

# ATTICA NEWS

## SERVICE

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## BROTHERS IN COURT

Since December 18, 1972, arraignment proceedings have been taking place at the Wyoming County Courthouse at Warsaw. So far, 60 Attica Brothers have been named on 37 indictments, and the Grand Jury responsible for these is still in session. Throughout these proceedings, the state has demonstrated its inhumanity, against which the indicted Brothers have stood up strong; the repression has been extended from the Brothers to those who are at the courthouse to show their solidarity.

The remoteness of the courthouse, in an isolated all-white community, far from the urban centers where most of the Brothers have their roots and supporters, is itself a disadvantage; but this has not prevented the people from packing the courtroom. The state was not prepared, at first, for such a show of support. Security in the first week was not intense. "Spectators" could wait inside the building and communicate with the Brothers as they entered and left the court.

If supporters were called "spectators" by Judge Carmen Ball, then the state provided the spectacle in its treatment of the Brothers. When the prisoners are brought to the courthouse, they are escorted by State Troopers. They are forced to

climb a fire-escape in shackles, and are led into the courtroom in chains. The first day of indictments, the Brothers at the court had to wait all morning, chained, because the prosecution did not bother to show up until the afternoon. The mental torture was prolonged by the state: until the indictments were unsealed in the courtroom, the Brothers there had no idea what they were being charged with. Some were even made to return on later dates to face new indictments --no-one knew if or when he would have to be at court again. One Brother, William Ortiz, at his second appearance, exposed the pain he was forced to endure. Looking badly beaten, he said:

"I'm going through pains-mental pains. I do not know if I am William Ortiz. I do not know if I exist---they took an innocent man and killed him. They have taken my mind-like a man without a mind, without a head--I don't know anything about these charges--they are a pack of cold-blooded lies. You want to kill me, you can kill me. Get it over with now. Give me the electric chair. Give me the gas chamber. You're going to kill me anyway."

On a later appearance to the courthouse, Ortiz seemed strengthened by the show of support, returning the clenched fist greeting of demonstrators as he left to be taken back to Auburn.

Together, the Brothers have managed to withstand the pressures of the state, and have used every opportunity to demonstrate the invalidity of the indictments and the illegality of the court. Once arraignments formally began, no-one entered a plea--Judge Ball had to do it. They do not walk in, but often force the prison guards to drag them, dramatizing the state's repression. Indictments have been torn up, ignored or contested. Several Brothers, turning to the people, have asked if they indicted them. Until Judge Ball forbade "demonstrations", the answer



Brother Chuck greets supporters as cops load him into paddy wagon

was a solid "NO!" This gesture stems from objections to the prosecution's use of the words "The People of the State of New York..." In a motion to delete "The People," replacing it with "The Government," Dalou Asahi (Mariano Gonzalez) said:

"The present use of the words "The People" gives legitimacy to what is an illegitimate charge against me. The people, my/our people, have never passed judgement on me and have never accused me of any crime. The people have not been able...to judge and indict the real criminals."

The state opposed the motion, and Judge Ball denied it. This was just one of many times that the Judge acquiesced to the prosecution's wishes. For example, in motions for bail reduction, the Judge has only accepted the figure desired by the state.

The Brothers are making all actions and motions collectively. Included among the motions they have decided to raise are:

1. That trial venue(location) be changed to New York City;
2. That Judge Ball be dismissed for prejudice, and
3. That the indictments be dropped in the interests of justice;

Such actions and speeches by the Brothers, and the constant support at the courthouse, dismays the state,

which is trying to gag those exposing its inhumanity. It has reacted with greater clamp-downs. Now, everyone wanting to enter the courtroom has to wait outside in the freezing cold. Then, one by one, they are searched by a sheriff with a metal detector, their names meanwhile being taken by another sheriff and a Bureau of Criminal Investigations agent--presumably as a "reference". To even carry a paper cup of water into the courtroom is forbidden. A wall of armed "peace-officers" is placed between the brothers and sisters waiting outside the building to greet the prisoners as they are being led away.

During the proceedings themselves, a similar threatening display lines the walls of the small courtroom. Attorney William Kunstler, in court on Friday February 2, made it clear in a motion to remove the cops, the reason for their presence: to give the appearance of containing "wild animals from prison", and prejudice the case against the Brothers. The Judge himself hides behind the stony wall of his face; his response to the Brothers is threatening, paternalistic, or downright callous.

One Brother, Ronald Bixby, was not treated for a nervous disease as he should have been on the day he appeared in court (December 28). The Judge ignored his condition--and that evening Bixby was found unconscious on the floor of his cell with a "piece of cord" around his neck. When told of this, Judge Ball denied responsibility for anything concerning the institutions to whose "care" he has committed the Brothers. When one Brother, Willie Stokes, documented the specific incidents of harrassment and brutality which he was aware of at Auburn, the Judge told the prosecution to continue reading the charges--and told Willie he could have him gagged.

Following Willie Stokes into the courtroom was Alphonso Ross, who told the Judge why his court and his charges were illegal. Hauled up on kidnap charges, he said:

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# brothers' letters

## Attica News:

ATTICA NEWS SERVICE is the collective effort of the Attica Brothers and their supporters on the outside-the Attica Defense Committee. Since the straight press has chosen to ignore Attica and the state's new attack on the Brothers, and since what they do print is either distortion or just plain lies, and since the only force that can guarantee a people's victory over the attempt to repress all resistance and growth by oppressed people and the prisoners is the people themselves--fully educated as to what Attica is, why it exists, what happens there, what it means, and who the Attica Brothers are, we will serve as a network providing the needed information on this struggle.

We aim to be a channel through which the Brothers' support movement can be organized: specifically as a newspaper to be distributed in communities in New York state where Attica work is going on or trials are being held; as a newsletter and communications network for prisoners, to break down the barriers of walls and bars that separate them from those in struggle outside--by printing articles, interviews, poems, letters and graphics of the Brothers, their families and outside supporters; and as a news service to the press throughout the U.S. Upon request, we will also provide speakers, films and Attica information packets (interviews, tapes and writings by the Brothers).

We hope to furnish complete, accurate information on trials, conditions, and all other matters relating to the Brothers' legal and political defense.

We will feature articles on various aspects of oppression in the criminal justice and prison systems.

We plan to publish once a month. We do not have the money for national distribution, so please help us by using the materials in the paper, (writings, photos, etc.) in your own papers. Please give us your reactions and criticisms of our work, and any information on the prison struggle. Our existence is wholly dependent on contributions, which may be sent to the ATTICA BROTHERS DEFENSE FUND, c/o the Buffalo Challenger. We hope to distribute a limited number of copies free to prisoners, so your financial support is essential.

SUPPORT THE BROTHERS!  
ATTICA IS ALL OF US!!

Attica Defense Committee  
P.O.Box 74,  
Edwell Station,  
Buffalo, N.Y. 14212,  
716-834-2863



Dalou

### THE TIME HAS COME - SUPPORT THE BROTHERS

Not so long ago the news media were overwhelmingly flooded with the events of the Attica Rebellion and the infamous Massacre of September 13, 1971, in which so many Brothers and hostages were slain with the fire-power of the state, ordered and praised by the Nixon-Rockefeller-Oswald power structure.

Many eyes were unbelieving, many minds were confused and many hearts were angered when the outright lie of hostages being slain by the prisoners was contradicted with the truth of the cause of death--Rockefeller's bullets!

From that time until now, many of the Brothers who survived were placed in HBZ, were kept isolated in punitive segregation, not given any criminal charges, yet repressed on the orders of Rockefeller and Oswald. At the same time, Rockefeller hand-picked a "special" prosecutor, Dep. Atty. Gen. Robert E. Fischer, and a score of professional super-cops (costing the taxpayers millions of dollars) to investigate criminal violations of the State laws and to bring evidence before a so-called "special" Wyoming County Grand Jury (all whites), which has just handed down 37 sealed indictments naming 60 Brothers. This Jury is still sitting and will bring more indictments against the people.

