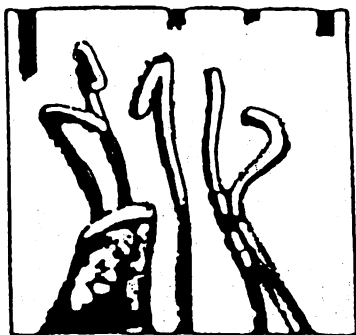


Spring '99
Issue #2

IN THE



TRENCHES...

by Ali Khalid Abdullah

edited by Anthony Rayson



In the trenches...

All Khalid Abdullah # 148130
Saginaw Correctional Facility
9625 Pierce Road
Freeland, MI 48623

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POLITICAL PRISONERS OF WAR COALITION

P P W C

4

Introduction

Revolutionary Greetings; Clenched-fist Salute & PoWEr Forward!!!

The majority of comrades within **Political Prisoners of War Coalition (PPWC)** are prisoners who are incarcerated and who are fighting for political/social changes within their existing government as it affects their lives, their livelihood, their earning potential, the rights of their fellow human beings, their prison and overall environment, which includes the earth, its atmosphere and the animal and plant world. We are prisoners who have gained political consciousness and who have come to the conclusion, through and by political re-education, that we must share mutually and act collectively with all revolutionary comrades if we are going to make a serious difference against all manner of oppression and repression against the people.

PPWC DECLARATION

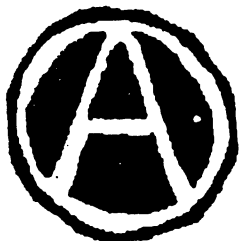
We are prisoners who have heard the call for continual revolutionary struggle and will not cease fighting, protesting or doing whatever else is necessary until we achieve our goal, which is to have a better world. However, we wish to express a few facts about PPWC as it relates to the terms "Political Prisoner" and "Prisoner of War." They are as follows:

We define a **Political Prisoner (PP)** as one who has been imprisoned for consciously pursuing a political agenda **PRIOR** to incarceration. We do not sharply or narrowly discriminate. We understand that many variables, factors and circumstances play major roles in this definition as well as events which are subtle and often not readily discernible. For that reason, we do not draw hasty impulsive conclusions.

As to **Prisoners of War (POW)**, we recognize that POWs have used armed resistance/might to demonstrate their political beliefs and efforts to bring about necessary changes in order to stop oppression and/or repression against the people. However, we do not stop there. Our view is broader and we acknowledge all positive forms of political resistance and tactics to accomplish political change. We conclude that POWs are those who (for the sake of political change) have been wrongly captured and incarcerated for their activism by an oppressive, apartheid, colonial, capitalist state/government.

We are of the deeper understanding that political manipulation against the New Afrikan (Blacks), First Nations (a.k.a. Native Americans), Latinos and other peoples of color in America is accompanied by and supportive of a racist, colonial regime whose objective is to further exploit, disenfranchise and subjugate all people of color and to advance kapitalism and imperialistic aims. We see these manipulations conducted in the areas of employment, discriminatory hiring practices, housing, health care, food production and distribution, advertising and education, creating further race/class divisions, homophobia and sexism.

We understand that the kapitalists often "target" urban areas where a particular race, class or group of people is **FORCED** (through political manipulation) to dwell - creating reactionary events to further solidify and enhance the power wielded over these communities, thereby creating entire urban areas of poverty and substance abuse. Because of this artificially induced poverty upon the people, we recognize that some people in depressed communities have acted independently to make



necessary changes and have not been associated with well-known or recognized political groups, but, because of their clandestine activities to make effective change, have been captured and incarcerated. 5

We also understand that some captured prisoners (who were acting independently) may be superficially acknowledged as "political" but oftentimes are not called such by those with secret and hidden agendas or those in real political power.

We recognize that various so-called "political action groups" and other organizations have the tendency to exclude certain groups and individuals solely because they have not developed concrete philosophical, ideological concepts that conform to other established groups with established doctrine and mandates.

PPWC rejects such hypocrisies. We believe that a PP/POW could be any person. That a PP/POW has and could come from varying strata. We understand that no man or woman is shielded from the capitalist forces which cause social breakdown (i.e., crimes against the people) and create pathologies within communities and individuals. Though we understand that there is no excuse for crimes and predatory acts against common citizens for selfish greed and materialistic gain, we do believe that the United States conspires to program the minds of the masses (beginning at an early age), compelling them to commit acts contrary to existing imperfect laws.

In this light, we feel it necessary to eradicate the REAL PROBLEM by isolating the problem-makers... that being the U.S. government, its political leaders (who are the real criminals), its institutions and propaganda machines, i.e., TV, radio and the press, all of which (along with big business) conspire to create unequal justice, greed, racism, sexism, class divisions, homophobia, and all other oppressive "isms" that affect the lives of The People. We reject all authority that excludes The People and enslaves them.

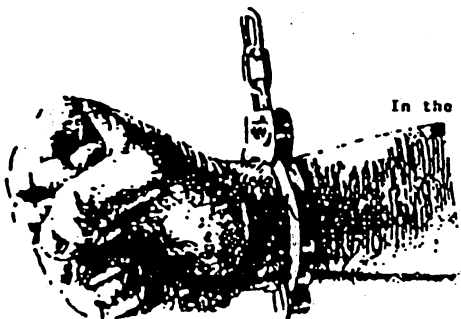
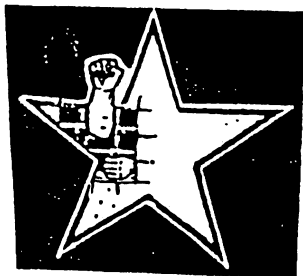
With this understanding, PPWC acts as a support group for ALL conscious, politically active, progressively positive groups, organizations and individuals who are actively working to change the existing political and economic climate, whether here in the United States or abroad.

PPWC advocates political re-education. We do not stagnate in one political or ideological theory, manifesto, concept, etc., but rather, we adopt and accept all positive means of resistance, so long as The People are collectively involved in all political, social and economic processes.

PPWC does not shy away from one who may be a "social prisoner" or one, like Comrade George Jackson, who entered prison for reasons not relating to a political agenda or objective. We recognize and accept that a "social prisoner" may become politicized/educated through political re-education, self-criticism and self-purging away from the mind-set of "predator against the people" towards becoming an active fighter for The People. We understand that a prisoner can undergo a political transformation while in prison and become very effective in making a strong political contribution, and therefore we work with such people.

PPWC believes in armed struggle as a means of obtaining justice, if this is what is needed to be done. However, we would prefer to meet our objectives in a peaceful manner. Yet, we realize that the oppressors are not willing to relinquish their power in a peaceful manner and so we will meet force with force, if that is the only means for The People to no longer suffer oppression and repression.

PPWC believes in the need for Self-Defense against any and all threats and, as resisters, has the right to defend self, family and community from any and all hostile aggressive forces, including the state or government and agencies that act on their behalf.



In the trenches...

PPWC demands that the U.S. government acknowledge and admit it has political prisoners and prisoners of war and freedom fighters within its borders locked up in state and federal prisons, and that all such political prisoners and prisoners of war and freedom fighters are freed from prison.

PPWC demands that the oppressive governments, (i.e., the U.S. and all governments of oppression), stop the destruction of the environment with its toxins and stop the slaughter of its plants, trees and members of the animal world. Stop the dumping of toxic wastes in our oceans, rivers and lakes! Stop the pollution of our air with the use of deadly chemicals! Stop the destruction of our forests! We believe that the destruction of these forms of life is also the destruction of human civilization, and that this destruction is because of kapitalist greed and imperialist expansion and domination of the world's people, places and resources. It must be opposed and stopped at any cost.

PPWC believes that all revolutionary groups have a right to fight and defend this planet and that no government leader should control the lives of the human family. That every human being has a right to food, shelter, medical care, housing, clothing, employment, mutual sharing and the pursuit of a free and happy life. We believe that the only way this will be achieved is by The People banning together and demanding change. And if necessary, taking the necessary means into their own hands to make this a reality.

PPWC believes that no child should be left to die on the streets and no child should be abused by any adult. We believe that our elderly have the right to live their remaining lives in dignity and without fear regarding the essentials of life, that said essentials should be available to them without cost.

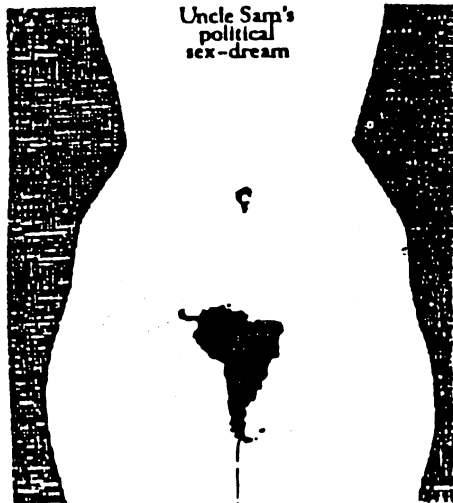
PPWC believes there should be no borders and no states of domination, that there should be autonomy and mutual respect for all communities, and that The People should have autonomy to govern themselves and not be overseen by any government or state agency.

PPWC's belief is that all racist, fascist and hate groups are to be totally dismantled and terminated by whatever means necessary to affect this end. We reject all manner of white skin privilege and find that this must be abandoned by all whites in order to have a world free from all forms of discrimination and racial prejudice.

PPWC does not exclude any race or member of a race from being a part of or a member of it; nor do we exclude those of the gay/lesbian/bi/trans communities from being a part of or members of PPWC.

PPWC believes in networking with all revolutionary groups and supporting them as long as they are about real change that is beneficial to The People and not to any one group, race, class or individual at the expense of others.

[Note: Ali Khalid Abdulah is the founder of Political Prisoners of War Coalition (PPWC)].



PPWC'S BEGINNING

PPWC is an organization that was founded in 1995 by Ali Khalid Abdullah, a New Afrikan (Black man) prisoner, while sitting in a prison cell in Jackson, Michigan.

It was formed out of the need of unrecognized Political Prisoners (PP), Prisoners of War (POW), and Freedom Fighters (FF) to aid themselves from a collective perspective, by mutually aiding each other, sharing information, exposing all forms of oppression, repression, torture, brutality, rape (by prison officials), corruption, murder and assassination attempts on high-profiled political activists within the prison system, and all forms of threats, harassment and forced labor and abuse.

WHO CAN JOIN PPWC?

Anyone can join, aid, assist and support PPWC if they believe in the **Principles & Points of PPWC** and its **Declaration**. Or, those who simply wish to help change the wrongs that have been committed by the government, state and/or its agencies anywhere in the world.

Though PPWC is comprised of prisoners, we encourage non-prisoners to actively get involved and become members of PPWC.

PPWC does not discriminate as to who may join, aid, assist or support us, but we reserve the exclusive right not to accept anyone who does not respect the aims, goals and ambitions of PPWC, which is to eradicate all forms of oppression, repression, kapitalism, imperialism, colonialism, racism, fascism, sexism, homophobia, class divisions, age discrimination, immigrant discrimination, and environmental destruction.

If you wish to be a PPWC member... please forward to PPWC's **Information Center** listed at the end of this packet your name, address and whether or not you are incarcerated. (If you are, your prison number is needed.), and whether or not you are politically active. (Please describe.)

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Since it is well understood that the United States government uses its governmental agencies to pursue its agenda (i.e., CIA, FBI, DEA, INS and local police departments), PPWC operates from a different perspective from these organizations. We have learned from the past how the U.S. can infiltrate, dismantle and destroy a group, movement, organization or individual. The U.S. has shown this through its use of the Counterintelligence Program (COINTELPRO) and the destructiveness it has caused to other political organizations and individuals. Therefore, we are not concerned with obliging ourselves or our enemies with any strict centralization, predictable patterns or specific methods of operation (MO).

PPWC is an autonomous organization and believes in the sound principle of **Mutual Aid and Support**. Therefore, each person can form a Chapter of PPWC under the strict **Declaration and Principles & Points** regarding PPWC.



Each PPWC Chapter is to have someone as its Facilitator to see to the chapter's operations and maintenance. This facilitator can operate autonomously; however, each chapter must abide by the following procedures:

1. A copy of all articles or information that any Chapter and/or its members submit (as members of PPWC) to any and all newspapers, magazines or periodicals for print or publishing must be sent too PPWC's Information Center.
2. No member or supporter of PPWC shall speak for any PPWC chapter, individual member and/or supporter unless that member or supporter has given his/her chapter and/or individual member permission to do so
3. No member or supporter of PPWC shall speak on behalf of PPWC in any official capacity without expressed written permission from PPWC's Information Center.
4. The Facilitator of each PPWC Chapter can appoint whom they will to positions needed to run and operate the chapter.
5. Each Chapter has the autonomy to have or not to have dues paid by its members. However, each Chapter is encouraged to develop the means and wherewithal to sustain itself according to generally accepted legal procedures.
6. Each Chapter must develop a method of communications and networking with other PPWC Chapters and those with whom PPWC works with outside of PPWC. This is important in order to maintain a healthy relationship with other comrades in revolutionary struggle.
7. Each Chapter must send a Quarterly Report to the Information Center telling of its functions and other activities as it relates to PPWC, and must submit a roster of its members to the Information Center.
8. Each Chapter must send a minimum of \$5.00 per month to PPWC's Information Center. (However, prisoners and comrades in Chapters in foreign countries are exempt from this if they don't have access to dollars.) Individual PPWC members and/or supporters can send donations to the Information Center whenever they want. These donations can be in the form of cash, money orders, cashiers checks (cheques) or U.S. postage stamps. These funds will be used to cover mailing costs and, whenever possible, to help develop an ongoing War Chest.

The Information center address is:
 PPWC Information Center
 P.O. Box 554
 Lincoln, MA 01773 USA

Please make money orders and checks out to Cynthia W. Riisner and mail to P. O. Box 554 in Lincoln, MA.

All parties wishing to contact PPWC Founder, Ali Khalid Abdullah, may do so at the above address or as follows:

Ali Khalid Abdullah #148130
 Saginaw Correctional Facility
 9625 Pierce Road
 Freeland, MI 48623 USA

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Send a \$ASE for a complete book list.
 Slugs & Lettuce is a free time promoting DIY
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 ... For a copy of \$5.1. send a \$50
 ...

PPWC does not discriminate against any person because of race, gender preference, sex, age, national or geographical origin, religious or non-religious beliefs.

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PPWC does not show a preference to any person, race, culture or group, but we do recognize and acknowledge that some people have suffered more than others, because of their race or culture, and therefore, we do not hide this fact.

PPWC does not exclude women and wholeheartedly believes that the backbone of any legitimate struggle, whether political, social, economic, environmental or religious, are women. Because of this principle point, we welcome, support and work with women on the issues that also affect their lives.

PPWC does not place the role of men above or below women and believes that all hints to status, patriarch dominance, gender superiority, or earning superiority over women by men are to be instantly rejected.

PPWC will work with any group, movement, organization or individual, regardless of political theory, doctrine or non-political theory or doctrine, as long as the group, movement, organization or individual is for freedom of all people and their right of autonomy, as long as they do not hinder, hurt, harm or destroy others at others' expense.

PPWC will not declare to be anarchist, communist, socialist, syndicalist, liberal, progressive, or any such titles, because of the fact that such titles have kept many good people apart from each other who are fighting for the same humanitarian issues.

PPWC believes we should be able to work with anyone who is about abolishing all forms of oppression, repression, imperialism, colonialism, racism, sexism, homophobia, class divisions, age discrimination, immigrant bashing, and the destruction of the environment. As well as about abolishing any and all forms of oppression against free speech, free assembly, free association, autonomy, personal privacy, the abolition of prisons and all forms of torture, unjust courts, laws, and the agencies which enforce such unjust laws upon the people. [Note: PPWC has members of various political doctrines, religious and non-religious philosophies, but we do stress firmly mutual aid and cooperation and will demand tolerance of others unless that cooperation or tolerance proves to be detrimental to PPWC's Principles & Points.]

PPWC shuns all discriminatory acts against the gay/lesbian/bi/trans communities and will not support any group, movement, organization or individual that does discriminate against people with an alternative sexual lifestyle and/or practices.

PPWC shuns all discriminatory acts against immigrants and believes that they have a right to flee any country or land where there is hardship and enter a country or land where they can improve their lives and the lives of their children.

PPWC shuns all discriminatory acts against the physically challenged and believes they are whole persons and have the right to live and exist and pursue the same fruits of life as those who are not physically challenged.

PPWC shuns all predatory acts against children whether these acts are of a sexual, emotional or psychological nature or for the exploitation of their youthful labor and energy.

PPWC shuns any act of violence against children and will go to any extreme to ensure the safety and welfare of ANY child.

PPWC shuns all discriminatory acts against the elderly regardless of their past. (We must never forget that compassion must be shown to them and allow them to live the remainder of their lives free from stress, worry, and unnecessary pain.)

PPWC will not support the denial of education or employment to any person who seeks to have an education or employment.

PPWC will not support the denial of technologies to any people, whereby these technologies would greatly enhance the quality of life for the people. Nor do we support the denial to people of the means to defend themselves against any and all manner of hostile aggression, be it by any government, its agencies, or other groups, movements, organizations or individuals.

POLITICAL PRISONERS OF WAR COALITION

P P W C

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Theatre of Operations. . .

. . . michigan death kkkamps

December '98 / UPDATE / January '99

Since our last UpDate PPWC has been steadily working in an effort to network, dialogue and strengthen alliances within the collective revolutionary circles. Thus far, we have achieved some success in this area, but not enough. We are still not where we'd like to be but we are making progress.

We have introduced more comrades to our fold who could use the support we hope they will receive from the collective revolutionary communities. At the end of this Update we will list their names and addresses so you may contact them directly and work with them.

Within the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) there hasn't been much change in terms of what is going on. There are still the same oppressions being administered, especially with the MDOC's recent hasty move to restrict prisoners' personal property to a significant reduction from what was allowed them prior to September 1998. However, this case is being fought under a court consent decree filed by Michigan prisoners in Cain v MDOC. (Read PPWC's article Michigan Prisoners Lost Major Property Issue.)

A rally was held in Lansing, Michigan on December 5, 1998 in support of comrades Leonard Peltier and Mumia Abu-Jamal. The rally did not receive any mainstream news coverage and the turn-out was rather small with approximately 100 people in attendance. Comrad Ali Khalid Abdullah, founder of Political Prisoners of War Coalition (PPWC) within the Michigan prison system was also honored at the rally by comrad Dale Pfeiffer who read Ali's speech and passed out information on Ali, along with petitions calling for his release.

There were a number of Michigan-based organizations that refused to endorse this rally because of some fundamental disagreements with one of the co-sponsoring groups of the rally. However, the rally was supported by the American Indian Movement (AIM), the Peace and Justice Team (PJ) under Father Dorghety and others. Hopefully, there will be some type of resolution in the future between the organizations who have fundamental disagreements with one of the co-sponsors of the December 5, 1998 rally, so that future events will include everyone and thus gain more support.

