

Updates for November 22nd

2 Nov - Asheville March in Solidarity with Occupy Oakland faces repression

On November 2nd A diversity of rebels came together and accomplished what we see as the most successful Occupy Asheville-related protest to date. In solidarity with the General Strike in Oakland California, and in honor of Scott Olsen we took the streets without permission, marched for over half an hour and most importantly, we had the courage to not be intimidated into submission when the police repeatedly tried to force us onto the sidewalk. In a further gesture of defiance 24 people were later arrested at a post-march vigil for Scott Olsen, for refusing to disperse from the park after its 10pm close time.

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As organizers of the march and as anarchists, we applaud this boldness as a positive step toward building strong, independent communities. The more we broke the rules and ignored the police, the more we built the strength of our growing movement. People power is the opposite of state power. We know this and the police certainly know this. That is why Scott Olsen was shot in the head and this systematic brutality is also what propelled Oakland to respond with the wildly successful and inspiring General Strike. Perhaps this also explains the Asheville Police Departments heavy-handed reaction to our march.

It is important to emphasize that this was the largest unpermitted march Asheville has seen since the anti-war protests of 2003 and although anarchists have taken the streets several times in the past few years, this was a far larger and more diverse group of people than any other similar action as of late. It is clear that something has shifted and that the occupation movement has helped inspire a new generation of struggle.

On Saturday, three days after the march, the word began circulating that retaliatory arrests had been and are being made. The police have begun issuing warrants and snatching people off of the street and from the General Assemblies, using a folder of photographs they compiled from the protest to identify and arrest alleged participants. Heavy surveillance techniques on the day of the march included at least two identified undercovers, as well as multiple agents photographing and recording video. We suspect that this level of surveillance and repression in response to a street march, is related to law enforcements preparation for next summers Democratic National Convention in Charlotte.

Occupy Asheville has released this information on Saturdays arrests:

“Arrestees include Natalie Nicolay, Joseph 'Virato' Bacanskas, Terry Whittey, and Lisa Landis. They all have been charged with Obstructing the Flow of Traffic, Unlawful Assembly with the common intent to commit disorderly acts, and Resist, Delaying, and Obstructing a Police Officer. Terry Whittey has a fourth charge, wearing a mask at a public demonstration.”

As of Sunday evening, reports are circulating about additional arrests.

The fact that police are coordinating a round up after the march while no arrests were attempted during it, has raised many questions. Some of our questions were answered by one arrestee who quoted an officer as saying they “were instructed by a sergeant to instead pull them away and arrest them individually to 'avoid causing a scene'." This information shows that the police seek to implement their repression in secret to avoid public scrutiny and the negative PR associated with such repression, as well as the possibility of galvanizing a stronger resistance. To us this looks like fascism.

Contrary to the efforts of the states hired thugs, they are in fact galvanizing a stronger resistance. We will continue to organize to take control of our own lives and we will stand together against the police, against their witch hunts and against the masters they serve. We ask for your solidarity as we do so.

3 Nov - Activist Chris Lagergren Facing Additional, Felony Charge

On September 10, Chris Lagergren was arrested at gunpoint in Key Largo by Sgt. Javier Ortiz — an officer with a history of misconduct and brutality. He was charged with three misdemeanors: 2 counts of Trespass and 1 count of Criminal Mischief. Weeks later, prosecutors have seemingly pulled a felony count out of thin air: under the Florida Animal Enterprise Protection Act, he was charged under Statute 828.42 “Animal enterprise disruption”. Although an arraignment date has not been set, Chris now faces three separate trials in the Circuit Courts and, possibly, 7 years if convicted.

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His alleged crimes include taking pictures of pilot whales at the Marine Mammal Conservancy and allegedly tampering with a fence. It is interesting to note that the prosecutors offered no further evidence or grounds upon which this new charge is predicated. But, clearly, Florida prosecutors are determined to make an example of Chris and, therefore, it is incumbent upon every one of us to make sure he has an adequate and effective defense team.

5 Nov – Jalil Muntaqim – Occupy Wall Street...A Movement?

Political prisoner Jalil Muntaqim has a new blog entry regarding the OWS. Part of his intention with these writings is to spark discussion. Write to him with your response to this piece.

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The Civil Rights struggle was a movement. The Black Power struggle was a movement. The Anti-Vietnam War struggle was a movement. Each of these struggles had definitive goals, objectives and defined demands; they each had representative leadership able to articulate their demands; and just as importantly, they had national organizational development and direction. To date, Occupy Wall Street (OWS) has none of these, but rather a decentralized protest CAMPAIGN that has touched and manifested a sentiment and tendency of mass disaffection with this capitalist system.

Although OWS has identified and struck a cord with a large segment of the U.S. populace, OWS is not anti-capitalist, it is not anti-imperialist, and it is not revolutionary. While these elements and sentiments are within these political campaigns, for the most part, OWS is a social-democratic reformist campaign. However, because OWS has directly challenged the plutocratic reality of corporate America, it is a campaign to be reckoned with. By raising the economic inequality of this government, OWS points directly to the heart of the problem, the disenfranchisement of working people. It is the height of defiance to the system of government, raising consciousness and expression of rebellion.

However, unless OWS gets organized nationally, develops a national agenda, and identifies national representatives, these protest campaigns run the risk of being co-opted, diverted and destroyed by the many-faceted counter-intelligence, counter-insurgency tactics of the government. The greater likelihood is OWS will be influenced by “capitalist” civil rights personages who will get media coverage seeking to articulate the “meaning” of these protest campaigns. They will seek to direct OWS to preserve their long-held agendas of reform and “poverty pimp” economic plans, while keeping President Obama on speed dial. They will ensure the OWS protest campaigns evolve into an electoral protest, preserving their own ideals of what America should look like in opposition to racist right-wing legislation and enactments. OWS liberal-reformist protest campaigns offer these “civil rights” personages, organizations and non-profit entities the mass and public strength to influence the national debate under the guise of a participatory democratic process. To OWS organizers and sympathizers—a WARNING, beware of wolves in sheep’s clothing, or in this case, coyotes howling at the moon.

In this regard, it would be smart if OWS campaigners across the country organized and conducted a “National Poor and Oppressed Peoples’ Conference.” The Conference would permit the development of a national resistance organization with a national agenda, and elected representatives to articulate goals and objectives of a national determination. By doing so, OWS will evolve into a progressive movement capable of forging revolutionary changes.

This movement must become anti-capitalist, anti-imperialist and anti-racist, developing national programs such as Universal Health Care; Student and Home Owner/Worker Credit Debt Relief; Employment Enactment and Training Programs; National Wealth Distribution/Tax Program; National Environmental Preservation Program; Immigration Relief Program; Domestic Security and International Anti-Aggression Protection Act; Natural Resource and Energy Commission; Social Justice and Penal Redemption Program (to include the demand for the amnesty and release of U.S. political prisoners), to name a few of the issues to be made part of a national agenda. The National Poor and Oppressed Peoples' Conference would formulate these issues into a national agenda that would forge organized resistance challenging the system in a mass and popular movement.

