

ATTICA NEWS

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NEW ATTICA TRIAL WILL EXPOSE STATE CRIMES



After months of pre-trial hearings which have proved conclusively that the State prosecutor's office tortured, bribed, and harassed its witnesses against five Attica Brothers, Shango Bahati Kakawana (aka Bernard Stroble) will still be forced to go to trial on April 7th. Shango and the four other Brothers, Jomo Joka Omowale, Big Black, Herb Blyden, and Roger Champen, have been singled out for prosecution because they all played an active role in the just and humane society set up by inmates at Attica during the Rebellion of September 9-13, 1971. These five Brothers were among those who were shot and tortured by state troopers and prison guards who murdered 43 men on Sept. 13, but the State of New York has chosen to hide these killers-in-uniform behind the trumped-up Attica indictments.

The only witness who claims to have seen the murder Shango is charged with was, according to other witnesses, not in a position to see what happened. The State also has only one so-called eyewitness against Jomo in his murder case, and his story, too, is totally unbelievable and unsupported by any other witness.

Beyond this, wholesale evidence of threats, bribes, and beatings by police and other agents of the State have made it impossible to believe any of the witnesses for the prosecution. The hearings have shown that John Sturm got a \$14,000-a-year job working for the Department of Corrections the same week he testified to the Grand Jury. Guards threatened to mace Curly Roberts in his cell to force him to testify even though he insisted he had nothing to say. Early in the hearings Flip Crowley described how he was tortured and threatened with death to make him talk. Furthermore, throughout the hearings the prosecution tried to suppress the testimony of a number of witnesses who had clear evidence that an inmate who was killed by police during the assault had "iced the two dudes" the brothers on trial are charged with killing. (con't page 2)

DEFENSE TELLS TRUTH & RESTS CASE

Charley Joe Pernasilice and Dacajeweah were ordered to begin their defense presentation last week, but were blocked from putting forth some of their most important arguments and witnesses. The prosecution has finished four weeks of fabricated testimony against the two Native American defendants who are charged with the death of a prison guard, William Quinn, during the Attica uprising.

The prosecutor and the judge are working hand in hand to try and bury the reality of the 1971 Attica rebellion. The first attempt to do so was by the judge when he took away Charley Joe and Dacajeweah's right to speak for themselves in the courtroom. Although it is their lives that are at stake, and it is they who lived through Attica, the uprising and the massacre, they must have attorneys to speak on their behalf. And then, as if that were not a sufficient enough guarantee that the judge and prosecutor would control the courtroom and the testimony heard by the jury, they went further by preventing any mention of the conditions at Attica which explain the events that took place there. Not a word has been allowed about the massacre of September 13. And the judge has stopped all questions about Rockefeller's personal appointment of special prosecutors and judges to handle the Attica cases, so that his own responsibility for what happened there—including the death of Quinn—would never become known.

Witnesses admitted in court that they were testifying for the prosecution against their will, that they had been coerced, and that they had changed their stories several times since they first spoke with investigators after the uprising.

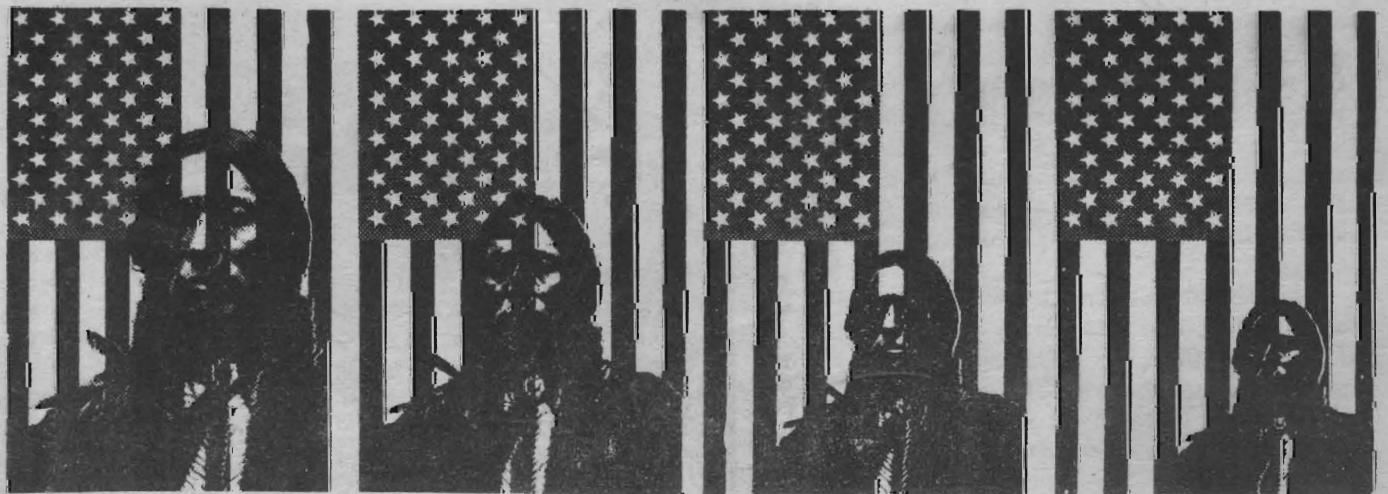
In spite of all this, the state still hasn't been able to put together a coherent case against Charley Joe and Dacajeweah. Witnesses have disagreed on the most important elements of the prosecution's case. There are conflicts about the number of people who supposedly hit Quinn, the weapons that were supposedly used, the number of times he was supposedly hit, etc.

When the prosecution finished its performance, the judge and prosecutor began a new game. They demanded that the defense present its case right away, and at the same time prevented the defense from calling most of its witnesses.

Two defense witnesses were state investigators who had tampered with evidence in the case. The prosecution waited until the day the investigators were supposed to appear to tell the defense they were on vacation and "not available." Then the judge called in the jurors (who hadn't heard the arguments) and told them the defense was "procrastinating" in calling its witnesses.

Finally, the judge refused to sign a subpoena for Nelson Rockefeller, who has repeatedly said that Quinn was thrown out a window, and who should be on trial here instead of the Brothers in the first place.

But there is only so much that the prosecution can hide. Late last week, the defense presented two witnesses who both said that they had seen prisoners other than Dacajeweah and Charley Joe strike Quinn. Both of these witnesses (con't page 2)



FROM THE BELLY OF THE WHALE.....

3-21-75 Spring is here young brothers and sisters. Be cool. Grow to be strong and long.

PEACE GOOD PEOPLE..