In the past we wrote an article titled The Need for Prisoners to Join the I.W.W. in an effort to have prisoners supported and represented by the I.W.W. in terms of their labor and the conditions under which they work. In spite of our attempt to hold dialogue with I.W.W. General Secretary Fred Chase on the matter, we have not received any response to our letter to him or from any I.W.W. other General Headquarters official in this regard. Needless to say, this makes us feel very bad and a bit disillusioned with the I.W.W. at his time. However, PPWC will continue to develop and struggle in an effort to organize prisoner labor and ensure prisoner labor representation and rights. We will continue to focus attention on this matter and dialogue with other comrades in other movements and organizations, asking them to place this very important and essential issue on their agendas. Especially when you take into account the fact that more prisons are being built daily and more and more private interests are constructing privatized prisons as more and more people are being incarcerated (even as the crime rate drops) at unprecedented numbers. We feel this is an issue that cannot be ignored or overlooked by anyone serious about the prison situation today.



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For more information please send a
self addressed stamped envelope to:

we have received news from comrad Dale Pfeiffer that there will be a Solidarity Fast beginning February 6, 1999 in support of comrad Leonard Peltier. This fast will focus attention on the Bureau of Prisons' failure to give Leonard badly needed medical treatment for his law. Due to severe complications from past inadequate medical treatment, Leonard is barely able to eat, let alone swallow. With this fast we hope to gain support for Leonard and to demand that this man receive proper treatment. To learn more of this Solidarity Fast, please contact the following:

Leonard Peltier Defense Committee
P. O. Box 583
Lawrence, KA 66044
e-mail: lpdc@idir.net
Web site: <http://members.xoom.com/freepeltier/index.html>

Dale Pfeiffer
2500 Mann Rd. Lot #324
Clarkston, MI 48346
Web site: dalealen@people-link.com

PPWC wishes to acknowledge comrad Bo Persson of the ASH/ABC in Sweden for supporting us by printing our material and showing solidarity for comrad Ali Khalid Abdullah by sending letters of protest to various MDOC officials regarding Ali's many transfers from facility to facility that were for retaliatory reasons even though the MDOC claims they weren't. (Read PPWC's Letter for AKA Regarding Transfers, October 23, 1998.)

We'd like to also acknowledge comrad Cynthia Ritscher who has been working and supporting PPWC. Her work and dedication has helped us out tremendously and we truly appreciate having her with us.

PPWC's founder and comrad Ali Khalid Abdullah is scheduled to see the parole board in either February or March '99 and as soon as the results of his hearing are made known we will pass this info to you.

Also, comrad Anthony Rayson of Chicago's Anti-Racist Action (ARA) has put together a zine called In the trenches... Communiqués of Ali Khalid Abdullah. The zine is free to prisoners and for others it costs \$1.00 and can be obtained from:

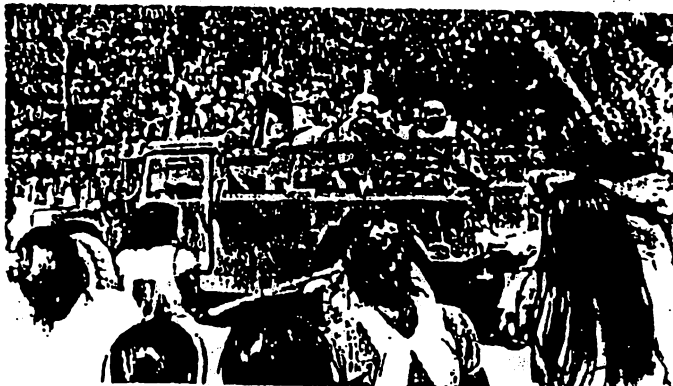
South Chicago ARA Distro
P. O. Box 721
Homewood, IL 60430

Mexican Army driven from Morelia

by Christopher Day

The rocks rained down on the soldiers in their trucks as the women and children called them murderers, devils and sons of whores. The women and children of Morelia, armed only with sticks, rocks and determination, chased over a hundred US armed Mexican Federal Army soldiers from the outskirts of their community on Thursday January 8.

Morelia is a Zapatista community and the site of one of the five 'Aguascalientes' constructed by the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) as a center for popular democratic assemblies of the Zapatista communities as well as for regional, national and international gatherings. Since an incursion by the Army earlier in the week most of the men in the community have fled to the mountains, leaving the streets quiet and the women in charge of defending the community



Women no more than 4'8" with babies on their backs waved sticks of all sizes. The children gathered stones. They cursed the soldiers in Spanish that would make a sailor blush.

OUR SURVIVAL IS AT STAKE
 People who close their eyes to reality
 Simply invite their own destruction

December 1998

Fellow Comrad(s)
 Clenched Fist Salute:

My name is Brotha Che-Askari (Gerald L. Hoskins) and I am a prisoner here in the Michigan Department of Corrections and was transferred to the Greenville Correctional Center (a privatized prison) in Jarrett, Virginia because of my strong political views and support of revolutionary organizations around the country/world.

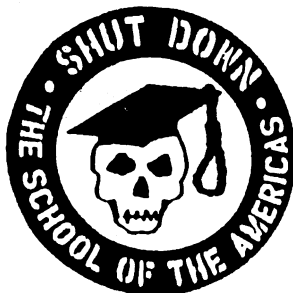
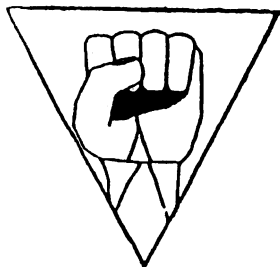
I am presently serving a 35-70 year prison bit for a robbery in which no one was injured (but me, the arresting officers beat me). There wasn't any property loss, nor was I in possession of a gun. I have nearly twenty (20) years in on this bit for a crime that on average only calls for a person to serve not more than five (5) years.

During my time here/there in the Michigan prison system, I have been active and out front in all revolutionary prison movements + actively pushing for better conditions. I have been put in the hole and transferred no less than thirty-five (35) times because of my stance against oppression and brutality pushed against fellow convicts. I refuse to conform or bow down to their state oppression so they [prisonkkkrats] transferred me to another state [Virginia] away from my comrad's (family/loved ones).

When transferred here to Virginia, I had ALL my personal property taken away and I was put in a MAX facility. Only because I wouldn't discontinue my work for the people/prisoners. My mail is presently being tampered with (as it was while I was in Michigan) and I am STILL being denied my constitutional rights as a prisoner.

But with all this in front of me, with all their state oppression and the hardships, **STILL I RISE** to the challenge of facing my enemy and fighting them with all that I have/ani. I have spent many, many years here inside these kkkamps studying the works of some of our greatest Freedom Fighters and it has helped to Rebuild Me and allow me to overstand not only my obligation to New Afrikan people, but also my obligation and responsibility to ALL the world's struggling and oppressed people no matter what the race. I realize that this is not a struggle/revolution about or against race, but about and against evil + unrighteousness. My aims and goals as a New Afrikan are simple: to fight against oppression and the evil monsters who push it. But I also realize that I must protect myself and take heed to what Nietzsche said: **"THOSE WHO SET OUT TO KILL MONSTERS SHOULD TAKE CARE NOT TO TURN INTO MONSTERS THEMSELVES."**

I support righteous organizations + individuals whose aims and goals are that of securing and protecting the people. We have had many groups and individuals who set out to serve the people only to end up using the people. "We are either for the people or we are against the people." I'm totally for the people because I have come to realize that I have no other alternative.



In order for me to survive Amerikkka I must fight to make sure that those who control this country/world do not win!

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I realize that there is much work that needs to be done, and in the words of Jonathan Jackson, "The sooner begun, the sooner done." There comes a time when we all must get in the trenches, I mean really get in the trenches and put the work in. Who is more important to the revolution, the man with the pen, gun, or the tool? We fight to protect the common man/woman. There comes a time when we must put down the pen and pick up the plow.

There have been many, many freedom fighters who came before me and made great sacrifices so that the struggle wouldn't be as difficult for the next generation to come. They, those freedom fighters who came before me, fulfilled their obligation to the revolution and the people. They put the work in unselfishly. I believe in doing the very same thing. Fulfilling my obligation to the righteous people of this world. I've devoted my entire life, time and energy to the most beautiful purpose in the world - the struggle for the liberation of mankind.

There are many beautiful and wonderful revolutionary souls inside these prison kkkamps who want nothing more than to be free. But there are even more beautiful spirits here who study, learn, and rebuild for the sole purpose of becoming the very best vanguards and people souljahs they can be.

I for one believe that this revolution/struggle is not a black or white one, but a REAL one that includes all of us. I've dialogued and soldiered with some of our greatest minds and comrades throughout these amerikkkan prisons and around these united snakes of amerikkka, and I've come to realize that there are not many struggles and revolutions going on here but only one, and it includes ALL of us fighting together.

I want total freedom for ALL oppressed people and I realize that for this to become a reality, we, those of us who claim to understand what's really going on and who the enemy is, must set aside ANY and ALL black and white differences and come together and grab this beast by his horns and ride him until his neck snaps. Because you can believe, as comrad George Jackson said, "The minute he gets an understanding of what's really going on, what we are really building towards, he will smash us so quick that we won't know how he died."

LONG LIVE THE GUERRILLA FIGHTERS

Rebuild to win!
Comrad Che

[Special Note: Che: Gerald Hoskins is a brotha i have known for a number of years. He has shown complete dedication to the service of uplifting the thinking of many prisoners, as well as people outside of prison. We have struggled/soldiered together at various kkkamps we've been at together and it has always been my privilege to work with him. It is my hope that ALL OF YOU who read this BIO of Che: Gerald Hoskins will support him as you have supported me and other comrades in serious struggle for the people. Che is also a devoted supporter and member of PPWC and we welcome his efforts and work as we push forward to rebuild, repair, restructure our lives, our communities and political/social environment we are under. Thank you for your support. Ali Khalid Abdullah, PPWC.] Che would welcome hearing from you. Please address letters to him as follows:

Che: Gerald Hoskins #258360
Greenville Correctional Way
901 Corrections Way
Jarrett, VA 23807-9614

"Ily not engaging in mass organizing and delivering war to the oppressors, we become anarchists in name only."

—Kwasi Balagoon, New Afrikan anarchist revolutionary (1946-1986)

**WE DARE BE FREE
PO BOX 390085
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02130**

Record number in prison, jail, probation or parole

According to the U.S. Justice Department, a record 3.9 million people were on probation or parole at the end of 1997. The department's Bureau of Justice Statistics said that 110,000 people were added to the total last year, a 2.9 percent increase.

By the end of 1997, nearly one out of every 35 adults in the United States was in prison, in jail or on probation or parole - a total of 5.7 million adults, or nearly 2.9 percent of the population, the department said.

POLITICAL PRISONERS OF WAR COALITION

P P W C

14

Co - Communications
Amir Askari Ajoke Tanimowo

NEO-SLAVERY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

New Afrikans, Hispanic and Aboriginal Amerikkans are again "human cargo" shipped from Michigan and other states to privatized prisons in Virginia, Oklahoma and Texas.

Valued as chattel property in a lucrative market of neo-slaves, these prisoners are "traded" between states where their labor is inhumanely exploited, while filling the coffers of and fueling the economy (by providing job security) of the states with "bed space" to rent in the burgeoning privatized prison industry.

As reported from FYI: Aug. 20, 1998: "There are 476 Michigan prisoners at the Greenfield Correctional Center in Jarrett, VA. Since July 20, a total of 160 prisoners has been transferred every other week to Virginia from the Southern Michigan Correctional Facility."

The mdoc projects that it may need to lease as many as 3,500 beds between now and the end of the 1999 fiscal year - at a cost of \$70 million. The leased beds will help the mdoc deal with its housing shortage until 5,400 new prison beds are built beginning in late 1999.

Gov. John Engler entered into an "interstate corrections compact" agreement to facilitate modern-day slavery via the 13th Amendment of the US Constitution. Shaka N'zinga correctly states: "I and many other revolutionary New Afrikans as well) have long ago come to recognize the political reality that each and every New Afrikan in this settleristic-imperialist nation is in fact a prisoner of war, and once we are shoved into a situation of acute repression we become political prisoners of war."

"Historically speaking, the war that I am indirectly making reference to began when European capital launched its first slave ships and began its free market system with the trade of my Afrikan forebears. At the conclusion of the Amerikkkan war for independence, the present capitalistic nation-state called the USA was founded for Euro-Amerikkkans, but my kind remained in chains."

Shaka further argues, "The Constitution was written by and for Euro-Amerikkkans' right to determine and govern themselves as human beings. But my kind, my forebears, remained the chattel of settleristic Amerikkka. In this constitution our subhuman status was affirmed and reaffirmed by those who wrote it. They defined us as being three-fifths of a person in this very constitution that is hailed as being the greatest ever written."

"In 1857, the highest court of law in the USA (The Supreme Court) again affirmed the status of 'sub-human slaves' of my kind, in the Dred Scott decision. U.S. Chief Justice Roger Brooks Taney said: 'A Negro has no rights that a white man is bound to respect...'

"They show their correctness and legal grounds for denying the slave Dred Scott's petition for freedom," Shaka states. The U.S. Supreme Court turned to the Constitution written by their fathers for their freedom to oppress and profit from the genocide and enslavement of the Afrikan slaves, saying: 'When the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence were written, Afrikans were perceived as three-fifths of a person. When one speaks of 'we the people,' we were



not speaking of you. And therefore, we cannot now give you the rights and appurtenances that apply to 'we the people.' The Constitution has no relevance to you and your kind, or to your descendants should they ever become free.'

15

"New Afrikans, Shaka argues, were supposedly freed on December 6, 1865 by the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which reads: 'Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for a crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.'

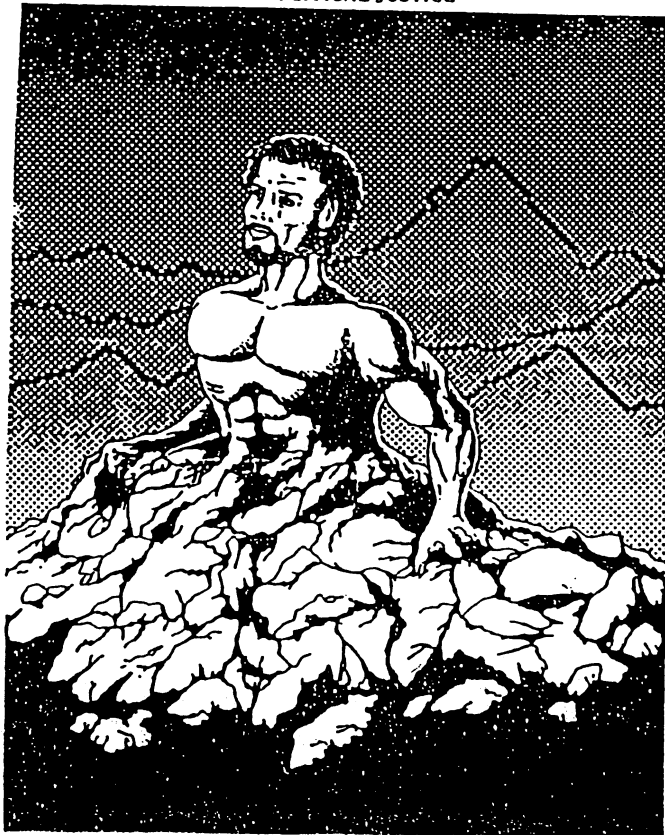
"Almost three years later, on July 9, 1868, we were compelled to accept the paper citizenship ratified via Congress in the 14th Amendment of the Constitution, which reads: 'All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.'

Shaka exposes the capitalistic-imperialist conspiracy with a glaring beacon of clarity: "...the New Afrikan masses whose true desire was to be liberated from the Nation-State that held them captive as slaves; a country that had robbed them of their human rights to self-determination and independence as a Nation. The student of history will surely see that all these laws that have been enacted and ratified by the capitalists and white supremacist body of the U. S. government - for the sham freedom granted to New Afrikans were - in reality, no more than political ploys used to further the interests of capital and white supremacy."

A further irony noted by this writer is the alarming and historical fact that Virginia is the site of the earliest record of trafficking in 'human cargo' in this country!!! In contemporary times Virginia continues to eagerly and fully engage in the slave trade. Neo-slaves are the source of huge profits, providing the cheapest work force in the privatized prisons and prison industries.

ASE!!!

POLITICAL JUSTICE



What Are We Going To Do, Anarchists?

by Ali Khalid Abdullah

November 1, 1998

"...Once and for all we must realize that we are no longer... in a little utopian world..., we cannot realize our economic revolution in a local sense; for economy on a localist basis can only cause collective privation..., economy is today a vast organism and all isolation must prove detrimental... We must work with the whole country and if possible the whole world..."

[Note: Comment by the Spanish anarchist, Diego Abad de Santillan, Ministry of the Economy in Catalonia in the early period of the Spanish Civil War - December 1936].

Today we are faced with many problems throughout the world. We see people landing in jails and prisons for alleged crimes against the people. Crimes that would not otherwise be happening if the ruling class were not making it virtually impossible for people to maintain a decent living standard.

We see many people starving on the streets, homeless, unemployed or under-employed, and those that are employed are barely making it on slave wages.

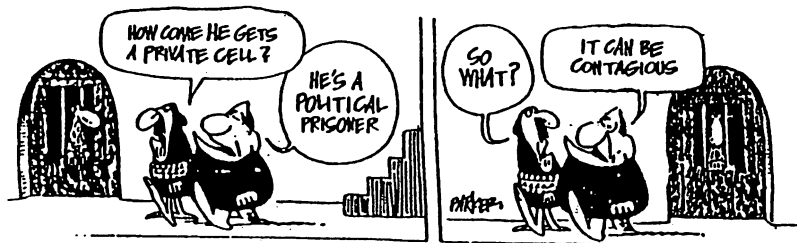
We see kkkapitalism rising and rising all over the globe and more and more people becoming disenfranchised by this new end of the century tidal wave of kkkapitalist greed. There are more korporate takeovers than at any previous time in history.

We find more and more people forming groups of dissent against the government; more militia groups popping up; more police brutality used against the people as a means of control for the ruling class.

We are finding more workers cut off from unions as the kkkapitalists work overtime to create sweatshop working conditions and bust long-standing unions.

Anarchists and anarchism have become objects of ridicule in the eyes of many because those who pose at being anarchists are your middle class, white conservatives, college students with no real sense of dedication, and deadbeats who like to talk but take little "action." True anarchists think and behave differently. We are a strong group with a rich and militant history against all forms of oppressions, repression, and social violations.

Anarchists were involved against nazism and fought for the downfall and resistance during the nazi occupation. Anarchists were involved and fought for the downfall and resistance of fascism in Italy. They fought and died in the wars against Stalin's "iron-fist" tactics in Poland and surrounding countries. Why is it, then, that we are not as effective as we once were? Why are we merely claiming anarchism by name but remain empty in substance as a movement? This is not what true anarchism is about. There are many freedom fighters languishing in state and federal prisons (death kkkamps) in amerikkka and yet the voice of anarchists is not heard across the country. There is no mass movement to deter and stop the existing oppression. Why?



Some say that the true application of anarchy is dead. I say it is not. I say it is rebounding but is not strong enough. There are too many claiming anarchy but aren't living according to anarchist principles. Support is not forthcoming and unless there is support there can be no movement of any effectiveness. 17

As an anarchist, i believe that we must be willing to take unpopular stands and risks. That we must be assertive and no be "weekend" anarchists. Or "round-tabled" anarchists. We must be active and true anarchists.

Comrades all over the united snakes are dying in death kkkamps. They are fighting and dying with virtually no support. Many of them are true in their beliefs of anarchism; yet they receive little to no assistance from anarchist groups/movements because they will not be political. They feel that because their cases have not made the kkkapitalist news they somehow aren't deserving of entitlements and support. This is insane thinking. This is the type of thinking that keeps us oppressed. This is absolutely the result of "divide and conquer" tactics that are being effectively applied by the agents of kkkapitalism.