I believe it is fair to say the decentralized and undefined OWS is presently a weak expression of poor and oppressed peoples' disenfranchisement. The government has, under the First Amendment, permitted these protests essentially as a safety valve to grant the release of dissatisfaction. As we witness, the government will use the full force of its police/military tactics to quash any violent opposition to the status quo. It then behooves OWS protest campaigners to recognize its weakness and vulnerability to provocateurs, saboteurs, and being co-opted by opportunists and reformists seeking to embellish their own legacy of civil rights capitalism. OWS protest campaigners must realize the long-term fight ahead if they sincerely seek to challenge and change America. America's plutocratic and military leaders have absolutely no intentions of relinquishing power, authority or wealth as a result of these protests. The task ahead is formidable, but a New American Revolution is possible; it is needed and necessary not only for poor and oppressed peoples in the United States, but for the billions of poor and oppressed peoples around the world.

Resisting Exploitation & Oppression is a Human Right!

In fierce struggle,
Jalil A, Muntaqim

9 Nov - 2 Richmond Anarchists Arrested with Felony Charges at Occupy Richmond

*Occupy groups all over the country continue to get raided, often resulting in multiple arrests. Oakland has responded better than most, quickly reclaiming their space and taking thousands to the streets. November 17th marked the two month anniversary of OWS and, commemorated with marches, rallies, and further occupations, was met with a coordinated repression. We've pasted some relevant articles below. **REMEMBER:** If you or your comrades are arrested, please have them get in touch with either the National Lawyer's Guild or the NYC People's Law Collective. The latter can be reached at info@nycplc.info*

MORE:

From Richmond:

Last night [November 9th], 2 good friends and members of the Richmond anarchist community were arrested during an Occupy Richmond march. Other people around them, posing no threat and in no way intervening were choked, slammed against cars, and even had a bicycle thrown at them by the Richmond Police. The events of last night were no anomaly, and instead are symptomatic of the unwarranted use of violence by police as a mainstay and default. Commanding officers were smug and relishing in the actions taken by their subordinates. We are looking for more pictures, witness accounts, and video from the police violence last night. Please email them to sbhcopwatch@gmail.com

Over 25 people came out to court this morning to support Eric Scott and Hunter Singleton at their arraignment. Unfortunately, the system had changed plans, and done their arraignments by video earlier in the day. Hunter and Eric never left lockup for the court. This underhanded move by the court is just another example of the injustice present in the system.

Despite Eric and Hunter not being present, Hunter's court appointed lawyer, Christopher Bradshaw was. The

issue at hand was a preliminary bond hearing. For Eric Scott, whose lawyer William Efird was not present, bail/bond was set at \$5,000 – Eric Scott is being charged with a Felony for allegedly wearing a mask in public, and disorderly conduct. Hunter Singleton is being charged with Felony for allegedly wearing a mask in public as well as a Felony for a controlled substance (his prescription medication) and disorderly conduct. Hunter's bail/bond was set at \$7,500.

Because Hunter's attorney was not given an opportunity to meet Hunter, there should be another bail hearing early next week, and we sincerely hope that Hunter's bail will be lowered.

The court and Commonwealth's Attorney are clearly trying to harass and intimidate by the outrageously high bail's set and the ridiculous felony charges.

[Both have been released on bail. Updates and tons of great footage at <http://wingnutrva.org>]

The Richmond Anarchist Black Cross is working on support for Eric and Hunter.

'Occupy' crackdowns coordinated with federal law enforcement officials

Over the past ten days, more than a dozen cities have moved to evict "Occupy" protesters from city parks and other public spaces. As was the case in last night's move in New York City, each of the police actions shares a number of characteristics. And according to one Justice Official, each of those actions was coordinated with help from Homeland Security, the FBI and other federal police agencies.

The official, who spoke on background to me late Monday evening, said that while local police agencies had received tactical and planning advice from national agencies, the ultimate decision on how each jurisdiction handles the Occupy protests ultimately rests with local law enforcement.

According to this official, in several recent conference calls and briefings, local police agencies were advised to seek a legal reason to evict residents of tent cities, focusing on zoning laws and existing curfew rules. Agencies were also advised to demonstrate a massive show of police force, including large numbers in riot gear. In particular, the FBI reportedly advised on press relations, with one presentation suggesting that any moves to evict protesters be coordinated for a time when the press was the least likely to be present.

The FBI has so far failed to respond to requests for an official response, and of the 14 local police agencies contacted in the past 24 hours, all have declined to respond to questions on this issue.

But in a recent interview with the BBC, Oakland Mayor Jean Quan mentioned [she was on a conference call](#) just before the recent wave of crackdowns began.

"I was recently on a conference call of 18 cities who had the same situation, where what had started as a political movement and a political encampment ended up being an encampment that was no longer in control of the people who started them."

At the time this story was updated, Mayor Quan's office had declined to discuss her comments.

At least 25 heavily armed commandos arrest eight at 'Occupy Chapel Hill'

The city of Chapel Hill, North Carolina made a name for itself over the weekend by sending at least 25 heavily armed commandos to arrest eight unarmed "Occupy" protesters who'd taken over a building left abandoned for over a decade.

Asserting what they thought were squatters' rights, about 50-75 "Occupy Chapel Hill" demonstrators broke into an abandoned Chrysler building on Saturday night, taping up banners in the windows. They screened [a film](#) and

danced into the night, with officers only making a single, brief appearance before leaving entirely.

Things changed dramatically by Sunday afternoon, when local media reported that more than 25 commandos armed with assault rifles staged a raid on the building, rushing in to find just eight protesters who'd stayed the night.

Others near the building, including a reporter, had guns drawn on them and were forced to lay on the ground and be placed in handcuffs.

A photo [published by The News Observer](#) shows men who look more like soldiers than police, aiming weapons of war at unarmed protesters. The city of Chapel Hill has a population of just 57,000.

"The town has an obligation to the property owners, and the town will enforce those rights," Chapel Hill Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt said in a prepared statement.

The group that occupied the building was an offshoot of "Occupy Chapel Hill," not directed by the main camp's general assembly. On [the "Occupy Chapel Hill" website](#), they called themselves "some autonomous anti-capitalist occupiers" and explained that taking the building would be their "experiment."

"All across the US thousands upon thousands of commercial and residential spaces sit empty while more and more people are forced to sleep in the streets, or driven deep into poverty while trying to pay rent that increases without end," they wrote. "Chapel Hill is no different: this building has sat empty for years, gathering dust and equity for a lazy landlord hundreds of miles away, while rents in our town skyrocket beyond any service workers' ability to pay them, while the homeless spend their nights in the cold, while gentrification makes profits for developers right up the street."

City officials said they were "investigating" the ties between the group arrested on Sunday and the "Occupy Chapel Hill" general assembly.

