

Updates for October 11th

8 Sept - 2012 Certain Days Calendar Available NOW!

Here it is again, a beautiful political calendar created by a Canadian collective working under the guidance and inspiration of U.S. PP/POWs David Gilbert, Robert Seth Hayes and Herman Bell. Proceeds from this full color calendar go to the New York Task Force on Political Prisoners, the Palestinian NGO Adameer Prisoners Support and the Freedom Archives. This year's theme is "COINTELPRO: Repression and Resistance, Then and Now."

MORE:

As the Certain Days collective explain, "In putting together the Certain Days calendar, we always aim for a realistic balance between bringing to light social injustice and the challenges we face, and the inspiring work done to meet these challenges. It is important to speak of repression – to share examples so that we might learn from each others' experiences, and see the patterns and trends in the state's approach. But it is impossible to do so without also being struck by the many contemporary and historical examples of resistance. We hope that the information gathered in this year's calendar can help teach the difficult lessons we need to learn to weather the storm and also provide the inspiration we need to do so." The Certain Days Calendar costs \$12, or \$8 each for ten or more. During September only, the calendar is available for free along with any pre-purchase of David Gilbert's book *Love and Struggle* (see below).

WITH ART BY

Santiago Armengod
Shannon Willmott
Jesus Barraza
Josh MacPhee
Fireworks Graphics Collective
Emily Kantar
Tom Manning
Ojore Lutalo
Kara Sievewright
We are the crisis
Gerald and Maas
Favianna Rodriguez

WITH WORDS ABOUT

"COINTELPRO Then and Now" (by Herman Bell)
"The Green Scare and Security Culture" (by Aric McBay)
"John Graham and the Continuation of COINTELPRO Tactics Today" (by Vancouver-based supporters of John Graham)
"Resisting Repression of Dissent in the International BDS Campaign" (by Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid)
"Grand Juries: Tools of an Unjust Authority" (by Lynne Stewart)
"Incapacitating Activists: The Court System as Repressive Mechanism" (by RNC 8)
"Lessons from the Black Panther Party on Addressing Sexism & Building Stronger Movements" (by Safiya Bukhari)
"Neutralizing Black Resistance: The Role of the Carter Era" (by Kevin "Rashid" Johnson)
"Fusion Centers: U.S. Intelligence Gathering and its Canadian Counterpart" (by Tim Groves)
"Setting the Terms of Liberation: Slogans and Resistance in the Civil Rights Movement" (by David Gilbert)
"Jericho Amnesty Movement to Free All Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War" (by Jihad Abdulmumit)
"Cultivating a Community that can Resist Waves of Repression" (by Denver Anarchist Black Cross)

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25 Sept – Troy Davis: Movement Lessons by Mumia Abu-Jamal

Muma has written a new piece, inspired by the state murder of Troy Davis. We've included it below.

MORE:

Troy Davis: Movement Lessons

The state judicial murder of Troy Davis of Georgia showed both the limits and the successes of the anti-death penalty movement.

It seems silly to speak of successes when an innocent man is poisoned to death by judicial decree, but though they were partial, they were successes nonetheless.

To attain the support of people like former U.S. Pres. Jimmy Carter, Pope Benedict XVI, Arch-bishop Desmond Tutu and former FBI director William Sessions was no small feat. It showed the reach of the movement to procure such prestigious support.

The movement was also fueled by such revelations as shown by the recantations of people like Antoine Williams, who was one of the state's trial witnesses. Williams later stated, "After the officers talked to me, they gave me a statement and told me to sign it. I signed it. I did not read it because I cannot read. I felt pressured to point at him."

Was there police coercion in the Davis case? The DA certainly thought so, as shown by his remark, "Oh , well, they were probably coerced by the defense too, so that balances it out and we should still kill him."

Think about that.

What power of coercion does the defense possess? Handcuffs? Threats? Jail cells? Criminal charges? Death sentences?

That any prosecutor can say something so dopey is – well, - nuts.

The Troy Davis movement amassed almost a million signatures on petitions.

Remarkable.

But signatures on paper (or online) aren't people in the streets.

If a million people were on the march, maybe--maybe--he would be alive.

Maybe.

For one of the other limits are those imposed by the law, one designed to lock in and prevent serious judicial review and remedy. Laws signed into the books by none other than the first so- called Black president: William Jefferson Clinton.

Troy Davis's family and supporters brought much to the anti-death penalty movement. I hope they are not too discouraged to continue the struggle.

In so doing, they can insure that Troy Davis will never be forgotten.

26 Sept - Former BLA Soldier Captured After 41 Years

After 41 years on the lam, living in Portugal, alleged Black Liberation Army soldier George Wright was recently captured. He escaped from prison when Richard Nixon was in the White House, joined the Black Liberation Army in Detroit, hijacked a plane and (in)famously demanded that FBI agents deliver ransom money in bathing suits. And they did.

**Jose Luis Jorge dos Santos
George Wright
Estabelecimento Prisional instalado junto
da Polícia Judiciária de Lisboa
Rua Gomes Freire, 174.
1169-007 Lisboa
Portugal**

MORE:

Now, after a manhunt spanning three continents that often appeared to run cold, the FBI has finally found George Wright.

