve your problems. And never follow a self-appointed leader. Be human, act individually. When you do not act, you must ask others for help. Then you remain dependent and helpless. You can of course accept negative decisions of high-placed leaders or orders of so-called helpful leaders. But then you always have to follow rules of leading individuals. Human autonomy does not increase when humans do not rely on their own energy and knowledge but wait till other people take the initiative."

"How did the action proceed, were there any positive results?"

"You will never know how influential the two pamphlets have been but the increase in rent was reduced by 40%. You could say that this was caused by the activities of the Tenants Committee, which certainly had some influence on the decision to change the first Ministerial Decision. But this second decision was also changed by attacks on leading civil servants. The telephone action and other intrusions in their private life were accompanied by a new pamphlet in which again was said that *the burden of faulty decisions can not always be laid on the shoulders of common citizens. It is necessary that responsible persons will also be disturbed in their life.* After some time the increase in rent was again reduced by 40% and the majority of tenants accepted this result. The actions against the leading civil servants stopped. You can say that the action group caused the second reduction. So the combination of the open activities of the Tenants Committee and the concealed actions of the Action Group against the private life of people who had the power to change decisions had a positive effect."

"Did the tenants accept the covered actions?"

"The attack on the private life of a leader has to be done in secret and is frightening because nobody wants to be attacked in his private life. The English say indeed: my home is my castle. Political parties are opposed to attacks on private persons, probably because political leaders fear that they also can be attacked in future. Actions only seem to be illegal. It is allowed to ask a civil servant why he has agreed to a ridiculous increase in rent. When he refuses to give a reasonable answer you are allowed to ask him again to explain the case and again and again and again. And it is also permitted to ask this question at a time the civil servant is off guard, for example at three o'clock in the morning. Maybe then he will tell the real reason for the increase.

But most tenants said that such actions were a bridge too far. They were rather disinterested because they were not disturbed by the actions and on the other hand they did have to pay more rent. Later many of them admitted that the attacks on the private life of the civil servants had been an important factor to get a better decision. My informant told me also that his group had indeed carried out actions in the vicinity of the civil servants but they had perceived that there were other actions. You can conclude that the same people who openly said they did not like the actions so much had secretly carried out some actions in order to reduce their powerlessness in regard to high-placed gentlemen who take decisions that influenced their life."

"So you think the action had a positive effect?"

"Yes, I have even heard that the highest civil servant, Mr. J.W.G. Floor, retired before his time was up. Maybe indeed the actions contributed to his retirement."

"So it was a reasonable short action?"

"It lasted only a few months. Most actions against private persons take much longer before you can see any effect. But something has to happen to change the world. Now citizens are always damaged by activities of the higher-placed who are never touched. This inequality must disappear."

"I do not quite understand."

"It is quite simple. A female minister decided that a foreigner had to leave the country. When he refused to leave she ordered his arrest and the foreigner was transported to another country. Later a judge told the minister she had been wrong. The foreigner should have remained in the country. This foreigner was unjustly disturbed in his private life but could not return because he was already somewhere else. But did something happen with the minister who took a wrong decision? Nothing, she remained minister and she took comparable unjust decisions that influenced the private life of other powerless citizens. In Delft you have seen a glimpse of another world where leaders and citizens live on equal terms."

8. THE MAYOR

How authorities only confess to have used unlawful procedures when the victim tries to get justice by unlawful means.

On the eighteenth of December of the year 1970 two police officers called on Erik van der Maal. They asked him to come to the police precinct of the small Dutch town of Baarn. They said they wanted to talk to Erik but they locked him up in a cell. In the afternoon three hospital attendants arrived and Erik was transported to the closed ward of the Dutch Reformed Mental Hospital Sun and Shield (Zon en Schild) in Amersfoort. After twenty-two days Erik was released. How was this possible?

Erik was a nuisance for the town authorities mostly because he often asked higher civil servants by phone why he did not receive any answers on his questions for more social security for his family. His calls were made late at night when the responsible persons were asleep. The authorities were annoyed though Erik used his lawful rights to appeal to higher authorities when they lower authorities refused to answer. The mayor, J. van Haeringen, made a plan to remove this human plague. He called a meeting with the director of the Municipal Social Service and a police-commissioner. During the meeting they asked municipal physician H. Heybroek to sign a statement to allow the confinement of Erik to a mental hospital. Because of ethical and medical reasons Heybroek refused to sign. Then a lower civil servant signed but a week later Heybroek turned around. He had bowed to the intimidating pressure of his fellow men of standing and contrary to the truth he was also told that a psychiatrist agreed with the statement. Anyhow the physician truthfully declared that he had not seen the patient in the last three weeks and that he could not think of any medical reason why Erik should be mental retarded. But signatures are more important than reasons and Erik was locked up for twenty-two days. Afterwards psychiatrists of Sun and Shield declared that Erik was indeed troublesome but he was not insane and he was locked up without any justifiable reason.

When Erik came home he tried to be rehabilitated. He asked the mayor for a statement that he was unlawfully detained. He was met by silence. Even a meeting with the mayor could not be arranged. Erik tried to get support from social organisations as the Youth Action Centre, Release, the Foundation Correlation and the Ombudsman. He talked with lawyer Pieter Herman Bakker Schut and with Jacques van der Meulen a well-known expert in criminal law from the University of Amsterdam. Most of these people did not believe his story and some of them even said that he was indeed not quite normal. This was also caused by the fact that there were hardly any documents that could prove what had occurred. Then Erik had some luck. He was summoned to the Municipal Social Service and as always he had to wait for a long time. Erik started to stroll through the building and saw in an empty room a filing cabinet. There he found his own file under the title Erik van der Maal L (lunatic). He concealed the file under his shirt and went home. He copied the file and gave the copies to a friend who was propagating the idea that "only people who exert power can get justice". The documents from the file proved

that some men of standing had conspired against Erik in order to get rid of this troublesome citizen.

Without any result Erik continued to use legal methods to get justice. When he went to the Town Hall he was thrown out after being told that "it was better to forget what had happened". Then Erik understood he would never be rehabilitated when he continued to use legal means. He must look for means outside the boundaries of the law. He must break the law.

This kind of action has a material and a mental side. The material side includes for example the smashing of windows, the theft of beloved objects, the intruding upon meetings, including family meetings, the occasional use of a Molotov cocktail and the Wehkamp method by which the mailbox of an attacked person is flooded with articles he did not order and did not want to receive. You can also falsely send taxi drivers, pizza deliverers or drainage system repairers to the address of the target. The World Wide Web did not yet exist in 1970. The attacked person must not be bodily harmed because he has to remain capable to change former decisions. In the mental side the attacker imprints in the mind of the target the idea that he will never be left alone. It is a kind of mental stalking.

The attack started on the fourth of May 1973, more than two years after the arrest of Erik, with the publication of the first number of AGBUM-News. AGBUM was the Action Group to Blow Up the Mayor (in Dutch the WOB, the Werkgroep Opblazen Burgemeester). With the help of data from Erik's file a group of thirty leading persons in Baarn was informed about the misbehaviour of the mayor. Of course it was suggested that the circulation of the magazine was much higher.

It was also made public that the file was stolen. The Public Prosecutor was asked to prosecute the thief. Erik wanted to use the court to bring the misdeeds of the authorities in the open. When you are the accused you have the right to summon many witnesses, maybe all fourteen million Dutchmen. A lawyer can never use this method since he is embedded in the juridical system. He cannot antagonise the judges because then he can hurt the interests of future clients – and his own career. An accused can go beyond the unwritten laws of the juridical jungle. He can follow the letter of the law and neglect the intention of the law. During the session of the court the witnesses have to wait outside the courtroom till they are called upon. High-placed people did not like to appear in court just because a silly mayor made a stupid mistake and was too proud to admit his fault. Because all witnesses belonged to the same high circles as the mayor, the life of the mayor and his family came under pressure.

The Prosecutor refused to bring the case in court because he wanted to protect the accused members of the local elite. He was added to the list of the AGBUM when Erik was forcibly removed from the court when he tried to talk to the Prosecutor. The Action Group made a poster with a photograph of Prosecutor Overbeek and the text: WANTED, CRIMINAL. On the poster you could also find his birthday, his hobby's, his horoscope, his private address and his telephone number. This poster was distributed in the Court, the prison, several banks and in many municipal buildings and was also sent to the Ministry of Justice in The Hague. And it was glued on the windows of the private houses of some fellow prosecutors.

The result was disappointing. In a second attack the target was narrowed and the poster was only posted on the private houses of the mayor and some higher police officers. An action was started to telephone the Prosecutor as much as possible. This action was not directed against the head culprit, the mayor, but against people in his circle. It was part of the campaign to isolate the mayor in his daily life. Now the Prosecutor reacted by writing a letter to Erik on the 21st of June 1973: "*You have organised some action against me but your method is not effective. I can turn off my phone so I am not disturbed by the many calls.*" It is of course unlikely that a Public Prosecutor can turn off his phone because in case of an emergency he must be available. And you can wonder why he gave advice to someone who attacked him.

Some leaflets were distributed by throwing them from the highest tower of the nearby town of Utrecht. Someone who lived more than a kilometre from that tower thought that an aeroplane had dropped the papers. That strengthened the impression that a tremendous action was going on. The leaflet was also sent to other prosecutors and published in a leftist Wallpaper. Besides leaflets, telephone and poster actions, Eric started to follow openly the wife of the Prosecutor. Stalking is of course punishable but Erik wanted to appear in court and the Prosecutor refused to prosecute Erik. And when Mrs Overbeek brought some blankets to the cleaner she received half an hour later a telephone call in which the cleaner said that the blankets were too dirty to be cleaned. Mrs Overbeek went mad and only much later she realised that not the cleaner but Erik had made the call.