Here from the belly of the whale for this is clear-one level we, us, meaning everyone, must always be dealing with the capitalist system. What is real, don't we all see that Attica did not just drop dead in that yard in 1971. We must not forget what Attica really means to us all. Not just Attica State Prison.. Look close, good folks. 1300 of us was in that yard in Attica. Why? We all came from very very poor black communities, a prison within a prison. You cannot or will not see it. Yes, black folks live in those black ghettos. I know this for a fact. I lived there all of my life, but then so have you. Let me tell you of the Atticas of '75, and its relationship to the Atticas of '71.. just some more information of the whys and whats around these indictments the Attica brothers and folks have. Indictments means a piece of plain paper, but one of the most dangerous weapon history has given us. We have on this paper charges from a class A felony (murder) to a class that says contraband. 62 brothers was indicted...42 indictments. Some indictments at this present time have been thrown out by the system...16 if I am not wrong.(so much to remember on this front of struggle.) Myself I have four indictments along with twenty one brothers in total.

My main point at this time is this- I know not of myself, nor of anyone struggling from that maximum prison, struggling for a freedom far beyond ~~that~~ that committed any wrong acts in that yard in 9-71...just from that level there, 1971--not the oppression before September 1971.

But how can we know September, '71 and not all of history. There is 43 people dead today from gun shots, could be more or less. We did not have guns. This is what I saw being done on the 13th. I know not of anyone dying other than on the 13th, and by being murdered by the assault forces. But only us, meaning inmates (brothers) have indictments. Look at us brothers in the courts in '75, with the all white grand jury in Wyoming County still setting after 3 1/2 years of handing out indictments. What good will it do us brothers in the courts today, dealing with a Grand Jury in Wyoming County still in a position to give us another indictments when Erie County sees that the Attica Indictments will be dismissed.

How can we get a fair jury now, good folks when we did not in '71 get a fair one? Don't you see we have a wall in the front and in the back of us? For me to leave the Wade Hearing don't mean that the courts still don't control the situation, and yourselves. As to the Attica Brothers, I will never understand how we can even be in the courts. The state has used 8-10 million of your dollars in taxes to prosecute these indictments. Not one cent have we received for any investigation, lawyers, or legal workers. We was always told by the state we get nothing. We only exist from donations and contributions from good people like yourselves. You have a right to know all there is to say or do, from or for the Attica Struggle.

For me to sit in the courtroom all day looking and listening to a bunch of lies, I want to tell the world, inmates as well as the personal that was in Attica or worked in the hell-hole, they (meaning the state)

want you to think that Attica was planned by a few of us. They (the system) is saying a few was the leaders, the security in the yard. We all was security, concerned with/about the criminal justice system and penal system to change, to serve all needs on the same level. The ruling class will not say we was the protector, because you good people must think we are animals, and should be in cages. Why do you think it was said we castrated and cut throats? So your heads would turn from the real criminals to the victims, poor, black, and oppressed people, taking the lives that were lost. Equality lost, plus being duped and indoctrinated and programmed--one side's justice.

Black and poor people, your job is the truth. Your job is justice, if you can find it. Equality for all. Don't run away from your responsibility good folk.

I am telling you here and now that Attica is not over. We are still being killed by the ruling class and system to protect the massacre in '71. But then to let one person that was and is the decision maker in this time and day to become the vice-president of the U.S.. Then we must really open our eyes and see the Rockefeller's capitalist society. We are being killed in the courts just the same as so many died on the 13th...so a few can keep on ripping the masses of people off.

Attica Now is amnesty for all the Attica Brothers. Too long ours and your energy have been drained by the



DEFENSE RESTS (cont'd from p.1)

are ex-prisoners who resisted deals offered to them by the state, and did the time they had to do until they went before the parole board. One of them said that he had seen three black men hit Quinn, two of whom were later killed by state police during the Attica massacre.

These witnesses had spoken to the prosecution investigators and to the McKay Commission which investigated the uprising many times since 1971 and always told the same story--unlike prosecution witnesses who kept changing their stories.

By now the truth is becoming clear. As one of the defense attorneys said in an opening statement, "The state is trying to explain away the tragedy of Attica with the bodies of two young men."

Dacajeweah and Charley Joe need your support in the courtroom. The trial will probably last only a few more weeks. Court is in session and open to the public every day at 10 AM and 2 PM.

State prosecuting the Attica Brothers and people using the wealth, your money labor, eat, sleep, health. Your everyday lifestyle, everything you do, is a part of what is happening to us (Attica Brothers) by the state. For all reasons that anyone can find, still the only way we can move on in history is total amnesty for us all. And anymore garbage that is in anyone's mouth as to the Atticas of '71, meaningful changes can only start to stop the Atticas. Changing your attitude in our community first, can we start changing the different levels of development.

We have been incapacitated too long by these indictments, only the ones we can see. For freedom comes from the mind, in the mind, to the mind.

Stop and ask yourself why Attica means what it means to you, why the courts is still setting with these indictments on us (the Attica Brothers). We need the change now, the same ones we needed in '71, but then before '71... The right to live as human beings. For if I cannot live in peace on this earth, then life to me is matter.

I am here too good people. We all count in this world. Don't shut your door on the solidarity and unity we must have in this should be free society. Free the Attica Brothers and you will free yourself.

No matter-Attica is everything. Peace and then be still.

Big Black
Big Black
Attica Now
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NEW TRIAL (cont'd from p.1)

Many witnesses who testified earlier under duress have now refused to cooperate any further with the prosecution. The issue in the trials to come must be what really happened at Attica -- how inmates created a democracy for four days to replace the fascist prison regime, and how the State retaliated with murder and brutality which continues to this day.

All the defendants in this case were tortured by prison guards after the Uprising. Shango was shot four times, and after National Guardsmen had taken him to the hospital, he was kidnapped from his bed by guards and taken to an empty cell where he was tortured throughout the night of the 13th.

These men have refused to ~~break~~ and it is because of this that the state wants to put them in jail for the rest of their lives. You have the power to support them in their efforts to bring forth the truth. Go to Erie County Hall and attend court; tell your friends; write the governor, your congressmen and Judge Mattina and demand that all charges be dismissed. Free Shango and all the Attica Brothers!

KKK REPRESSION AT NAPANOCH

White Ku-Klux Klan robes, gray pants, and blue Department of Correctional Services blazers are in style at Napanoch prison. Racism is open and undisguised in this predominantly black and latin "experimental prison".