Needless to say, it is conspicuous that the State is the party which is guilty of murder and outright fascist tactics; and yet, the Brothers are again the victims of trumped-up indictments and outrageous charges and the victims of a shrewd and highly-organized conspiracy not only against the

Brothers but against all the people, too!

How can the State have the audacity to frame the Brothers under the title of:

The "People" of the State of New York  
against

We're the People! And I believe the majority of the people accuse the Brothers of nothing, except being unfortunate victims of a political conspiracy of those who currently exercise power in the State. To the contrary, many of us praised the State for further raising our level of consciousness to the reality of prison conditions and the hypocrisy of so-called criminal "justice" in the U.S.

The Brothers need (the people's) support, for the following reasons:

1. Many of us are poor and cannot afford to select a lawyer of our own choosing to represent us appropriately and not one who will sell us out at any given time; funds are needed for attorneys' expenses.

2. We are being framed by a "special" prosecuting team; therefore, we must get a "special" Defense investigating team for the defense of all of us--i.e., legal assistants to look for defense witnesses, to fund the legal materials, doctors, pathologists, etc.

3. Funds for demonstrations, rallies, buttons, leaflets, posters, etc.

4. Money for our Bail Fund. Five Brothers have been sitting in Erie Co. Jail for 3 months now, simply because they and their families are poor--\$8500 will put all of them on the street.

5. More important, we need the physical presence and moral support of the real concerned people at each and every court appearance and/or each and every rally or demonstration in our behalf.

All power and love to you, the people,

Dalou Asahi  
for the Indicted  
Attica Brothers

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COME TO COURT: the Brothers will be in court March 14 at Wyoming County Court, Warsaw, N.Y. at 1 p.m. For rides and information call:

- BUFFALO: Attica Defense Committee 884-2863
- ITHACA: Prison Rights Coalition 272-2589
- NEW YORK CITY: Attica Defense Committee 741-2640
- ROCHESTER: Peoples' Defense Committee 454-2272
- SYRACUSE: Family and Friends of Attica Brothers 478 0770

## Attica Brothers Defense Fund

% the BUFFALO CHALLENGER, 1301 Fillmore,  
Buffalo, New York, 14211

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing \$\_\_\_\_\_ as a contribution to:  LEGAL DEFENSE  BAIL FUND  ATTICA NEWS SUBSCRIPTION

I would like to do Attica work in my community, please contact me.



Dear Brothers and Sisters Who Are Members of the Black and White Ghetto Community,

We, the Indicted Attica Brothers, are concerned about society knowing what the racist officials has did, by placing this thing upon us--and when I say us I mean all the black and white people in the ghetto, who know what it is like to be poor, hungry, and oppressed by this system which we are presently under. Whatever happens to us will definitely reflect upon the black community throughout the country. You know of the very dreadful inhuman acts Rockefeller and his agents brought upon us at Attica on September 13, 1971; it is a shame many of us at Attica, and in the black community around the country, lost our loved ones, brothers and comrades, on that day. And many of us were left handicapped.

It was one of the bloodiest days in the American Prisons that any of us has ever witnessed in our lives, and one of Rockefeller's most savage type acts to wipe out the poor black and white of our society. And he continues to do these acts of violence in our streets, homes, and prisons today.

It is clearly understood why Rockefeller does these acts on the poor and oppressed people, and I shall give you some of these reasons why: 1. Rockefeller has never been Black; 2. Rockefeller has never been poor; 3. Rockefeller has never been hungry; 4. Rockefeller has never been in jail for something that he did or didn't do; 5. Rockefeller has never lived in the ghetto in run-down houses with rats and roaches running around the place. These are just some of the reasons why Rockefeller does these acts against the so-called lower class people. Now due to the investigation that Rockefeller and his agents has been working on for 15 months, another terrible act was placed upon the ATTICA BROTHERS in the struggle. Sixty Brothers were indicted--and more are expected to be--for various acts arising out of the Attica uprising. But we, the poor and oppressed people in our community, know who the real killer and criminals are, and who is trying to cover up for themselves. These charges that were placed upon us include murder, attempted murder, kidnapping, as well as 34 other charges down the line. And all of us are now being held in an isolation part of Auburn (concentration camp) prison.



Dear Brothers and Sisters of the PDC,

I'd like to tell all of you beautiful people what your letter meant to me. As I was reading your letter to me I felt a very strange feeling in my heart, something I have never felt before. I guess it was the fact that there is someone in this world who really cares about me, and the strangest thing about it is I haven't really met any of you. But I realize now that you people are the real and true people and are just like me, "we are the oppressed," and now we must fight this with U.N.I.T.Y., for this love, strength, unity and all the feelings we have for one another can only result in the greatest victory of the oppressed people (you and I). I want all of you to know that the Brothers and I cannot really express to all of the beautiful people our love for them with words for the true feeling of love generates itself whether we are together or apart from each other. I only wish I had known all of you before this when I was a part of the outside world for my eyes could have been opened sooner to what was really happening, but I was very young and naive and I still am but each day I see more and more and I'm very happy that all of you are willing to help me through this struggle. Believe me when I tell you this, I speak from the core of my heart. Yes, the mass of American people are good and they are beautiful.

Well, I hope this letter means as much to you all as yours did to me, so I'll close by saying I LOVE ALL OF YOU and power to you and us.

Love,  
John Hill

We, the Indicted Attica Brothers, who are part of the struggle, who have been constantly punished in these (concentration camps) prisons, remain physically and mentally strong in these deplorable conditions.

But now we have come to the problem where we must set up our defense against Rockefeller and his agents, which I know all our beautiful black and white brothers and sisters in the community around the country will resolve.

We, the Indicted Attica Brothers, are in desperate need of your total support, in and out of court, politically and economically. We need pennies, dollars, anything that you can give. We all must understand that we must unite and fight this capitalistic killer off our backs once and for all, so that we can stop these legal lynchings and killings by the ruling class (Rockefeller, Nixon) in our community, and make a better place to survive.

So you see, my beautiful black/white brothers and sisters, we all must get together once and for all to overcome this present system and to reach our goal--which is freedom, justice and equality in all walks of life in which we live today.

You see, brothers and sisters, we have to FIGHT and DIE for what we want today. Because we all want to be treated like human beings, not animals. The slave days are supposed to be over.

Peace, Power and Love to you All,

Brother Armstrong John  
and the Indicted  
Attica Brothers

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"I am a ghetto man, born and raised there, my people are there--you have kidnapped me to this court... As to this here charge of unlawful imprisonment...well, Judge Ball, you and the rest of the pigs in this country are unlawfully imprisoning thousands of my poor Brothers--because they are poor, and because they are Black or Chicano... that's unlawful imprisonment!"

It was the patronizing Judge Ball who "advised" Brother William Wesley- "You are your own worst enemy. Stop thinking that everyone is out to get you..start worrying about yourself first, and then concern yourself with these other things." (other things



being the conditions in Auburn which William was demanding be controlled)

The state is trying to repress the Brothers because they know what the state does to human beings. The response to its efforts is the growth of activity around their struggle. Groups from Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse, N.Y.C., Ithaca, and Olean have been there in Warsaw every day, picketing, filling the courtroom, and showing those trying to silence the Attica Brothers that their voice will be heard. This is what the Attica Brothers teach us in every demonstration of resistance- and it is up to us to carry the struggle forward with them.

# WHAT HAPPENED AT ATTICA?

The Attica Prison Rebellion was not an isolated incident. On any single day there are about 1,300,000 Americans in prison, ninety percent of them Black, Latino and poor white people from the urban ghettos of America. Most large prisons in the U.S. have seen major up-risings in the last three or four years, all directed against the racism, brutality and general degradation of prison existence. In New York State alone, prisoners at Rikers Island, Queens and Brooklyn Houses of Detention the Tombs, and Auburn had risen up to bring their intolerable living conditions to the attention of the people - all before Attica exploded. Prisoners at Auburn in November, 1970, were promised total amnesty, and were beaten, gassed and maced in their cells the next day. They learned not to trust the promises of the state.