The closed front of the authorities was beginning to fall apart. The nuisance for Overbeek and his family became too much and the Prosecutor decided to start a lawsuit against the thieves of the file. The actions against Overbeek stopped. The Prosecutor affirmed in a second letter to Erik that the protracted actions were the only reason for his change of mind: "....." *I know you are agitating against me in my private life. I do not think it is right to let this situation continue... Therefore I invite you for a conversation about the situation.*" On the 21st of September 1973 Erik had to appear in court. The mayor must also appear. He was very nervous and every time he replied with the same words: "*I do not remember anything anymore.*" The Prosecutor demanded a punishment of 50 Dutch cents (about a quarter of a dollar) or one day in prison with a trial period of one day. The judge agreed with this sentence. But Erik disagreed and appealed.

The Prosecutor had done his duty and was left alone but the actions against the mayor continued. A demonstration was organised in front of the private house of the mayor. The words "I do not remember anything anymore" surrounded by the thrill sound of police sirens, the ringing of telephones and the breaking of windows blasted out of some loudspeakers. Though the demonstration took place after midnight and the neighbours came out of their beds, the police did not interfere. It became clear that the protectors of the government did not fully agree with the policies of their highest boss. And because of broken windows the mayor had to endure that private watchmen constantly circled around his house. To get even more safety he installed iron blinds. But this remedy was worse than the disease because sometimes the mayor forgot to lower his blinds. Then in the middle of the night his tormentors warned him by phone. And indeed, the mayor left his bed and lowered the blinds.

The AGBUM-news continued to be published. New information about the incompetence of the mayor was obtained during sessions of the town council. During these sessions an activist gazed all the time at the mayor and did not seem to be interested in what was said at the meeting. So once more the mayor realised that he would never be left alone. Although gazing is a peaceful action, the target is frightened. But he is the only one in the meeting who has this experience. The councillors see the activist as one of the many innocent citizens who are listening to the discussions sitting on the benches reserved for people who want to exercise their democratic right to know what happens at a meeting of a town council. The action developed slowly with still more and different actions. To avoid mistakes you have to contemplate about each next step. The activists made a mistake when they tried to cut the ties between the mayor and the Dutch Reformed Church. They used the wrong arguments and the wrong methods. They wrote a bible text (Lucas 19:26) on the wall of the church. So they damaged the church and some church people didn't like this and formed the action group "The ten strong ones". They attacked the activists and not the cause of the actions, the mayor. Some windows of private houses of activists were smashed to bits and the personal pressure on the mayor was turned around in a pressure on the private life of the activists. An action is however never without risk and it maybe better when the activists act in secrecy. Anyhow the activists got some difficulties because they disturbed the life of some individuals who were not involved in the case.

Not all actions have a noticeable effect but the imagination has to take the lead and you have to imagine how the target will experience an action. It became known that the town council was having a private dinner in an expensive restaurant. Covertly an activist ordered three more places at the table but the manager smelled a rat. When the activists arrived to take these places they were apprehended by the police and thrown out. Still it was possible that the event was discussed at the dinner (...why did these horrible people invade our private meeting...). Then activists had even influence on what was discussed on a meeting of friends of the mayor. Leading persons do not like it when other people influence their private environment, they want to decide about their own life.

"Shit on the Eem" was another special action. The Eem is a small river that passes through Baarn. The shit was collected in a caravan-camp where the roads were not cleaned as was done with the other roads in Baarn. One of the bags with shit splashed against the walls of the town hall, another exploded against the house of the Minister of Culture who happened to live in Baarn and who was responsible for the situation in caravan-camps. When more actions took place, under which again the breaking of windows, the minister decided to give the camp some money and the site became the best caravan-camp in the Netherlands.

Meanwhile it had become obvious that all actions were only directed against some high civil servants of Baarn. Lower civil servants, including lower police officers, were never attacked. An imaginary line was drawn between the lower and the higher echelons of the town and the lower civil servants were not too eager to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for their bosses.

Some more windows were broken and then on the 18th of November 1973 everyone in Baarn received an Open Letter in which the mayor was summoned to admit his

mistakes within a month. Then it was exactly three years ago that he gave the order that Erik van der Maal was to be locked up in a Mental Institution. All actions except one were stopped. Every day the mayor was by letter reminded of the fact that the truce should last only 30 days, then 29 days, then 28 days etc. The countdown for the show-off had started. The official newspaper in Baarn remained silent but higher police officers and even the Prosecutor tried to mediate. They said that the mayor had become an "ill and tired person" who hardly dared to leave his house. The last day letters were delivered at the house of the mayor with the text: "still 60 minutes left", "still 44 minutes left", "still 32 minutes left" and then the last one: "still 15 minutes and 25 seconds left".... Of course nothing happened when the time had come. However something could still happen and the mayor could only wait.

One of the reasons that no action occurred was the fact that on the 20th of December the appeal was due. The hearing of witnesses took ten hours and fourteen important people had to spend a full day on a wooden bench outside the Courtroom. At the end the man who had hidden the file was sentenced to a fine of hundred dollars or two days in prison. Of course he appealed. Half a year later this appeal was rejected. And again the activist stole his file and again nobody reacted. Though the case was unique because many important people had to appear in a courtroom, the media remained deaf and mute. The covering-up policy was still working. That is often the case when a citizen attacks a member of the sitting power. The media are only present in disputes inside the elite. Then both parties use the media as a weapon. Citizens can hardly elucidate their grievances against authorities in the press.

After the verdict it remained quiet but on the 19th of February 1974 Erik's brother-in-law threw a Molotov cocktail in a police precinct. The reason was the disgraceful policy regarding the youth of Baarn but of course the authorities connected the attack with Erik. They were wrong. But Erik was still active in painting some swastikas on the front door of the private house of the mayor. And by continuing to send unwanted and unpaid presents to the mayor. Once he was even arrested but soon released also because policemen were never molested. It must have been very annoying for the mayor. Later Erik told he ordered more than seven hundred on behalf of the mayor. Every day the mayor had to explain to someone he did not order

Still a new action group came into being, the Action Group to Blow Up the Vice Mayor. Moreover some cans of paint were thrown against the walls of several houses of notables and other walls were decorated with remarkable slogans. Then on the twenty-second of January the mayor was admitted to a mental clinic. The actions had to continue for many more months till the activists decided to organise on the 18th of November 1974 a People's Tribunal. Just as in an official court, the accused was prosecuted and sentenced though he did not attend the court session. The mayor had in the meantime left the mental institution and resumed work. On the 25th of the same month, Erik smashed some more windows of the private house of the mayor and again the private watchdogs reappeared and again the Ten Strong Ones came in action. The Tribunal passed judgement and the mayor was sentenced to one year of suspended imprisonment.

It seemed that history was repeating itself but the situation had changed because the media became interested. One of the activists was guarding his house with a gun in his hand because he had been threatened by the Ten Strong Ones. In contradiction

to the notables he could not get any police protection. In the meantime Erik invaded the Town Hall and stole some private possessions of the mayor. And the windows of the private house of the mayor were not left alone.

Then the mayor admitted his faults. After some negotiations the Minister of Home Affairs ordered the mayor to sign a declaration that Erik was not and never had been insane and that he was locked up in a mental institution on false grounds. This simple declaration could have been issued four years earlier, but was only produced because of the protracted actions against the mayor and his accomplices. The struggle ended with a positive result. Within a year after the session of the Tribunal the municipal physician retired and the director of the Social Services went on sick leave. Later he also retired. He was again admitted to a mental hospital, the same place in which he had locked up a citizen of his town. So some chickens come home to roost, only because some citizens had decided to act outside the boundaries of the law. In this case you can indeed say that crime does pay.

Erik however prospered. The Social Service started to pay for his studies, Erik entered university and got a degree in law. In his final dissertation he described the juridical aspects of his fight against the mayor. Nowadays he is still the president of the BWO, the Union for People who have broken the Law.

9. THE QUEEN'S COMMISSIONER

W.J. Geertsema was Queen's Commissioner of the Dutch province of Gelderland. This high civil function gave him some control over police forces. He was also member of the board of directors of the state-owned electricity company of Gelderland (PGEM), member of the board of KEMA Ltd, also technically involved in electricity. And he was President of the Board of Directors of one of the two Dutch nuclear power stations in the small village of Doodewaard.

The Anti Nuclear Power Movement decided in October 1982 to organise a blockade of the power station under the name "Doodewaard will close". 6000 activists planned to camp for several days near the station and they were supported by another 14000 activists who came daily down to the site to support the blockade. The government opened a crisis centre that was headed by Geertsema. He could in this way use the power of the state to defend the interests of the Dutch electricity industry in which he occupied several high functions.

He defended also the interests of the Dutch elite of which he was a prominent member. In my analysis of the Dutch financial power, Geertsema could be found on the list of the 227 most influential (and rich) leaders. This list was in 1980 published in my book "The Power of the Family Capital and what to do against it". (only published in Dutch). These 227 predominantly male humans represented the interests of the rich Dutch families. They possessed the capital, the social functions and the necessary information (often from family members on somewhat lower positions) to preserve and even extend the power and the capital of the Family. One of the tasks of Geertsema was to safeguard the investments in the Dutch nuclear industry.

Geertsema was supported by another member of the 227 Names, the noble J.L. de Brauw who was president of the club that organised the Broad Social Discussion about Nuclear Energy. It is striking that despite the conclusion that Holland should be free of nuclear power about twenty five years later nuclear power is still produced in Holland. Despite seemingly democratic initiatives as a Broad Social Discussion leaders still can pursue their own policy.