At age 68, he was living quietly in the resort of Sintra near Lisbon in Portugal when he was arrested Monday.

The United States is seeking his extradition from Portugal to serve the remainder of a 15- to 30-year sentence for murder. Portuguese judicial authorities could not be reached Tuesday for details of the extradition process.

Wright is fighting extradition, a U.S. federal agent said, and his next court appearance in Portugal is in about two weeks.

Wright's life story reads like an international crime novel. In 1962, at the age of 19, he and three associates carried out a series of robberies in New Jersey. Wright and another man shot and killed a World War II veteran in a gas station robbery in Farmingdale.

He was arrested soon afterward and, after pleading no defense, was sentenced to 15 to 30 years in prison. But in 1970, Wright escaped from Bayside State Prison in Leesburg, New Jersey, reportedly stealing the warden's car to make his getaway.

Wright made his way to Detroit, then a hotbed of militant black politics, and joined the Black Liberation Army. (He is also reputed to have made some money during this period as a part-time model, using an alias.)

On July 31, 1972, Wright and four other members of the Black Liberation Army went to Detroit airport and boarded Delta Flight 841 for Miami. Wright was dressed as a priest and carried a handgun in a hollowed-out Bible.

Airport security was different in those days. Various Palestinian groups were hijacking planes regularly, as were individuals keen to go to Cuba. Altogether, the U.S. Department of Transportation recorded 364 hijackings worldwide between 1968 and 1972: more than one a week on average.

The hijackers of Delta 841 -- three men and two women accompanied by three children -- seized the plane as it approached Miami. The FBI says "subsequent investigation identified Wright as one of the hijackers."

Once on the ground, the hijackers demanded that FBI agents dressed only in bathing suits deliver \$1 million ransom to the plane. They wanted to be sure the agents were not carrying guns. The money was duly delivered by the scantily clad agents.

The hijackers allowed the 88 passengers off but kept the flight crew on board and ordered that the plane fly to Boston. With the addition of an extra navigator (wearing swim trunks and a shirt), the DC-8 was refueled there and flew on to Algiers.

Algeria in the early 1970s was run by a hard-line socialist government that was no friend of the United States and allowed various dissidents, militants and alleged terrorists to take sanctuary there. A leading member of the Black Panthers, Eldridge Cleaver, had been welcomed as a political refugee there in 1968 after jumping bail in California.

The Algerian government confiscated and returned the \$1 million in ransom money to the U.S., but Wright and his associates melted away. Some of the hijackers were arrested in Paris in 1976, but for decades, there was no trace of Wright.

Then, nine years ago, a fugitive investigator with the New Jersey Department of Corrections working with the U.S. Marshals Service got a lead. Officials won't comment on reports that Wright had begun to contact relatives in the United States.

Juan Mattos, U.S. marshal for the District of New Jersey, said: "Over the course of nine years, their tenacious resolve has proven to be very powerful in seeking justice and closure for the victims."

And in a press release Tuesday, Michael Ward of the FBI's Newark Division said the case should "serve notice that the FBI's determination in pursuing subjects will not diminish over time or distance."

At the time of the hijacking, there was limited screening of passengers at U.S. airports. This screening system did not require every passenger to be examined, only those who met a profile established by the Federal Aviation Administration.

After the Algiers flight and several hijackings that turned violent, the Nixon administration instructed the FAA to adopt emergency regulations to improve screening. At the end of 1972, the FAA ordered airports to ensure that all passengers and their carry-on baggage be inspected before boarding.

27 Sept - Two Arrested For Protesting Wolf Slaughter

For nearly an hour and a half September 27th, protestors took over the front entrance of the Department of Fish and Wildlife in Salem, Oregon. They were later arrested and we'll have updates as they emerge. For now, we've included a corporate news piece about the action below.

MORE:

"We've tried everything from phone calls to the governor, phone calls here, letter writing, protests. Finally today, it ended with an act of civil disobedience," said Tim Hitchins, with the Portland Animal Defense League.

On Friday, the ODFW issued a press release stating they will be killing two wolves after a GPS collar confirmed they were involved in the killing of an owner's calf in Eastern Oregon.

ODFW says this wolf pack, called the Imnaha pack, is responsible for killing at least 14 livestock animals since the middle of last year. The department plans to kill the alpha male and a second wolf, leaving behind a female wolf and her cub.

"We're continuing to move forward with the removal of these wolves," said Roger Fuhrman, with ODFW.

"We're trying to find that balance between conserving wolves and bringing them back and balancing the interest of livestock land owners."

Wolves in the area were taken off the federal endangered species act in May. Wildlife advocates said Tuesday the ODFW should concentrate on conservation, not killing.

"Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is supposed to represent all Oregonians, and all Oregonians value native wildlife, they value wolves, and it seems like the state is doing the bidding of a small number of anti-wolf, anti-wildlife voices," said wildlife advocate Rob Klavins.

