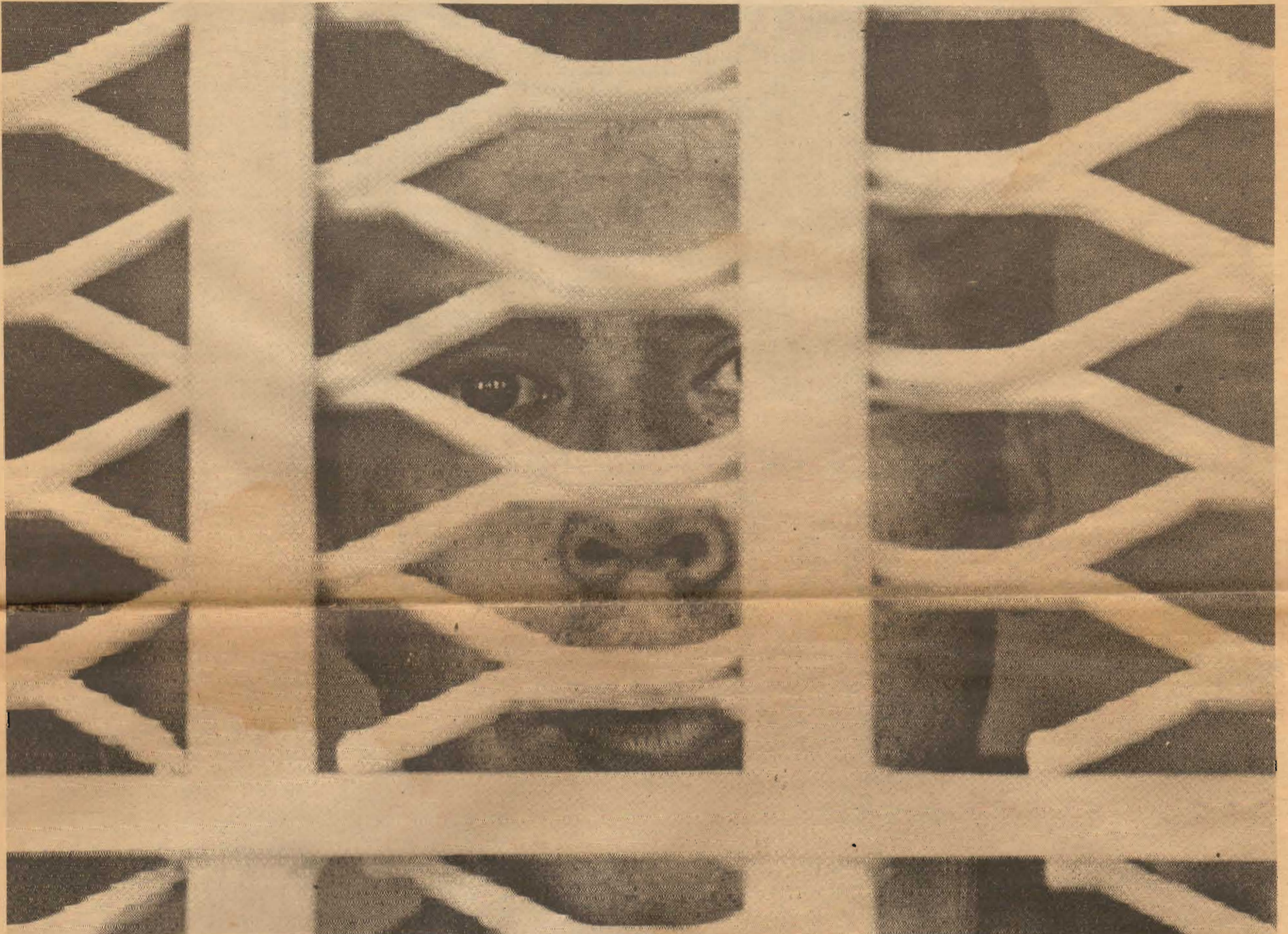


**PEOPLE  
GET  
READY**



**INSIDE:  
Letters from  
Folsom Inmates**

**Extra! Prisoners in Revolt!**



# Power to the Prisoners

This month, as of election day, the inmate population at Folsom Prison went out on strike. An estimated 2500 prisoners-- a majority of the inmates-- are refusing to leave their cells until Folsom prison Authorities agree to negotiate inmate demands with a committee which includes Huey Newton, attorney Charles Garry and Sul Candelaria.