In the beginning the majority of the population was not against nuclear power. People thought it was a safe and easy way to be freed from the threatening domination of Arab oil over the Western shortage of energy. But opponents explained the big dangers of nuclear energy. Tsjernobil proved later that these dangers were realistic. All the more, nuclear waste remained dangerous for millions of years and it was a nearly insolvable problem to store this waste in a safe way. Ordinary toxic waste gave already tens of years later big problems, nuclear waste is even more dangerous.

Nuclear energy only seemed to be cheap. When the cost of treatment of nuclear waste and the destruction of obsolete nuclear power plants were taken into account, nuclear energy was not cheap. A small accident with the nuclear power station near the American town of Harrisburg cost already billions of dollars - all paid for by the ordinary taxpayer.

There was also the threat of the coming into being of an "atom state". A nuclear power plant is very dangerous. A simple accident will have repercussions in a vast territory. There is not only direct damage but radioactive materials can penetrate and remain in livestock and agricultural products that are consumed by humans. The government wants to avoid any possible sabotage or other attacks on power plants and will take decisions that deeply influence the life of common people. It will strengthen its grip on masspeople by gathering still more private data. In the end this can lead to a kind of police state that resembles much of what George Orwell described in his book "1984". The development of electronic data processing and the rise of terrorism have given governments now more possibilities to strengthen its grip on the masses. But that was twenty five years ago not as clear as it is now. The danger of a very regulated society is by the way not caused by dead nuclear power plants or just as lifeless electronic means of collecting and storing data but by living leaders that want to safeguard their own privileged position.

Anyhow authorities did not talk about the negative sides of nuclear energy. They only said that fossil fuel became scarce and under the control of Arabs, while nuclear material was abundantly present. The investments in nuclear energy were huge and thus the interests of the elite were also at stake. Investments in other possible energy sources as wind, sun and water were minimised. The leaders of the industrial world wanted to safeguard their easy gains from nuclear energy.

More and more people opposed the use of nuclear energy. It raised the question how to solve in democracies the problem of majorities versus minorities. The right of minorities of interested and involved masspeople is of more importance than that of majorities that are not involved and that often lack the knowledge and the data because they are hardly interested in the problem. Anyhow there was never a majority that said in the past, "We want nuclear energy", only an elitist minority. Neither did a majority ever decide that Geertsema should become Queen's Commissioner. And only a minority of masspeople decided to start an action to close Doodewaard. Only elitist minorities have the power to enforce decisions often by using violence. Governments controlled by the elite have a monopoly on the use of violence. In our social system the problem of majorities versus minorities is subordinate to the question who possesses most power. It has been proven in the past that the means that are allowed to the masses to exercise power are insufficient to halt the division of humanity into a privileged elite and masspeople that live on a sometimes harsh massworld.

An action like "Doodewaard will close" could increase the knowledge of masspeople about nuclear energy, it did not develop enough independent masspower to close the power station. It was amazing that many demonstrators were disappointed that the action had not succeeded. For success masspeople must develop independent power and in this book I give some examples how masspeople can indeed develop some power. These actions are not based on massive demonstrative meetings but on activities of involved and interested mass minorities that intrude the quiet and safe eliteworld by means of Creative Disturbance. In the eliteworld live not only people like Geertsema who have high and powerful positions but also children that are predestined to get such positions when they grow older. A significant part of the leading class was born in the eliteworld not in the least because their parents had a surplus of capital. This could have been acquired by family ties but robber barons like

Rockefeller are also accepted in the eliteworld when they have amassed sufficient capital.

The action against Geertsema started in the early summer of 1980. A few people realised that the masses had not enough power to close nuclear power plants. Therefore independent mass minorities had to become active. The actions give an idea how masspeople could get pleasure from activities not in the least because powerful leaders will react on a strange manner. The humour of the action group appeared not to be valued by the attacked Geertsema even when this man was known to be a humorous person.

The first action was a slightly ironical flyer. Under the header "Geertsema closes Doodewaard".

"We, the support group 'Geertsema closes Doodewaard' call on everyone to support the liberal Geertsema in his struggle to close Doodewaard. Therefore we ask everyone to send Geertsema a personal message of solidarity. Call him by phone (private number 08309-3260 or 03788-2117), write him a letter (private address Castle Middachten Gortelseweg 61 Vaassen) send him money on his private number of the postal giro 335242 or just contact him in person. He can often be found in the restaurants Echopot, Cresthotel or Rijnhotel".

The longer someone lives in the quiet and safe eliteworld, the more someone will panic when addressed unexpectedly. This flyer that clearly was a hoax forced Geertsema to send a message to his acquaintances denying any involvement. He made contact with many people about an event he did not cause. Several leaders will have wondered why Geertsema bothered to answer. His position in the eliteworld was a little bit undermined. It was probably also the first time in his protected life that he got some inkling how difficult it is for common citizens to be powerless against decisions and activities taken somewhere else without having any influence on these decisions.

The flyer was accompanied by a message to the media in which was stated that 73% of the population of the village where Geertsema lived agreed with the initiative. The local paper appreciated the action and asked Geertsema to comment: *"I know such hollow talk, I have had to endure more actions that were a nuisance, but this flyer is new."* He added that he had not the intention to take any juridical action because *"it is not punishable to ask people to send money to someone else"*.

I then wrote Geertsema a letter asking him to evaluate this comment and he wrote back. Indeed the action did not disturb him yet very much. Later he never again answered my letters. In the first letter it was clear that Geertsema had already asked the Dutch Secret Service about my background. Again he must involve third persons in a case he could hardly influence. Later he asked even a leading member of the Labour Party to get more information. This man ordered a young member of the party to investigate the action group but nothing was found. Of course because it was an open action, names and addresses of some activists were not secret.

The difference between people who live in the eliteworld and people who live in the massworld is evident. The first people can ask help from the police or political parties (even when they belong to the opposition) when they are they are bothered. They

can also get information about common citizens from secret sources and therefore break the privacy of third persons without their knowledge. Masspersons cannot do anything comparable.

The psychological war against Geertsema remained in first place a paper one. I published an Open Letter signed by a copy of his signature I found on the letter Geertsema had send me. Also the top of the letter was copied so the Open Letter looked on first sight genuine. It was by the way astonishing that I had send Geertsema a letter on his private address but that Geertsema had written the answer on official papers from his office. An easy way to let society pay for the cost of answering private letters.

The Open Letter was directed to elected representatives and many others leaders involved in nuclear energy.

"Only we - a group of less then 500 predominantly male Dutchmen - decide about the use of nuclear energy in our country. Will you tell me if you are also against nuclear energy? Then I can publish the names of all opponents of nuclear energy."

On the other side of the Letter is explained why this initiative has been taken: *"We have not listened very well to the many opponents of nuclear energy The fear of common citizens is strengthened by the building of even more power plants many feel even more powerless in regard to the decision takers (we) who are only with few They may resort to actions in our private living sphere and we come in a comparable situation by being confronted by unknown events The actions can vary from nightly telephone calls to even terrorist actions like those from the German Red Army Fraction."*

In the Letter is also mentioned the possible founding of Autonomous Clubs, just as *"autonomous as the street fighters of Amsterdam, Italy, France or elsewhere, people who are immune of the leading political forces and who act in their own way this should be the realisation of an idea proposed by Jean Paul Marat in the French Revolution. He also wanted to improve the failing democracy because citizens were powerless."*

I send the Open Letter also to the private address of Geertsema accompanied by a note signed by myself. It is in our society possible to agitate in the open, though of course not all members of the action group were known. In response Geertsema wrote a message to the media in which he accused the Foundation Power & Elite. Though I was indeed president of the Foundation the action of Geertsema was very strange. I had only sent him a private Open Letter and did not use my function in the Foundation. To read a message correct is however difficult.

The media believe mostly everything what is said by authorities. A simple telephone call to the Foundation should have told them that the accusation was false. After pressurising some press organs they agreed to publish a rectification but only on a place hardly anyone will see. Again an example of the unequal position of common citizens and leaders whose lies are mostly published without any comment.

The blockade of the nuclear power plant in Doodewaard was about to start. By coincidence on the same day as the birthday of Geertsema. The Support Group makes a new flyer in which everyone is asked to block the castle of Geertsema after having congratulated him with his birthday.

"Despite a multitude of supporting messages (telephone calls, remittance of money, letters, private house calls and a lot of publicity) of sympathisers of the Support Group "Geertsema closes Doodewaard" Geertsema who is the highest responsible in the nuclear question has still not had the courage to close the nuclear power plant in Doodewaard.

We must free Geertsema from the powers that keep him imprisoned. We propose a siege of the castle where Geertsema lives. The action can take a long time thus be prepared and care for enough food, wooden poles to break the doors of the castle, wooden sticks with iron spikes, harnesses, shields, spears, bows and arrows, catapults etc

After we have ended the occupation of the nuclear power plant we will march towards the castle of Geertsema and will camp in the woods. We will barricade the wooden bridge that is just restored for about a million euro of civil money. We will not leave until Geertsema has been permitted to close the nuclear plant in Doodewaard."

The action proceeded. Several posters were distributed that called on people to join the festivities around the birthday of Geertsema. A left-wing radio producer mentioned the action even on the radio. But the birthday of Geertsema did not seem very popular in the Anti Nuclear Movement. Most activists did not understand that actions against an influential living leader are more important than confronting heavily armed police forces around a dead nuclear power plant. Only ten people in two cars went to the castle. And they were delighted, the castle was decorated with garlands. not festive garlands but rolls of barbed wire. The canals around the castle were blockaded by rolls of barbed wire. The three bridges were barricaded with so-called NATO-wire, that contained many small knives. Inside this fort many police officers could be perceived with dogs, binoculars and even guns. The spotlights on the walls of the castle explained that these people also at night wanted to hunt animals that were attracted by the lights.

