SomeTimes 12o

Why is October 12th another Counter Cloud Action day? ✨

On the 12th of October, communities and individuals involved in Counter Cloud Action (re)join ongoing struggles against genocidal, ecocidal and epistemicidal forms of oppression, extraction, erasure and depletion.

The 12th October marks the trans-oceanic invasion of Abya Yala (aka the Americas) and is nowadays actively celebrated by many as "Columbus Day" or "day of Hispanity" (sic). Activists have reclaimed the day to remember the atrocities of colonialism and to celebrate Indigenous and anti-colonial resistance instead: "nada que celebrar" (nothing to celebrate)!

Historical colonial capitalism was built with stolen resources and labour; it also imposed logics and ways of thinking. Today's capitalist Cloud Regime relies deeply on the continuation of global chains of extraction, exploitation and dispossession:

🔥 Global network infrastructures follow the paths of imperial, colonial infrastructures (the same ones that were being sailed on October 12th, 1492). The first submarine communications cable between the African continent and South America was built in 2018.

🔥 The Cloud continues Euro/Westerncentric, paternalist modes through imposing techno-solutionism in response to all difficulties: ecological, social, economical, epistemic.

🔥 The Cloud, as a catalyst of contemporary digital technology, is monocultural. It relies on a central, dominant and unique narrative. In this way, it deprives from the vernacular, situated, specific technodiversities that are fundamental for resistance and survival.

🔥 Expanding computational infrastructures and increasingly cheap devices brings with them enormous environmental costs through extraction and dumping: The Cloud depends on huge amounts of minerals, water for cooling and power for running energy hungry datacenters. The profits of The Cloud do not return to the depleted sites of extraction. Instead, the systems of cloud capitalism grab land around the world to dump its toxic electronic waste.

🔥 Profits of USA Big Tech has surpassed the Big Oil energy giants such as ExxonMobil, BP, Chevron, and Shell. The Cloud drives capitalism by promoting growth and disposession, creating ever larger disparities the ultra-rich and the rest.

🔥 AI and algorithmic Cloud technologies are made to feed The Cloud. They are first of all resource intensive and require ongoing processing on-line, in The Cloud. Secondly, they are trained on big datasets which are gathered from non-consenting users, in The Cloud. Last but not least, AI is biased to prioritize privileged subjects: able bodied, white, heterosexual, male, affluent, English speaking. These issues are not a side effect, they function exactly as planned.

🔥 The Cloud reorganises work in ways that optimize precarious labour, breaks Unions and externalizes all the risks and costs of production. This highly exploited, racialized labour enables the Cloud's wonders of AI and automation, but is obscured by their smooth and agile interfaces.

🔥 The Cloud extends the reach of capitalism into all areas of life. As we know, capitalism is based on colonial exploitation and structural racism.

🔥 The Cloud depends on moving its operations outside the Global North, allowing Big Tech to avoid legal regulations, and extract even more data. Just as lax labour protection laws enabled the still existing global Fordist production chains, lax consumer protection and net neutrality laws enable the even more powerful and intrusive capture infrastructures of the Cloud.

🔥 The Cloud supports the extension and fortification of borders by becoming a prerequisite for getting through life, but also by providing technologies and infrastructures for targeted surveillance by nation states and their murderous border regimes.
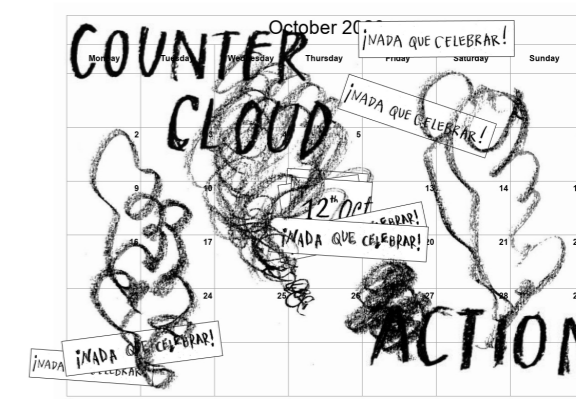
The expansion of computational infrastructures makes some lives more convenient at the cost of others (Remember, behind Manchester stood Mississippi). Because the colonial logi(sti)cs of The Cloud are deep in our pockets, in our schools, in our collectives, we will have to work even harder to organise against oppression. Anti-colonial struggle intersects with Counter Cloud Action, and this is why we will join the actions organized at 12th October, and why we will add some more.

What is The Cloud?

The Cloud is a term for computational power that is managed centrally, with a promise to optimize for flexibility or agility. The Cloud brings huge amounts of computers together, and then offers smaller and larger bits of computation as a service. The Cloud that we want to resist is run by Big Tech companies such as Amazon, Google and Microsoft, who rent out processing power to other companies or organisations.

The Big Tech Cloud is not just other people's computers. It consolidates a software paradigm that counts on continuously updated software-as-a-service, with scaleable computational infrastructure and lots of smartphones, and the political economy of publicly traded Big Tech companies. The profits of Big Tech Cloud count on the extraction of energy, minerals and racialised labour.