The increasing complexity of society is making anarchism MORE and NOT LESS relevant to modern life. The greatest attribute of the free society is that it is "self-regulating" and "bears within itself the seeds for regeneration." (Buber)

So my question to you is "What are we going to do about this state of affairs?" What are we going to do about allowing our comrades to languish in these state/federal death kkkamps unaided, unassisted, and left to fight and struggle on their own? And the next question that deserves attention is: "What are we doing to do about tightening up our backyards?" Meaning, "What are we going to do about all this intellectualizing while the few fighters are being killed?" Killed physically and killed in their spirit?

[Note: Ali Khalid Abdullah is a black anarchist currently confined by the state of Michigan. He is an active political revolutionary fighting for social change. He has formed a political movement within Michigan's prison system called: POLITICAL PRISONERS OF WAR COALITION (PPWC), which is about re-educating younger prisoners about the political climate in which they live and helping them become actively involved in social change. Ali Khalid Abdullah has filed several civil rights suits against the Michigan Department of Corrections for himself and on behalf of other prisoners, which has made him an open enemy target of the state's oppressive prison system. He has written numerous articles for various papers and magazines that speak out against government oppression. Ali's writings are available from Cynthia Ritscher, P. O. Box 554, Lincoln, MA 01773. To receive PPWC mailings on a monthly basis, please send Cynthia a donation of \$2.00. If you have not sent in a donation for the January packet, one would be very much appreciated.]

Peruvian Strikers Storm Presidential Grounds



Angry strikers clash with police over the possible re-election bid of Fujimori

PERU - In Lima hundreds of striking workers broke through the main gates of Peru's presidential palace on Wednesday, September 30th and stormed the parade grounds where they were met by police and soldiers

In Peru's most violent protest in years, at least 100 workers, demonstrating against President Alberto Fujimori's possible re-election bid and demanding more jobs, smashed palace windows and raided a basement storage room during three hours of violence that rocked the city center.

In a 10-minute battle, dozens of police and soldiers, who burst from the palace's main entrance door, fired shots in the air and threw tear gas containers into crowds of demonstrators, forcing them from the parade area and back into Lima's main square. Militant protesters, many brandishing sticks and iron bars, smashed palace windows, destroy palace furniture and helped themselves to ceremonial uniforms and swords

In the disturbances, which included clashes with police outside of Congress and the looting of several downtown shops, at least a dozen people were injured and about 20 were arrested

CO - Communications
Amir Askari Ajoke Tanimowo

IDLE REVOLUTIONARY!??

It is my position that my revolutionary fire has diminished to the point that i have become complacent in my thinking, resting on past laurels and deeds - that i have already given up my precious freedom and sacrificed enough In Struggle ... then i came to the overstanding and realization that it is never enough, as long as people are victimized, brutalized, exploited and lynched. So long as the prisons of this society are filled to overflowing with our brothas and sistahs who have fallen in the Struggle. So long as the "war on crime" is translated as "war on the poor and disenfranchised." No one is free from oppression, wherever they find themselves... so long as oppression exists, is tolerated, anywhere in the world..

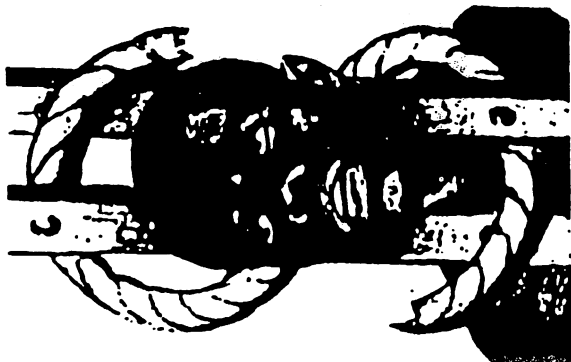
WE (all of us) can never relax our vigilance nor ignore the consequences of apathy and non-action, nor can WE rid ourselves of the responsibility of leading others to FREEDOM, EQUALITY, SECURITY and JUSTICE, based upon moral excellence, integrity, and rational knowledge. John Africa, MOVE founder, says:

Revolution is not a word but an application, it is not war but peace, it does not weaken, it strengthens. Revolution does not cause separation, it generates togetherness. Solidarity ain't a word. Solidarity is a principle that exists when words have ceased.

It is with this overstanding that i pose this question to so-called "Revolutionaries." If you are incarcerated in one of amerikkka's dismal crypts - are all your efforts met with resistance and outright betrayals, from snitches, corrupt correctional officials, and apathetic family members? Are you then compelled to "suffer peacefully," regulated to a silent resistance deep inside your being? Are you basking in idleness while around you a rabid oppressor feeds greedily on the life-blood of you and your Comrades, like a starving animal!!? Quoting Comrade George Jackson's definition:

Prisoners must be reached and made to understand that they are victims of social injustices. This is my task working from within (While I'm here, my persuasion is that the war goes on no matter where one may find himself on bourgeois-dominated soil.) The sheer numbers of the prisoner class and the terms of their existence make them a mighty reservoir of 'revolutionary potential.' Working alone and from within a steel-enclosed society, there is very little that people like myself can do to awaken the restrained revolutionary potential outside of the walls. That is part of the task of the 'prison movement.'

Comrad, your "Idle Revolutionary" status of incarceration is a dubious 'comfort zone' that is daily threatened and assaulted with impunity... and i am calling on you, my esteemed Comrad-in-Arms to clearly overstand that WE are the beneficiaries of Comrade George's legacy, and as such we will have to be hurled into the next existence before we relinquish his worl. Quoting Comrade George:



A good deal of this has to do with our ability to communicate to the people on the street. The nature of the function of the prison within the police state has to be continuously explained, elucidated to the people on the street, because we can't fight alone in here. Oh yeah, we can fight, but if we're isolated, if the state is successful in accomplishing that, the results are usually not constructive in terms of proving our point, although it may be admirable from some sort of purely moral point of view. The point is, however, in the face of what we confront, to fight and win. That's the real objective: not just to make statements, no matter how noble, but to destroy that system that oppresses us.

We must be prepared to wage a long struggle, if this is the case. Then we'll probably see a different cycle, one in which the revolutionary energy of the people seems to have dispersed, run out of steam. But - and this is important - such cycles are deceptive. Things appear to be at a low ebb, but actually what's happening is a period in which we step back and learn from the mistakes made during the preceding cycle.

Comrad Lorenzo Komboa Ervin advocates:

...a campaign to mobilize our forces into a joint amnesty group, in order to maximize our resources and our human capital. It would also expose the crimes of the state on a broad scale, for instance COINTELPRO and how it was used to smash the BPP. So here are the things I propose:

1. Holding a mass meeting (some data omitted);
2. Beginning an immediate campaign to file an International Writ of Habeas Corpus to the United Nations International Court of Justice, U.N. Human Rights Commission, and other international bodies, to demand the release of the BPP/BLA prisoners and POWs;
3. Conducting an international information campaign to expose the u.s. government's COINTELPRO, OPERATION CHAOS, and other such political repression of the BPP/BLA. But this information campaign should especially demand the release of all BPP/BLA prisoners now that the history of the BPP is being revisited by playwrights, authors, film makers and scholars, presaging intense public interest and a new reawakening of BPP politics by youth groups;
4. Building a (political) Prisoners' Defense Fund to raise money for legal defense, to support prisoners' families, and to send small amounts for prisoners' "creature comforts" while they are in prison;
5. Conduct an emergency amnesty campaign for Mumia Abu Jamal, while he is still alive on Pennsylvania's death row. This case is a perfect example of how our organizational weakness might deprive this brother of his life. We must come together



Journalist and former Black Panther Mumia Abu-Jamal who was wrongly convicted of killing a Philadelphia policeman in 1982 and now sits on death row fighting for his freedom and his life

around this common agenda of saving him from state murder –
or bear the badge of shame at our indecision and inaction.

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Comrade Ervin concludes by stating:

Rather than engaging in rhetoric to criticize this document or dismiss it out of hand, it is hoped that activists can constructively discuss it, and more importantly act on its prescriptions. I could not possibly, and have not sought to, cover everything in this proposal. I encourage others to take this proposal, add their ideas and make it better. It won't hurt my feelings, and it is not engraved in stone.

I and the **Black Partisan Anarchist Federation**, a new political formation, cannot on our own make this project a reality; it requires that the majority of groups organized around cases of political prisoners and pow's put aside egotism, opportunism, and sectarianism, and work toward the goal of freeing political prisoners. That is all I have to say at this time.

Esteemed Comrade, i join you who have suffered and experienced the evils of neo-colonialism and pledge to support the pursuit of liberation and equality – wherever i may find myself. i offer my sincere pledge and oath to vehemently respond to this insidious new threat to our youth... our future. We must support the **Black Partisan Anarchist Federation**. Although we may be regulated to a limited role of teaching, in confrontation with the oppressor, overstand – resistance to neo-colonialist, imperialist oppression, and political repression occurs on many levels. There is a need for your experience and expertise. Many of our young warriors have no experience, no training, and minimal politicalization. We must arm them with politically correct objectives, buttressed and supported by a 'crystal clear' overstanding of the evil origin behind the mentality and mind-set of the oppressor. Arm them from the arsenal and repository of a self-governing, creative, industrious and autonomous First World People. Arm them from the deep well of culture and heritage that is the very essence of their being and the repository of the seeds of future generations. In these turbulent and tumultuous times WE can never become complacent and or tolerant of the rabid attack on our humanity.

We must reach down into that deep well and repository of our heritage and culture, rekindling the fire and furor of resistance.

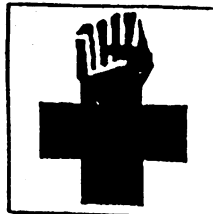
We can neither ignore nor reject our obligations to continue The Struggle as beneficiaries of the Legacy. We are challenged to pick up the baton and carry it onward and upward; to revive the revolutionary fire through resistance; encouraged by the drive that compelled Gabriel Prosser, Marcus Garvey, Denmark Vessey, Toussaint L'Overture, Henri Christophe, Che Gueverra, Patrice Lumumba, Jose Marti, the Capoeirista Movement, Malcolm-X, Geronimo Ji Jaga Pratt, Leonard Peltier, Assata Shukur, and Mumia Abu Jamal.

The **LIBERATION MOVEMENT** is alive and well... It is thriving in prisons and in the inner-cities where the resonant drumbeat of Libertad... Equalite... Fraternite... joins with the voices of fallen heroes and grateful warriors – grateful and pleased that, like Cheyenne Dog Soldiers who staked themselves to the earth, like the 10th Cavalry" Buffalo Soldiers who fought them and were highly-respected by the Plains greatest warriors – died resisting oppression in the defense of the people but live on in the hearts and souls of First World People all over the world. i would consider it an honor to assist in this great battle to end all forms of greed, racism, oppression and exploitation. What, then, is an "Idle Revolutionary!!?" i remain, In Struggle, Arms...

A. Askari

Ase!

REVOLT!



It is Time to Act
(The Need for Revolutionary Action)
by Ali Khalid Abdullah

2 /

All around us we are seeing the seeds of decay within the world's various governments. We can also see how Amerikkka is the sole super power and has been flexing its might to threaten, force and coerce other nations to act as Amerikkka wants them to act. And we have also seen the people of the world voice their discontent and reactions to these draconian and brutal dictates. However, we have not seen anything serious being done from the larger revolutionary communities on a collective scale.

There are many, many revolutionary movements and organizations out there, but few are dedicated to the point of being willing to take revolutionary action in effective ways. Mostly what i hear and see is a lot of talk and more talk and debates and more debates on how to handle and dismantle world kapitalism, imperialism and this neo-colonialism that is taking place.

As the kapitalists watch as the global stock markets continue to be unpredictable and wavy, we are faced with the knowledge that these times are not stable times for the kapitalists and that we should be doing all we can to overtake and overcome our world economic and political problems. We should (as a united global revolutionary force) attack the situation once and for all and force world changes to follow. Force the governments of the world to stop exploiting us. To stop destroying our environment with their chemicals. But... is there any real effort or real honest desire among the many revolutionary groups that exist to make these changes actually occur?

The only power any of these governments have is the power that WE THE PEOPLE give to them. That's it! It is the people who run the machinery of the world and it is the people who can make the machines stop. There is no excuse for people to be dying of hunger in India. There is no excuse for people in Russia to be suffering shortages of food. There is no reason for children to be dying on the streets of Brazil. There is no reason why babies are born malnourished in Africa. These things are happening because WE THE PEOPLE have allowed the political leaders - leaders we have placed into positions of power - to take over our very lives. We have allowed the corrupt power of mega-corporations to buy these very same leaders and to have control of our airwaves, our educational institutions, our sports, our health care system, the military, even the very food we eat. These power forces have taken over our very thought, for we no longer have the ability to think critically, to choose our own thoughts. They are placed in our minds by the people who rule us.

There is a vast misconception out there that changes can be made and will be made by merely debating with the power magnates, having rallies, marches, or writing letters to the editor. But power does not yield to power unless it is taken by means which those who control power can understand. That's just how it is. If revolutionaries, those who call themselves revolutionaries, are not ready, willing and able to stand up for the changes they want, then there will never be any changes and, in fact, they are not "revolutionaires," for the name itself represents "radical change."

The power wielders of the world have conditioned us to the point that we are calling ourselves "revolutionaires" as we stand in their handout lines asking for the crumbs they throw off their tables. We mindlessly go and shop and buy items that were made by laboring children, by slave labor. Yet, we call ourselves concerned about the world and its suffering people both on our own doorsteps and in "third world countries." We dine on steaks and lobsters and wash down our Epicurean fare with expensive wines and whiskies, driving our overpriced cars to what... to political meetings? To so-called political revolutionary meetings. This is not revolutionary at all. This is bullshit!

i am not sitting here at my typewriter making these claims while not looking at myself as well, because i never remove myself from the collective. Therefore, i am also looking at myself. But unlike many, i am ready, willing and able to make the necessary stands for the cause. But one man or one womyn can't make a difference for the many. It will take all our efforts if we are to be successful. It will take groups of us committed to the point of being willing to strike the necessary blows in the heart of our oppressors, whoever they may be and wherever they may be. No force can defeat THE PEOPLE if WE THE PEOPLE take our stand.

Our time is running out before something catastrophic happens that will affect every living creature on earth unless we stand and act now. Each day we sit back and play at revolution is another day we come that much closer to this world being destroyed for all of us.

In the trenches...

Hello, Anthony from South Chicago ARA. I've got some important information on a coming action to take place at the Maximum Control Facility in Westville, Indiana. This is a notorious hellhole of abuse and rights violations, where Khalfani X. Khaldun and others are organizing this action. Below is a transcribing of their message. 22

**A CALL TO RESPOND
Prisoner's Protest at Supermax**

This is a call for a massive, emergency response from the outside to create some outside backing for the collective effort and challenges of prison violations by the prisonrats. Each of you will be provided a list of who are participating. This protest is consisting of:

1. Some are on a hunger strike
2. Some guys are not talking
3. Some guys are not going to the shower or recreation to express their solidarity.

Also, it should be noted that these protesters are North Amerikan (whites) and New Afrikan (black) prisoners.

Protest Representatives

Bro. Akono Olatunji #862113
Bro. Khalfani X. Khaldun (McQuay) #874304
Bro. Anthony Hogan #875553

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS

The demands of this collective protest should be sent in to the following IDOC officials. Calls should be sent and faxed (5) days straight..

Herbert Newkirk, Northern Regional Director
Ed Cohn, Commissioner
E 334 IGCS
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
Phone: (317) - 232 - 5715
Fax: (317) - 232 - 6798

Governor Ed O'Bannon
206 State House
200 W. Washington
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
Phone: (317) - 232 - 4567
Fax: (317) - 232 - 3443

MCF Superintendent Mark Levenhagen
P.O. Box 587
Westville, Indiana 46391
Phone: (219) - 785 - 2554
Fax: (219) - 785 - 6136

IDOC Policy Manager
Michael J. Pavesi
E 334 I. G. C. S.
302 Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
Phone: (317) - 232 - 5715



We, a collective of New Afrikan and North Amerikan white prisoners, have joined in a collective effort as a show of solidarity against the state to expose the many contradictions at this facility. We are under attack in many forms at the hands of the many "unprofessional actions" being perpetrated by the employees and management of M.C.F. Our legal mail is now being opened outside of our presence, which constitutes a violation. All sorts of arbitrary activity is causing a barrage of conduct reports to be lodged against us, for personal reasons. In our attempts to resolve these contradictions, we need all of you to help to expose the IDOC and the managerial staff at this facility. So, these are our demands.

OUR DEMANDS

1. We demand the immediate removal of the chairman of the C.A.B. board, Ms. Hays, who is currently using her job description to hand out arbitrary sanctions against prisoners.
2. We demand the immediate removal of ex-prisoner "George Williams" who spent close to 20 years at the Indiana State prison and is now an employee at this facility as a prison barber, yet serves in the capacity of an officer. Recently, he served a conduct report against a prisoner who was due to be released in a few months. Get rid of him or isolate him to what he was assigned to do - cut hair.
3. We demand that staff members should be trained to handle "legal mail" properly, so that unjustified interferences with our mail is not occurring outside of our presence. All legal mail handlers should be required to know government, state and federal laws pertaining to the sanctity of legal prisoner mail.
4. We demand that either outside trainers are paid from Indiana University to teach G.E.D. courses, or allow two prisoners from each (Pod) of the facility to prepare prisoner students to take the test. The current system is not conducive to prisoner education.
5. We are demanding the end of the placement policy that allows the state to re-segregate prisoners who have already done two years or more at M.C.F. under a clear conduct. The remaining segregation time should be suspended or an early release from lock-up should be made.
6. We demand that meaningful reviews and "investigations" be called by the IDOC Commissioner, Ed Cohn and Northern Regional Director Herbert Newkirk on ALL conduct reports dating back two years. All sanctions shown to be unsupported by a fair examination of the evidence, should be reversed.
7. We demand that the policy regarding attorney special phone calls should be changed. The present policy infringes on access to the courts and our attorneys. The policy is nonsensical, and harassing, as all calls are collect and monitored by staff. These policies are overly broad, arbitrary and violate the attorney-client privilege.
8. We demand that staff be trained in the application of this S.T.G. (Security Threat Group) Policy, as to the governing state and federal laws governing prisoner rights regarding all printed matter. We further demand that staff provide copies of this S.T.G. policy to any prisoner and outside supporters that it is used against.
9. We demand that access to the phone be granted to all prisoners during individual or group recreation and that the blocking system be deleted and all our calls be made, unrestricted.

Please demand answers to these demands and standby for all other releases generated from this protest. Repression breeds resistance!

UHURU SA SA

(Voice From Within)

24

Disposition of the Strike

by Khalfani X. Khaldun

Resistance is a normal response by prisoners anywhere and everywhere they find themselves combatting prison violations. Many of us here, have spent the last 13 to 20 years imprisoned here in Indiana and are part of the rich history of the resistance struggle in Indiana's prisons. Resistance is the alternative to state sanctioned terror by Indiana prisoncrats.

