Build the Red Army!

Did the pigs really think that we would leave comrade Baader in prison for two or three years? Did the pigs really think that we would keep fighting with eggs against clubs, with stones against pistols, with molotov cocktails against machineguns?

Did anybody really think that we would talk about developing the class struggle, about the reorganisation of the proletariat, without arming ourselves at the same time?

Did the pigs, who shot first, really think that we would let ourselves be killed like animals for slaughter without resistance? Gandhi and Martin Luther King are dead. The bullets of their assassins, the bullets against Rudi, the bullets fired by Kurras¹, Dallwitz² and Wetter³ have buried the dream of nonviolence. Anyone who doesn't resist, dies. Anyone who doesn't die, is buried alive: in the prisons, in the reform schools, in the holes of Kreuzberg, Wedding, Neukölln, in the stone coffins of the skyskrapers, in the overcrowded daycares and schools, in the fully equipped kitchens, in the mortgaged bedroom palaces.

Did the pigs really think that internationalism⁴ is dead? In 1968, we said, "Vietnam is our generation's Spain". BZ⁵ in May 1970: "Berlin is not South America". Berlin is an outpost of U.S. imperialism. Our enemy and South America's enemy, the enemy of the Japanese and Vietnamese people, the enemy of all blacks in the USA, the enemy of Berlin's workers – the enemy is U.S. imperialism.

Did the pigs really think that in the struggle against U.S. imperialism we could do without comrade Baader for 2-3 years?

Did the pigs really think that they could keep on doing the dirty work of U.S. imperialism with the state's terror sentences and service pistols?

DEVELOP THE CLASS STRUGGLE! ORGANIZE THE PROLETARIAT! BEGIN THE ARMED STRUGGLE! BUILD THE RED ARMY!

(Journal Agit 883, May 22, 1970 – first statement of the group who on May 14, 1970, at the Central Institute for Social Affairs in West Berlin, liberated Andreas Baader from captivity)

¹ Plain clothes police officer who shot and killed Benno Ohnesorg on June 2, 1967

² Plain clothes police officer who fired into a demonstration against the US-invasion of Cambodia

³ One of the guards accompanying Andreas Baader at the Central Institute for Social Affairs

⁴ internationalism - literally: the International

⁵ BZ: at the time West Berlin's largest-circulation newspaper belonging to the Springer group, similar to the Bild Zeitung in Western Germany