The presence of squatters in an abandoned structure is not technically legal, but it generally requires the property owner to make a complaint before police take action. A main thrust of some cities' occupations is to get homeless families to occupy foreclosed, bank-owned homes — a course of action endorsed by the general assembly at "Occupy Oakland," and [even a member of Congress](#).

It was not clear if the property owner in this case made a complaint to the city of Chapel Hill. Police did not release the protesters' names.

15 Nov – Zuccotti Park Raided Under Media Blackout

"We're being evicted!" the text message went out to Occupy Wall Street supporters around 1 am.

"The park has been cleared," the fourth text message read a few hours later, as bedragged, pepper-sprayed protesters, having lost their home in the park, reconvened for a GA in Foley Square and vowed to keep the occupation going. Over 200 had been arrested, [including city council member Ydanis Rodriguez](#). Blocks away, Mayor Michael Bloomberg held a press conference at which he declared that police would be now able to search all people entering the park. [Read his press release, which contains the memorable phrase "no right is absolute," here.](#)

Later in the morning, the crowd had moved from Foley to a post-raid gathering at Canal and 6th Street. At 9am and onwards, supporters tried to regroup and rally: some marched back to Zuccotti, others took over a small lot owned by [Trinity Church](#). AlterNet's [Tana Ganeva](#) tweeted from Trinity at noon that religious leaders and occupiers [were being arrested at the church](#).

Meanwhile, the National Lawyer's Guild [had obtained a temporary restraining order](#) "directing that occupiers be allowed back on the premises with their belongings." This was meant to hold for several hours until [a new hearing at 11:30](#).

However, after some members of the public re-entered the park, [they were asked to leave again](#). At about 11 a.m, police [were reportedly acting in contempt](#) of the order, holding the park and preventing the mandated re-entry of the reconvened protesters.

[Alternet's Sarah Jaffe](#) was tweeting from the courtroom as the hearing over the park [was about to begin](#):

Legal observer: "We've been preparing for this for weeks. We have the best 1st amendment lawyers in the city."

The decision, which allowed protesters back into the park but crucially without their tents and gear, was handed down at 3pm. Protesters finally re-entered the park, with a police bag-search in place, in the evening to hold a boisterous general assembly and begin the process of planning their moves for tomorrow and all the days after.

[Twitter pictures](#) taken after sunrise showed Zuccotti Park was bare and stripped--ugly and undamaged, as it was before, once cleaning crews moved through. Before that, however, police had [heaped](#) protesters' belongings together.

According to Twitter and the Occupy texts as well as press releases from the movement and the Mayor, the early morning raid cleared the protests' two-month-long "model society" of its infrastructure, including the women's safe space tent, the medical tent, and thousands of books from the "People's Library" -- which were seen in the back of a dumpster.

Cops reportedly told people these confiscated items would be available at the Department of Sanitation but protesters thought they had been disposed of completely.

Almost all of downtown Manhattan was blocked off in various ways, and protesters were beaten for being both on the sidewalk and the street.

14 Nov – Sundiata Acoli Transferred

Long-term political prisoner Sundiata Acoli has been transferred and is currently being held at MDC Brooklyn. Word has it that he will be transferred about 150 miles away from NYC, but until that is confirmed, he can be reached at:

Clark Squire #39794-066

MDC Brooklyn

Post Office Box 329002

Brooklyn, New York 11232

14 Nov – Walter Bond is Back in General Population, Still in County Jail

*Yesterday evening, Walter Bond was placed back in general population at Davis County Jail, after spending 15 days in solitary confinement and then 15 days in 23-hrs per day cell confinement. He is doing okay and is awaiting transfer any day now to a U.S. federal prison. **Please do not mail him any internet printouts**; only cards and letters. He also has a new essay that we've printed below.*

MORE:

The Importance of Straightedge - Vegan Hardline

Part of having a revolutionary mentality means we examine our beliefs and actions and then discard those which don't fit in the world in which we want to live. We first make this change in ourselves and then initiate that change in the world around us.

I want to live in a world where the Earth and Animals get to live and flourish. I want to live in a world without racism. I want to live in a world where our mothers and sisters are not preyed upon in the streets or in their

homes. I want to live in a world that has respect for all innocent life, and I want to live in a world without the self-destruction and diminished capacity of inebriation.

To that end I am Straightedge. This means that I have taken a lifelong oath to abstain from recreational drug use. It further means that I have vowed to try to make this world a more peaceful and just place by standing against oppression, slavery and death, whether self-inflicted or otherwise. It is this stand that makes me Straightedge and not merely drug-free. It is a difficult oath to live up to and should not be undertaken by those that are not 100% sure that they can live up to it.

If I had to make a criticism about the modern day Straightedge movement it would be very similar to my critiques about the Animal Rights movement. Too much talk and thought, but not enough walk. This is much more true of Straightedge than the various liberation movements, mainly because for decades Straightedge has been a youth movement that revolves around music. I think that's great. I wouldn't ever deny a kid the fun I have had as a youth in this very same music scene. But the reason that so very many kids break edge in their early to mid-twenties is because sooner or later the show is over. And getting together to dance and sing-a-long about how much you love your friends runs its course.

This is why I've always felt that the radicalization of Straightedge as a liberation struggle of its own is important. Because it gives kids a new focus and challenge with Straightedge beyond dance moves and hoodies. Thus we enter Vegan Straightedge. In North America I'm proud to say that the A.L.F. and Vegan Edge have always had a very symbiotic relationship. Throughout the 90s, Hardline bands like Raid and Green Rage got the youth focused like a laser beam on radical and fanatical Animal Liberation activism by blending the best elements of the struggles for Earth, Animals, anti-racism and anti-capitalism with the seriousness and purity ethic of the fundamentalist. All to a soundtrack that became more metal and less punk. It worked! With the power of discipline and a program of action.

It took more than one underground support zine to cover the nearly constant A.L.F. actions that took place for 8 years straight! That's because the music was not an end in itself, as it has now become. It was a successful and deliberate recruitment effort, a very successful one which, no matter what our personal speculations, saved hundreds of thousands of mink and shut down several Animal abusers forever.

I do not think that Vegan Edge has sold out or become weak compared to those days. I think there is just a lack of direction. A kind of drift that has taken place in the last decade. I feel that a partial reason for this began back in the 90s. It's fairly obvious that the oppression that Animals endure follows the same patterns, relationships and psychology as many human forms of oppression, i.e. racism, consumerism, capitalism, etc. There is no denying those correlations and as such we take our rightful place among the various liberation struggles.

But unlike these others, we are sacrificing a certain amount of our own movement's autonomy. You would be hard pressed to find an indigenous liberation struggle that would divert their own primary objective to save Animals in vivisection. But Animal Liberation and especially the 'militant' schools of thought therein have become sidetracked with cabooseing to other causes. Unfortunately even welfarists are better at protecting the autonomy of the Animal agenda, if only as an issue.

Our true strength in solidarity comes from sharing tactics and, when we can, resources (in a reciprocal fashion) with other liberation struggles -- not in compromising our own. And unfortunately Vegan Edge has fallen prey to this loss of primary focus.