After a few flyers the fear that masspeople should invade the quiet world of the elite was so big that Geertsema demanded that his personal safety should be guarded by a great force. You can wonder how many other Dutchmen could have their house guarded on the basis of the worthless arguments Geertsema brought forward. Or was it really true that Geertsema was imprisoned?

You should think that a castle wrapped up in barbed wire had a certain news value for the media especially when inside the canals an important fighting power was concentrated. But the media remained silent. Somewhere was mentioned that Geertsema was offered a glass of brandy but the siege of his castle and the defence by armed police was never commented. Only much later some questions were asked about the costs of the defence of about 50000 euro. But this was connected to the fact that a simple leader could demand so much money to counter a hardly credible danger while the regional police was not compensated for the fact they were denied any leave during the blockade of the nuclear plant.

About the role of the media I have written enough. Only actions that are inside the democratic boundaries get publicity. Pacifist actions that never endanger democracy can count on wide attention in the media. Anti-parliamentarian actions are disregarded. People who do not want to vote – in a country where not-voting becomes more and more fashionable – are not covered in the media. I agree, not the attention of the media should determine the success of an action but the reaction of attacked leaders. Do not put your hope on the media - they will only publish something when an eliteperson is really cornered and when he needs the media to help him.

The action had some result. One sympathetic friend who had published a booklet about the elitist past of Geertsema wrote him about the isolating enclosure of the living space of Geertsema. Geertsema gave an answer in which he tried to explain his attitude and the presence of armed police troops around his castle.

"Your action was only indirect the cause of barbed wire around my castle. When the planned action became widely known I must take into account that people should come to Middachten who were very aggressive. I still think people should not attack myself or my family in person but they could have damaged the national monument in which I live".

Again is clear that Geertsema cannot read (or does not want to read what is written). The Open Letter clearly stated that actions were possible against his private living sphere. Geertsema could not believe that some people indeed wanted to stop the ages old dependency and powerlessness of common citizens. He was an eliteperson who lived already so long in the isolated eliteworld that he could not believe that his own life ever could be endangered by masspeople. He thought only his private possessions were endangered. Dead possessions are certainly an important reason for the existence of a separated eliteworld. Many laws protect the right of the few to possess huge amounts of capital, that go far above the amount someone can spend in a life time. Bodily harm occurs but the victims are nearly always masspeople, just as in a war only masspeople die, hardly ever an elitist general who did send his pawns forward to be destroyed.

People that are born in the eliteworld differ from masspeople because they have a different position. They are never bodily attacked, they are assured of a higher position in society, their future is bright. Masspeople have an uncertain future they hardly can control. It is not without reason that elitist people speak about themselves as "Our Kind of People", while the masses are "That Kind of People".

Geertsema did not close the nuclear power plant though it threatened the life of "That Kind of people". As a true member of the clan "OKP" he thought to have the right to tell members of "TKP" how to behave. He wrote:

"..... I call on you never to use paint during your actions. The best way to tell someone how to behave is by talking."

When you have a powerful position and does not have to care for your material life, your job or the house you live in, it is easy to decide if you want to listen or not to the arguments of other people. The powerless citizen does not have this choice and is

obliged to listen to "Our Kind of People" and follow up their orders. Without talking and by using faulty arguments a nuclear plant had been built. The masses had become more conscious of the dangers. But talking was only possible when first of all the power plant had been closed. Talking when the plant should continue to produce energy, gives the powerless only the illusion that they can expect something. Talking is only possible when two parties have the same position of power, in all other cases independent activities must accompany any discussion.

Geertsema was born in the eliteworld, others climb up but can still be removed by the sitting power when they do not comply to the wishes of the older elitist possessors of power. Sake van der Ploeg, a member of the Labour Party that rose to the position of mayor, had to return to the massworld. He could not anymore function as before when he was attacked by masspeople. He not anymore defend the interests of the "OKP" and had to leave his high post. The masses could fairly easy chase this new member of the elite away, also because this man had not enough power to get help from other "OKP".

Geertsema had more powerful and to chase him away, to change his mind, actions must take a long time and must be more intensified as was now the case. The threat to become active (the letters) must be accompanied by some real actions. Just before the blockade in Doodewaard the slogan "Free Geertsema" was therefore painted on the office of Geertsema. A good action but on the wrong place, the working place of Geertsema and not his private living sphere. But it made clear that activists not only wrote letters. Only Geertsema did not know when, where and how new actions would happen. His secure life was a little bit undermined and he became dependent on third persons who did not belong to his own "OKP". He then invented a possible action and wrote:

"My wife and I have the obligation to prevent that our monumental castle is damaged by paint. The stones are very old and it is nearly impossible to remove paint from sand stones That has been the only reason to ask the police to wrap our castle in barbed wire". He is right, everyone knows that paint bombs cannot penetrate a wall of barbed wire.

Because blue is the colour of the political party of Geertsema, I sent him a can with blue paint with the question if he would paint slogans on his castle on those places that could be cleaned. Geertsema shall have to live with the threat of possible actions in his private living sphere. When nothing happens today, something can happen tomorrow, next week or next year. As long as the nuclear power plant is not closed the possibility that some unknown masspersons do something unexpected against the private life of Geertsema will dominate for a long time the life of this eliteperson.

The action was discontinued and Geertsema left his post because of his age, not because of pressure from masspeople. That a threat that a paint bomb could be thrown against the walls of a castle can dominate someone's personal life was confirmed in an article in a newspaper published in 1975 under the title *"Frightening silence after many threats"*.

"For over a year someone has threatened a leading cadre of DAF in Eindhoven in nightly telephone calls. 'you are speaking with a member of the Front to Free Rhodesia. You must start a juridical action against DAF because DAF is selling trucks to the illegal regime that suppresses the Rhodesian population. When you do not take action something terrible may happen to your wife and child'. The mysterious telephone calls stopped after some time but the threat remained:

'.... something will happen to your wife or child'.

The man from DAF put an advertisement in the newspaper asking the caller to call again His wife said: 'I am glad my husband told me about the calls. But it is nerve-racking, it influences deeply our life, the daily uncertainty that something may happen to us or our daughter no doubt the threat must be taken serious because the calls that lasted for twenty seconds contained the code word Mozambique 2The police is powerless to do anything and we feel every day that the threat is still somewhere around

In their private living sphere common people constantly are confronted with threats to lose their job, their house, their existence. They have to obey decisions taken far away on which they have hardly any influence. Physical and mental illnesses are often caused by this situation. To solve this inequality masspersons must put pressure on elitepeople. Then people will get more the equal status that is needed for the coming into existence of one world on which all people shall live. The action against Geertsema has proven that something is changing when a powerful person is approached in his private surroundings. But because one swallow does not make a summer, only many actions can result in a lasting different situation.

10. FIGHTING TRANQUILLISERS

Part A. Largactil

Rrring.....rrring.....rrring

'Mrs. Slagmulder is on the phone'.

A short moment nothing was said. Then a low and heavy voice asked: 'Are you still sound of mind and clean of body?'

Mrs. Slagmulder was nervous because in the last few weeks she had received dozens of anonymous telephone calls. She screamed: 'Stop your calls!'

The anonymous caller smiled and replaced the receiver on its cradle. Mrs. Slagmulder should take a tranquillizer, for example Largactil, which her husband imported from France. The caller had been forced to take the sedative during the time he was confined to a mental institution. He was not mentally disturbed but he was also not very socially adapted. Even in the institution he refused to follow the rules laid down by the authorities. Psychiatrists had an easy solution for people like him, which in the Dutch language is called 'platspuiten': inject enough tranquillisers so that the patient can only lie flat on his back and cannot do anything anymore.

Though mental institutions should have the task to investigate the causes of someone's special behaviour, psychiatrists are more interested in spending their high incomes on personal pleasures than in concentrating on helping patients. When someone refuses to be adapted to the existing social circumstances, they prescribe neuroleptics, by preference something stronger than Valium or Librium. Indeed the patient becomes very subdued. And though the patient had entered the institution because something should be wrong with his mind, the medication caused that in the long run his body started to deteriorate.

Six long months the anonymous caller had been imprisoned in a mental institution. Afterwards he had read an article from the Belgian professor Steven de Batselier who wrote that the KGB tortured people by injecting Sulfurazol and Largactil (chlorpromazine), the very medicine he had been given in the institution. Somewhere else he read: "in some Russian prisons healthy people were punished by injecting them with medicines under which chlorpromazine. These tranquillisers have unpleasant and even dangerous consequences" His personal experience proved that neuro-torture was not confined to the Soviet-Union.

The use of Largactil is only one of the many examples how people with power treat powerless people. When you ask why a medicine as Largactil is used nobody gives an answer. Everybody declines any responsibility and points to the existing social organisation. Nobody seems to be responsible, it is always someone else, or better said an unknown someone who forces others to act as they do. Leaders are anonymous persons who decline any responsibility.

But who was responsible that medicines as Largactil were used on powerless patients and who was the supplier? Did these powerful persons ever wonder about the question if this kind of remedies was beneficial for humanity and if the dark side was not more important than the bright side? Maybe the producers of Largactil thought that the medicine did help people but their prime motive was money. They wanted to make as much profit as possible. Thus they wanted to sell as much as possible even when the benefit of the medicine was dubious or even non-existent. The anonymous caller did not want to accept the existing situation. He wanted to know who was responsible for the neuro-torture he had experienced. Together with some friends he wanted to develop enough power to make some authorities clear they could not continue to do as they did before. The group decided to find out who was responsible and then to call those responsible persons to account for their deeds. But they had had enough difficulties so they decided to remain anonymous and to become an unknown and nearly untraceable factor in the future life of the anonymous leaders.