Folsom Prison authorities, led by Warden Thomas Craven, have refused to admit that prisoner grievances even exist. Craven has spoken only of "an unusually high rate of absenteeism" at prison workplaces. Otherwise, he claims, "prison conditions are near normal."

The facts speak differently. There is a good block of prison guards at the prison fight now and newsmen with proper credentials are being turned away. Lawyers and family are denied access to clients and relatives and the

daily media have consistently blacked out news coverage of the strike.

With or without the public's knowledge the strike continues, and Folsom's industries, which produce every thing from school furniture to license plates are shut down tight. And the men say that they are not going back to work until California Prison Authorities show a willingness to pay somewhat more than the 6 cents per hour slave wage they now dispense.

## DEMANDS

But the wage grievances of the prisoners' strike form only a part of the set of demands they have presented to prison authorities. A strike leaflet smuggled out of Folsom states: "Our demands will encompass a broad spectrum of grievances, such as slave wages, too much time, the insanity of the indeterminate sentence law, and the Adult Authority (the demands will call for the immediate abolition of the latter two), the absence of prison officials and counselors of ethnic nationality, institutional and overt racism, medical incompetency, unfair mailing privileges, suppression of political literature, harassment, brutality, murder and many more."

People on the outside have been talking about the reform and liberalizing of prison conditions for a long time. They are the same people who are now throwing up their hands in dismay over the prison rebellion now sweeping the country. The fact is that while authorities have either failed to act or acted as Governor Ronald Reagan did in 1967 by cutting the state prison budget, the prisoners have come to the desperate realization that their oppression is systematic and final. The men at Folsom know that their act of defiance in refusing to go to work may well cost some of them their lives. And after all is taken into account it takes a pretty desperate act of courage to risk your life for fair mailing privileges.

It is a comment on the repressive times we face here in America that the story of the Folsom strike has to be brought to the public in this manner. But in the past week, the TV networks and the daily press of Northern California have totally refused to print the truth about Folsom. In several specific instances, news editors have killed interviews with striking prisoners written by sympathetic reporters. The only word one gets from Folsom are the distorted lies of Warden Craven's daily press releases.

The struggle that these brave men--the prisoners of Folsom--are now fighting--is better left to be told by the men themselves.

## Inside

*In the enlightened State of California an estimated 75,000 men, women and children are imprisoned in state and federal prisons, in county and city jails and in women and youth "correctional" centers. In rough terms, that means that one out of every 255 Californians is behind bars.*

*The 75,000 inmates represents anything but a cross-section of the state's population. Half of California's prisoners are black or brown; the other half comes from poor white backgrounds. The great majority of the present prison population will hit the streets sometime the next three years. Some fifty per cent of those will return to jail again. Those who remain on the outside find themselves second class citizens: they often can't vote, they can't get work because of their records, and in the case of felons, they are legally deprived of certain basic rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.*

**DEFEND THE SOLEDAD 10!**

Send contributions to:  
SOLEDAD BROTHERS DEFENSE  
COMMITTEE

P.O. BOX 30316  
San Francisco, 94131

## Isolation in 4-A

# Life in 4A--the Hole

Editors' note: the current strike at Folsom Prison is the latest in a series of protests by the inmates at the repressive conditions in the prison. The series began with a hunger strike in the Folsom Adjustment Center - the hole, the place where the prison's "troublemakers" are confined. This letter from a black inmate gives the reaction of prisoners in the hole to the main prison strike.

November 8, 1970.

We in the Adjustment Center have employed extreme discipline. While throughout the California prison system there exists a state of pronounced insurrection unparalleled in its cause and magnitude, it is no longer possible to accept the role suggested we play. Which was in essence to do nothing.

We have no jobs and our circulation is limited to the confines of a ten foot cell, 23 to 24 hours daily. Therefore the reasoning of those who would ask us to do nothing is understandable, on the surface. But when considered in depth both our position and what the work strike symbolizes, it would be a circumstantial contradiction if we did not participate. How, in prison's worst degradation, the Adjustment Centers, could it be expected of us to not recognize this time of solidarity, when our action reaches the public's ear, to be transformed into the cry of desperation that it really is.

This is a time when the injustices of prison life are being protested, redressed and exposed. For the most part we are in the adjustment centers directly because we would not submit to established prison molds.

