

PAN



Vol. 3, #1
January 2010

Prison Action News is a newsletter collaboratively published by prisoner support groups worldwide for prisoners to report on their struggles and acts of resistance from behind bars. **All submissions must be received by Dec 1st or June 1st and be in compliance with the guidelines below.** Please note that we retain the right as editors to alter submissions for grammatical and content-related issues. Prison Action News is one part of the multi-faceted Prison Abolition movement. We believe that the writing in Prison Action News is as important as poetry or political essays, but is often less represented.

This issue is published in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of freedom for Assata Shakur. On November 2, 1979, with the help of three members of the Black Liberation Army, Assata escaped from the Clinton Correctional Facility for Women. She currently lives as a free woman in Cuba.

History:

The idea for Prison Action News came out of the 2007 Anarchist Black Cross (ABC) Network gathering. We wanted to create a venue for prisoners to share updates of their activities, similar to the updates we wrote in the network newsletter. Recognizing that there is far too much activity occurring in prisons to put in our quarterly newsletter, we decided to create a new newsletter specifically to report activity within prisons. As people on the outside, we can facilitate this dialog of prison resistance, and help our comrades on the inside hear from each other about the inspiring actions they are taking. We have recently opened up submissions to prisoners and prison groups worldwide, and to bilingual writing. With your help this newsletter will be a success- if you know of resistance taking place that is not represented here, please send us a submission, and spread the word!

Please send submissions and/or questions to any of the following:

<i>PAN c/o Boston ABC</i>	<i>PAN c/o Central GA Prisoner Support</i>	<i>PAN c/o ABC Para-legal</i>
<i>PO Box 230182</i>	<i>PO Box 610</i>	<i>PO Box 7187</i>
<i>Boston, MA 02123</i>	<i>Roberta, GA 31078</i>	<i>Austin, TX 78713</i>
<i>BostonABC@riseup.net</i>		<i>twitchon@hotmail.com</i>

or **PRISONACTIONNEWS@RISEUP.NET**

Guidelines

1. An update must not exceed 500 words.
2. We will not accept submissions with racist, sexist, homophobic, or otherwise oppressive language.
3. An update may be a report on resistance activities of individual prisoners or prison groups (this can include, but is not limited to, radical book groups, hunger strike, general strike, letter writing campaigns, etc.)
4. PAN is accepting artwork for the covers of upcoming issues, so send us your designs!
5. A report should not be a political essay or a report on prison conditions, rather the response and resistance to these conditions
6. One submission per group, per prison, per newsletter
7. We will not report on gang activity.
8. We accept bilingual entries (where one language is English), as well as entries in Spanish!

Entries may be written by prison groups and organizations, or individuals, and may be submitted for publication with the name and contact information of the writer, or anonymously, to protect their identity.

UPDATES ON CONTINUOUS RESISTANCE

This is a section where groups that do not necessarily have new actions to report on, can alert readers that they still exist, and are still working to fight the prison industrial complex. If you are part of a group, we invite you to write to us to be listed in future issues (or, of course, you can always submit a full entry about your group's activities). This is by no means meant to be a full listing of prison groups, as we only publish those that contact us.

November 2009, Gatesville, TX

Free Battered Texas Women continues to resist the unique misogyny of the Texas injustice system where, on a domestic violence call, the Texas police deliberately arrest battered women 20% of the time instead of their male batterers.

FBTW's mission is to educate the public, government officials, and the media about this Texas-only travesty that is being inflicted upon battered Texas women and their children.

Write FBTW c/o
Boston ABC
PO Box 230182
Boston, MA 02123
Dr. Cathy Marson, FBTW Director
#1306127
Lane Murray Unit
1916 N hwy 36 Bypass
Gatesville, Texas 76596

*Photo on opposite Page:
Revolutionary workers burning
Litovsky Bamok Prison in
Petrograd, January 14, 1919*



nia, and parts of Wyoming and Utah. The new invading expansionist oppressors enslaved native Chicano communities, disenfranchising and classifying them as “foreigners” in an internal colony within their own lands; the result of this racist genocidal force railroaded Chicano Freedom Fighter Alvaro Luna Hernandez to the place he is in today. He was convicted June 9, 1997 in Odessa, Texas, to an unjust 50-year sentence.

Due to these bogus charges, Alvaro was removed from the barrio where he was a union support worker and aggressively uncovering unsolved murders of Chicanos by Brewster County authorities and as National Coordinator of the Movimiento Nacional de La Raza. This case proves a conscious effort was made by Law Enforcement and the Judiciary to stop his organizing and investigatory work along the border.

Alvaro is a revolutionary writer, writ-writing lawyer, and prison movement leader. He is in his 13th year in a sensory-deprived administrative segregation unit at the Hughes Unit, in Gatesville, Texas. Despite all this he continues to protest the injustice of the case and the injustice of prisons. Alvaro has a petition put forth to the U.S. Attorney General’s Office calling for an investigation into his case. He won’t be eligible for parole until 2021, due to harsh aggravated assault sentencing laws.

For copies of the petition form to U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, please contact: ABC Para-Legal Services & Committee to Free Alvaro Luna Hernandez, P.O. Box 7187, Austin, Texas 78713. You can write him at: Alvaro Luna Hernandez, TDCJ-CID#255735, Alfred D. Hughes Unit, Route-2, Box 4400, Gatesville, Texas 76597. twitchon@hotmail.com or torontoabcf@gmail.com



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PAN

THE ANCIENT GREEK GOD OF FORESTS, PASTURES, FLOCKS, AND SHEPHERDS, REPRESENTED WITH THE HEAD, CHEST, AND ARMS OF A MAN AND THE LEGS AND SOMETIMES THE HORNS AND EARS OF A GOAT. SYMBOLIC OF LUST, CREATIVITY, HUMOR, INTOXICATION, SUREFOOTEDNESS, AND BEDEVILMENT.

LAYOUT: JAKE CARMAN
 EDITING: THE PAN COLLECTIVE,
 AND MEMBERS OF BOSTON ABC



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GROUPS AND PROGRAMS

November, 2009, Reidsville, GA

As early as 2004 while housed at Hays State Prison in Georgia a group of guys and myself began a program of enlightenment aimed at the masses. Unknowingly, proponents of the “lock ‘em up and throw away the key” methodology had erected a new minority here in America. With 2.3 million persons incarcerated in this nation’s prisons, family members as a block represent 2.3 million plus, a voice no longer to be ignored; a voice alienated because a family member was mired in the prison system often time the result of self-destructive pursuits.

We like to believe that our efforts were the seed that inspired Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones to introduce the Second Chance Act of 2005. This act addressed major concerns, issues, and methods of reducing recidivism, aiding inmates in their return to society with assistance of family members.

Ms. Jones and a respectable cadre of illustrious Senators who sponsored said act acknowledged this legislation to combat recidivism. It is now S. Bill (S. 1904) and House Bill (H.R. 1704) was passed in 2008, after having failed in 2007.

We here in the GA Department of Corrections salute you and all brothers and sisters that engage the system through struggle and inspire the will to resist. With 2.3 million incarcerated in our nation’s prisons, and in the spirit of freedom riders of old, we can do no less. Peace be unto you.

Johnny Johnson #757406
PO Box 1978 GA HWY 147, F4-3-12
Reidsville, GA 30453

December 2009, Jefferson City, MO

SUPPORT for the MISSOURI PRISON LABOR UNION AGENDA

By Sheik Mark Moore-El, National Coordinator MPLU

(Excerpted)

The Political Prisoners of the Missouri Prison Labor Union (MPLU) Movement have formed an organization instrumental in helping the development of a united movement around issues of incarceration, human rights, state/federal issues on the judicial system, and prison support from citizens.

We promote prisoners’ involvement in discussions and supporting human rights issues by linking themselves up with activists and resources to help in the campaigns. The MPLU has improved from hearing the comments and criticism as part of a discussion. Prisoners and others should be asked to give their comments, criticism and suggestions for how to make the MPLU better, stronger and more helpful to each other’s needs. Our goal is to get people thinking about how we work and how the MPLU stays relevant to our unity. Please know that the floor should be open to raise

AND EVERYTHING ELSE...