What is also a part of this rich history of rebellion here in Indiana prisons, is the level of consciousness, growth and development that accompanies such "insurrections" by prisoners against violations. So, I stand always in defense of exposing such "atrocious" conditions, permeating the prison communities. So as we strike to create awareness to the many violations and wrongs at M.C.F. please respect us by assisting our efforts. Our actions are justified and are guided by an organized, concrete objective. History is in a constant state of evolution and so is the struggle for change! UHURU SASA

WHO ARE STRIKING

1. There are approximately 10 - 12 prisoners, officially on the "Hunger Strike."
2. A large number of white and new Afrikan prisoners are not talking - period - nor going to recreation or showering.
3. All the participants are not engaging in any talks with these pigs (prisoncrats.)
4. We plan to go for seven (7) days or beyond, until they present some legitimate proposals to meet our list of demands.

"The hypocrisy of Amerikan fascism forces it to conceal it's attacks on political offenders by the legal fiction of conspiracy laws and highly sophisticated frame-ups. The masses must be taught to overstand the true function of prisons. Why do they exist in such numbers? What is the real underlying economic motive of crime and the 'official definition' of types of offenders and victims?"

- George Jackson

Words of Comrad George on collective necessity inside Prisons:

Settle your quarrels, come together, understand the reality of our situation. Understand that fascism is already here, that people are already dying who could be saved, that generations more will die or live poor, butchered lives, if you fail to act. Do what must be done, discover your humanity and your love in revolution. Pass the torch. Join us. I give up my life for the people.

- George Jackson R.I.P.

WE DARE TO STRUGGLE! WE DARE TO WIN

Bro. Khalfani X. Khaldun #874304
P.O. Box 557
Westville, Indiana 46391

Contact: control unit release 1999 @ K.X.K.

Commissioner Ed Cohn
IDOC
E334 I. G. C. S.
302 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) - 232 - 5715

Mark Lavenhagen, Superintendent
Maximum Control Facility
P.O. Box 557
Westville, Indiana 46391
(219) - 785 - 2554

on a 15 year sentence, when I should have only served 7 years 6 months. In short, I should have gone home in November, 1994. This release date has been altered repeatedly.

My present release date is 10-1-99. This is being compromised by a pending "recommendation" by the facility disciplinary board to the Superintendent, to reduce my time-earned status.

On 2-23-99, I was falsely reported for misconduct by George Williams. George and I served time together. Upon his release, he turned DOC pig. George reported me for "making sexual proposals, gestures or threats," after a disrespectful exchange. In short, he got caught up in his feelings and lied.

George was hired by the DOC to be the barber and to take photographs. The MCC uses George in every conceivable capacity, including Conduct Adjustment Board Member.

I appeared before the board on 2-25-99 and while George was not on the board, the fact that his fellow members deem him "credible" makes fairness impossible, as he wrote the report.

This is the first report I've received in over a year and the first major report in nearly two years.

Despite that, the board found me guilty and "recommended" a reduction in my credit class, compromising my release from prison.

The board is using me to show George that despite his status as an ex-felon, he is a part of their team now and to show others what will happen if the inherent contradiction is questioned.

I'm a politically conscious New Afrikan. I've spent the past 7 years 5 months in punitive segregation. The past 57 months in punitive segregation. The past 57 months in the state's control unit prisons. Every day has been a struggle to maintain my dignity.

For the past 11 years, I've challenged the state, in the state and federal arena as to the validity of the sentence and conviction that has resulted in my imprisonment. This challenge continues.

I've challenged prison administrators at every turn by filing valid complaints on behalf of myself as well as prisoners less capable, in my efforts to expose blatant abuses of "official discretion."

I've filed civil suits in the state and federal arena, challenging the conditions of my confinement and exposing the atrocities occurring in the state's control unit prisons, as well as habeas corpus petitions, in an effort to expose the state's practice of treating the mentally ill as disciplinary problems. I have refused to bow down and be less than who I am.

Consequently, the agents of the state (the pigs) have tried to break me. I've been subjected to all forms of harassment, assaults with chemical agents and arbitrarily punished innumerable times. Rationally, I've rebelled.

While I've not received a segregation sentence since 1994 and have over 14 months clear prior to the report by George, no meaningful review of my case was ever conducted to determine if my continued segregation was warranted in light of my 10-1-99 release date.

The method of falsely reporting me serves the DOC well, because I have no documented history of violence in the general population.

Since the report, I have been bombarded with three more reports written by the very board member I appeared before on 2-25-99.

I've been falsely/unlawfully incarcerated for over four years and the state is again geared up to sabotage my release from prison.

There are a multitude of issues that must be addressed at this facility. My situation, while urgent in its own right, is not the exception, but the rule. The time is ripe and the information exposing the violations is now available and there for any reasonable person to see. I am!

1/n Anthony D. Hogan #875553
Abayomi Chinyele Khalfani Baye
P.O. Box 557
Westville, IN 46391

A Call for Solidarity and Support for
The New Afrikan Institute for Criminology 101

26

by Khalfani X. Khaldun
Midwest Coordinator

Revolutionary Greetings:

My name is Bro. Khalfani X. Khaldun. I am a New Afrikan political prisoner, colonized in the penal colony of the Indiana prison toms. From the trenches, I reach out to you, calling for your solidarity and support in a righteous attempt to raise the national consciousness of the people - New Afrikans in particular.

Some time ago, I joined the team of Comrad Abdul O. Shakur, president of the institute and Comrad Sharifa Abeni Shakur, who is community, public affairs and finances coordinator, for the institute. This is in hopes of soliciting support here in the Midwest, as well as propagating the aims and goals of both the New Afrikan Institute for Criminology 101 and the George Jackson Foundation.

In this call, I am hoping to further my attempts to use all of the consistent outside support bases, to broaden our outside membership body, volunteers and coordinators. This is one of my first projects as Midwest Coordinator of the Institute. Another comrad, named Sadiki Mangwiro and I, are having a brief released, to be published for the Indiana Political Prisoners on death row. This will be done to bring outside sympathizers, supporters, and family members up to speed about the lives and constant reality these men are forced to deal with, daily. The name of the publication hasn't been selected yet, but once it has been, I will release it.

Currently, I am ironing out commitments with outside comrades for the participation in the organization of the Criminology 101 Political and Theoretical Journal. Anyone who could aid us in this, should contact me and return the application for membership and the volunteers document to the address at the bottom of the application page. Midwest groups who receive these documents will also receive a copy of the new Afrikan community parole review board sheet and a petition.

As comrad Abdul O. Shakur states, the implementation of these programs seeks to provide our communities with a new and effective weapon, not only in terms of the "crime" issue, but also as an unlimited source of devoted and human potential. Up the struggle!

On December 13, 1994, after being transferred from the Indiana State Prison, I was investigated, (and later charged on January 31, 1995) with the murder of a prison guard. Since then, I have declared my innocence and have been fighting to vindicate myself from this politically motivated frame-up. It has been four years and two months now and they have yet to bring this supposedly serious case, to trial. The new trial date is tentatively scheduled for July 27, 1999.

I have spent almost 8 1/2 YEARS of my 13 years of incarceration, in isolation. The reason for this is my political consciousness, which I have endeavored to use as a tool to propagate inmate awareness and personal growth throughout the Indiana prisons. I have assisted other comrades in the formulation of educational classes, justified strikes, silent protests and such, behind these walls. A class was recently organized here in Westville, after myself and another comrad were transferred here on December 23, 1999. The struggle continues. Anyone wishing to learn more about my battles and struggles can purchase my following publications. These are as follows:

Writings by Khalfani

- (1) A Story That Must Be Told
- (2) Survival Tip and Ideas for Ex-Prisoners
- (3) Three Essays of Khalfani X. Khaldun
- (4) Relections, 1987 to 1996
- (5) I Cry Freedom

These publications can be purchased from Claustrophobia, P.O. Box 1721, Baltimore, MD 21203.

The president of the institute has released his new work, entitled Ghetto Criminology: A Brief Analysis of Amerikkka Criminalizing a Nation, by Abdul O. Shakur. This can be purchased for \$7.00 through the Black Panther Press Catalog, which can be attained for \$2.50. Their address is BPPP / P.O. Box 135 / Daly City, CA 94016 - 1305

Another insightful prisoner publication, In the Trenches... by Ali Khalid Abdullah, can be procured for \$1.00 through the South Chicago ARA-ABC Distro / P.O. Box 721 / Homewood, IL 60430

Bro. Khalfani X. Khaldun, Midwest Coordinator, # 874304
P.O. Box 557, Westville, IN 46391

And finally, we want to make a special appeal to all of you to support a very strong sincere New Afrikan comrad who is anguishing in Westville Corrections Facility in Indiana for an alleged crime he DID NOT commit. He was accused of killing a prison guard in Indiana in protest of the state of Indiana's murdering (by lethal injection) comrad Ziyon. We are asking that you please show your support for comrad Khalfani X. Khaldun by contacting:

Claustrophobia Collection
c/o Khalfani X. Khaldun
P. O. Box 1721
Baltimore, MD 21203

THE NEW AFRIKAN INSTITUTE ²⁸ FOR CRIMINOLOGY 101

Application for membership and volunteers

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Gender M__ F__

____ Membership

____ Volunteer

Racial Identity _____

Please Choose One of the Below

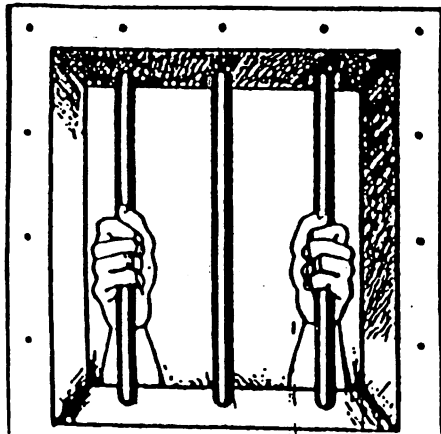
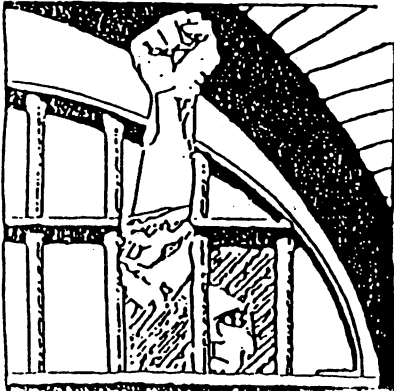
- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ The New Afrikan Prisoner Think Tank | ☐ Printing/Typing |
| ☐ Criminology 101 Political & Legal Journal | ☐ Proofreading |
| ☐ New Afrikan Prisoner Outreach Center | ☐ Photocopying |
| ☐ Criminology 101 Correspondence Course | ☐ Distribution |
| ☐ Abdul Shakur Progressive Publishing | ☐ Fundraising |
| ☐ The New Afrikan Community Parole Review Board | |
| ☐ George Jackson Grassroots Foundation | |

New Afrikan Institute For Criminology 101

PO Box 135

Daly City, CA 94016-1305

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PETITION FOR NEW AFRIKAN COMMUNITY PAROLE REVIEW BOARDS

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WE the people believe that the present prison system parole review boards have proven beyond doubt that they are unqualified to determine or define who is suitable for release into society, expressly as regards the Black community.

We offer as an example the case of Geronimo ji Jaga, denied parole sixteen times by the California Parole Board, stating that he was a "threat to the community." This is not an aberration, but consistent with the ongoing oppression that Black people have endured since our forced arrival on these shores and the persecution that we have suffered for resisting racial oppression.

The present parole boards have no problem releasing white child molesters after they have served from five to ten years, even though statistics show a high probability of recidivism. Then the kkkovernment will use their repeat crimes to implement new laws which primarily affect the New Afrikan (Black) people. The murder of the little girl Polly Klaas helped the California politicians to enact the three-strike law.

We are convinced that the present parole review boards are inimical to our best interests. We demand New Afrikan Community Parole Review Boards be implemented on our behalf, boards selected and controlled by the Black communities.

WE also demand that the following Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War be granted immediate parole, especially since there exists overwhelming evidence that these brothas and sistas are being held illegally by the kkkovernment as a result of their participation in the Black Liberation Movement.

Sundiata Acoli	Mark Cook	Ed Poindexter	Ruell Cinqe Magee	Sekou Kambui
Romaine Chip Fitzgerald	Jalil Mantaquin	Hugo Pinell	Dr. Mutulu Shakur	Russell Shoats
Imani Harris	Herman Bell	Raphael Kwesi Johnson		Mondo We Langa
Albert Nuh Washington	Haniif Shahazz-Bey	Atiba Shanna	Richard Mafundi Lake	
Malik Shakur Latine	Mahaman Koti	Eddie Conway	Kojo Bomani Sabu	Linda Evans
Gary Tyler	Abdul Majod	Abdul Aziz	Zolo Agona Azania	Judith Clark
Bashoor Hamid	Ojore Lutalo	Rikke Green	Richard Thompson-El	
Malik El-Amin	Robert Seth Hayes	Teddy Jah Heath	Silvia Baraldini	Michael Davis Africa
Jihad Abdul Mumit	Mumia Abu-Jamal	Marilyn Buck	Charles Sims Africa	
Delbert Orr Africa	Debbie Sims Africa	Janine Phillips Africa	Edward Goodman Africa	
William Phillips Africa	Janet Holloway Africa	Susan Rosenberg	Laura Whitehorn	Kathy Boudia

—return petitions to —

New Afrikan Institute For Criminology 101 c/o Sharifa Abeale, PO Box 135, Daly City, CA 94016-1305
Phone # (415-469-0824)

1 _____	7 _____
2 _____	8 _____
3 _____	9 _____
4 _____	10 _____
5 _____	11 _____
6 _____	12 _____



NEW AFRIKAN COMMUNITY PAROLE REVIEW BOARD

30

This initiative was originally introduced by the New Afrikan political prisoner Prince Imari Obadele. We intend to incorporate this proposal within the agenda for the New Afrikan Institute for Criminology 101. The present make-up of parole boards, both federal and state, is almost unanimously white. The significance of this is obvious, since such boards are responsible for defining what is a threat to society.

It was a *white* Board of Prison terms that denied parole for Geronimo ji jaga *sixteen* times ; and this was an innocent man. This is not an indictment of an entire race ; but rather I am specifically targeting the overwhelmingly white majority that work within the judicial and correctional systems. This is a reality that cannot be ignored.

Brotha Sundiata Acoli is another example. A victim of Kkkovernment and FBI sponsored ambush (assassination attempt) who was recently given a *twenty year* parole denial. Brotha Sundiata is sixty years old. He has been illegally imprisoned for the past twenty-four years. In those twenty-four years, he has not received *one* disciplinary report. His time has been devoted to helping others and toward his own scholastic achievement. They claim he is a threat?

These prison boards are a worse threat to our communities than any of the New Afrikan Political Prisoners or POW's that are presently being illegally held. These boards adamantly refuse to consider the facts relevant to these prisoners' incarceration. They did not consider that Brotha Sundiata was a primary target for the FBI false-imprisonment campaign. He was one of the "Black Panther 21" acquitted of bogus charges filed by the FBI ; this was considered irrelevant to his case.

My people, these are not isolated situations. There are hundreds of brothas and sistas who are being denied parole *solely for their political beliefs!* The parole boards are a tool for political and racist repression, but our people have yet to mobilize against this assault. There are many New Afrikan political prisoners who, if released, can and will have a major impact, a positive impact on our people and communities. The release of Geronimo ji jaga is a perfect example ; but there are more : Mumia Abu-Jamal, Sundiata Acoli, Zolo Agona Azania, Jilil Muntaquin, Dr. Mutulu Shakur, Atiba Shanna, Sekou Odinga, Ruchell Cinque Magee, Hugo Pinell, Fati Yero, Paul Jones, Abdul Majid, Ojore Lutalo, Mondo we Langa. This is only a brief listing. The release of any and all of these prisoners would have a positive impact on our community, and the American Kkkovernment is fully aware of this, and they will continue to use these parole boards as a weapon to deny our people the advantage which would be inevitable upon their release.

Briefly, the Kkkovernment has proven to be unqualified to determine who is suitable for release insofar as New Afrikan prisoners. They have only used these boards as a means of political and racial repression. Our goal is to organize a grassroots movement enabling legislation to empower our communities with the capacity to determine who is suitable for release by means of a New Afrikan Community Parole Review Board. My beloved brothas and sistas, the success of this proposal will depend on a concerted effort from both the internal and external New Afrikan population. As I have often written, the crime issue cannot be resolved without participation from both.

The implementation of this proposal would provide our communities with a new and effective weapon, not only in terms of the crime issue, but also as an unlimited source of devoted and committed human potential. I realize that at first glance this may seem an unattainable goal. And

Indiana Projects 28% Population Increase

NEW CASTLE, Ind. — Despite the construction of two new prisons, Indiana's prisons will remain overcrowded to the point of overflowing.

In the next 10 years, the state's prison population is expected to increase by more than 5,000 inmates, or 28 percent (see graph).

As of July 1, 1998, the state Department of Corrections housed 17,371 male offenders. By 2007, that number is projected to increase by 4,882 inmates to a total of 22,253. Over the same period, the number of female inmates is expected to increase by 278 to 1,369.

Although the state is building a 1,900-bed correctional facility in New Castle as well as a new prison in Miami County, DOC Spokesperson Pam Pattison said it won't be enough, and that the department will continue to rent beds

I have no doubt that this kkkovernment will resist it to the bitter end, as they resisted an end to genocidal slavery, as they resisted the dismantling of Jim Crow. But with a massive grassroots movement, we can make this a nationwide issue. 71

People, this is an angle we have neglected, and our negligence has facilitated the perpetuation of injustice, in that the Kkkovernment has used these parole boards to repress political views which have been critical of its treatment of oppressed and poor people both in this kountry and the world around.

A kkkovernment clemency for all Political Prisoners and POW's is not going to happen anytime soon. I'm only being real, and every Political Prisoner knows that what I'm saying is real. I do not suggest that people cease their demand for their release. I am merely suggesting that some of the resources and attention being brought to bear on the kkkovernment in an attempt to force it to acknowledge and release Political prisoners and POW's can be diverted toward goals that I believe will be more effective. I believe that comrades like Sundiata Acoli have a better chance of being paroled rather than waiting on this kkkovernment to publicly acknowledge that they have falsely and illegally imprisoned him for the last twenty-four years. They even refuse to publicly admit that Geronimo ji jaga was illegally held in the California prison system for twenty-seven years. I believe that with a grassroots movement, all of the Political Prisoners and POW's can get a parole date.

What we are doing now is attempting to find outside coordinators to assist us in organizing the New Afrikan Community Parole Board. We are also seeking signatures for the attached petition. We urge you to support these endeavors. I now bid you a continued armed struggle for Life. Look for me in the whirlwind!