If the strike was in protest of working conditions alone it would be almost understandable for us not to participate. As it is, it is inconceivable to believe the years of calculated repression would not also be actively voiced in our solidarity of cause and need.

We will participate in high spirits of rebellion. But do not be misled. Though our spirits are high, it is not through emotions alone we will act. As there is a much further underlying obligation.

The isolation and segregation which equals adjustment centers have always been used as a repressive condition for those who would rebel. No discrimination is employed in consideration of cause. The prison officials have again proven true to their rule.

In preparation for the demonstration work strike, men who have been locked down for years were released to the main line, where before they had little hope of getting out. Why? Simply because they would fill the vacancies with selected strikebreakers.

Protest in the adjustment centers has most always taken the form of a self-sacrificing hunger strike. Seldom have they produced any real effect. Therefore we search for other avenue.

All Power to the People!

By a black inmate in the Adjustment Center.

## If I should die...

If I should die on the Scarlet yard of the Pit,  
Do not place my body in some polished mahogany casket  
And eulogize me with uncle tom folklore;  
Rather, burn my body and scatter my ashes in the narrow, sordid streets of the Slums...  
Where my soul dwells.

by a black inmate at Folsom



Steve Shames

## Inmate Letters from Folsom

# On Strike!

Editor's note--in the week after the Folsom Prison strike began on November 3, Warden Craven denied that any strike was taking place and claimed that very few of the Folsom prisoners were remaining in their cells. These letters from Folsom inmates to their lawyers give the true story of what was happening inside the jail.

## Nov. 8

We have been virtually starved for the past four days, and if things aren't back to "normal" by tomorrow I suspect it will become worse.

It's difficult at this point to say with any degree of certainty whether or not the strike will fold, but I can definitely state, emphatically announce, that there is more tenacity and a greater sense of purpose in the atmosphere at this moment that I ever believed possible in this particular institution.

Everything will hang or fall on what this building does in the morning. If they hang tough tomorrow... baby, we got um... and I ain't fiving.

They have five rifle packing pigs on the gun rail... is that too much? I guess that is designed to intimidate us.

Let us hope that tomorrow finds Convict Power still in action.

They cut all outside communication as we suspected but didn't pick up the private radios... Yeah, plenty stupid! Take care...

## Nov. 9

Officially we are still under a news blackout. Unofficially we have our ears glued to a thousand personal radios. No one has said anything but we are all silently beginning to wonder about the battery situation. We have heard virtually nothing of Quentin or Soledad since Saturday. Are they still down? I suspect the news media is working with the governor on this thing and have dichotomized the total picture for the sake of disintegrating the "all for one and one for all" tenacity of pig pen unfortunate.

This morning we were subjected to a rather ludicrously absurd attempt by the Mother Superior (Warden) and her retained army of mongolian idiots at being coerced back on our respective slave tasks, but Nemesis was on her superlatively rare job and the stupid got what they deserve... nothing.

I don't think it would be an exaggeration to say that Mother Superior was astounded. But then it doesn't require an enormous amount of rational response to befuddle and stupefy an idiot too enraptured with untested power to the relationship of its functioning to the dependency on which it rest. Even when this fool is a gigantic institutional pig pen corporate!

Right on, All Power to the People! Would you believe that we are so well disciplined that not one window has been purposely broken in the entire six days out thing has thus far lasted. There were mild attempts to provoke a violent confrontation today via the dispatchment of fools to our building. Particularly sadistic pigs who manage to cause violence wherever they might be assigned. We managed to get by without incident today...but there are many tomorrows ahead of us and the pigs become more hostile with each day that finds them doing "convict" labor. Y'know, someone told them they had a "right" to be paid for standing around with a finger in their ass "watching us," and being the damn fools they are, naturally they believed it! They honestly feel that we are fucking over them! For real...is that too cold?

Bob and I listened for complaints? but never heard one. We have plenty to do -- our writing and books to keep us from getting hungry -- but most of these guys, what have they got? Nothing. Let me tell you, my faith and love, and admiration for my brother convicts went up about 500%. God bless them, they took it like men, making Bob marvel. "I wonder how many street people could take this sort of 24-hour intimidation without squawking?"