Fall 2009, Lewisburg, PA

TO ALL GOOD PEOPLE FOR CHANGE

Greetings Brothers and Sisters of the Indigenous Struggle. I reach out also to the Brown Berets of the Indigenous Chicano Movement, the Black Panther Movement, and the Movements to Protect Mother Earth and Animal Brothers and Sisters. The Protection of Life is vital my Brothers and Sisters, I come to you from the “New Marion”, the (SMU) of deadly ‘ol Lewisburg. I’m here Brothers and Sisters for defending myself.

And while “I was ahead” I made peace with my enemies – who are my enemies “no more”. The WS and I sat down and talked about Native Unity. I use my Recreation Time, “when we get it”, to pray under the sky in Cherokee and talk to others about uniting all these men who’ve been separated and oppressed. This is a very touchy subject in prison. Unfortunately many people reject it as soon as I bring it up. They will dispute unity and demand it will never happen. They act very disinterested in further conversations about Freedom – Revolution – Resistance – Human Spirit. These opportunities I use to argue for unity and I’ve learned to point out many facts about Falling Empires and uprisings by Mexicans, Natives, and African Slaves.

I encourage those on the outside of prison to return to natural ways and depart from the People Factory Farms. I call out toxic cities and seek Higher Consciousness in the Wilderness. If not, gather resources and mimic the Iron Column for those here – you know what must be done.

Stop being a servant to your cell phone, TV and electric company. And Free those who came before you, who did their work, yet now rot defenselessly in the Iron Houses! All or nothing people, it’s the only way!

Oso Blanco de Aztlán – Byron Shane of Chubbuck © Clan (with prejudice)
#07909051, USP-Lewisburg, P.O. Box 1000, Lewisburg, PA. 17837

November 2009, Gatesville, TX

Chicano-Mexicano Political Prisoner ALVARO LUNA HERNANDEZ was born in 1952, in a racially segregated society in Alpine, Texas. He witnessed the cold-blooded murder of his best friend: 16-year old Ervay Ramos on June 12, 1968, by an Alpine, Texas racist cop Bud Powers. Powers died this November from natural causes. He never spent a day in jail for this murder.

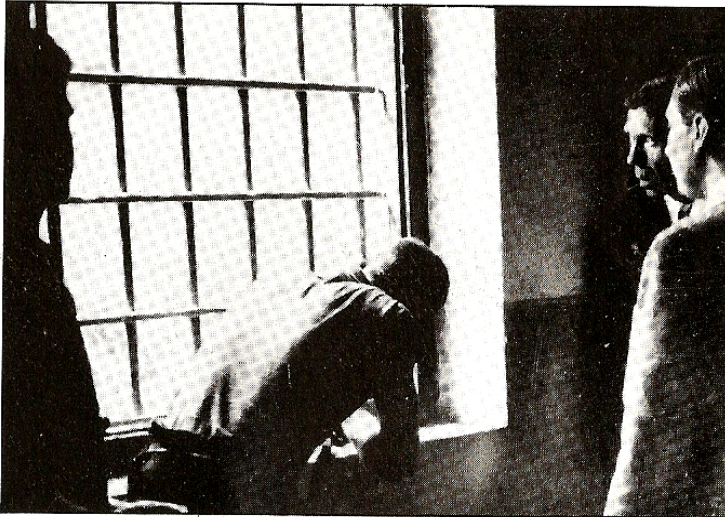
The Treaty of Guadalupe, signed on February 12, 1848, stripped half of Mexico’s territories spanning the ancestral territories of the Chicano homeland “Aztlan” encompassing Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, Califor

Nine inmates upset over the medical care at the Reno County Jail used bunk beds, mattresses and tables to barricade themselves in their pod.

10 SEPTEMBER – ANGOLA, LOUISIANA, UNITED STATES

A Louisiana State Penitentiary inmate picking up trash on work detail ran off and was able to evade over 200 people from 18 agencies for four days by hiding out in the Tunica Hills and swamps that border the prison.

“The severing of the last barred window of a female prison.” from “1936: The Spanish Revolution”



comments/ideas/criticism, etc. We welcome all opinions and debates because this is how we become more effective. We believe in the struggle against the injustice system as it supports capitalism. We strive to provide aid to the people of the struggle- “Prisoners are Citizens of Society”- and we encourage support for their cause. We have a network that respects the autonomy of each group to act within the different circumstances of their own local situation. It is a network urging support for political prisoners; it is one that understands that support is only one part of our struggle for change.

Over the past 25 years, prisoner support movements have inspired awareness and opinion-building for the need to work with those from society, in an effort to build a more liberated society. Many of the MPLU ideas are worth supporting, uniting the many prisoners and citizens into a struggle that can continue to grow and see more victories.

You can write to:

Sheik Mark S. Moore-El,
Reg. No. 990115, H.U. 3-B-105,
Jefferson City Correctional Center,
8200 No More Victims Road,
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

Note: MPLU National Coordinator Mark S.

Moore-El’s typewriter has been confiscated in order to hinder his work for the MPLU. The once-active MPLU support web site hosted in Belgium has been inactive for years, diminishing public awareness of the MPLU’s activities. The MPLU newsletter has been inactive for the same amount of time. Funds are needed to revive these resources and for Sheikh Mark to purchase a newtypewriter.

November 2009, Abilene, TX

We are currently seeking political prisoners and/or prisoners’ rights activists to join our prison reform movement, ‘For Institutional Reform & Systematic Tour de force’ (FIRST). Dedicated and committed to protecting and restoring prisoners’ rights and eradicating judicial murders (the death penalty), FIRST seeks to build a universal platform throughout Texas Prison System (TDCJ) that would give a voice to every oppressed quarter held captive throughout the barbaric TDCJ system. Thus-far, we are seeking coordinators capable of guiding the aspirations and goals of our movement in support of rights for women, the GLBT community, religious groups, physically challenged, parolees, and all others held captive in TDCJ whose rights are denied. We also are in a dire need on D/R (Death Row) for a coordinator acquainted with our plight to ensure the interests of our collective.

The basis of FIRST is simple – PRISON REFORM! We are not an ethnic or racial group. Our members are devoted to educating fellow prisoners on securing and defending their constitutional rights. We pose no threat to security and refuse to be identified as such. We recognize and adhere to all prison policies that are not oppressive in nature or violate our protected constitutional rights.

FIRST is willing to work with any civil rights group, prisoner's rights group, or other like-minded organization in hopes that our solidarity will establish and institute a Tour de force that will be effective in eradicating all inhumanities. Our principal mission is to provide all prisoners with a vehicle of strength through which their voices can be heard.

If you have an interest in joining our efforts, please contact me at my address below or visit our website (www.justiceforjeremy.net). WE ARE ONE ... in the struggle!

In Solidarity,
Jeremy Busby 881193
Robertson UNIT
12071 F.M. 3522
Abilene, TX 79601

November 2009, Kenedy, TX, Education is the First Phase of Resistance and Revolution

NPVM (New Panther Vanguard Movement; not affiliated with the NBPP [New Black Panther Party]) is preparing to launch its prison programs to help educate prisoners so they may become more effective in resisting the injustices that they face within the confines of these tyrannical walls of death!

We will have a book program that will provide prisoners with books only about politics, social issues, economic issues, history and will not provide works of fiction.

We will have a basic computer program that will provide prisoners with an easy-to-follow guide to learning basic computer skills. This will better prepare prisoners to utilize the Internet once back in society.

We will also have a legal assistance program which will provide forms and legal advice and in some cases file those forms for prisoners. This will enable prisoners to fight back legally in the courts and resist the injustices they may have faced in the courts or while in prison.

We are also implementing a community reconstruction program to build resistance within communities in society. This will entail instructions on how to build education centers even in prison settings. We at NPVM are seeking volunteers and/or membership. Of course, there is a screening process that everyone MUST go through. We are also helping confirm, verify and update anyone alleging that they are 'panthers' and giving all confirmed people official status and membership cards

for almost 24 hours. The inmates burned "whatever they could get their hands on" and "let it burn!" could be heard chanted from the recreation yard throughout the night.

23 JULY – TIJUANA, BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO

17 inmates broke a hole through a brick wall with an iron rod, hit two guards and ran out of a juvenile detention center.

25 JULY – MT. VERNON, MISSOURI, UNITED STATES

A riot after an escape at the Lawrence County Jail forced the county sheriff to indefinitely close the facility. During the riot, a group of prisoners pulled the electrical conduit down and destroyed security cameras.

