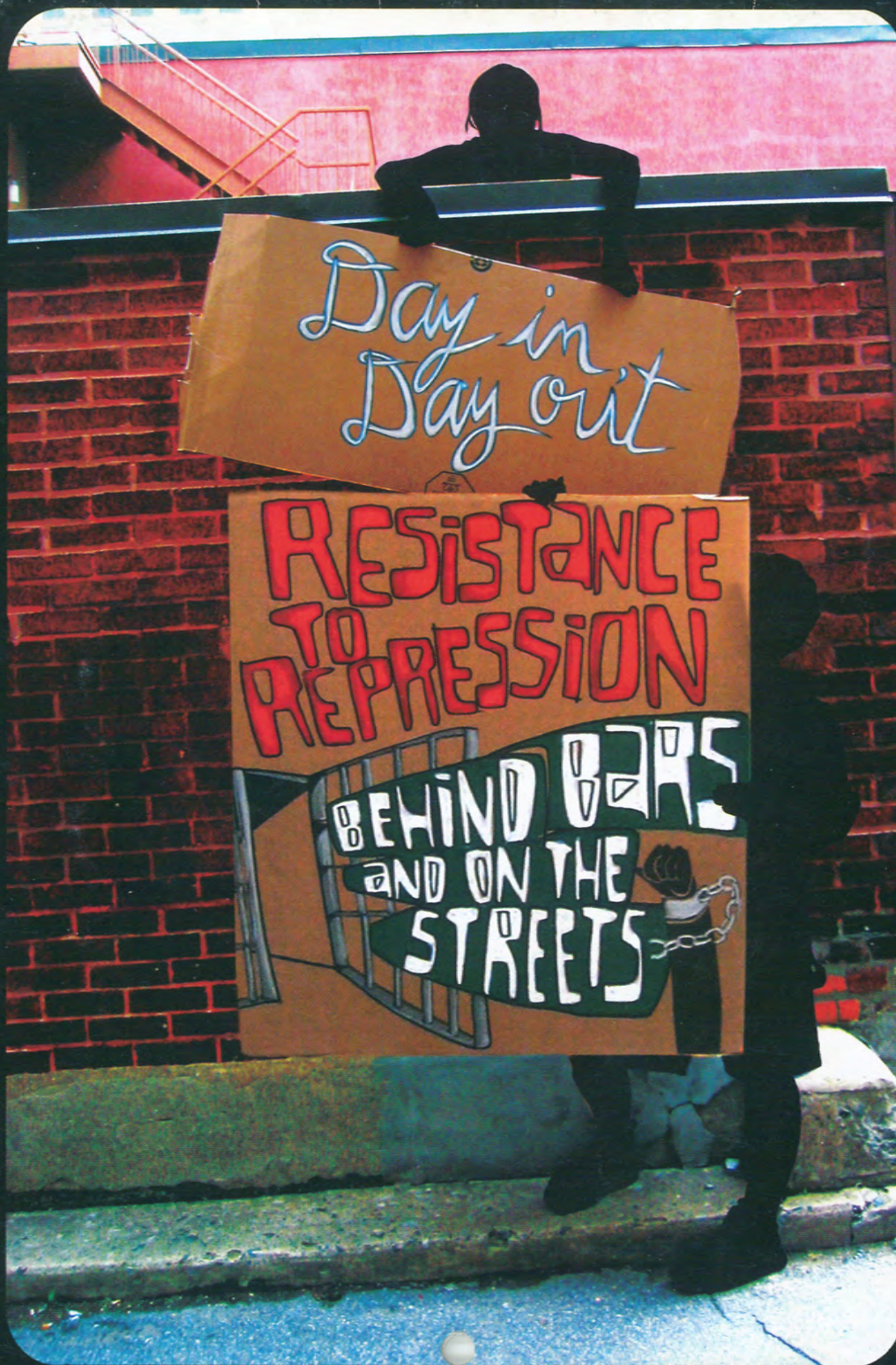


FREE
POLITICAL
PRISONERS
AND
PRISONERS
OF WAR



CALENDAR
2004

CALENDAR COMMITTEE



▲ outside organisers (l-r)
emy storey, lise kuhn, andrea lee,
sam singer, tynan jarrett, helen hudson



Robert Seth Hayes was arrested in 1973, after police opened fire on his apartment while he was home with his wife and children. During that time Seth was a member of the Black Liberation Army. In a climate dominated by portrayals of Black militants as murderers and cop-killers, which were products of the governments COINTELPRO program, Seth was convicted for the death of a NYC transit cop and for the attempted murder of the cops who stormed his apartment. He received a sentence of 25 years to life, and is being held at the Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora, NY. In 1999, Seth was diagnosed with diabetes, and has been struggling with prison administrations to get decent healthcare for his disease.



David Gilbert is a long-time anti-imperialist. He became active around the civil rights movement in 1960, and later organised against the Vietnam War. He spent 10 years as part of an underground resistance to imperialism, working as an anti-racist ally of the Black Liberation Army. In 1981, David and others were captured in connection with an attempted expropriation (theft for political reasons) of a Brink's truck in Nyack, NY. David was sentenced to 75 years to life and is currently being held in Attica prison. He is an AIDS activist and an advocate for prisoners. He is working with a small publishing collective in Montreal to publish a compilation of his writings in book form.



Herman Bell is a Black Liberation Army (BLA) Political Prisoner. He joined the Black Panther Party and was involved with political community work until 1971, when he went underground because of relentless FBI and police attacks on the Party. Herman was captured in 1973 and railroaded, along with two co-defendants Albert Nuh Washington and Jalil Muntaqim, to prison on charges of killing two cops. There is little evidence connecting Herman to the death of the two cops but much evidence pointing to the fact that Herman was targeted for his acts on behalf of Black liberation. He is serving a life sentence and is being held in the Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora, NY. He is a core group member of the Victory Gardens Project, which is a collaboration between inner city and rural community groups to promote community self-determination using food production as an organising tool.

The calendar is a joint fundraising and educational project between outside organisers in Montreal and three Political Prisoners being held in Upstate New York. The initial project was suggested by Herman, and has been shaped throughout the process by all of our ideas, discussions, and analysis. The outside collective compiles, edits and produces the calendar. All of our members are involved in day to day organizing work, on issues ranging from Palestinian solidarity to gender violence to prisoner justice. We work from an anti-imperialist, anti-racist, feminist, queer and trans positive position. Throughout our production process, we seek the input and guidance of the three Political Prisoners involved in the project: Robert Seth Hayes, Herman Bell and David Gilbert. For us, it is extremely important that people on the streets recognize the history of today's social justice movements, and how that ties in with solidarity for PPs/POWs. We want to emphasize the ongoing involvement and continued commitment of PPs/POWs in these same movements. We are excited to be in our third year of producing the calendar, and we are committed to continuing to raise awareness of Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War in Canada and the United States.

PROCEEDS

Half of the proceeds from the 2004 Political Prisoner calendar will go to The New York State Task Force on Political Prisoners

This is an ad hoc grouping of former political prisoners, attorneys and activists dedicated to winning the release of Political Prisoners in New York prisons. All but one of these 7 prisoners are past members of the Black Panther Party and Black Liberation Army and have spent about 30 years in prison. The Task Force includes representatives of the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, New Afrikan Liberation Front, Jericho Movement and Resistance in Brooklyn.

NY State Task Force on Political Prisoners
c/o Malcolm X Grassroots Movement
1195 Bedford Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11216, USA

The remaining 1/2 of the proceeds will be divided among smaller groups who are doing vital work in direct support of Political Prisoners and Prisoner of War as well as groups working against racism, colonisation and imperialism. In the past two years we have give money to groups such as:

The Native Youth Movement Secwepemc who are fighting to protect their homelands from being infringed upon, highly developed and destroyed by the Canadian government who has illegally sold their land to a resort development project Sun Peaks.

The Voice of Cerro Hueco a prisoners organisation founded in 1996 to draw attention to the plight of Indigenous prisoners who have been illegally detained by police in the Mexican state of Chiapas. (continued...)

The Victory Gardens Project, a joint project between Maine organic gardeners and Political Prisoner Herman Bell. They use food production as a tool to organize for radical social change and community self-determination and independence.

The Albert Nuh Washington Fund which was set up in honour of Political Prisoner Nuh Washington who died of cancer while in prison. The fund aims to offer a concrete form of financial support for Political Prisoners and P.O.W's who are released from prison to help them obtain the basic necessities of life such as new clothing and rent.

The Malcolm X Grassroots Organizing Committee, an organisation of New Afrikans fighting for self-determination of the oppressed Black Nation within the United States. They offer education, Political Prisoner support and community building campaigns.

Adameer which is a Palestinian non-governmental prisoner support and human rights association established in 1992. They advocate for the rights of Palestinian political prisoners, work to end the torture of these prisoners and lead public solidarity campaigns.

If you have any suggestions of groups that would fit our criteria for donations then please let us know:
freppcalendar
@inquilino.zzn.com

POLITICAL IMPRISONMENT

We believe that all forms of imprisonment are political. The so-called "justice" system and its prisons are used as weapons of social control of the state. In Canada and the United States, who is targeted by the police and who is sent to prison occurs within the context of capitalism, white privilege, and patriarchy. Native people, people of colour, youth, poor people, and poor women, are disproportionately represented in prison.

INS Detention Centers in the U.S. and Immigration Prevention Centers in Canada imprison racially profiled immigrants, refugees, and Canadian and U.S. citizens to varying degrees depending on the current social, political, and economic situation. From the imprisonment of citizens of Japanese origin in both the U.S. and Canada during WWII to the current systemic targeting and imprisonment of Arabs, Muslims, and people of South Asian descent, imprisonment is used to target people who are deemed "undesirable" or politically threatening to the current social order. "Anti-terrorist", Islamophobic, and anti-immigrant State propaganda is being used to garner public support to justify the wars at home on Indigenous peoples, immigrants, refugees, people of colour, workers, poor people and social movements and abroad in America's ongoing intervention in Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, Iraq, Colombia, etc.

A political prisoner is someone who is being held in confinement for support of or membership in a group struggling for freedom from oppression, an oppressive government, oppressive governmental policies, or exploitation of peoples, animals, and the earth. P.P.s were politically conscious and active in liberation movements prior to their imprisonment. Some examples of P.P.s held by the United States include Chicano/Mexicano P.P. Alvaro Luna Hernandez, New Afrikan Political Prisoner Mutulu Shakur, MOVE prisoner Janine Africa (and the entire MOVE 9), as well as white



Chuck Africa



Mutulu Shakur



Oscar López-Rivera



Flo Sampson, T'speten Defenders



Alvaro Luna Hernandez



Janet Africa

POLITICAL PRISONER

PRISONER OF WAR

anti-imperialist prisoner Marilyn Buck. P.P.s in Canada have included members of the Mohawk Nation in Quebec who were imprisoned during the R.C.M.P. siege of Oka and the T'speten Defenders of Gustafsen Lake, B.C. (They have since been released.)

A prisoner of war is a national combatant or ally of an international armed conflict who is held in confinement for acts in support of a people struggling for freedom, self-determination or independence from an oppressive, colonial or racist governmental regime or its policies. Carlos Alberto Torres and Oscar López-Rivera are two of the many examples of P.O.W.s. They are Puerto Ricans imprisoned for their role in the struggle to gain independence for Puerto Rico.



Marilyn Buck



Wolverine of the T'speten Defenders



Laura Whitehorn

Prisoners who have become political while in prison:

Many prisoners – such as Ruchell Cinque Magee, George Jackson, and Alfred Woodfox and Herman "Hooks" Wallace (of the Angola Three) – were not initially imprisoned for their political actions but became politically conscious and active while in prison. These prisoners deserve recognition for their contributions to movements inside and outside the prison walls. The political activity of these politicised prisoners is accompanied by harsh State repression and longer sentences.