I remember going to a show about 5 years ago... I think it was Shai Halud and I was talking to this kid about coming out to the sanctuary to help the Animals and he smiled at me and said, "Walter, you're so message based," and then walked away. As I began delving into the lyrics of most so-called XVX [short for vegan straightedge] bands post 2000, I see a steady trend where it's cool to get Vegan and Animal Lib themed tattoos, it's cool to announce in the coversheet that such and such a band supports a Vegan Straightedge lifestyle, and

then it's really cool to never mention any Animal Lib or reasons for Straightedge in your lyrics.

This apathy would be tolerable to me if it was only affecting a music scene. But it's not. It diverts the message that replenishes the underground resistance. As a musician you can have great influence (Earth Crisis ring any bells?) And you also have a level of free speech that cannot be exercised anywhere else. You can sing in a song about shooting vivisectors in the face or even how to make a car bomb, but I can't write about those in an article. This is why tactically music to go along with the revolution has always been important in every time and place.

I would like to see Straightedge getting back to the business of being Straightedge. I would like to see crews and Vegan Hardline chapters become vocal about why drugs are exploitative and wrong and fight against them. And no, I'm not talking about getting ten of your friends together to go beat the shit out of a smoker. But direct actions on a local level against dealers and those that profit off of the ruination of humanity by the slowly poisoned death of intoxication. From the street dealer to liquor store all the way up to the medical industrial drug complex, drugs and drink lower inhibitions often leading to senseless and dangerous behavior.

Addiction is a nightmare not only for the user but everyone that loves, cares or relies on them. Most often serious addiction has no cure and very slim chances of lifetime abstinence. And huge drug companies like AstraZeneca are enormous contributors and funders of Animal experimentation. Many vivisector lunatics like David 'Tiller' Jentsch make a living addicting primates to street drugs when there is already a world of addicted human primates to observe and monitor. Whole countries like current day Mexico are engaged in civil war and bloodshed in the streets over drug cartels -- true narco-terrorism. But this is just the tip of the iceberg.

I would like to see Straightedge employ the same leaderless resistance and underground/above ground tactics as the radical Animal and environmental groups have for decades. And I would also like to see Vegan Straightedge mature and become multi-generational. The scene for the kids is great. But there is no reason to view Straightedge as only for the kids. Many adults that have been through the hell of addiction and survived or been the victims of loved ones' addictions or alcoholism definitely have a more real world awareness of how deep the rabbit hole actually goes. Therefore Straightedge should be viewed as a way of life which is good for all just like Veganism.

Which brings me to my next point. I feel that Straightedge should be synonymous with Veganism, social justice and respect for all innocent life. The immediate point of living drug free is to make the individual optimal, thereby bettering the world we come in contact with, because no person is an island. We affect our surroundings, many times more than we know. But for the sake of clarity and consistency, Veganism and Straightedge must truly be seen as extensions of one another. Meat, dairy and eggs are loaded with drugs in the form of steroids, antibiotics, hormones and more. Also when we speak about making the world a better place, it's only logical to extend that desire to the actual world, to nature and our Animal relations. Especially when we realize that our actions are interconnected to our surroundings.

Nor is Veganism a caboose on Straightedge. Since the mid-80s, bands like 'Youth of Today' and 'Gorilla Biscuits' were including the issues of vegetarianism for ethical reasons in songs such as "Cats and Dogs." And lastly on a tactical level we have seen time and time again that revolutionaries and revolutionary struggles must be clean and sober as a pre-requisite to success. Malcolm X and the Black Panthers are two contemporary American examples that come to mind. Even in the Animal Liberation Front Primer written in the 80s it states that no one active in the A.L.F. should use drugs or work with others that do. It briefly explains the connection between drug and Animal testing and ends the paragraph with, "Saving the Animals is what's important, not getting high or drunk."

Many people do not know what the best course of action is, not only in activism but in their day to day lives. Before you can effectively make a change in the world we must make changes within ourselves. Before there can be a revolution for Animals or the Earth, there must be revolutionaries, not a bunch of hipsters drinking micro-brews and Waiting for the Rev! Before the general population will adopt a disciplined caring and

conscious way of life, we must.

There are incredible wrongs happening on this planet. By governments, corporations and individuals, and it's not a joke - it's fucking serious and demands our attention and energy! And these wrongs also demand that we make ourselves the best we can be. It means we know who we are, what we believe and what we are willing to do and sacrifice to attain those goals. It means we answer to the Animals first, each other second, other like-minded movements third and to our enemies and oppressors, never! It means we get organized and ferocious and support each other's projects and actions.

As Animal Liberationists we need to be either confronting Animal abusers directly or helping and caring for animals with our own two hands. As Straightedgers, we need to set a positive example of sobriety and help those whom we can, away from the quagmire and filth of addiction. And we also need to confront and fight against individuals and corporations that profit from this degradation. And as Vegan Hardliners we need to not only fight for Earth, Animal and human liberation, but for all innocent life with all the strength, courage, intelligence, love and intensity that we can summon. Because when we fight for an innocent's life as if it were our own, at that moment we are not only right, we are also above the law.

Vegan Straightedge rebirth, whatever it may take!

Walter Bond

ALF-POW

XLoneVWolfX

17 Nov – OWS International Day of Action Roundup

Here's a mainstream news article that shows the shift in how the protests are being framed as well as a few other articles of note regarding the actions that took place on November 17th. Please remember, if you or your comrades get arrested, get in touch with the National Lawyers Guild or the NYC PLC. The latter can be reached by e-mail at info@nycplc.info. These folks are coordinating legal defense that will help insure lower charges and fewer convictions.

MORE:

MANHATTAN — Tensions between cops and [Occupy Wall Street](#) protesters boiled over in Zuccotti Park Thursday afternoon following a failed morning attempt to shut down the New York Stock Exchange — part of a "Day of Action" to mark the movement's two-month anniversary that included thousands marching on the Brooklyn Bridge.

The clashes came after more than 100 protesters were arrested as throngs from the anti-greed group surrounded the stock exchange chanting "Wall Street's closed."

A total of 242 protesters had been arrested by Thursday afternoon, including five for assault, police said. Ten were injured in the process, including one with a head wound.

"Some people were intent on being arrested. There's no question about that. It's part of the tactic and strategy," said Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly, who added that he was "pleased" with the performance of his officers.

Seven police officers were injured during the mass protests, including five cops who had a liquid, possibly vinegar, tossed in their faces, Mayor Bloomberg said during a press conference at Bellevue Hospital, where one of the injured cops were being treated.

Two officers were struck by objects thrown by protesters, including one, Matthew Walters, 24, who received 20 stitches in his left hand when he tried to deflect a star-shaped glass object that had been thrown at him.

Another cop was treated and released for a hand injury. All of the officers were hospitalized but none was seriously hurt.

"We will ensure that everyone has a right to execute their First Amendment Rights," said the mayor, adding that most protesters "have acted responsibly." "But make no mistake about it, if anyone's actions cross the line, and jeopardize the health and safety of the first responders, we will act accordingly."