14 AUGUST - GOMEZ PALACIO, DURANGO, MEXICO

A riot broke out shortly after visiting hours ended at the No. 2 Social Re-Adaptation Center when prisoners attacked staff with knives and guns. The prisoners then burned a storage area and gained control of the facility for two hours before 300 prison guards and federal police were sent in to quell the disturbance.

15 AUGUST – SAN JUAN, SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

A prisoner being taken to jail fatally shot an officer and injured another before escaping in their squad car.

17 AUGUST – OMAHA, NEBRASKA, UNITED STATES

A Douglas County Corrections inmate assaulted several corrections officers after refusing to be searched while being returned from a court hearing.

19 AUGUST – GALVESTON, TEXAS, UNITED STATES

A Galveston County Jail inmate on work detail got sick of taking orders and attacked a Sheriff's deputy.

21 AUGUST – BURGIN, KENTUCKY, UNITED STATES

Inmates rioted and burnt down the Northpoint Training Center after a "controlled movement schedule" was announced by prison officials. Six buildings were burnt down, leaving five of the facility's six dormitories uninhabitable. Eight staff members were injured in the three hour riot. Officials have said the facility will have to be completely rebuilt.

21 AUGUST – CORCORAN, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES

A Corcoran State Prison guard was stabbed in the arm while on duty.

23 AUGUST – DARTMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS, UNITED STATES

A Bristol County House of Correction prison guard was sent to the hospital with head and facial injuries after being attacked from behind by an inmate.

24 AUGUST – FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY, UNITED STATES

A Monmouth County Jail inmate stabbed a corrections officer in the face with a handmade shank when they came in to fix a light in the cell.

29 AUGUST – INTERLACHEN, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES

A mobile home owned by the Putnam County corrections officer who shot and killed an escaping inmate was destroyed in a fire. The fire was ruled arson by investigators and is believed to be set in retaliation.

30 AUGUST – BARTOW, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES

A Central County Jail inmate broke a sprinkler head and refused to leave their cell. During the resulting altercation, one of the responding correctional officers was pushed onto their back and died eight days later during surgery for a broken vertebrae.

8 SEPTEMBER – HUTCHINSON, KANSAS, UNITED STATES

List of North American Prison Riots, Escape Attempts, Revolts

From Fire to The Prisons magazine (excerpt)

21 MAY, CIENEGUILLAS, ZACATECAS, MEXICO

In three minutes, 53 inmates let themselves out of their cells at the Reclusorio Preventivo Oriente under the cover of 8 armed gunmen who escorted them into vans waiting in the prison parking lot. 23 guns were stolen from the prison store room on their way out.

30 MAY – KITTANNING, PENNSYLVANIA, UNITED STATES

An Armstrong County Jail guard needed medical treatment after being attacked by an inmate. The alleged assault occurred when the inmate was being “defiant in his cell” and several correctional officers attempted to subdue him. The inmate grabbed the pepper spray and turned it against the guards, according to police, and a guard was struck in the head by a white tube sock with a bar of soap in it, lacerating his forehead.

8 JUNE – BOISE, IDAHO, UNITED STATES

A correctional officer at the Idaho Maximum Security Institution was stabbed in the head and face by an inmate with a piece of metal.

11 JUNE – KENILWORTH, NEW JERSEY, UNITED STATES

A Union County Jail inmate stabbed a corrections officer in the neck with a sharpened pencil.

25 JUNE – COVINGTON, LOUISIANA, UNITED STATES

Four inmates escaped from the St. Tammany Parish Jail by removing the caulking around the shatterproof glass window, cutting through the eight metal bars and squeezing through the 6-inch-wide opening. After jumping out the second story window, they cut through fence wires in the prison yard, ran underneath an empty guard tower and climbed over a razor-wire-topped fence to freedom.

27 JUNE – JASPER, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES

A correctional officer was stabbed multiple times with a homemade ice pick at the Hamilton Correctional Institution.

2 JULY – NEWKIRK, OKLAHOMA, UNITED STATES

Four inmates escaped the Kay County Jail by scaling a wall up to the roof and busting through a skylight. Once there, someone threw a rope up to them and they climbed down and stole a car.

5 JULY – CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, UNITED STATES

Middlesex County Jail inmates became unruly and attacked staff and the fire suppression system with a wooden bench, setting off the sprinklers and causing a flood which forced the jail to be evacuated. Approximately \$400,000 in damages was done.

16 JULY – AUBURN, INDIANA, UNITED STATES

An inmate escaped from the DeKalb County Jail, for the first time in the facility’s history, by breaking out the 6 inch thick window and squeezing through.

21 JULY – WARKWORTH, ONTARIO, CANADA

More than 200 Warkworth Correctional Institution inmates (About one third of the prison’s population.) refused to enter their cells and took control of most of the penitentiary

to validate their membership. This is being done because there are many people alleging membership, especially saying that they are members of the “Black Panther Party” when in fact there is no such thing as the Black Panther Party in existence anymore. Our last chapter was closed by the then Coordinator of the SCC, B. Kwaku Duren, in 1982 and has resumed under the following names: The Black Panther militia, The Black Panther Collective and The New Panther Vanguard Movement. (The NPVM was formed when these groups agreed to accept a national NPVM body and a national code of conduct to work in a unified way.) Write to inquire more about that issue.

We hope that these programs will enable prisoners to better liberate themselves and others from the death grip of their oppressors. For more information about any of the subjects mentioned above, write to: Sidney (Shariyf) Williams #563001, 899 FM 632, Kenedy, Texas, 78119. I am the State Chairman for NPVM in Texas. If you cannot write to prisoners simply write my name BUT leave off the ID number. Include the rest of the address after leaving off the number.

P.S. To review our Platform and Programs go to www.globalpanther.com You can also request this information directly from me.

Sidney Williams
563001
899 FM 632
Kenedy, TX, 78119

New Panther Vanguard
Movement
P.O. Box 3161
Compton, CA 90023

November 2009, Texas Prisoners’ Freedom Agenda

In the Trenches - Resistance on the Texas Prison Front

As the coordinator of the Texas Prisoners’ Freedom Agenda campaign, I have worked with Boston ABC to prepare and distribute copies of a Campaign brochure and pamphlet, set up a website and email address, and build and advance the TPFA campaign as an organized and powerful force of resistance.

I’ve produced two issues of the TPFA campaign’s e-newsletter, “The Texas Freedom Examiner and Report.” Issue #1 contained an article titled “Criminals on the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals,” pointing out crimes that were committed by Judges Keller and Johnson, and former court general counsel Ed Marty, in connection with the denial of death-row inmate Michael Wayne Richard’s access to the court to file a final appeal with his execution imminent, and resulting in his execution the same day in 2007. These crimes include perjury, obstruction of justice, official misconduct, official oppression and/or violation of the civil rights of a person in custody. Issue #2 has an article titled “State Auditor’s Report on TDCJ’s Inherently

Biased Inmate Grievance Program,” and a related online “Petition for Adequate TDCJ Inmate Grievance Program and Access to Judicial Review” for freeworld supporters of Texas prisoners to sign and promote and which TPFPA will present to the Texas legislature. We ask all Texas prisoners to have their supporters in the freeworld check out our website, subscribe to our e-newsletter, and sign and help promote the online petitions to the Texas legislature on behalf of Texas prisoners.

The TPFPA campaign has written the Texas Liver Coalition in effort to get Michael Unit inmate Thomas Calvin, TDCJ #1442829, on the list to receive a donated liver as soon as possible. Calvin suffers from end-stage Hepatitis C complications and his death is imminent unless he receives a liver transplant immediately. We believe prison doctors waited too long to give him interferon drug therapy and are now just waiting for him to die from total liver failure. If you can help get him on the list to receive a donated liver and liver transplant ASAP, please write me and let me know, and call Dr. Jack Thompson, M.D., and Ms. Pam Moore-Pace, facility practice manager, at Michael Unit, 2664 FM 2054, Tenn. Colony, TX 75668. Phone: 903-928-2311.

Hepatitis is the silent epidemic throughout the Texas prison system. As of May 2008, around 20,000 Texas prisoners were infected, and 800 receiving interferon drug treatment. The \$10,000 cost of drug treatment has resulted in unreasonable delay and denial of drug treatment and many avoidable prison deaths. TPFPA has initiated a letter writing campaign to expose and combat the Hepatitis C epidemic raging inside the Texas Prison System.