Before the up-rising of September 9, 1971, the Attica prisoners had made a number of peaceful attempts to change the sub-human conditions under which they were forced to live. In August, 1970, 500 prisoners in the prison metal shop went on strike behind their demands for human treatment. The elected negotiators were told they would be taken to see the warden with their demands. Instead forty of them were made to run through a gauntlet of prison guards armed with clubs. They were beaten and shipped out of Attica. In July, 1971, a list of 28 demands was presented to Commissioner of Corrections Russell Oswald, with a promise that no action was planned to enforce the demands. The signers of the Manifesto were harassed and subjected to humiliating searches, while two supporters were thrown into the "box". Months went by, and again nothing changed.

These are the forces that created the up-rising: 1. Conditions that denied the humanity of the prisoners on every level, inedible food, one shower a week, 25 cents a day for wages, five minutes for parole hearings, the constant abuse and brutality of an all-white, small-town corps of guards, no human contact with their loved ones. 2. The betrayal of the prisoners' good faith attempts at change had created a situation of total distrust and frustration. There was no way out. 3. The total lack of awareness or support on the outside completed the isolation of the prisoners.

On the morning of September 9, 1971, the prisoners rebelled against their intolerable oppression - (exercising the same right of rebellion that forms the basis of the American Declaration of Independence). They took over the entire institution, but were driven back into D yard and the surrounding cellblocks, taking 38 hostages with them.



The 1,280 prisoners in D yard developed a powerful unity of all races, political and religious groups. For four days they controlled their own lives: shared their food, cigarettes and clothing, and provided medical treatment for all who needed it. As an example to the prison authorities, they treated their hostages with humanity, fed them well, gave them double mattresses and guarded them from attack. Above all they overcame the racism which is the prison's - and society's - most effective tool for dividing and controlling the population. The men who protected the all-white group of hostages were all Black, and no hostages were harmed in the yard - at least until the morning of the 13th. The negotiators at the table were Black Latino and White, and the clear demands they raised called for human treatment for all and an end to racist attacks.

Oswald, who negotiated with the Brothers, acknowledged that the changes the prisoners demanded were "one hundred years over-due". There were two demands, however, that Oswald was not prepared to grant: the demand to dismiss warden Mancusi; and the demand for total amnesty. His refusal to secure amnesty for the rebel prisoners led directly to the break-down of negotiations and the savage crushing of the up-rising. The amnesty demand was the test of the "good faith" of the prison officials. If all the 28 demands were legitimate and steps would be taken to implement them, then criminal prosecution of the prisoners involved in raising those demands would be unreasonable. But the State considered the right to prosecute the rebels more valuable than all the human lives at stake.

On the morning of September 13, without warning or clear ultimatum, the State mounted a massive lethal attack on the prison population. The assault force of State Police and prison guards had been stirred up to a pitch of racist hatred by totally unfounded stories of hostages getting raped and castrated in the yard. As they went into the prison for the attack Troopers shouted "White Power" and posed with clenched fists for news cameras. They were armed with shot-guns and buck-shot to give scattered fire over a wide area, and hunting rifles equipped with flat-nosed dum-dum bullets designed to blow a foot-wide hole in the human body. Thirty-nine people, including ten hostages, were killed and hundreds were wounded under the guns of the state in less than five minutes.

We have strong evidence that of all the prisoners who died on the 13th, some were not killed during the immediate assault, as the state claims, but afterwards when it was already very clear that the troopers and guards were in full control. Sam Melville, Tommie Hicks, and L.D. Barkley were all seen alive by other Brothers after the final shots - or what they thought were the final shots - were sounded. The Mc Kay Commission report on Attica has chosen to deny that these assassinations took place.

In the following days at least 700 prisoners were viciously beaten, tortured and abused by State Troopers and Guards, despite Oswald's promise that there would be no physical reprisals. Some

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# 'LAW AND ORDER'

## Brothers Beaten/Gassed

FROM: Attica Brothers  
DATE: 28 January 1973

Friday, January 26th, 1973, one of the indicted brothers of Attikkka, who is currently held in Auburn Prison, was brutally assaulted by officers for hesitating when being ordered to submit to a second rectal examination within five minutes. Otis McGaughy had gone through this dehumanizing procedure on the way down to visit his attorneys with the Attica Defense Committee. Although the attorneys' visit was constantly watched by guards, stationed outside a glass door, he was ordered to submit again upon being returned to his cell. This procedure carried out with an air of vengeful retaliation by Auburn guards (many of whom were at Attikkka in Sept. 1971) is just part of the harrassment which we are still being subjected to. The attack on McGaughy followed by only two days the gassing of another Attika Brother, Vernon LeFranque. The gas filtered throughout our cells for the following days.

We want the people to know what is still happening to us and we desperately call on you for help.

We urge people to write to:

Robert Menderson, Warden  
Auburn Prison  
135 State Street  
Auburn, N. Y. 13021

OR

Russell G. Oswald, Commissioner  
Department of Corrections  
Twin Towers Building  
Auburn, N. Y. 13021

and PROTEST the use of GAS and the INTOLERABLE CONDITIONS that exist in the BOX at AUBURN!

The Indicted Brothers  
in Auburn Concentra-  
tion Camp

## Charges Dropped Against Tony Williams

At the end of the long court session on Feb. 26 the State's Attorney Brian Malone suddenly announced that the charges of multiple kidnap, unlawful imprisonment and coercion against Tony Williams had been dropped. He indicated there was some question of mistaken identification.

Tony, who had spent two months in Erie County Jail as a result of this indictment, is getting ready to sue the state for false arrest, illegal imprisonment, mental anguish, etc. He believes the dismissal of the charges has nothing to do with mistaken identity - after all the prosecutor has been putting these charges together for the past fifteen months and should know who his targets are and have accurate identifications. If their evidence is so shaky that they can indict the wrong prisoners, how many more indictments should be dismissed!!



## "Administrative Protective Custody"

We, the Attica Brothers, are now being held under the guise of "administrative protective custody"!!!!

Rockefeller and Oswald claim we are being protected! And from whom are we to be protected? Can it be that we're being protected from the correctional officers?? If this is the case, as they claim it to be, why, we ask, are we in their charge???

We are constantly being harrassed by them. We are constantly being brutalized by them. We are kept locked in a cell 24 hours a day by them. We are

fed in a cell over an open commode by by them. Some of us do not even have a table in the cell assigned to us so we must eat off the floor like animals. We are not allowed to keep our commissary or personal food which we have received from home in the cells we've been assigned to. Our commissary and personal food is rationed (4 items a day) to us daily by them. We are allowed one haircut a month, two showers a week, and two shaves. We are taken to an exercise yard about 12' x 30' for an hour a day. In this exercise yard we are told we are not to exercise more than one man at a time. We are supposed to receive one law book a night upon request. But we are lucky if we receive one law book a week. So it is almost impossible to work on our cases. When we request information we are told to write an interview slip to someone who doesn't reply. No one seems to know what or who runs this place or how so it is almost total daily chaos. We are skin-searched every time we are taken off the floor to see an attorney, family, etc. If we go on a visit (attorney or family) we are not fed. We are segregated from each other in "tanks" - six men to a tank. And we are not allowed to pass anything to one another. Now we ask you - is this protective custody????

Well, we didn't ask for it!!

Attica Brothers  
Auburn Concentra-  
tion camp

## Chuck Pernasilice Denied Bail



...AND FOR EACH UNHARMFUL, GENTLE SOUL MISPLACED INSIDE A JAIL, WE GAZED UPON THE CHIMES OF FREEDOM FLASHING. Bob Dylan.

After one and a half hours of intense pleading by Chuck and his attorney, Barbara Handschu, Judge Ball once again denied bail. He had previously denied the bail motion made by William Kunstler, who will be representing Chuck at trial, with leave to reapply. The re-application was supported by petitions signed by over 500 concerned residents of Syracuse, Chuck's home town, urging Ball to grant a reasonable bail. Scores of letters from past employers, local politicians, and relatives were also presented. It was clear that Chuck has a job and a good home waiting for him.