Cops also confiscated a dozen metal devices that could have been used by protesters to lock themselves to objects, but none were used.

Just before 2 p.m., police closed the exits to Zuccotti Park, which was jammed with protesters, sparking a fight for control of the barricades surrounding the plaza — [the movement's lower Manhattan base until the space was cleared Tuesday morning in a pre-dawn raid](#).

Shortly before that, 30 or 40 cops surged into the park, but protesters surrounded the officers and started yelling. Police then pushed some protesters to the ground and hit others with batons.

About 50 cops then stormed into the park, moving demonstrators from one side to the other while protesters pushed back. Cops stood in a circle in the center of the park while the group chanted, "This is a non-violent protest."

In the melee, a man was seen laying on the ground bleeding from the head. Police said that the man, Brandon Watts, 20, tossed batteries and pieces of a plastic pen at police officers. He also allegedly stole a deputy inspector's hat.

Watts then tried to shove metal barricades at the officers, who tackled him to the ground as he kicked at them, police said. The suspect, who hit his head on the ground, was treated at Bellevue Hospital and released. He was charged with attempted assault, resisting arrest and grand larceny, police said.

The scuffle came just hours before a series of other actions including small [protests on the subway in the afternoon](#) and students rallying in Union Square and at Hunter College and a planned march on the Brooklyn Bridge, [where more than 700 protesters were arrested in October](#).

In Foley Square, ahead of the march to the bridge, thousands of protesters were joined by members of the Service Employees International Union and some 200 Verizon workers chanting "we are the 99 percent" and "this is what a police state looks like." Also among the throng were rappers Fab 5 Freddy and KRS ONE.

As the group streamed through Lower Manhattan, funneled by police barricade, several protesters who had already gathered at the foot of the bridge were arrested, including City Councilman Jumaane Williams, [according to his Twitter account](#). According to a witness, about 100 demonstrators wearing white shirts sat down and linked arms before being taken into custody.

As protesters marched across the bridge chanting "Whose bridge? Our bridge?" cars honked their horns in support. Cheers erupted as a giant "99%" symbol was projected onto the Verizon building, near the base of the bridge.

Earlier in the day, protesters said they thought their actions had delayed the stock exchange's opening bell, but an NYSE spokesman said trading started on time at 9:30 a.m. "For us, it's business as usual," said NYSE spokesman Ray Pellechia.

But at Zuccotti Park demonstrators rang cow bells and climbed trees to celebrate their attempt to shut down the global trading hub.

"I think it was a success," said 26-year-old Karen Jenson, a Wyoming resident who's been participating in the Occupy Wall Street protests for the past five weeks. "I was not overwhelmed with our success, but I felt like we were humble about it."

Outside the stock exchange, some of the thousands of protesters that amassed formed a human chain to block workers from heading toward the financial center, sparking a clash with police. During the scuffle cops were seen repeatedly hitting a protester with a nightstick near Broad and Beaver streets.

A protester in a wheelchair joyfully recounted how cops arrested her near William Street as demonstrators linked arms and refused police orders to disperse.

"They asked me if I really wanted to be arrested," said 63-year-old Nadina LaStina, who uses a wheelchair because of a childhood bout with polio. "I said, that's why I'm here, so they arrested me."

But police weren't able to load LaStina and her wheelchair into a paddy wagon to central booking with other arrested protesters. Instead took her mugshot in the street and handed her a summons for disorderly conduct on the spot.

"It was extremely important to me as a disabled person," said LaStina of her arrest. "I am very angry. I want our democracy back."

Many angry commuters were caught up in the fracas as they tried to make their way to work.

"These a--holes need to get a job and stop keeping us from ours," said Jenn Bobics, 42, who works at an investment firm. "I can't get to work now, or at least I don't know how to."

A 23-year-old security guard on her way to work from Queens called the protest "ridiculous."

"I have to get to work," said Shareema Williams.

Police had barricaded Wall Street at Broadway only allowing those with employee IDs to pass. They also closed Hanover and Pine streets, as well as Thames Street from Nassau Street to Broadway, and Nassau Street from just south of Cedar to Wall Street.

Cops in riot gear tried to keep protesters on the sidewalk, but their swelling numbers caused many of them to spill into the street. At least eight police officers were stationed in front of Wall Street's famous bronze bull sculpture.

Marchers heckled Wall Street workers as they showed up for work, shouting, "Get your corporate ID out, this is a police state" and "God Bless America."

Tylee Robinson, a 23-year-old actor, tried to sneak past a police barricade wearing a suit and tie and carrying a fake corporate ID. "I'm prepared to get arrested, I'm prepared to get beaten," he said.

But he drew the line at being the first to jump barricades. "I would follow someone else jumping over the barricade, but I wouldn't lead it," he said.

Some protesters said it was Tuesday's [police raid](#) at Zuccotti Park that inspired them to join the day's events.

Among them was Alison Bell, a 54-year-old lawyer from Stowe, Vt., who was with her 20-year-old son, Cameron, in Zuccotti Park.

"I participated in these sorts of things at [my son's] age. It makes me hopeful for the first time in a long time," Bell said.

"We want a big show of support from people who haven't been here before like me, and people who've been here

from the beginning."

PORTLAND-- 9 PCASC Members Arrested Occupying Wells Fargo, Protesting For-Profit Prisons
9 activists with the Portland Central America Solidarity Committee (PCASC) were arrested today disrupting business as usual at the Wells Fargo Bank inside the Standard Insurance Building. The group targeted Wells Fargo in response to the bank's funding of private prisons and immigrant detention centers, and their connections with right-wing think tanks that push legislation to criminalize immigrants, such as Arizona's SB1070 law.

The group also staged a street theatre performance outside the bank, which was supported by the N17 "Occupy the Banks" march of around 1,000 people.

Wells Fargo has a large stake in firms, such as Geo Group and Corrections Corporation of America, which are major players in for-profit incarceration. The investments serve to enrich the banks while the 99 percent are the ones who fill prisons, the activists said.

"The profit motive compels Geo Group and others to fill these prisons, which in turn creates lobbying pressure on politicians, which leads to racist drug and immigration laws and the largest prison population in the world," said Allen Hines, who participated in the action.

The number of beds in private detention centers used by Immigration and Customs Enforcement alone has increased 400% since 1994, according to the North American Congress on Latin America. Meanwhile, people of color continue to make up a much higher proportion of the ballooning prison population than is representative of broader society.

The activists' demands were:

- Wells Fargo must divest from the prison industry.
- The private prison industry – which creates financial incentives for putting people in jail – must be dismantled.
- Politicians must refuse money from prison lobbyists.

As part of the 99 percent, the group says they have several reasons to be angry with the policies of Wells Fargo. In addition to the bank's funding of prisons, its acquisition of Wachovia, which engaged in money laundering on behalf of Mexican drug cartels, puts Wells Fargo at odds with advocates for peace and freedom. The people involved in today's action said they want Wells Fargo and its shareholders to better understand the negative consequences of its drive for profits. While the bank may have some work to do to become a people-friendly business, they said, another world is possible.