TPFPA is preparing to file federal criminal charges with the FBI and assistant US Attorney General in regard to the murder of a Robinson Unit inmate by a prison field force guard (Mr. Dominguez) - who shot the inmate in the head as he lay face down on the ground, with his hands behind his back, in 2000. The state grand jury refused to indict the murderous prison guard because of bias. The federal criminal case will charge this prison guard, state grand jury and district attorney with conspiracy to violate the inmate's civil rights in violation of 18 USC 241 and 242. The TPFPA “private Attorney General law enforcement task force” needs volunteer private attorneys, paralegals, and investigators to come forward and help in this regard.

To help or for more information about TPFPA campaign, contact:

Texas Prisoners' Freedom Agenda
c/o Boston ABC
PO Box 230182
Boston, MA 02123
www.myspace.com/txprisonersfreedomagenda
texasprisonersfreedomagenda@riseup.net

If you are not incarcerated you can write me directly at:

Mr. Danny Bonds #542646
Michael Unit
264 FM 2054
Tenn. Colony TX 75886

graves razones de salud. Le explicó que primeramente había sufrido un desvanecimiento y que en dos ocasiones había estado a punto de entrar en coma. Le puso al corriente de la situación, para que pudiera informar cuanto antes a las personas que le están apoyando. Tras poner en conocimiento de esta situación a los grupos de apoyo, se decidió que alguno de los abogados fuera lo antes posible a ver cómo se encontraba Amadeu y confirmar definitivamente esta decisión.

Día 23 de octubre de 2009, un abogado se ha desplazado para ver a Amadeu Casellas a la Unidad Hospitalario Penitenciaria de Terrassa.

Amadeu Casellas confirma que este Miércoles 21 de Octubre abandonó la huelga de hambre, en la que ya llevaba 100 días desde el 15 de Julio de este año. El mismo Miércoles, después de tener dos crisis por las que entró prácticamente en coma, decidió dejar la huelga de hambre dado que ya se había firmado la autorización del Juez para atarlo y entubarlo para alimentarlo forzosamente.

En estos momentos se le están realizando diferentes pruebas para comprobar como están sus órganos vitales (hígado, riñones, etc...). Los niveles de azúcar parece ser que se han normalizado a 80-90 pero la tensión aún continua baja y se le está administrando suero durante las 24 horas del día.

De momento se le ha facilitado comida líquida, como caldo, y hoy le han dado también un yogur.

Después de la huelga de hambre, Amadeu arrastra una serie de secuelas como son la pérdida de sensibilidad en ciertas zonas de las piernas que, según la neuróloga, deben considerarse irreversibles. Amadeu presenta un estado físico a primera vista muy debilitado, tiene el color de la cara muy pálido y está extremadamente delgado, sobre todo en las extremidades inferiores y superiores.

Este Miércoles CNT Manresa y Amadeu Casellas han presentado una solicitud de indulto ante el Ministerio de Justicia, en la que se solicita la remisión completa de todas sus penas y, subsidiariamente, la concesión de un indulto parcial para que le limiten el cómputo de las penas por una única que no supere los 20 años.

En una primera valoración de estos últimos acontecimientos, sólo nos cabe desear que Amadeu pueda recuperarse lo antes posible, y que esos diagnósticos de irreversibilidad, no se confirmen. Confiamos en el tesón de Amadeu, y sabemos que hará todo lo posible por recuperarse, aunque se lo pongan complicado y cuesta arriba.

También, expresar nuestra alegría por todas aquellas acciones que se han realizado en ese sentido, especialmente a lxs compañerxs solidarixs que de manera espontánea se organizaron para detener por unos instantes la ciudad, llenarla de carteles, pancartas y pintadas y ocupar una emisora para dar voz a la situación de Amadeu y romper el silencio y denunciar el abuso criminal de la institución penitenciaria catalana.

No abandonaremos la lucha, hasta que Amadeu esté libre y a salvo de la institución y hasta que todas las personas estemos a salvo de la continua amenaza de la prisión. <http://abajolosmuros.wordpress.com>

The initial steps to rehabilitate him have been to subject him to a series of medical tests in order to check his vital organs. It appears that his sugar level has stabilized, but his blood pressure continues to be low. To alleviate this, he is being administered serum 24 hours a day.

After his ordeal, Amadeu has to deal with several residual health problems, such as the loss of sensitivity in certain areas in his legs that, according to his neurologist, should be considered irreversible. At first sight, he presents a very visible debilitating physical state, since he looks very pale and extremely thin, especially in his arms and legs.

That same day, CNT Manresa and Amadeu Casellas presented a request for a pardon (reprieve) before the Ministry of Justice, in which it is requested that he gets a complete remission on his sentences, and subsequently, to conceive a partial pardon so the total sentence time would be reduced to a single one that would not exceed 20 years.

We can only wish Amadeu a fast recovery, and that the preliminary diagnostics that mention irreversible damage to his well being are proven to be wrong. We believe in Amadeu's perseverance, and we know that he will do everything possible to fully recuperate, regardless of how difficult this uphill battle turns up to be.

We would also like to express our happiness for all those actions that have been taken in this regard, especially to every single comrade who spontaneously got together and organized themselves to paralyze the city and filled the streets with posters, signs, and wall messages, as well as occupying a radio station to voice out to the population at large the details regarding Amadeu's incarceration, therefore breaking the silence and denouncing the criminal and endemic abuse that comes with anything that involves the Catalanian penitentiary institutions.

We will not abandon our struggle until Amadeu is freed from the evil talons of the penal system, and until every single one of us is safe from the constant and imminent risk of being thrown in jail.

Octubre, 2009, Catalunya, España

El Miércoles 23 de Octubre, entre las 18 y 19 horas, la abogada de Amadeu recibió una inesperada llamada telefónica, en la que se identificaron como de Serveis Penitenciaris (Direcció General de Serveis Penitenciaris) y, sin darle ninguna explicación más, le decían que tenía que llamar a la Unidad Hospitalaria Penitenciaria de Terrassa (UHP), que le pondrían con Amadeu.

La abogada, conociendo la grave situación de salud de Amadeu, a causa de los 100 días en huelga de hambre, llamó inmediatamente a la UHP. Amadeu le comunicó que había tomado la decisión de abandonar la huelga de hambre por

THE ALMIGHTY PEN AND PAPER: GRIEVANCES AND LEGAL WORK

November 2009, Murrieta, CA

Since 11-18-07 I've been held captive in the AdSeg Housing Unit at the Robert Predly Detention Center for my political beliefs and actions. Since then I've been assaulted by deputies, held in waist-chain and leg-irons for over 24 hours and transferred back and forth to the Southwest Detention Center where I'm currently at now. As of the last six months, my mail is being censored and returned to senders, labeled "gang related", "promotes violence", "racial hatred", and "not a recognized publisher", just to name a few. Since the grievance form goes through the fascist's chain of command I get no results. Just constant harassment from my captors. I stand strongly in stiff resistance as I continue to write letters to outside collectives to bring this situation to notice and hope my petition will be heard and something can be done to stop this madness that violates my Constitutional rights of freedom of speech. If you're having problems with censorship in your institution contact:

Bailey Clarke, PO Box 40799, San Francisco, CA 94140
In Struggle and Solidarity,
Bro. Terrance E. White
#200632909 SWDC
30755 B Auld Road
Murrieta, CA 92563

August, 2009, Taylorsville, NC

Here at Alexander Correctional Institution they are denying D-Seg, I-con, and M-con inmates access to the news media. They take our radios, give us no TV, and stopped allowing us newspapers because of a so called 'low budget'. At this time I have a grievance in on this matter, which I just appealed because it just came back with another lame excuse, as always. I am not up to date on the law, but I know this isn't right.

Jason Dale #0720181
633 Old Land Fill Rd
Taylorsville, NC 28681

November 2009, Pine City, NY

My turn has come to share with you my endeavor in our war against the beast. My issue consists of striving to make the New York state department of Corrections pay for my personal property (literature from Boston ABC) which they lost, destroyed, or stole.

In New York, and in every prison in America, if we are accused of losing, stealing, or destroying government property, we will be forced to pay the government for that property. Any money we have or get will be automatically confiscated. And if one doesn't have money, the jail will encumber one's prison account for the next 300 years, if necessary.