Two protesters fastened bike locks around their necks and locked themselves to the front doors of the ODFW building as people tried to enter. After an hour and a half, police stepped in and removed the door handles to arrest them.

"They full know well that they were likely going to get arrested today. And, I'm sure they feel proud of what they did," Hitchins said.

Justin Kay and Stephanie Taylor, both from southeast Portland, were arrested on charges of disorderly conduct, trespassing and obstructing governmental or judicial administration.

28 Sept – California Prison Hunger Strike Resumes, Quickly Spreads to 6,000 Strikers

Lawyers & mediators of Prisoner Hunger Strike Solidarity's mediation team confirm that at least 6,000 prisoners throughout CA are resuming the hunger strike that originally began in July. The CDCR refuses to release where prisoners are striking exactly, and how many prisoners are striking at each prison. Their support also has a twitter feed that can be followed @CAHungerStrike.

MORE:

We know that hundreds of prisoners in the **General Population at Calipatria** are joining the hunger strike for one week in solidarity with 200 hunger strikers in **Calipatria's two Administrative Segregation Units (Ad-Seg & ASU)**, bringing Calipatria's numbers up to 500-1,000 hunger strikers.

Family members have also reported prisoners are striking at **CCI Tehachapi's Security Housing Unit (SHU)**, demanding that [the five core demands written by hunger strikers at Pelican Bay](#) be implemented for *all* SHU-status prisoners in CA. Prisoners at **Centinela** have also joined the hunger strike again in solidarity with SHU-status prisoners across the state.

[Prisoners at West Valley Detention Center are refusing state-issued food in solidarity with SHU-Status hunger strikers across the state as well.](#) (West Valley prides itself as being one of the largest county jails in CA. The majority of people locked up at West Valley are pre-trial prisoners.)

From Security Housing Units to County Jails, conditions of imprisonment in California are horrendous, ridden with medical neglect & overcrowding as condemned by [the US Supreme Court in the May ruling that found the CDCR to be in violation of the Eighth Amendment's prohibition cruel and unusual punishment.](#) The expansion of the strike demonstrates that CDCR's atrocious practices and brutal conditions are in fact a system-wide issue and endemic of the CDCR.

Support the prisoners in winning their demands! [Call Governor Jerry Brown & urge him to make the CDCR comply with the prisoners demands!](#)

29 Sept – Robert Seth Hayes Wins Administrative Parole Appeal

We heard from Cheryl Kates, Seth's attorney, that he won his administrative appeal and will get a new hearing before the parole board.

29 Sept - Prisoner Hunger Strike Grows to Nearly 12,000

Numbers released by the federal receiver's office show that on September 29th, nearly 12,000 prisoners were on hunger strike, including California prisoners who are housed in out of state prisons in Arizona, Mississippi and Oklahoma.

MORE:

This historic and unprecedented number shows the strength and resolve of the prisoners to win their 5 core demands and is a serious challenge to the power of the California prison system and to the Prison Industrial Complex in general.

Prisoners are currently on strike in Pelican Bay State Prison, Calipatria, Centinela, Corcoran, Ironwood State Prison, Kern Valley State Prison, North Kern State Prison, and Salinas Valley State Prison. Throughout the last week prisoners at California Rehabilitation Center in Norco, Pleasant Valley State Prison, San Quentin as well as West Valley Detention Center in San Bernadino County were participating.

The receiver's office and the CDCR begin monitoring prisoners who have refused food for 72 hours or for 9 consecutive meals. Representatives of the hunger strikers have previously stated that this will be a rolling strike, allowing prisoners to come off strike to regain strength. Because of this, numbers will likely fluctuate throughout the duration of the strike.

1 Oct – Over 700 Arrested on Brooklyn Bridge During Occupy Wall Street March

In a tense showdown above the East River, the police arrested more than 700 demonstrators from the Occupy Wall Street protests who took to the roadway as they tried to cross the Brooklyn Bridge on Saturday, October 1st. If you or anyone you know was arrested, or has been arrested during any of the Occupy Wall Street demonstrations, make sure they get in touch with the National Lawyers Guild or the NYC People's Law Collective.

MORE:

The police said it was the marchers' choice that led to the enforcement action.

"Protesters who used the Brooklyn Bridge walkway were not arrested," Paul J. Browne, the chief spokesman for the New York Police Department, said. "Those who took over the Brooklyn-bound roadway, and impeded vehicle traffic, were arrested."

But many protesters said they believed the police had tricked them, allowing them onto the bridge, and even escorting them partway across, only to trap them in orange netting after hundreds had entered.

"The cops watched and did nothing, indeed, seemed to guide us onto the roadway," said Jesse A. Myerson, a media coordinator for Occupy Wall Street who marched but was not arrested.

A video on the YouTube page of a group called We Are Change shows some of the arrests.

Around 1 a.m., the first of the protesters held at the Midtown North Precinct on West 54th Street were released. They were met with cheers from about a half-dozen supporters who said they had been waiting as a show of solidarity since 6 p.m. for around 75 people they believed were held there. Every 10 to 15 minutes, they trickled out into a night far chillier than the afternoon on the bridge, each clutching several thin slips of paper — their summonses, for violations like disorderly conduct and blocking vehicular traffic. The first words many spoke made the group laugh: all variations on "I need a cigarette."

