

A CALL FOR ACTION

JOIN US ON THE SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARION LOCKDOWN FOR A SPECIAL ORGANIZERS' CONFERENCE TO STOP THE NEW PROPOSED FEDERAL PRISON IN FLORENCE, COLORADO.

AFTERNOON
WORKSHOPS AND
EVENING RALLY

FEATURING:

RAFAEL CANCEL MIRANDA,
SAFIYA BUKHARI-ALSTON
AND BOB ROBIDEAU



DATE:	Saturday, November 17, 1990
WORKSHOPS:	1:00 - 6:30 p.m.
EVENING RALLY:	8:00 - 10:00p.m.
PLACE:	DePaul University, Schmitt Academic Center 2323 N. Seminary, Room 254 (near the Fullerton "El" stop on the Howard line)
Suggested Contribution for Evening Rally: \$3	
Childcare Provided	Wheelchair Accessible
DePaul Students get in free with ID	

Sponsored by the COMMITTEE TO END THE MARION Lockdown and
NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO FREE PUERTO RICAN PRISONERS OF WAR
FOR MORE INFO: COMMITTEE TO END THE MARION Lockdown
P.O. Box 578172, Chicago, Illinois 60657-8172 (312) 235-0070

A "NEW AND IMPROVED" MARION: FLORENCE, COLORADO

The U.S. Penitentiary at Marion is the worst prison in the United States, "the end of the line." Although the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) claims that the purpose of Marion is to hold the most violent prisoners, the facts demonstrate that the purpose is to incarcerate dissidents throughout the system - prisoners who lead work stoppages, who file "too many" lawsuits, who pursue their religious freedom, and who are incarcerated for political acts. Now, the BOP has decided that Marion is not brutal enough.

Under the guise of "state-of-the-art" security the federal government is planning to build a federal prison in Florence, Colorado which promises to be life-destroying. The prison in Florence will be designed so that one guard can control the movements of numerous prisoners in several cellblocks using electronic doors, cameras and audio equipment. Presently, at Marion, the prisoners can scream to one another from their cells, and

they do have minimal contact with guards when they are shoved food between the bars. In Florence, this "contact" will be eliminated. "These guys will never be out of their cells, much less in the yard or anywhere around here," the Florence City Manager claims. Florence promises near complete sensory deprivation and isolation, a technique which seeks to drive prisoners insane. The project manager for the Florence prison gloats, "Marion learned from Alcatraz, and now we've had 30 years to learn from Marion."

The planned prison at Florence will be qualitatively worse than any prison that has ever existed. Florence will introduce a whole new level of repression. When Marion was built no one could have imagined what it would have become. We know what Florence will be.

People of good will, people who want a society based on human values, must work to prevent Florence from opening.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

WORKSHOPS:

1:00 - 6:30 p.m.

1. History of Work around Marion and Other Control Units:

Participants in past legal and political struggles to shut down control units will discuss the lessons learned from those efforts and their applicability to the battle against Florence.

2. What we Know about Florence:

In what ways are the physical plans of Florence consistent with the BOP's mission? What are the legal options? What is the economic, ecological, and demographic environment of Florence?

3. Organizing to Stop Florence:

This session marks the beginning of our united strategy to prevent the opening of the Florence control unit. Aspects of this strategy will include propaganda, political perspective, and direct action.

FEATURED ADDRESSES:

8:00 - 10:00 p.m.

RAFAEL CANCEL MIRANDA -

Rafael Cancel Miranda is a National Hero of Puerto Rico. In 1954, in an effort to call attention to the fight for Puerto Rican independence, Cancel Miranda and the other Nationalists attacked the U.S. Congress, firing guns into the air and unfurling the Puerto Rican flag.

The Nationalists were captured and sent to prison. Each was imprisoned for 25 years (about as long as Nelson Mandela), until international pressure finally forced the U.S. to set them free in 1979. Cancel Miranda was sent to all the worst prisons. He started serving time at Alcatraz and stayed there until it closed in 1963. He also spent eight years at Marion.

Few people have fought so long and so consistently for the freedom of their people. Cancel Miranda is also a first hand expert on control unit prisons. He is an electrifying speaker and a living testimony to true human potential.

SAFIYA BUKHARI-ALSTON -

Safiya Bukhari-Alston was a political prisoner for almost 9 years. She was captured in a shoot-out in Virginia, when she was a member of the Black Liberation Army (BLA). "The BLA is determined that there must and will be a Black nucleus dedicated to the physical elimination of oppression."

Bukhari-Alston spends most of her time concerned with Black youth in the community, specifically addressing the issue of Black imprisonment. She also focuses on the plight of political prisoners and the debilitating prison conditions, especially for those warehoused in the New York state control units.

Bukhari-Alston informs us about the sacrifices Black people have made and their uncompromising, steadfast commitment to struggle for liberation.

BOB ROBIDEAU -

Bob Robideau, of the American Indian Movement (AIM), is National Coordinator of the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee. He was a co-defendant of Leonard Peltier and was acquitted of the shooting deaths of 2 FBI agents for which Peltier was convicted. He has spent a large part of his life in prison and is a former organizer at Oregon State Prison where he helped publish a prison newsletter. Charged with "causing unrest and dissatisfaction among the inmate population," he was given one year in the hole.

Robideau began college in prison and has since received a B.S. at Portland State. He is also a painter and silversmith.