Eastern Correctional Facility, with 718 prisoners (90% 3rd world), has been the site of fire bombing of several inmate cells; the discriminatory 'keeplock' of prison organizers/political prisoners and N.A.A.C.P. leaders; refusal to admit visitors including attorneys/ harassment of college professors who teach at the prison; threats, attempted burglaries, and attempts to destroy the car of a civilian female employee.

Originally used to house 'mentally defective delinquents', the 70 year old prison is under the direct supervision of Jerome W. Patterson, Superintendent, and Joe Perrin, Security Deputy. After a minor transition to a city prison in 1970 (to accomodate the overflow of prisoners at Rikers Island) the prison was again leased by the state in the wake of the Attica Massacre. Public demand for reforms led to the re-opening of "Nap" as a medium security program institution.

Inmates from Clinton, Comstock, Attica etc. were lured here with the bait of "brand new programs". We found no programs here in March 1973, and realized we were trapped in the first phase of the infamous Rx program, "Open Prescription": which included covertly drugged meals and highly advanced behavior modification techniques.



the entire Colony farm detail for striking; racist and sexist insults to visitors; the consistent harassment and attacks on politically conscious prisoners and inmate leaders: blocking the mail of all inmates and groups who petitioned the courts, the Commissioner, and the public; the destruction through agent-provocateurs of the Inmate Liason Committee. All of these activities have been hidden from the press and the public.

Inmates throughout the state prisons have been aware of Ku Klux Klan activities for decades. The threats and harassment of Nancy Looi, co-ordinator of Volunteer Services is only the tip of an iceberg. An attempt to organize a chapter of the NAACP was blocked by harassment, sabotage, keeplocks and threats to inmates. As the chapter began to take shape, four inmate cells were fire-bombed in a last ditch effort to destroy the chapter.

The fires were blamed on Jimmy Contin, a card carrying KKK inmate, who was transferred. The administration covered up the fact that on each occasion he was given access to the cells by his fellow Klansmen, correction officers.

The Inspector General and the Bureau of Criminal Investigation started an investigation and the administration locked up several white inmates to create the illusion that there was racial conflict among the inmates.

When the Middletown & Times-Herald Record mentioned a list of 15-25 suspected Klansmen this was denied by Albany. Superintendent Patterson, and Charles Krom, president of Local 1041 (officers union), and suspected "Light Hawk" (next in command under grand dragon) of the Ku Klux Klan.

In late December, Earl Schoonmaker, a teacher at the prison admitted to being the State Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan.

Schoonmaker was suspended and Patterson and Krom denied all knowledge of his Klan membership.

The NAACP president sent a letter to the press after he was refused a visit from a reporter. He and several NAACP members were sent to the box and keep-locked for possessing "revolutionary material" and "contraband" in their cells. This was an attempt to keep them out of the elections the group was holding after receiving their charter.

Sgt. Ryan, Correctional Officer Tavermino Correctional Officer Krom (all known Klan members) lead this action with the approval of Lt. Dempkie and Superintendent Patterson Joe Perrin instituted a pass-book system, issued new "security" orders daily, and locked down several details and began mass shakedowns directed at known organizers, who have been (and are being) marked for special repression.

Legal action is ignored and the Klansmen boast that they will see to it Schoonmaker is reinstated to this job. They have increased target practice (machine guns can be heard firing on the rifle range daily), and special classes in first aid and paramedics have begun. It is believed that the Klan intends to provoke a riot and initiate a massacre in attempts to justify their actions and kill off leaders of the inmate resistance, in the same style of the Attica massacre.

We ask that this information be disseminated by all concerned organizations and individuals, in an attempt to minimize violence. THE KU KLUX KLAN HAS US SURROUNDED, BUT THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF THE WORLD SURROUND THEM.

ATTICA IS ALL OF US
FREE THE ATTICA BROTHERS
PEOPLES PARTY
Napanoch Prison, NY

ROCKE FELLER

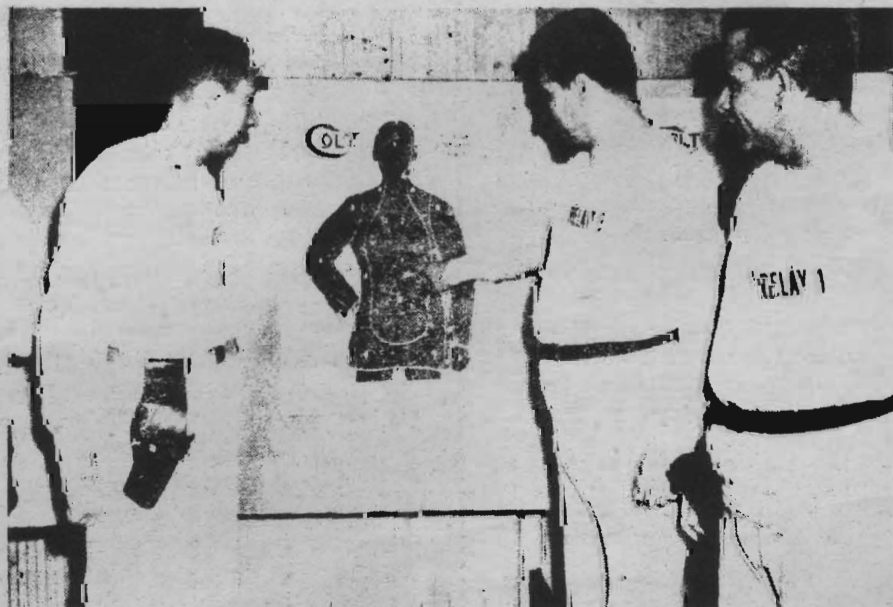


ATTICA

Patricia Monard

A September 73 Village Voice article entitled, "Fortune & Wardens' Pockets" exposed the embezzlement of over eight million dollars by Superintendent Patterson, that was to be spent on programs and renovation of the prison. (Four million through a scheme with a local construction contractor to build a defective industry building.)

In an attempt to coverup for this robbery the administration and guards (at least 35 registered Klan members) have repressed all attempts at inmate resistance, including 80 striking messhall workers; the transfer of the entire laundry detail striking for higher wages, human working conditions, and an end to Klan harassment; the attempted murder of a young inmate in the segregation unit, by six officers; a brutal physical assault on an inmate for 'looking wrong' at an officer; locking up



A BLACK WOMAN'S PERSPECTIVE



ON March 8th, several hundred people, women and men, young and old, gathered together in Buffalo, to celebrate International Women's Day. Demands of their demonstration included free health and child care available to all, full employment, reasonable prices for nutritional food, an end to forced sterilization, and the right to self-defense. After the lively march and rally, the participants all got involved in film showings, cultural events and workshops. Women from all over Buffalo came together and expressed enthusiasm about learning more about each other. Some made commitments to do further work together around issues that affect women's lives, like day care and medical self-help. For more information about follow-up work, call 882-0254.

