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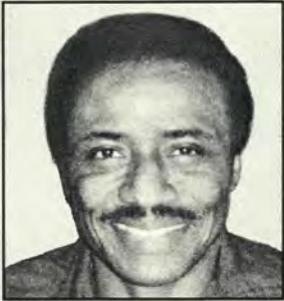
SF



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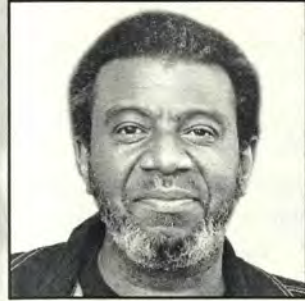
WHO ARE THE SAN FRANCISCO 8?

Collectively they are a group of community activists who have devoted their lives to serving the people and making a difference. They are fathers, grandfathers, and even great grandfathers.



HERMAN BELL, 60, originally from Mississippi, joined the Black Panther Party in the Bay Area where he began his long service to the people. Captured in the early 1970s, he and others were framed for the murder of two NY policemen in what

became known as the case of the New York 3 (Herman, Jalil and Nuh Washington, who died in prison after 29 years in 2000). Despite being imprisoned for more than 3 decades, he has earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees. Herman and Jalil, working with outside activists, organized the Victory Gardens Project to plant, harvest and distribute organic produce to urban and rural communities along the east coast.



HAROLD TAYLOR (released on bail), 59, lives in Panama City, FL, where he remains committed to his principles and community. He is a former member of the LA Chapter of the Black Panther Party. "They used a lot of informants, agents, and provocateurs

to entrap people." (In fact the FBI had infiltrated more than 67 agents and 700 informants into the BPP nationwide.) "In 1971, two brothers and I were set up by the FBI. We didn't learn about COINTELPRO until years later. In 2003 the detectives that were responsible for my torture [in New Orleans] came to my house to question me. I have not been the same since."



JALIL MUNTAQIM (Anthony Bottom), 56, of San Francisco, was first arrested on weapons charges in 1971, and later became one of the NY 3 defendants. While imprisoned he has earned two degrees, become a Muslim Imam, and started the Jericho Amnesty Movement to

free political prisoners. He was featured in 2000 in an Essence Magazine article on father-daughter relationships. Jalil has continued to serve the people inside and out through various community/educational programs.



RICHARD BROWN

(released on bail), 67, has worked for decades in San Francisco's Fillmore District. Employed for 20 years as a program coordinator at the Ella Hill Hutch Community Center, he's also a

founding member of the African American Police Community Relations Board and several other neighborhood organizations. "He has a fantastic rapport with the young people in the Western addition," said Jim Queen, a commissioner with the city's Juvenile Probation Department.



FRANCISCO TORRES

(released on bail), 59, was born in Puerto Rico and raised in New York City. A Vietnam veteran, he has been an activist since his discharge from the military in 1969, and has been active

in veterans and community affairs. He worked with troubled youth right up until his recent arrest and extradition to San Francisco from Queens.



RAY BOUDREAUX

(released on Bail), 65, a Vietnam veteran who lives in Altadena, CA, was employed for the last 25 years as an electrician for the county of Los Angeles and did community work

until his arrest. "I've lived a pretty peaceful and quiet life. My politics are still the same... People come to me sometimes as a peace-maker. And all of that has to do with all of my experience."



RICHARD O'NEAL

(released on bail), 59, has worked for the City of San Francisco for more than 25 years, most recently at the Southeast Community Center in Bay View. "People who work there said they were stunned by his arrest, recalling him as a kind

and gentle man who always had a smile on his face and would stay late to fix lights or other things." (SF Chronicle) The dean of the campus noted, "He is a trusted employee who would do anything to help us...He would take the shirt off his back to try to help you." Richard has been charged with "conspiracy."



HENRY (HANK) JONES,

(released on bail) 73, of Altadena, a responsible family and community elder and veteran, worked as a real estate appraiser before his arrest. "I [have lived] under the constant threat

of another incarceration. In essence I have been robbed of peace of mind, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," said Hank in 2003 when he was subpoenaed to testify before the grand jury and resisted.

write to the brothers: (include jail numbers!)