However, on bail matters, as on everything else, Ball does exactly as he is told by the prosecution. In this case the prosecutor argued that the charges against Chuck carry the mandatory sentence of execution and he is therefore not eligible for bail.

Chuck, a 21-year old Brother from Syracuse, is charged with murdering Officer William Quinn. His only conviction, and the one that landed him in Attica, was in 1968 for taking a ride on a stolen motorcycle. Now he faces the prospect of anything up to two years stay in Erie County Jail, where the food is inedible, family visits last ten minutes, and there is nothing to do but sleep and watch T.V. Chuck is a fine guitarist, but the warden there has refused to let him have his guitar. On the grounds that the strings could be used as a weapon.

# State Launches Second Attack on Brothers

## Indicted Brothers:

INDICTED BROTHER	INDICTMENT NUMBER(S)	MAXIMUM SENTENCE
William Bennett(Goldmine)	5,7,37	life x34 + 265 yrs
Richie Bilello	5,15	life x34 + 18 yrs
Ernest Bixby	10	143 yrs.
James Brown (Alayah)	5	life x34
Richard Clark(Brother Richard)	5	life x34
Roger Champen (Champ)	5	life x34
Ronald Coyne (Big Red)	18	36 yrs.
Herbie Scott X Deanc (Akil)	18	36 yrs.
Allah Dahu (fugitive)	9	108 yrs.
Edward Dingle	5,15	life x34 + 18 yrs
Robert Dugarm	10	143 yrs
Greg Felder	20	36 yrs.
Peter Galvin	20	36 yrs.
Robert Gill	10	143 yrs.
Mariano Gonzalez(Dalou)	6	life
Steve Garrett (El-Karaem)	5	life x34
Thoams Hagen	10	143 yrs.
John Hill (Chief)	1,19	poss. death +21 yrs
Clavin Hudson (Hutch)	24	36 yrs.
Raymond Jackson	21	22 yrs.
Armstrong John (BiE)	2,5	life x34 +25 yrs
Robert Johnson(Duke)	5,16,28	life x34 +78 yrs
Wilbur Johnson(Jusmeallah)	18,36	63 yrs.
Carl Jones-El(Tariq)	7	251 yrs.
Milton Jones (Babu)	3,5,7,9	life x34 + 384 yrs
Vernon LaFranque	35	14 yrs.
Joe Little	11	100 yrs.
Ronald Lyons	8,12	360 yrs.
Leon McDonald (Hodari)	15	18 yrs.
Otis McGaughy(Big O)	18,34	58 yrs.
Meriano Maldano (fugitive)	22,23	28 yrs.
Steve Merkel	11	100 yrs.
Robert Miles	10	143 yrs.
John Mitchell (the Rock)	18	143 yrs.
James Moore(Rahaam)	15,33	33 yrs.
Donald Noble(fugitive)	2,5	life x34 + 25 yrs
William Ortiz(Tortano)	7,8,17,31	589 yrs.
William Outlaw	25	22 yrs.
Chuck Parnasilica(Charley Joe)	1	possible death
Mike Phillips	10	143 yrs.
Alfred Plummer (NBA Red)	29	28 yrs.
Jose Quinones (Papo)	5,15	life x34 +18 yrs
Ruiz Quintana	10	143 yrs.
Chris Reed	5	life x34
James 33X Richey	5,10	life x34 + 143 yrs
Alphonso Ross	7,8,30,32	589 yrs.
Chris Santiago	13	29 yrs.
Bernard Shipman (Iron Mike)	5	life x34
Frank Smith (Big Black)	5,15	life x34 + 18 yrs
Willie Smith	27	32 yrs.
William Stokes	10	143 yrs.
Bernard Stoble(Shango)	5,15	life x34 + 18 yrs.
Raymond Sumpter(Fish)	8,9	432 yrs.
Eric Thompson (Jomo)	5,15	life x34 + 18 yrs
Verdell Turner (Zuri)	7	251 yrs.
John Wallace	4,5	life x34 +25 yrs
William Wesley (Shafi)	14, 17	63 yrs.
William Wilson (Xmielex)	21	22 yrs.
Richard Wright (Rico)	26	32 yrs.

The "special" Attica Grand Jury, after fifteen months of "investigating" the uprising and massacre, has finally handed down 37 indictments--all of them against prisoners. Sixty (60) Attica Brothers--46 of them Black, 8 White, 5 Latino and 1 Mohawk--are accused of crimes ranging from murder to "promoting prison contraband." Not one State Official, Trooper or prison guard has been indicted for so much as assault. These indictments are only the first batch. The Grand Jury is still meeting regularly, and we can expect another load of charges in the next few months.

Rockefeller and his agents have spent close to two million dollars of taxpayers' money to get these indictments, money that could have been used to deal with the barbaric conditions that triggered the uprising. Why is it so important to them to punish the Attica Brothers and put them away for life?

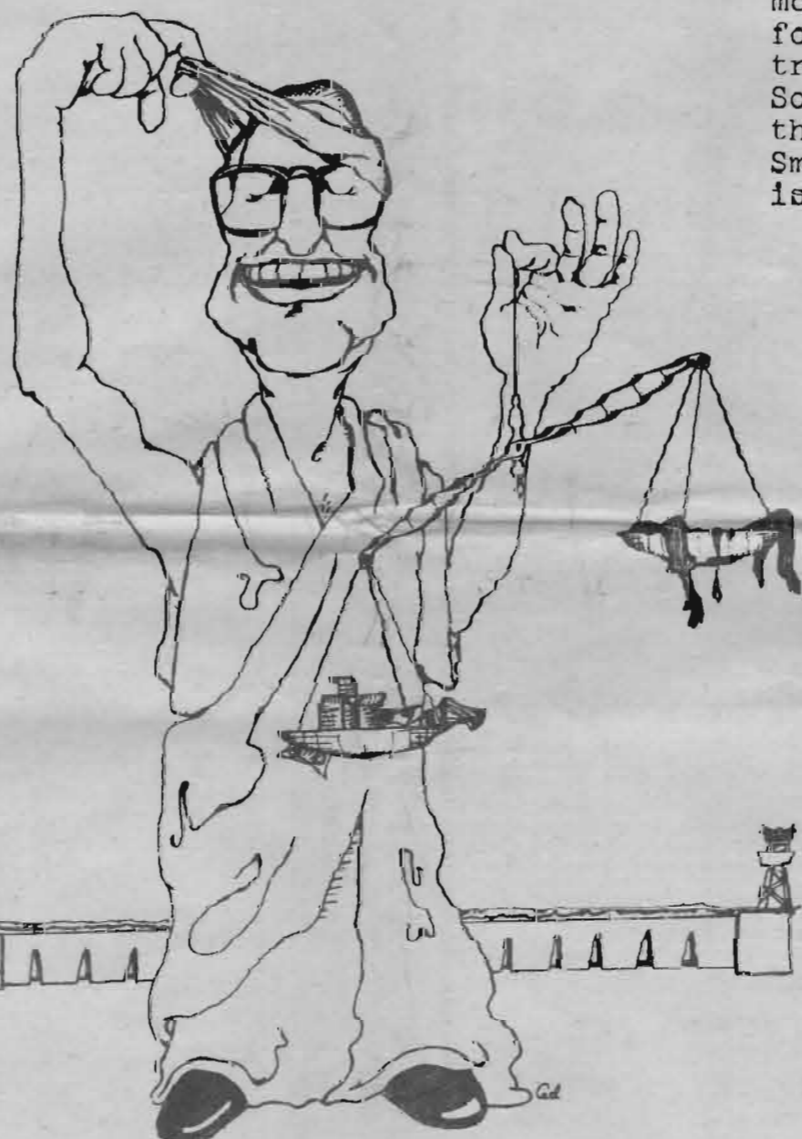
First, Rockefeller and all the State Officials involved have to wipe the blood off their own hands by putting the whole blame for what happened at Attica onto the prisoners. By accusing the victims of Attica of violent crimes, they hope the people will forget their own racist atrocities. They tried to do the same thing September 13, when Walter Dunbar announced that the hostages died at the hands of the Brothers. This vicious lie was swallowed whole by the news media, and many people still believe it to be true.