IN MEMORY OF

THANK YOU

In Memory of Our Freedom Fighters

This calendar is dedicated to Albert Nuh Washington, Merle Africa, Kuwasi Balagoon, Teddy Jah Heath, Fred Ahmed Evans, George Jackson, John Andaliwa Clark, Angel Rodriguez Cristobal, Donald "Don T" Taylor, and Warren Wells, all freedom fighters who died in prison. They died because the torture that is prison wears down the body, even if it could not break their spirits and determination to struggle for a better world. They died because of the medical neglect that all prisoners face: in a system where Merle could be declared in good health one day and the next day be dead; where Nuh could suffer severe back pains for a year and a half and believe the doctor's diagnoses that it was a pinched nerve, only to find out later that it was a cancerous tumor that would take his life within four months. We can honour their memories by listening to the words that they left behind and by taking inspiration from their acts of bravery and kindness. We can honour their lives by never forgetting how they lived or how they died. We can honour their spirits by carrying on their work.

J. Michel Bertrand
Nozomi Ikuta
Susie Day
Laura Whitehorn
Tomi Ungerer
bo (rita d.) brown
Peggy and Bob
Gabi and Dave
Kit Malo
Nancy Jacot-Bell
QPIRG Concordia
Marcie Gibson
Pauline Hwang
Margot Brennan
QPIRG McGill
Paul Wright
Devin Burke
Tiffany Sankary
Ian Crysdale
Mohamed Cherfi
Marcel Hatch

Peterborough OPIRG
Sonja Sivesind
Kersplebedeb
Sara and Mike
Montreal ABC
Eddie Hatcher
Oscar López Rivera
Jalil Muntaqim
Tania Willard
Sydney St-Louis
Joe David
Jon Davies
Stacia Stewart
Jennica Born
Isabel Peña
Malaquias Montoya
Theodore A. Harris
Yara Molina
Prison Legal News
Josée Lambert
Jacobco Silva
Kamel Jacot-Bell

Redwire Magazine
Lindsay Brown
Jaggi Singh
Emilano and GRFPPM
The Dragonroot Centre
Alvaro Luna Hernandez
Monique D. Code
Upside Down World
John Hodgins
Megan Harrington
The People's Potato Collective
Barrio Defense Committee
Prison Activist Resource Center
Mtl. Anarchist Bookfair Collective
Zolo Agona Azania
Marilyn Buck
Open Door Books
Out of Control
IMC everywhere
San Francisco Bay View
and many others.....



JANUARY

THE ANTI-WAR MOVEMENT *yesterday and today*

The worldwide outpouring of 11 million anti-war protesters on 2/15/03 was breathtaking. Today's movement starts light years ahead of the early stages of the war in Vietnam. Back then it was considered scandalous to even question "our" foreign policy. Change came with the onset of systematic bombing of North Vietnam, leading to the then extremely impressive turnout of 20,000 people for SDS'[Students for a Democratic Society] 4/17/65 March on Washington.

The quick conquest of Iraq, while no surprise, inevitably took some wind out of movement sails. But Saddam Hussein, a tyrant who had been empowered in part by the U.S., couldn't possibly lead a sustained popular resistance. Since Vietnam, imperialism has had stunning success in crushing progressive national liberation struggles while fostering brutal allies like bin Laden and Hussein, who conveniently can be quickly turned into evil

incarnate enemies when needed to justify the intimidating display of U.S. military might. Today's tasks are more daunting, many Americans feel more threatened since 9/11/01 which has allowed Bush's crew to go on a roll toward total world domination, to push through a reactionary domestic agenda and to establish a slew of repressive measures that can be used against dissent. But as awesome as their power is, every empire overextends itself and develops cracks and fissures. As we are seeing, conquest doesn't bring automatic pacification, anti-U.S. resentment is growing worldwide, the economy is shaky and the skewed social priorities have become more blatant. Amid the disruptions and conflicts that may well emerge, there is an urgent need for a loud and clear voice for humane alternatives.

Even though birthed by civil rights, the 1960's antiwar movement failed to be deeply anti-racist and therefore was prone to collapse when the draft ended. Today, we still need to fight to make anti-racism central, to learn from and support the struggles of people of color. The recent antiwar synergy with anti-globalisation has been a promising step forward to taking on the military, economic and political aspects of one integral imperialism. Just as the struggles of the 1960's helped us start light years ahead, today too we need to be in this for the long haul. Despite the prevailing brutality and peril, long term struggle is what makes a better future possible.



about the author

David Gilbert feels that love for people and life impels determined struggle against imperialism. He was captured in 1981 as an anti-racist ally of the Black Liberation Army and sentenced to 75 years to life.



about the artist

Tomi Ungerer is a French author and illustrator born in Strasbourg in 1931. His childhood was marked by war and from this period he retains a profound disgust of war and hatred of fascism. He has written and illustrated many children's books, posters and cartoons.

FEBRUARY FREE THE CUBANS!

For five courageous and heroic Cuban men, it was their duty to try to stop the acts of terrorism carried out against their nation and its revolution. For their love of their nation and their people, for a just and noble cause, and for peace, they undertook the task of infiltrating terrorist organizations based in South Florida and other areas of the U.S. that for over four decades had been carrying out terrorist acts against Cuba.

These organizations have killed over 3000 innocent Cuban civilians and maimed over 2000. They have carried out hundreds of assassination attempts against the president and other government officials of Cuba, destroyed factories and other economic enterprises, and have used biological and chemical weapons. A single act carried out by one of these organizations against a civilian airplane killed all 73 passengers, mostly athletes and their trainers. The main man responsible for this act lives in Miami, protected by the U.S. government.

In exercising their duty, these 5 heroic men never used or carried out any act of violence, never put the security of the US government at risk, never committed any act of treason, and never violated any U.S. law. Yet, since 1998 they have been in U.S. prisons, serving long sentences and being treated as the worst of the worst criminals.

The U.S. government had been informed officially and unofficially about the activities of these five Cuban heroes, who should never have been criminalized or convicted. There is much evidence that demonstrates their innocence.

It behooves every person who loves freedom, justice, democracy, and peace to support these courageous men. They well deserve our solidarity in the quest for their freedom.

Please write to the Cuban heroes!

Gerardo Hernández
#58739-004
U.S. Penitentiary-Lompoc
3901 Klein Blvd.
Lompoc, CA 93436 USA

Ramón LabaZino Salazar
(Luís Medina)
#58734-004
U.S.P. Beaumont
P.O. Box 26030
Beaumont TX 77720-6035 USA

Fernando González Lloret
(Rubén Campa)
#58733-004
F.C.I. Oxford
P.O. Box 500
Oxford WI 53952-0505 USA

René González
Reg. #58738-004 F.C.I. Edgefield
501 Gary Hill Rd.
Edgefield, South Carolina 29824 USA

Antonio Guerrero
#58741-004
U.S.P. Florence
P.O. Box 7500
Hwy 67 S.
Florence CO 81226 USA

about the author

Oscar López Rivera is a Puerto Rican prisoner of war. He was captured in 1981 and is serving a 70-year sentence for acts and beliefs in favor of Puerto Rican independence. His activities in prison include reading, writing, and painting. His address is: Oscar López Rivera, #87651-024, PO Box 33, Terre Haute, IN 47808 USA.



Leonardo Hechavarria was raised and educated in Cuba and now resides in Vancouver. He is passionate about his island homeland and works to build friendship and understanding between Cubans and North Americans. He organizes educational and solidarity tours to Cuba and wants participants to return rejuvenated and optimistic about new futures for humanity.

Marcel Hatch is assistant organizer for Cuba Education Tours and a seasoned Cuba traveler and advocate. He works as a typographer and web designer for educational institutions in North America and Cuba. Marcel has studied Cuban graphic design since his teens and is active in Cuba solidarity work internationally.

about the artist



MARCH BOYCOTT SUN PEAKS RESORT

Sun Peaks Driving Us Off Our
Secwepemc Homeland is GENOCIDE

SECWEPEMC ELDERS MESSAGE TO MR. MASAYOSHI OHKUBO, PRESIDENT OF THE SUN PEAKS RESORT CORPORATION

We are here today to give you this message.

As with all peoples of Mother Earth, we were given our ancestral homelands from the Creator and continue to hold our territory as a sacred trust for the survival of our people, not only for this generation, but for all future generations of Secwepemc.

Our people have suffered and endured poor treatment from the non-Secwepemc for many generations now. We have seen our title and rights ignored, our way of life attacked, our lands damaged and fenced in, the fish, game and plants we depend, and we have seen our children suffer because of all this.

In the time we have left on Mother Earth we want to see that our people finally get justice.

Almost one year ago, in the Delgamuukw decision, Canada's highest court recognized what we have known all along, Aboriginal Title exists and it is a right to the land itself, a property right.

In 1872, our late Chief Neskonlith agreed to have a Reserve set aside on unceded Secwepemc territory, for our peoples' use and benefit. We have never surrendered the 1862 Neskonlith Douglas Reserve, nor has the Secwepemc Nation ceded its territory.

The region now known as Tod Mountain, including the Sun Peaks Resort, is located within our 1826 Neskonlith Douglas Reserve, and it's part of our Secwepemc Title Territory.

By way of this message, we are officially giving you notice, that even though you have negotiated a lease with the Government of British Columbia, they are not owners of Secwepemc Title Territory and you are still required to negotiate an arrangement with our Secwepemc representatives in order to determine the future status of your business venture on our lands.

Part of any arrangement with the Sun Peaks Resort must involve protection of our sacred areas, and ensuring our people continue to have access to Tod Mountain for traditional activities.

We also want to take this occasion to inform you that we absolutely do not want any further development or expansion of your operations.

We do not seek conflict with you, we simply want you to negotiate with our leaders and people, fairly and justly. Together we can work it out between us.

The Government of British Columbia and Canada will also have to be involved, because the provincial government did not have the right to lease you Secwepemc lands, and the federal government was supposed to protect our Secwepemc Title Territory, including the 1862 Neskonlith Douglas Reserve from trespassers.

We thank you for coming to visit with us and to listen to what we have to say.

Kukstsemc.

NOVEMBER 4, 1998

www.skewlkwekwelt.org

Skwelkwek welt Protection Center

P.O. Box 608

Chase, B.C.

VOE 1M0

The Skwelkwek'welt Protection Center was established to protect the fragile environment of Skwelkwek'welt. Construction was completed on December 9, 2001. This home was to help us as Swecwepemc Peoples to regain traditional knowledge, exercise our Aboriginal Title to the land. On December 10, 2001, the International Day of Human Rights, [Sun Peaks executives], the Attorney General of British Columbia and the R.C.M.P. destroyed the residence, and desecrated our sweat lodges and traditional sacred items. The spirit of the Secwepemc Peoples who resided at this home was badly shaken but their determination to rebuild their life on the land has been reinforced by their love and affection to their territory.

about the artist

Tania Willard
Secwepemc Nation
www.redwiremag.com



APRIL

INCOMMUNICADO: *dispatches from a political prisoner*

(continued from April month page)

soon others will die
dark smoke spreads
cinders of wrath rise
the eagle flies talons sharpened
hungers for retaliation
a Muslim sister speaks

eyes locked on the TV screen
they will blame the Muslims
someone will feed the eagle

the Palestinians?
(Palestinians are always suspect: they suffer)
Muslims? Arabs?
someone will dye red upon the land
I can't comprehend

men who commit suicide
and take civilians
with them
(but
a postal worker
Columbine high school boys

a man at McDonald's all-American
suicide killers too)
civilians

used as warheads
I shudder and walk away
from the death

Bich Kim runs in
if there's a world war three
they will shoot all the prisoners, won't they?
I shake my head

I don't think so
but you, the political prisoners
like you, won't they?
I hope not
(question marks
the corners of my mouth:
what do I know
about the fine-print)
I turn to sweep the floor

retreat to the ordinary



***This is an excerpt from a longer poem. The full version can be found in "Imprisoned Intellectuals; America's Political Prisoners Write on Life, Liberation, and Rebellion", edited by Joy James.*

The Order
a tap

I turn
a guard
come with me
I think: I won't return today

I stand before the captain

we must lock you up
for your own safety
(not for my own safety)
you're intelligent you know why speculate
no
not for my safety
you must be locked up
just for your safety
I am

stripped naked
ID card confiscated
everything must be taken

I need my glasses
keep the glasses
I keep a neutral face

handcuffed behind the
back
dressed in bile yellow
isolation suit
and flip-flops
I keep outrage

wrapped within my palms
I swallow anger
metal clangs swallow
sound
the concrete cocoon
swaddles me

about the author

Marilyn Buck

Marilyn Buck is a northamerican anti-imperialist Political Prisoner who was targeted by COINTELPRO particularly for her support of the Black Liberation Movement. She began doing anti-imperialist work in the 60s, supporting struggles for national liberation, women's liberation and social/economic justice worldwide. She was found guilty of participating in the escape of Assata Shakur among other things and sentenced to a total of 80 years in prison.



about the artist

Tiffany Sankary

Tiffany Sankary is a visual artist and writer living in Oakland, California. She graduated with a B.A. in Visual Art and Literature from Mills College in May 2000. Her interests in spiritual practice and movements for social change inform her work. She hopes that her art will inspire people to live more loving, compassionate, awake lives.

