



## WORKS

Then, on the following Monday, somehow the line, the gathering point for the protest and the goal was the East Precinct on Capitol Hill. That's kind of where the siege began and it kind of just stayed there.

**TFSR:** Can you talk a bit about Capitol Hill: the dynamics in that neighborhood, who all lives there, and what standing conflicts are like with the police? Just to name a reference that I have, I was in Seattle for the protests in '99 and I remember some rad shit happening in that neighborhood. I think that's where there was a RCP bookstore or whatever. There were a lot of marches, a lot of burning dumpsters in the street and I remember the difficulty of transiting between downtown and neighborhoods like that because those roads that go over the highway are really easy choke points to block off for the police.

**D:** Yeah, I can give you a quick rundown. I want to say it was like in the '50s they got all this funding to build I-5 and they basically cut the side of the hill and built the freeway. In doing so they built these overpasses to get to downtown that you were just talking about, which creates these choke points. I think there's four main ones on Capitol Hill, popular ways, then there's maybe two more a little bit north in what people call the hospital district or Pill Hill. It's a pain because you could go from like one overpass to another and if you have a crowd to take the streets it's kind of hard for the cops to navigate around to get to the choke point. But I feel like they've got really good at spreading out their force and being ready for it and not getting stuck.

The population on Capitol Hill, for me in like the '90s and the late '80s up to the 2000's was a very counterculture scene. Capitol Hill is also on the edge of the historically Black neighborhood so there was always this counter-culture/Black-culture mingling that's existed on Capitol Hill. Grunge came out of there, a lot of punk kids, D.I.Y. people, and the hipsters were a really big thing. Especially post '99 the hipsters moved into Capitol Hill a lot, and at that point I think Capitol Hill had cemented its neighborhood legacy as being like the queer neighborhood. So the hipsters started coming in and started changing a lot of the demographics, it became more hip, more expensive to live on the hill.

**TFSR:** More white?

**D:** Yeah, more white, for sure. And even the whiteness changed, it wasn't like counterculture white anymore, it was conformist but like indie. It's kind of hard to describe. I always use this reference of being in New York and going to a talk learning about how the hipster culture was bad and that was the first time I realized what a hipster was. I realized they were the ones destroying Capitol Hill, it was