Where could they find names of responsible persons? There existed a monthly magazine called the 'Gekkenkrant' (Journal of mad people) that was published and distributed by (former) mentally disturbed people. The paper published many articles about mental institutions and the medicines used. This was an excellent source of information. But also in libraries, medical magazines and even in the Ministry of Health many data concerning the production of chemical and pharmaceutical products could be found. Lower civil servants were co-operative to help the common citizen, especially when they were told that the data were needed for a scientific thesis on the pharmaceutical industry. Many newspapers and magazines were also scanned on the words neuroleptic and Largactil. Internet did not yet exist so the search was relatively slow but in the end a long list was made containing more than hundred names of people who were in some way involved. Included were producers, psychiatrists who used the remedy on patients and scientists who actively propagated the use of Largactil.

It became clear that everybody knew that when Largactil was used for longer periods it became harmful for humans. Using other medicines could not permanently reduce these effects. The medicine was always used on people who were not in the position to say no. The possibility to keep people in a subdued position was the most important reason to use the medicine. Nobody believed Largactil could cure people. But the medical world denied that mental illnesses could be caused by the social situation in a country. Physicians refused to try to change the disease-producing situation because many of them should then lose their privileged position. So they tried to eliminate abnormal behaviour (but what is normal?) by imprisoning people who behaved in a strange way in mental institutions and by injecting them with medicines that kept them subdued forever.

In our countries heavy tranquillisers are nearly only used in mental institutions. But the prophecy of Aldous Huxley in his book Brave New World is always looming around the corner. Huxley wrote about a future society in which the beta-, gamma-, delta-, etceteras-people got prescribed doses of a certain drug when they left the work place. In this way people could do their work well and in their leisure time they thought they were in a sublime situation and did not want to think of other things. It

never occurred to them that they were conditioned by alpha-people who were not drugged. This elite could rule undisturbed till the end of time.

In Huxley's society lower people were adjusted and standardised. Our society is not so far gone but psychiatric treatment of people with dissenting ideas is growing. At present the police and the judiciary silence people who bring their dissenting ideas with force to the front. But it is certain that psychiatric remedies that were developed behind the former Iron Curtain will become a powerful instrument of the leading class. In former communist countries these remedies were applied in the name of the conservation of the communist system. In our part of the world they will be introduced because democracy has to be defended.

After some research the group produced a long list containing the names of many psychiatrists, professors and other medical officers who preferred to use drugs instead of giving attention to the why of dissenting behaviour. Many high-esteemed physicians have the opinion that the injection needle is the best instrument to solve social problems. The information about the action was also sent to some people who were opposed to the use of tranquillisers. Maybe in some way they could support the action group.

Included in the list were some names of big shots of the pharmaceutical industry. Largactil was produced by the French multinational Rhone-Poulenc. Rhodia Nederland BV in Amstelveen, which later changed its name in Rhone-Poulenc Nederland BV, imported it in the Netherlands. The director was Mr. J. Slagmulder from Voorburg, the husband of Mrs. Slagmulder who we met already at the start of this chapter. All Dutch pharmaceutical factories and distributors were member of the association Nefarma, which promoted the use of pharmaceutical products. Every year it spent about \$1500 on each individual physician to make sure that these medical officers prescribed more pharmaceutical products. It is clear that the interest of Nefarma was diametrically opposed to the interests of sick people. The president of Nefarma was Mr. H. van Winzum from Bloemendaal who was also president of the Dutch branch of the American multinational Merck, Sharp & Dohme in Haarlem. The director of Nefarma, Mr. J.C. Sanders became also involved in the action.

More than hundred prominent individuals were in some way involved in the administering of tranquillisers to people who could not defend themselves. But the producers and importers of Largactil were the first responsible persons for the fact that these medicines could anyhow be used. Slagmulder and Van Winzum became the prime targets of the action.

10. FIGHTING TRANQUILLISERS

Part B. Sound of Mind/Clean of Body

The activists were very motivated because all had experienced Largactil and other medicines, which in the first place had the intention to keep patients quiet. They decided to name the action group 'Sound of Mind/Clean of Body'. The Romans had already said 'Mens sana in corpore sano', a sane mind can only exist when the body is sane. With rubbish like Largactil you cannot think in a clear way and you lose something that separates humans from animals.

They decided to remain as anonymous as the people who propagated and injected medicines as Largactil. These people remained unknown to the patients who were forced to undergo a treatment. Because they had suffered so much during the treatment with medicines like Largactil the activists decided to choose an action method by which new misery was minimized. The actions must even give some compensation for all the pain the authorities had given them. The actions must give them pleasure.

Just as Largactil dominated for a while the life of the activists, the actions had to dominate the life of some authorities. Time and again the attacked person must realize that something new, frightening and uncontrollable could happen just as was the case with a powerless patient who never knew when the next dose was to be administered nor what the effect of this injection could be. Of course the persons whose names could be found on the list seemed to be nice and you may wonder if they deserved the pressure they were about to experience. But nice people can be very unfriendly when their position is threatened. A director of a factory is not nice when he tells powerless employees that they are fired. Rich people are not nice when they refuse to use their wealth to alleviate the plight of poor people. Politicians are not nice when they take decisions that favour the upper layers of society. Generals are not nice when they order soldiers to take risks that can easily cost their lives. The elite is not nice when the first goal in its life is to perpetuate its privileges.

Just as a squatter is always living in fear that he will be evicted from his house, just as the poor are always living in fear of not having enough money to buy food, just as all common people are always powerless against decisions which are taken far away, the men who propagate, distribute and administer Largactil will be living in fear waiting for the next action which will disturb their peaceful life. Activists are also nice in their private life, but they are less nice when they are intruding in the life of people who in the past intruded in their life.

Activists knew from their own experience in mental institutions that the first injections were not that bad. Only in the long term the threat of still more injections became frightening. In the same way an action may never be restricted to a temporal threat that will disappear when no further actions are carried out. It must become clear that the threat will remain forever. Such a long lasting threat has to grow just as the consequences of the injections with Largactil were accumulating. Largactil slowly influences the life of the patient and in the end it dominates his life even when the

treatment has stopped. Activities should depend on the specific situation. The imagination of the activists had to take the lead. Activists should always ask themselves if they had pleasure from the action and if the reaction of the attacked person could increase his predicament. It was quite logic that activists must not come in a disadvantageous position because of the actions, they had to remain free and active.

As a last point the role of the media was discussed. Many action groups were only active because actions and photographs appeared in newspapers. It is often not very clear if activists wanted to change something, if they wanted to bring a problem under the attention of the population or if they only wanted their names to appear in a newspaper. The action of the action group SoM/CoB did not have the goal to inform the public. That task could be left to the Gekkenkrant and other groups who brought many abuses to the fore but never had enough power to improve the situation. The new action group wanted to force responsible persons to change their attitude. Because the action should last a long time it was not necessary to get publicity very soon. Maybe in the future the media could play a role but at the start of the action publicity was not important. Most members of the group also thought that the power of the media was much smaller than media-people were thinking. It was anyhow decided to send relevant information to three press organs.

The Gekkenkrant had published so many well-written articles about the situation in mental institutions that they deserved to be informed. The paper did indeed publish all the information about the action and informed people who had experienced the same neuro-torture as the activists. Some of these unknown readers may have added their own activity to the activities of the action group and in this way increased the pressure on responsible persons. The local paper of the region where most activists lived also got all information. Later was established that this activity had been useless because the newspaper did never write anything about the action. In the third place all information was forwarded to the leftist magazine Vrij Nederland (Free Netherlands). The paper called itself progressive and said it was defending the rights of the suppressed in our society. During the action of SoM/CoB it became clear that Vrij Nederland did not abide by its own rules.

The most important question was who must be attacked. The list contained the names of a hundred bureaucrats, technicians, factory managers, representatives of the medical sector, etc. The purpose of the action was to make them clear that they also must take the wishes of the masses into account. That not only the interests of their own group or a still higher group had to dominate but that they had the task to look after the interests of all people. Everyone on the list should be informed of the ongoing action and they should realize they could also come under fire. But only a few individuals should be attacked because when the attack was spread too much the pressure should become too small. It was decided to tackle the root of the problem, the two directors of the pharmaceutical enterprises that produced and distributed Largactil.

10. FIGHTING TRANQUILLISERS

Part C. Actions

Knowledge is power. Before an attack is started you have to collect as much information as possible about the target. Once the attack is started the culprit will be on his guard and it will be difficult to obtain more data about his life, his habits or his relations.

Where does he live, who are the members of his family, what are his hobby's, where does he spend his holidays, what kind of a car does he drive, which bars does he frequent, etc. There are many kinds of reference books as telephone dictionaries to look for addresses. It is also possible to look around in the neighbourhood of his house to see what kind of car he possesses, which retailers deliver goods at his house, what the names are of his neighbours or how many children he has. When you follow the object you can find out more about the clubs he visits or about his fixed customs. All these data can possible be used in future actions.

Most of the time it is too complicated to use electronic spying devices in his house or his office. These can be useful to get more information about his private situation but also to get information about the impact of the action on the attacked person. The action group SoM/CoB did not use such technical means, it used simpler methods, such as the collecting of data from dustbins as described in an other chapter. The group found in the rubbish of Van Winzum his memberships number of the Liberal Party and his account number at the Dutch ABN/Amro bank. The activists did not know yet what they could do with these data but in the course of time they learned to use most of the data.