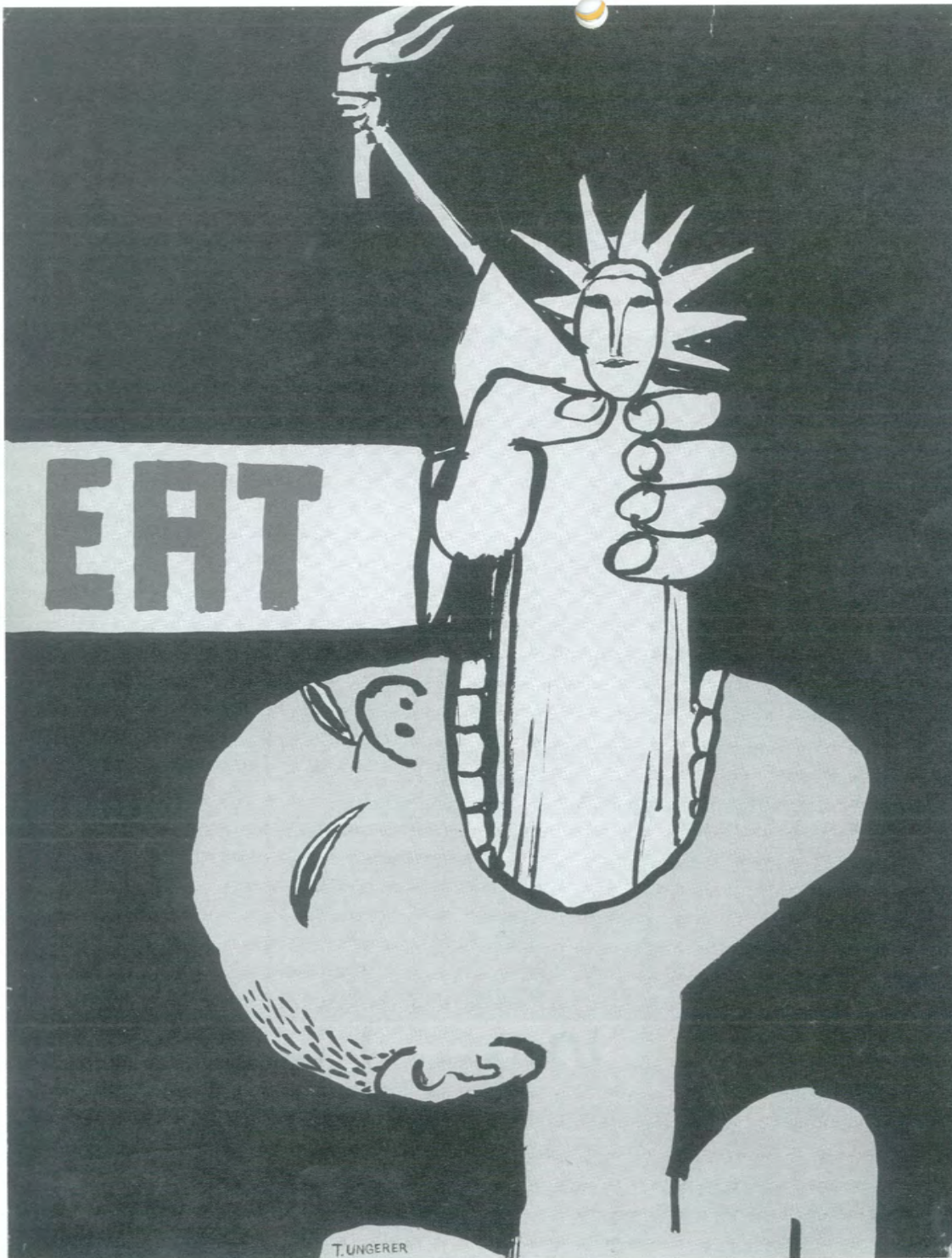


*Image by Tomi Ungerer.
For information on the "Anti-War
Movement: Yesterday and Today",
read the write-up by U.S. Political
Prisoner David Gilbert on page 5.*

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 2003 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	 Free Eddie Hatcher! Eddie Hatcher is a gay, Native American Political Prisoner and experienced jailhouse lawyer incarcerated in North Carolina. His work to expose government connections with the KKK and drug running has made him the target of government attack for over 15 years.		1 1959 - Cuban revolution victorious 1994 - Chiapas, Mexico; NAFTA signed; Zapatista (EZLN) uprising begins New Year's Day (US & Canada)	2 1973 - San Quintin prisoners strike	3
4	5 1939 - Tom Mooney freed after 22 years in San Quentin	6 1970 - Africville, N.S.: The final house in this the oldest Black community in Canada, is bulldozed after the entire community is displaced and destroyed Three Kings Day	7 Full Moon	8 1912 - South Africa: ANC founded 1974 - Trial of American Indian Movement leadership begins	9	10 2003 - Chicago: Madison Hobley, Aaron Patterson, Leroy Orange and Stanley Howard pardoned from death row
11 1975 - CIA murders Puerto Rican Independence activists Eddie Ramos, Chavonnier and a 6 year old child and injures 10 civilians	12	13 1970 - California: W.L. Nolen, C. Edwards and J. Miller murdered by Soledad prison guards	14 Last Quarter 1983 - BPP member Lorenzo Kom'Boa Ervin released from prison after an international campaign wins his freedom	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday	16 1991 - U.S., Canada, and other Imperialist U.N. forces attack Iraq and impose economic sanctions	17 1969 - UCLA Campus, Los Angeles: Panthers Bunchy Carter and John Huggins murdered by police
18 1974 - Attmore Ala prison rebellion; inmates for Action chairman wounded, then murdered en route to hospital	19 2002- Los Angeles: Sara Jane Olsen (aka Kathleen Soliah) formerly of the Symbionese Liberation Army is sentenced to 20 years to life for conspiring to place pipe bombs under police cars in 1974 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (US)	20 1983 - British Columbia: Five arrests related to actions claimed by "Direct Action" and "Wimmin's Fire Brigade" 2001 - Dublin, CA and Danbury, CN: Linda Evans and Susan Rosenberg released	21 New Moon 2001 - Coxsackie, NY: Teddy "Jah" Heath, former BPP member, one of the NY 21, dies in prison of cancer	22 Chinese New Year	23	24
25 1781 - Shays rebellion. Massachusetts farmers revolt against imprisonment for debt	26 1974 - Minnesota Prisoners Union formed at Stillwater	27	28 First Quarter	29	30	31 1865 - Prisoner Enslavement Day. 13th Amendment sanctions slavery for prisoners Waqfatul-Arafat

Libertad para los cinco



Movimiento Cubano
por la Paz y la
Soberanía de
los Pueblos
(MOVPAZ)

René González

Libertad
para los cinco
compatriotas
cubanos que
defendieron
a su país del
terrorismo y que
ahora están
presos en
EE.UU. por
evitar
muertes
en la isla.

Ramón Labañino

Fernando González

Gerardo Hernández

Antonio Guerrero

Poster art courtesy of the Cuba Education Collective. For more information on the Cuba 5, read the solidarity statement by Puerto Rican Political Prisoner Oscar Lopez Rivera (page 6).

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
	1	2 Eid-al-Adha	3	4	5	6 Full Moon 1953 - Arizona State Prison strike 1976 - Canada: Leonard Peltier captured by police and later extradited to the U.S.																																																																																											
7 1997 - California: after 19 years in prison for a murder she did not commit, Native American Norma Jean Croy is released! Tu Bishvat	8	9	10	11	12 1971 - Raiford Prison, Fl: 63 peaceful hunger strikers shot	13 Last Quarter																																																																																											
14 1990 - North Carolina: Eddie Hatcher receives 18 year sentence for take-over of the offices of <i>The Robesonian</i> newspaper Valentine's Day (St Valentine ministered to the needs of those in prison)	15 1998 - New Jersey: Jamal Hart, son of Mumia Abu-Jamal sentenced to 15 1/2 years & 5 years parole for gun possession 2003 - Oakland: after 35 years, Lil' Bobby Hutton's gravesite receives a tombstone Presidents' Day (US)	16	17	18	19 1942 - 120, 000 Japanese-Americans sent to internment camps under racist U.S.policies	20 New Moon																																																																																											
21 1965 - New York City: Malcolm X murdered	22 Hijra New Year	23	24 1976 - South Dakota: American Indian Movement activist Anna Mae Aquash found dead	25	26	27 First Quarter 1973 - South Dakota: Oglala Sioux and American Indian Movement seize the town of Wounded Knee																																																																																											
28	29	 Sundiata Acoli is one of the longest held Political Prisoners in the United States. He is also a brilliant mathematician, artist and committed freedom fighter for the New Afrikan Nation. Ambushed on the New Jersey Turnpike in 1973 with Assata Shakur and Zayd Malik Shakur, Sundiata has been unjustly incarcerated for 27 years. In 1994, Sundiata appeared before the Parole Board was denied parole and assigned a new parole eligibility date in 2006.			January <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr></table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	March <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr><tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S									1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
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NET WT.
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BRITISH COLUMBIA
PRODUCT OF COLONIZATION

ONLY AFTER
THE LAST FISH
IS CAUGHT
WILL YOU
REALIZE MONEY
CAN'T BE EATEN



BLOCKADE

Brand

-GHOST-FISH-



SALMON

CHOICE RED CUTLETS



Artwork by Tania Willard. Go to page 7 to read the Secwepemc Elders Message about the boycott of Sun Peaks Resort.

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 1954 - Washington, D.C.: Puerto Rican Nationalists attack U.S. congress	2 Day of A'ashurah	3 International Sex Workers' Rights Day	4	5	6 Full Moon 1970 - New York City: Three members of the Weather Underground die in an accidental explosion
7 Purim	8 1971 - Media, PA: Anti-War activists raid FBI office exposing the Counter Intelligence (COINTELPRO) Program International Women's Day	9	10 1976 - Washington: George Jackson Bridge member John Sherman liberated	11	12 1976 - Washington: George Jackson Bridge member Mark Cook captured	13 Last Quarter 1978 - Marion, IL: Prisoners begin hunger strike
14 1973 - North Carolina Prisoners Union formed	15 1974 - New Jersey: BLA member Sundiata Acoli sentenced to life + 30 years International Day Against Police Brutality	16	17 1992 - Escaped Puerto Rican political prisoner Luis Colon Osorio is recaptured	18	19	20 New Moon
21	22 1990 - New York City: Dhoruba Bin Wahad, ex-Black Panther Party member, released from prison	23	24	25 1940 - Texas: three convicts break their legs to protest slave labour 1977 - New Jersey: Assata Shakur found guilty of murder and sentenced to life + 33 years in prison	26	27 1998 - Washington, D.C.: Jericho March on the White House in support of U.S. Political Prisoners
28 First Quarter	29	30	31		February S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	April S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

Incommunicado: Dispatches from a Political Prisoner

By Marilyn Buck

September 11, 2001
before

morning-slow
I move
Julan hollers
*Come come see
the world trade center's
exploding
she's not serious*

no one would make that up
would they?
maybe
live on TV
video mantra
replay plane collision
replay plane crash
replay collapse
this isn't a made-for-TV movie

this isn't a disaster film
this isn't Hollywood
one tower falls
the other follows
do chickens come home to roost?

enormity crashes
dazed disbelief
(chickens can't roost here
pigeons either)
I, a **political prisoner** can

conceive why
but understanding is not complicity
I look around me
I know nothing
I know too much:
there is no answer in death
nor in dying
I know