New York law says I should be compensated for my loss. The remedy for a lost property claim is a "state tort", a lawsuit.

In New York a prisoner must exhaust all administrative remedies first before filing a lawsuit. So, first I filed my institutional claim. After an alleged investigation my claim was denied, supposedly because I could not prove the value of my property. I appealed. It too was denied.

My property came to the prison via the US Mail. The literature was confiscated allegedly because of "unruly political views." New York state prison rules do allow for censorship and confiscation of written materials for certain reasons, such as unauthorized organizations (gangs), potential to incite violence, and claims of security. However, differing political views is not a reason to confiscate literature and/or mail. I can be a communist, a socialist, and anarchist, whatever.

I appealed the denial of my institutional claim to the New York State prison system central office. After the central office review, I won, and my literature was sent back to my jail to be turned over to me. When it got back to the jail into the hands of the pigs, it disappeared.

Determined to get my property back, or make the prison pay me, I filed a lawsuit in the New York State Court of claims.

My institutional claim investigation determined that prison personnel were the last ones in possession of my property. New York's prison rules clearly state that when a prisoners' property in prison personnel's possession is lost by them, the prison is liable. Therefore, I have asked the Court to grant me summary judgment on the matter of liability- not damages (the amount I should be compensated).

Summary Judgment is a legal proceeding consisting of a Judgment made by the Court based on the evidence, when there is no need for a trial, because the evidence is clear and cannot be denied. The only question not answered in my case is the value of my property. The court can make a summary judgment determination on the matter of liability based on the institutional claim findings.

The struggle continues! I'll keep you posted...

Keith McDay 04 A-4724
Southport CF
PO Box 2000
Pine City, NY 14871



Greece: Anarchist flags fly at a solidarity demo outside Diavata prison in Salonica.

*"What Prison Does"
Painting By Peter Hakala
A3960 AC, HHP Frankland Brasside
Durham, England, DH1-54D*



October 2009, Athens, Greece

Prison Action News generally publishes stories of resistance written by prisoners. However, we are making an exception in the case of Greek anarchist and hunger striker Thodoris Iliopoulos.

On August 23rd, 2009 a communique was released by Thodoris' supporters. It read in part: "Thodoris Iliopoulos is on a hunger strike for more than 40 days now and his state is critical! He is one of the last people held in prison after December revolt in Greece and he is remanded without any evidence. 'Those who lived the December events, those who experienced the mechanisms' violence, those lived the hardness of the cell, with or without sentence, those who know that the only way to freedom is through resistance, those who react against the court injustice and its horror, they are the ones who understand me and will support me.' ...Thodoris Iliopoulos is a 31-year old defender of freedom who after his arrest in December 2008 was illegally detained in Koridalos Prison in Athens with fabricated molotov-throwing charges by cops, whereas all other witnesses confirm that he is totally innocent. He went on hunger strike on 10 July 2009 and he is supported by the whole Greek society and many other people around the world. The Solidarity Initiative for Thodoris Iliopoulos has released a call-out for international solidarity and a solidarity concert is arranged for Monday 24 August 2009 at 20:00 in Athens."

Thodoris was finally released on August 27, after a 49 day hunger strike that almost killed him. Numerous demonstrations and other solidarity actions were held across Greece in his support.

October 2009, Catalonia, Spain

Amadeu Casellas puts an end to his hunger strike

(excerpt- reposted from C.N.A. Mexico, translated by Claudio)

On October 23, Amadeu's lawyer received an unexpected phone call from Penitentiary Services officials. They informed her that she had to call the Penal Hospital Unit in Terrassa (UHP), who would put her in touch with Amadeu. The lawyer, aware of Amadeu's deteriorated health condition due to his 100 day-long hunger strike, called UHP immediately. Amadeu let her know of his decision to abandon his hunger strike due to his debilitating health status. He explained that he had lost consciousness once, and that twice he had seen himself on the brink of falling into a coma.

That same day, a law advocate visited Amadeu at the UHP. Once there, Amadeu confirmed that he had abandoned his 100 day-long hunger strike on October 21st, which he had initiated on July 15. This was due also to his knowledge that a judge had authorized an order to have Amadeu strapped and force-fed.

(Continued on Page 28)

November 2009, Toledo, OH

Two items:

First, I have filed a habeas corpus petition in the Ohio Supreme Court claiming that Ohio had no jurisdiction to put me on trial. Armed with a great deal of research, and some awesome background based on Ward Churchill's work, I argued that the northern half of the alleged "State of Ohio" is not part of Ohio at all. By the treaty of Greeneville, 1795, the northern half of Ohio is Indian territory. It was never ceded to the United States.

Ohio had no jurisdiction over me. I was in Indian territory. And I can prove it. Anyone interested can get a copy of my petition from the Ohio Supreme Court, Case No. 09-1969. It may be accessible on line at the Ohio Supreme Court web site.

If anyone can assist me, I need to get contact information for the Ohio tribes who signed the treaty of Greeneville so I can get them to file amicus curiae (friend of the court) briefs and assert their own positions in the matter. They own the land. They have jurisdiction. The tribes are: the Wyandot, Shawnee, Ottawa, Chipewewa, Potawatami, Miami, Eel-River, Wea, Kickapo, Piankashaw and Kaskaskia.

My intention is to take this all the to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the Organization of American States. The United States will have to defend genocide and theft in an international forum with the eyes of the world watching.

The crimes against the indigenous people of America are at the foundation of this system. If we undo that colonization, this fascist empire has no place to stand.

Second, I'm running for Governor of Ohio in 2010 as a Zapatista candidate.

"End civilization, vote for Swain." Ohio has the fastest shrinking population in the country, so if the disaffected and discontented migrate to Ohio and vote for me, we can steal one election and establish an anarchist homeland where the state of Ohio used to be.

I don't want to be Ohio's next governor; I want to be Ohio's last governor. Here's to the Ohio Zapatista Autonomous Zone. The hierarchs can keep the other 49 states... for now. Stay dangerous.

Freedom,

Sean Swain

Political prisoner and candidate for Ohio Governor, 2010

PO Box 24305, Toledo, Ohio 43608



November 2009, Frackville, PA “INNOCENT BUT WEARING GUILTY CLOTHES”

Over a decade ago, I was charged with conspiracy to commit murder. As I was Innocent, I figured the truth would come out and it was just a bad mistaken identity. I wore County Prison Clothes for almost two (2) years before my trial arrived. I wore my own clothes for trial and I thought I would never have to wear prison clothes again. The last words I remembered were, ‘For the remainder of your natural life, you will be fed, clothed and sheltered by the Department of Corrections.’ Not only was my freedom taken for a crime I never conspired to commit, I was told I had to wear the clothes of a guilty man for the rest of my life. It’s been over a decade and I’ve been fighting to rid myself of these clothes through the appeal procedures. I sent over three hundred (300) letters to various innocent organizations and places in other countries seeking help. I’ve been in a couple of magazines and newsletters, put on websites and so on. All the time while this was going on I was representing myself and my appeals were getting farther and farther away. When I thought I was never going to get the help I needed, a legal team took over my case. I am writing this to encourage those who are in my situation who gave up, DON’T get discouraged when an innocent organization turns you down. Over three hundred people turned me down. Just keep in mind, you have not committed a crime, a crime has been committed against you. You’re “INNOCENT BUT WEARING GUILTY CLOTHES”.

Help to Free the Innocent * Tomorrow It Could Be You
Lorenzo Johnson #DF-1036
SCI-Mahanoy 301 Morea Road
Frackville, PA 17932
www.iippi.org/inmates/pennsylvania/lorenzojohnson.html
My attorney can be emailed at: michael_wiseman@fd.org

here at SCI Greene County’s ‘death camp’ where courageous prisoners of war and/or revolutionaries of the 60s 70s, and early 80s are and have been held against their will, with 99% of their collective or effective physical force exhausted somewhat, given such pacifying privileges as TVs, radios, and commissary food items. So it’s truly abnormal for any resistance to take place on this particular block.

Robust at 33, feeling my destiny as a 12 year politically conscious freedom fighter, I was willing and honored to battle our oppressors unarmed if need be to the dying breath, however I knew weapons would give me a 50 percent winnable chance, though I was lacking any weapons due to circumstances.

Aware of my previous challenges to their authority, the officers by-passed me and went to other prisoners’ cages, who all agreed to be handcuffed and hauled off back to their assigned cells.