HELLO BLACKNESS! HELLO BLACK SISTERS! Is this the time? Isn't it past the time that we as black women, young and old, of all hues, talk and grow from our warmth and truthfulness as the original togetherness?

Look how long it has been that the black woman has been the strength of our black development all through history. Look how long and deep we have been separated from our mates, the black man. Look what has made the black woman strong enough to know what is happening and what has happened, with ourselves and our mates being raped physically and mentally, being duped by the system—the white ruling class—who oppresses all oppressed people. It's time that all black women "unite".

Here I sit wanting/needng to know more about my blackness, not the pigmentation of my skin, but to eat, sleep, live blackness, to be in tune with my black man because we as one has grown to understand ourselves and each other and others too. Sisters, what do we see now in our history? What have we learned



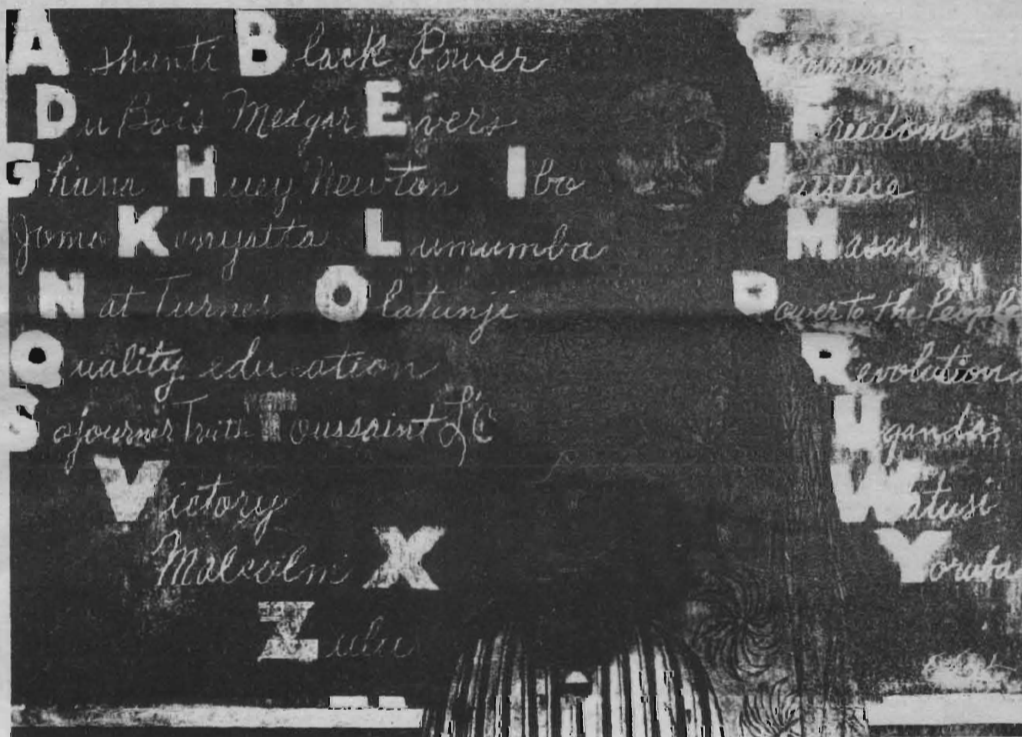
from of old that can and must be applied today? What do we tell our young about ourselves? Need we hold the energy such as the rules, the game that we all know so well, that is already laid out by the system, that will and does control the minds and attitudes of us as a people? Where has our hue gone?

Let's unite, black women, black men... Let's unite all people because it takes all of us!

Unity is the solution, beyond the rhetoric.

Respectfully, in struggle,

Bertha Taylor Smith
Bertha Taylor Smith



WOMEN'S ACTION PUTS JAVITS ON THE SPOT

Last week, a group of New York City women sat down in the offices of Senator Jacob Javits and refused to leave until he agreed to a public debate with them on the Indochina war.

A week earlier Javits had cast the deciding vote in a Senate committee in favor of sending more guns and ammunition to the collaps-

ing Lon Nol dictatorship in Cambodia. One of the women's demands when they occupied Javits' office was "Feed People, Not the Pentagon."

Javits has been elected to the Senate four times in New York by posing as a liberal who is concerned about people's needs. In fact, every time the chips are down he votes for more waste and mass kill-

ing by the military, while ignoring the fact that so many of us are unemployed and hungry. Javits represents Rockefeller, the Pentagon and the banks, not us.

The women in New York knew that it takes more than a letter to reach a congressman. 36 of them got together and posed as a government class, with the oldest woman (who was 62) posing as the teacher. Once they took over the office, they negotiated with Javits on the phone and contacted the mass media for publicity. More women demonstrated in the street outside. After 24 hours, Javits finally said he would debate with them on March 24, with 70 news reporters present.

When we work together we can move mountains!

At the same time, Vietnamese and Cambodian patriots are nearing the end of their decades-long military struggle to drive American-made dictatorships from their lands. Men like Javits will no longer play politics with the lives of Southeast Asians.

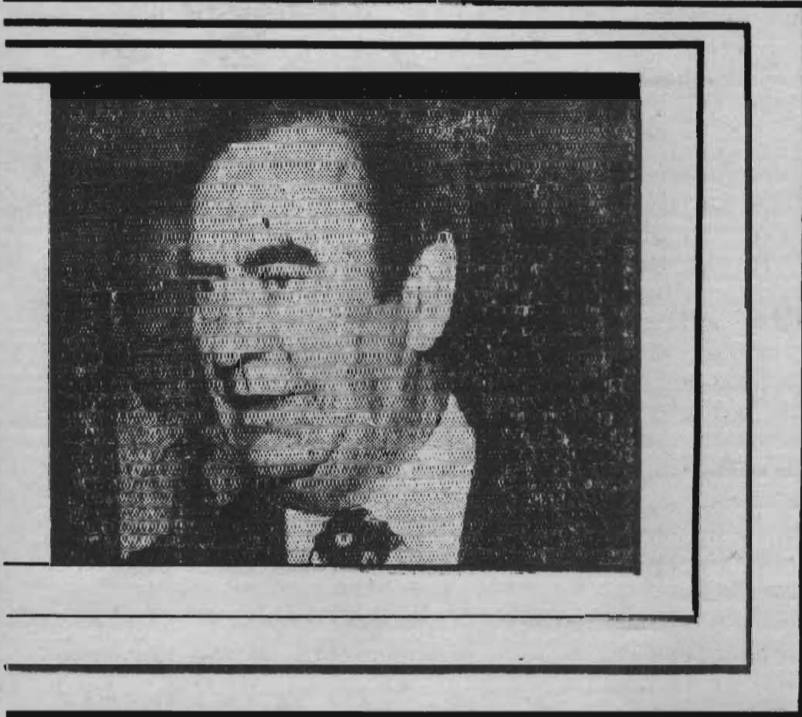


March 25, 1975: Buffalo Pickets Hugh L Carey at the Statler Hilton

WHO IS GOVERNOR CAREY?