(EXCERPT OF POEM BY POLITICAL PRISONER MARILYN BUCK, CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

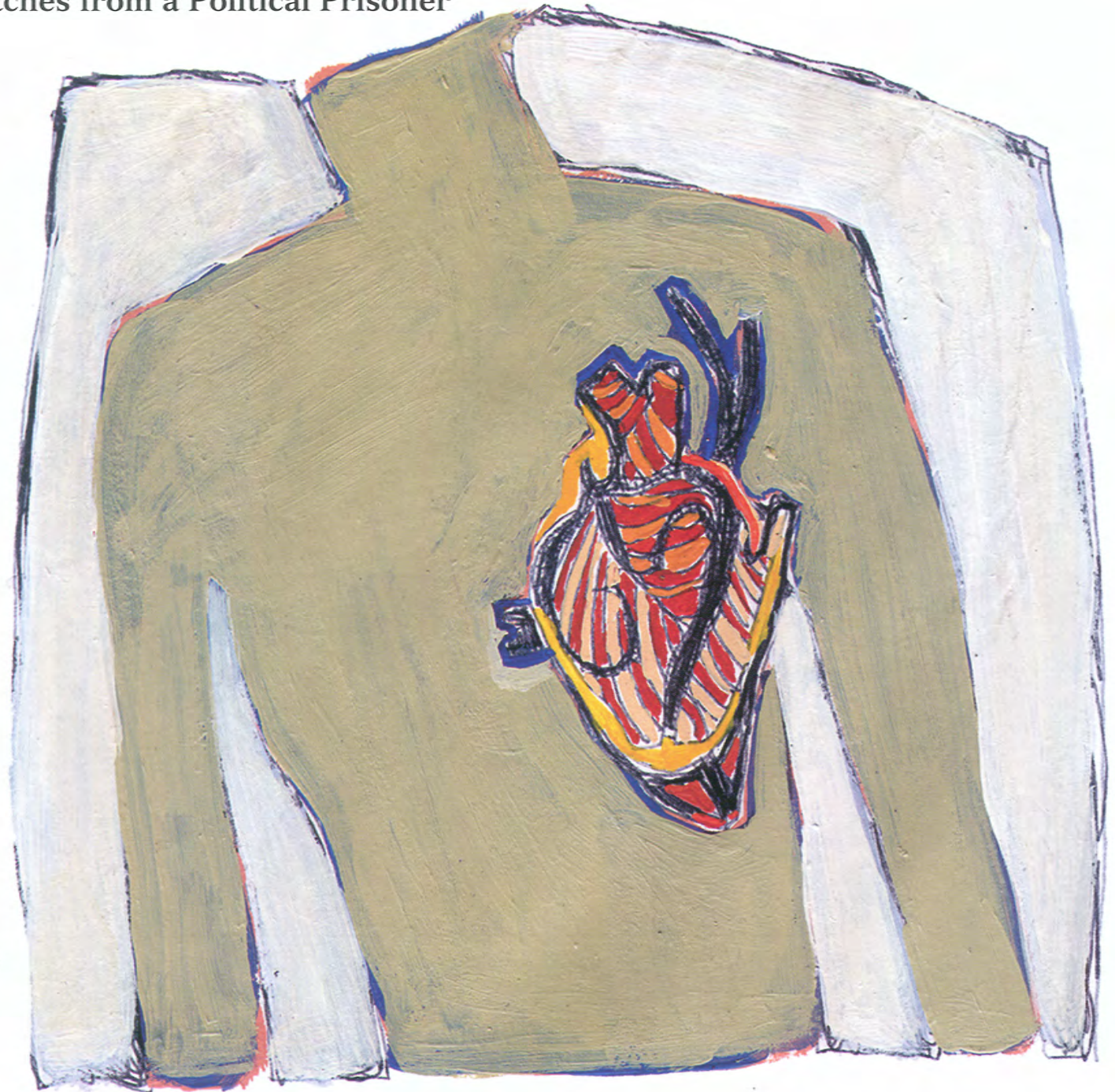


Image by Tiffany Sankary

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
March S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	May S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	ALERT! New York-area Palestinian activist Farouk Abdel-Muhti has been held in detention by the INS since April 2002. He is not charged with any crime; he is being held allegedly on the basis of a 1995 deportation order—even though the INS has been unable to deport stateless Palestinians like Farouk.			1	2	3
4 1968 - Memphis, TN: Martin Luther King assassinated 1980 - Chicago: 11 Puerto Rican Nationalists of the FALN captured in Chicago Daylight savings time begins	5 Full Moon	6 1968 - Oakland, CA: BPP member Bobby Hutton murdered by police Passover starts	7	8	9 1948 - Deir Yassin Massacre: Israeli terror organisations Irgon and Stern kill 250 Palestinian civilians in an attempt to force Palestinians nationwide to flee Good Friday	10	
11 Last Quarter	12 1988 - New York: Japanese American Anti-imperialist Yu Kikumura captured Easter Monday (Canada)	13 Passover ends	14	15	16	17	
18 1977 - Leonard Peltier convicted of killing 2 FBI agents Yom HaSho'ah	19 New Moon 1981 - Sekou Odinga sentenced to life imprisonment in connection with the Brinks robbery 2001 - Quebec City: militant anti-globalisation protesters succeed in delaying the opening of the Summit of Americas	20 Holocaust Memorial Day	21 1919 - Ohio: prison fire kills 335 convicts	22 Earth Day	23	24 1954 - Philadelphia: Mumia Abu-Jamal born	
25	26	27 First Quarter	28 2000 - Coxsackie, NY: Albert Nuh Washington dies of cancer in prison Secretaries Day	29	30	 Free Farouk!	



Jalil Muntaqim, New Afrikan Revolutionary and Political Prisoner, writes about increased repression in the U.S. since 9/11/01, and how support for Political Prisoners is critical in exposing the governments' propaganda. See page 35.

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	June S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	Canada's Security Certificate: secret trails, detention & deportation The so-called "Security Certificate" allows the Canadian government to arrest, detain and deport landed immigrants who are charged with being a "national security" threat. There is no chance of bail, detention can be indefinite and neither the person detained under the "Security Certificate" nor their defense lawyer is allowed to access the "evidence". The "Security Certificate" is being increasingly used to arrest, detain and deport members of Arab and/or Muslim communities in Canada. Adil Charkaoui of Montreal, a landed immigrant originally from Morocco and the father of a young son, is currently being held in detention under a CSIS "Security Certificate". The Justice for Adil Charkaoui Campaign, formed as an alliance of progressive Muslim groups, refugee & immigrant rights organizations and the Charkaoui family, demands a fair trial for Charkaoui and for the immediate end of the "Security Certificate" under which he is being held. See http://www.adilinfo.org/				1 1886 - International Workers' Day (May Day) founded
2 1973 - New Jersey Turnpike: BLA member Zayd Shakur killed by police, Assata Shakur captured	3	4 Full Moon 1970 - Ohio: Four students murdered by National Guard at Kent State University (protesting Nixon's U.S. invasion of Cambodia) 1973 - NJ Turnpike: BLA member Sundiata Acoli captured	5 1981 - IRA fighter Bobby Sands dies from hunger strike Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8
9 Last Quarter Mothers' Day	10	11	12	13 1971 - NYC: Panther 21 acquitted 1985 - Philadelphia: Police drop bomb on MOVE home, killing 11 people	14	15 1970 - Mississippi: Two Black college students killed and 12 wounded when police open fire on unarmed protesters at Jackson college
16	17 New Moon 1954 - U.S. Supreme Court finally declares school segregation illegal	18	19 1890 - Ho Chi Minh's birthday 1925 - Malcolm X's birthday 1984 - New Afrikan people's Organisation founded 1993 - Chicago: Fred Hampton, Jr sentenced to 16 years in prison for 2 counts of aggravated arson	20 1996 - Abdul Haqq released from prison	21 1979 - NYC - William Morales liberated from prison ward	22
23	24 2001 - North Carolina: Eddie Hatcher sentenced to life without parole Victoria Day (Canada)	25 First Quarter	26 Shavuot	27	28	29
30 Shavuot	31 1982 - Canada: BC Hydro sub-station bombing on Vancouver Island, claimed by Direct Action (\$4.5 million damage) Memorial Day (US)					



The oppressor, who oppresses, exploits, and rapes
by virtue of their power, cannot find in this
power the strength to liberate either the oppressed
or themselves. Only power that springs from the
weakness of the oppressed will be sufficiently
strong to free both. Paulo Freire

1989 Malaquias Montoya

Art by Malaquias Montoya. To read an article entitled
"The Struggle is here in Aztlan not in Iraq", please see
page 36.

June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	July S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 1975 - Washington: George Jackson Brigade bombs DOC headquarters in support of Walla Walla prisoners 1995 - Philadelphia, PA: Mumia Abu-Jamal's death warrant signed by PA governor Tom Ridge	2 Full Moon	3	4 1972 - Angela Davis acquitted of murder and kidnapping charges	5
6	7	8	9 Last Quarter	10 1997 - Los Angeles, CA: Geronimo ji Jaga Pratt is released after 27 years in prison	11 1977 - Statesville prison: Joseph Young, 22, dies after guards refuse to open cell or extinguish fire	12
13 1983 - Toronto: "Bulldozer" anti-prison/prison abolition journal raided by police	14 Flag Day (US)	15	16	17 First Quarter	18	19 1865 - Black Independence Day (Juneteenth) - the day the news of the Emancipation Proclamation reached slaves in America 1986 - Peru: troops massacre 252 political prisoners
20 Fathers' Day	21	22	23	24 1541 - Western Mexico: "Mixon War" Indigenous rebellion 1968 - Ohio: 24 hour riot at state penitentiary causes several million dollars of damage St Jean Baptiste Day (Quebec)	25 New Moon	26 1859 - San Quentin prison: Francisco Lallo leads a mass breakout of Chicano & Indian prisoners. 40 escaped and 10 were killed.
27 1969 - NYC: Stonewall - led by queers of colour, drag kings and queens and working class lesbians and gays resist a police raid and fight back	28	29	30	Abdul Majid was instrumental in forming the Queens Chapter of the Black Panther Party. It's programs included the free breakfast program, free clothing program, liberation schools for youth and adult political education classes, free health clinics, and a community newsletter to which Majid contributed articles of relevance to the issue of survival of our communities, i.e. drugs, education, politics, police brutality and prisoners' rights. Since January 1982, Majid has been held as a Political Prisoner by the state of New York in seven different maximum security prisons.  Free Abdul!		



CRIMINALISATION OF RESISTANCE!

Political Arrests and Political Imprisonment in Canada and the U.S.

What follows is a listing of some political arrests and detentions that have occurred in Canada and the United States over the past year. **THIS IS A VERY SMALL SAMPLING** of what amounts to thousands of activist arrests every year. Many of the arrests listed here are mass arrests, where 10s or even 100s of people are swept up into police custody while attending a peaceful demonstration. Others have engaged in civil disobedience or direct action. While we have come to **EXPECT** arrests when we speak up against the repressive right-wing agenda, we certainly do not **ACCEPT** that these arrests are in any way legitimate. They are clearly bogus. **Free all Political Prisoners!**

School of the Americas Resisters: Marie Salupo, Marvin Warren, Edith Balot, Katherine Bjorkman, Sr. Kathy Long, Katherine Brown, William Bud Combs, Philip d'Onofrio, Dan Fortson, Jessica Carr, Sr. Caryl Hartjes, Rebecca Johnson, Robert A. Hiltonsmith, Rev. Clifford Frasier, Judy Bierbaum, Joyce Elwanger, Michelle (Mimi) Lavalley, Don Haselfeld, Corbin Streett, Lisa Hughes, Laura Slattery, Maureen Newman, Rachel Montgomery, Ann Huntwork, Derrlyn Tom, Fr. Jim Hynes, Carey L. Martin, Sr. Moira Kenny, Marilyn White, Sonja Andreas, Pamela McBride, Dorothy Pagosa, Vera Brown, Judith Kelly, William Slattery, Jason Lydon, Byron Plumley, Patrick Stanley, J.C. Orton, Mike Wisniewski, Ardeth Platte OP, Carol Gilbert OP, Jackie Hudson OP, Fr. Chris Ponnet, Dave Tarbell, Douglas Kasper, Eloy Garcia, Scott Schaeffer-Duffy, Macy Morse, Israel Medina Colón, Robert Jefferson Dietrich, David Gardner, Jim Parkhurst, Catherine Morris, Joyce Parkhurst, Martha Scarborough, Chris Ponnett, Joel Kilgour, Eva Lee Mickey, Laro Nicol, Ismael Guadalupe Torres, Dr. Erika Drees, Dr. Wolfgang Sternstein, Philip Pritchard, Toby Olditch, Michele Naar-Obed, John LaForge, Jane Hosking, Ann Huntwork, Patrick Lincoln, Jonson Miller, Tom Cleary, Tim Grivois, Eric Tews, Michael Ugarte, Eric Zibbel; **Secwepemc people defending their lands against the development of Sun Peaks resort, B.C. Canada:** Beverley Manuel, Nicole

