ON THE BARRICADES

REVOLUTION & REPRESSION

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ON THE BARRICADES:
Revolution & Repression

This documentary of the temporarily-
aborted revolution of May, 1968, in
France is made exclusively of material
gathered in the streets of Paris — a
primer and a working model of con-
tinuing revolution plus repression
around the world; the faces and places
in this version happen to be French;
change the accents and uniforms, and
the same photos will do for Berkeley,
New York, Berlin, Prague, Buenos Aires,
or Resurrection City, the same war all
over, no factual captions needed: sup-
ply your own for whatever country you
are in, for whatever campus you are on,
add a local ingredient or two, and stir.

Text: Anonymous Poems, Slogos and
Graffiti from the walls of Paris
THE YOUNG MAKE LOVE
THE OLD MAKE OBSCENE GESTURES
The Blue Riders of the Apocalypse

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, GENERAL!
IT IS FORBIDDEN TO FORBID

Don’t you hear the wails of the black ghettos
And the grasshoppers in flame flying low
Imagination usurps power

POWER IS ON THE RUN; LET IT FALL!

The smoke of grenades
In the meadow of our eyelashes . . .
The Bourgeoisie still cares to pray to the dead—We don’t

The end of a world or the respect for history

Is it my fumbling country in flames
"We Are All German Jews"

BUREAUCRATS, INTO THE STREET!

Throw Fascism Into The Garbage Can Of History
Liberty or Death: Creation Or Death

TREASON!

Daddy Stinks
Culture Is Contrary To Life

LIBERTÉ EGALITÉ SÉNILITÉ

Down With A Bourgeois University
The More I Revolt
The More I Make Love
I Come On The Paving-Stones
For the last week
I've been watching the future burst
In Eyes
Long live the desperate week
Let us leave the fear of RED to horned beasts

The WORLD bears another world
I persist in thinking
That the place of a poet
at this moment
Is in the street
You must storm
The ivory towers Raze them to the ground
Proclaim
A state of emergency

When I allow myself
To snivel over my misery
If that misery is not also
Your own
Reader
Hit me
There is no more
Absentee poetry
We must learn how to walk a long time  
In an anxious Paris  
To understand this  
To go everywhere  
To digest all the words  
In the amphitheaters  
To read all the graffiti  
The statements of belief  
And the proclamations
YOU COMRADE
YOU WHOM I IGNORED
YOU
STRANGLED
AFRAID
ASPHYXIATED
COME
SPEAK TO US
HALTE AU CHOMAGE
LAISSONS LA PEUR DU ROUGE

TOUS UNIS CAMARADES

JUSQU'A LA VICTOIRE
LA POLICE
A L'ORTF
C'EST LA POLICE
CHEZ VOUS

FRE
ACTION CIVIQUE

CHEF DES INDIKS
ASSASSIN DE CHARONNE
PATRON DES BRIDES DE GREVE
I think here there is a common ground between the American movement and the French movement. It is a total protest, not only against specific evils and against specific shortcomings, but at the same time, a protest against the entire system of values, against the entire system of objectives, against the entire system of performances required and practiced in the established society. In other words, it is a refusal to continue to accept and abide by the culture of the established society. They reject not only the economic conditions, not only the political institutions, but the entire system of values which they feel is rotten at the core.

And in this sense I think one can indeed speak of a cultural revolution in the sense that the protest is directed against the entire cultural establishment, including the morality of the existing society.

— Herbert Marcuse*

*In the Los Angeles Free Press