Frequently asked questions about 12o can be found here: https://titipi.org/pub/FAQ-12o.pdf

Drawing by Chaeyoung Kim and Erica Gargaglione

Posts from Mastodon on October 12th, 2023

from https://post.lurk.org/@titipi/111220656121107152

Today is 12th of October. ¡Nada que celebrar! (nothing to celebrate) This day marks the trans-oceanic invasion of Abya Yala (aka the Americas). Activists have reclaimed the day to remember the atrocities of colonialism and to celebrate Indigenous and anti-colonial resistance instead. Today, many involved in Counter Cloud Action join struggles against genocidal, ecocidal and epistemicidal forms of oppression, extraction, erasure and depletion.

titipi.org/12o
#12o
#CounterCloudAction

Is it a cloud? Is it a snail? Pixelated black and white drawing by Chaeyoung Kim.

cloud abolition

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from https://post.lurk.org/@titipi/111220881929006196

Today is 12th of October. ¡Nada que celebrar! (nothing to celebrate) A special edition of the Trans*Feminist Counter Cloud Action FAQ with drawings and updates by Chaeyoung Kim and @grgr https://titipi.org/pub/FAQ.pdf
#12o
#CounterCloudAction

A splash of urgent black and white strokes form a waterfall. Drawing by Chaeyoung Kim.

end fossil clouds now!

from https://post.lurk.org/@servus@social.servus.at/111221163377064907

On the 12th of October, communities and individuals involved in Counter Cloud Action (re)join ongoing struggles against genocidal, ecocidal and epistemicidal forms of oppression, extraction, erasure and depletion. More context here: https://core.servus.at/12o/ (EN) and https://o12.diebin.at/ (DE)

#12o
#countercloudaction

for more elastic anti-colonial solidarities!

from https://post.lurk.org/@servus@social.servus.at/111221164205889843

Today at the opening of Bestoff, we'll distributes materials about the Counter Cloud Action Day and invite everyone to the: # Counter Cloud Stammtisch on Anti Colonial Computing # next wednesday, October 18th, 6pm # @ Kunstuni Linz, Hauptplatz 8 (ground floor)

#12o
#countercloudaction

Free Artsakh

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from https://post.lurk.org/@titipi/111222049193279567

It is still 12th of October. ¡Nada que celebrar! (nothing to celebrate) Mark today and future Counter Cloud Actions in your calendar: https://titipi.org/12o/12o.ics
#12o
#CounterCloudAction
@grgr
#Chaeyoung_Kim

Two scribbles in black charcoal, one a tight knot or dark cloud, the other a running mouse or maybe also a cloud. Drawing by Chaeyoung Kim

Free Palestine

from https://post.lurk.org/@shusha/111222898719432592

It's October 12th – Counter Cloud Action Day
The 12th of October is a day reclaimed to remember and continue the resistance against the colonial order of our world. The Cloud is a tool extending and intensifying the colonial logic of extraction, dispossession and depletion of the world, not only in the digital realm. To protest the oppressive regime of The Cloud, I join the Counter Cloud Action Day of October 12th. Read our statement here: https://titipi.org/12o/
#12o
#countercloudaction
#nadaquecelebrar

no clouds to celebrate!

from https://post.lurk.org/@air_pump/111223102964626735

🔥☁️🔥 Counter Cloud Action Day
12th October 2023

⭐ no clouds to celebrate!
⭐ cloud abolition
⭐ down with the walls of Fortress Europe! bring down the cloud!
⭐ end fossil clouds now!
⭐ for more elastic anti-colonial solidarities!
⭐ if abolition is a place, it is not AWS
⭐ pay up for loss and damage
⭐ antifa infras
⭐ dreaming in the ruins of Big Tech
⭐ tech where you stand
⭐ the end of the worlds has never been more profitable

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https://diagram.institute/12o/
#12o
#countercloudaction
#nadaquecelebrar
Close an account
Request your data
Terminate a service
Turn-off auto-renewal

Free Ukraine

Statement from Amazon and Google workers with the #NoTechForApartheid campaign

October 10th, 2023

from https://post.lurk.org/@dromografos@electricrequiem.com/1111214602153882354

Right now, all of our communities affected by the violence in Palestine and Israel are grieving the lives already lost and living in fear of the suffering and death to come. As Amazon and Google workers committed to a future where all life is treated as sacred, and where technology is used to uplift communities instead of to power unspeakable violence, our stance remains the same:

We refuse to create tech tools for the Israeli military and government to continue surveilling, segregating, and killing Palestinians—tools that have powered the system of racial domination and brutal military occupation that have led us to this moment of violence. As long as their tech continues to power Israeli apartheid government and military, Amazon and Google are complicit in this devastation, including the recent indiscriminate bombings of residential buildings that have wiped out entire Palestinian families & neighborhoods in Gaza.

As workers, we refuse to be complicit in ethnic cleansing.

We demand our bosses immediately cancel their $1.2 billion contract called 'Project Nimbus,' which provides sophisticated technology to the Israeli military & government, supercharging apartheid & occupation–the root causes of the unspeakable violence we've seen the last few days.

We stand in full solidarity with the Palestinian people as they resist 75 years of occupation and in their fight for life and liberation. We call on all tech workers of conscience to join our demand: No Tech For Apartheid. No Tech For Ethnic Cleansing.