Montreal, G20 demonstration: Christina Xydous, Jonathan Aspireault-Masse, Jaggi Singh; Canada: Security Certificate Arrests and Detentions = no charge, no bail set, secret trials: Mahmoud Jaballah – detained since Aug. 2001, Hassan Almrei – detained since Oct. 2001, Mohamed Harkat – detained since Dec. 2002, Adil Charkaoui – detained since May 2003; **Vieques Resisters fighting against U.S. Navy bombing tests and military practice on the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico:** Pedro Colón Almenas, Angel Gabriel Quiles, Israel Medina Colón, José Javier Sterling, Luis A. Amely Martínez, Francisco Bartolomei Crespo, Edwin Vargas Becerril, Abraham Ayala Ortiz, Ángel Rubén Santiago Aponte, Ismael Guadalupe Torres, Gustavo Dávila Cardona, Leonardo Estrada Ferrer, Orlando Soto Morales, Grego Marciano Vázquez, Feliciano Rivera Cepeda, John Dennis Apel, William Streit, Steve Woolford, Steve Baggary Helen Woodson; At the Woodward's Squat in Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 2002, 11 people are arrested and the possessions of 50 people are destroyed in a garbage compactor. Their demands include restoration of funding to social housing and No Olympics on Stolen Native Land. **July 28th, 2003, mass arrest of 340 people protesting the WTO.** Protesters were arrested while peacefully milling about in a "green zone" on private property. June 15th, 2002, 25 arrested in Halifax, Winnipeg protesting a meeting of the G7. 12 people are arrested at a Tent City in

land during an anti-war demo on April 7th, 2003. **One hundred arrested during March, 2003 anti-war demo in Pittsburgh, PA.** Irene Vandas and Kathy Walker arrested in Surrey, B.C. after blocking the Canada-U.S. border in protest of the Iraq war (April 7th, 2003). **On May 24th, 2003, Trevor of the Anti-Poverty Committee in Vancouver is arrested for doing "cop-watch."** In NYC, in June of 2003, 7 people are arrested at the kick-off of the anti-Bush protest campaign. **Tim Learn of the Vancouver Anti-Poverty Committee was arrested while picketing a slum-lord who had him illegally evicted (Feb. 14th, 2003).** Twenty-seven people arrested in Albany, NY during anti-war protests in March, 2003. **August 2003 - Ontario, Canada:** 19 Pakistani students and refugees are arrested. Some are being held for alleged immigration violations but most are being held without any charges. They are alleged to be a threat to national security. **Oregon, USA, 2003:** Maher Hawash is being held in U.S. federal prison solitary confinement despite the fact that there are no charges against him. He is an American citizen but grew up in Kuwait. He is being held indefinitely as a material witness in a "terrorism investigation". **October 2002 - Florida, USA:** 200 Haitians have been detained since this date when the freighter they were travelling on ran aground in Florida. All have submitted requests for asylum (many of which have since been denied). Those who have yet to hear a decision in their case are forced to remain behind bars. At least 3 arrests in March 2002 at the Toronto Pope Squat, including Melanie Willson.





Manuel, Miranda Dyck, Segwses, Niki Manuel, Irene Billy, George Manuel Jr., Charlie Willard, Roseanne Jack, Rod Anderson, Trevor Dennis, Marcus Sauls and many others; Resisting construction of resort at Cahoosh Creek B.C.: Lawrence Pascal; Children of the River (Prisoners resisting religious repression in Oregon): Tewahness Sahme, Thomas Tripp, David Scalera, Arapaho Nation, Warm Springs Nation, Ottawa: May 30, 2003, 10 members of Action Committee of Non-Status Algerians and 2 members of No One Is Illegal arrested for occupation of Canadian Immigration Minister Denis Codere's offices calling for an end to deportations of Algerians among other important demands; 36 port workers and other protestors arrested in the Port of Oakland Shut down (shut down of military cargo shippers American President Lines and Stevedoring Services of America); San Francisco, March 2003: 2400 people demonstrating against the war in Iraq mass arrested by SFPD; Sunnyvale, CA: April, 2003, 60 people arrested blockading entrances to weapons manufacturing giant Lockheed Martin; Richmond, CA: April, 2003, more than 30 arrested at Shut Down of Chevron-Texaco World Headquarters, war profiteers; California, 2003: 9 Anti-war students arrested blockading Interstate 280; U.S. Conscientious Objector: Stephen Funk; Buffalo, NY, 2003: Critical Mass Elmwood Ambush 9 bicyclists charged; NYC, December 2001: Charas 7 arrested attempting to prevent the eviction of Charas community and cultural center: Susan Howard, Micheal Casey, Emily Wilson, Barbara Ross, Garrett Ramirez, Ronald Duncan, Maia Ramath; NYC Gay Pride 2003: 6 arrested for joining the march carrying an anti-corporate message "Queer mutiny - not consumer unity"; Montreal, Sept. 9, 2002: more than 10 arrests at demo shutting down speech by former Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu at Concordia University;

Montreal, QC, set up in response to the city's housing crisis. Six people were arrested at a rally at the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria, B.C., while protesting cuts to B.C. health care, Feb. 2003. Over 1000 people were detained and more than 500 arrested on March 20th, 2003 in an anti-war demo. Santa Cruz; Steve Argue and Matt Hartogh were arrested on Sunday July 6th, 2003 for distributing the literature of the Revolutionary Rosa Luxemburg Club. On Jan. 27th, 2003, 16 people from the Circle of Life Affinity group in Chicago were jailed for Civil Disobedience against the war in Iraq. On Monday, Feb. 17th, 2003, 11 demonstrators including Cassandra Britch, Aaron Beswick, and Chris Neale were arrested while occupying the Dartmouth, Nova Scotia office of Lockheed Martin, Canada's largest and most profitable war manufacturer. Heather Jones, Macdonald Stainsby, Elise Thornburn, Chris Jacob, four Vancouver students committed to inspiring more creative opposition to the U.S. led war on Iraq are arrested in a lock-down action at the U.S. consulate on April 1st, 2003. On March 25th, 2003, Justin, Calvin, and Randy of Vancouver No One Is Illegal are arrested at an Anti-Deportation rally at Vancouver airport. June 15th, 2003, Striking workers Harry Tamarin, Karen Kent, Sharon Williams, and Lisa Langston are arrested in Chicago while maintaining their right to picket outside the front entrance of the Congress Plaza Hotel. On May 16th, 2003, at the World Agricultural Forum hosted by the multinational company Monsanto in St. Louis, 30 counter-conference protesters were arrested, on charges including riding a bicycle without a license, failure to wear a seatbelt, and possession of drugs (Vitamin C). (May 8th, 2003) Two protesters from Women in the Woods, Betty Krawczyk, 74 and Jen Bradley, 48, were arrested for blockading a logging road in the old growth rainforest on Vancouver island. Thirty-six arrested at the port of Oak-

Black activist Sherman Austin, webmaster of RaisetheFist.com, was sentenced on August 4, 2003, to one year in federal U.S. prison, with three years of probation. His house was raided and searched by approximately 25 FBI and Secret Service agents on Jan. 24th, 2002.

FROM SHERMAN AUSTIN:

They ... seized protest signs, and political literature. Their excuse was a protest guide (which I didn't author) that was posted to my site which a small portion contained information on explosives. The FBI had been monitoring the site long before this was ever posted, and long before Sept 11. The "explosives information" on my site (again which I didn't author) doesn't compare to what you can find on any other web sites such as howthingswork.com, Loompanics.com, Bombshock.com, Totse.com, Amazon.com, or the many neo nazi web sites which cover everything from assassinations, explosives, fraud and firearms. It's obvious a web surfer interested in making a bomb or taking part in other extra-illegal activities would not have to rely on Raisethefist.com. So how could the "bomb making information" on Raisethefist.com be a concern to authorities? It wasn't a concern, it was simply used as an excuse to exercise the new Patriot Act and take down the site.

Contact info: keepfistraised@yahoo.com

If you have been arrested or detained for political reasons in 2003/2004, or, if a judgement has been rendered on your case in this time period, let us know before July 2004. You can get in touch by emailing us at politicalprisonerlist@hotmail.com or mail using back cover address.





This photo was taken at a July 27th, 2003 demonstration in Montreal, QC, organised by the group "No One is Illegal". Go to page 37 to read an excerpt of an interview with Hatem Abudayyeh, executive director of the Arab American Action Network.

July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	August S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	 Yu Kikumura became active in peace campaigns against the Vietnam war, worked against homelessness and in support of labour rights. Yu was arrested in 1986 for possession of a pipe bomb. Later he was charged with attempted murder and was labelled an international terrorist, accused of being a member of the Japanese Red Army. He is currently serving a sentence of 22 years to life. Free Yu!		1 1977 - South Dakota: Leonard Peltier receives 2 life sentences for the deaths of 2 FBI agents Canada Day (Canada)	2 Full Moon 1963 - Soledad prison Food Strike	3
4 1977 - Washington: George Jackson Brigade plants bomb in main power substation in state capitol in support of striking segregation prisoners Independence Day (US)	5	6	7	8	9 Last Quarter 1971 - Terre Haute, Indiana: prisoners stage three day strike	10 1978 - NY: Women at Bedford Hills prison hold a strike to protest beatings and harassment by guards and administration
11 1935 - Rhode Island prison strike 1990 - Quebec: 500 heavily armed police attack Mohawks in Kanehsatake (Quebec). The Mohawks had erected a road block in opposition to the expansion of a golf course further onto Mohawk territory	12	13	14	15	16 1981 - New Afrikan Freedom Fighter Day	17 New Moon
18	19	20	21	22 1978 - Pontiac prison rebellion erupts	23 First Quarter 1971 - New York: Attica Manifesto sent to Commissioner Oswald	24
25 1898 - U.S. colonization of Puerto Rico begins	26	27 Tisha B'av	28	29	30	31 Full Moon



Art Collage by Death Row prisoner Zolo Agona Azania. To read an article on Music and Liberation written by Political Prisoner Herman Bell and his son Kamel Jacot-Bell, please see page 38.

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
1	2 Civic Holiday (Canada except NL, PQ & YK)	3	4	5	6 1945 - Hiroshima: U.S. drops atomic bomb killing millions 1990 - start of U.N. economic sanctions against Iraq 1999 - Dublin, CA: white Anti-imperialist PP Laura Whitehorn released	7 Last Quarter 1970 - Marin County, CA: Jonathan Jackson, William Christmas and James McClain killed during a liberation attempt																																																																																				
8 1977 - Napanoch Prison Rebellion against klan guards 1978 - Philadelphia: police attack MOVE house, beating and arresting all inside	9 1945 - Nagasaki, Japan: U.S. bombing kills and injures millions	10 1970 - Tombs Prison, NY: prisoners stage rebellion Prisoners' Justice Day	11	12 1968 - Ohio Penitentiary: convicts take over prison for 3 days. National guard blows hole in wall to recapture prison, killing five prisoners	13	14 1985 - Ohio: prisoners take over J1 super-max unit to air radio grievances over radio																																																																																				
15 New Moon	16	17 1955 - New York: strike at Comstock prison	18 1971 - Republic of New Afrika capital attacked by FBI and police	19	20 2003 - New York State: Anti-imperialist Kathy Boudin, having served 22 years in prison for a 1981 armored car heist in which three men were killed, is granted parole.	21 1971 - Soledad Prison, CA: George Jackson assassinated by prison guards 1831 - Nat Turner slave rebellion begins																																																																																				
22 1989 - Black Panther Party founder Huey Newton killed	23 First Quarter	24 2003 - Queens, NY: Dedicated, nationally known Black liberation fighter and supporter of political prisoners, Safiya Bukhari died early this day from complications due to prolonged illness. She was 53.	25	26	27	28																																																																																				
29 Full Moon 1971 - San Francisco, CA: Jalil Muntaqim and Albert Nuh Washington captured	30 1968 - Saigon, Vietnam: 250 GIs rebel and take over Longbinh Jail for almost a month	31	 Carlos Alberto Torres was born in Puerto Rico in 1952. During his years of study at the university of Illinois in Chicago, Carlos was involved in struggles to recruit more Latinos to the university, as well as struggles against racism and police brutality. Arrested in 1980 and charged with "seditious conspiracy," Carlos was sentenced to 78 years in prison. His release date is 2024. Free Carlos!		July <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	September <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
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"Tecpatli: The Seed of Communication" © Christine Wong and Lucha 2000. Photo: Rebeka Rodriguez. To read about Womens' incarceration in the U.S. please see page 39.