Second, they are trying to crush the resistance of prisoners--and all oppressed people who struggle for a better life--by incarcerating them for life in armed concentration camps. (When the Brothers talk about "concentration camps," they are not fooling. The only real change at Attica in the last one and a half years has been the building of new gun towers, assault tunnels, and the arming of the entire guard force with M-16 rifles.) Nixon and Rockefeller and their allies have declared war on all poor and non-white people in this country. They are frightened by the unity and determination of the Attica Brothers who dared to defy the system which was murdering them by inches in Maximum Security. Now the State must try to break their spirit and make an example of them to all of us.

Where did these charges come from? The Wyoming County Grand Jury that handed down these indictments is one of the most blatantly stacked juries in history. Its members all live in the rural communities in and around Attica; they are all white, largely elderly--only one is under thirty--and unanimously biased against prisoners. When the jury was questioned

by the judge and the D.A., twelve of its members stated quite openly that they had friends and relatives who work as guards in the prison or as State Troopers and five had friends who were hostages in the yard. The foreman of the jury, Raymond Becker, runs the school bus outfit in Attica Village and claims many friends among the Attica guards.

The only evidence this "impartial" Grand Jury has heard in its year and more of duty has been presented by Deputy Attorney General Robert E. Fischer, the man appointed by Rockefeller to investigate and prosecute all crimes committed at Attica. Fischer's agency was originally set up to investigate organized crime in New York State. Apparently the task of rounding up the Attica Brothers has a higher priority, as the entire organized crime



task force was snifted to the Attica work.

As a State Official himself, and as an attorney who has defended the State Officials involved at Attica in court, Fischer stated he could not impartially investigate the crimes of State Officials, and requested that a special agency be set up for that purpose. This of course has not been done. No one is investigating or prosecuting the men responsible for the primary violence at Attica, the murders and tortures of September 13. And unless we demand it and see to it, no one will.

Fischer and his agents have accordingly spent the past year investigating the alleged crimes of prisoners. They have bought their testimony from prisoners by offers of pardon or parole, or by threats of indictment for those who refuse to testify as directed by the D.A.'s. We know of several prisoners who

were refused parole because they refused to testify. We know of at least two prisoners who have testified several times and been granted an executive pardon by Gov. Rockefeller. We know of one Brother who was threatened with indictments worth another eight years inside if he refused to tell it the way they wanted it. Brothers who were on the street were told their parole would be revoked if they refused to "cooperate." These bribes are general practice in buying testimony. (Bought testimony and racist juries were the foundation of the political trials of Angela Davis, the Soledad Seven, Martin Sostre, the Harlem Four, Billy Dean Smith, Gary Laughton--the list is endless.)

This is the evidence, bought, coerced and fabricated, that will be used to bring these charges against the Brothers.

The Brothers have no reason to have any confidence in the ability of the judicial system to insure justice, since they have already been the victims of that system's tactics, such as fabricated charges, plea-copping, and biased juries. Each Brother will decide on his own line of legal defense, but they know that their real hopes lie in their collective strength and mass support on the outside.

Through their lawyers, the Brothers have made motions to transfer the trials away from the all-white rural county of Wyoming because of the level of prejudice against the Brothers. The most likely locations for trial are Buffalo and Rochester, despite the Brothers' motion to be tried by their peers in New York City. There will be heavy prejudice against them wherever they are tried, against which they can only pit their solidarity and the justice and humanity of their cause. As in so many political trials in recent years, their real chances depend directly upon the support they receive from the People.

ATTICA IS ALL OF US!!

## Indictments:

1. Murder (Quinn)
2. Attempted murder
3. Attempted murder (Kline)
4. Attempted murder (Kozlowski)
5. 1st Kidnap x34 counts
6. Murder (Privatera)
7. 1st degree kidnap x6 cts. Unlawful imprisonment x6cts. 1st coercion x6 cts. 2nd assault x5 cts.
8. 2nd kidnap x9 cts. Unlawful imprison. x9cts. 1st coercion x9 cts.
9. 2nd kidnap x3 cts. Unlawful imprison. x3 cts. 1st coercion x3 cts.
10. 2nd kidnap x3 cts. Unlawful imprison. x3 cts. 1st coercion x3 cts. 2nd assault x5 cts.
11. 1st degree assault 2nd degree assault Possession of Weapon, Felony Promoting Prison Contraband
12. 1st Assault 2nd Assault Possession of Weapon Promoting Pris. Contraband
13. 1st Assault Possession of Weapon Promoting Pris. Contraband
14. 1st Coercion x4 Unlawful impris. x4 Possession of Weapon Promoting Pris. Contraband
15. 1st Coercion x2 Unlawful Imprison.
16. 1st Coercion x 5 Promoting Pris. Contraband
17. 2nd Assault
18. 2nd Kidnap Unlawful Impris. 1st Coercion
19. 2nd Assault Promoting Pris. Contraband Possession of Weapon
20. 2nd Kidnap Unlawful Imprisonment 1st Coercion
21. 2nd Robbery Promoting Pris. Contraband 22. and 23. 2nd Assault Promoting Pris. Contraband
24. 2nd Robbery 2nd Assault Contraband x2
25. Attempted Arson Contraband
26. 1st Sodomy 1st Sexual Abuse
27. 1st Sodomy 1st Sexual Abuse
28. 2nd Kidnap Unlawful Imprisonment 1st Coercion
29. 2nd Assault x2 Possession of Weapon Contraband
30. Contraband
31. 2nd Assault
32. Possession of Weapon Contraband x3
33. Possession of Weapon Contraband
34. 1st Assault 2nd Assault
35. Possession of Weapon Contraband
36. 2nd Assault
37. Possession of Weapon Contraband



## Hunger

1. i was a ghetto's kid  
just one in a family  
of 8, living in a  
4 room apt. we called  
it a penthouse - though  
i was hungry.
2. i was a ghetto's kid  
in the spring, no  
clothes on easter, hitting  
bodegas, getting caught  
and cut loose - though  
i was hungry.
3. i was a ghetto's kid  
in the summer, playing  
in the street's pump, got  
hit by a car twice,  
but it was nothing, i got  
well - though  
i was hungry.
4. i was a ghetto's kid  
in the autumn, no  
welfare check, mama didn't  
pay the bill, the landlord  
cut off the light and  
the boiler broke  
down - though  
i was hungry.
5. i was a ghetto's kid  
in the winter, throwing  
snowballs in someone's face,  
in a car, in a taxi, or  
in a bus, i got kicked,  
stabbed and shot - cause  
i was hungry.

## POEMS

FROM

## INSIDE

6. but now i'm locked up,  
and sometimes i wonder,  
"am i a ghetto's kid?"  
must be, cause  
i am still hungry.