Herman Bell—2318931 Jalil Muntaqim (Anthony Bottom)—2311826 SF County Jail - 850 Bryant St, SF CA 94103

Ray Boudreaux

Richard Brown

Henry (Hank) Jones

Harold Taylor

Francisco Torres

Richard O'Neal

c/o CDHR - PO Box 90221, Pasadena, CA 941109

The San Francisco 8 (SF8) is a group of Black men who dedicated themselves to working for the protection and improvement of their community. Most of them were members of the Black Panther Party for Self Defense (BPP). In January 2007 they were framed and wrongfully charged with a conspiracy alleged to have existed between 1968 and 1973, and the killing of a police officer that occurred in 1971. Ray Boudreaux, 65; Richard Brown, 67; Henry Jones, 73; Richard O'Neal, 59; Harold Taylor, 59; Francisco Torres, 59; Herman Bell, 60; and Jalil Muntaqim (Anthony Bottom), 56 comprise the SF8. Herman and Jalil have been imprisoned as political prisoners in New York State for more than 35 years.

Two San Francisco detectives, Frank McCoy and Ed Erdelatz, headed the investigation in 1971. No arrests were made at that time. In 1973 Harold Taylor, John Bowman (now deceased) and Ruben Scott were arrested in New Orleans and **tortured by local police.** At intervals during the torture, which lasted several days, McCoy and Erdelatz would interrupt to interrogate the three men. If they did not give the answers the detectives were seeking, the torture would resume. During the torture the three were separated from each other, stripped naked, covered with wool blankets soaked in boiling water, beaten with slap jacks, suffocated with plastic bags tied over their heads, sleep deprived, kicked, beaten and shocked with electric cattle prods on their genitals, anus, and under the neck. Eventually all three "confessed" to a number of crimes including the 1971 police killing. These tortured confessions

were used to bring charges against the men in the mid 70s in several jurisdictions (including San Francisco). **All the charges were dismissed when the judges learned of the coercion.**

In 2003 the case was re-opened and the men were subpoenaed to a series of grand juries. **In 2005 they asserted their Constitutional rights to refuse to testify and were jailed for civil contempt. Upon their release, they founded the Committee for the Defense of Human Rights (CDHR) to publicize the human rights abuses perpetrated by government agents.**

In 2007, the prosecution re-filed the charges against the SF8 based on the same tortured confessions illegally obtained in 1973.

By September 21, 2007 6 of the 8 who were eligible for bail were released thanks to the support of their families, supporters and lawyers. They are available to speak at public events while they continue the fight to drop these charges (contact us to arrange dates).

The Black Panther Party was a primary target of the FBI's illegal COINTELPRO program in the late 60's and early 70's. It was a secret counter intelligence program designed to destroy and disrupt a number of progressive organizations and individuals.

The case of the SF8 is a continuation of COINTELPRO's attack on the Black liberation movement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SAN FRANCISCO 8:

GO TO www.FreetheSF8.org **EMAIL** FreetheSF8@riseup.net **CALL** 415 226-1120
WRITE Committee for the Defense of Human Rights PO Box 90221 Pasadena, CA 91109

TAKE A STAND AGAINST TORTURE AND INJUSTICE: SUPPORT THE SF8!

"Lies, continuing into the present, indicates something more than the ordinary corruption and racism of everyday law enforcement. It can be understood only in terms of the power of the political movement that [we] were a part of, and the intensity of the government's efforts to destroy that movement and to disillusion and intimidate future generations of young activists."

—Herman Bell

SUPPORT THE DEFENDANTS

JOIN the email list for updates: go to www.FreetheSF8.org to sign up for news and announcements.

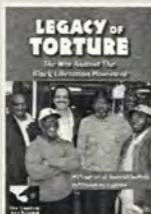
WRITE the defendants: they need support, and the prosecution should see this support as well. Their addresses are on the reverse side.

DONATE: Write your check to CDHR/Agape and mail it to **CDHR, PO Box 90221
Pasadena, CA 91109**

HOLD a house party or event to inform and mobilize people. We can help with speakers, literature and the film *Legacy of Torture*.

COME to Court: check the website for dates and times.

LEGACY OF TORTURE: THE WAR AGAINST THE BLACK LIBERATION MOVEMENT



An excellent source of education and background on the SF8 case produced by The Freedom Archives in 2006. This 28-minute film explains the Black Panther Party, the police torture of some of these brothers in 1973, COINTELPRO, and the harassment which began again in 2003.

To purchase this video contact:
The Freedom Archives

522 Valencia Street, San Francisco CA 94110

www.freedomarchives.org

415 863-9977