Introductory screen:

Newspaper article:

Headline: ‘Government declares state of emergency as protestors establish “commune” in [city name]’.

Date: May 26, 20xx.

Image of a barricaded road (?)

Body: ‘[CITY NAME] – After weeks of growing unrest during which crowds of protesters demanding rent moratoria and price fixing on essential food stuffs have engaged in frequent clashes with police and military personnel,§ government forces last night abandoned their positions in [city name]. In response, coordinated groups of protesters erected barricades on key roads and took control of vital infrastructure. A spokesperson claiming to represent the protesters announced that a ‘democratic citizen’s council’ would be placed in charge of the city and of managing residents’ needs. Although, it is unclear what exactly that means at this time. According to their statement, which was widely shared online, vital utilities – including, water, electricity and access to the internet – will be made free, empty buildings will be appropriated to provide housing and ‘a programme of urban agriculture based upon the Cuban *oragopónicos* will be implemented to grow food in an effort to secure the long-term sustainability of the commune’.

In response to the events, the ruling coalition government, composed of moderate parties from both the centre-left and centre-right, have declared a state of emergency. Speaking on behalf of the government, Interior Minister Simon Beaumont denounced the protesters’ actions as ‘a terrorist coup that undermines both democracy and the sanctity of the right to private property upon which any civilised society stands’. He stated that the protesters did not represent the majority of the city’s residents, but instead a small minority of left-wing extremists and pledged that the government would crush the coup ‘by any means necessary’. This statement was echoed by the leaders of all major parties and garnered support from prominent members of civil society.

The government’s response is complicated, however, by the presence of on-going protests in many other cities across the country, as well as a statement made by unions representing workers in key infrastructure that they would ensure that basic utilities continue to be provided to [city name]. Union leaders claim that to deny power and water to the city’s residents would be tantamount to collective punishment, which is illegal under international law.

A speaker addressing a large crowd:

‘Climate catastrophe! Pandemics! Exploitation! Homelessness! Starvation! Capitalism creates its crises. And it is clear that it has no more solutions. At least, not for us!

The rich insulate themselves. They control the government and the media. They buy food and commodities at prices that we can no longer afford. They own our homes and steal our labour. Our crisis is their opportunity. And they line their pockets with our desperation.

We have been abandoned by those in power. They let us starve and evict us from our homes. They will sacrifice anything to protect their profits, as long as it is us who pays the price. But *we* are together. *Our* solution is our collective strength.

This is *our* city! If they will not house us, we will *take* the homes they leave empty! If they will not feed us, we will use *our* land to grow food and *we* will feed *ourselves*! Together we will build a better world!

Email/message screen:

Inbox:

**Message to all:** ‘The community forum is now up and running. There are multiple channels where you can post questions, updates or just hang out and chat. There are also groups you can join that will allow us to coordinate the different tasks necessary for running of the commune. Be sure to tell your neighbours and ask them to make an account. The more people we have involved the stronger we are. Many hands make light work.

Also, when using the forums, remember that this is a space for everyone, regardless of gender identity and expression, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, etc. The success of the commune depends upon us all and together we will make a better world!’

**Message from the Citizen’s Council to members of the Gardeners’ Collective**: ‘We did it! We have taken back our city! Yet this is only the beginning! Now we need to build the better world that we know is possible. As members of the gardeners’ collective, your contributions will be vital to the long-term sustainability of the commune. The food crisis did not start with us, but it has only been worsened by the government blockade.

Currently we have limited amounts of land and raw materials, as well as limited volunteers to work it. Your goal will be to develop the gardens and farms that we already have, as well as to expand our productive capacity by creating new gardens. We have the support of the majority of the city, but a lot of people are sceptical about the commune’s long-term success or are scared of future reprisals by government forces. We need to show them that we are building something that will last!

Messages for positive progress:

Development of fields:

**Message from the Citizen’s Council to members of the Gardener’s Collective:** The new fields are looking great! Everyone is grateful for the hard work that you all have put in.

**Message from the Citizen’s Council to members of the Gardener’s Collective:** It’s incredible that you’ve managed to develop a proper irrigation system using the limited materials we have available.

**Reply from the GC to CC:** Thanks, we’re happy with it too! Less time spent watering means more time that we can spend on other tasks.

**Message from [insert name]: to GC** Fuck, it’s so good to eat something other than tinned food.

**Message from [insert name] to GC:** Keep up the good work! I love looking out of my window and seeing a wash of greens rather than just tarmac and concrete!

**Message from [insert name[ to GC:** I love the smell of basil and lemon verbena! I’ve lived here for 30 years. Never imagined that [insert city name] could actually smell good!

Expanded to new areas:

**Message from [insert name] to GC:** Hey! You guys just started a new farm right by my apartment and I wanted to know if I can help out in some way? Do I have to sign up somewhere? I only just joined the forums, so I’m kind of not sure how everything works.

**Reply from to [insert name] GC:** We’re always happy to have more people helping out. Just come down and say ‘hi’ and we’ll find you something to do.

**Message from [insert name] to GC:** My grandma used to have an allotment, if you need more people? Do you know about complimentary planting?

**Reply from to [insert name] GC:** We always need more people! Especially those who know what they’re doing!

**Message from [insert hairdressers name]**: I’ve got a bunch of old hydrogen peroxide if you all want it? Apparently plants love it!

**Message from PickleLover to GC:** Pickle Gang! Pickle Gang! Pickle Gang!

**Message from CC to GC:** Good work on clearing that lot. We’ve already had a number of people that live it joining the forum and looking to help.

Not enough food:

**Message from CC to GC:** We really need to increase food production. People are hungry and getting restless.

**Message from CC to GC:** What’s happening with the farms? If we can’t show that we can provide for people, they’re going to abandon us. A revolution marches on its stomach.

**Message from [insert name] to GC:** I know that you don’t know me, but I don’t know how much longer I can do this. I’ve eaten once a day for the last two weeks and I still can’t feed my kids properly. Is there anything to spare? Please! I know I shouldn’t ask. I’m desperate.

Low solidarity and food:

**Message from CC to GC:** This is getting bad. A small group of people just tried to leave the city. Government forces fired on them after they cleared the barricades. There are casualties. You need to start producing more or this whole thing is going to collapse.

**Message from AtlasThugged to GC:** Fuck all of you! Communism never works and your too fucking dumb to learn. Going to be some one-way helicopter rides soon…

**Message from [insert name] to GC:** Can’t believe I went along with this. Fuck you and the government. You’re all the same