--Dalou Asahi

## Suddenly!

Gas and bullets--all around  
Bodies falling--still the ground  
Young men dead--unjust cause  
Trying to right--unright laws

Free like water--red blood flow  
Mark the beast--at my door  
One by one--yard to yard  
Herded animals--without regard

Staring up--(yet) proud and bold  
A vacant stare--through vacant holes  
The Marksman's aim--swift and true  
A faceless face--that never knew

Sounds like thunder--overhead  
Old men angry--but unafraid  
Long they've sought--a solution  
Be a part-- of revolution

Whirly-bird calls--high above  
"Help your enemy--give them love  
Blessed are they--humble and meek  
For God's sake fellows--turn the other cheek"

A death-like silence--befell the mass  
Crawling on stomachs--sand and grass  
"Stand up boy--take off your clothes"  
Apathetic quoth--with resonant blows

"Don't you know--who's your lord and master?"  
Malicious sarcasm--from sadistic bastards  
Bleeding bodies--torn and ripped  
While law and order--seeks an ego trip

Long gray tunnels--dingy halls  
Side by side--guards the walls  
Sticks and clubs--taste thy flesh  
Hands on head--"run" a gauntlet

September wind--in windows swirl  
Icy spirits--from arctic worlds  
Naked souls--naked skins  
Black and white--foe or friend

Darkness comes--in black disguise  
To mourn the deeds--of genocide  
Shadows fade--in early light  
A losing battle--a winning fight

No more keys--no more locks  
Free alas! the wooden box  
Be it known--near and far  
A closing door--won't stay ajar

Solemn words--to make amends  
Subterfuge--that sought revenge  
Secret clans--met to vote  
Bring the innocent--back to court

Standing yet--o'er the graves  
Tearful lovers--fatherless babes  
A quiet place--a peaceful scene  
To memorialize--September thirteenth

--W. L. Wilson  
Xmielex Tourah Diya Tah

## The Massacre

DUNBAR: "INCITED IT"  
ROCKY: "ORDERED IT"  
OSWALD: "INITIATED IT"  
MANCUSI: "ACREED TO IT"  
THE TROOPERS: "COMMITTED IT"  
CORRECTIONS OFFICERS: "HELPED COMMIT AND LOVED EVERY  
MINUTE OF IT"  
DRS. WILLIAMS AND STERNBERG: "HELPED KILL AND MAIM JUST  
FOR THE HELL OF IT"

AND NOW!!!!!!!

THE GRAND JURY IS ABOUT TO COVER FOR IT

--SAMAKI

## We The People Who Are Poor

Listen, brothers and sisters, come closer if you please;  
and listen to the message, that's coming from the breeze.  
It tells of the oppressed people, and how we got this way;  
and what we'll have to do, to see a brighter day.  
The rich think they own us, because they've used us as a tool;  
but we who work the land, are wiser and not the fool.  
They have often used the rope, to hang us from a tree;  
now they use the courts, to hang us legally.  
We now can understand, why they call Justice blind;  
because if you saw her eyeballs, they are made of dollar signs.  
Peace is not a pass-word, for the rich, the poor or the dumb;  
and many of those who use it, won't live to see it come.  
Politics made the ghettos, to keep us in the cross;  
while teaching us of Jesus Christ, to convince us he's the boss.  
So let us stand together, to fight, to win or to fall;  
because what happens to one, happens to us all.  
Money can bring about unity, a unity that's instantly born;  
but what will happen later, when all the money is gone?  
Love brings about unity, a unity slow but sure;  
so we'll struggle on to victory, to open freedom's door.

--Jusmeallah Allah  
aka Wilbur Johnson



## How Do do you plead?

Your Honor, with your permission I'd like to have the record read that my plea is emphatically Not Guilty!

I have been charged with the crimes of kidnapping, unlawful imprisonment and coercion.

Well, how can you charge me with such crimes when my forefathers were the ones who were kidnapped from the shores of Africa and brought here to make "cotton king"?

Do I look like John Hawkins, Jr.? Do I own a ship by the name of the "Good Ship Jcous"?

From whence did I bring my victims?

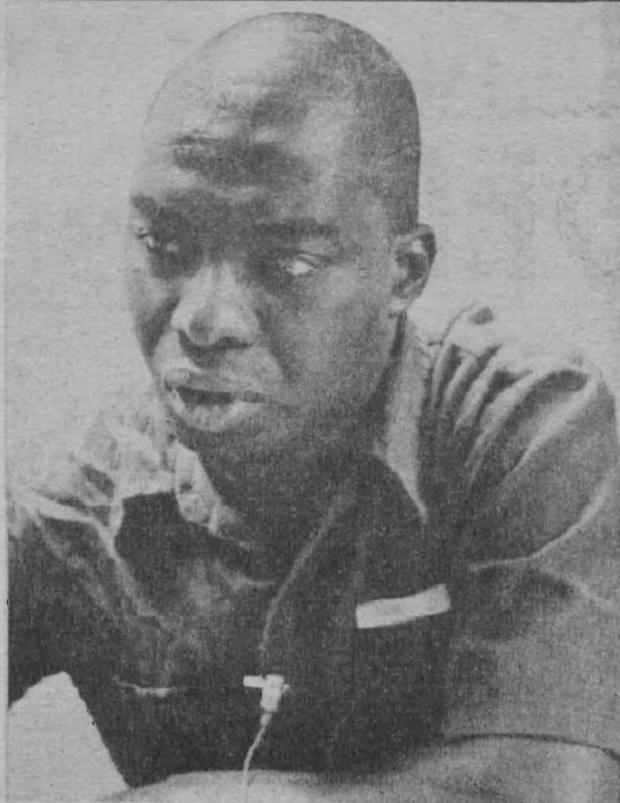
As to unlawful imprisonment, did I prevent those of African blood to leave Amerikkka when they realized that they were on the Atlantic and Middle Passage to be used as chattel slaves?

Am I one restricting others in those infamous places known as slums and ghettos in your sociological textbooks?

Regarding coercion, did I coerce anyone to become a Christian, as I and my select few felt that the Africans were beasts, savages, and uncivilized beings whose only hope for salvation was via Christianity?

Do I and my fellow indicted Brothers conscript others to fight in a war viewed by the majority of the world to be illegal, unlawful and inhumane, and if they don't wish to go in, send them to a federal penitentiary because they refuse to submit such an act of wrongness, sanctioned only because many people are apathetic or do not have the proper orientation to know when they are being deluded by Tricky Dick Nixon?

Do I send diplomats and aides to various countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Carribean with the disguise of friendly assistance but with the sole purpose of coercing them because of my economic might?



Have I set up any schools of motivational research where I teach and train others to dupe the masses to purchase items in the grocery stores, clothing stores, electrical appliances stores, and cosmetic parlors that they don't even need?

That, my man, is the epitome of psychological coercion!

Am I the one who coerces indigent clients to "go along with the program" which is the term of Plea Bargaining when the evidence, if any, is so flimsy that the judge shakes his head in amazement to see a policeman arrest some citizen on such trumped-up charges?

Indubitably no! I am not of these or the ones you've brought me in here for!

Am I the one who should be held guilty of juridical remissness?

Respectfully,

Herbert Scott X. Deane  
aka Akil Al-Jundi

WHAT HAPPENED...continued from p.4

badly wounded prisoners were singled out for special treatment. One hundred alleged leaders were rounded up and segregated in HBZ (the box) and most of them have been there, or in other maximum security institutions, ever since. All the personal property of all the prisoners in the yard was destroyed or stolen, including glasses, false teeth and hearing aids.

While this "orgy of brutality", in the words of the Second Circuit Court, was going on unchecked inside the walls of Attica, outside Deputy Commissioner Walter Dunbar was telling the press and the people of the world that the dead hostages had had their throats slit by prisoners and that one hostage had been castrated - both of which he knew at the time to be monstrous lies. The story which was the first to hit the headlines, was specifically designed to make the Attica Brothers look like animals, and to shield those who ordered the massacre and those who actually killed the hostages from the people's anger. (The same story was also told to the State Troopers before they went in for the attack).