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	October S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		1 1971 - Jackson, Michigan: prisoners' labour union formed	2 1973 - New Orleans: BLA member Herman Bell captured	3 1983 - Sekou Odinga and Silvia Baraldini convicted of RICO (conspiracy) charges	4
5	6 ☾ Last Quarter 1995 - Canada: Ontario Provincial Police open fire on a peaceful occupation at Ipperwash Provincial Park by Stoney Point People. One native man, Dudley George, is killed Labour Day (Canada & US)	7	8	9 1971 - New York: Attica Prison Rebellion in NY state begins	10	11 1973 - U.S. helps overthrow Allende, Chile's socialist leader, in a successful coup 2001 - Planes destroy World Trade Center Towers and part of the Pentagon; Bush's "War on Terrorism" begins
12 1977 - South Africa: Steve Biko killed in prison 1997 - 111 Zapatistas arrive in Mexico City demanding the fulfillment of the San Andres accords Isra/Me'raj	13 1971 - Massacre at Attica Prison: 39 prisoners and 10 guards killed, 80 people injured	14 ● New Moon 1982 - Lebanon: massacre at Sabra and Shatila Palestinian refugee camps, hundreds of Palestinians murdered 2001 - Chicago: Fred Hampton Jr released from prison	15	16 1963 - Five day strike at against indeterminate sentencing scheme Rosh Hashanah	17 Rosh Hashanah	18 1968 - Mexico City: Army invades UNAM university in response to protests
19	20	21 ☾ First Quarter 1971 - Kansas state prison food strike	22	23 1868 - Grito de Lares: beginning of armed struggle in Puerto Rico	24	25 1999 - U.S.A.: 11 Puerto Rican Political Prisoners granted clemency Yom Kippur
26	27	28 ○ Full Moon 2000 - Palestine: 2nd Palestinian Intifada begins	29	30 2000 - Pennsylvania: Jihad Abdul Mumit released from prison Sukkot	 Free Veronza! Veronza Bowers Jr. is a U.S. Political Prisoner and a former member of the Black Panther Party who has been incarcerated since 1970. He is a musician, and a practitioner of shiatsu, acupressure, tsubo and massage therapy. Veronza was convicted of murder on the word of two informants. There were no eye-witnesses to the shooting and no evidence independent of these informants to link him to the crime. Veronza has consistently proclaimed his innocence.	



Photos taken by Josée Lambert of the Montreal group Palestinian and Jewish Unity during their weekly vigils outside the Israeli consulate. To read a statement by former Political Prisoner Laura Whitehorn about Jews Against the Occupation, please see page 40.

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	November S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	 Russell Maroon Shoats is a U.S. Political Prisoner being confined in a control unit where he is kept in his cell 23 hours a day. Russell is a former member of the Black Panther Party who was convicted of the murder of a police officer, though he received an unfair trial and without adequate legal representation he received two life sentences.			1	2
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	1985 - Peru: 30 POWs murdered, 23 wounded by guards in Lurigancho prison		 Last Quarter 1977 - Andres Figueroa Cordero, Puerto Rican freedom fighter released after 23 years in prison 1984 - New York City: 8 captured and charged with conspiring to commit prison breakouts and armed robberies	Shermini Atzeret		1968 - Mexico City: Tlateloco Massacre, thousands killed during protest
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Thanksgiving (Canada)	Anti-Columbus Day: 512 years of resistance Dia de la Raza	 New Moon 1970 - CA: Angela Davis captured in connection with Jonathan Jackson's courthouse liberation attempt	1968 - Presidio Mutiny, military prisoners strike against the Vietnam war 1979 - Washington D.C.: Over 100,000 people take part in first March on for Lesbian & Gay Rights	1966: Oakland, CA: Black Panther Party founded 1968 - US federal court prohibits use of whips on prisoners 1st Ramadan	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	1969 - LA: BPP member Walter Tour Pope murdered by cops		 First Quarter 1981 - Nyack, NY: Brinks robbery by BLA and allied Anti-Imperialists	1963 - Folsom strike protesting 4 cents an hour wage	Dassehra	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31		1915 - Mexico: Zapatista Agrarian Law recognizes the right of every Mexican person to own and work their land	 Full Moon	1967 - Oakland, CA: Huey Newton shot and arrested after altercation with two cops		
1984 - Millhaven, ON: Doug Stewart of the Vancouver 5's hunger strike successful after 27 days Halloween Daylight savings time ends						



"In Search of Lost Time" is a painting by Mexican Political Prisoner Jacobo Silva. To find out more about Jacobo, and to read an article by U.S. Political Prisoner Mumia Abu Jamal, go to page 41.

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
	1 Day of the Dead	2 1979 - New Jersey: Assata Shakur liberated from Clinton Women's Prison	3	4 Last Quarter 1970 - New York: rebellion at Auburn prison	5	6																																																	
7	8 1972 - New Jersey: work strike at Clinton Women's Prison	9	10 Lailatul-Qadr	11 1831 - Virginia: Slave Rebel Nat Turner hanged by the state Veteran's Day (US)	12 New Moon	13 1969 - Chicago:BPP member Spurgeon "Jake" Winters murdered by police																																																	
14 Eid-al-Fitr	15	16	17 1983 - Mexico: the EZLN is born (Zapatista National Liberation Army.)	18 First Quarter	19	20 1969 - Alcatraz Island: Indian occupation demands return of the island to its original inhabitants																																																	
21	22 1922 - Leavenworth Prison, Kansas: Ricardo Flores Magon assassinated 1982 - Vancouver, B.C.: Red Hot Video firebombing at 3 porn video outlets, claimed by Wimmin's Fire Brigade	23	24 Diwali (Festival of Light)	25 International Day Against Violence Against Women Thanksgiving (US)	26 Full Moon	27																																																	
28	29	30 1999 - Global Day of Action: demos take place worldwide against imperialist globalization and corporate tyranny.	Anarchist Robert Thaxton (aka Rob los Ricos) was sentenced to 7 years 4 months in prison because he allegedly threw a rock at a police officer during the Reclaim the Streets anarchist festival in Eugene, Oregon. Robert has been involved with such groups as ACT-UP and Earth First. While incarcerated - Rob and his supporters in Portland formed the Anarchist Prisoners' Legal Aid Network, a resource-sharing and communication network for incarcerated anarchists.		October <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
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On May 29th, 2003 a group of non-status Algerians visited the Canadian Minister of Immigration's office in an attempt to meet with him, and were violently expelled, using tasers and billy clubs. To learn more about the non-status Algerians' struggle for regularization and against deportation from Canada, see page 42.



photos by John Hodgins (above) and Jan Crysdale of Ottawa IMC (left).

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	January 2005 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		1 World AIDS Day	2	3	4 Last Quarter 1969 - Chicago: Panthers Fred Hampton and Mark Clark killed by Chicago police
5	6	7 1987: Palestine: 1st Palestinian Intifada begins	8 Hanukkah starts	9 1981 - Philadelphia: Mumia Abu Jamal shot and accused of killing a Philadelphia cop	10	11 New Moon 1890 - Little Big Horn River, South Dakota: Sitting Bull, chief of Dakota Sioux, murdered 1979 - Florida: Puerto Rican POW Angel Rodriguez Cristobal assassinated
12	13 1972 - Framingham, Mass.: women prisoners strike	14	15 Hanukkah ends	16 1972 - Wapole taken over and run by prisoners for 4 months	17 First Quarter	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 1861 - New York: Auburn prison opens, starts silent system in 1821 Christmas Day
26 Full Moon Kwanzaa Begins Boxing Day	27	28	29 1890 - Wounded Knee, South Dakota: US army attacks Pine Ridge Indian reservation, killing 300 women, men and children 1969 - Fred Hampton, Jr born	30	31 1992 - Nebraska: Transgendered man Brandon Teena and two friends murdered 1976 - Virginia: Safiya Bukhari escapes from Women's prison	

MAY US UNDER OCCUPATION

In post 9/11 United States, the American populace increasingly suffers from constitutional vertigo, as First and Fourth Amendment guarantees are being whittled into insignificance by The Department of Homeland Security. Since the promulgation of the Patriot Act, the FBI has established an online database called the Terrorist Information System containing more than 200,000 individuals and over 3,000 organizations. John Ashcroft's Justice Department has introduced to congress legislation dubbed "Patriot Act II" that would exceed and extend the government's initiative to curtail political dissent, suspend civil liberties, and by fiat, effectively strip U.S. citizens of First and Fourth Amendment guarantees.

Since the 2000 election and the U.S. Supreme Court selection of the president, the Bush regime has been consistent in it's neo-putschist determination to forge a domestic and foreign policy that ensures the U.S. position as the global police and military authority.

Having succeeded in the oil war to oust Saddam Hussein from Iraq and take control of Iraq's oil industry, and with it's continued pernicious efforts to decimate the existence of fundamentalist Islam, the Bush regime has not only critically reduced the U.S. constitutional guarantees, but also thwarted international laws and protocols. The arrogance of the Bush regime's hegemonic aspirations is giving Americans cause for great concern as their security is exponentially tied to the Bush regime's hegemonic foreign policy.

In the U.S., political prisoners have suffered punitive segregation due to 9/11 and Patriot Act enactments; U.S. citizens are being surveilled and data is being collected on them for government analysis and assessing one's allegiance to the government; the police, courts and prisons are increasingly being used as tools of political repression; and political dissent is being codified into psycho-political behavior-modification infringements. The Bush regime's judicious use of the news media to propagate it's domestic and foreign policy has effectively born into existence the mass psychology of fascism with it's Orwellian big-brother double-speak. Gradually, the American population is being induced into a euphoric false sense of security with a color coded alarm system and overt police-military presence.



However, despite the media's confluence with White House propaganda, progressive forces are exposing the lies and alibis of the Bush regime's pronouncements. It is necessary for progressive forces to address and challenge the Bush regime's domestic and foreign policy, especially as it pertains to the existence of U.S. Political Prisoners, demanding their release from prison. Since U.S. Political Prisoners represent the legacy of struggle opposing racism and U.S. imperialism, support of these incarcerated activists strengthens the overall determination to combat the growing menace of U.S. fascism, here and abroad. Progressive forces attention in support of U.S. political prisoners ultimately bring into focus how the Bush regime's hegemonic aspirations threatens civil liberties, human rights and international stability.

about the author



Jalil Abdul Muntaqim is a New Afrikan Revolutionary, one of the New York Three, a former member of the Black Panther Party and the Black Liberation Army. For the past 29 years he has been a U.S. Political Prisoner. Jalil is responsible for the 1976 National Prisoners' Campaign to Petition the United Nations which ultimately resulted in the UN finding that there were Political Prisoners in the United States.

about the artist

Theodore A. Harris

is a poet, muralist and collagist born in New York City and currently residing in Philadelphia, PA. As a muralist he has been painting with the Mural Arts program of Philadelphia since 1983. His published art and poetry have appeared in various journals and publications.

JUNE THE STRUGGLE IS HERE IN AZTLAN NOT IN IRAQ

On March 19, 2003, the U.S., as it has done in the past to dozens of other nations - including Mexico - launched a war of colonization against the people of Iraq. This war was initiated by oil tycoons like George W. Bush and his national security advisor Condoleezza Rice (who was a former executive of the oil giant Chevron), to take control of the oil and wealth of Iraq. Clear thinking Raza* know that this war is not for us, yet Raza have given our blood for someone else's control oil.

The United States claims they are in Iraq to bring freedom and liberation to the people. But all it has offered is death, violence and destruction. At least 1,500 children, women and men have died, and thousands of others have been injured as a result of the bombs that rained on them for two straight weeks. Thousands of children have been left orphans, sick or injured with no one to claim responsibility for them. Museums, schools and hospitals have been looted by supporters of the U.S. invasion.