David Gutkin, 24, a Ph.D. student in musicology at Columbia University, was among the first released. He said that after being corralled and arrested on the bridge, he was put into plastic handcuffs and moved to what appeared to be a Metropolitan Transportation Authority bus, along with dozens of other protesters, for over four hours. They headed first into Brooklyn and then to several locations in Manhattan before arriving at the 54th Street precinct.

Men and women had been held separately, two or three to a cell. A few said they had been zip-tied the entire time. "We sang 'This Little Light of Mine,' " said Annie Day, 34, who when asked her profession said, "I'm a revolutionary." Ms. Day was wearing laceless Converse sneakers: police had required the removal of all laces as well as her belt. She rethreaded them on the pavement while a man who identified himself as a lawyer took each newly freed person's name.

None of the protesters interviewed knew if the bridge march was planned or a spontaneous decision by the crowd. But all insisted that the police had made no mention that the roadway was off limits. Ms. Day and several

others said that police officers had walked beside the crowd until the group reached about midway, then without warning began to corral the protesters behind orange nets.

The scene outside the Midtown South Precinct on West 35th Street around 2 a.m. was far more jovial. Only about 15 of the rumored 57 people had been released, but about a dozen waiting supporters danced jigs in the street to keep warm. They snacked on pizza. One even drank Coors Light beer, stashing the empty bottles under a parked police van. When a fresh protester was released, he or she ran through a gantlet formed by the waiting group, like a football player bursting onto the field during the Super Bowl. “This is so much better than prison!” one cheered.

“It’s cold,” said Rebecca Solow, 27, rubbing her arms as she waited on the sidewalk, “but every time one is released, it warms you up.”

The march on the bridge had come to a head shortly after 4 p.m., as the 1,500 or so marchers reached the foot of the Brooklyn-bound car lanes of the bridge, just east of City Hall.

In their march north from Zuccotti Park in Lower Manhattan — headquarters for the last two weeks of a protest movement against what demonstrators call inequities in the economic system — they had stayed on the sidewalks, forming a long column of humanity penned in by officers on scooters.

Where the entrance to the bridge narrowed their path, some marchers, including organizers, stuck to the generally agreed-upon route and headed up onto the wooden walkway that runs between and about 15 feet above the bridge’s traffic lanes.

But about 20 others headed for the Brooklyn-bound roadway, said Christopher T. Dunn of the New York Civil Liberties Union, who accompanied the march. Some of them chanted “take the bridge.” They were met by a handful of high-level police supervisors, who blocked the way and announced repeatedly through bullhorns that the marchers were blocking the roadway and that if they continued to do so, they would be subject to arrest.

There were no physical barriers, though, and at one point, the marchers began walking up the roadway with the police commanders in front of them – seeming, from a distance, as if they were leading the way. The Chief of Department Joseph J. Esposito, and a horde of other white-shirted commanders, were among them. Police secured some protesters’ hands with plastic ties. Ozier Muhammad/The New York Times Police secured some protesters’ hands with plastic ties.

After allowing the protesters to walk about a third of the way to Brooklyn, the police then cut the marchers off and surrounded them with orange nets on both sides, trapping hundreds of people, said Mr. Dunn. As protesters at times chanted “white shirts, white shirts,” officers began making arrests, at one point plunging briefly into the crowd to grab a man.

The police said that those arrested were taken to several police stations and were being charged with disorderly conduct, at a minimum. A police spokesman said some protesters — mostly those without identification — were still “going through the system” late Sunday morning.

A freelance reporter for The New York Times, Natasha Lennard, was among those arrested. She was later released.

Mr. Dunn said only people at the very front could hear the warning, and he was concerned that those in the back “would have had no idea that it was not O.K. to walk on the roadway of the bridge.” Mr. Browne said that people who were in the rear of the crowd that may not have heard the warnings were not arrested and were free to leave.

Earlier in the afternoon, as many as 10 Department of Correction buses, big enough to hold 20 prisoners apiece, had been dispatched from Rikers Island in what one law enforcement official said was “a planned move on the protesters.”

Etan Ben-Ami, 56, a psychotherapist from Brooklyn who was up on the walkway, said that the police seemed to make a conscious decision to allow the protesters to claim the road. “They weren’t pushed back,” he said. “It seemed that they moved at the same time.”

Mr. Ben-Ami said he left the walkway and joined the crowd on the road. “It seemed completely permitted,” he said. “There wasn’t a single policeman saying ‘don’t do this’.”

He added: “We thought they were escorting us because they wanted us to be safe.” He left the bridge when he saw officers unrolling the nets as they prepared to make arrests. Many others who had been on the roadway were allowed to walk back down to Manhattan.

Mr. Browne said that the police did not trick the protesters into going onto the bridge.

“This was not a trap,” he said. “They were warned not to proceed.”

