

Monday, March 5, 2007

Let the Midnight Special shine a light on me.

Defending anti-globalization demonstrators was a further eye-opener for me about demonstrator solidarity and government and police urination on demonstrators' rights. I have written here about one of my own confrontations with police as an anti-war demonstrator. (Image from the public domain). Check out the Midnight Special Law Collective's "Know Your Rights" helpful criminal defense and student discipline defense comics here. I first learned of and interacted with the Midnight Special Law Collective when defending anti-globalization activists during the April 16, 2000, World Bank/IMF meeting. I handled such criminal defense more to counter growing governmental and police abuses against lawful demonstrators -- which continues to this day -- than from any opinion about the demonstrators' anti-globalization message. I was heartened to learn from this experience that peaceful and positive activism -- including among the nation's youth -- is alive and well. I recount here some of my experiences with the Midnight Special (see the song lyrics here) and from the April 16, 2000, demonstration weekend. Jon Katz.

Posted by Jon Katz in Criminal Defense at 01:45