Abdul Olugbala Shakur
—George Jackson Grassroots Foundation—

Abdul O Shakur, National Coordinator
s/n J. Harvey
D-10-216/#C-48884 (SHU)
PO Box 7500
Crescent City, CA 95532

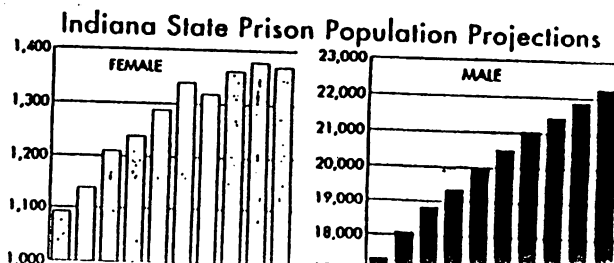
Khalfani X. Khaldun, Mid-west Coordinator
s/n Leonard McQuay
#874304
PO Box 30
Pendleton, IN 46064

also please write to:

Sundiata Acoli #39794-066 / USP Allenwood / PO Box 3000 / White Deer, PA 17887
Mumia Abu-Jamal #AM-8335 / SCI Green / 1040 E. Roy Furman Hwy / Waynesboro, PA 15370
Jalil A. Muntaquin #77A4283 / PO Box 338 / Napanoch, NY 12458
Ojore Lutalo #CN-59860 / MCU / Trenton, NJ 08625
Hugo Pinell #88401 D-8-214 / PO Box 7500 / Crescent City, GA 95532
Ruchell Cinque Magee #A92051 / A3-205 / PO Box 7500 / Crescent City, CA 95532

Most of Indiana's 92 counties house state inmates. Currently, the state is 3,800 inmates over capacity, 1,800 of which are housed in county jails or in other state prisons. For example, Hardeman County Correctional Facility in Tennessee houses 100 Indiana prisoners, and the DOC has increased its contract with the Marion County Jail to accommodate 400 inmates.

Not only is the number of inmates on the rise, but their age as well. This translates into an increasing need for special housing, which is why an upper level of the New Castle facility





**JUST THINK. IN ABOUT
TEN YEARS HE'LL BE
OLD ENOUGH TO EXECUTE.**



Amnesty International USA

ENOUGH KILLING. ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY.

The United States continues to violate UN standards by executing juvenile offenders.

While it is true that horrible crimes can be committed by children, other countries have found alternatives to the death penalty. Is it because they're smarter than we are? Or more civilized?

212-807-8400 ext. 508 www.amnesty-usa.org/abolish

SHUT DOWN THE U.S. CONCENTRATION CAMPS!

In speaking with various prisoners about their political views, beliefs and theories, i have found that there are a lot of very ignorant prisoners when it comes to the issue of State executions, aka "death penalty" murders.

To my shock i've discovered (in the Michigan death kkkamps) there are so called "revolutionaries" and "Black Nationalist" prisoners who are in support of State executions when it comes to the State executing white supremacists, skinheads or nazis. They've also expressed their acceptance of State executions for child molesters, rapists and for crimes against the elderly. However, what they have failed to realize is that State executions are unjust because the State is unjust. These prisoners have overlooked the fact that, on the percentage, more non-whites have been executed by the State than whites, and that today more non-whites are sitting on death row than whites. They also do not realize that innocent people have been murdered by the State. That police officers, detectives, prosecutors and judges have allowed fundamental rights of the accused to be trampled over, evidence to be covered up, and have allowed inadequate State-appointed attorneys to railroad people in prisons (death kkkamps) by giving them substandard legal representation. And that, due to the Effective Death Penalty Act and similar legislation (such as the Anti-Terrorist Act) passed by State and federal government officials, these inadequacies will affect death row prisoner rights even up to the appeal process.

These people who support State executions do not think of how many prisoners on death row have been denied judicial due process and have suffered/are suffering such violations as suppression of the U.S. Constitution's first amendment rights; take for example Mumia Abu-Jamal, a Black man on death row in Philadelphia, who is accused of killing a white police officer and is articulating the wrongs done to him and hundreds/thousands of others by prison kkkrats and the U.S. "injustice" system.

These so called revolutionaries and Black Nationalists, who support State sponsored executions for certain groups of people who've committed the acts i mentioned earlier in this piece, have not studied history and noted how in the U.S. those on death row are predominately poor people, the uneducated, mis-educated, the chronically unemployed or those employed at substandard slave wage jobs often earning less than \$7,000 a year. Or they are those who stand on the left side of the nation's ultra-conservative political, sociological and religious spectrum. These are the ones who wind up on death row and are executed by the State.

I hey have obviously not taken into account that this system is corrupt and inadequate to properly administer JUSTICE – because justice in Amerikkkan kkkourts has many false faces. The judicial system is controlled not by the people, nor does it represent the people, but is controlled by big business, by the giant corporations who lobby politicians and spend multi-millions of dollars to support their lying campaigns for political re-election, professing to be "tough on crime" but in reality seeking private aggrandizement. They have become the dictators of political interests, seeing to it that their own private and capitalist interests are always represented. The politicians, in turn, run up huge taxpayer bills to advertise smear campaigns against other corrupt politicians, all of them trying to gain political position and power to do the nasty bidding of their corporate-capitalist masters.

The media has successfully influenced not only the working class but also the prisoner class that languishes in prison death kkkamps as a result of the "lock 'em up" mentality that has this country in a frenzy for more cops, more State control over the lives of the people, more judges and more prison death kkkamps. There is nothing, absolutely nothing, coming from corporate-capitalist control but suffering, corruption, lies and cover-ups, excessive spending, war plans for Third World nations and more zeal for power and dominance.

With this understanding, how can we justly support the State's claim of administering justice, especially when it takes the lives of falsely accused citizens? We can't, when we see that law enforcers (police, detectives and prosecutors) and the kkkourts themselves are negligent of the laws that are supposed to govern this society.

i am appalled that any person could or would dare support State executions regardless of whom the State has seen fit to murder. And it is even more shocking when Black prisoners and non-prisoners can stand up in support of a system full of racism, sexism, homophobia and the imbalance of justice. If we are going to talk about the administering of justice, then we must change the system all together and not reform bits and pieces of the system. The system can not be so simply reformed. We must have the existing order destroyed and then rebuilt by The People and let there be a PEOPLE'S JUSTICE! No government or politician should make determinations of who lives or dies for the simple fact that government and political leaders do not have the interests of the people at heart. Not to mention the fact that the government and politicians are engaged in widespread global murders.

People, and especially those who have been and are victimized by the State, should get out of the thought/habit of believing any form of State murder is justifiable, even if it is carried out against a particular person for committing what might appear to be a justifiable act. The mind-set should be that WE THE PEOPLE must administer justice, supervising and consenting to our own laws and rules. Any person who claims to be for revolution or autonomy for a particular group and who then turns around and claims to support state executions is a hypocrite.

In November the elections for state offices were held here in Indiana. Traditionally, the people who are running as judges, prosecutors, mayors and governor campaign by means of sloganeering in an effort to influence the minds of the people.

Much of the time, they are on a "get tough on crime" kick, trying to play on the people's fear of crime, thereby gaining their support. One may reinforce his position by promising to send murderers to Death Row. Another may call for harsher sentencing guidelines. They all claim to be representing the people's best interest... until they are elected and it becomes plain that they serve only one master. That master is the system.

Indianapolis prosecutor Joe Newman ran to retain his position as prosecutor. His opponent was Joe Champion. They both uphold the death penalty, but Champion makes a point of seeking to apply it "fairly." There is of course no such thing as a "fair" death sentence.

These men both represent a lethal mixture of racism and authority, and they would both have people killed in order to further their careers. The deaths of our brothers affects them not at all, except as proof of their commitment to "fighting crime." These men are both older white men who, through the power of their position, can destroy people's lives with one stroke of the pen, one word out their mouths.

White people who feel that their power is slipping away seek to correct their former subjects. They use their authority to retaliate. The death penalty is one tool used by these racist settlers. Their power to plea bargain, their choice of when to seek the death penalty is often used in a capricious, inconsistent and discriminatory manner. If the victim of a homicide is white and the defendant is Afrikan, this not only leads to a greater likelihood of conviction, but also a greater likelihood that the death penalty will be sought.

Regardless of "guided discretion" statutes which purportedly narrow the discrepancies in who is likely to receive the death penalty, by means of applying rational standards, the death penalty continues to be applied unpredictably, haphazardly and unfairly.

In the book *Voices from Behind the Prison Walls*, the Anti-Terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Acts, signed into law on April 24, 1996, are dissected. These acts smuggled in limitations on the appeal process and the right of habeas corpus for death row prisoners. These 3,000-plus individuals are portrayed by legislators/politicians (in their eagerness to retain office) as human savages and terrorists. They are to now face a speeded-up production line "justice" in Amerikkka's extermination camps.

In other words, not only do these acts speed up the process toward execution, but they also limit the right to fight for your life. They are snatching your life before you have a chance to exhaust your appeals.

One study has shown that since 1900 there have been at least 416 individuals wrongly convicted of capital crimes. By some calculations, a third of these were sentenced to death and 22 were actually executed. Massachusetts has had eleven mistaken convictions, the most notable recent case being that of Bobby Leaster. Until 1991, no white North American had been executed for killing a black (New Afrikan) since 1944. At least 1000 executions were carried out during that period. Although most killers of North Americans are North Americans, New Afrikans who kill North Americans are proportionately much more likely to receive a death sentence and be executed. Racial bias persists as a powerful, however "illegal," factor influencing the imposition of the sentence of death, not withstanding efforts to institute procedures to eradicate its influence. The shift from unfettered discretion to guided discretion has served merely to mask the impermissible arbitrariness of a process that remains inherently unfair and racist.

Recently Indiana did away with the electric chair, and replaced it with lethal injection. Either way it is still murder. People claim that it is a less harsh alternative. This is a deception. Why they even go through the charade of swabbing the skin with alcohol before inserting the needle, as if to prevent the possibility of infection! It's window dressing.

They also claim that these sentences are handed out at the behest of society. Not necessarily so. Since the switchover, Indiana has executed three prisoners by lethal injection. Prosecutors and public defenders often work hand in hand for career advancement. Prosecutors who uphold the death penalty are unchallenged by the public defenders, which paves the way to a victory by the state. The racism of the American system is made obvious by the numbers of Afrikans being sent to prison for life and to death row.



**MUMIA ABU-
JAMAL AND
POLITICAL
PRISONERS**

Examples of this system's hostilities against people of Kolor (i.e. New Afrikan people) have marked their place in recent history. In the Susan Smith case, the response was clear. She killed her two children, but lied in the early part of the investigation claiming a black man carjacked her car. The system immediately sent out "search and destroy" squads looking for a black male perpetrator. Later it was discovered that she herself killed her two boys because of a jealous, insecure boyfriend. This case illustrated how racial stereotypes retain their potency. Human emotions, bias and fallibility make it impossible to consistently make the correct decision as to who should live and who should die. 35

Recently here in Indiana in the city of Indianapolis, a bailbondsmen named Mr. Hughes killed a New Afrikan man who he claimed violated a \$3500 bond. The man's house was raided by Hughes and although he had no weapon, his head was shot off by this white man. Hughes was confronted with no threat; therefore he outright murdered this man. But local prosecutor Scott Newman, who is pro-death penalty and was running for reelection, saw this murder as "reckless homicide" as opposed to intentional murder. What does this say about New Afrikan people in Indiana? We can be killed by recognized white people and no real repercussions will come. Had this been reversed, Scott Newman would have been calling it a "home invasion" and calling for the death penalty.

According to a release sponsored by Citizens For an Intelligent Vote in Indianapolis, no one wins an election in Indiana, specifically Indianapolis, by more than 20,000 votes. There are 120,000 New Afrikan people that are eligible to vote. Only 40,000 are registered.

The people we have to choose from are both reflective of the corruption, racism and superior mindsets that run contrary to our best interests. But these elected officials who are in position to make major decisions over lives in society must be held accountable from promises never met. Neither Scott Newman nor Joe Champion represent the vision of oppressed peoples. Be aware of these lethal elections; they are sending our brother to death row.

On August 16, the American Psychological Association passed a resolution urging state and federal legislators to repeal mandatory minimum sentencing. In an attempt to respond to the possession and sale of illegal drugs, the federal government and many states have imposed mandatory minimum sentences. This approach has backfired, as judicial discretion has been abandoned and the ideal of rehabilitation has receded. In a study based on data from Jan 1984 to June 1990, the average drug sentence increased 74% from 68 months to 118 months. The likelihood of being imprisoned is higher proportionately for New Afrikans (16%) and Latinos (9%) than for whites (2%). At the current level, a New Afrikan male has a 1 in 4 chance of being imprisoned.

A primary myth of mandatory minimums is that they are effective in fighting crime. But it has not slowed down nor stopped criminal activity. So these political officials are blowing a lot of smoke. It's time for us to start recognizing the enemy for who they are.

After the prosecutors have committed people to death row, it is the Governor of the state who holds the final reviewing authority. Thus they are the one who ultimately play God. Evan Bayh was responsible for the murder of several people and now Governor O'Bannon joins the ranks of professional murderers.

If the progression from lynchings to lethal injections is considered an advancement, something is really wrong with us. As far as the political races, nothing has changed. Retribution and vengeance is the name of the game. Kill to get even.

Now, revenge is an understandable motivation of victims' families, and it is the single most important psychic and social impulse that keeps the issue alive, but this does not justify killing by the state. Anger over violent crime, frustration with a seemingly ineffective criminal justice system, and the belief that greater toughness is necessary are factors that impel many in society to support the death penalty.

Society owes it to itself to educate themselves to the connection between these lethal elections and lethal injections. We need to push ourselves forward beyond the need for vengeance and the media-manipulated statistics and justifications for capital punishment.

--Power To The People Who Don't Fear Freedom--

Khalifani X. Khaldun r (L. McQuay) #874304
PO Box 557 MCF Westville, IN 46391
one aim*one God*one destiny



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FIGHT THE POWER THAT TRIES



EDUCATOR ON JUSTLY TRIUMPHED

COMMITTEE IN SOLIDARITY WITH JOSE SOLIS JORDAN



Upcoming Events:
April 4th: Conference
Symposium: 100 Years of
United States Colonialism in
Puerto Rico
8:30 a.m.
Corleone Commons
2320 N. Fremont
April 6th: Court Date
9:30 a.m.
Dr. J. Edgar Hoover Building
(Chambers of Blanche Manning)

36

Subject: New COINTELPRO frame-up gets conviction of Puerto Rican professor
Date: Fri, 12 Mar 1999 23:20:40 -0900

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From the article below: "three FBI agents testified that Solis confessed to them after he was arrested in Puerto Rico in November 1997. Eight FBI agents testified that they never heard Solis ask for an attorney.

"Solis testified that he never confessed and that he repeatedly asked for a lawyer. Defense lawyer Jad Stone pointed out that Solis never signed a confession, nor did he write his own confession."

<<Note from MM: The principal instigator of this frame-up was a turn-coat and probable provocateur planted in the Puerto Rican independence movement. Similar to the set-up killings at Cerro Maravilla in Puerto Rico, in which an FBI operative created a 'revolutionary cell' which he then drew into a fatal ambush by police and government agents, this plant tried to create a 'revolutionary cell' in Chicago to implicate and discredit independentistas, and when he failed in his effort, may well have carried out the action himself, eventually 'surfacing' to implicate others and write scurrilous propaganda against independentistas in Chicago and "testi-lying" before various state and federal probes and witch-hunts.>>

Subject: Professor Solis

Former DePaul professor guilty in bomb plot

By Teresa Puente

Tribune Staff Writer

A former DePaul University professor was found guilty this afternoon on charges that he planned and carried out a bombing outside a military recruiting center on Chicago's Northwest Side in 1992.

The former professor, Jose Solis Jordan, was found guilty on four counts -- conspiracy, attempted destruction of government property, destruction of government property and possession on illegal explosives. He could be sentenced to between five and six years.

The trial was in the Chicago courtroom of U.S. District Judge Blanche M. Manning, who also ruled that Solis will remain in custody until his July 1 sentencing date.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

Solis was accused of carrying out the bombing with a group called the Frente Revolucionario Boricua, which prosecutors called a terrorist cell that operated in Chicago in support of independence for Puerto Rico, a U.S. commonwealth. No one was hurt in the blast.

Solis and his attorneys denied that he had anything to do with the bombing and said the trial was an attempt by the FBI to discredit the Puerto Rican independence movement. While he supports independence, Solis said that does not make him a "terrorist."

Solis also said the government wanted Solis to implicate Jose Lopez, director of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, in the bombing.

"It's what I said all along, an attempt to try to get other people and to use me," Solis said while waiting for the verdict. "The (FBI) told me you are all alone when they arrested me. They said you help us and we will make all of this disappear."

But during the two-week trial, three FBI agents testified that Solis confessed to them after he was arrested in Puerto Rico in November 1997. Eight FBI agents testified that they never heard Solis ask for an attorney.

Solis testified that he never confessed and that he repeatedly asked for a lawyer. Defense lawyer Jed Stone pointed out that Solis never signed a confession, nor did he write his own confession.

The case has been closely watched in the Puerto Rican community where the political status and future of the island has long been debated. Almost every day of the trial the courtroom has been packed with Solis' supporters.

"I will continue to struggle whether it be from behind a desk at the University of Puerto Rico or at home with my family, or whether it be from behind prison bars," Solis said before the jury came back with a verdict.

"I am a free man. They can't take that away from me."

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People Against Racist Terror (PART) PO Box 1055 Culver City CA 90232
Tel.: 310-288-5003 E-mail: <part2001@usa.net>

URL: <<http://people.wa.mediaone.net/part2001/index.html>>

Order our quarterly:

"Turning the Tide: Journal of Anti-Racist Activism, Research & Education"

End the racist death penalty! Free Mumia Abu-Jamal, Alexandria Torres

Sekou Odinga

In 1985 Sekou Odinga became involved in the African American Unity movement, founded by Malcolm X. By 1967 Sekou became interested in the Black Panther Party in Oakland, CA and within a year helped build a Bronx, NY chapter. By 1969 Odinga's residence was completely surrounded with cops on the roof, fire escape, in the halls, on the streets, and he was a suspect in an alleged police shooting.

Evading this attack, Odinga went into hiding. In 1970 in Algeria he helped set up an international section of the BPP. After a split in the Party caused by the COINTELPRO

program, Odinga returned to the US to continue the struggle. He was captured in 1981, charged with six counts of attempted murder of police, for shooting over his shoulder while being chased and shot at by police. He was also charged with nine predicate acts of a RICO indictment. He was convicted of the attempted murder (25 years to life) and two counts of the RICO indictment (40 years), consecutive served sentences.

Recently, Odinga was moved from USP Lompoc to USP Marion, IL for "greater supervision." A grand jury is investigating an incident which occurred at USP Lompoc last year where Odinga's former cellmate was accused of killing a corrections officer and the prison administration decided that Odinga and some other inmates were responsible for this incident, even though they were in isolation at the time. He is being held under "No Human Contact" in a damp, dirty and totally isolated cell with no running water. He cannot have any visits and can only have legal calls.

Sekou Odinga is a prisoner of war who takes the political position of non-collaboration with the grand jury. He will not testify.



New African Freedom Fighter Sekou Odinga

Protest Sekou's conditions! Contact:
US Attorney General Janet Reno,
202-514-2000, fax 202-514-4371
re: Odinga (#05228-054)

The Black Panther



[HTTP://Stickweb.Com/Black-P.HTML](http://Stickweb.Com/Black-P.HTML)

Black Community News Service

Active Transformation

PO Box 11508

Detroit, MI 48211

SEKOU CINQUE KAMBUI NEW AFRIKAN FREEDOM FIGHTER:

39

Hoover, Alabama — A DEDICATED brother in the fight for political change in the land of aid and support. We are therefore OBLIGATED to help, aid and support this comrade in his needs, and we are asking that you join in this fight, for time is of the essence. Here are the particulars regarding this case.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Sekou is of African/Caribbean heritage, born on September 6, 1948, in Gadsden, Alabama. He was raised by his mother, grandparents, and aunt in Detroit, Harlem, New York, Chicago, Illinois, and Birmingham, Alabama respectively. He is presently 48 years old. Throughout the 1960s Sekou participated in the Civil Rights movement, organizing youth for participation in demonstrations and marches across Alabama and providing security for meetings for SCLC, CORE and

SNOC: Sekou is a

paralegal professional and active jailhouse lawyer and prisoner rights activist for more than 20 years.

POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS:

Sekou became affiliated with the Black Panthers in 1967 in Chicago.

While in Detroit, he became a citizen of the Republic of New Afrika, before returning to Birmingham. In Birmingham Sekou coordinated community organization activity with the Alabama Black Liberation Front, the inmates for Action (ABLA Defense Committee) and the Afro-American Peoples Party in the mid-1970s.

CHARGES AND TRIAL:

Sekou was falsely arrested on

January 2, 1975, and charged with the murder of two white men; a KKK official out of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and a multi-millionaire oil man out of Birmingham. Sekou's first trial took place on May 22, 1975 in the Tuscaloosa County Circuit Court - case #75048818; the second trial took place on August 13, 1975, in Jefferson County Circuit Court.

POLITICAL PRISONERS OF WAR COALITION (PPWC) are calling upon you to support this fallen comrade and help us gain his freedom.

DO NOT LEAVE HIM IN THIS FIGHT ALONE

Birmingham, Alabama - case #75032347. Sekou was convicted on both trials and sentenced to life in both cases with sentences to run consecutively.

Sekou has been in prison now for the past 22 years. He has seen the Parole Board in 1986, 1988, 1992, 1995 and 1996 - denied each time and sent off once again. With the exception of the parole hearings of

1995 and 1996, there have been retaliatory transfers just months prior to the parole hearing. He is scheduled to see the parole board again in November 1997. It is crucial that this brother receives support and a strong show of solidarity behind him in order to gain freedom. Therefore, we are calling upon you to step in and help. POLITICAL PRISONERS OF WAR COALITION (PPWC) are calling upon you to support this fallen comrade and help us gain his freedom. DO NOT LEAVE HIM IN THIS FIGHT ALONE. Incidentally, this brother has written many articles dealing with the criminal justice system, socioeconomic/political areas and much more. To contact this brother and to make your support known, please send your concerns to:

Sekou Cinque Kambui
Defense Committee
Attn: Aysha D. Bey Kambui
837-G Tyler Circle
Hoover, AL 35226

Sekou Cinque Kambui #113058
s/n William J. Turk
P. O. Box 5107
Union Springs, AL 36089

ATTICA JUSTICE: TOO LITTLE? TOO LATE?

By Rev. Zayid Muhammad

On June 26, a federal jury recommended that Frank "Big Black" Smith, a survivor of the infamous Attica Rebellion of September 1971 and the horrendous massacre that violently put that rebellion down, be awarded a long-time litigated damage award of 4 million dollars.

The infamous September 13th massacre that put the rebellion down, under the direction of arch-capitalist Nelson Rockefeller, then the governor of New York, left 43 people dead, both inmates and civilians alike.

Scores of surviving inmates were brutally tortured in the immediate aftermath.

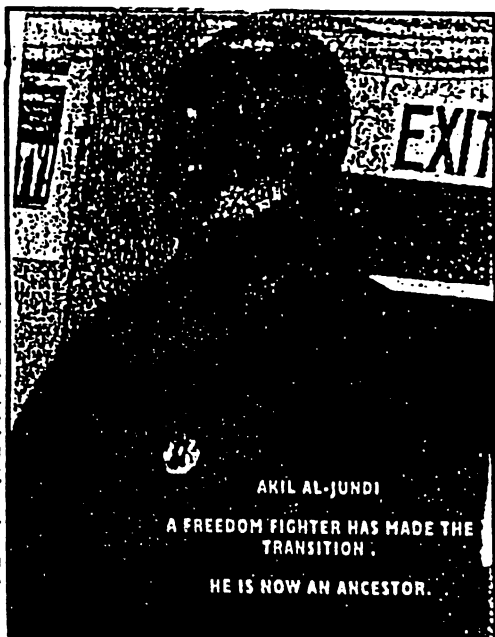
Smith himself was stripped naked, forced to lie down with a football under his chin for four hours, and then savagely beaten, especially on his genitals.

"We had to send a message that people everywhere needed to be treated like human beings, not like animals," Smith, 64, declared after the ruling was announced.

The discipline, clarity and the high level of the rebellion's organization set in motion its now legendary historical status. It led to major reforms throughout the U.S. prison system, especially educational and job-training programs, most of which are now callously being dismantled as the prison industrial complex grows like cancer with legions of young Black and Latino men and women.

The award, although facing appeal, could pave the way for similar cases of some 1280 survivors seeking legal redress.

"It's a vindication for 25 years of work, 25 years of struggle," said Liz Fleck, the defense people's attorney, who headed the case over its long process.



AKIL AL-JUNDI

A FREEDOM FIGHTER HAS MADE THE
TRANSITION.

HE IS NOW AN ANCESTOR.

THE CASE OF LEONARD PELTIER

Leonard Peltier could be you, me, anyone who stands up for his family, friends, community, and beliefs. Leonard is a Native American serving two consecutive life sentences in a federal penitentiary, even though there is NO CREDIBLE EVIDENCE that he is guilty of anything.



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FACTS ABOUT LEONARD PELTIER

Background Facts: For Native People in South Dakota, 1972 through 1976 is commonly referred to as the 'year of terror'. In 1972, Dick Wilson was elected Tribal Chairman with less than 20% of the vote, but the strong support of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the FBI. (At one time a Tribal Council petition to impeach him contained more signatures than people who had originally voted for him). Immediately, Wilson formed a private army called the COON Squad (Guardians of the Oglala Nation) which was trained and armed by the FBI to 'keep peace'. These armed men terrorized anyone opposing Wilson. According to 1974 statistics, 'the violent death rate, based on documented political deaths on the Pine Ridge Reservation was 170 per 10,000 in comparison to Detroit, then considered the murder capital of the US...for all causes of only 20.2 per 10,000. By 1975 western SD had the highest rate of FBI agents to citizens in the US. During this time over 100 American Indian Movement (AIM) members and supporters were assaulted or murdered.

In June of 1975, at the request of traditional leaders and elders, AIM went to Pine Ridge to set up a spiritual camp on the Jumping Bull Ranch to help protect people from the murders and bombings. On June 5th, unknown to AIM or the people of Pine Ridge, Dick Wilson signed away 1/8th of the reservation (northwest section) for the purpose of uranium strip mining. If AIM had found out about this secret deal, they'd have made every attempt to prevent it. The events of June 26th drew away any possible public attention or exposure of the transaction and it was not discovered until several years later!

In June 26, 1975, over 30 men, women, and children were living at the Jumping Bull camp. On that day, according to FBI testimony, agents Coler and Williams followed a red pickup truck allegedly driven by James Eagle, a boy who had stolen a used pair of cowboy boots. They drove onto the Jumping Bull ranch. However, the agents had no warrant and no jurisdiction under the Seven Major Crimes Act.

Peltier was in his tent when shooting began. The screams of women and children caused him to get his weapon and join the others as they attempted to keep the women and children safe and the armed strangers away. Peltier had no violent past and had never been convicted of a felony. He had no reason to believe the agents were after him. He, along with everyone else present, simply defended himself, his family and friends.

Over 150 FBI agents, DIA police, US Marshals, and local police surrounded the area within minutes, firing literally hundreds of shots into the houses and surrounding area.

Joseph Stuntz, a young Native man, was killed that day. There was no investigation into his death. Agents Coler and Williams also lost their lives. The remaining members of the AIM camp escaped, with the help of many local traditional people.

Three men went to trial for the deaths of the agents. Joe Stuntz's death was never investigated. Two men, obidene and Butler, were tried together. During their trial, Clarence Kelly, former director of the FBI, told the jury that AIM 'was not considered terrorist' and had 'fine goals', a statement which was in total contradiction to the propaganda the FBI was distributing at that time. The jury, dismayed over the terror the FBI had maintained over the Pine Ridge reservation, and concerned that evidence was flimsy at best and false at worst, acquitted both men. The jury foreman later stated that even if they had believed these two were responsible for the agents' deaths, they'd have been acquitted anyway on grounds of self-defense.

To secure Peltier, the FBI coerced a mentally unstable woman, Myrtle Poor Bear, into signing three fabricated affidavits. These were used to illegally extradite Peltier to the US. During Peltier's trial, which was mysteriously transferred back to the Dakotas and saw the previous judge assigned removed without his

consent, witnesses were coerced, a murder weapon falsified, and evidence the FBI had collected that proved his innocence was withheld. He was convicted on two counts of first degree murder and sentenced to two consecutive life sentences.

Today, following a Freedom of Information Act law suit that released thousands of documents, it can be proven that there is no evidence, physical or verbal, to substantiate the government's argument against Peltier. In fact, in two separate court proceedings, the prosecution has been forced to admit that they 'don't know who killed the agents.' The Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals found that the withholding of certain documents 'cast a strong doubt on the government's case' and that the FBI was guilty of 'a clear abuse of the investigative process.' Yet Peltier's appeals have been denied on technicalities. One Senior Judge, Gerald Heaney, a man who sat on two of Peltier's appeals, has written to the President asking for a commutation of Peltier's sentence. He listed five reasons:

- First, the government overreacted at Wounded Knee.
- Second, the government must share responsibility with the Native Americans for the June 26th firefight... (for its) role in escalating the firefight....
- Third, the record persuades (him) that more than one person was involved in the shooting of the FBI agents.
- Fourth, the FBI used improper tactics in...Peltier's extradition...and in investigating and trying the Peltier case.
- Fifth, (Peltier) has served more than eighteen years...a healing process must begin...Favorable action by the President in the Peltier case would be an important step in this regard.

-In December 1993 Leonard Peltier was told by the Parole Board that he must serve an additional 15 years before reconsideration for release on parole. They stated the 'nature of his offense' as the reason for their severity, yet the government concedes they have no idea what his role was on June 26th. *What offense are they referring to?*

-In November of 1993 Peltier filed a petition for a commutation of his sentence with the Pardon Attorney's office in Washington, DC. A decision is still pending.

-In June and July, 1994, two separate events were held in the DC area attracting over 4,500 Peltier supporters, some from as far away as Europe and Japan. During these events new Congressional support was developed.

-Leonard continues his humanitarian work from behind prison bars, work which includes food and clothing drives, helping to establish scholarships for Native students, health care and economic reform, and counseling for addiction. He was the recipient of the Frederick Douglass and Sacco and Vanzetti awards and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. He is supported by Amnesty International, Nelson Mandela, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Desmond Tutu, 60 member of the US Congress, and now has a video on MTV for a song called 'Freedom' by Rage Against the Machine. Over 25,000,000 million signatures have been collected around the world asking for his release. Please join us now and demand **JUSTICE FOR PELTIER** by contacting President Bill Clinton, the White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, Wash. DC, 20500, telephone: (202)456-1111 fax (202)456-2461 e-mail (president@whitehouse.gov.)

-For additional information read Peter Matthiessen's *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse* or rent Robert Redford's *Incident at Owlton* or contact the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee
PO Box 583
Lawrence, KS 66044
913-842-5774 fax 913-842-5796

Conclusion

It is obvious to anyone with a conscience that the government was planning to attack the AIM encampment, perhaps in the hopes of diverting attention from an illegal land transfer, or perhaps as a way to stop Senator Frank Church's Committee from investigating the FBI's Cointelpro program in regard to Native struggles. That investigation was initiated just prior to the shoot-out. It was halted the day after "due to the deaths of the agents." With recent developments in Washington, DC proving the FBI grossly participated in illegally doctoring and manufacturing evidence to ensure criminal convictions, more attention **MUST** be paid to this renegade organization's past misconduct. Congressional hearings/investigations are critical!

JUSTICE FOR ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Revolutionary/Solidarity Struggle:

Please find enclosed a copy of my written speech presented to the fasting brothers of various First Nation tribes here at the Saginaw Correctional Facility to honor and show our support for comrade Leonard Peltier. It is my hopes that The Great Spirit will accept our fasting and our intentions, and that The Great Spirit bring all the tribes and nations together so that we can free all our warriors from the bondage of either a prison cell, jail cell, the ravished reservations, from the injustices we have endured, from the destruction of our land, our cultures and way of life and our many families.

I'd like to ask that you print this enclosed speech in your paper and please make sure that Leonard has a copy of it, as well as distribute to any and all people you will, including this letter, if you so choose.

Also, I have enclosed the names of the brothers who've participated in this Solidarity Fast and ask that you recognize them for their support and forward them the paper in the Spirit of Crazy Horse.

If I can be of further assistance please let me know.

In the trenches...



Ali Khalid Abdullah

Enclosure:

Speech
List of names

[SPECIAL NOTE: This is a piece I had written for the Leonard Peltier Solidarity Fast that we held at the Saginaw Correctional Facility on February 6, 1999, in which I was unable to attend. -- Ali Khalid Abdullah --*]

February 6, 1999

May the Great Spirit rain upon us...
those of us from different tribes and nations...
blessings and protection from the evils of our enemy.

I am sorry I am not able to be with you today. . .A day of Spirited Solidarity and Brotherhood, but the Spirit and the Cause for this Day of Fasting continues, as we give and pay respects for not only our brother Leonard Peltier, but for all our fallen warriors today who are in jails and prisons in this day and time. Those who were murdered and fought gallantly yesterday, and for our never-ending battle to regain Our Land, Sovereignty and Respect today'

Let us honor our elders of the past and cherish our respective elders today for the wisdom, visions & guidance they have given to us.

I want you brothers to know that I am of Africa and Native American (First Nation) descent. My Great-grandfather and his fathers were full blooded Choctaw of the Muskogean tribe on my mothers side of the family. My Grandfather was half Choctaw and half African who begot my mother. Thus, I was raised in a household that never allowed me to forget my Choctaw heritage and the hardships they encountered from being of the First Nations and African descent and how the white man abused them badly. And even how some First Nation tribes refused to accept them because they were not full blood. It is because of my two histories that I love and honor, do I fight for both sides of my people and refuse to disavow either side but to uplift both with dignity and honor. 43

The relationship between the First Nations tribes and the African's goes back many, many moons. The love of the First Nations people had embraced many of my African people during the centuries of racist slavery in this stolen land. They lived together, fought together and married and became family. This white settler nation have always done all it could to destroy the cultures of our people. Those of the various First Nation tribes and the African. And so, it was that in the 1960s a NEW Spirit came upon our people. Both the First Nations and the African people to fight for our rights. To no longer accept the treatment lodged against us by the white-eye settler and his broken treaties, lynching's, rapes and destruction of the land, that brave First Nation warriors and African warriors arose and confronted the Amerikkkan government.

We must understand that the fast for Leonard Peltier is much bigger than Leonard Peltier, a Lakota brother, more less he stands today as a symbol for all our various tribes and people who have and are suffering because of Amerikkkan aggression.

We must not forget our elder Red Cloud, a chief of the Oglala Lakota, who was the first and only First Nation leader in the West to win a war with the United Snakes. Nor must we forget our other elders and warriors such as, Tutanka Totanka (Sitting Bull), the Hunkpapa spiritual leader, and Tesunke Witko (Crazy Horse) of the Oglalas. A very brave warrior and leader of his people. And the countless other elders and warriors who fought and died.

We must see the need to carry on the spirit of revolt and righteously fight for our rights and land. We need to learn and grow as a body of various nations and tribes coming together as ONE as did our brothers Clyde Warrior in the 1960s who began and visioned a pan-Indian Nationalism. Or Janet McCloud (Suquamish) and Hank Adams (Assiniboin/Lakota) who fought for fishing rights in the Northwest. We must not forget our Anishinabe brothers who founded the American Indian Movement, Dennis Banks and George Mitchell, who patterned their movement after the Black Panther Party in the belief of community self-defense.

We must not forget our brothers of the group called Indians of All Tribes (IAT) who in November 1969, occupied Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay. Headed by Richard Oaks, a Mohawk and John Trudell, a Santee Dakota, AIM Member, that held the U.S. up to a provision of an act passed in 1882 (22 Stat. 181) that indicated abandoned federal facilities - such as the empty prison situated on the island, should be utilized for Indian schools. Title 25, U.S. Code 194, says, "In all trials about the right of property in which an Indian may be party on one side, and a white person on the other, the burden of proof shall rest upon the white person, whenever the Indian shall make out a presumption of title in himself from the fact of previous possession or ownership."

To sum up all of this. . . we are fasting not just for Leonard Peltier but for ALL OF US. Leonard is a symbol of our hope. . . the torch for us to continue holding. . . the bow which hold our arrows as we fight, demand, and obtain our rights.

I leave you with my love, my blood, my spirit and my honor.

All Khalid Abdullah

Many thanks for message of support and solidarity, which I'm afraid reached me only yesterday, but which is greatly appreciated.

Just to tell you a little about myself, I am a life-long Anarchist revolutionary and militant anti-fascist, and have always believed in taking the fight to the enemy. I have participated in many theaters of struggle, including the fight against the Lebanese fascist . . . and Israeli imperialism in Lebanon (and elsewhere) in the late 1970's and early 1980; (I was adopted as a Palestinian and given the Palestinian name Ali Al-Aswad). I served a prison sentence for an explosives offence in connection to my involvement with the Palestinian struggle, and I have also been imprisoned for other political activities. I founded a local prisoner support group in my hometown of Sheffield in the mid 80's, and also edited a paper called *The Sheffield Anarchist* for many years, as well as editing and contributing to other Anarchist publications. As a direct result of my political activism I have been fitted-up by the State, and have now spent 5 years in prison.

Here in Britain the Anarchist movement is dominated by the white middle-class, and consequently it is largely marginalised from real struggle, and for the most part consists of small numbers of . . . liberal cliques who constantly bicker with each other. I suspect that the situation in the U.S. may well be similar.

Despite the present tawdry state of the Anarchist 'movement' in this country, resistance still exists to a police state which becomes ever more repressive. There is much work to be done!

Full Station is a maximum security prison holding 350 or so cons, plus about a further 180 no less (sex-offenders), police informers, and other rubbish, who are segregated. There are also 2 punishment blocks with room for about 60 or 70 cons, and a 'Special Secure Unit' which has been empty since the 'Peace' Accord was signed in Ireland - All the Irish P.O.W's have now been repatriated.

The last 4-5 years have seen a great deal of repression in British prisons, something which continues, but there has also been a lot of resistance to it, and Full Station has been a particular hot-bed of prison struggle.

How are things at Saginaw? It's not a prison I know much about. There are many differences between the British and American prison systems (though essentially they're about the same thing), but gradually many of tried and failed American penal policies are being introduced over here - for example, public defenders, 'boot camps', 2 strikes law. You know how it is - Clinton only has to yell, and his faithful British lapdog comes running!

Over the past year my campaign for justice has really taken off, and there are now dedicated support groups established in several British towns and cities, as well as in Ireland. The national Secretariat is now at: Justice For Mark Barnsley, c/o 145-149 Cardigan Rd., Leeds, LS6 1LJ, England. (E-mail: Snide@globulnet.co.uk). Thank you for your own offer to practical assistance. I am myself in contact with many individuals and organizations who would be interested in your plight, and I will tell them about your struggle, and ask that my campaign organization also publicize your case. Any additional details you can supply would be appreciated.

I am sending a leaflet about my case (it's slightly out of date now, and will be reprinted shortly), and a short article I wrote for a class-struggle British magazine called 'Animal'. Our class system is particularly anarchistic over here, and as the piece contains a number of 'anglicism' I've added a few footnotes.