If you aren’t shocked by the unwillingness of slaves to take over the plantations, some fellow prisoners asked me to not rebel and to come back into my cell.

I was first approached by a Sgt. after all other convicts were secured in their cells. He threatened me with a write-up which would logically change my status not my conditions- I still refused to exit, which brought other superior officers like: lieutenants, captains, and ironically, yet perceivably, a psych-doctor whom I quickly dismissed. The lieutenants and captains constantly tried to compromise and threaten me, especially once they utterly acknowledged that my formation was primarily for the whole of enslaved individuals! By this time I had seized the entire 50 foot recreation area for at least 2.5-3 hours. Hyped up through failed negotiations of racist guards, I wished I had obtained some sort of weapon equal or paramount to theirs in order to show them how acute I was about “freedom!!!”

My continuity of demands were and still are “Freedom for all” Greene County prisoners and hoping that my stance would become contagious tomorrow.

The tyrants became restless and eager to crush this ambitious, audacious, self upheaval, so finally they called an armed SWAT team/goon squad who arrived in armor gear from head to toe and pepper spray, stun guns, shields, and sticks.

Less concerned with being outnumbered than out-armed, anticipating to witness another battle, I finally agreed to surrender. My decision was punished with denial of meals and property, sleeping in an unsanitary, brightly-lit camera observational cell, etc.

In conclusion, 30 days later I was recommended a transfer to the SMU (Special Management Unit) for a possibility to be released back to general population.

By rebellion- I was victorious! “Each generation must, out of relative obscurity, discover its mission, and fulfill or betray it.” -Frantz Fanon.

Dare to struggle, dare to win!
By Comrade Bro. Khalil Bennett
DX 9353
175 Progress Dr.
Waynesburg, PA 15370

I rigged my sprinkler, assuming I was going to be maced, and put the note in the door backed by a piece of cardboard to block the window. Some time later, 12 officers rushed in my cell with riot gear and gas. I pulled the sprinkler, neutralizing the gas, but my face got smashed on the bunk and the wall and I wound up on the bottom of a “pig pile” with the riot cops beating me. I was dragged down the tier by my face and left in shackles for 17 hours. Once back in the cell, the medication and breathing machine mysteriously showed up.

After the medication issue/incident I was denied clean clothes for over a week, during which time I gathered that other inmates and I were being given recreation outside our cells twice a week and being left outside for up to 4 hours in sub-freezing temperatures wearing shorts, slippers, and ill-fitting coats. We’re made to choose between freezing and risking serious injury, or not going to recreation.

Amidst rampant civil rights violations, there is no functional law library in the SHU; it was destroyed during its use as a drunk tank. I filed a Federal Lawsuit in the 7th circuit, but the judge did not feel I proved prejudice regarding the law library and you can’t sue for administrative remedies. The other claims of denial of clothes and the rec situation were directed for further proceedings but my pending transfer to SMU Lewisburg might render these issues moot. Stay tuned.

Jordan Samuel McArroll 25458-038
PO Box 33
UPS Terre Huate
Terre Haute, IN 47808

or 147 County Rd.
Lakeville, MA 02347

November 2009, Waynesburg, PA **“Rebellious of Captivity”**

After nearly 6 years of strenuous isolation in a well known Control Unit in Southwestern Pennsylvania, I, comrade Bro. Khalil “Mummy” Bennett opted to revolt against my guards in the best and most efficient way possible. My patience was drained in pursuit of gaining awareness for our cause. I chose Monday, May 11, 2009 in the wee hours of the morning to make my move.

Since 1 hour of recreation is almost guaranteed to each prisoner via administration policy, I decided to act in this most spacious area in the segregated station.

Though my pre-planned mission was executed singularly, I would’ve gladly accepted unlimited others to take a stand with me for freedom! The turn-a-keys entered the yard perimeter to escort me from the dog-like “solo” man cages at the termination of our hour. I was held in the very first cage, and my bold statement of “I ain’t goin in” shocked and stunned the guards, mainly because the block I had been decaying on for the last 3 years remains an administrative custody block

November 2009, Prison Legal News **Prison Legal News Sues Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice For Censoring Books**

PLN’s complaint states that the TDCJ has inappropriately censored books repeatedly on orders sent to Texas State Prisoners by PLN, a Washington State-based legal publication that, aside from being a highly valued legal resource for prisoners, makes books available to prisoners.

The book in question at the heart of this civil suit is *Women Behind Bars: The Crisis of Women in the U.S. Prison System*, by Silja J. A. Talvi, an award-winning author and accomplished journalist acclaimed by reviewers for writing a comprehensive and passionate indictment of the inhumane treatment of female prisoners; which apparently hit a nerve of senior prison officials.

The Plaintiff, PLN, contends that they were not notified of the censorship decision by the TDCJ, which would have allowed PLN to respond to contest the decision.

A secondary book ordered from PLN entitled *The Perpetual Prison Machine: How America Profits from Crime*, by Joel Dyer, was also denied and censored because Dyer’s book covered the prison rape issue.

Paul Wright, editor and publisher of PLN, laments of prison officials and correctional departments, “It is a sad commentary when government officials censor books sent to prisoners – particularly books that deal with prisoners’ rights and conditions in our nation’s prisons.”

Scott Medlock, Director of the Texas Civil Rights Project’s Prisoners’ Rights Program is lead attorney in the case, along with General Counsel for the HRDC Daniel E. Manville, of Ferndale, Michigan. The case is styled *Prison Legal News v. Livingston*, U.S. District Court (S.D. Texas Corpus Christi Division).

PLN is seeking compensatory, punitive and nominal damages, plus declaratory and injunctive relief, for violation of its rights under the First and the Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution; as well as attorney fees and costs.

If you need additional information, you can contact:

Paul Wright,
Prison Legal News, Editor,
P.O. Box 2420,
West Brattleboro, VT. 05303

(For copies of this civil suit, please send postage stamps, if you have them, to help with mailing)

ABC Para-Legal Services,
P.O. Box 7187,
Austin, Texas 78713

Scott Medlock, Attorney,
Texas Civil Rights Project,
1405 Montopolis Drive,
Austin, Texas 78741

November 2009, Iowa Park, TX

I am an indigent Texas state prisoner. I have been a Prison Reform Movement activist for about 20 years. I have sued about Texas prisoners being denied time (20 minutes) to eat our meals, denied meat-free meals, denied literature under the false pretext that it was written solely to cause prison disturbances such as strikes or riots (J. Sakai's Settlers, Graterfriends Newsletter, Walking On Borrowed Land from Texas Christian University Press, etc.) and, of course, unnecessary and excessive uses of force by guards. Some suits have produced positive changes, even though the courts ignored the facts and jurisprudence and ruled against me.

Last year I submitted 26 formal grievances of one grievance per week. However, we can submit at most one every eight days because they are not dated when received as they should be. In one, I proved the unit's mailroom supervisor did not know the policy on incoming 'special mail' from a state representative. In another, I proved prisoners were being overcharged to mail out 'flats,' so administrators changed the policy to allow us to use the media mail postage rate to send out books and pamphlets. I had to submit four grievances to appeal a disciplinary conviction because administrators would not let me attach my written statement proving my innocence to a possession of contraband charge (which the Disciplinary Hearing Officer refused to even read, much less put in the records) to the grievance form. They refused to overturn the disciplinary conviction, but through a separate grievance the alleged contraband was returned to me. Without outside support, my disciplinary record will not be corrected. I had to submit seven grievances just to get the unit's parole officer to tell me who voted, and how, at my last parole review.

I am handling a Law Library Policy Project survey to get a definite, system-wide policy statement about prisoners working together on legal issues while in unit law libraries. I have sent the survey to 36 addresses since June 2008, but only 11 were returned (and only 5 actually answered the one question).

I have been producing and distributing the Kwazulu newsletter since 1998. Various ABC branches have helped with copying and distribution since September 2001. And as a member of the NSC of the New Afrikan Service Organization, I designed a Petition to Repeal the 13th Amendment for Texas prisoners this January.

I need help in copying documents more than anything else. I also have several summaries and notes from articles that I need typed. I appeal to non-incarcerated people to ask questions of the TDCJ-CID (Texas prison system) and to make complaints.