Today, would you believe -- our sack lunch came and inside -- a candy bar. Hollywood. Those things they pulled off the market because of rodent hair and filth. Most of us threw the dirty things over the gunrail; one guy's smashed a window. To hell with food if it comes to that. We know he's sick, but he can go only so far, and we feel it -- the people is after his ass -- and so are you. God bless you, and God bless the future. Power to YOU and the People.

by C. (A Folsom inmate).

## Nov. 9

Yes, we're holding it -- pretty good, considering the intimidation. We heard on the radio today a statement from Warden Craven Cravens that 50% of the men came out to work today -- but let me tell you, he got his "figures" a mile confused, and you tell KZAP for us when you get the chance. The men here -- there was no confusion or terrorization like he claimed -- complete calm. And the 50% he spoke of, all

# SOLIDARITY AMONG ALL PRISONERS

It is a known fact that the Department of Corrections cannot function properly without its Industrial Complex. Without its Industrial Complex, it has nothing. It is also a known fact that without OUR labor the Department's Industries would come to a screeching halt, if we oppressed prisoners refused to go to work; refused to prostitute our labor to the Department's unscrupulous merchants who pay us slave wages, we would then put ourselves in a comfortable position to negotiate our grievances in the form of documented demands.

Without our labor to exploit, the Department would lose virtually millions of dollars. In order to save itself, the Department would be let with no other alternative but to humbly itself to our demands. This is called "Collective Bargaining" -- and it will work! All we have to do is refuse to go to work.

On the 3rd of November, 1970, there will be a massive sit-down strike at San Quentin, Soledad and Folsom Prison. The purpose of the strike is to paralyze all prison industries, so that we oppressed prisoners, can put ourselves in a position to call for an end to the man oppressive conditions that dominate our lives. Our protest will come in the form of a long list of humanistic demands.

The demands will encompass a broad spectrum of our grievances, such as "slave wages", "too much time" (abundance of the Indeterminate Sentence Law and the Adult Authority," (the demands will call for the abolition of the latter two), "the absence of prison officials and counselors of ethnic nationality," "Institutional and Over Racism," "Medical Incompetency," "Unfair Mailing Privileges," "Suppression of Political Literature," "Harrassment," "Brutality," "Murder,

wanting to get back to his work -- 6%. Off this tier of 50 men 3 went to breakfast. And all that after being locked up 24 hours a day and eating only two cold sack lunches of two balony sandwiches at 10 and 3.

Calm and collected, I'm just wondering though -- what these men will do, poor fellows, when they run out of their little pitiful dab of coffee and smoking tobacco. (Bob and I have already passed his out.) Like George Jackson, I quit all that crap, just for that reason -- so the bastards couldn't lock me in the hole and make me crawl for something; anything to grind you down. As we sat here for the rest of today (without eating -- since we wouldn't go to the messhall, he wouldn't even give us sack lunches).

Bob and I listened for complaints? but never heard one. We have plenty to do -- our writing and books to keep us from getting hungry -- but most of these guys, what have they got? Nothing. Let me tell you, my faith and love, and admiration for my brother convicts went up about 500%. God bless them, they took it like men, making Bob marvel. "I wonder how many street people could take this sort of 24-hour intimidation without squawking?"

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by W. (A Folsom inmate).

and many more.

The time for action is here! We oppressed prisoners must rise up. We must band together and fight shoulder-to-shoulder against the barbarous persecution, exploitation of labor and violent repression by the reactionary prison officials.

Mighty prisoners, you can accomplish what you will. Remember, November 3rd, 1970 -- our day of liberation. So let us step on time and in time, with solidarity among ALL prisoners.

There shall be no convict committee for negotiation, ALL negotiations by prison officials and state legislation will be exercised with the following four person panel:

John Irwin  
Sal Candelaria (Black Berets por la Justicia)  
Huey P. Newton (Black Panther Party)

Charles Garry (Third World Liberation Front)

All Culinary and Hospital workers are excluded from strike responsibilities and are expected to fulfill their work assignments for the interest of inmate welfare. Work and program assignments will resume function when directed by the "four person panel."

HOLD YOUR MUD!

The people of this prison are not playing games. The people of the Revolution are not playing games. The people who resist the struggle for change get hurt and killed in the process. No law on earth says that you must oppose the will of the people at the price of your life.

ALL POWER TO THE PRISONER!  
DON'T GO TO WORK

Leaflet from Folsom Prison announcing the prisoners' strike.

## "I believe in the Demands"

Editor's note-- "A" is one of the convicts who were moved to Folsom from San Quentin after the San Quentin demonstration in August.