It was of course necessary to inform all people on the list that an action had started to stop the use of Largactil in mental institutions. All involved persons received a letter. Internet did not yet exist so the letters had to be prepared on the old way with paper, envelopes and a typewriter. The group had decided to remain anonymous so they had to be careful not to leave any fingerprints on the letters. The letters were prepared by activists with gloves. They were posted in a town were none of the activists lived. The man who put the letters in the post-box could not use gloves because it was summer, so he taped the top of his fingers and no prints were left. For the first letter an IBM-typewriter with interchangeable head was used but for the next letters typewriters were stolen. Some activists informed very cautious how typewriters of the University of Nijmegen were maintained. Then they impersonated mechanics that came to control and repair the machines and just walked out of the building with a typewriter under their arm. Later the machine was thrown away.

After all these preceding activities the first practical step was made. The first letter explained what Largactil was and why it was harmful for people. The letter asked explicit from the director of Rhodia, to whom the letter was directed, to stop the production of this so-called remedy. When the production was not stopped, actions should be carried out. The last sentence of the letter was a clear warning: " We hope not to be forced to take appropriate actions against involved persons." This letter was

sent to all people mentioned before and to some press organs. Addresses were found in the first place in the telephone book. But there are many more sources as address lists of universities or information from financial institutes. Or you make a phone call to someone with the same name and ask him or her if she knows the address of the wanted person because you are a lawyer and you have to contact him very urgently but you lost his address. To be certain not to arouse suspicion in the first stage of the action the name of a big office where many lawyers were working was used and the name of an existing lawyer was left. When the information should be checked the secretary would say that she does not exactly know why the lawyer had called but that it must have been necessary. She will never say that someone else could have used the lawyers' name.

As expected the press did not publish anything. Only the Gekkenkrant published the letter. Indeed they knew what Largactil was and they knew how harmful it was. They only did not know anything about the kind of action that was going to happen.

A letter is not sufficient to get results. You have to put real pressure on involved people. It is best when you start slowly and then increase the activities. Do never start with a big action and follow it up by small things. And be prepared to agitate during months or even years against the same persons.

For the first action each of the activists promised to call the two industrialists at least three times a day. This seems easy but after some time it became a growing burden. They wanted to remain anonymous so they could not use their own phone and for each call they had to go to a public phone and not always the same one. It is fairly difficult to trace a call from a public phone and as an additional benefit it appeared that calls were mostly free. When you disconnected the moment you heard that the other side took the call the money put into the public phone came back. So you could ring and ring and ring. You just walked from one public phone to another and made the calls. Sometimes the phone line was dead. The other side had decided to disconnect the phone and to stop the disturbing calls. Then they did not receive any nasty calls, but they could also not receive any calls from friends and acquaintances. This must annoy the target and should bring the ulcer nearer. When you disconnect the moment the other side took the call you do not have direct contact with the culprit. Sometimes it is better to say something (speaking through a handkerchief) about sound of mind and clean of body. Then you hear a reaction that becomes more hysterically with the mounting number of calls. This direct contact increases the pressure on the culprit and also the pleasure of the caller.

The call action was continued for weeks. Then the frequency went down in favour of other actions. The call action is one of the small pinpricks to increase the pressure. With every call the culprit is remembered of the fact that he distributes Largactil and that he is the first responsible person for the fact that some people were neuro-tortured with this so-called remedy. After some time he could begin to wonder if the action should ever stop. The target had to be convinced he should remain under pressure for as long as he lived unless he did something about Largactil.

The action group got a fan. A certain Romkema had put an advertisement in De Gelderlander because he wanted to participate in the action. The group remained cautious and only sent him the first letter with the request to make the action widely

known.

Then a second letter was composed and dispatched to all the odd hundred persons that were involved in Largactil. It made explicitly clear that the action should be as long lasting as the long-lasting damage caused by Largactil. This letter was also sent to Mr. Romkema. The group had found out that Romkema was a solitary fighter who had been 'treated' with Largactil. He was the founder of the Dutch RAF, Romkema's Anti-fascistic Front. By using the same letters as the German terrorist RAF he proved to have some sense of humour.

The telephone action began to irritate the activists and that may not happen in an action. The activists must have pleasure and irritation must be experienced by the targets. To walk every day to a public phone was no fun, so the group decided to activate other people to make phone calls to the private house of the industrialists. They used a sticker that gave the impression that you could get sex by dialling the telephone number of the targets. It became later clear that part of the feminist movement was not happy with this action. They said that men always suppressed women by using sexual means and that an action against a man must not use sex-inspired means that were in the first place directed against the wife of the culprit. Because this action brought a division in the ranks of the masses, it had been better that sex had not been used. But on the other hand the elite not only comprises men (and some women) who are active in the decision-making process but also people around them including their spouses. They are important for the elitist network that is one of the reasons why members of the elite have so much power. But indeed, inside the elite women are also victims of suppression by men. Masswomen however are twice suppressed, by the elite and by massmen. Elitist women are however in a better position than masswomen and they defend the separation of elite and mass for their own benefit. They are part of the elite and an integral part of the life of those responsible elitepersons who want to continue the existing situation that is favourable for him, his wife and his children and not favourable for the masses. Therefore they can also come under attack.

When you incite other people to make calls to the target – because they want to buy a house, a chair or a car that is put up for sale in a fake advertisement – you lose control over the result of the action. In this way however the same result can be reached as with sex advertisements. One of the industrialists, Van Winzum, did indeed change his telephone number and got a secret number. But when you use your imagination you know that this caused still more difficulties. He had to explain to his friends why he changed his number and he will forget to mention the change to some relations. That became clear when a letter was found in his garbage in which someone complained that he could not reach Van Winzum anymore. Also in this way Van Winzum was time and again remembered of the fact that he was under pressure from some people he did not know but to whom he was in some way connected. Just as Largactil intrudes in the life of the patient, the action intrudes in the life of the culprit. And he will be as powerless against the action as the patient is against Largactil.

Three months did pass. It was not always as nice as it looks in this report. The press published next to nothing and there were only a few indications that an action was going on. Of course the imagination had to take power and activists did indeed think that they made some impact but often they had to support each other with stories

about the strange behaviour of one of the targets. Only a few hard facts confirmed that the culprits were annoyed by the actions. Van Winzum did ask for a secret telephone number and Mrs. Slagmulder did use harsh and abusive language.

The group looked back at what they had done. They had collected many data about Largactil and about the people who were involved in the process of administrating Largactil to vulnerable patients. They had written two letters and had made use of the telephone to intrude into the life of the two industrialists. And they had started the Wehkamp action, an action method named after the biggest Dutch mail order firm. The idea that the press would not yet publish anything about the action proved correct. Only the Gekkenkrant had published the letters but it was only read by people who did already know of problems caused by forced medication. It was time to come up with new ideas for actions.

It was decided to bring the action nearer to the living place of the culprits though it could endanger the anonymity of the activists. In the first action a pamphlet was glued on the windows of the houses of some people who were involved. Water glass was used because this glue damages the window that has to be replaced. But it was not yet the purpose of the action to cause direct damage. It was only a warning that actions should not always be limited to psychological violence such as the writing of letters and the repeated phone calls. Other kinds of violence could be possible. Damaging attacks in the private domain of the culprit increase the pressure and enlarge the uncertainty of the victim. The more so because the police and other social protectors could not do much. But when you want to damage a window it is easier to use a stone - but never leave any fingerprints.

Throwing stones takes less time than gluing pamphlets and there is less chance that a neighbour will call the police. And a broken window has its side effects when it is raining and the family is not in town. The breaking of a window makes some noise and is thus a little bit more dangerous. The danger is however not very great when you use a motorbike and a catapult. One is driving and the other is shooting, but do try it out before, it is not so easy. In Amsterdam this method was used against the windows of sex shops and in Berlin against the windows of estate agents who speculated with houses. You make less noise when you use plastic bags filled with paint. Put a plastic bag in an empty can, pour the paint in the bag, make a knot in the bag and the paint bomb is ready. Do use bags made of thin plastic so you are sure the bomb bursts. And transport the paint bomb inside the can so it does not burst before it is necessary. You do not have to hit a window, it is much better when the bomb explodes on a brick wall because it is not so easy to remove paint from bricks. When you use different colours the neighbours will see the next morning a new work of art in their street and the culprit has to explain to his neighbours why his house got another colour.

You can get the same effect by destroying his private garden. Do not use a tractor that is too rude. Just think about the silent and long-lasting effects of Largactil and use subtle means that are in the beginning hard to see but in the end just as lethal as Largactil. Some hydrochloric acid on the lawn gives a nice result. You can even write a word with the acid and after some days the word can be read because the grass will turn brownish. Household salt does not work as well as acid. Of course it is not pleasant to kill the fishes in his pond but you can cut some branches from the

beautiful roses the Lord of the House has proudly cultivated. And when you remember the effects of the American Agent Orange bombardments in Vietnam you can imagine what will happen when pesticides as Roundup from Monsanto are lavishly applied in a beautiful garden in one of the wealthier living quarters of the Netherlands.

A swimming pool is also a beautiful target. Some bottles with methyl-orange will change the colour of the water. And moreover the chemical attaches itself to the walls of the pool and an expensive cleaning job is needed. A simple bucket with water on the roof above the front door can also have a nice result when the bucket is fastened by a cord to the front door. And you can save the family a walk upstairs to take a bath when you fasten a tube at the outdoors tap and then put the other end of the tube through the letterbox. Do not forget to open the tap The last trick is especially annoying when the family is not at home.