In related protests elsewhere in the country, 25 people were arrested in Boston for trespassing while protesting Bank of America’s foreclosure practices, according to Eddy Chrispin, a spokesman for the Boston Police Department. The protesters were on the grounds and blocking the entrance to the building, Mr. Chrispin said.

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, speaking briefly before marching in the Pulaski Day Parade in Manhattan on Sunday, also defended the police’s actions.

“The police did exactly what they were supposed to do,” the mayor said, noting that those who march without the city’s permission would continue to get summonses. “It’s very easy to get a permit,” he added.

As the morning wore on, Zuccotti Park had the hallmarks of Sundays the world over. There was brunch: someone had donated bagels and lox. There was the morning paper: protesters who had camped for the night read the self-published newspaper “The Occupied Wall Street Journal,” some snuggled the metallic blankets usually worn by marathon runners. One man brushed his teeth without water, standing up.

The scene was largely quiet, save a man in a fedora freestyle rapping with drummers in the east corner of the park. Many of those who had been arrested returned at about 3 a.m. to a heroes reception, said Rick DeVoe, 54, from East Hampton, Mass. They were sleeping in.

“It’s not always at a fever pitch,” Mr. DeVoe said. “It’s not easy sleeping out, it’s not easy going to jail.”

Quiet political discussions continued around the sleepers. One woman gave a pep talk to what looked like a new recruit. “It’s about taking down systems, it doesn’t matter what you’re protesting,” she said. “Just protest.”

Some tourists wandered in between the makeshift beds and volunteers sweeping up cigarette butts. A man visiting from Virginia and his 4-year-old son snapped photos, as did an elderly couple passing through.

3 Oct – As Prisoner Hunger Strike Begins 8th Day CDCR Bars Family Member Visits

Just as the update reads, with over 12,000 prisoners on hunger strike, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation [sic] has retaliated by barring family visits. A more recent update indicates that they have also barred conversations between prisoners and their attorneys. We’ve attached more complete updates below.

MORE:

As the renewed prisoner hunger strike enters its second week, the federal receiver’s office released information that at least 12,000 prisoners were participating during the first week. Prisoners are continuing a hunger strike

that they temporarily suspended in July. Originating from Security Housing Units (SHUs) and Administrative Segregation Units (Ad-Seg) across California, prisoners held at Pelican Bay State Prison, Calipatria, Centinela, Corcoran, Ironwood, Kern Valley, North Kern, Salinas Valley, California Rehabilitation Center in Norco, Pleasant Valley State Prison, San Quentin as well as West Valley Detention Center in San Bernadino County are currently participating. Over 3,000 California prisoners held in out-of-state facilities in Arizona, Mississippi and Oklahoma have also refused food.

“This is the largest prisoner strike of any kind in recent US history,” says Ron Ahnen of California Prison Focus, “The fact that so many prisoners are participating highlights the extreme conditions in all of California’s prisons as well as the historic opportunity the state has been given to make substantial changes to SHU and Ad-Seg policies.”

Family members of striking SHU prisoners reported that their visits this weekend were denied by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) who cited security concerns. “A number of family members received notice that they were not going to be allowed to see their loved ones as long as the strike continues,” says Dolores Canales who has a son in the Pelican Bay SHU, “Denying visits only heightens the isolation that the prisoners and family members experience, especially at this critical time.”

Advocates and lawyers have expressed concern that banning visits, along with other tactics including the possibility of violence on the part of CDCR are being used in attempt to break the strike. “Historically, prison officials have used extreme measures, including physical violence to break strikes,” says Dorsey Nunn, executive director of Legal Services for Prisoners with Children and a member of the mediation team working on behalf of the strikers. “As this peaceful protest continues, it’s essential for lawmakers and the media to monitor the actions of CDCR. The department should not be allowed to use underhanded methods to resolve the strike.” Late last week two of the mediation team’s lawyers were banned from CDCR facilities with the prison administration citing unnamed “security threats.”

The prisoners resumed their hunger strike on September 26 after the CDCR failed to address demands made when prisoners originally went on strike for almost the entire month of July. They have also reported heightened levels of intimidation and retaliation from prison officials since July. Prisoners are demanding changes to long-term solitary confinement, gang validation and debriefing processes, and other conditions in the state’s Security Housing Units as well as in other parts of the prison system. Representatives of the hunger strikers have indicated that this may be a rolling strike, with prisoners coming on and off strike periodically, allowing for the possibility of a protracted struggle. Activists and family members internationally are planning protests in support of the hunger strikers in the coming weeks. For continued updates and more information, please visit www.prisonerhungerstrikesolidarity.wordpress.com

STATEMENT FROM CALIPATRIA SEGREGATION HUNGER STRIKERS:

From Calipatria ASU: SOLIDARITY IN PROTEST:

We are currently housed in Calipatria State Prison, in Southern California, where hundreds of men are going on day 8 of a "solid food hunger strike" in protest of the cruel and unusual punishment and the abuse of authority this prison has been doing.