Hello Mother and Brother,

Because of the protest at San Quentin the police officials took me in chains to Folsom Prison to 4-A, the Maximum Security wing or the "hole" or the "end of the world" as they call it here. I arrived here Tuesday night along with three other prisoners and at this time I don't know what they'll do with me. I believe they might charge me with inciting a riot or subversive activity which is another example of injustice and persecution because of my political beliefs. I was one of 2,000 men in protest against the inhuman and unjust state of prisons and these police officials singled me out as a ringleader and without a word said to me, took me in chains to Folsom Prison.

I believe in the demands presented to the warden, who refused to meet with us because I am a man, not a slave (like these officials treat us). I will always be a man first.

by A. (a Folsom inmate)



Prisoner negotiating team during recent N.Y. rebellion. Ken Sender, the white prisoner, has since disappeared.

# Racist Warden

Editor's note-- two events seem to have brought about the present wave of inmate resistance at Folsom; the transferring to Folsom of six prisoners from San Quentin after the San Quentin demonstration at the end of August, and a tremendous wave of solidarity between black and brown prisoners.

Racism has always been used by the prison authorities to split and control the inmates; this letter from a Folsom inmate describes how black and brown prisoners united to defeat the racism of the Folsom authorities. The key incident was a joint, black and brown eulogy for Ruben Salazar, the Los Angeles Chicano journalist who was killed by the police in August.

Sept. 9th of this year, rioting began in the 4A section of this prison and at the present period spasmodic outbreaks are still in process.

There has been a long term pattern of inhuman brutality and oppression practiced here in Folsom Prison, and the 4-A section has been used for the necessary torture chamber. Hostility has mounted high because of these conditions, but not until Sept. 9th has there been any physical retaliation on an organized level.

The fuse of the present resistance was ignited when six convicts (four black and two chicano) were brutally beaten by the prison pigs assigned to the 4-A section of this prison. These six men arrived just last week from San Quentin prison at the same time as brother panther Warren Wells (who was imprisoned for the Oakland shoot-out in which brother Bobbie Hutton was murdered by Oakland Pigs, and for which brother Eldridge is still under indictment). During the past five days there have been numerous other beatings inflicted upon Black, Brown and White prisoners in this section of Folsom Prison. The identification of victims known to us at this time is as follows:

Singletary, A-70380  
Howard Cole, A-76241  
Steve Simmons, B-2612  
Padilla, A-60132  
Memous Lawrence, B-12286  
Harold Crawford, A-75280

There was a eulogy held here at Folsom prison for Ruben Salazar by a large percentage of the brown and black population. Due to the fact that racial solidarity and harmony is "not acceptable" by the prison

administration" the following incidents occurred:

One of the Chicano brothers who attended the brown and black eulogy was confronted while in his cell at building no. 3--which is on the main-line of the prison population, by three correctional pigs. The brother was Padilla, A-60132. He was dragged from his cell by these three pigs, and physically beaten while standing on the tier, was then kicked repeatedly down three flights of stairs, then taken to the hospital to be medically cleared for isolation purpose. And what appeared to be a very serious condition was placed in a stripped cell incommunicado. At this time we have no knowledge as to whether he is dead or alive.

One of the Chicano speakers at the eulogy, brother Jose Annett (A-52561), was attacked by three correctional pigs, chained and shackled and physically on a California Department of Corrections bus for a destination listed as Susanville, but true destination unknown.

On Sept. 11th, Warden Craven of this prison confronted convict Jose Castro and stated that he would tolerate no form of unity between black and brown prisoners, and would crush it according to our famous phrase, "by any means necessary."

Due to the fact that the prison Chaplin refused to let the Chicano population hold an eulogy for Ruben Salazar, the inmate Muslim Minister here at Folsom, gave the time and so-called privilege allowed for Muslim services to the community efforts for this eulogy. As the result of the Muslim Minister's cooperation in this "human matter" the warden Craven also confronted the Folsom Nation of Islam, and stated that any and all Chicano participation in any Muslim services of the future were definitely forbidden by he and the total prison administration.

Our Deputy Minister who also attending the services for Ruben Salazar, was walking to his cell for routine lock-up. And evidently he wasn't moving fast enough to suit the pig on the gun-calf. The pig in turn released the safety clip from an automatic rifle and aimed it at him, with the verbal threat of shooting him.