17 Nov - Three Prisoners Die in Hunger Strike Related Incidents

In the month since the second phase of a massive prisoner hunger strike in California ended on September 22nd, three prisoners who had been on strike have committed suicide. [Johnny Owens Vick](#) and another prisoner were both confined in the Pelican Bay Security Housing Unit. Hozel Alanzo Blanchard was confined in the Calipatria Administrative Segregation Unit (ASU).

MORE:

According to reports from prisoners who were housed in surrounding cells and who witnessed the deaths, guards did not come to the assistance of one of the prisoners at Pelican Bay or to Blanchard, and in the case of the Pelican Bay prisoner (whose name is being withheld for the moment), apparently guards deliberately ignored his cries for help for several hours before finally going to his cell, at which point he was already dead. "It is completely despicable that prison officials would willfully allow someone to take their own life," said Dorsey Nunn, Executive Director of Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, "These guys were calling for help, their fellow prisoners were calling for help, and guards literally stood by and watched it happen."

Family members of the deceased as well as advocates are having difficult time getting information about the three men and the circumstances of their deaths. The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) is required to do an autopsy in cases of suspicious deaths and according to the Plata case, is required to do an annual report on every death in the system.

Family members have said that their loved ones, as well as many other prisoners who participated in the hunger strike, were being severely retaliated against with disciplinary actions and threats. Blanchard's family has said that he felt that his life was threatened and had two emergency appeals pending with the California Supreme Court at the time of his death. "It is a testament to the dire conditions under which prisoners live in solitary confinement that three people would commit suicide in the last month," said Laura Magnani, Regional Director of the American Friends Service Committee, "It also points to the severe toll that the hunger strike has taken on these men, despite some apparent victories." Prisoners in California's SHUs and other forms of solitary confinement have a much higher rate of suicide than those in general population.

The hunger strike, which at one time involved the participation of at least 12,000 prisoners in at least 13 state prisons was organized around five core demands relating to ending the practices of group punishment, long-term solitary confinement, and gang validation and debriefing. The CDCR has promised changes to the gang validation as soon as early next year and were due to have a draft of the new for review this November, although it's not known whether that process is on schedule. "If the public and legislators don't continue to push CDCR, they could easily sweep all of this under the rug," said Emily Harris, statewide coordinator Californians United for a Responsible Budget, "These deaths are evidence that the idea of accountability is completely lost on California's prison officials."

17 Nov – Portugal Court denies US Extradition of George Wright

Good news for George Wright. A court in Lisbon has denied the United States' request for his extradition from Portugal. We've pasted in a mainstream news article relating to this news.

MORE:

A Portuguese court has denied a U.S. request for the extradition of captured American fugitive who spent 41 years on the run in a journey that took him across three continents, and included the brazen 1972 hijacking of a jet from America to Algeria.

George Wright, 68, who was released from house arrest, told reporters Thursday he was "very happy, morally and spiritually," with the decision. He claimed his extradition to serve the rest of a sentence for a fatal New Jersey gas station robbery in 1962 was not justified because accomplices fired the shots that killed the owner.

Wright also admitted the plane hijacking and said he committed it as a militant member of the Black Liberation Army "to fight for black rights...to support the hopes of black people" — but is now a changed man.

"I'm not the person I was then," said a relaxed Wright, occasionally smiling, at a news conference in his lawyer's office attended by his Portuguese wife and their two grown children.

American authorities were seeking his return to serve the rest of his 15- to 30-year jail sentence. He was captured in Portugal in September after a fingerprint provided by U.S. authorities was matched to his in a national database the country maintains for all citizens and legal residents.

Wright's lawyer, Manuel Luis Ferreira, told The Associated Press that the judge accepted his arguments that Wright is now Portuguese and that the statute of limitations on the killing had expired. He expects American authorities will appeal the decision, but the judge immediately released Wright from house arrest.

U.S. Justice Department spokeswoman Laura Sweeney said American officials are “extremely disappointed” with the outcome, calling Wright “a convicted murderer guilty of an extremely serious crime which falls squarely within the terms of our bilateral extradition treaty with Portugal.”

Sweeney did not say whether an appeal will be filed, but said American authorities “expect Portugal to abide by its treaty obligations in this case. We will review the court’s decision and consult with Portuguese authorities to determine a path forward that results in Mr. Wright’s return to the United States.”

Details of the judge’s decision were not available because Portuguese court proceedings for extraditions and many other cases are conducted in secrecy with no public access to the proceedings, filings or decisions.

Wright spent seven years in a U.S. prison for the New Jersey murder before escaping in 1970, and was on the run for 41 years until his arrest.

Authorities say Wright and three associates had already committed multiple armed robberies on Nov. 23, 1962, when Walter Patterson, a decorated World War II veteran and father of two, was shot dead in his gas station in Wall, New Jersey.

But Wright insisted Thursday that he never fired a shot in the holdup and pleaded “no defense” to the murder charge because his lawyer advised it avoid a life sentence or the death penalty.

“I didn’t kill anyone. I accompanied someone (who) committed a crime. They sentenced me on that particular aspect,” Wright said, speaking in fluent Portuguese. “I didn’t shoot. That was others.”

Patterson’s daughter, Ann, said in an email she hopes U.S. officials will appeal the case and insisted that the extradition attempt “has not all been done for nothing.”

“The entire world now knows what this man did,” said Patterson, who has repeatedly expressed disbelief at Wright’s contention that he never opened fire.

Wright was captured in the seaside village near Lisbon where he has lived since 1993, and was jailed for about two weeks until a judge released under house arrest.

Ferreira previously told The AP he would argue Wright is now a Portuguese citizen and if forced to serve out the sentence should do so in Portugal because of his citizenship, but Thursday’s decision was an even bigger victory because it set him free.

Wright got Portuguese citizenship through his 1991 marriage to a Portuguese woman and after the tiny West African nation Guinea-Bissau, a former Portuguese colony, gave him the new name of “Jose Luis Jorge dos Santos” complete with fake names for parents and made him a citizen.

The identity from Guinea-Bissau was granted after the country gave Wright political asylum in the 1980s — and he insisted on being addressed with it at the news conference. It was accepted by Portugal when it granted him citizenship, according to his lawyer.

Wright broke out of Bayside State Prison in Leesburg, New Jersey, on Aug. 19, 1970 and made his way to Detroit, where he joined the Black Liberation Army. Dressed as a priest, he hijacked a Delta flight to Miami with four others, using handguns they snuck on the plane.

After releasing the plane’s 86 passengers for \$1 million, the hijackers forced the plane to fly to Boston, then to Algeria, where the hijackers sought asylum.

Algeria gave the money and plane back to the U.S., and Wright and his comrades went underground, settling in France. The others were captured and convicted of hijacking in Paris, but Wright avoided the dragnet.