For over 20 years CDCR (California Department of Corrections and -- "so called" - Rehabilitation) has been targeting all races amongst its prison population and handing out "indeterminate sentences" in segregation like it's the thing to do. This means that we're being placed in solitary confinement against our will secluded from the world - isolation. We are labeled as validated gang members who are alleged to have ties with prison gangs.

CDCR has their institutional gang investigators (I.G.I.) determine whether a person's a "validated gang member" or not. They have been known to be conspiring with one another and fabricating evidence to falsely prove a validation. Their main sources are debriefers (snitches) who will sell out their own mother if they had to once

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validated, one can only find their way out of this "torturous and inhumane" act of punishment by breaking people down by giving us three options - "Parole, Debrief, or DIE".

It costs tax payers \$56,000 to house an individual in segregation annually and there's over 3,000 "clients" confined in isolation. Do the math. What we have here is CDCR's vague and misconstrued justification of their interpretation to their policies. Their objective to validating us as "prison gang members" isn't to protect the General Population, rather to insure and guarantee that Hotel California's Segregation Units have no vacancies so CDCR can keep those fat checks rolling in.

Like we mentioned in the beginning, we write this with inspiration from reading about the men and women standing up in unity to peacefully protest for what they believe in. As the world revolves so does the generation of human rights. It doesn't always take war to get your point across, which is why we stand strong in solidarity on this hunger strike.

We have three options... and if our voices aren't heard the third option will be the likely one.

Medical Conditions of Hunger Strikers Worsen, Strikers & Supporters Keep Fighting Back

Numbers of hunger strikers began to drop this week after the CDCR intensified [retaliation](#) on the strike. The hunger strike representatives at Pelican Bay who were kept in the D Corridor of the SHU were moved to Administrative Segregation at Pelican Bay. Lawyers who were finally able to have one visit last week ([after some lawyers of the prisoners' mediation team have been banned](#)) report that the CDCR has the air conditioning on high in 50 degree weather. The hunger strike representatives continue to be willing to risk their lives in order to win the [5 core demands](#).

The CDCR's numbers also appear to be low due to guards falsifying records of hunger strikers. At Calipatria, for instance, hunger strikers report they were finally given their liquids after filing medical requests (even though they were still denied liquids for the first several days of the strike). Now, however, guards have been delivering liquids on the prisoners' food trays. Once strikers take the liquids off of the trays, the guards record they are not striking (CDCR counts strikers based on who touches the state-issued food trays and who doesn't).

Medical conditions are also worsening for strikers throughout the state. We've received reports that after 12 days of no food, prisoners are once again losing severe weight and fainting. One hunger striker at Pelican Bay was denied his medication and consequently suffered from a heart attack and is now in an outside hospital in Oregon.

Family & community members continue to support the hunger strikers by holding rallies, community events and vigils, publicizing the courageous action inside prison and building pressure on representatives to intervene in the CDCR's handling of the strike.

Families of SHU prisoners are calling for supporters everywhere to hold mass vigils in support of the hunger strikers on Thursday nights. If you can organize a vigil in your community, please email [prisonerhungerstrikesolidarity\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:prisonerhungerstrikesolidarity[at]gmail.com).

5 Oct – Dozens Beaten, Arrested at Occupy Wall Street March

Around 30 people were arrested in the Wall Street area around the various Occupy Wall Street marches. A number of them were released on DATs and Summonses in the early morning hours, but at least 12 people were held for longer in the Tombs, waiting to be arraigned. All but one, who had an outstanding warrant, were released on their own recognizance, others had their charges immediately dropped.

7 Oct - René González Released from Prison, Unable to Leave the United States

At 4:30 am, October 7th, the first of the five Cuban antiterrorist fighters in US soil was released from the Florida prison where he spent 13 years. However, René is to remain in the United States during three years of

supervised release. Gonzalez walked out of prison and was welcomed by his daughters Irma and Ivette, his brother Roberto, his father Candido and his lawyer.

9 Oct – A Message From Walter Bond’s Mother

We received a message from Walter’s support crew and it included a new piece to be included in his upcoming book. This piece, however, is by Walter’s mom. It’s titled “A Mother’s Reflection:”

MORE:

My name is Mickie. Walter Bond is my son. He is a Prisoner Of War for his defense of the Animal Nations. He has been reviled by the press and by those who do not wish to have their consciences tampered with, thereby allowing them to continue to accept the blindness society needs in order for the machine to continue to grind along.

Walter Bond was born a warrior; he did not choose it because he found a worthy or righteous cause. A warrior is born with a fire inside and a need to right wrongs. He is born with a compassion and caring rooted so deeply that it is difficult to walk away from any sort of cruelty, whether it involves the people, the Animal Nations, the oceans and seas or the whole of Mother Earth and Father Sky.

Webster’s Dictionary’s definition of “warrior” is as follows: 1) a person engaged or experienced in warfare; soldier 2) a person who shows or has shown great vigor, courage or aggressiveness.

