ANTI-WAR ACTIVIST ALISON BODINE ARRESTED



DROP ALL CHARGES AGAINST ALISON BODINE!

IMPORTANT VICTORY IN THE FIGHT TO FREE ALISON BODINE!

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On Friday September 14, 2007, at approximately 8:30pm, Alison Bodine was released from an immigration detention centre in Vancouver, following a massive outpouring of support demanding her release, and Canada-wide media coverage of her case.

Alison, a political organizer, social justice activist and US citizen, was arrested by the Canadian Border Agency at the Peace Arch border crossing when leaving Canada for the US Thursday September 13th.

The arrest of Alison is a further attack on immigrants, refugees and all non-residents. Even according to their own laws, the RCMP and Immigration Canada have no legal basis for preventing her entry into Canada. They only began the harassment and legal process once they had identified her as a political organizer.

This unjust imprisonment was met with a huge protest and organizing drive by the newly-formed Committee to Free Alison Bodine. Friday afternoon on only 5 hours notice, 80 people came together at the Citizenship and Immigrations Offices, in Vancouver demanding the immediate release of Alison Bodine.

Media was also quick to pick up this important case, throughout the afternoon the committee did interviews with CKNW radio, CBC radio, CBC TV, Coop Radio, the Ubyssey newspaper, the Capilano Courier and Indymedia. CBC aired nation-wide coverage of the case on Friday.

Following all of this, Alison's status took a major turn. Alison was told all day that there was no way to release her from detention until at least Monday. However, at 8:00pm Friday evening Alison was given notice by Immigration officials that she would be released from custody immediately until her Admissibility Hearing on Monday Sept 17th at 2:00pm.

At 6:30pm more than 65 activists came together in Vancouver for an emergency meeting, called by the Committee to Free Alison Bodine, to organize for Alison's release and further defense. It is no coincidence that this major retreat by the Immigration authorities came at the end of a whirlwind day of action, mobilization and media attention.

Alison's release from detention is a major victory for the progressive movement. This is not only a victory for Alison, but for the democratic rights of all political activists and organizers. Important to note is that this is not a final victory, Alison is still facing her Admissibility Hearing on Monday. Because of this we must continue to defend her right to stay in Canada. Our fight is not over!

Canada Border Agency, Drop All Charges Against Alison Bodine!

WE WILL WIN!

SEND SUPPORT LETTERS TO: COMMITTEE TO FREE ALISON BODINE free_alison_bodine@yahoo.ca

Sample Letter:

Canada Border Services Agency,

I am writing to express my outrage at the unjust arrest and detention of Alison Bodine. Alison has done nothing wrong, and is clearly being framed up and targeted. Alison is known throughout Vancouver for her antiwar organizing and social justice activities. Prior to the search of Alison's vehicle, which contained many political leaflets, posters, newspaper and pamphlets, Alison had never been denied entry into Canada.

I am calling on Canada Border Services Agency to DROP ANY AND ALL CHARGES AGAINST ALISON, and to restore her full rights to travel between the US and Canada. We will not accept this harassment of activists. We demand our full, democratic rights to be respected.

Sincerely,	
(Your or Your Organization's Name)	_
(contact information)	_