He met his future wife, Maria do Rosario Valente, in Lisbon in 1978. The couple moved in the early 1980s to Guinea-Bissau where Wright lived openly using his real name and socialized with U.S. diplomats and embassy personnel who told The AP they were unaware of his past.

His wife also did translation work for years for the U.S. Embassy in Bissau, Guinea-Bissau's capital. They lived there until they moved back to Portugal in 1993 to a whitewashed house with terra-cotta roof tiles in the tiny town of Almocageme, 28 miles (45 kilometers) from Lisbon and close to broad Atlantic beaches.

In Portugal, Wright worked a series of jobs as decorative painter, nightclub bouncer and barbecue chicken restaurant manager.

He said he regrets his crimes, but insisted his "life has changed radically" since meeting his wife. He said he wanted to tell her and his children about his past before his arrest, but "had a weight on my shoulders and I didn't want to transfer it onto them."

As for worrying about being caught, Wright said he "thought about it, but I live day to day."

"I want to relax now," he said. "And spend time with my family and friends."

20 Nov – Update on Kellie and Victor

Contrary to what the Sioux City Newspaper reported about Kellie not being arraigned as of yet...both Victor and Kellie were arraigned on Monday, October 31st in which they both pleaded not guilty. Their trial is set for January 24th 2011 in Woodbury County District Court (Iowa). More than anything, right now they need financial assistance. Each hour they spend with their attorneys collectively costs \$250!

MORE:

Right now Kellie & Victor need money pooled into their legal funds account as soon as possible to pay for lawyer fees which are very expensive. Since Victor was not eligible for a public defender, his lawyer costs nearly \$190 an hour, while Kellie (who currently has a public defender) only has to pay \$60 an hour for her lawyer. So that means that one hour of their lawyers time cost \$250 dollars. As you can imagine, this can rack up quite a bill.

Fortunately, both Victor and Kellie are content with their selection of lawyers who are doing a great job working on the case and are diligently trying to arrive at a reasonable plea agreement. Right now, as the charges stand, both Victor and Kellie face a maximum sentencing time of 13 years in prison. As of yet, the charges remain at a state level and have not gone Federal.

This means that we have roughly 2 months left to fundraise thousands of dollars to insure that their lawyers are able to work as long as they need to on the case in order to get the sentencing time reduced as much as possible.

I spoke to Victor and Kellie today and they told me that they are just really happy to be home and able to spend some time together with friends and family before they have to serve any prison time.

So this holiday season, if you can skimp out on some gifts and maybe donate \$10, \$20 or even \$50 bucks to their legal funds instead that would be very much appreciated. These two are true heroes and they deserve all the support & gratitude we can give them!

22 Nov – Ronald Bridgeforth to Enter Guilty Plea

More than four decades after jumping bail, Ronald Bridgeforth, a 67-year-old college counselor, walked into a Redwood City courtroom Thursday, November 10th and said he planned to accept punishment for opening fire on South San Francisco police officers in 1968. He will be entering a plea in court Tuesday, November 22nd at 9 am in front of Judge Novack. The hearing is in the Redwood City Superior Court - second floor - 400 County Center.

MORE:

Ronald Stanley Bridgeforth pleaded no contest to assault with a deadly weapon in 1969, but fled before sentencing. Bridgeforth recently made bail, set at \$25,000.

Speaking briefly during the hearing in San Mateo County Superior Court, Bridgeforth said, "I guess I've come back to face the consequences of my actions."

Ronald at 20 years old left college to go to Mississippi where he registered voters for over a year, where he was chased by a mob, threatened with death, and briefly arrested by Mississippi police when he went to the station to pay a ticket. He went to San Francisco where he organized for SNCC, bringing Fanie Lou Hamer to the bay area to speak, and acting as Stokely Carmichael's bodyguard when Stokley spoke to various colleges and organizations here in the bay area.

In the last 40 years he worked his way up from a custodian to getting a Masters degree in Counseling. He has been a respected and beloved counselor and teacher at a community college in Michigan for many years.

The California Attorney General's office recently dropped murder charges against him in the killing of police Sgt. John Young at San Francisco's Ingleside Station on Aug. 29, 1971.

23 Nov – Time is Running Out. Support the New York 21/Sundiata Acoli Film on Kickstarter
“NEW YORK 21: THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY-NEW YORK CHAPTER AND STRUGGLES OF SUNDIATA ACOLI” is a dramatic documentary exploring the Black Panther Party Movement and the climate of the times in New York, including the longest and most expensive trial in the state’s history. To finish the film, producers need to raise \$5,000 by November 23rd.

Go here to help fund this important documentary: <http://kck.st/os375L>

24 Nov – 42nd Annual National Day of Mourning

Buses leave NYC at 6:00am

MORE:

WHAT: United American Indians of New England Day of Mourning

WHEN: 12:00pm, Thursday, November 24th

WHERE: Cole’s Hill, Plymouth, Massachusetts

COST: Free

Join us as we dedicate the 42nd National Day of Mourning to our brother, Native political prisoner Leonard Peltier. Add your voice to the millions world-wide who demand his freedom. Help us in our struggle to create a true awareness of Native peoples and demonstrate the unity of Indigenous peoples internationally. Help shatter the untrue glass image of the Pilgrims and the unjust system based on racism, sexism, homophobia and war.

For more information, contact:

UNITED AMERICAN INDIANS OF NEW ENGLAND/LPSG

Phone: (617) 522-6626

info@uaine.org <http://www.uaine.org>

Absolutely No Drugs or Alcohol Allowed

Pot-Luck Social to Follow

Please send Donations via Metacom Education Project

284 Amory Street Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

2 Dec – Wall of Solidarity for Peltier

Compiled by NYC ABC

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WHAT: Human Wall of Solidarity with Leonard Peltier

WHEN: Sunrise to sunset, Friday, December 2nd

WHERE: White House Tribal Nations Conference, 1848 C Street NW, Washington, District of Columbia

MORE:

Bring your group and join The Jericho Movement and the Leonard Peltier Offense Defense Committee at their third year at the Human Wall of Solidarity.