Yes, Walter Bond is a warrior. As his mother, I am very proud. As his mother, I want to rant and rave at the world at large. I want to tell them that America is not this politically correct, sensitive, caring place filled with heroes. Why does heroism only apply to humans? Why is little Johnny a hero for helping the elderly lady next door carry her groceries, or help her cross the busy street, or shovel her walkway after a snowfall -- but Walter Bond risks his life and his future to spare animals from imprisonment, torture, horrific daily abuses and is labeled a terrorist, a threat to the well-being of America?

We hear phrases about “the Greening of America,” which of course is a fallacy. You hear of all the different appliances that save energy and are kind to the environment. You hear about new sources of energy that are environmentally “friendly,” safer building materials, environmentally friendly automobiles, etc. – until your head feels like it wants to explode. The bottom line is that you will then leave a smaller “carbon footprint.” What an inane statement that is.

First and foremost, these statements – or rather elitist philosophies – are geared (of course) toward the power mongers. They are the only ones who can afford the twenty, thirty or forty thousand dollars it would take to remodel their homes and turn them into green palaces. An environmentally-friendly home to help save Mother Earth... the Greening of America... what a load of crap. But please let me be politically correct, “what a load of Green Crap.”

The machines grind on, the slaughterhouses keep up their daily executions, the so-called research labs continue their torture on the most innocent beings on the earth. After all, without animal testing the cosmetics companies wouldn’t be able to insure that the bottle of makeup you just purchased really will hide your blemishes or wrinkles or uneven skin tone, etc., ad nauseum.

Next up is “the dumbing-down of America.” Here is my favorite example: politicians. At this point, how can people have faith in any of them? They appear standing on bales of hay, wearing their brand new checkered cotton shirts, brand new jeans and straw summer cowboy hats, and tell you they are just like you... just a hard-working American with simple roots ... memories of fishing down by the “ol’ fishing hole” dancing in their heads.

Amazingly, people still believe in them. Folks, look down a little further and you will see that at the bottom of those Levi pant legs, he’s wearing \$1,000 leather shoes. The only place he’s having memories of growing up

living that hard-scrabble, yet fulfilling simple life is on his private jet, limo or his third, fourth or fifth summer home, while he is enjoying an afternoon cup of tea.

Here is my own personal observation about the submissiveness of the world: People seem to have given away their power, their uniqueness, their confidence in their beliefs and blindly follow the media, politicians and the mainstream consensus.

I consider what passes for civilization these days to be laughable. I suppose that people as a whole can say, "we live in a civilized state," but do we?... really?

In the Webster's Dictionary, I found two meanings for the word civilized: 1) having an advanced or humane culture, society, etc. 2) easy to manage or control. Here I will put in writing two examples for these definitions, as I understand them...

1) I live in the Alaskan Wilderness with my man, who is my imperfect best friend. We live with our two wolves, which honor us with their presence every day. We live in a one-room cabin with a loft. We haul water, use an outhouse. Like all animals in the wild, we are part of the food chain. Like all animals who live in harmony with our Mother Earth, we respect each other's territories. We mind to our own ways and sometimes we fight each other to survive or sometimes we simply let the other know "this is my territory... you must leave." We all endure our struggles with the winter snows, the cold, the summer floods, the river's rage. Some of us live through these times, some of us do not. These are the cycles of Mother Earth for the two-leggeds, the four-leggeds and our flying relatives. We risk, we struggle, we enjoy the bounties of our Mother. We survive from year to year, or not. These are the natural rhythms of life. I chose this life because it is a truly civilized society – balanced, humane, respectful of the Mother of us all. All animals have the right to be free, to live and die on their own terms, because of their ability to survive, not caged from birth to feed the lazy and the gluttonous.

There is that other definition of civilized: 2) easy to manage and control.

Watch out folks, the edible ones first... who's second? Do people packed into apartments in overcrowded cities with just enough money or means to get by, but not enough to move themselves or their children into happy, healthy natural environments ring a bell?... Easy to control?

How do I feel about my son being imprisoned for standing up for those without a voice, without power to fight back, those whose suffering doesn't end until death grants them mercy?

I feel at peace and successful as a parent, because when it is time for me to make the spirit journey, I will know the Animal Nations have a truly civilized human being among them – Walter Bond.

And so it is...
Mickie Coyote

13 Oct - Attend Walter Bond's October 13th sentencing in Salt Lake City!

It sounds really stupid, but popularity counts in courtrooms. It is very important that people show up in person to these hearings to show support for the safety of the accused...The lawyers who have been interviewed... said that judges do not like being watched... and if you show they are being watched, they behave differently...pack that courtroom with family and friends to make the judge know he/she will be watched every step of the way. Lawyers interviewed about this also said it was important to pack the courtroom to humanize the accused past an identity solely reliant on the accused crime. In court, they automatically label the plaintiff the "victim," etc. and it is very manipulative language use.

WHEN: Thursday, October 13, 2011 at 3:00 pm

WHERE: Room 142, 1st Floor, U.S. District Court, 350 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah

MORE:

Join other supporters in the Salt Lake City courtroom where Walter Bond will be sentenced for A.L.F. actions targeting 2 businesses that profit from animal torture and death!

This is an opportunity to stand by prisoner-of-war Walter Bond, observe courtroom proceedings first-hand, and show the press that abolitionists support Walter 100%.