Solidarity and respect to you in your struggle.

Your friend,

Mark Barnsley

Mark Barnsley
WA2897
HMP Full Station
York
YO41 1PS
England

The latest issue of *Class War*' hits the nail on the head when it says of fox-hunting: "Fox hunts themselves have nothing to do with pest control and very little to do with sport, it is about the rich and their lackeys showing their domination of the land. Huntsmen, with their pompous pageantry are remarkably similar to the Orange' marchers (going) through Catholic estates, and their intentions are the same." 4

When not tox-tuning there is also a tradition among the young rich of riding down into the towns and villages to abuse the local peasantry. Anyone who lives in a university' town or city will know that this tradition is as alive today as it was in the days of *Flashman* and his cohorts. In my home town of Sheffield there is 'Pyjama Jump', a boorish *blitzkrieg* of Hooray Henryism', when drunken students rmpage en masse through the city's pubs, clubs, and thoroughfares, accosting and abusing passers-by, puking in the gutter, and generally displaying a level of "high spirits" (Read "anti-social behaviour") which would result in a full-scale assault by the riot police were the participants working class 'hooligans' instead of middle-class brats.

So deep-rooted though is the tradition of the privileged abusing the 'townie' that students do not need a formal occasion to indulge themselves in the worst kind of behaviour, while receiving complete protection from the law. In Wales a couple of years ago three students out "celebrating their exams" in the wealthy Cardiff suburb of Cyncoed came upon Eric Cobourne, an elderly, crippled, ex-Liverpool docker who was sitting minding his own business outside the church. For no other reason than that they didn't think he "belonged" in their posh' enclave, and that they wanted "a laugh", they set about him, beating him so viciously with their fists, feet, and a bottle, that he died a week later. All the time they were assaulting this poor defenceless old man they were laughing and joking, and afterwards they beat up another man equally viciously, making him beg as they kicked him repeatedly on the ground.

When in 1994, while out with my baby daughter, (then aged just 6 weeks), and a family friend, I was attacked by 15 drunken students, also out "celebrating their exams", I could well have succumbed to the same fate as Eric Cobourne. For no other reason than that my attackers wanted "a laugh" I was hit over the head with a bottle or glass, punched, kicked, and cut with a knife. I was chased 150 yards, being assaulted throughout, and received a number of substantial injuries including a broken nose, broken and damaged teeth, broken ribs, a number of open wounds to my head, face, and hands, and cuts and bruises covering my entire body, but in the course of the struggle, to stop myself being stabbed, I managed to gain possession of the knife produced by one of my attackers, and while they were assaulting me five of the students were injured with it. They were so pissed' they didn't realise they were hurt until after they had finished beating me up.

It will probably come as no surprise to readers of this magazine that despite the fact that every single independent witness to the incident formed the clear view that I was the person being attacked I was the only person arrested. After spending over a year on remand¹⁰, and following a trial characterised by lies, perjury, the withholding and planting of evidence, and every dirty trick in the book by the Police and Prosecution I was convicted on 2 of the 5 counts of Section 18 wounding (G.B.H.)¹¹ I was charged with, and received a sentence of 12 years imprisonment - This is higher than most sentences for manslaughter or attempted murder, and considerably higher than the sentences of between 18 months and 2 years imposed on the 3 Cyncoed students for 2 counts of Section 18 wounding, (all that Eric Cobourne's death warranted in the eyes of the law), Violent disorder, and several counts of Criminal damage. Yet again, the State shows that there is one law for the rich and privileged, and one for the rest of us.

Three and a half years after what has become known as *The Pomona Incident*, (after 'The Pomona' pub in Sheffield, outside which the incident happened), I am still fighting for justice, and the longer I work on my case, and the more legal papers I finally gain access to, the clearer it becomes that the Police and Prosecution blatantly set out to fit me up from the very beginning.

I am not a conspiracy theorist, but it is important to realise that our class enemies hate us every bit as much as we hate them, and as well as having all the tools of the State at their disposal they have a ruthlessness in-bred over countless generations. The rich and their lackeys will fight tooth and nail to maintain their positions of power and privilege, and will do their utmost to bury anyone who opposes them.

My own 20-odd year history of revolutionary Anarchism frequently brought me to the attention of the Police, and I maintained a high Special Branch¹² profile for many years. It may be no coincidence that the Special Branch Detective Inspector involved in my arrest in Dover in 1980 on an explosives charge was in charge of the Police Station in Sheffield which dealt with my prosecution 14 years later. South Yorkshire Police have tried to fit me up before, and following *The Pomona Incident* they really pulled out all the stops to secure my conviction and a lengthy prison sentence.

As the one-time founder of a prisoners' support group, (Sheffield Prisoners Support Group), I fully realise the importance of outside solidarity, and bearing in mind my own involvement in the struggle, and the clearly political nature of my conviction, I'd hoped that I might receive the support of my fellow Anarchists. However, with some notable exceptions, (including *Animal* of course), I have thus far received precious little - My support group in Sheffield recently wrote to every Anarchist Black Cross group in the country without so much as a single reply. My own politics aside, the details of my case are truly shocking, and it stands out even amongst the thousands of miscarriage of justice cases that there are in this country. I am a victim of the Rich's class warfare, and as a result of *their* class solidarity have been blatantly fitted-up by the State. Further information about my case can be obtained from my support group, who I hope you will contact, and I also welcome constructive autonomous actions and initiatives on my behalf. I have already spent over three and a half years in the hands of our enemies, your support could make all the difference in overturning my wrongful conviction, and in bringing about my release.

Mark Barnsley
28th October 1997

... radical British class-struggle Anarchist publication, which originally appeared in 1983, and achieved a great deal of success in the mid-80's. It has recently been relaunched.

The exclusive preserve of the British aristocracy and upper middle-class. Unchanged for centuries!

The Protestant Orange Order - The Irish equivalent of the KKK.

In Britain, the universities are very much the preserve of the middle-class.

Cowardly anti-hero of the book *Tom Brown's School Days*.

'Hoorsy Henries' and 'Hoorsy Henriettas' - Terms for a certain kind of loud, arrogant, rich, spoilt brat.

This term has two slightly different meanings, both derogatory. It is used by rich country-dwellers as a term for their urban 'inferiors', and by middle-class students as a term for the working-class people who are unfortunate enough to inhabit the towns and cities where their universities are based.

I'm not sure if you'll know this word or not. It means something like bourgeois, supposedly being an acronym for 'port onwards, starboard home', the cruise-ship positions favoured by the 19th century rich, though I'm told this is

untrue.

Drunk.

Very few working-class people charged with serious offences in this country are granted bail. Sometimes they can be held 'on remand', unconvicted, for years. If they are eventually acquitted there is no automatic right to compensation.

'Wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm, contrary to section 18 of the Offences Against The Person

Act.'

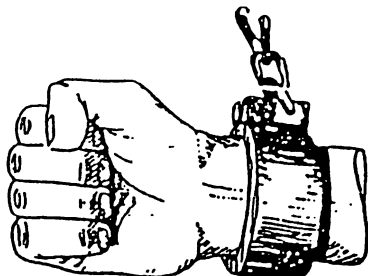
Rev. Greetings Mark:

I am in receipt of your letter and enclosures and was very pleased to hear from you. Thank you for responding back to me. It had been a long time since I sent my initial letter to you and was beginning to wonder if I would hear from you, but I can understand the circumstances you are facing there, because I am facing the same here.

Your letter was very interesting and informative, yet and at the same time, very sad regarding the situation with the Anarchist there. It appears there is a very serious need for political education to be conducted, not only in your country but here in the United States as well because we are often faced with the same or similar issues and problems. Nevertheless, we must continue to fight and build and work in solidarity as best we can with one another. When we say we are Anarchist we are saying something that demands a high standard of principles. I believe, and I think you do too, that this is something that is lacking and need to be reintroduced and stressed the many Anarchist comrades. For once the principles of Anarchism leaves so will everything we are about and there will be no one willing to take on the responsibilities and/or the values in which we hold to be true, i., mutual aid to one another.

I have taken the liberties of transcribing your letter and forwarding it on to a very good comrade named Anthony Rayson. He is a member of the South Chicago Anti-Racist-Action (ARA) to have your letter placed in my zine that he puts out for me and distributes throughout the globe. Hopefully from people reading your letter to me, your critique of your case and your pamphlet, and my letter [here] to you, you will receive attention to your case from this side of the Atlantic and beyond. There are many ARA groups and other serious revolutionary movements here that I think will, at least, publicize your case and contact you or your campaign. At least you can feel comfort in knowing that I will be doing what I can to help you in your hour of need for solidarity and support.

Your revolutionary history is very interesting and I deeply appreciate your sharing it with me. From reading your history it leaves me no doubt but to assume that the authorities there have you



in prison in order to stop your activities, even though they know you were wrongfully convicted. But this is how kapitalist operate. For instance, this is what the kapitalist here in Amerikkka are doing to comrades Mumia Abu-Jamal in Philadelphia. The brother is highly political and have been in the struggle for many years. In fact, 47 since a tender age. He was very strong in his beliefs and raising the people's consciousness. However, a kop (pig) was shot and killed and Mumia was around when it happened. Guess who they blamed for the murder of this kop? That's right, Mumia, and he has been denied every aspect of judicial rights since, as he sits on death row fighting for his life. And as many of us are fighting to save his life. Or like comrade Rafael Vallerin in Madrid, Spain who also fought against fascist. He has ben in prison for some time now after being badly jumped by some skinheads and had to defend himself. Well, they mad out (the press) that he was some mad dog out in the streets attacking nice young white students. Though he just now received a trial and the case over with. . . he was given time even though the facts does not support him doing time. However, the good part about Rafael's case is that he will be free in April 1999. These are the prices we (who are revolutionaries and fight for the rights of ourselves and others) must pay until we win through. That is why it is so important for all revolutionaries and movements to support the fallen comrade when the State comes down on them with their repressions and lies. And it shouldn't matter of the person is an Enarchist, communist, socialist or what have you. If they were fighting the State's oppression against the people and have been captured and thrown in some prison, they ought to be supported.

It was interesting what you've described about the prison system there in England. And you are right, England appears to have adopted the seeds of Amerikkka when it comes down to its laws and the way in which they incarcerate prisons, but Amerikkka has the world beat in terms of locking up and criminalizing its citizenry. The "Land of the Free" have become the "Land of the Incarcerated". "The land of anti-immigrant. . . the land of anti-gay/lesbian/bi-sexual/transsexual/transgendered." Amerikkka have become the moralistic social revelers of the world but with a twisted and sick flirtation with lies and decent. So I am not shocked that Britain have developed the "2 Strikes" laws that Amerikkka has, or the "public defenders" office and etc. Soon you may find in Britain that prisoners are being sold to privatized prisons to produce as slave laborers like they are doing here in the U.S. The only advantage there is and hope still for the people in the U.K. is that it hasn't taken hold you and therefore there is still time to thwart any efforts by the British authorities to implement such plans.

You have asked for more information about my case and etc. You can obtain this from Terry Cota, P.O. Box 381, Huddersfield, HD1 3XX, U.K.; Cruz Negra Anarchista, c/o Miguel Angel Lorca, C.P. 28021 Villaverde Alto, Madrid, Spain; Bart Dalle, Puinstraat 5, 9000 Gent, Belgium; ASH/ARC, c/o Bo Persson, Box 4081, 107 62 Stockholm, Sweden; Anthony Rayson, 27009 S. Egyptian Trail, Monee, IL 60449, USA; Cynthia Ritcher, P.O. Box 554, Lincoln, MA USA 01773; Mark E./CT APP, 105 Occum, 83 Windham, Willimantic, CT 062260 USA; Or you may have someone with a computer use the following webpage:

<http://personal.lig.bellsouth.net/lig/r/a/raze/All.htm>

Okay my brother, I am going to close this of here. I will ask my comrade Anthony Rayson to make it possible to send you my zine. Please come back to me when you are able and know that I am here for you in solidarity and revolutionary love.

In the trenches...

ALL


Dear Mark, Ali Khalid Abdullah forwarded to me your letter, your piece of 28th October 1997 and his letter. I am an active anarchist propagandist/~~line~~ writer/organizer/prisoner supporter, etc. The next issue of Ali's zine which I format, edit, print & distro will be sixty pages, out in late March. I also write the anti-racist/anarchist zine Thought Bombs, Fight the White, ARA Alert and Anti-Racist Action Primer, as well as distro many other mostly anarchist, anti-racist, prisoner, riot grrrl and other well done zines. Enclosed is a small sample.

The situation in the U.S. is very grave. The level of brainwash is so high, apathy so rampant, police presence so intense, ignorance and fear play a huge role in politics. Many (going on TWO million!) people are incarcerated and new laws are being written daily with draconian sentences for ludicrously harmless "crimes." Radical/militant/revolutionary/anarchist groups are hideously compartmentalized and insular. Solidarity is a rare commodity and all such groups are operating on a tattered shoestring. Nazi, fascist, KKK groups are proliferating and training militarily, often in cahoots with various local pig forces. It's an insanely daunting task for an anarchist such as myself to try to organize resistance under such conditions.

A few things give me cause to feel hopeful, however. Young people, and I mean real young, high school kids, grade school kids even, have no such reverence for this profane government, religion, or any mainstream institution. They are interested in the truth and seek it through the reading of zines and seeing hard core anarcho-punk shows. More and more these insane drug laws are dragging "white" kids off for 25 years (mandatory) for such "crimes" as selling LSD. Millions of families, mostly of color but not exclusively, are being destroyed by this system gone mad. Truly the war that was waged on Vietnam, and now Iraq, is coming home. Slowly, more people are willing and even eager to absorb genuine anarchist analysis in order to receive the disgusting and lucid truth. Micro distros are picking up on my zine and others like it and due to the proliferation and accessibility of copying machines, and tape recorders, more and more people are being exposed to these ideas. I am in ARA, which is mainly an anti-fascist/anti-racist direct action group, which I am trying to galvanize and recruit new members and chapters for. The more active writers and activists are anarchist in focus and we



go out of our way to demonstrate solidarity. It is difficult amidst such a schizophrenically dichotomized society. It is extremely class divided, yet with the powerfully pervasive, historically unique to Amerika, racist underpinnings. Sexism, homophobia and any and all manner of bigotry and ignorance is more than rampant. 49

Mainstream brainwash into belief of the big lie has been developed into a science and is relentlessly pounded into every Amerikan home via the T.V., radio, newspapers etc. Raping the world for six times our share of earth's resources has narcotized the citizens into a belief in consumption, of and for itself. Genuine thought, truth, freedom, justice are shunned aside as fantasies for these oblivious materialists. It's like a society-wide Heaven's Gate death wish to negate the future. Adults think the starving to death of Iraqi children is kinda funny, when Jay Leno talks about it. I'm surprised more people don't sport human skin lampshades.

But dammit, the kids want out of this nightmare and long for a future. Most adults are unreachable, at least at this stage. So, I concentrate on influencing the thinking of young people, get them to understand anarchist ideas, what the enormous problem of racism means and how to overcome it on an individual basis. For without a real understanding of how it poisons us all, legitimate political struggle is stunted. Once we become full human beings who commit to struggle totally, we can join those of color who have been analysing the problem and battling in their theatres all along.

People with richer sources of melanin have always suffered mightily in this country because of it. They flood the prisons and ghettos, live in dangerous dope-infested hellholes where the most vicious, evil gangs are always the organized police. Once so-called "white" people can feel in their bones that the struggle of the most oppressed is our struggle, the beginning of the end of this world-wide nightmare known as the United States, may be glimpsed.

I know the perception in England, (rife with factional, petty bickering themselves,) of the opposition in the U.S. is one of contempt because of what little we have done to slow the murderous, world-wide evil of this North Amerikan monster, but put yourself in our shoes. Most of the courageous voices have either been gunned down, bound and gagged behind max prisons - the true "growth industry" in this sick country - or are dolefully fighting.

"IF IT TAKES A BLOODBATH, LET'S GET IT OVER WITH"

- RONALD REAGAN, WHEN GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA



A recent issue of *PIN* called for articles and information from women prisoners. I hope women throughout the state and federal prison systems will respond to this request. If we are ever to change the hideous situations we face at the hands of the prosecutors, judges, and prisonrats, we must speak up and we must speak for ourselves.

Who can understand and describe, as we can, the abusive ways we are kept in line? The issue of sexual abuse and harassment comes to light only when an incident occurs that is so outrageous that even the system can't get away with ignoring it. And that is rare.

But women prisoners know that the justification for that abuse is laid every day when male guards patrol our housing units, where we have no privacy to change clothes, bathe, or use the bathroom. When male guards joke about doing strip searches in place of the women guards - or when they pat down our buttocks. When male guards yell at women prisoners (as they do all the time), raising the unspoken threat of violence, and often triggering memories of how a young girl was frightened and overpowered by an adult male who misused his authority to misuse her body. This is the daily reality of women in prison - but no one will know if we don't tell them. If we don't tell it, no one will understand that sexual harassment and abuse are not aberrations. They are integral to the methods by which we are controlled and oppressed in the prison system.

Who can understand, as we do, how many women are serving ridiculously long sentences because they were in a relationship with a man (usually older, more experienced) who dealt drugs? We live in a community with young women whose lives have been torn apart because they did not turn in their boyfriend/husband/father of their children, because they can't prove that they weren't involved in the sale of drugs - or, if they can prove it, they were still found guilty of "aiding and abetting" because they paid the rent and the phone bill. This is an important part of the mandatory minimum tragedy that we women know intimately. Who will tell our stories if we don't?

Who else can describe as we can the prospect of living for years in a cell built for one but now "home" to three - with no desk, no shelves, no room to turn around? Men prisoners have filed suit, protested, and written about the indignity of double-celling. We women are packed in like sardines, defying the safety inspectors' mandates - and we are the one who must make it known.

Who better than us can tell what it is to see a child growing up only in photos, to hear that small voice only on the phone (if we can afford the call), adding why we're gone so long? In the federal system, there are only three (soon to be four) prisons for women: Danbury, CT; Tallahassee, FL; Dublin, CA; and, soon, Carrwell, TX. To be sent 3,000 miles from one's children is not at all unusual. For the growing number of women in the system from Latin America, Africa and the Caribbean the visiting room is a foreign country twice over. They never see it. If we don't publicize these cruelties, who will?

Who besides us can tell the story of the waste that is federal time? Once a woman has her GED, there are precious few educational opportunities for her. We support and encourage one another, but obstacle after obstacle must be overcome in order to study and learn. We know what it's like to try to learn in our "library," stocked with encyclopedias printed before most of the women here were born. We know that community resources from the outside are not welcomed here, and that sympathetic people who try to come into the prison to speak, teach, share, learn have to possess mountains of will and determination (and patience!) to breach the wall. We must tell this tale, or it will remain untold.

We feel powerless. We are told every day that we are powerless. But that's a lie. As long as we have voices and one another, we hold our future in our control. We women prisoners have to speak, write, read, discuss - and begin the process of change. *PIN* is a tool all prisoners need. It's the only place I know where reliable, current, useful information about all the laws affecting our lives as prisoners is available. Yet few women prisoners subscribe, and fewer still submit articles.

It's not a story on TV, a long-running soap opera. It's our story. Why are we waiting for someone else to write the script?

