

Good evening and welcome to freedom is a constant struggle, last show of the year, last show of the decade...I mean can you believe that these ten years have just up and gone...can you believe it? would you believe? could you believe?

al jarreau could you believe.....faded down under voice...

Courage to carry on... That's what it's all about these days...
A great poet ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ name of Ho Cho Minh once wrote, without the cold and desolation of winter there could not be the warmth and splendour of spring...another poet proclaimed...o trumpet of a prophecy...if winter comes can spring be far behind?

Tonight's show is dedicated to winter and to spring, to two people who each one of you know, one is an old woman, I'm sure you've seen her on the city streets, another is a child as yet unborn....

And ^{me?} I am the ~~xxx~~ voice of old times passing
The spirit of new times pushing to be born
I am wisdom chiseled from experience
~~XXXXXXXX~~ I am vitality - the fields of rice and ^{wheat and} corn
The old and new, tonight they intertwine ~~xx~~
And I have searched and seached for the right words to say
As the challenging eighties begin
As the shivering seventies wither away....

A decade, a mere ten years--what fleeting moments these
In universes spinning through infinities

And yet, its here we find ourselves, for better or for worse,
Where this thing called the seventies
Is wintry old age passing like a Jonestown hearse....

O trumpet of a prophecy,
If winter comes can spring be far behind....

Yes, friends and comrades, winter comes
Be it in snow or rain outside
Or aches and pains inside our bodies and our minds
Winter comes, winter in America
Ice-age cold descending on our souls....

WINTER IN AMERICA GIL SVOTT HERON

We're going to hear and read a lot about the events of the last ten years...rather than try to detail all the events and people...let me just try to mention some of what comes to my mind in hopes it will *spur and* echo what will come to yours...there's no doubt that the sixties were a hard act to follow...~~XX~~ if the sixties were movement, change and flow, then the seventies, especially the latter half, were ebb, were ~~now~~ decline and fall of ~~empire~~...were hard and stormy, confusing and frustrating...and yet like everything else, the decade passing had its highs and lows...the decade began with a taste of things to come as K the murders at Kent and Jackson State, combined with all the repression and outright murder of Cointelpro, brought the seriousness of our struggle home...yet the seventies will go down in history as the decade when the US empire was finally defeated by the peoples of Indochina, the victory of Vietnam, Laos, and yes, Cambodia, and here ^{at home} the truly massive, millions upon millions who opposed the war, who marched, ^{who sang and shouted} who demonstrated, who sought to sabotage, ~~to bring the war machine to a halt~~... the anti war movement is one of the proudest chapters in our times...~~XXXXXX~~ and ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ yet the ~~XXXX~~ winter casts its spell as well upon these days...because more fighting has gone on, *China invades Vietnam,* the desolation of Cambodia weighs down upon all hearts....Nor should the other side of the war be forgotten...the massive genocide inflicted by the USA on the peoples of Indochina, the ~~Christmas~~ *Christmas* bombing, the myriad My Lai, the poisoning of the entire ~~country side~~ *country side*... crimes whose perpetrators have not yet been brought to justice...in fact, some of the perpetrator, like Ki singer, still thrive, and successfully campaigned to bring another mass murderer, the Shah, to the United States, touching off a crisis that ~~XXXXXX~~ *indicates* more than any other recently the clear possibility of world war...

The Seventies. The Seventies. In Africa, the liberation of Guinea Bissau, Angola, Mozambique, the student's rising in Soweto, the long armed struggle in Zimbabwe, which as the decade ends bring a negotiated settlement, indicating the ~~struggle~~ *struggle* of the guerrilla forces, but ~~XXXX~~ not yet clear as to the eventual result...Africa where one of the greatest leaders of our times, Amilcar Cabral, was assassinated by the Portuguese and the CIA...Cabral, who knew, as he said, ...the dirty eyes of the crocodile cannot stop the canoe from crossing the river...the dirty eyes of the crocodile much in evidence in Latin America, where the fascist coup in Chile vicious and genocidal, headlined a wave of right wing dictatorships, and yet, by the end of the decade, this year, we witness the successful and triumphant struggle of many years in Nicaragua... the battle raging in El Salvador...the great *Chilean* singer Victor Jara killed, but his song and all the songs of liberation ~~again~~ *sound* again in Latin America....In the Middle East...the Israeli invasion and continuing genocidal bombing of Lebanon...the twists and turns of Palestinian nationhood...the Camp David agreements...an aggressive war pact between the US-Israel-and Egypt...and yet the West Bank rises in resistance as never before, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ an opposition movement grows in Israel, and the PLO, the Palestinian Liberation Organization, achieves worldwide recognition and sits at the United Nations.....

the energy crisis
real and
manufactured

The seventies, the seventies....the deepening economic crisis of the United States, the rising unemployment and inflation, depression setting in like winter....the decade of Watergate, when the US government and political system let out their corrupt stench for all of us and the world to see, Richard Nixon, Richard Milhaus Nixon, abdicates...but then on to San Clemente....the seventies when so many of the gains of the sixties were snatched away, as represented by the slashes of affirmative action, the continued cutting away of all human life giving forces...education, childcare, healthcare, ~~XXXXXXXX~~ care respect ~~XXX~~ dignity and livelihood for the elderly....for the old woman who all of you know to whom this program is dedicated, for the child as yet unborn to whom we must dedicate our efforts of the future....imagine ~~o.o.~~ 1979 was supposed to be the year of the Child...in a true year of the child, in a decade, an era a future of the child, there will be no three mile islands, no massive starvation around the world, ~~no~~ Jonestowns.