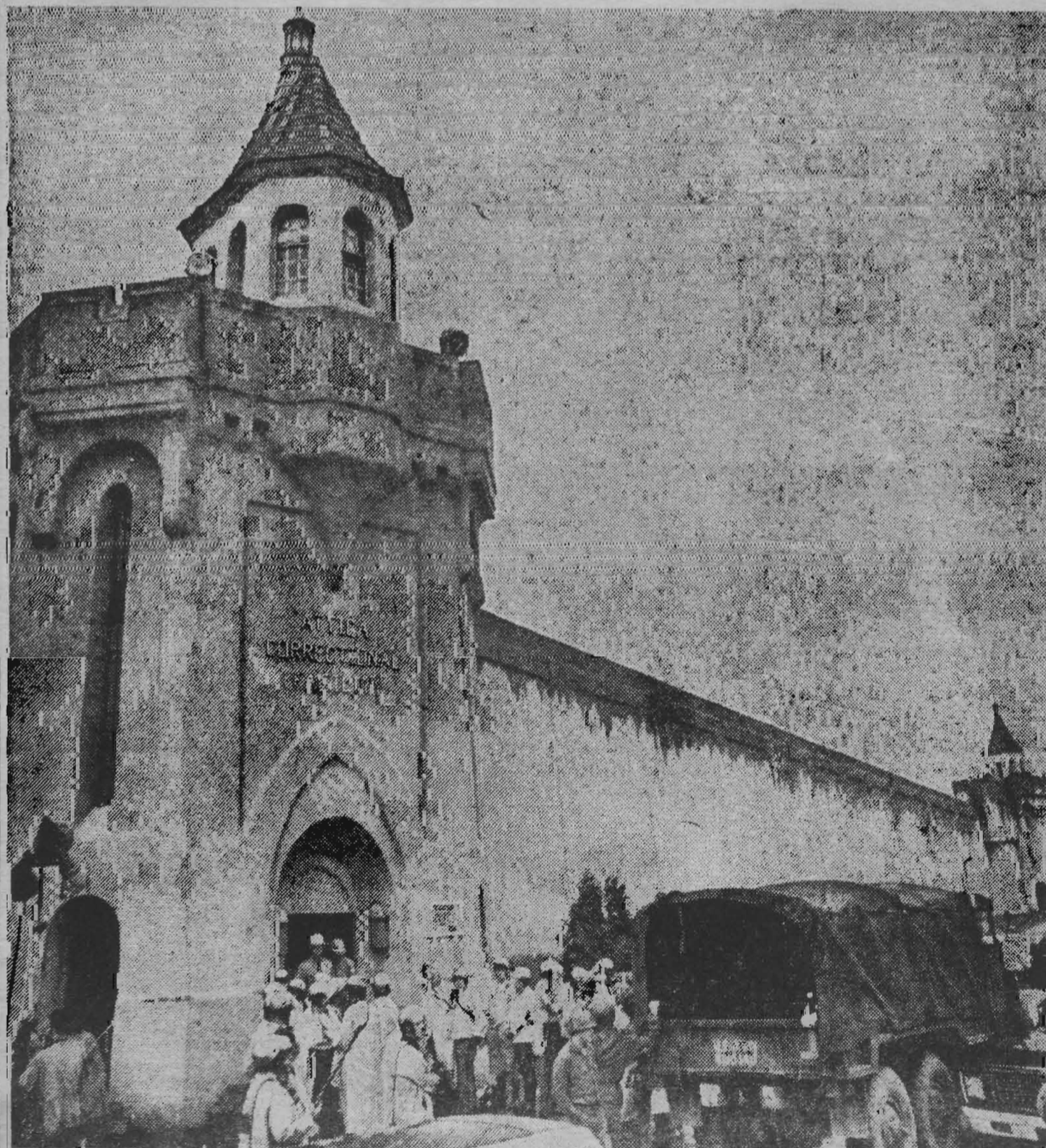
At the same time Rockefeller was congratulating Oswald on the "restraint" of the attack and Nixon was congratulating Rockefeller on his handling of the entire situation.

What we are now seeing in these indictments and the coming trials of the Attica Brothers is the final desperate attempt by the state to shield those State Officials who are criminally responsible for the mass murders of September 13 from being brought to justice; an attempt to punish those politically aware men who had the respect of the prisoners in their struggle for basic human rights, men whose solidarity and determination makes them a continual threat to the State; finally, an attempt to discourage any further action by prisoners to change their conditions, and to bring the whole weight of public opinion against their struggle.

MEANWHILE, not one of the prisoners' 28 demands, agreed to by Oswald, has been met. A few token gestures like color T.V.s and the allotment of one phone call a month mean nothing when the state has shown what their real idea of change is: four new gun towers in the yards, extensive fire-arms training courses for the guards, and an issue of new M-16 rifles with a firing speed of 800 rounds per minute, presumably for use against prisoners. The conditions that provoked the riot still exist today, while the Brothers who resisted face the state's retaliation.

The Brothers of Attica will not be pacified with color T.V.s. In June, 1972, the entire prison went on strike for four days against the firing of a nurse who had made the mistake of treating her patients like human beings. The 28 demands were raised again. The state has shown no interest in dealing with the demands. They have shown us their true interest: to prosecute and repress those people who have gained the knowledge to truly understand their oppression and who refuse to submit to it any longer.

ALL POWER TO THE BROTHERS



# ATTICA GUARDS MAY STAND TRIAL FOR BRUTALITY

The brutality demonstrated by state and prison officials during and after the retaking of Attica on September 13, 1971 was so flagrant that the Circuit Court of Appeals ordered Judge Curtin to issue an injunction against the prison. This injunction, entered in December, 1971 ordered the prison to stop subjecting prisoners to "physical abuse, torture, beatings or other forms of brutality, including verbal abuse and racial slurs, from threatening such conduct or from authorizing or permitting such conduct."

The prison's utter contempt for the courts, and any semblance of legality, had already been demonstrated however. A previous order of Curtin's, permitting volunteer doctors and lawyers to enter the prison, had been ignored, and Curtin had backed down. The injunction against brutality was similarly ignored by the prison, and vicious harassment of the prisoners continued.

In January, February and March of 1972, five separate beatings took place involving the Brothers who were in segregation in HBZ and A block. These five Brothers--Milton Jones (Snowball), Jiri Newport (O.J.), Mariano Gonzalez (Dalou), Tony Williams and Edward Kowalczyk-- were among those who had been singled out by the state for prosecution. Three of these five Brothers have already been indicted.

At the time these beatings occurred, lawyers for the Brothers tried to get Judge Curtin to hear these cases immediately. But the court is not anxious to enforce its own injunction against the prison--especially if it would subject the court to charges of "interference with the business of running prisons." After two months of procedural delays, Curtin finally directed the U.S. attorney to hold "preliminary hearings" before a magistrate, who must recommend whether criminal contempt proceedings should be held against any of the guards involved. The appointment of the U.S. attorney means that one agency of the state is expected to prosecute another agency, while the Brothers who are suffering the beatings are left out in the cold. It should also be pointed out that, for the courts, the problem is not the beatings themselves, but only the question of whether the beatings represent the violation of a federal court order.

The hearings are being held in the federal court in Buffalo, and began December 18, 1972--the same day that arraignments of the Brothers began out at Warsaw. In the first case, ten Brothers testified that they saw or heard Snowball (Brother Milton Jones) being kicked, punched and abused in the corridor of HBZ. The Brother was attacked for resisting a pat frisk prior to going into the "yard" ( a tiger cage on the third floor of HBZ ) to exercise. This is just one example of the degradations to which the Brothers are subjected.

In the second case, O.J. ( Brother Jiri Newport ) was attacked by a guard in an elevator while he was returning to his cell after being interviewed by the McKay Commission. Several Brothers testified that he had left his cell unhurt and returned with severe head injuries.

In the third and most recent case to be heard, Dalou (Brother Mariano Gonzalez) was returning from seeing his lawyer when his legal papers were seized and he was set upon by seven to ten guards and badly beaten. This took place at several different locations in the prison and was witnessed by as many as thirty Brothers. "More than seven guards were on top of him and kicking him and calling him a dirty Puerto Rican", one Brother testified.



The hearings so far have been conducted in a very racist and condescending way, especially by Stenger, the lawyer for the prison. A very highly paid lawyer, Stenger has played on the Brothers' level of education and, in some cases, their lack of knowledge of English. His defense so far has been either that the Brothers and their lawyers and legal assistants made the whole thing up, or that the beatings were justified!