The letterbox is indeed a hole in a closed house and you can introduce all kinds of things into the house by using this (or another) hole. Do not pour some petrol followed by a burning piece of cloth through the slit of the letterbox. That is too rude and by the way it is easier to use a Molotov cocktail after you have broken a window. But what to think about the man who sent his mother-in-law a scorpion. You can also push a small box with termites through the letterbox during the holidays and some wood will vanish before the family comes back.

Other animals can also be fun as a poisonous serpent, a couple of leave-eating caterpillars in the garden, a nest with wasps in the barn or a pike that will eat the other fishes in the pond. And a couple of barking dogs at night will not be appreciated. The meetings of the activists became more and more hilarious. Other animals passed by such as tom-cats in heat, a plague of snails, trained falcons, fire-breathing dragons and stinking skunks. When the imagination takes the lead the activists can laugh but the attacked persons will stop laughing. It is unbelievable how creative people can be when they are allowed to harass other people. By consulting newspapers – retreat a few days in a library – you see that you are not the only person in the world who attacks other persons with whom they have some dispute.

The group wanted to continue actions for a very long time, even for years, but that was not new. Some people had been harassing others for tens of years. This kind of action resembled the torture method that is said to have his origin in China. But leaders of the whole world apply this method against their own vulnerable population when leaders harass their citizens. In the Chinese method a drop of water is falling on the head of the victim. The first drops are easily swept away but when the drops keep falling and you are tied to a chair so you cannot run away, you will more and more begin to think of the next drop even when the drop is slow in falling. Then you get in a situation in which you will do what the torturer is asking to avoid the next drop of water. Such a slow method is much more effective than collecting all drops in one bucket and empty the bucket over the victim. Indeed he will be soaking wet but he will dry soon and live forever undisturbed. He will not experience a daily pressure but only gets once a big shock. Therefore mass actions are not very suitable to increase pressure on targeted persons. Mass actions take time to organise and attacked leaders know that demonstrations, strikes or petitions do not occur often. Of course you can sometimes participate in such an action but to get real results you have to

exert permanent pressure on people who take decisions. Permanent pressure can only be built up by many small actions. Then you will notice that in the end the sum of many small things will be greater than one or two big things.

The meeting continued by thinking of all kinds of things directed at the private house of a culprit. When the house is empty it must be possible to introduce smelly things in the house that continue to smell even if the house is cleaned. Horseshit is psychologically interesting but more lasting are butyric acid, carbolic acid or ammonium sulphide. A special effect can be reached with glue, especially the glue that is difficult to remove. In the letterbox or still better in the keyholes of the house or the car.

Noise is also very annoying. In the middle of the night you can cause a loud noise by fastening a small loud speaker under one of the windows. A few very short bursts and you can be sure that the culprit will go to the window to see what is happening. When he opens the window you again turn the noise on, this time hard and long. Neighbours do not like the noise and will tell the culprit they do not like to become involved in his conflict. That is one of the fine points of an action against the private life of a person. Not only activists will disturb his life but also his friends, acquaintances and neighbours. And as his work is deteriorating because he cannot concentrate as before, he will also get some stress on the workplace.

10. FIGHTING TRANQUILLISERS

Part D. The media remained silent

Only the Gekkenkrant, the monthly paper for and made by mentally disturbed people, published the letters written by the action group. They even went further by publishing own articles about the harmful effects of Largactil. But it was a small paper and it had not the power to start a nation-wide discussion about the use of tranquillisers in mental institutions. Therefore you need big media and they did not pay any attention to start a discussion about harmful medicines.

The big press even did not write anything about the strange actions against the private life of top-leaders of the pharmaceutical industry though attacks on the private life of high-placed individuals are not common in the Netherlands. You could say the attacks had a certain news value. But it is well known that the so-called free press is censored. Mostly by journalists themselves, sometimes by editors. The silence in the media was for the action not important because the pressure on the top-man was just going on. Activists do not need the media in this kind of attack. On the other hand when nothing is published the elite-person can also not use the media to abuse and denigrate activists and to call for support from his friends. The silence of the media was remarkable but the activists were not of the kind that wanted to see in the media what they had done. They wanted to get results and not their photo in the press. And they expected that in the end the media should in a certain way give support to the action.

You should think that the Gekkenkrant was independent but probably they also came under some pressure. In their first articles they said that the action group rightly brought the difficulties with Largactil in the open. It was more important to remove Largactil from mental institutions than to start a discussion about the permissibility of the used means and methods. After some time the paper changed its policy and wrote: "Because the action starts to get a clear undertone of threats (family-members of the director of a pharmaceutical firm are threatened with bodily harm) we want to make the following remark. We find that the action group Sound of Mind/Clean of Body has to come forward with the facts and has to stop the threats by phone."

Family-members were never threatened with bodily harm but that is not so important. It is very strange that the Gekkenkrant asks the action group to come forward with facts. It had already published several articles about the devastating effects of Largactil. And they had also published that the action group demanded that the production and the use of Largactil had to be stopped. It is unclear which facts the action group could add to the arguments of the Gekkenkrant and professor De Batselier. The obstinacy of pharmaceutical leaders not even to think of the possibility to stop the production of Largactil was more important than the already published facts. You can wonder if the Gekkenkrant had also come under elitist pressure. They got some subventions from the state. But in general the Gekkenkrant had done what it had to do. It had informed people who may be forced to use Largactil and people who had already been given Largactil. The leftist media are always saying they represent the interests of the people but they could have learned something from the

Gekkenkrant. Once more it became evident that the leftist media support in the first place the leftist political elite, masspeople are only a vehicle to get more power for the own group.

The Gekkenkrant asked the action group to seek publicity and they offered to help. Then they wrote: "publicity gives you the best chance to reach your goal". They did not understand that publicity only helps the masses when part of the elite agrees with the goals. Then it is possible to get some results. But the activists did not only want to publish their grievances, they wanted that the production and distribution of Largactil should stop. And because sheep will always follow the first one, more harmful medicines will disappear from the institutions when one medicine has been withdrawn from the market because victims forced the industry to stop imports. Then the influence of the pharmaceutical industry on the treatment of mental patients will be broken. Then psychiatrists should begin to think of other methods to cure patients. Maybe then they would realise that many so-called aberrations are caused by the social organisation of society. Fundamentally, the action group Sound of Mind/Clean of Body attacked the social system in which a powerful elite rules over powerless masses. Such an attack will never be supported by parts of the elite.

The owners of the media did not want to support an action method that attacked the private life of fellow-elite members, they did not want to propagate an idea that the mind of patients can only become clear and clean when the medicines that influence the mind are abolished. Leaders despise the idea that too many people will have a clean mind in a sound body. To reach the far-reaching goal that pharmaceutical means will never again be used in mental institutions you need a jump in the mind of the opponents, a jump that can bring about that the whole society begins to tremble. In the course of the action this far-reaching goal became more and more prominent in the back of the mind of the activists. The big media remained quiet and the Gekkenkrant announced they did not want to be a messenger-boy. No indeed they should never be a messenger-boy for the pharmaceutical industry, but they should have been proud to become a messenger-boy for an action group that agitates against the criminal use of medicines as Largactil even when the group uses unorthodox methods. The Gekkenkrant – and all other leftist news media – should understand that otherwise they never get enough power to enter in a discussion on equal terms with the pharmaceutical industry. Publicity alone is not enough to reach the tiny goal of the removal of one single medicine, of Largactil.

Discussions between leaders of the pharmaceutical industry and victims of the use of medicines will never take place when 'normal' means of action are used. But because of the strange and threatening nature of the actions, Mr. J. Sanders the successor of Van Winzum as director of Nefarma, offered to start talks with the anonymous action group. He declared on the radio – the media silence was broken by the elite – that the unknown members of the group had not yet given any reaction. The group had not reacted because Sanders could not be trusted, he had already asked special police protection for the pharmaceutical industry. And Sanders had declined an offer to start a discussion proposed by a social-democratic magazine. That is the way members of the elite behave. Sometimes they look nice and friendly but on the other hand they have always something sneaky up their sleeves. You will never know if they will call for the support of one of the power instruments of the elite, the police, when members of the action group should come in the open.

Sanders did not need members of the action group for a discussion. Many high-schooled gentlemen, who were opposed to the use of Largactil and other tranquillisers in mental institutions, were more than willing to discuss the case. And many ex-patients and also the editors of the Gekkenkrant could support them. They had more knowledge than the action group. The action group had to stay anonymous. In this way the opponents of neuro-terror could in the discussion count on the silent support of the threat of further actions. They could discuss from a position of power. Only in this way, when both participants in the discussion have power, a discussion will not be endless and senseless. When one side is powerless the old situation just continues.

The actions went on and then all of a sudden fat was poured into the fire. The leftist media did not give the signal though social democrats always say they want to defend the interests of the people. That is bullshit to salve their own conscience. The liberal paper NRC, which is closely connected to the Dutch elite, was the first to publish an article under the heading: "Mysterious teasing turns rancour into fear". A beautiful heading because it is similar to what happened in institutions: Mysterious medicines turn rancour about the long time one has to stay in the institutions in a fear one cannot understand. It became clear that the media had already an extensive knowledge about the actions. It became also evident that the action group was not the only group that attacked members of the elite. A petrol bomb had been found under the car of Jonkheer F.O.J. Sickinghe, a prominent captain of industry and member of one of the richest Dutch families. Another bomb was found in the vicinity of Mr. F. Prakke, CEO of AKZO a leading pharmaceutical multinational. Because Prakke was also president of the National Organisation for Feeble-minded People, a link was laid to the action group Sound of Mind/Clean of Body, though there is a huge difference between feeble-mindedness and insanity. The link did not exist.