The sad reality is that Raza make up a large percentage of soldiers in the front lines of this war. A total of 118,000 are Raza soldiers, 31,000 of them are non-citizens. As an incentive, these soldiers have been given immediate eligibility for citizenship. They are also granting "posthumous citizenship" meaning a soldier is granted U.S. citizenship once he or she has died. One example is Marine CPL, Jose Garibay, who was born in Jalisco, Mexico. He was granted citizenship after giving his life for oil.

We see that history is repeating itself. In all U.S. wars, Mexicanos-Latinos have been in the front lines of battle, suffered more casualties than any other group, and still continue to be on the bottom of society, treated as second-class citizens in our own land. Today, we as Raza must say, Ya Basta! Our struggle is here in our communities where we face oppression and exploitation on a daily basis. We must ask, how can this imperialist government free the Iraqi people from oppression, when here in our own barrios they oppress Raza? Before we make any decision to support U.S. military aggression, we must first consider the following:

-Since the attack on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 there has been a greater police and migra presence in our barrios. Why? Because the so-called "anti-terrorist" laws known as "Patriot Act" which make it a super crime to be an undocumented person, gang member or political activist. The Border Patrol is now considered part of the department of "Homeland Security." For Raza that means that we are considered criminals/terrorists on our own land. Because most of anglo (white) America sees us as "undocumented" - or worse illegal - they hunt us down with Border Patrol sweeps in places like public transportation, laundry mats, and grocery stores and even at churches and schools.



ABOUT THIS PAGE

This page was coordinated by Alvaro Luna Hernandez. He is a Chicano-Mexicano Prisoner of War born of the anti-colonial, anti-imperialist struggles of the Chicano movement of the 1960's and 1970's. He was the director of the National Movement of La Raza and a Barrio leader. Alvaro fights for the liberation of his militarily annexed Mexicano Homeland (present day South West U.S.A./Texas) and for socialism. Alvaro was sentenced in June '97 to 50 years for defending himself against police terror. Trial evidence clearly showed Alvaro was a victim of "witch hunts" and a police-orchestrated conspiracy to frame or eliminate him. He was charged with two counts of aggravated assault - one count for disarming the sheriff and one count for a wound suffered by Sgt. Curtis Hines from a ricocheting police bullet.



about the author

This is an excerpt of an article written by Isabel Peña, first published in ¡La Verdad! the newsletter of the Union del Barrio.

about the artist

Malaquias Montoya is a renowned Chicano printmaker born in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1938 and currently living near Davis, California.

Montoya says, "I feel that my art should reflect my political beliefs and be an art of protest. The struggle of all people must become part of our being as artists . . . Our images must speak of injustices and expose the creators of those injustices."

JULY ARAB AND MUSLIM IMMIGRANTS UNDER FIRE

Interview with Hatem Abudayyeh of the Arab American Action Network, published in full in "Dollars and Sense: The Magazine of Economic Justice" Interview by Megan Harrington

Q: In what new ways has the U.S. government targeted Arabs and Muslims for oppression and discrimination since September 11 and the war in Iraq? **ABUDAYYEH:** Starting with the USA Patriot Act*, draconian measures and indiscriminate detentions and deportations have destabilized and criminalized Arab communities across the United States. Also since September 11, U.S.-based Arab and Islamic organizations that provide humanitarian assistance to the people of war-torn nations including Palestine, Afghanistan, and Iraq have been accused of "supporting terrorism" and summarily closed down by the Justice Department. Prominent leaders have been arrested, including Rabi Haddad, co-founder of the Global Relief Foundation. Haddad has been in jail—first in Michigan, now in Illinois—since December 2001. Neither he nor the other detainees have been officially charged with any crime. The Justice Department's new "special registration" requirements target Muslim and Arab men. In addition, the FBI has conducted around 5,000 "voluntary interviews" throughout Arab and Muslim communities. Since the war in Iraq began, still more Iraqis were called in for "voluntary" interviews.

Q: What are these voluntary interviews and have they led to arrests?

ABUDAYYEH: We know from discussions with the National Lawyers Guild that some of the questions the FBI asks relate to activism and organizing. These include "Who are the leaders of anti-war organizing in your mosques or your community centers?" and "Are there any political organizations that are functioning in your community?" Arab anti-war work, along with the anti-war movement as a whole, has been subject to the widespread "criminalization of dissent." But Arab anti-war activism is uniquely subject to aggressive state monitoring, intimidation, and threat of detention or deportation. Exactly zero arrests related to "terrorism" have resulted from these interviews. Seventeen arrests were made altogether (for minor technical immigration violations).



Hatem Abudayyeh is executive director of the Arab American Action Network, a Chicago-based community organization that provides youth and adult services, advocacy, educational support, arts programming, leadership development, and organizing training for the area's Arab population.

Q: What has been the scale of detentions and deportations nationwide? **ABUDAYYEH:** The most accurate numbers are from the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), the Arab American Institute (AAI), and other civil rights and research groups. There was an initial round-up just after 9/11. More detentions have followed, mostly resulting from the Justice Department's new special registration requirements. Over 1,200 Arabs and Muslims are still in detention today. Many thousands have been detained for various periods. Some of those were deported, but others released. Only a tiny percentage of the detainees have been charged with having any relationship with "terrorists," but even that evidence is kept secret from the defendants and their lawyers.

Q: How widespread is the problem of colleges giving information on Arab students to the government?

ABUDAYYEH: Throughout the country, universities and community colleges have been providing information about their international students to the Department of Justice and the FBI. The Patriot Act expanded the government's authority to access financial and academic records of international students without their knowledge. Some universities have complied with government pressure for information, and others have not—because of administrators' personal convictions, or because of student and faculty protests. Soon the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) program—which was authorized through an earlier piece of legislation—will begin tracking the 500,000-plus foreign students holding student (F-1, M-1, or J-1) visas. The system was supposed to be mandatory as of January 30, 2003 for all institutions that accept these foreign students. But SEVIS has not yet gone into effect because the INS—now called the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services—is still training its inspectors and officials at colleges and technical schools. SEVIS will mostly be used to make sure that students are fulfilling the terms of their respective visas—that they're full-time students and passing their classes. But it may also require professors to monitor the activities, inside and outside the classroom, of students in certain fields of study, as well as Arab and Muslim students in other fields. It will help the government essentially "spy" on foreign students. Meanwhile there has been an astonishing 50% drop in the U.S. government's acceptance of visitors' visa applications from Arab and Muslim countries, according to research compiled from INS data.

*The USA Patriot Act, passed by Congress six weeks after September 11, expands the government's authority to spy on its own citizens and permits detention and deportation of non-citizens suspected of supporting groups the government considers "terrorist" organizations. — *Eds.*

AUGUST *music* and Liberation

Music and Liberation: Hip-Hop and R&B's Revolutionary Potential

Hip-hop had begun as an underground, community-based art form in New York's ghettos, but was quickly appropriated by white recording companies who saw profit potential. While hip-hop has inarguably created a domain in which black Americans and other historically oppressed minorities can make money and achieve fame to an unprecedented extent, this very commercialization has led to an almost blind acceptance and following of "the American dream" that has played a major role in the oppression of black Americans. In fact, in the last ten to fifteen years, as hip-hop has become increasingly commercialized, its subject matter has shifted steadily from expressions of inequality and injustice to expressions of superiority based on possession of material wealth.

However, this is no way a representation of all hip-hop artists. There are still many groups and solo artists today who maintain a strong socio-political stance and who refute commercialized hip-hop's glorification of money. There are many artists maintaining a non-capitalist, socio-political stance. However, they are not the ones, by and large, who are being embraced by the mainstream commercial outlets that can make an artist and his/her career.

Presently, the mass communications system in American society, which is owned and controlled by the ruling economic elite, projects the conservative ideological views of rich, white men; rarely does an alternative perspective get media attention. Therefore, equal access to media outlets, i.e., collective ownership and control of mass media, is a necessary prerequisite to building and sustaining a movement of social change. The establishment of an independent communications system is the first step to fully democratizing mass media. Hip-hop culture in general and rap music in particular can serve as a powerful independent tool for raising the political consciousness of black youth.

Zolo Agona Azania is a New Afrikan Political Prisoner who is awaiting execution in Indiana. Arrested in 1981, he was actively involved in the movement for self-determination of New Afrikan people. His beliefs directly influenced the way the police, prosecution and courts denied him a fair trial and fanned the flames of racism to obtain the death penalty in his case.



about the artist



There is no reason for us to accept a self-definition designed by others to impoverish us, that defines us as not only less than who we are, but even more importantly limits us to become much less than we have potential to be as a people. Commercialized hip-hop can distort our image and identity as a people. But increasing our support of political, socially conscious hip-hop can have the reverse effect, and inform the entire world of our true identity and place in society. By Kamel Jacot-Bell

R&B or "soul music" of the '60s and '70s was often referred to as "message music" when spoken of within the context of the civil rights and Black Power movements of those times. James Brown's "I'm Black and I'm Proud" and Curtis Mayfield's "Keep On Pushin," "People Get Ready;" Sam Cook's "Change is Gonna Come," "Chain Gang"; and Marvin Gaye's "What's Goin On?" and songs like "Ain't No Stoppin Us Now," to name a few, all evoked strong images of a people on the move with definite goals and guided by social theory. In gist, "a social theory determines the destiny of a people by establishing guidelines of life. It defines their relationship with other living things, it defines values and rituals, methods of education, how enemies are to be dealt with, etc."

In the '60s and '70s, as the Black community girded itself to do battle along the winding and treacherous road to freedom and self-determination, R&B music of that era or a constant drum beat of coded and uncoded messages, infused it with confidence, encouragement, and spiritual upliftment. R&B was certain, unequivocal, and self-affirming to the soul and cultural spirit of the Black community. And black was beautiful. While other features of black culture and creative energies contributed significantly to shaping and defining black struggle at that time, R&B unstintingly played its part.

As a cultural medium, the question today is, can Hip-Hop or rap music maintain this tradition?

Because it is widely popular with young people on a national and international scale, the "message" or "quality" of its rap would render it an invaluable educational aspect of Black liberation and progressive global struggles. This is the value of hip-hop. One is tempted to say: it is, or rather ought to be, regarded as the mission of Hip-Hop. As with R&B or "message music" of the '60s and '70s, Hip-Hop could serve as the voice and standard-bearer of liberation for the 21st century. Consequently, as a voice of education and enlightenment, a government COINTELPRO-like campaign initiated to destroy or control hip-hop is plausible. By Herman Bell

about the author

Herman Bell and Nancy Jacot-Bell, works with the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, New York, NY. He has also worked in conjunction with the Prison Moratorium Project, to launch It's Bigger than Hip-Hop, a pop culture project that engages young people with political activism and community organizing to generate change around the issue of mass-incarceration. To read about Herman Bell see the calendar contributors page.

SEPTEMBER WOMENS IMPRISONMENT IN THE U.S.



excerpted from "Women and Imprisonment in the u.s.: History and Current Reality" by Nancy Kurshan

Prisons serve the same purpose for women as they do for men; they are instruments of social control. However, the imprisonment of women, as well as all the other aspects of our lives, takes place against a backdrop of patriarchal relationships...

Who are the women in prison? The profile that emerges in study after study is that of a young, single mother with few marketable job skills, a high school dropout who lives below the poverty level. Seventy-five percent are between the ages of twenty-five and thirty-four, are mothers of dependent children, and were unemployed at the time of arrest... Another extremely significant factor is the race of incarcerated women.

African-American women are eight times more likely than white women to go to prison. Although a greater proportion of white women are arrested, a smaller proportion are incarcerated... Numerous studies have indicated that women of color, black women in particular, are, when compared with white women, over-arrested, over-indicted, under-defended and over-sentenced.

Assata Shakur, the once-imprisoned leader of the Black Liberation Army who was liberated from a New Jersey prison in 1979 and granted political asylum in Cuba, has offered this description:

"There are no criminals here at Riker's Island Correctional Institution for Women (New York), only victims. Most of the women (over 95 percent) are black and Puerto Rican. Many were abused children. Most have been abused by men and all have been abused by "the system." There are no big time gangsters here, no premeditated mass murderers, no god mothers. There are no big time dope dealers, no kidnappers, no Watergate women.