Richard T. Ayers #468361
2101 FM 369N, Allred Unit
Iowa Park, TX 76367

October 2009, Terre Haute, IN

I was placed in a cell block labeled "The Terre Haute Program." This program runs pursuant to an in-house policy statement and is primarily run by the psychology department. Officers don't need incident reports against inmates to place them in this program, merely recommend them. The rationale is that the program is not punitive in nature, despite the drastically restrictive conditions of this cell block/program compared to general population. To return to general population you must participate in classes and answer highly intrusive Q and A type pamphlets that ask about your court case and other sensitive issues. Simply stated, either forfeit your right to remain silent and your right to refuse medical treatment or have your liberty restricted indefinitely.

One day prison personnel locked myself and others, some of whom were wheelchair bound and very ill, in a section of the recreation yard with no functioning facilities, and told us that we would get our already very limited recreation there from then on. Their explanation: "because we run this place."

Sick of prison staff taking free shots at our rights, we threw off our Terre Haute Program jumpsuits in the middle of the unit, organized a strike, and retired to our cells. Our block was put on lockdown.

Instead of giving inmates incident reports and putting them in the SHU (BOP policy if they broke a rule; refusing an alternative program is not), the warden implemented a shower for yellow jumpsuit policy, meaning you have to wear a yellow jumpsuit while you go to and from the shower. While the rest of the Terre Haute prison complex was quarantined due to rampant illness, the warden used showers as a bargaining tool to force inmates to conform to the allegedly alternative program.

In the following 12 days, I personally threw entire trays of food at officers through my doorslot, hitting one in the chest. I also smashed the cell door window in my cell using a plastic trashcan. I was then dragged, handcuffed to another cell, chained to the bed, and eventually placed in a new cell. I was told "per warden's order" I couldn't go to the SHU and couldn't go to the shower until I complied with the program.

Prison personnel used a pro-administration group of inmates from both the cell block and general population to help them end the strike. I was the last convict to come out and still didn't wear the jumpsuit. Shortly thereafter, the group used to break the strike with drunken attacks on other inmates were forcibly removed from general population for aiding the administration's violations of inmates' rights.

The USP was locked down for over 3 weeks. 9 inmates were rushed to outside hospitals with stab wounds. 30 inmates were put in the SHU for alleged direct involvement. I was one of them. The news media showed up and reported on the August 3rd, 2008 incident. None of the wardens' strike breakers remain here.

In winter '09 I was placed in the SHU. My cellmate suffered from MS. After 4 days of them refusing his medication and breathing machine (presumably because he allegedly assaulted a CO) despite him asking every shift plainly and politely for these necessities, I wrote a letter stating that my cellmate is terminally ill with an MS relapse, a result of his being denied his prescriptions, concluding "Bring the meds/machine or bring the extractions team, we're done talking!"

DIRECT ACTION/ NON-COMPLIANCE

December 2009, KY

Damage was so extensive at the Northpoint Training Center prison after a riot on August 21, that 700 of the 1200 inmates had to be transferred elsewhere. Six buildings, including the kitchen and five dorms, were burned by prisoners at the Burgin, Kentucky, facility, in what the prison administrators labeled a race/gang incident. Eight inmates and an equal number of guards were hospitalized with non-life threatening injuries.

Unfortunately for the Kentucky Department of Corrections, Matt Hughes, a guard at the facility, came out months later with a very different account of the events. He denied the various explanations given by prison administrators (that the riot was started by Latino prisoners against other inmates, and that it was gang-related), and revealed that the riot followed complaints about food quality at the facility.

The private company Aramark currently provides meals at the facility. Under a contract with the state of Kentucky, they are paid \$2.63 a day for every inmate that they feed. There are frequent complaints of bugs and animal waste in the food. Further, the food is of low-quality and served in small portions, with the expectation that inmates should supplement regular meals with snacks from the commissary. This type of complaint has become more common nationally as state legislators cut back prison budgets.

Over the past year, prison officials nationwide have repeatedly blamed large-scale riots and uprisings on gang organizing in prisons- a contention that is sometimes true, but is frequently a cover up of inmates resisting their conditions. We may not always know what the real reasons were for prison riots and subsequent lockdowns, but we know that we can't trust the official accounts.

In this Kentucky case, we are lucky for Matt Hughes' honesty and anger at the lies of the prison officials, but we still have to maintain our critical lens. Hughes is a member of AFSCME (American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees), a union that represents guards at Northpoint prison, as well as many other prisons and control units across the country. While AFSCME may want to improve food at the facility, if only to improve safety for the staff, they also criticize the dorm style housing, and favor imposing higher security single cells. More generally, AFSCME argues for more repression at prisons where they represent the guards.

See also the Louisville Courier-Journal, November 7, 2009 "Prison Worker Blames Riot on Food."

December 2009, Lovelady, TX BEHIND ENEMY LINES!!!

Greetings Comrades, let me remind all of you of a few things we must never forget! POWER CONCEDES NOTHING WITHOUT A DEMAND! If you've been following legal trials in Texas, you know the prison and parole system is under siege. We have courageous comrades taking it where they hate it most: THE POCKETBOOK! Those who control the system worship money, so we've resorted to using the court since we don't have the numbers to fight on any other level successfully.

Although not a member of the ABC family of support, Ray Curtis Graham got help from Habern, O'Neil & Buckley, LLP, in *Graham v. Owens*, #08-cv-00006-SS (appeal from the U.S. West. Dist.), and won \$21,000 plus attorney fees of \$100,000 against Rissie Owens for violating the parolee's constitutional rights. As stated in the Austin-American Statesman, THERE COULD BE THOUSANDS OF SUITS TO FOLLOW!

Hazel v. Quarterman, #1:09-cv-159-SS is close behind Graham at the Western District, along with 12 other suits. Believe me, Our Time Has Come to make a choice between what is right and what is easy! Hazel's and other parole suits are presently in limbo waiting to see how Graham's case proceeds; they should move forward now with great success. Comrades in this system must file (§11.07 & §2254) suits that'll force these people into negotiations.

Spring of 2009, I discussed my suit *Hazel v. Bell*, #9:09-cv-216 (U.S. East. Dist. Lufkin), that challenged TDCJ-CID (David Sweetin in particular), and their basic delivery of needs at rapidly deteriorating old red brick units in Huntsville, Houston, and Southern regions. Because certainly, thousands of Ruiz-type suits will flood the Judiciary; U.S. Magistrate Judith Guthrie is afraid to find (TDCJ-CID) Defendants in contempt. Yet, the rubber meets the road soon, because she's issued [3] separate orders they've failed to comply with for parole, maintenance, security, and facility documentation. The lid will blow off TDCJ-CID whatever's turned over that'll force Feds into action similar to those taken under the Ruiz court! Guthrie's hearing in pretrial motions said, "I am not going to have another Ruiz in this court!"

A Motion for Recusal of Guthrie may be necessary if she takes no action!

Taking responsibility to claim your freedom and fight for your rights is NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART! Our consciousness of the atmosphere of captivity and of the denial of our rights and freedom will be viewed with suspicion when we challenge the authorities. Questions about our sanity will be raised for bringing up issues of freedom torture or civil rights. Fellow captives and their masters can't conceive why you aren't content to partake of their benevolence and prison plantation hospitality.

Be courageous if designated "insane", and deal with the vulnerability of isolation. The master's controlling captive's consciousness means few support allies offering protection to move forward. Don't give in! Don't let what they want you to see as normal, a reward for captives disavowing the fight for truth, and acknowledging the master's consciousness/reality, as the correct way to think ; sway; deter; or

convince you to return to the comfortable confines of mental slavery.

Be determined and patient. Be assured that what we know TO BE TRUE about the prison slave master is correct, EVEN WITH SO MANY CONSENSUSES THAT WE ARE WRONG!!! HOLD ON TO YOUR RIGHT TO FREEDOM!

Please let me close by thanking Twitch for his tireless work on our behalf. I also want to thank the comrades who have supported me and these efforts to strike at their hearts and free the comrades. Fight on! En La Lucha, El Abogado Negro.

-Terrence Hazel

December 2009, Sturtevant, WI

I've been fighting for my rights and the rights of others for years with no end in sight. My main struggle today is for medical treatment and medical confidentiality. My brother is dying of HIV, a treatable disease, yet people just let him rot. I have had the opportunity to file one federal lawsuit in court and am working on two more. In doing so I caused WI DOC over 20,000 dollars in hospital trips. Despite all this I face unremitting torture.