7 Dec – CCR + Family and Friends of Daniel McGowan Panel Discussion + Raffle

WHAT: Panel discussion with Robert Meeropol, Will Potter and Jenny Synan with an introduction by Rachel Meeropol plus an AMAZING raffle

WHEN: 6:30-8:30, Wednesday, December 7th

WHERE: Community Church of New York (40 East 35th Street, between Park and Madison Avenues)

COST: Free entry; raffle tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5

On the sixth anniversary of the first wave of Operation Backfire arrests, including that of friend to NYC ABC Daniel McGowan, the Center for Constitutional Rights and Family & Friends of Daniel McGowan are hosting a panel discussion and raffle. The panel will discuss the Red Scare, the Green Scare, and ongoing repression of political dissidents in the United States. Tickets are available at supportdaniel.org/blog

Raffle prizes are being added daily, but currently include:

- Membership and T-shirt from [Bluestockings](#)
- Books from [Crimethinc](#). ([Recipes for Disaster](#) and [Work](#))
- [Pie Any Means Necessary: The Biotic Baking Brigade Cookbook](#)
- \$75 worth of Books from [Justseeds](#)
- IFC Membership ([The Cineaste Plus One](#))
- [If A Tree Falls: A Story of the Earth Liberation Front](#) DVDs
- [Livescribe Echo 4GB smartpen](#) + 4-pack of Livescribe Dot Paper
- [BORF](#) signed limited-edition [Support Daniel print](#) (\$100 value)
- [Dr. Bronner's Holiday Gift Basket](#) (\$50 value)
- [Let Freedom Ring](#), edited by Matt Meyer
- [Eco-Warriors](#) by Rik Scarce
- Subscriptions to [Fifth Estate](#)
- [The Will of the Many](#) by Marianne Maeckelbergh
- Books by Brian Tokar (“[Toward Climate Justice](#)” and “[Agriculture & Food in Crisis](#)“)
- 2012 [Justseeds/Eberhardt Press Organizers](#)
- Books from [Eberhardt Press](#)
- Books from [Combustion Books](#)
- Books from [Burning Books](#) (Buffalo, New York)
- [Green is the New Red](#) book donation and signed posters
- A pair of tickets to the [Spectacle Theater](#)
- Two gift certificates to [Book Thug Nation](#)
- 1 acupuncture session with Famous
- [Wind\(s\) from below: Radical Community Organizing to Make a Revolution Possible](#)
- [Team Colors](#) Posters
- 1/2 Gallon [Wilder Brook Farm](#) Maple Syrup
- DVDs from Whispered Media ([Boom](#) and [We Interrupt This Empire](#))
- Art by [Elektra KB](#)
- Support Daniel McGowan [T-shirt](#)
- [Support Daniel McGowan](#) Water Bottle
- [Certain Days](#): Freedom For Political Prisoners 2012 Wall Calendar

- One year subscription to [4StruggleMag](#)

9 Dec – All Out for Mumia – 30th Anniversary of Incarceration and Frame-up

Buses leave NYC at 3:00pm

MORE:

WHERE: Constitution Center - 525 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

WHEN: 7:30 p.m. sharp -10:30 pm, (doors open at 7 p.m.)

HEAR: Cornel West, Immortal Technique, Ramona Africa, Vijay Prashad, Michelle Alexander (by video), Amina and Amiri Baraka, IMPACT Youth Repertory, African Drum and Dance Ensemble, Attorney Michael Coard

Pick up palm cards at Solidarity Center, 55 West 17th STREET, 5TH FLOOR, [\(212\) 633-6646](#) anytime after 2 p.m. weekdays

Call [\(212\) 330-8029](#) for bus tickets and other locations to pick up palm cards. Buses leave NYC at 3 p.m., \$20 roundtrip from 33rd Street and 8th Avenue.

NO TO LIFE IN PRISON, FREE MUMIA NOW!!!

No to the Racist Death Penalty, No to the Prison Industrial Complex, No to Police Terrorism, No to U.S. Wars at Home and Abroad, FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS, OCCUPY WALL STREET

10 Dec - Art Benefit for René González

WHAT: Art benefit for René González

WHEN: 2pm-4pm, Saturday, December 10th, 2011

WHERE: Casa de Las Americas - 182 East 111th Street (between Lexington and 3rd Avenues)

COST: \$5-10 donation, no one turned away due to lack of funds

MORE:

On Friday Oct. 7th, Rene Gonzalez of the Cuban 5 was released on parole and returned to Miami, where Cuban 5's unjust trial took place! The Cuban 5 are five U.S. held political prisoners incarcerated for fighting against terrorism in the United States and Cuba.

Miami is a city full of right wing anti-revolutionary Cuban Americans who could harm Rene. He has not seen his wife in 13 years, has no family in Miami and is being forced to spend the next three years there to serve his parole, instead of going back home to Cuba.

Join The Popular Education Project to Free the Cuban 5 for our Artist benefit for Rene Gonzalez.

Our goal is to raise money for his transition from prison to the outside.

Let Rene know that New York City loves him! Come out and enjoy this amazing afternoon of art, food, and film!

Poets:

Papoleto Melendez

Sandra Maria Estevez

Louis Reyes Rivera

Rafael Landron

Film:

Will the real terrorist please stand up by Saul Landau

17 Dec – Send Love Through the Walls – Holiday Party with SSS, SB ABCF, RnB, & NYC ABC

Compiled by NYC ABC

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WHAT: Send Love Through The Walls Holiday Card-Writing For Political Prisoners
WHEN: 3:00-9:00pm, Saturday, December 17th, 2010
WHERE: 263 Eastern Parkway, Apartment 5D (Direction Below) *phone:* 718.783.8141
COST: FREE (Donations to cover the cost of stamps greatly appreciated)

In what many prisoners have told us is their favorite event of the year, Resistance in Brooklyn and NYC Anarchist Black Cross again join forces to bring you the annual holiday card-writing party for U.S. held political prisoners and prisoners of war. This year, we're joined by Scientific Soul Sessions and South Brooklyn ABCF. This event is always a lot of fun, the food outstanding, the camaraderie lively, and the handmade cards flat out amazing. This year will be no different. So plan to bring your friends, your creativity, and a healthy appetite. We'll have updates on the pp/pow campaigns as well as paints, markers, crayons, and envelopes.

MORE:

Directions:

Getting to 263 Eastern Parkway is simple:
From the [2/3/4/5](#) or [Franklin Avenue Shuttle](#):

Franklin Avenue Stop:

Walk west on Eastern Parkway (away from Franklin Avenue, toward Classon Avenue). We're about half a block down on the north side of the street. When you go into the building, take the elevator to your left.

For more information, contact:

Resistance in Brooklyn— mmsrnb at igc dot org
NYC Anarchist Black Cross— nycabc at riseup dot net
Scientific Soul Sessions— scientificsoulsessions.com
South Brooklyn ABCF-- sbrooklynabcf at riseup dot net

28 Jan 2012 – Malcolm X Commemoration Committee Presents “One Struggle”

Pay Tribute to our Freedom Fighters & their Families for their decades of commitment & untold sacrifices to the struggle for Black Liberation, Self-Determination & Justice.

WHAT: The 16th Annual Dinner Tribute to the Families of Our Political Prisoners & Prisoners of War
WHEN: 3:00pm-7:00pm, Saturday, January 28th
WHERE: Martin Luther King, Jr. Labor Center - 310 West 43rd Street (between 8th & 9th Avenues, New York, New York 10036)
COST: Donation: \$40/advance reservations • \$45/at the door • Validated Parking \$10
All proceeds to benefit Political Prisoners/Prisoners of War represented at the Dinner!

MORE:

Dhoruba Bin Wahad, BPP/BLA & former PP/POW
Monifa Bandele, Malcolm X Grassroots Movement
George Edward Tait, Akosua Tait & community
Hosts: asha bandele & Gina Arias, Justice Committee

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.

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.