"There are virtually no women here charged with white collar crimes like embezzling and fraud. Most of the women have drug related cases. Many are charged as accessories to crimes committed by men. The major crimes that women here are charged with are prostitution, pickpocketing, shop lifting, robbery and drugs. Women who have prostitution cases or who are doing 'fine' time make up a substantial part of the short term population. The women see stealing or hustling as necessary for the survival of themselves or their children because jobs are scarce and welfare is impossible to live on."

Although the percentage of women in prison is still very low compared to men, the rates are rapidly rising. And when we examine the conditions of incarceration, it does appear as if the imprisonment of women is coming more and more to resemble that of men in the sense that there is no separate, more benign, track for women. Now more than ever, women are being subjected to more maximum security, control units, shock incarceration; in short, everything negative that men receive. We thus may be looking at the beginning of a new era in the imprisonment of women. ... The purpose of prisons for women may not be to function primarily as institutions of patriarchal control. That is, their mission as instruments of social control of people of color generally may be the overriding purpose. Turning women into "ladies" or "feminizing" women is not the essence of the mission of prisons. Warehousing and punishment are now enough, for women as well as men.

The number of women in state and federal U.S. prisons has increased seven-fold from 12,300 in 1980 to 96,000 in 2002*

43% of women prisoners in the U.S. are African American and 12% are Latinas*

***stats from: American Bureau of Justice Statistics**

about the artist

Christine Wong, 25, is a Chinese American artist, illustrator and designer. Her work – including mixed media paintings, woodcut prints and murals – have been exhibited locally and nationally. Born in Santa Rosa, CA, Christine became involved with community arts as a zinester (grassroots publisher) in high school and later as an apprentice to an internationally recognized muralist. In the past five years, she has lead 20 mural projects around the country. Currently she is the Art Director and Associate Editor of YO! Youth Outlook! Magazine, an award-winning monthly journal.

about the author

For more than 10 years, Nancy Kurshan has been an active member of the Committee to End the Marion Lockdown (CEML). CEML is a Chicago-based prisoners' rights and anti-control unit group she helped to found. A former member of Students for a Democratic Society, she was also one of the founding members of the Yippies.

OCTOBER JEWS AGAINST THE OCCUPATION

As a former political prisoner, a Jew, a leftist, a lesbian, and a New Yorker, I've held the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in my mind, heart, and activism for over 25 years.

For many years, there were so few Jews – and not many other white leftists – willing to take a stand in support of Palestinian rights. Now, when I stand in the growing crowds at demonstrations condemning the Israeli occupation and attacks on Palestinians, I feel relief that it's no longer just a tiny handful of us. I am encouraged that there are many more U.S. leftists concerned about the continuing and violent encroachment of Israel on Palestinian land. I am glad that Israeli outrages are not occurring without outcry.

But I can't help feeling that the silence of the left, and of progressive Jews, on the issue of Palestine, for too many years, through too many Israeli settlements, too many incursions into Southern Lebanon, too many Sabras and Shatillas, has helped enable Sharon and the rest of the Israeli state to claim that they represent Judaism. Ignoring an expansionist state for many years has carried a price and taken a toll on our humanity. Similarly, I think it's important for those of us who support political prisoners in the U.S. to oppose actively the "detentions" of immigrant communities now going on in the name of U.S. national security. What we do today — and what we fail

about the author



Laura Whitehorn was born in 1945 in Brooklyn, NY. She began organizing in the 1960s, when as a college student she participated in the civil rights and anti-war movements. Since that time, she has been active in anti-imperialist and anti-racist groups, an in the movements for women's and gay liberation. In the 1980s she went underground to engage in more militant forms of solidarity and resistance. In 1985 she was arrested and later charged and sentenced to 23 years in the "Resistance Conspiracy" case. While imprisoned Laura worked on HIV/AIDS peer education, wrote and made artwork. Laura now lives and in NYC with her lover Susie Day. After having served over 14 years in federal prison, Laura Whitehorn was released on August 6th, 1999.



Many of the people in the demos now are not anti-Zionist, but anti-occupation. It's important for us to unite now, within the breadth of anti-occupation. Yet I feel it's important, too, to recognize that Zionism is an expansionist ideology, which gave rise quite naturally to the current inhumanity. The Palestinian people have been robbed of their right to self-determination. It is in no way a denigration of the seriousness of anti-semitism to disagree with the formation of the state of Israel as the answer, as the source of safety for Jews. For many years it has been difficult to say such things. Being a Jew myself has not given me any protection against charges of anti-semitism for speaking against Zionism. It's not going to be enough, for long, to condemn the current actions of Israel. This issue is not going away, and our protests and our involvement must not go away, either.

I want us to remember that there is no peace, no justice to be had when one state is allowed to trample on the democratic and human rights of a displaced people — and that such a people have the right to defend themselves. Supporting Palestine and other nations similarly dispossessed and similarly struggling is the essence of solidarity and human rights.

about the artist

Josée Lambert is a Montreal photographer who documented one entire year of vigils and demonstrations of the group Palestinian and Jewish Unity.

NOVEMBER THE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAN EMPIRE

"... A society that becomes accustomed to using violence to solve its problems, both large and small, is a society in which the roots of human relations are diseased." - - Ignacio Martin-Baro, O.J.

It is virtually impossible for anyone to consider the horrific violence that has taken place in Central and Latin America, without accounting for the hideous roots of that violence that grows and thrives in America.

For decades, the bloody flood from murders, massacres, rapes, torture and carnage, created a trail that could be traced to the very doorsteps of a U.S. military training institute known as the School of the Americas in Fort Benning, Georgia. Human rights activists have held increasingly swelling demonstrations at the SOA, and have dubbed it the "School of Assassins."

For years the Pentagon dismissed such criticism, and defended the SOA as an elite international training academy for "counter-insurgency", or, more obliquely, for "teaching democracy."

The graduates of SOA, however, constituted a kind of rogue's gallery of military despots and dictators, like Bolivia's Gen. Hugo Banzer Suarez, who brutally sup-

pressed progressive church workers and striking tin miners; like Guatemalan dictator Gen. Romeo Lucas Garcia (1978-82) whose rule saw over 5,000 political killings and about 25,000 civilians murdered by the Guatemalan army, and Gen. Juan Rafael Bustillo, of El Salvador, former air force chief, who, according to a 1993 U.N. report, both planned and covered up the massacre of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper, and her daughter on Nov. 16, 1989, to name a few.

If you think of a massacre, the chances are great that the men who either ordered or committed the deed were SOA alumni. The El Mozote, El Junquillo, Las Hojas, La Cantuta, and San Sebastian Massacres were all the work of SOA-trained "death squads." Was it mere coincidence? When four U.S. churchwomen were raped and murdered, when Archbishop Oscar Romero was assassinated, when union members were killed, it was SOA grads who led in the carnage.

U.S.-trained and armed SOA people have been involved in so many military coups that Latin American locals refer to the school as the 'escuela de golpas' - - coup school.



Recently, the Defense Dept., stung by decades of negative publicity, officially "closed" SOA, only to immediately re-open it under the name, Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHISC). Although not as catchy as SOA, WHISC promises to play the same game, by another name.

Shortly after the Jesuit murders, U.S.-trained Salvadoran troops surrounded the office of the Catholic archdiocese, and shouted, "Ignacio Ellacuria and Ignacio Martin-Baro have already fallen and we will continue murdering communists."

Ellacuria and Martin-Baro were Jesuit priests who worked with Christian-based communities, where the poor learned literacy, history and how to organize for human rights in the midst of monstrous military repression.

Martin-Baro was a brilliant liberation theologian and psychologist, who, like the revolutionary Franz Fanon, chose the side of the oppressed rather than the political, economic and military elite.

For this he was targeted by the U.S.-trained terrorists of the SOA, and it is for men and women such as he that imperial training camps, like SOA/WHISC exist.

Its name has changed, but the game remains the same.

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Col. Writ. 2/10/01

about the author



Mumia Abu-Jamal was a member of the Philadelphia Black Panther Party and was targeted by COINTELPRO for his political activities. He was convicted of the 1981 killing of a Philadelphia police officer and sentenced to death. Mumia is an author and journalist who continues to write from Pennsylvania's death row. In 2001, the death penalty was overturned in this case, though the original conviction was upheld. Since then the courts have refused to grant Mumia a new trial. The prosecution in the case has appealed the overturning of the death sentence while Mumia's defense team has appealed the upholding of the original conviction.

about the artist



Jacobo Silva, a.k.a. Insurgent Commander Antonio, was born in Miahuatlan, Oaxaca, on November 28, 1957. He is now a political prisoner serving a fifty-year sentence in a maximum-security prison in Mexico. His lawyer, Digna Ochoa was assassinated on October 19, 2001, at exactly two years after Jacobo's arbitrary arrest.

DECEMBER

non-status Algerians

The Action Committee for Non-Status Algerians is a movement of Algerians who fled the conflict that has been raging in that country for more than ten years — a conflict that has already resulted in over 150,000 deaths and 10,000 disappearances. These Algerians who sought refuge in Canada saw their applications for refugee status rejected. However, they could legally stay in Canada by virtue of a moratorium instituted in 1997, which suspended deportations to Algeria.

During a visit to Algeria by the Canadian Prime Minister at the beginning of March 2002, the moratorium on deportations to Algeria was lifted. The reason given by the Canadian government was that the situation in Algeria was no longer dangerous. Yet at the same time a report from the Canadian Department of External Affairs advised Canadians to cancel all travel to Algeria for security reasons. So why was the moratorium lifted?

Algeria, which is Canada's foremost economic partner in the Africa/Middle East region wants to improve its image as a violent country in order to attract foreign investment. The lifting of the moratorium is a goodwill gesture on Canada's part to normalize political relations with Algeria and create a favourable climate to increase the volume of trade between the two countries.

The lifting of the moratorium put over a thousand people in danger of deportation to Algeria. The Action Committee for Non-Status Algerians refused to accept this fate and decided to wage a political struggle to push the Canadian government to find a solution to the question of the non-status Algerians.

The beginning of the struggle was devoted to mobilizing all the non-status Algerian community. Through general assemblies and a democratic process, the Committee was able to raise awareness about the necessity of waging a political struggle, and to mobilize around the committee's three demands: an end to the deportations, the regularization of all non-status people, and a reinstatement of the moratorium.

The committee also raised awareness among the general public and was able to find support from civil society. Several of the committee's demonstrations were covered by the media, including one large protest march that saw over a thousand people take to the streets of Montreal.

about the author



The Comité d'action des sans-statut algériens (The Action Committee for Non-Status Algerians) has recently initiated a campaign to raise awareness about their situation, and to organize an effective political and legal response. Approximately 1000 Algerians living in Canada are currently facing imminent deportation as a result of changes to federal government policy this past April 2002. These residents -- many of whom have lived, studied and worked in Canada for several years, and whose children were born here -- now live in fear of being returned to a country they fled due to a violent civil conflict that has taken at least 150,000 lives. For more info: www.tao.ca/~sans-statut

Non-status Algerian women also made their contribution to the struggle, by forming a Women's Committee, which organized a Women's March endorsed by the Quebec Federation of Women, as well as an occupation of Immigration Minister Denis Coderre's office.

In October 2002, more than six months after the lifting of the moratorium, Immigration Canada wanted to deport the Bourouissa family — a family of two adults, of which the women was pregnant, and a Canadian born child. The family sought sanctuary in a United Church. This event brought the question of the non-status Algerians into the public spotlight, garnering lots of media attention. As a result of all this attention, the Minister of Immigration proposed a solution to the case of the non-status Algerians. Unfortunately, the solution is still only partial and the non-status Algerians continue their struggle to win all their demands. On May 29th, 2003 the non-status Algerians visited the Minister of Immigration's Ottawa office in an attempt to meet with the Minister. In an attempt to break their struggle, the government of Canada decided to violently expel the non-status Algerians, using tasers against peaceful protesters. More than twelve people were arrested. These arrests add to the March 2003 arrest of one of the Action Committee for Non-Status Algerians' spokespeople at the Quebec Minister of Immigration's office.

Author: Mohamed Cherfi, active member of the Comité d'Action des Sans-Statut Algériens (CASS). Text translated by Helen Hudson.



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