YOURS IN STRUGGLE, YOURS IN PEACE

by brother H (a Folsom inmate)

## Black, Brown, White Prisoner Calls for Race Unity

Much to my disenchantment the anticipated move toward the eradication of the specified areas of oppression, brutality, and exploitation did not take action as intended. Example...

1. It was felt by the white population that the areas of concern were designed to benefit black and brown people, per se. And the fact that the Soledad Brothers "are black" kept them from recognizing the relationship from the point of mutual oppression. And it never entered their minds that all mankind are brothers in the sense of human existence.

2. The black population here (with good reason) flat refused to support any project which does not include the special interest needed in the immediate oppressive problems of ethnic people. However, in my opinion there were enough stipulated issues of concern which affect all prisoners (without racial implications) to warrant the support of all people who are victimized under the existing system.

I had hoped that the Black Panther Party and the Brown Berets would focus a working council from the revolutionary ranks toward the needed stimulation within this particular prison. For instance... A public and news-published statement asking all brown, black and white imprisoned to "Freeze on the participation of prison industrial exploitation. And demand a Jecent wage under the government minimum wage law."

This proposal of which would be of mutual benefit to all, could serve as a pilot project including confrontation on all areas of oppression and suppression.

People here have faith in me, because they know me. And in most matters function with an efficiency that says they respect my direction. But they are still reluctant to accept the fact that the outside movement will give the support needed to make my directive efforts meaningful... And this seed of confidence can only be supplied from an outside acknowledgement of our needs, an open commitment of assistance on a news media level, or even a letter from the "Liberation Front" stipulating such...

I'm very pleased that Huey approved the institutional party program. And I'm certain that it can and will function with far less problems of social division than this instant project. Primarily because it will involve people who are party people, and other people who are already committed to revolutionary change, and to the dedicated support of all necessary and strengthening projects.

I am an individual who has not been, nor shall ever be programatically whipped to the extent of accepting the oppressor's foot in the ass of man, as a way of life. I cannot stand mute and idle while men are being spiritually and mentally mutilated in the hypocritical name of justice, without doing all within my personal power to sever the monster's head. There has to be a way to put a definite end to this administrative, imperialistic madness.

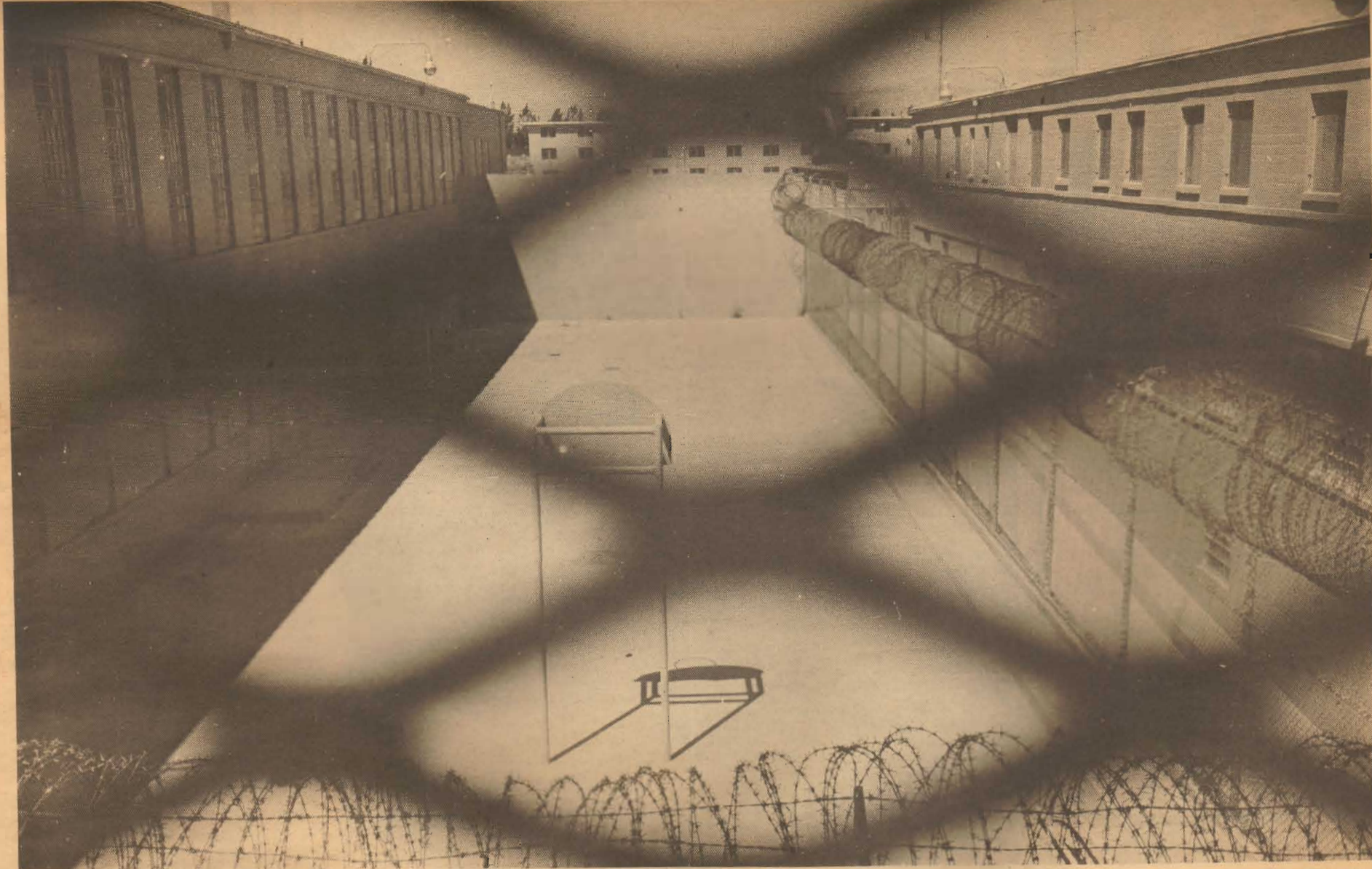
By M. (A Folsom inmate)  
P.S. From the Dungeons of Babylon.