tragic:
lacks in

salutes for
those called
handicapped
+ disabled

Yet the seventies have seen the rise of anti-nuclear and ecology movement, the continued deepening of the women's movement. Although our forces seem shattered and disorganized the ~~xxx~~ freedom seeds planted in the sixties and before will yet be nourished by the force of life. The seventies saw the heroic ~~XXXX~~ rebellion at Attica. ^{prisoners}slaughtered by Rockefeller...the ~~seventies~~ saw the rise to prominence of George Jackson, and his assassination....~~the prison movement~~

the prison movement

A special word tonight about another movement that rose during the seventies...the movement for Native American sovereignty and self-determination...because today, December 29th, is the date, when in 1890 the US cavalry slaughtered Indian ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ children, women, and men at a place called Wounded Knee...in the dead of winter they took aim upon these precious souls....yet in the seventies the uprising at Wounded Knee again raised the battle cry of Native American resistance...a shining light despite the brutal repression that has since struck the Native American movement....a shining light like the beacon of the Alcatraz occupation commemorated recently....

The seventies....stormy and turbulent....a difficult passage... ending now in bitter cold....yet too many hearts ~~have been~~ buried at Wounded Knee...too many ~~have been~~ murdered, imprisoned, wasted by all the aching frustrations of seeing things be so so wrong but not being able to get together to really do something about it...the seventies coming to a close....and yet a trumpet of a prophecy...if winter comes can spring be far behind? and yet new movements ~~are~~ struggling into birth... ~~and~~ yet and still the freedom seeds planted will be nourished by the force of life....I curse and damn the Seventies of oppression and misery....I salute and praise the seventies of victory and resistance...salute the ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXX~~ onward force of spring, salute the force of life////

of us

The power of the people is the force of life

Southern Africa

Right on...right on...right on into the 80's...the spectre of fascist 1984 hanging over us with far more devastating impact than Skylab..... the election horse race begun....and here comes Carter...bringing up the rear....the world in an uproar from Tehran and Afghanistan to Cambodia and ~~Vietnam~~...the rightward political shift is all too real, the racist hysteria fanned up around Iran all too frightening...the possibility of war as a solution to economic depression...the resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan, who openly shot down demonstrators in recent months, of the Nazis, the continued tightening of the Empire in decline, tightening around our paychecks and our families, throwing many thousands out of work, tightening the noose around our necks.....~~AND YET AND YET~~...it has always been true and remains so, that repression breeds resistance....that the eighties and the decades to follow, no one can predict quite how, are bound to see new struggles and ~~new~~ new forms of struggle...that suffering will temper hearts and minds to face new and difficult challenges...that oppressed peoples will again rise up, that the Black liberation struggle, always central to ~~our~~ ^{of Harriet Tubman} history of social change, will bring forth new daughters and ^{sons} who will not be turned around, that Latin ~~American~~ peoples here will continue their growing movements... hasta la victoria siempre....that the hearts buried at Wounded Knee will spring forth ⁱⁿ new flowers of freedom... That ~~the~~ working people, sometimes ^{resistant} ~~people~~, sometimes used as pawns, will reassert their mission....the eventual dismantlement of a system based on profit and greed....how this will happen and whether we can avoid ~~XX~~ much greater destruction remains to be seen....it can only come as does spring from winter, as does the individual to the collective, as does freedom from slavery...organization, ~~delamination~~, ^{at} despite all the obstacles, are the only ways to find the courage to carry on.....

renewed resistance

As I've said this program is dedicated to an old woman who you all know...you've seen her I'm sure on your city streets...on Mission St, on the Fillmore, in Sacramento, San Jose...you know the one I mean, the old woman, tattered, torn, carrying a burlap bag, picking through the garbage cans, trying to survive. Perhaps that old woman is really Mother Time herself...and if so she's picking through the wretched refuse of our lives, ^{through} our hopes and dreams, our plans and schemes, picking through the good and bad of a decade passing....mother time....mother earth....who even now in her turning, her revolutions round the sun, is giving birth to that child as yet unborn to whom this program is also dedicated....the little child who shall lead them...the children of the future...in the 80s and 90s and the year 2000...the child who we must find a way to nurture, to teach, so that the days ahead will be better than those before...so that we can face the new year and the new decade with hope founded in the dedication to preserve the human race and the life force on earth....mother time and unborn child....old age passing, new age being born....wisdom chiselled from experience...new fields of rice and wheat and corn... for the new year and the new decade ^{ab} ~~that~~ ^{is} hope I bring....~~that~~ ^{then} the certainty that from winter follows spring and ~~another~~ ^{then} another spring, ~~and~~ another spring, another spring, another spring.....

NINA SIMONE ANOTHER SPRING

YOUVE BEEN LISTENING TO FREEDOM IS A CONSTANT STRUGGLE HEARD EVERY WEEK
AT THIS TIME....WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED TONIGHTS PROGRAM AND ALL THE PROGRAMS
IN VARIOUS FORMS THAT WE'VE BROUGHT YOU OVER THE LAST DECADE...SUGGESTIONS
AND CRITICISMS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED...IDEAS FOR EVENTS TO COVER,
PEOPLE TO INTERVIEW, SUBJECTS TO DISCUSS AS WE ENTER THE EIGHTIES
WOULD ALSO BE GREATLY APPRECIATED...WRITE TO FREEDOM IS A CONSTANT
STRUGGLE c/o KPFA 2207 SHATTUCK AVENUE BERKELEY...~~TILL NEXT YEAR~~
~~KEEP ON KEEPIN ON....~~ ~~AND THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR LISTENING.....~~

(Good night)

So till next year
Thank you very much
for listening ... and
Keep on keepin on