The Haagsche Courant wrote that the Action Group threatened high-placed people in the pharmaceutical industry and fused three independent and autonomous action groups into one big Action Group. Further on the paper wrote about the rude intimidation of leaders of the pharmaceutical industry. You see which side the free media are defending. Articles about the continuous rude intimidation of patients in mental institutions are hardly published. Though the action against and thus the pressure on some high-placed individuals had already lasted for more than a year the big media had remained silent. When the papers suddenly started to publish articles it was clear they had already been collecting information for a long time. Attacks on private persons are indeed important news-items. Especially when some very strange things are happening that could produce some beautiful pictures. Just think of the flood-lamps and the uniformed security personnel around the house of Slagmulder. Moreover the social relevancy of the action was high because everyone is interested in medicines. And the pharmaceutical industry is an important branch of the Dutch industry. But when nothing is published for over a year though the media knew about the action, you not only smell self-censorship, you are pretty certain that interesting and important news had been censored by the top-bosses of the media.

When the media did at last publish something they were very thorough. Of course they condemned the action method but they also wrote extensively about the harmful effects of Largactil and other medicines. It seemed even that a discussion was beginning to emerge because articles about the compulsory use of medicines in

mental institutions continued to appear in the media even when the action group was not anymore mentioned. It seemed that a few people had triggered a discussion that should have been held much earlier. But when the action stopped, the leaders returned to their fortified houses and stopped listening to the critical arguments that mostly were in favour of the patients. It was once more proven that the media were powerless, partly because journalists were not free to write what they wanted to write, mostly because leaders could afford to disregard ideas that were brought forward. Again it was proven that the power of the media was an illusion. The people remained powerless and the victims were denied any influence on decisions that were taken about their life. Only when the action should have continued for a much longer time the possibility for a real change should have become possible.

10. FIGHTING TRANQUILLISERS

Part E. The end of the action

High-placed people take decisions that influence directly the behaviour of the lower classes whose behaviour is also influenced by the threat of a possible decision. The weaker side of the population knows that the stronger side can take decisions and they adapt their behaviour before rules are changed. On the other hand the behaviour of higher-placed people is never influenced by demands of powerless people. The purpose of the action group was to make clear that the masses could turn the tables upside down. The group wanted to make clear that something could happen when certain decisions were not taken. However the group had never the intention to tell the high-placed what they had to do. The group only wanted to make clear that more people were living on the world than only members of the elite.

Patients in mental institutions were forced to take Largactil with the argument that otherwise some privileges could be withdrawn or that they could be locked up in an isolation cell. Most patients complied when doctors asked friendly if the patient wanted to take Largactil because sometimes the threat was carried out. On the same friendly way the action group asked something from directors of pharmaceutical firms. They only had to stop producing and distributing Largactil. When they did not comply the action group told them what could happen to them and sometimes proved that they did not lie about these possibilities. The threat is often stronger than the action itself. The chance that an action should take place was for the targets often similar to the reality of an action. No actions were carried out against the house of Slagmulder but he was so afraid of actions that he decided to change his house in a fortress. This shows that actions intrude the mind of a culprit and thus the chance grows that this mind will change. Only in this way high-placed persons will take decisions that also take in consideration the life and wishes of weaker persons, that they will take the life and the feelings of patients into account.

The mind of leaders does not change overnight so actions have to be long lasting. This was pointed out in the first letter that was delivered to Slagmulder and Van Winzum. In this letter was also indicated that hard actions could be carried out. Later these words proved to be true when some stones were thrown through the windows of the house of Van Winzum. By the way it is easier to hit a window with a billiard-ball than with an irregular formed stone.

In the first month of the action period a Molotov cocktail was thrown towards one of the buildings of Rhodia that distributed Largactil. Once a Molotov cocktail is thrown, the threat of a possible second cocktail penetrates the mind of the culprits and contributes to the change of that mind. Molotov-cocktails are by the way an action instrument that should only be used in special cases. Activists have to understand that the seemingly harmless small actions of calling the targets on the telephone (hundreds of times) have much more influence. The use of Molotov-cocktails is punishable so an activist has to be very careful. In the case mentioned above one activist rented even a room in the vicinity of Rhodia to observe the place where the cocktail had to be thrown. After the cocktail was thrown the activist destroyed his

clothes so a casual witness could not identify him by these clothes. Also because the smell of petrol is hard to remove and the police could later make a case because he possessed smelly clothes. A cap is necessary to avoid that someone could identify the thrower by his hairs. Though some other activists knew something was going to happen, only the activist who threw the cocktail knew the details. Nobody could give his game away by bragging in a pub about some future hard action. You never know if someone who knows important facts will not tell them to the police when he is arrested because of another offence. The effect of one Molotov cocktail is normally not so huge that it compensates for the effort to make and throw the contraption and the risk to be arrested. Too much effort has to be done for only a small effect.

There must exist an equilibrium between attacks on the body and attacks on the mind of the target. Physical attacks must remain light, someone who touches the culprit when he passes by, a pie that is thrown in his face when he is entering a restaurant, a bag of paint that colours his hair when in his free weekend he walks around in a forest. By attacking his possessions activists can be less selective. By removing a plant the target is cultivating in his garden or by making some tears in his clothes you can encroach on his privacy. Material damage to his possessions can be important, physical harm is most of the time out of the question. Not in the least because the target has to stay alive and active because only then he can take different decisions. His mind must change. It is never the intention to replace one member of the elite by another. Members of the elite resemble each other, they have one dominating purpose, to preserve elitist privileges. The main purpose of their work is always guided by the wish that their group will always have more than the rest of the population and that their group can transfer their wealth and power to their progeny. When the culprit leaves his job a similar-thinking person will replace him. The pressure on his successor must again be built up and most of the effort put in the actions against the first leader will have been in vain.

Though the press did not publish anything about the action, some people knew that something was happening. Not initiated by the original action group, a new pamphlet was sent around. The new group also attacked Slagmulder, the importer of Largactil, and made him in person responsible for the consequences of the remedy. The pamphlet finished with the words: Year in year out this man has proven to be unscrupulous. We do not give him the chance to hit our other cheek, we render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's.

That is essential in actions. Many leftist activists complain that the leading class and their servants are hurting them. They never even think about the idea to render the leaders the things that belong to the leaders. They never attack leaders in the same way as leaders attack individuals from the masses. Leaders have attacked masspeople for many centuries. Leftists are opposed to this situation but they are time and again beaten by leaders and only cry out that they are beaten, they never hit back.

Though leftist actions never have succeeded in destroying the power pyramid it is too simple to think that a few actions of a small group like Sound of Mind/Clean of Body will change the world. Only a few people were involved in the action and only a few leaders came under pressure. Only a small part of the elitist machine was touched. After a year of activities the catholic newspaper De Tijd (The Times) wrote in

connection with the action that the Heath Ministry had indeed concluded from its own research that the forced use of medicines was widespread this should mean that some official action could be expected. But to count on such an action is at the least optimistic and better said, naive. When problems are caused by medicines, by lack of living space, by lack of work by..... you cannot count on help from official representatives of the people, on help of the state. You have to become active. You have to force leaders to do things they never will do when they are left in peace. People who earn hundreds of thousands of dollars know only from books that most people earn only a few tens of thousands of dollars. That nearly half of the world population lives from less than two dollar a day is only a statistical fact. They drink a bottle of wine that cost more than a week work and they continue their work to safeguard their own position.

Because all decisions are taken by individuals, you have to attack living beings and not the dead institutions in which they are working. That will undermine the structure of the leading class which is backed up by powerful individuals. Therefore one has to be careful not to be put off by seemingly fair promises. Many demands are brought forward or supported by other elitist individuals. These persons can endorse leftist, populist or rightist policies but they are dining at the table of the top-leaders, they have comparable high incomes and the distance between them and common citizens is immense. Some authoritarian persons call themselves an alternative, like social democrat or trade union leaders, but they remain authoritarian, they remain leaders. They must never lead actions of powerless citizens. Citizens must be autonomous in their actions against members of the leading class. That is the quintessence of this book. Be autonomous, be human.

For the time being Sound of Mind/Clean of Body decided to stop its activities after the publications in the press. The small group of individuals had achieved some result but the chemical straitjackets did not disappear. It looked if a discussion was started but after a few months it became evident that nothing had changed and that the discussion died away. Hard words break no bones, you need to hit someone. The other reason to stop the action was personal. In the course of the action, the experienced autonomy and the needed creativity was beginning to clean the body of the activists. The chemicals disappeared from the body and the mind became clearer. The own private life became more important. The action did only continue on a low level. Slagmulder still did receive from time to time some unsolicited goods. The group still adhered to the words from the third letter to the pharmaceutical leaders: "Actions may continue for months, years or even decades. We do not wish that anyone should ever be treated with Largactil. After decades the side effects of this medicine can still influence the private live of the victims".

This does not mean that an action group cannot suspend the action for the time being. The threat of renewed actions will continue to exist because activists will never forget the criminal treatment they had to undergo in mental institutions. A simple spark can again ignite the fire. The activists realised that their actions had been short-lived. But they stopped when their personal problems dwindled away. But fellow-victims who were still in the institutions and all individuals who will in the future be treated with Largactil will continue to be forced to live under an inhuman regime. Nothing had changed. The leading individuals who made, distributed and administered these means of neuro-torture to powerless citizens still lived their

comfortable life. The action group merely showed that it is only possible to get results when lasting actions are carried out against the private life of authoritarian individuals who have the power to suppress other people with the only purpose to safeguard their own comfortable life.