## SALAZAR

The death and fiendish killing of Chicano Newsmen and revolutionary Ruben Salazar, motivated the first Major rally for black and brown solidarity ever to occur in a California State Prison.

The Monumental value of this socially historical occasion, lies in the fact that for the past hundred years, the racist pigs of prison administration have been able to manipulate black men against brown men to the degree of wide separation and sometimes bloody hostility.

By M. (A Folsom inmate).



Exercise yard at Soledad's O-Wing: scene of January's murders.

## Soledad 7 Case

# Railroad Runs Again

*Editor's note: The Soledad Three trial is set for San Diego and lawyers have appealed that change of venue. Both the brothers and their supporters feel that if the trial is moved to San Diego, the brothers will be unable to get any semblance of a fair trial. It will be very difficult for them to get a fair trial anywhere but there is some chance in San Francisco-Los Siete would not have won their case in San Diego but they were partially able to win it here. As attorney Pat Hallinan commented about the Soledad Seven case: "The most important thing is not what goes on in the courtroom today but what goes on in the community tomorrow. People who are naturally disposed to think that all cons are therefore guilty of anything they are charged with need to be told what prisons are like, what these judges are doing, what these guards are doing." Call 863-6055 if you want to help free the Soledad Brothers.*

Seven more young black men from Soledad prison have been accused of the murder of another Soledad guard, who was found dead on July 22. This brings the number of "Soledad Brothers" to ten.

When a Soledad guard was found dead last January, only hours after guard O.C. Miller had been exonerated for murdering three black prisoners in order to "break up a fight" in the prison exercise yard, Soledad prison officials chose to build a case against three black revolutionaries, George Jackson, John Cluchette, and Fleeta Drumgo, the Soledad Three.

In the case of John, George, and Fleeta, Salinas Judge Gordon Campbell and the Soledad prison officials kept the brothers from contacting their families and lawyers, thinking to quietly railroad the brothers to the gas chamber. John Cluchette's mother finally got a note reading "Help! Life in danger" after hearings had begun.

In the Soledad Seven case, Campbell and Monterey County authorities have repeated the procedure. Jessie Phillips, 20, who is serving a life sentence for murder and robbery; Jimmy James, 23, serving one to life for robbery; O.C. Allen, 26, serving five years to life for second degree burglary; Jimmy Wagner, 21; Roosevelt Williams, 27; Alfred Dunn, 20, and Walter Watson, 22, (all four serving 5 to life for robbery) have been defined by prison officials as black militants. On July 22, they were all thrown into 7 x 5 solitary cells and repeatedly interrogated about the guard's death.