Postscript on another topic: In the aftermath of the NYPD attack on Harlem and black youth in the "million youth march," Guiliani's police have targeted black activists in NYC for harassment and arrest. At the same time, police in Decatur, Georgia attacked the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement. I don't have sufficient details on this to make a more complete report. But I think we all need to be aware of this situation, and support the black comrades, communities and groups in any way we can. There have been important mobilizations and political activity by black groups all over the country in the last year. It's not a surprise that the government would try to stop this increasing resistance. It's imperative that all progressive forces act however we can to protest these police attacks. ■



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Female inmates sexually abused, report contends

51

Prisoners often raped by guards

By MARK HELM
Herald Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Women inmates in American prisons and jails routinely endure rape and other sexual abuse by male guards and are denied proper medical care, according to an Amnesty International USA report released on Thursday.

William Schulz, executive director of the human rights organization, said the report "found that sexual abuse is a fact of life for incarcerated women in the United States."

Besides raping female inmates, male guards often touch prisoners' breasts and genitals during daily pat-downs and strip searches, watch women as they shower and, in rare cases, sell women to male inmates for sex, the report said.

"Sexual abuse of women inmates is torture, plain and simple," Schulz said.

He said 12 states have no law prohibiting sexual contact between women and their jailers. Those states are Alabama, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Todd Craig, a spokesman for the federal Bureau of Prisons, said the agency would take the Amnesty report into consideration, but that be-

cause it was based on anecdotal evidence, it was difficult to evaluate its validity.

The London-based Amnesty International, a human rights organization that fights for the release of political prisoners, has published several reports on prison conditions throughout the world. This document is based on the reports of female inmates and court cases over the past decade.

Kim Marie Thorburn, former medical director of corrections for the state of Hawaii, said her state's prison system was "fraught with human rights abuses."

"From my 20 years of experience in the system, I firmly believe that there is no place where the abuses of our prison system are more apparent than in our women's prisons," said Thorburn, who now works with Amnesty.

Thorburn said the exact number of sexual abuse cases occurring each year in U.S. prisons was difficult to determine because many women inmates fear they will be punished if they report any misconduct by guards.

The federal Bureau of Prisons is working to ensure women inmates are treated fairly and that any improper conduct is eliminated.

Craig said 31,000 prison employees have undergone training to prevent sexual misconduct.

Craig added that 10 prison employees were disciplined last year and seven were prosecuted for sexual misconduct.

Merle
Africa
Dies in
Prison



Merle Austin Africa

pointing out that we exceed even China. The *Reader* does a piece on *Senseless Sentencing*, probing the draconian sentences for committers of minor crimes. This article features Dan Rostenkowski, an ex Congressman powerhouse who did time. Rostenkowski states that the legislature passes tough-on-crime bills with no insights into the meaning or consequences of its actions. The *Chicago Tribune* runs a letter to the editor from an activist that mentions U.S. political prisoners, when 12 years ago I couldn't pay to get anyone from the *Reader* to *The New York Times* to run an ad about my political-prisoner husband. (I tried to pay for some media since no one would do a story.) And the *Chicago Tribune* runs an article about an inmate lawsuit against Tamms, an Illinois maximum security control unit that opened amidst great pomp and circumstance of Governor Edgar and cronies holding a ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring balloons and buttons. (The celebration was on account of all the dollars the prison means to Tamms.) Then the *Chicago Tribune* launches a series of serious, investigative articles that despite a few bows to the great U.S. justice system, focuses on the crimes committed by overzealous prosecutors who often railroad innocent people and what usually happens to these prosecutors in their self-discipline system: promotions. The *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* did the same type of investigative articles a couple months earlier. PBS runs a gut-wrenching special called *Snitch* which shows, among other atrocities, how citizens in the U.S. are in good Nazi-Germany fashion, turning on friends, family and neighbors to save their own butts or the butts of their loved ones.

Of course, the *Chicago Tribune* continues its usual run of warm and fuzzy articles about this particular lawyer or that particular judge. They just won't give up that old need to remind us of our greatest in the world justice system before more people wake up to the realization that it's the greatest *IN*justice system in the world. Media creatures say they do this for balance. Since they're so worried about balance, when are we going to get the warm, sympathetic article about a mafia mobster or a gangbanger?

What's going on here with the mainstream media? I feel like I've been getting information from the truly reliable media, the alternative press. (At least they don't give us the contradictory mushy pieces in the feature sections.) Is the mainstream media stepping on some toes? Are they trying to make us as revolutionary activists feel like we're not doing our jobs? (Our organization seeks the abolishment of the entire U.S. judicial system on the grounds it's a systemic abuse of human right standards for the judiciary.) Are we supposed to thank the media for their "revelations" of the tip of this iceberg? Are we supposed to give them Pulitzer prizes while our brothers and sisters (brothers mostly, but the sisters are increasing) continue to die and be tortured on a daily basis at the hands of legal cold-blooded thugs and murderers?

Please, Nightline, The Atlantic Monthly, Washington Post, Reader, Chicago Tribune, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Frontline and any other mainstream media outlet that deserves mention here but didn't get it, how about that item equating the rise of the criminalization of ordinary American citizens with the rise in the number of practicing attorneys? You may be at last readying to listen to many of the reforms that are being bandied about by hundreds of reformist groups. But more and more of us reformists have already moved on while you've been dragging your complacent and kiss-ass butts. We no longer care about reform. We want nothing less than revolution. The abolishment of all current laws. The abolishment of all jails and prisons and holding centers. The abolishment of all courts and court houses and police stations. The abolishment of the U.S.' biggest mafiaso and gang: the judiciary and all of its subsidiary agents of terror.

State-loving collaborators, quislings and members of the brain-snatched ask me, but what then? What will you replace it with? I'll tell you what then. Nothing. You can release every robber, every rapist, every abuser, every serial murderer and not a single one of them alone or all of them together will reap the amount of devastation committed by our legal thugs day in and day out. Don't believe me? Ask an Iraqi. Ask a U.S. ghetto dweller. Ask a Guatemalan. Ask a Panamanian. Ask a Timoran Indian. Ask a Vietnamese. Ask a Cuban. Ask a South African. Ask a Mexican. Ask an American Indian. Ask a young African-American man.

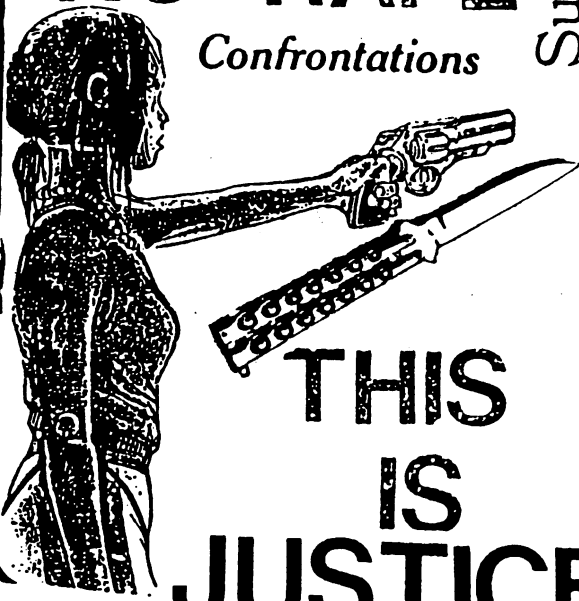
In 1782, J. Hector St. John Crèvecoeur said about our legal system, "A reformation is now wanted."

UNTIL THERE IS NO RAPE

Survivor

Confrontations

THIS IS JUSTICE



The illustration shows a woman in profile, facing right, holding a handgun in her right hand and a large knife in her left. Above her head is a dagger. The entire scene is framed by chains at the top and bottom.

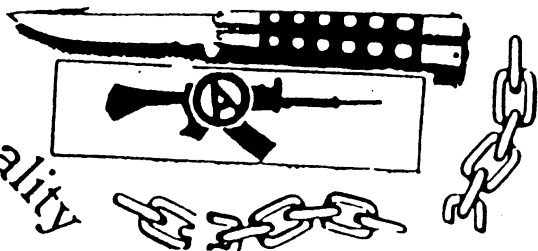
That didn't happen. It's 1999. Jane Doe says about our justice system, "A revolution is now wanted."

Self Defense is not a crime!

**STOP
VIOLENCE
AGAINST
WOMEN**

FIGHT BACK!

Reality



The illustration shows a large knife above a box containing a gun with a no symbol over it. Chains are at the top and bottom.

Escape

November² 79



Legacy of a War Survivor

WHY WE MUST SUPPORT ASSATA SHAKUR
1998 Black
Dignity Day

>At this time I'd like to say a few words especially to my sisters: SISTERS. BLACK PEOPLE WILL NEVER BE FREE UNLESS BLACK WOMEN PARTICIPATE IN EVERY ASPECT OF OUR STRUGGLE, ON EVERY LEVEL OF OUR STRUGGLE. I think that Black women, more than anybody on the face of the earth, recognize the urgency of our situation. Because it is We who come face to face daily with the institutions of oppression. And because it is We who have borne the major responsibility of raising our children. And it is We who have to deal with the welfare systems that do not care about the welfare of our children. And it is We who have to deal with the school systems that do not educate our children. It is We who have to deal with the racist teachers who teach our children to hate themselves. It is We who have seen the terrible effects of racism on our children.

>I JUST WANT TO TAKE A MOMENT OUT TO EXPRESS MY LOVE TO ALL OF YOU WHO RISK YOUR LIVES DAILY STRUGGLING OUT HERE ON THE FRONT LINES

>We who have watched our young grow too old, too soon. We who have watched our children come home angry and frustrated and seen them grow bitter, more disillusioned with the passing of each day. And We who have seen the sick, trapped look on the faces of our children when they come to fully realize what it means to be Black in Amerikkka. And We who know what deprivation is. How many times have We run out of bus fare, rent money food money and how many times have our children gone to school in hand-me-down clothes, with holes in their shoes. We know what a hell-hole Amerikkka is.

>We're afraid to let our children go out to play. We're afraid to walk the streets at night. We sisters, We have seen our young, the babies that We brought into this world with such great hopes for, We have seen their bodies bloated and aching from drugs, scarred and deformed by bullet holes.

>We know what oppression is. We have been abused in every way imaginable. We have been abused economically, politically. We have been abused physically, and We have been abused sexually. And sisters, We have a long and glorious history of struggle on this land/planet. Afrikan women were strong and courageous warriors long before We came to this country in chains. And here in Amerikkka, our sisters have been on the front lines. Sister Harriet Tubman led the underground railroad. And sisters like Rosa Parks, Fannie Lou Hamer, Sandra Pratt and our Queen Mother Moore have carried it on, Sisters. We have been the backbone of our communities, and We have got to be the backbone of our nation. We have got to build strong family units, based on love and struggle. We don't have no time to play around.

> A REVOLUTIONARY WOMAN CAN'T HAVE NO REACTIONARY MAN <

>If he's not about liberation, if he's not about struggle, if he ain't about building a strong Black nation then he ain't about nothing. We know how to struggle. We know how to struggle and finagle to survive. We know what it means, sisters, to struggle tooth and nail. We know what it means to struggle with love. We know what unity is. We know what sisterhood is. We have always been kind to each other, brought each other hot soup and biscuits. We have always helped each other through hard times. Sisters, We must celebrate Afrikan womanhood. We don't want to be like Miss Ann. She can keep her mink stole and her French provincial furniture. We will define for ourselves what womanhood is. And We will create our own style and our own ways of dress. We can't have no white man in France telling Afrikan women what to look like. We will create our own New Afrikan culture, taking the best of the old and mixing it with the new.

>SISTERS WE HAVE GOT TO TAKE CONTROL OF OUR LIVES AND OUR FUTURE WHEREVER WE ARE. AND WE HAVE GOT TO ORGANIZE OURSELVES INTO A STRONG BODY OF AFRIKAN WOMEN.

SS



Liadon Lady
The Solution
Serious Sisterhood





REMEMBER, WE'RE STILL HERE

"here we remain, yesterday's urban guerrillas, abandoned in captivity"

-Ojore N. Lutalo



OJORE N. LUTALO
NEW AFRIKAN
PRISONER OF WAR



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Some Food For Thought - Prisoners Are Not (Inmates)

57

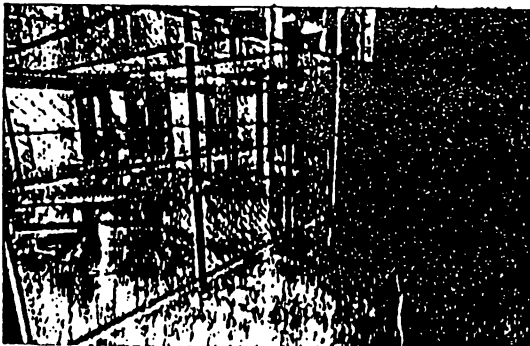
The vast majority of prisoners (Especially Politically Conscious Prisoners) resent being referred to as (Inmates) because we are being detained as prisoners, with means against our will! (The) word (Inmate) is mostly used by prisoner functionaries, attorneys, (not progressive attorneys), and whoever else is employed in the so-called field of correction...

It's very important to acknowledge (how) languages become sterilized and (de-radicalized), and that soon, the warders (including some of the prisoners themselves) could be referring to the prisoners as (residents), as if we were on (vacation) or (something) else in that regard!

Penologists control the prisons, and it's their goal to distort the (reality) of (prisons) and (prisoners) by identifying (prisons) as correctional facilities as opposed to prisons and penitentiaries, while identifying prisoners as (inmates or residents) as (opposed) to (prisoners) in their endeavors to lull the general public into (thinking) that conditions in captivity are (humane), and that the warders operating the prisons (spelled concentration camps) are caring human beings, and the captive audience being detained (they use the word inmates) were/are being rehabilitated and not actually being punished as the supporters of the prisoners out there in the communities at-large are (asserting)!

Prison wardens are now referred to as superintendents or administrators as (opposed) to (wardens)! Prison security guards are in fact referred to as correction officers as (opposed) to security guards because such (titles) sound more human and less threatening... Again, by giving prisons and prisoners a less radical label, they (the functionaries who operate these concentration camps and their supporters) hope people out there in the communities at-large will forget about all of the inhuman conditions (of) prison...

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CN-861-59860
Trenton, New Jersey
M.C.U. 08625



HOUSING AMERICA'S Homeless

THE
1980's



THE
1990's



APRIL 11, 1991, 11:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 11:00 AM



Attention: Prisoners, wage slaves, students and military pawns - We wish to share the good news about your world. First, we the rich, are doing great leeching off your labor and that of workers and peasants, worldwide. Through a system of relentless brainwash, ruthless exploitation of resources, barbarous regimes, the threat and use of massively organized murdering, an economy based solely on profit, with an elaborate shell game of electronic and paper manipulation, we find our profits are truly soaring! Stocks are doing great!

Of course, someone has to pay for this suicidal madness and that is all of YOU! We call this whole lie and fear based phenomenon "Democracy." In a few short years - or sooner - (if we decide to launch,) the world will no longer be sustainable for humans, much less the more vulnerable plants and animals.

So, don't worry about trifles such as social security or genetic engineering. The social security coffers will be duly raped during this process of global disintegration. Watch for corporate genetic engineering and many other horrors, to increasingly become nightmarishly menacing.

So, we suggest you continue to work and consume in a docile, oblivious fashion. Enjoy your diversions from reality. Oh, and don't even try to organize to protest this process. It will only bring you torture, murder, prison and death. Chalk it all up to religious inevitability. You have no control over "fate." We just so happen to be God's chosen exploiters. Better luck next life!

OK! Back to work! Those at home may stare at the box. You don't want your children to live adult lives, anyway! Accept total degradation! Enjoy the show! It's the total evisceration of all life forms! - paid for by your cringing, hedonistic, indifferent sweat. We learned a lot from Stalin & Hitler - employing their technicians wisely.

Love, "your" government - patron saint to all death squads, official mass murderers and major worldwide plunderers.

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FREE



MUMIA



STOP THE EXECUTION OF MUMIA



HUGE NATIONWIDE ACTION PLANNED APRIL 24, 1999

MILLIONS FOR MUMIA! March
PHILADELPHIA / SAN FRANCISCO

Get on the Bus!

FOR INFORMATION CALL:
Chicago Committee to
Free Mumia Abu-Jamal
773/381-4507 or e-mail us:
ccfma@unstoppable.com

10 Things You can Do To Help Free Mumia

1. BE READY FOR ACTION WHEN AN EXECUTION DATE IS SET. Make sure your community is ready to respond in the streets.

2. CONTRIBUTE TO MUMIA AND JAMAL'S LEGAL DEFENSE FUND. Send checks payable to Black United Fund/Mumia Abu Jamal/LOF mail to BUF, 2227 N. Broad St., Philadelphia PA 19123

3. CALL, WRITE, FAX, OR EMAIL THE PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNOR to demand a new and fair trial for Mumia and no death warrant. Gov. Tom Ridge, Main Capitol Building, Rm 225, Harrisburg, PA 17120, gov@pennstate.pa.us; Tel 717-787-1300.

4. CALL ON WHITE PENN. CHIEF JUSTICE P. FLAHERTY TO DEMAND A NEW AND FAIR TRIAL FOR MUMIA! Penn. Supreme Court, 515 O'Quay Center, Suite 4101, 11 Stanwix St., Pittsburgh PA 15222; Tel 412-855-9229.

5. CALL ON PAN NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO (NPR) AFFILIATES AND ALL RADIO STATIONS AND TELL THEM THAT YOU WANT TO HEAR MUMIA'S COMMENTARIES. NPR 1-800-259-1212; Fax: 202-414-3020; 202-414-3020; President/CEO Peter D'abow.

6. CONTACT PRISON WARDEN PHILIP L. JOHNSON and let him know you are aware of Mumia's case and the horrific human rights violations at SCI Greene Prison, 1030 East Ray Furman Highway, Waynesburg, PA 15370; phone 412-552-2802.

7. WRITE MUMIA and let him know that you care and you will struggle with him for justice. Mumia Abu-Jamal, AM 8339, 1040 East Ray Furman Hwy., Waynesburg PA 15370.

8. BOYCOTT THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA. Call 1-800-VISIT-PA to say you won't visit Pennsylvania or support Pennsylvania corporations until Mumia has received a new trial and all executions are halted. Major companies to boycott: Hershey's, Quaker State Oil, Cannondale bikes, Quil Quip, Huling Pet Products, Hixley Davidson, Helling Rock, Pepperidge Farms, Procter & Gamble. All major state companies are listed at: www.madeforpa.com.

9. COUNTER MEDIA DISINFORMATION by counteracting the networks, writers, and broadcasters who publish lies and police propaganda. Read and listen to Mumia's books and radio essays: *Live From Death Row*, *From Death Row*, *This is Mumia Abu-Jamal* (CD's & Tapes), *Death Blossoms*, and *Access for Justice*. See the brilliant fast paced film "Mumia Abu-Jamal: A Case for Reasonable Doubt" available at your local video store distributed by Fox Lorber. Also available from Prison Radio/Quilante radioquilante.com 415-640-4508.

10. CONTACT INTERNATIONAL CONCERNED FRIENDS AND FAMILIES OF MUMIA ABU-JAMAL, P.O. Box 10709, Philadelphia PA 19145; Tel (215) 476-8819; Fax (215) 476-7881; e-mail: Mumia@aol.com, <http://www.Mumia.org>.

CHICAGOLAND Anti-Racist Action

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ara_s_slide@hotmail.com
2. 1573 N. Milwaukee #420
Chicago, IL 60622 / 773-252-6019
3. P.O. Box 146601
Chicago, IL 60616-6601
northsideara@hotmail.com