\* \* \* \* \*

Barbara Handschu, who has been working with the Brothers as an attorney, was called as a witness to testify on the contempt case involving Dalou's beating. Barbara stated that she was more than willing to tell all of her observations of Dalou's physical condition which she saw a few hours after he was beaten. On cross-examination, it became clear (after Barbara spent four or more hours being subjected to questioning) that the state's lawyer (Stenger) was attempting to place Barbara on trial. He was not interested in asking her about

what she had observed of the physical condition of Dalou after he was beaten. Instead, Stenger was asking, and attempting to prove, such ridiculous propositions as the one that Barbara, and other attorneys, had told the Brothers to cause confrontations and thereby to get the guards into court. As an initial response to almost every question that Stenger asked, Barbara took the lawyer-client privilege. About half of the time Barbara was directed to answer the questions. When directed, she did answer. There was one series of questions aimed at the affidavits of the witnesses submitted in support of what happened to Dalou. Barbara announced that, under advice of her attorney (Paul Birzon- who also is representing James 33X Richey), she would only answer questions asked about her own affidavit or the affidavit of her client (Dalou). Barbara then took the Fifth amendment as to all questions asked about any other affidavit. Stenger was not allowed to ask about each of the twelve other affidavits, and he made it clear that he intended to recall Barbara at a later time to ask of the other affidavits.

Stenger has been out to get Barbara for a long time - it is obvious that both her presence at the prisons, her assistance of the Brothers and other prisoners all over the state, has become a real thorn in his side. Barbara has stood up in the defense of the Brothers and other prisoners and Stenger does not approve of this. What Stenger and the courts (or the Bar Association) will do as a result of Barbara's invoking the Fifth Amendment privilege remains to be seen. It is possible that we all will have to start the support of the first "Attica Sister"!

\* \* \* \* \*

This may be the first time in the prison struggle that an injunction was issued and hearings held to determine if prison officials should be held in contempt. Beatings are a daily occurrence in prisons. Brothers are still being brutalized for affirming their humanity in the face of the degradations and humiliations that are part of their daily life in prisons. While it is unlikely that the court will issue contempt citations against the prison, these proceedings expose the brutal conditions in which the Brothers live. The hearings represent one way of resisting these conditions, and they serve perhaps to prevent further beatings.

Everyone in the Buffalo area is urged to attend these hearings. We must show the prison authorities that the people are watching them, and show the Brothers (many of whom have already been indicted ) that we are with them. The hearings continue. Call the A.D.C. of Buffalo for information on dates.

# LETTERS



FROM THE MOTHER OF  
STEPHEN MERKEL

Shati, Jomo, Babu, Duke and Papo rap with supporters at the Wyoming County courthouse from a window above the gathered crowd; the window was later boarded up to cut off communication.

Why no arrests, nothing being done with those the public KNOWS is guilty and those not guilty are still pulled into the fires of hell to face charges they know and so do the ones pulling them know, they are not guilty of? They KNOW who is guilty. So why this farce? Why go on and on with this thing--spend countless dollars for defending NOT GUILTY persons? What kind of law of so-called justice is this??

Why does not Johnny Public demand the guilty ones get out front? There are reports, films and real proof to show who is and which are not the right ones. How can one sleep well, live and be, if they just let the not guilty men go into this thing and take the blame for those that they know to be guilty? Why need they make scapegoats out of these overpunished men? They have been in the Box, the hole, since it happened; their health is impaired and there is bad treatment and they do get hit and beat and gassed by the ones that are really guilty of what the public is allowing to be put on these defenceless ones locked in--in chains worse than any wild vicious animal, used not like humans by the very ones that are guilty. Boy, that is sure something for America to boast about.

Go take care of the underdogs in other countries but let our own get by as best or worst they can. That's something to be proud of.

The people allowed Jesus to go to His death, to be unjustly accused. Now again the public is about to put the death onto many men they do know are not deserving it.

The guilty ones will not step up and confess, but if YOU the public get into action, do your thing, and demand the right ones get out front, it can happen. Even if you do not care, if there is no one in there that you give a tinker's dam about, even so it's HUMANE to demand the guilty get the ax, not the innocent. I think the public could get justice if it would. If it has feelings and a sense of fair play, it will.

Not only free the ones now being accused, but put the ones that belong in the driver's seat to hell. These men have been unduly punished already for things they did not do. Yes, they did something to be IN--that is granted; they did some crime, yes, but they did not murder anyone at the Attica riot and that's what they are being punished for. Not what they did.

Is there one amongst you that is without sin? Then YOU cast the first stone. No one of the Johnny Public is perfect. Some have done worse than these men--oh, yes--are doing and will do. Some will never be caught, not here on earth, not to be put in as these men are. Some will, of course, but not all. Nothing is forever. And this too must end. But how is it to end? Will the guilty ones come into the limelight? Will the public demand they pay for the crimes and for putting their blame onto others and to top it off with the whipped cream topping, they are beating, gassing, hurting those that are taking their blame for them?

This is a test as to how justice-minded you the public is. Go see the proof positive; go see the films--actual pictures taken while it was happening--see it, then say these are the ones guilty.

Do your thing. Do it in the right way. Use your influence to do right to make a big sin come to where it belongs. Please. And Thank You.

--Doris A. Merkel.

FROM

## FAMILY AND FRIENDS

(The following poem is from the family of one of the Brothers after seeing him in court.)

A Mi Querido --- On being shackled

I sit and watch - helplessly  
where is our power?  
How can it be that  
- they chain and shackle you  
while they are the ones -  
the murderers -  
the ones who shot on the 13th  
the ones who  
should wear the chains and shackles.

Haven't they dehumanized you enough?  
Now they bring you  
into the inhuman court  
looking inhuman

But remember, querido,  
the chains/shackles.

that they wear  
are invisible. . .

-their chains are what  
makes them so inhumane  
-their shackles let them  
call you a murderer  
(when they are the real murderers).

These times are but an obstacle  
for our power  
for our people's power  
to overcome



People gathering outside the courthouse in the freezing cold to show their support.

Someday we shall place the  
chains and shackles on the murderers  
-or, better still,  
give them the same that they  
gave out on Bloody Monday (9/13/71)

But for now, we'll learn  
to live with the chains/shackles  
and remember, querido,  
when they hurt your arms/legs  
they pain our arms/legs  
-they pain the arms/legs  
of our sisters/brothers  
Our power will remove them  
. . . a long struggle, yes  
But one in which we will be victorious

Venceremos,  
Te querida

What the law is trying  
to do to them, its a  
shame, and that is why  
a lot of people are  
working out here to  
help free them from  
what happened September  
13, 1971...I wonder if  
they're going to indict  
Rockefeller for sending  
those troopers in there  
to shoot anyone in  
sight, guards and all,  
like dogs. Now that's  
where the blame's at.  
My brother and all the  
rest of the men wants  
to be treated like men,  
not dogs.

--Sister of one of the  
indicted Brothers

Bob and Seymour  
Chen, Alva Bell

# ATTICA NEWS SERVICE



The People of the United States of America: first of all we want it to be known that in the past we have had some very, very, treacherous experiences with the Department of Correction of New York State. They have promised us many things and they are giving us nothing except more of what we've already got: brutalization and murder inside this penitentiary. We do not intend to accept or allow ourselves to accept this situation again. Therefore, we have composed this declaration to the People of America to let them know exactly how we feel and what it is that they must do and what we want primarily, not what someone else wants for us. We're talking about what we want. There seems to be a little misunderstanding about why this incident developed here at Attica and this declaration here will explain the reason:

The entire incident that has erupted here at Attica is not a result of the dastardly bushwhacking of the two prisoners, Sept. 8, 1971, but of the unmitigated oppression wrought by the racist administrative network of this prison throughout the year. We are men. We are not beasts and we do not intend to be beaten or driven as such. The entire prison populace, that means each and everyone of us here, have set forth to change forever the ruthless brutalization and disregard for the lives of the prisoners here and throughout the United States. What has happened here is but the sound before the fury of those who are oppressed. We will not compromise on any terms except those terms that are agreeable to us. We've called upon all the conscientious citizens of America to assist us in putting an end to this situation that threatens the lives of not only us, but of each and everyone of you, as well. We have set forth demands that will bring us closer to the reality to the demise of these prison institutions that serve no useful purpose to the people of America, but to those who would enslave and exploit the people of America.

L.D. Barkley  
(dated 13 Sept. 1971)

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and Justice  
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