Nothing was known about their situation until Mrs. Bessie Phillips, Jessie's mother, received an anonymous letter from San Diego which said, "Jessie and another six are... in confinement for suspicion (of the killing of the guard). Jessie may not get a chance to contact... (you)... until they build a case against him... bring your

lawyer as they are trying to put it on anyone." The letter said that a white inmate who was questioned had failed a lie detector test. "They let him go anyway", the letter finished.

### STOOL PIGEONS

Before their preliminary hearing, Soledad officials posted notices in the prison offering early parole and monetary rewards to any inmates who would testify against the seven brothers. The lawyer representing the Seven, Pat Hallinan saw that such "witnesses" could testify against the seven at the preliminary hearing, get paroled, and leave the area and the country. Their testimony at the hearing would be admissible before a jury trial, but there would be no way to put them on the witness stand and cross examine them. Therefore, the defense moved to waive the preliminary hearing on October 13, forcing the prosecution to produce all their witnesses before a jury.

Every time that the brothers have a hearing or an arraignment, security at Salinas Municipal Courthouse is very heavy. Guards with shotguns stand all around the driveway where the brothers are driven in. The brothers are chained and shackled inside the cars, which are covered at the windows with thick mesh screens. Families of the brothers have been given green cards with their own fingerprints on them for identification. Everyone is searched before entering the elevator to the courtroom, and when the judge kicks people out during hearings (as he often does), he makes them go completely out doors even in rainy and cold weather. The only warm, free sight there is the faces of the brothers, who are very young, very angry, but very strong. One day when Jessie Phillip's sister cried a little in the courtroom, Jessie said, "I'm in a lot more trouble than you are, and I ain't crying."

None of the brothers can afford to pay private attorneys to defend himself. At the first three hearings, Pat Hallinan asked the court to appoint him as their lawyer, but Judge Campbell instead appointed him as the lawyer for Jimmy Wagner only, and appointed court lawyers for the six other men. The next week, Hallinan and five other lawyers came to the arraignment and asked to be appointed by the court in the place of the five Campbell-appointed lawyers who did not really want to get involved with the case and were not trusted by the seven brothers. (One public defender was kept by the brothers).

### LAWYER FIRED

The courtroom scene that day was so irrational, so cruel, and so obviously intended to railroad the brothers to the gas chamber that even the lawyers whom Campbell had appointed were angry. Each of them asked to withdraw from the case, asking that the 5 new lawyers be appointed in their places. The judge refused to do this, on the grounds that he did not "personally know the ethical and professional competence of these men." Some of the lawyers Campbell had appointed agreed to testify in behalf of the new lawyers, and the new lawyers volunteered to take the witness stand, but Campbell refused to allow this. Finally, Hallinan objected to Campbell's proceedings, saying "You appointed me counsel for one of the defendants, but you don't know my ethical and professional competence either." Campbell cleared the courtroom and subsequently fired Hallinan.

Early this month the final pre-trial hearing was held: Campbell presided,

Hallinan could not represent the seven brothers, and six court-appointed lawyers tried to withdraw from the case again. The Judge is insisting that either the brothers take these unwilling lawyers as their defenders, or else get the lawyers of their choice to take the case at their own expense. (Marvin Stender and Dick Hodge are among the lawyers chosen by the seven.)

The judge asked the brothers to enter pleas. The brothers all replied that without adequate legal counsel they could not enter pleas. One brother, Walter Watson was sick—that morning a guard took him out of the hospital without even checking with the doctor—and so Walter had two reasons to refuse to plead. Campbell entered pleas of "not guilty" into the record for all seven, and set their trial date for December 7. American justice: a judge gives six unwilling lawyers four weeks to defend seven black inmates.

Campbell's whole vicious procedure to date is being appealed by the brothers and attorneys whom they trust, so hopefully some of Campbell's most blatantly illegal actions will be nullified. This will, of course, cost quite a lot of money. Send your contributions to Soledad 7 Defense Committee, c/o Tamu Ushindi, PO Box 4301, Compton, California.

As Bessie Phillips, Jessie's fine and courageous mother, said at the first arraignment, "We aren't going to let you fascists get away with this. We aren't going to let you murder our sons."

For further information, call 863-6055 in San Francisco. The Soledad Seven Defense Committee is based primarily in Los Angeles.

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