A RICH MAN

whose family owns an oil company worth hundreds of millions, which Hugh Carey used to be an executive in. he was elected governor by spending \$1.2 million of family oil profits on his campaign. The family company is Con Edison's largest supplier of oil.



BROUGHT INTO POWER BY NELSON ROCKEFELLER

Rockefeller destroyed Carey's Republican opponent in the 1972 Congressional election in exchange for favors from Carey's big daddy on the House Ways and Means Committee, Wilbur Mills. After that, Carey was known as Rocky's man in Congress.

HE PLAYS POLITICS FOR MONEY

In Congress Carey worked with Rockefeller and Mills to create the revenue sharing program, which took control of federal aid to the poor away from community organizations and gave it to pork-barrel politicians. As governor he has raised taxes, cut spending on human services--education, health, housing -- and given more money to courts and cops. through the UDC he has put the taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars in debt to the banks to build townhouses in the suburbs, while the banks refuse to make home-improvement loans in poor neighborhoods.

AND LISTENS ONLY TO HIS FRIENDS

Carey almost drove Mary Anne Krupak to resign as Lieutenant Governor because he refused to listen to her, and allows himself to be influenced only by his special friends.

CAREY HAS CONTINUED ROCKY'S WAR ON THE PEOPLE

Not only does he raise taxes and reduce services, Carey also maintains the state prisons as concentration camps for the poor. He continues the sadistic policy of prosecuting the survivors of Rocky's massacre at Attica, and keeps voices of conscience and change like Martin Sostre, Carol Crooks, and Carlos Feliciano in cages.

WATCH OUT FOR THIS MAN

CAREY SHOULD HEAR FROM THE PEOPLE WHEREVER HE GOES

HUMAN BEINGS--NOT MACHINES

"We're obligated to take you out of a slum area and pay you to relocate somewhere else."
-land expert, State Department of Transportation

This statement was made in 1973 at a public meeting concerning the fate of the lower West Side community. In 1946, the State Department of Transportation proposed a master highway plan for Buffalo which included a small section of arterial highway to go through the center of the primarily Puerto Rican and Native American community. There was no move to implement this proposal for 25 years, but because of the threat of a highway, with the eventual relocation of people and tearing down of many houses, the lower West Side was left to rot. People couldn't get mortgages or home improvement loans and landlords left people's homes in disrepair. No parks, community centers, or health centers were built.

Finally, in 1973, state and city officials began to hold public meetings about the highway plans. They said they wanted to base their actions on public opinion. Hundreds of people came out to express their opinions--NO HIGHWAY! People could see the effect of slicing a community in two as they looked at the Kensington Expressway, built through the center of the Black East Side: kids trying to cross among the speeding cars; people forced to move out of their homes; noise and traffic, and more traffic. The people could see that these plans are made only for the commuters who live in the suburbs, so they can get to work and back 10 minutes faster. The only pro-highway sentiment came from absentee landlords who would be glad to unload their decaying property.

The state estimated that 2200 people would have to be relocated. They would offer little compensation for the disruption and expense of moving.

SAVE THE STREET!

IT'S ALL WE NEED



letter from jail-

PRISON ECONOMICS

We have, in some time or other adopted the slogan "Attica is all of us!", and true to form I would like to deal with an issue that shows that when we use it that we are concretely solicitous about the conditions and positions besides merely 42 indictments.

We are and should be concerned with the political, economic, and social conditions and positions of all the oppressed people.

In context to its political significance, it is irrefutable that prisoners are in the high ranks of those in the oppressed and exploited class.

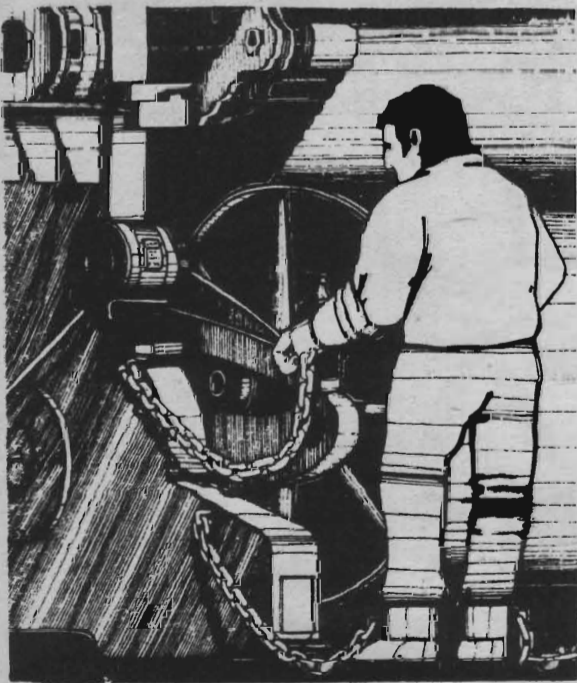
You will note that the issue of abolition of slave labor was raised by us in September 1971 at the time of the Attica incident.

I am cognizant of the high unemployment rate of the nation, but particularly Buffalo, New York where our trials are being held. This also enables me to be aware of the high cost of food items out there, but it is also reflective and representative of the economic system--both inside and outside. Here is proof:

- One pint of mayonnaise costs 81c
- A 16 oz can of peaches costs 40c
- A can of pink salmon costs \$1.77
- A 3 1/2 oz can of sardines costs 23c
- A can of tuna fish costs 62c
- An 11 qt pail costs 94c
- A bottle of 60 1-a-day vitamin pills cost \$1.50
- 6 oz of Maxwell House coffee costs \$1.36
- 5 lbs of white sugar costs \$3.26
- 1/2 pt of mayonnaise costs 47c
- 1 lb of oleomargarine costs 52c

With the prices comparatively high there has still been no attempt by the State of New York to implement the minimum wage salaries in its prisons. plus there is a blatant endeavor to preclude the prisoner's labor union.