We as brothers and sisters need to stand together in unity. I cannot let anyone go alone to the lions den to fight. Remember the words I say: Hunger Strikes! Come together and join the fight. Resist with all you got.

I move a lot, but my address will be on the Internet or Boston ABC will have it if anybody wants to comment on this article.

In Solidarity,

Manuel C. Salas #504212

RCI WI DOC

"All prisoners are free! Each and every-one can go home," from "1936: The Spanish Revolution"



November 2009, East Brunswick, Australia

Lex Wotton, an Indigenous community leader from Palm Island was found guilty on October 24 of "rioting with destruction" by an all-white jury in Brisbane's District Court. Wotton was singled out for his participation in the protest on Palm Island that took place following the in-custody death of Mulrunji Doomadgee. Mulrunji Doomadgee, a 36-year-old Palm Island man, died on November 19, 2004, at the hands of Senior Sergeant Chris Hurley. Despite admitting responsibility for the death, Hurley was subsequently acquitted of manslaughter by an all-white jury in Townsville in 2007. Lex is serving 6 years in Townsville Correctional Center in Queensland, Australia.

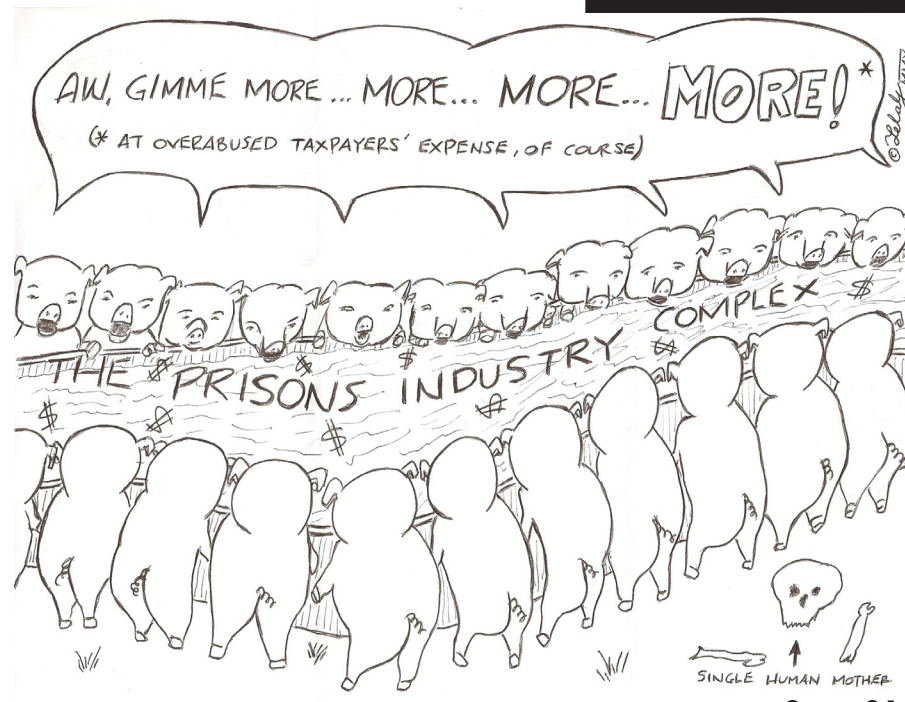
Send letters & money orders to:

Lex Wotton c/o ABCmelb

Po Box 300

East Brunswick, 3057 vic Australia

Cartoon Copyright 2009,
Ana Lucia Gelabert 384484
TDCJ Lane Murray Unit
1916 N Hwy 36 Bypass,
Gatesville, Tx, 76596



November 2009, Draper, UT

I send strength to all comrades worldwide! The beautiful people at TIME (Prison Reform Community Center, PO Box 674 Las Cruces, NM 88004) have been helping me and about forty convicts here at the USP Auschwitz expose the abuses and the murders resulting from said abuses. As I wrote in last January's issue of PAN, Utah pigs are belittling and torturing us all here in Uinta one Solitary Supermax day and night by denial of hearing aids to the deaf, sleep deprivation, starvation, freezing, and refusing to deliver all personal mail. For the last year and a half, I've recorded each and every incident while I was awake and sent copies to several human rights organizations. TIME was my only response and that only through the persistent mailings and phone calls by a family member to get their letter to me. Once I learned that TIME was interested in helping, I contacted attorneys to grease up some of my letters so these Nazi pigs' sticky fingers wouldn't hold them up. I also sent calls to arms to those who've experienced or are experiencing inhumane conditions in hopes they would stand up and fight back. They did stand up and we are fighting.

Just this October 26th, I was informed that an investigation was begun, spearheaded by none other than Adolf Hitler "himself" Warden Steven Turley. So far the facts are these: A Sgt. Scott and Officer Robinson just returned from a 3-week suspension without pay, but these guys are alcoholics and rumor has it they were suspended after being busted for poaching beer and driving under the influence of alcohol. The investigation has just started with many statements and grievances in favor of us and against these swine and interviews will soon follow. It's just a matter of time until turn keys will be turning burgers or tossing and turning in one of these cells beside me. In the upcoming July issue I'll let everyone know how this all pans out.

Abu Grahib's scandal included several higher up grand dragons from Utah DOC and the way these scum-pig-leaches look out for and watch each others' backs. I wouldn't be surprised if they're still employed somewhere in the shady injustice system. My goal here is to keep at their throats, record each abuse, expose each grievance, and raise support from the outside and convict awareness on the inside until the true nature of an Amerikan prison is known by the masses. I breathe revolution, I sweat revolution, and I will see revolution or die in the process. I'll die with a smile on my face and righteous rage in my heart. Behind these fences, ghetto fences, prison fences, the poor, struggling fences, we are the ones who will bring about revolution. We on the bottom can see more clearly than those with their heads in the clouds. History's wheel is about to open. Let us make sure our minds are right and our shoestrings are tight. An army sits in silence on the outskirts of small Amerikan towns and big cities, huddled, hungry, and waiting, 2.4 million strong.

We stir. Dreams over.
Brandon Green 147075
USP PO Box 250
Draper, UT 84020

P.S. It's 11/7/09 and I've just discovered that an officer Nelson is on administrative leave without pay, so Sgt. Scott and Officer Robinson may have suffered the same fate. But this 'must' be the tip of the iceberg.

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SOLIDARITY: WORKING ACROSS THE BARS

November 2009, Tuscon AZ
'RUNNING DOWN THE WALLS 2009'

Let me give you a quick report of the 2009 Running Down The Walls (RDTW) runs that took place on September 12, 2009, in many cities (including LA, Boston, NYC, Toronto, Portland OR, Tucson AZ, Arcata CA) and even more prison yards all across the u.s. RDTW is an annual 5K run held in the Fall. The ABC federation in LA began RDTW in the late 1990's and continues to hold one each year. ABC chapters and other groups sponsor outside runs in different cities, while political prisoners (p.p.'s) and other conscious revolutionary prisoners organize solidarity runs inside prisons.

RDTW seeks to raise funds, awareness and support for p.p.'s and all prisoners and the prison struggle as a whole. Inside runs are an expression of solidarity among solid, especially revolutionary minded convicts. Prisoners run for their rights and dignity and in unity with runners in other prisons and people outside. Here in USP Tucson, 33 men, young and old, of different nationalities, had a spirited and solid 5K run on September 12th. We knew we were just one part of a large collective of people running all across the country and even in Canada. On city streets and parks and on prison yards, revolutionary consciousness and sweat poured freely. Next year could and should be a bigger and better RDTW run and we invite prisoners and people outside to join us.

One place anyone can find out more information on RDTW and other news, concerns, thoughts and analysis on world and national events from political prisoners is at: www.4struggle.org. This is an important voice of p.p.'s in the u.s. We produce 4SM three times a year as an emag and a paper mag. It is free to prisoners (\$6 and issue/\$15 a year for outside people who want hard copies) and you can write to 4SM at:

4strugglemag
P.O. Box 97048
RPO Roncesvalles Ave.
Toronto, Ontario
M64 3B3 Canada
(it costs 75 cents to send a letter to Canada)

Freedom Is A Constant Struggle!
Jaan Laaman -Usp Tucson

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"Keep 'em coming" drawing by:

Alex Franco 94195, NSP PO Box 607, Carson, NV 89702