15 Oct – COINTELPRO 101 – A Benefit for Sekou Odinga

WHAT: Benefit for Sekou Odinga

WHEN: 6:00-10:00pm, Saturday, October 15th, 2011

WHERE: Riverside Church (490 Riverside Drive, Manhattan)

COST: Donations plus \$5 for Dinner

We have palm cards for this event. Please take and distribute them.

Panelists: Anochi Odinga, Jill Soffiyah Elijah, Andrew of NYC ABC, Others to be Announced

Invited Guests: M1, Bilal Sunni-Ali, George Edward Tait

MORE:

Beginning in the 1950s with a focus on the Puerto Rican independence movement and continuing through the 1960s and into the 1970s when much of its focus had shifted to the Black Liberation, Chicano Liberation and American Indian Movements, COINTELPRO racked up a number of assassinations, false imprisonments and ruined lives. No government official was ever punished for actions taken under the program's auspices. The film by Freedom Archives details this history through the artful use of still photos and moving images of the period covered. Films of police attacks and protests; still photos of revolutionary leaders and police murders graphically remind the viewer of Washington's willingness to do whatever it takes to maintain its control. Organizers who began their political activity during the time of Cointelpro discuss the effect the program had on them and the organizations and individuals they worked with. Indeed, several of the interviewees were themselves targets and spent years in prison (some under false accusations, as in the case of Geronimo ji-Jaga Pratt) or on the run.

Former Black Panther member Kathleen Cleaver states toward the end of the film that Cointelpro represented the efforts of a political police force making the decision as to what is allowed politically and what is not. Anything outside the parameters set by this force was fair game. Nothing that was done by government officials or private groups and individuals acting on the government's behalf was perceived as wrong or illegal. As Attorney Bob Boyle makes clear in his final statement in the film, Cointelpro is alive and well. The only difference now is that most of what was illegal for the government to do during Cointelpro's official existence is now legal. The PATRIOT Act and other laws associated with the creation of the Department of Homeland Security have insured this.

Cointelpro 101 is a well made and appealing primer on the history of the US police state. Produced, written and directed by individuals who have themselves been the target of tactics documented in the film, it has an authenticity and immediacy that pulls the viewer in. Although too short to cover the history in as full detail as some may desire, the film's intelligence and conscientious presentation of the historical narrative makes it a film that the student, the citizen and the activist can all appreciate.

4 Feb 2012 - International Day of Solidarity with Leonard Peltier

Yes, this is VERY EARLY, but we're encouraging folks to start planning their protests now. The Leonard Peltier Defense Offense Committee calls on supporters worldwide to protest against the injustice suffered by Indigenous activist Leonard Peltier. Gather on February 4, 2012, at every federal court house and U.S. embassy or consulate worldwide to demand the freedom of a man wrongfully convicted and illegal imprisoned for 36 years.

Compiled by NYC ABC

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MORE:

Leonard Peltier is a Native American activist wrongfully accused in 1975 in connection with the shooting deaths of two agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Government documents show that, without any evidence at all, the FBI decided from the beginning of its investigation to 'lock Peltier into the case'.

U.S. prosecutors knowingly presented false statements to a Canadian court to extradite Mr. Peltier to the U.S. The statements were signed by a woman who was forced by FBI agents to say she was an eyewitness. The government has long since admitted that the woman was not present during the shootings.

Meanwhile, in a separate trial in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Mr. Peltier's co-defendants were acquitted by reason of self defense. Had Leonard been tried with his co-defendants, he also would have been acquitted.

Unhappy with the outcome of the Cedar Rapids trial, prosecutors set the stage for Mr. Peltier's conviction. His trial was moved to an area known for its anti-Indian sentiment—Fargo, North Dakota. The trial judge had a reputation for ruling against Indians, and a juror is known to have made racist comments during Mr. Peltier's trial.

FBI documents prove that the U.S. government went so far as to manufacture the so-called murder weapon, the most critical evidence in the prosecution's case. A ballistics test proved, however, that the gun and shell casings entered into evidence didn't match. The FBI hid this fact from the jury. Mr. Peltier was convicted and sentenced to two consecutive life terms. According to court records, the United States Attorney who prosecuted the case has twice admitted that no one even knows who fired the fatal shots.

Leonard Peltier is 67 years old and in poor health. An accomplished author and artist, Mr. Peltier is renowned for his humanitarian achievements. In 2009, Leonard was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for the sixth consecutive year.

Although the courts have acknowledged evidence of government misconduct—including forcing witnesses to lie and hiding ballistics evidence reflecting his innocence—Mr. Peltier has been denied a new trial on a legal technicality. Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu, 55 Members of Congress and others—including a judge who sat as a member of the court in two of Mr. Peltier's appeals—have all called for his immediate release.

The Courts may not be able to act but Barack Obama, as President, can. Please join with us to free an innocent man. On February 4, 2012, tell Obama to grant clemency to Leonard Peltier.

Scheduled events will be announced and details provided at www.whoisleonardpeltier.info.