I heard tell that an economically distressed people is an oppressed people and that teaching, plus the present state of affairs attests to its credence and tenability!



Attica still is all of us who are oppressed and exploited plus those of us who are aware of it and are willing to contribute our energies to expose and obliterate such conditions!

Still struggling
Akil
(Herbie Scott Deane)

Prisoners experience the economic problems of the society as a whole on a very intense level. Their status as workers is particularly bad. The #1 demand among the "15 Practical Proposals" put forward during the Attica Rebellion was: STOP SLAVE LABOR. APPLY THE NEW YORK STATE MINIMUM WAGE LAW TO ALL STATE INSTITUTIONS. This demand has not been met. Last year, the Prisoners' Labor Union at Attica explained what the slave system really means to prison economy.

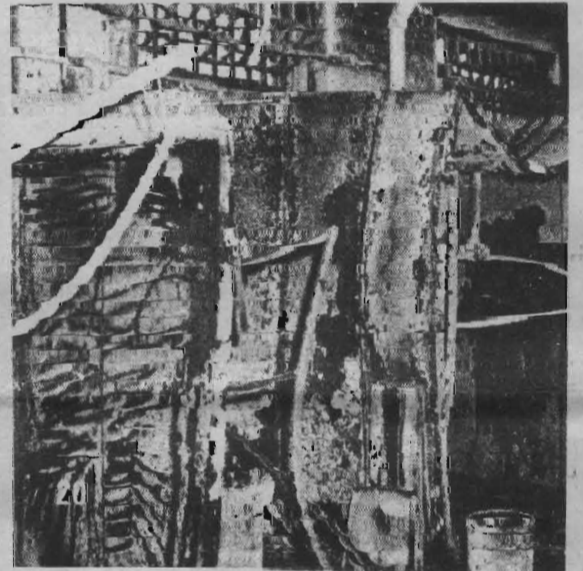
WE MUST DEMAND AN END TO ALL ECONOMIC DIVISION IN OUR PAY GRADES. DEMAND THAT THE MINIMUM WAGE BE PAID TO ALL, FOR ALL WORK PERFORMED, AND THAT WORK BE GUARANTEED TO ALL WHO WANT TO WORK. DON'T FORGET, THAT WAS ONE OF THE DEMANDS THAT OUR BROTHERS DIED FOR ON THAT BLOODY MONDAY, AND FOR WHICH THE SIXTY BROTHERS TODAY ARE STILL FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES AGAINST THE STATE'S THUMPED UP CHARGES.

Have you ever stopped for a moment to think that WE, THE SUBJUGATED and exploited subjects, actually maintain this place in which we are forced to live in an almost totally abnormal existence, an existence that had been admitted by experts to be totally incompatible with maintaining, let alone developing, productive human qualities.

Who keeps this place in operational condition? Who cleans, repairs, electrifies, and keeps the plumbing in working order? Who does everything in maintaining and insuring the orderly operational maintenance functions of our enslavement? THINK ABOUT THAT!

WE CONTROL the orderly operational functions of this prison, and at the same time we insure the regular guarantee of a couple of million dollars in prisoner slave profit to the State annually.

NOT only are we slaving for our oppressors, BUT WE ARE MAINTAINING AND SUPPORTING THEM AS WELL...



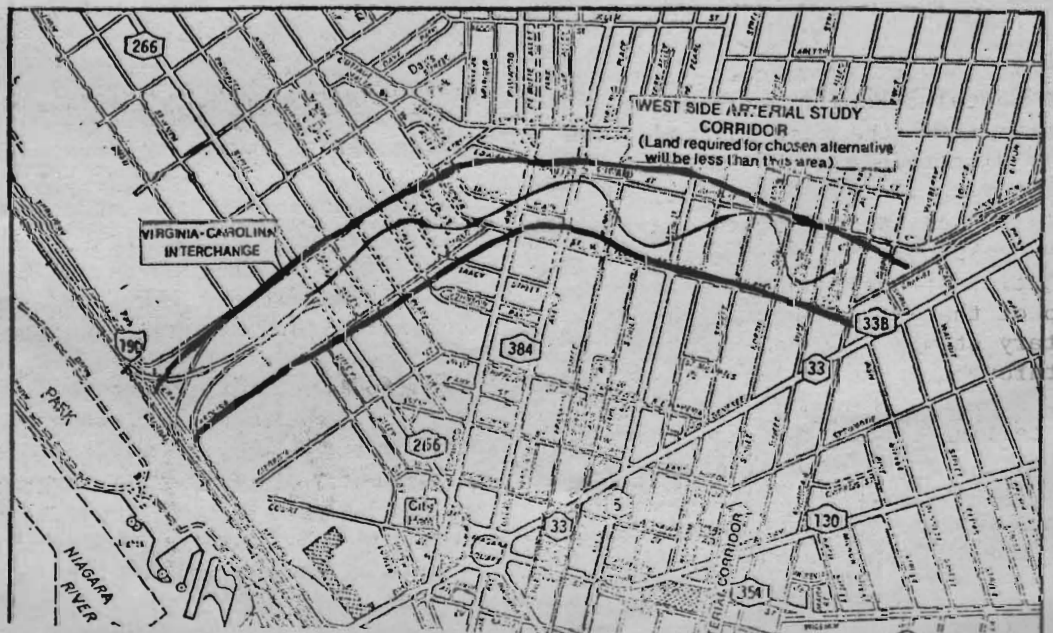
Part of industrial shop at Attica after the rebellion in 1971

Human Beings (cont. from p. 5)

The people have been saying no, but now in 1975 the threat of a highway still hangs over their heads. The Buffalo Common Council has been repeatedly postponing a vote on the issue. Ellicott District Councilman George Arthur introduced a resolution against any highway plan for the West Side, but now even he seems to be hedging on pushing the vote.

It's a little late for state officials to say, "We'll save you from the slums." They should have thought of that years ago. The folks on the lower West Side would like to do something with their neighborhood, build a park or a plaza, see the small stores and businesses flourish, see the schools improve. If the highway bulldozers come, there may well be some angry people in their way.

Petitions against the West Side Highway are at Attica Now and the Puerto Rican-Chicano Committee, corner of Maryland and Prospect, 855-9885. Contact your Common Council representative to voice your protest.



support struggle in the courtroom

"Attica Now" (A.N.) is a new organization founded by Big Black and operated by a coterie of his dedicated followers. It arose from the ashes of the burning bank accounts ignited by the greed and lust of so-called Attica Brothers Richard Clark, Roger Champen, Herbert Blyden et al: media projected "leaders" of the Attica Rebellion.

Recently, the above-mentioned organization published a position paper which, among other things, instructed us that "the struggle is not in the courtroom." To that I would like to reply that after watching A.N.'s practices I am first and foremost truly amazed at the mere fact that this organization would dare make such an assertion, an assertion which rattles at its very foundation with provoking contradictions.

On the one hand, A.N. continues its past practice of exhorting people to make themselves a part of the courtroom scenario as spectators and supporters of the "Attica Brothers" ("Brothers" - a name that is becoming an overly stressed piece of literary euphemism which grows increasingly meaningless in many unfortunate respects), while on the other hand, people are told that "the struggle is not in the courtroom."

The unavoidable conclusion for people to draw from this glaringly contradictory statement is that A.N. is confused itself as to where the struggle really is. Its members or staff workers exhibit this same inconsistency in their own practice: the Director of A.N., Big Black is a frequent attendee of the courtroom as are those members affiliated with A.N. If they are not there to struggle with the overwhelming issues of injustice which pervade the very atmosphere of the courtroom, then the question is, what does Attica really mean to those purportedly dedicated to the Attica struggle? If the struggle is not in the courtroom for them I suppose their appearance there so frequently is naught but a diversion from the real struggle, assuming that any struggle by them is being done at all...

Perhaps there would be some comforting truth to the proposition that "the struggle is not in the courtroom: if the Attica indictees by their practice had indicated they did not want or need supporters for their political/legal struggle as it was being waged in the courtroom. But there has been no such indication. I cannot recall one Attica indictee missing a court appearance when they were called upon to be present. At the direction of the court, a timely appearance has yet to be challenged by any one of them.

If one dare untwist the whole of the position postulated by the statement under discussion; the real contradiction is easily discernible and brings home some disturbing facts about the clear inability of Attica to successfully mobilize the people around the issues of the Attica struggle, and the relationship of that struggle with the rudimentary struggle of oppressed people throughout the world.

A.N. is telling people that the courtroom is not a center of oppression, or, if it is, that it cannot be challenged there--and that is a deception of the grossest sort. For, not only is it

misleading to embellish the people's minds with such nonsense and verbiage but, far more seriously, it is also destructive to do so because it imposes fallacious ideas of the judicial process upon minds of people who are already confused about the realities of the courtroom.

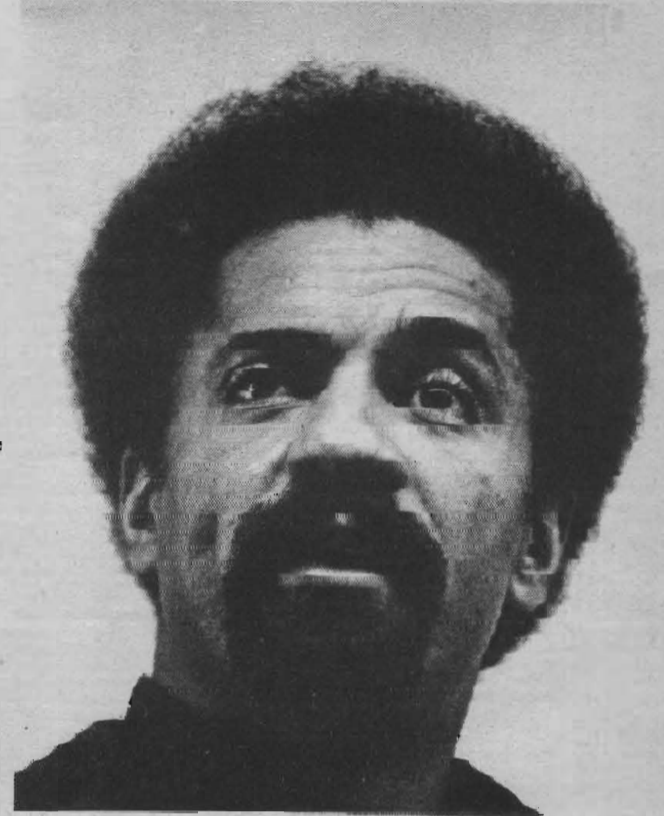
1973. While prisons throughout America swell like pregnant volcanoes with the lava of a generation of Black youth, we are hit with still another rhetorical statement which tells us where the struggle IS NOT but which offers no help as to showing us where the struggle IS.

I know where the struggle is because I am involved in it. If what I am doing by standing up in court four days a week as a pro se defendant, that is, my own lawyer, with no formal legal training is not struggling, then I challenge A.N. to give me some direction to that part of the struggle which will liberate me and my people from the torturous life of prison both inside and outside the walls in America. I'll accept A.N.'s position ONLY if they are prepared to give me other means toward securing my liberation.

The naked assertion that the struggle is not in the courtroom gives absolutely no consolation at all to those such as myself who are left shackled and caged in these Hell-Holes called prison. Each day is a struggle to merely exist--not to mention the additional burden of battling against the awesome power of the courtroom, which each prisoner, by virtue of his/her circumstance, must inevitably bear. For us, the courtroom cannot be dismissed with the seeming ease that others in a more "liberated" society display. So, the struggle for us is definitely there. Just as the slaves' immediate struggle was on the plantation and against the slave master who reigned an irritable control over their lives, so too must we directly confront our oppressors. Anyone who can find the presumption to state where the struggle is not when oppression clearly exists everywhere, particularly in the courtroom for Black people, is voicing a position which should make us extremely suspicious as to what kind of struggling that person really has in mind.

The concept of struggle is born out of oppression. Reasonably it follows, wherever oppression prevails, the struggle to end and eradicate that oppression must quickly be made a central part of our commitment, if struggle is what we're about. If that piece of logic is overlooked in order to develop a certain political "posture" then it only further goes to show how barren are some in their understanding of what struggling against oppression is all about.

Self-romanticized revolutionary rhetoricians (those who would have us believe they are committed to the struggle for oppressed people's liberation) would publicize such deceptive position since for them oppression per se seldom is a reality. If it exists for them at all, it does so only in abstraction, not in fact. So, my advice to all oppressed people is that we guard ourselves against becoming sounding boards for self-styled revolutionaries. Further, a statement which tells us that



the struggle is not in the courtroom sounds like a script authored by the CIA or some other governmental support group, to divert the people's minds from the increasingly more treacherous activities of those governmental institutions used primarily to maintain and justify the genocidal policy of the State, the judiciary being one of them.

For the past 12 weeks, I, along with my investigator and lawyer, have boarded the tortoise-like pace and accepted the exasperating task of defending myself against 3 incredibly fabricated murder charges, in the oppressive proceeding now being brought against me in the courtroom. The struggle for me is unquestionably in the courtroom. Or anywhere else where the forces of oppression immobilize me and prevent me from realizing my potentials as a free human being.

Reflecting upon the evolution of Attica from the 13th to today, events which have taken me to the point I find myself today, I am amazed with courage at the clear fact that my spirit of struggle has not been dimmed by some of the watery and weak figures called the Attica Brothers. In spite of all that's happened I'm elated with pride that I'm still standing holding my share of the mountain although it has been trembling for some time; and for many it has collapsed. From that bit of truth I draw my strength which gives me the perseverance today to continue to struggle in the same unwavering fashion--in the courtroom or wherever oppression exists.

So I cannot ask for the support of those who cannot support themselves, such as some of the Attica indictees, against the oppressive charges stemming from the Attica Rebellion. But from the people, the source of all human strength I ask for support. As I undertake the task of defending my life against the political force of the State in my upcoming trial, the slogan "Attica is all of us" is only a euphemism if you do not understand what "all of us" means. Unity and struggle is "all of us" -- that is what Attica means. People must be made to understand this beyond Attica -- that's where all of us should exist, also: beyond rhetoric.

SHANGO BAHATI KIKAWANA
(Bernard Stroble)

Mr. Edward Carlton (AA-50)
Erie County Holding Center
10 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202

Dear Sirs:

I'm an inmate incarcerated with a bond of \$20,000 for a charge of bank robbery, conspiracy and assault along with three females, Miss Deborah Smith of 210 Jefferson, Buffalo, Miss Dorothy Goldsmith of 320 14th Street, Niagara Falls, and Miss Sandra Lynn Soles of 111 Spring St., Buffalo.

First of all, to fill you in on the content of my or our situation... On February 4, 1975, myself along with the mentioned people were arrested in Niagara Falls in a cab (with the exception of Miss Goldsmith, whose arrest followed the next day.)

1. Upon our arrest, not any of us were informed of our rights to remain silent or our right to an attorney to be present during the

questioning.

2. Not any of the bank employees can identify myself, Miss Smith or Miss Goldsmith named defendants, as the robbers of the bank.

3. No finger prints were found in the bank belonging to any of the mentioned persons.

4. No weapons were found that were supposed to have been used during the robbery.

5. There were no clothing found that fit the description of the robbers' among any of the mentioned people.

6. The cameras located in the bank can't identify any of the mentioned people.

7. From information, there were two ski-masked men who robbed the bank, however myself and three females were arrested.

8. The F.B.I. has only one witness Miss Sandra Lynn Coles of 111 Spring Street in Buffalo, who was named co-conspirator, and the only reason they have her as a witness are the factor that the F.B.I. threatened her by stating that they would give her 25 years if she didn't say we committed the crime.

9. After lying to Miss Soles about giving her 25 years, under Federal Law, the Federal Government can't prosecute

Miss Soles, because she's a minor - only 16 years old.

Thank you,
E. Carlton

**WHILE
THERE IS
A SOUL
IN PRISON
I AM
NOT FREE
EUGENE DEBS**

FIVE MORE BROTHERS GOING ON TRIAL

CREETINGS BROTHERS AND SISTERS...

THIS MISSIVE IS COMING TO YOU FROM ONE OF THE INDICTED ATTICA BROTHERS WHO WILL BE GOING TO TRIAL ON APRIL 7TH. THE ATTICA BROTHERS GOING TO TRIAL ON INDICTMENT #10 ARE JAJA NKOMO KALOMO, EL ROCK MORIBA, LUIS QUINTANA, ROBERT DUGAN, AND JAMES 33X RICHEY.

ON THE DAY THAT WE WAS INDICTED, THE INDICTMENT READ "THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK V THE ATTICA BROTHERS... BUT WHAT I CAN NOT UNDERSTAND IS, IF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK WAS KILLED IN THE ATTICA REBELLION, HOW IN THE HELL CAN IT BE THE PEOPLE V THE PEOPLE?"

-JAJA NKOMO KALOMO



the thick, torturous thorn trials

The wade hearings, the jury selection, the witnesses, the blood beatings Sticks on human flesh, the mud skin search, concentrated assault, the guns, slashes, alcohol stung flesh My hatred and tears on societal sheets Mynd/body weakened upon pictures and confessionals of korrektshunall guards' roles--our mutual hatred of this mismanaged planet.

Fernasalice, dacajeweah in king's court accused because of third world heritage can sit through king's strut to the throne. Blyden, jomo, shango, big black, champ listen to obvious lies spit forth by cryan, moynihan, etc.

Crowleys shared confession. aidala's spring from Rocky's venom. The prosecutors have oil running through their mechanized cyst-ems. everyone hustlin' off their segment of the deal.

In mountains when confronted with rattlesnake, one must smash its venomous head. In court the cyst-em relies on mental lobotomy. milking of human sap-court games cause disorientation.

Lies manufactured at whirlwind speeds faster than my heartbeat, while eternal fights against injustice may never block the day of oppression. The country, salvation or rape?? and in mynd slit vulnerable to hatred of tokenist, bigbusiness controlled fascism am waitin' for revenge.

Our blood is thinning and our brains are a series of knots
Korruption is recyclable
FREE PEOPLE ON FREE LAND

-anonymous

Coming Up.....

Thursday, March 27th-----7:15 PM
Buffalo State Campus School Auditorium

Frederic Rzewski's "COMING TOGETHER" with narration based on one of SAM MELVILLE'S LETTERS FROM ATTICA

music by: Creative Associates
narration by: Julius Eastman

sponsored by "Meet the Composer"
(State Council of Arts)

**PRISON FILM SERIES
APRIL 2-4 8 PM**

Wednesday, April 2nd:ATTICA
"Attica", by Cinda Firestone
discussion with Big Black
and William Kunstler

Thursday, April 3rd-PRISON CONDITIONS SINCE ATTICA
"With Intent To Harm" by Steve Ujlaki & Scott Siegler
and
"Inside the Walls", by Sherwin Greenberg
Panel discussion with Kay Guinane, Joe Heath,
Sherwin Greenberg, and Randall Conrad

Friday, April 4th-THE PROCESS OF CHANGE
"Release", by Lawrence Stell and
Suzanne Rostock
"3000 Years and Life", by Randall Conrad
and Steve Ujlaki
"Interview with Bobby Seale" by Newsrael
discussion with Bertha Taylor Smith
and Bill Gaiter

Erie County Central Library Auditorium
(entrance on Clinton & Ellicott)

Media Studies series is made possible by grants from:YS Council on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts.