

Updates for June 7<sup>th</sup>

### **25 May - New Oscar Lopez Rivera Clemency Letter**

Attached is the new Oscar Lopez Rivera Clemency letter for the next phase of the campaign. Please get as many signatures as possible BUT DO NOT MAIL THEM TO WHITE HOUSE. Instead, mail them to the Network in Chicago at:

**National Boricua Human Rights Network**  
**2739 West Division Street**  
**PASEO BORICUA**  
**Chicago, Illinois 60622**

ProLibertad is collecting them so as to make a presentation with the greatest amount of letters possible. Please use the attached letter, as it supersedes all previous letters. Please let us know if you have any questions.

### **25 May – Update on Anti-Police Terror March Prisoner Amelia Nicol**

*Amelia Nicol had her first court date on Monday May 16th in Denver County Court. At this court date, her lawyer made a formal appearance. Amelia declined to have her charges publicly read in court. But as of the date of this writing, the charges she is being held under continue to include several major felonies, including two counts of attempted murder of a police officer, a single count of possession of an explosive device, a single count of arson, and criminal destruction of property. She needs your help and below there are several ways for you to offer it.*

#### **MORE:**

The judge declined a any hearing on reducing her bond, instead scheduling bond arguments for June 9. Her bond remains at \$50,000.

Denver Anarchist Black Cross has been in contact with Amelia. She has made it clear that she does not want to be bonded out, that she does not want the state or any associated body to profit from her imprisonment. She has but one clear demand: her immediate release without charge.

She has asked that any money being collected for support be directed to Denver ABC to help pay for phone calls and sending her stamps, envelopes, and paper. She does not want any more money placed in her commissary as she does not want to purchase any items from the jail. She does not want any more money being given to those that now hold her in a cage.

In the coming weeks leading up to her next court date, Denver ABC will be organizing a massive letter writing and phone call campaign directed at the Denver District Attorney, demanding that Amelia's charges be immediately dropped.

Here are some concrete ways you can support Amelia and also support the ongoing struggle against police terror in Denver:

1) Write to Amelia! Send her letters, cards, photos, jokes, stories, etc...

Letters may be addressed to:

Amelia Nicole CD# 0000762401

Denver County Jail

PO Box 1108

Denver, CO 80201

Please see mail regulations here, and note that Denver ABC has already sent a package of envelopes, paper, and stamps.

<http://www.denvergov.org/Portals/327/documents/ALLOWABLE%20MAIL%20ITEMS.pdf>

2) Write a letter to Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey and demand that the charges against Amelia be dropped immediately!

Denver DA Mitch Morrissey  
201 W. Colfax #801  
Denver, CO 80202  
Or call him at: 720-913-9000

3) Donate to Amelia's phone fund.

Send checks or money orders made out to P&L Printing to:

Denver ABC  
2727 W. 27th Ave Unit D  
Denver, CO 80211

4) Keep checking the Denver ABC blog at [denverabc.wordpress.com](http://denverabc.wordpress.com) for updates, or follow us at twitter, through our user name, DenverABC.

### Case Background

On Friday May 6th, over one hundred people, mostly young, poor, and angry, took to the streets in defiance of the Denver Police Department. They participated in a march, called to confront "police terror" in the Denver Metro area. Specifically, they marched to remember the deaths of Marvin Booker and Oleg Gidenko, two people murdered by area police departments in the last year.

As the the march ended, a small firework was set off in the street. Police used this act as a justification to chase one alleged participant down an alley, where she was tackled and beaten by police. This person would later be identified as Amelia Nicol, a 20 year old Colorado resident. She now faces outlandish charges including attempted murder.

We call on all people to support Amelia as she fights these attempts at intimidation and repression, and the police's broader attack on social movements in Denver.

Marvin Booker, a homeless street preacher, died at the hands of five sheriff's deputies in the Van Cise-Simonet Detention Center in downtown Denver on July 9, 2010. He was tackled, beaten, placed into chokeholds, tazed, and kicked. He eventually succumbed to the officers' brutal attack. He was murdered for refusing to leave his shoes in the booking area of the jail.

Oleg Gidenko was shot in the head by Aurora Police Officers. Oleg was in a truck with several friends. They had been hanging out, allegedly drinking in the truck while it was parked in a lonely industrial park in Aurora. Aurora Police Officers approached the truck, armed, supposedly because they suspected the occupants of breaking into cars in the area. As the police aimed their weapons at the truck, one officer shot Oleg in the head. Another occupant, Yevgeniy Straystar, was also shot, but would survive. With two occupants, including the driver, shot and a passenger trying to hide on the floor of the truck as it took repeated fire from police officers, the truck lurched forward, bumping into one of the officers. This action, though it took place after the firing had started, and after Oleg was dead, was used as the justification for the shooting.

Many other high profile cases of police terror have been documented in the metro area over the last year, including the beating of whole families, rape and child molestation, and mishandling of evidence. Few, if any, officers are ever punished.

On May 6th, the fourth in a series of marches was held to show direct opposition to the police terror plaguing the metro area. For several hours the crowd snaked through downtown and the arts district. The police response to this fourth march was much heavier than previous marches, and riot police flanked the march for a good portion

of the route. Despite the heavy police presence and attempts at intimidation, Amelia would end up being the only arrest during the march.

On Thursday May 12th, news agencies across the metro area reported that Amelia would be charged with a host of felonies and misdemeanors, including two counts of attempted murder of a police officer, criminal arson, possession and use of explosives, and inciting a riot. Police alleged she threw the firework, only now in the news reports the firework had become a “molotov cocktail”, or in some news reports, an “improvised explosive.” The small green firework now became a dangerous implement of attempted murder of two police officers. Amelia is now confined to a jail cell in the Denver County Jail, held on a \$50,000 bond.

Just days previous, on Monday May 9th, Denver Mayor Guillermo Vidal announced that the deputies implicated in the death of Marvin Booker would face no discipline for their use of force. This announcement came after months of public outcry in response to a September 2010 decision by District Attorney Mitch Morrissey to not file any criminal charges in response to Marvin’s murder.

The charges now being filed against Amelia are a slap in the face to every person that struggles for justice. The City of Denver has made it clear that the life of a black street preacher is worth less than the relative comfort of several police officers that may have been scared by a small firework. Murderers with badges receive no criminal charges, while a young woman who allegedly attended a protest to hold those officers accountable now faces over 90 years in prison.

We must rally to support Amelia! The Denver Anarchist Black Cross calls on all justice and freedom loving people to mobilize for the defense of Amelia in the face of these atrocious criminal charges.

### **26 May – Supporters of Daniel McGowan have Started a Twitter for Him**

*Radical environmentalist and all around good guy, Daniel McGowan now has representation in the Twittersverse. You can follow tweets disseminated by his support crew via @support\_daniel*

### **27 May - LGBTQ support for Bradley Manning**

*A new letter appealing to queer folks to support wikileaks prisoner Bradley Manning has been circulating. You can read the letter below and find ways to help support Bradley.*

#### **MORE:**

Dear fellow LGBTQ,

We urgently invite you to take action – organize demos however small or big, write letters to the press, and in whatever way is feasible – to publicly show your support for Bradley Manning. As you may well know, Bradley is an openly gay 23-year-old US Army intelligence analyst facing the death penalty or life in prison for allegedly blowing the whistle on US war crimes. [1]

We are writing this open letter to cut through the notable silence of high profile LGBTQ organizations and media, even though we know a lot of LGBTQ individuals and smaller grassroots organizations have been taking action in support of Bradley Manning.

That LGBTQ organizations and press have ignored his case is particularly outrageous in the US, where many such “representatives” of the LGBTQ community campaigned ardently for repeal of the 'Don't ask, don't tell' policy against Gay men and Lesbian women serving openly in the US military, in effect championing our ‘equal right to kill’. Why are they not going all out to defend a gay brother’s right to refuse to kill? Why is Bradley not being championed publicly as our gay hero, splashed all over the LGBTQ press to mobilize urgent support to get him released! [2]

We say "There's no pride in the slaughter of others!"

We take pride in our LGBTQ sisters and brothers who refuse to be killers, such as gay Filipino/Native-American Stephen Funk, the first US soldier to be convicted and jailed for refusing to fight in Iraq; Mehmet Tarhan, gay Kurdish military refuser in Turkey, whose torture and imprisonment were ended by an international campaign in which grassroots LGBTQ organizations were prominent; and now Bradley Manning.

The campaign against the punitive conditions of Bradley's confinement at Quantico has likewise shone a light on the solitary confinement and other torture endured by many tens of thousands of prisoners, not only but especially in the US. [3] The blueprint for Bradley's treatment at Quantico, for Guantanamo, Abu Ghraib and Baghram, is the US gulag of civilian prisons, where most prisoners are people of color, and where especially those perceived as LGBTQ may endure endless sexual violence.

If Bradley Manning has done as alleged, his brave act is a huge service to humanity and has saved many lives. [4] His chance of a fair trial was undermined when Barack Obama stated publicly that "He broke the law." [5] We invite everyone, all who stand for justice, but first of all his LGBTQ sisters and brothers and their organizations, to join the growing worldwide campaign for freedom for Bradley Manning.

What you can do:

1. Write to Bradley Manning:

**Bradley Manning 89289**  
**JRCF 830 Sabalu Road**  
**Fort Leavenworth, Kansas 66027-2315**

2. Sign the Petition demanding that the charges are dropped

<http://standwithbrad.org/>

3. Take public action

Scores of actions internationally are already being planned for Bradley's first court hearing, the date of which hasn't yet been announced, but an announcement is expected soon.

Stay in touch with the dedicated support networks and with us for news of actions:

In the US: <http://www.bradleymanning.org/stay-in-touch>

In the UK: <http://blog.ukfriendsofbradleymanning.org/>,

In Wales: <http://bradleymanningcymru.wordpress.com/>

Or organize your own action!

4. Circulate this information to your friends and networks, and to the press.

Didi Rossi

Lesbian Bi Trans Queer in the Global Women's Strike

London, England

[LBTQ@globalwomenstrike.net](mailto:LBTQ@globalwomenstrike.net)

Dean Kendall

Payday men's network

Philadelphia, USA

[payday@paydaynet.org](mailto:payday@paydaynet.org)

[1] Bradley Manning is charged with "Aiding the enemy" by giving hundreds of thousands of classified

documents to Wikileaks, among them the “Collateral Murder” video of a US Army helicopter crew cold-bloodedly killing 11 or more civilians, including two Reuters reporters, and severely wounding two young children in Iraq in 2007.

[2] Shaun Bartone of Queers In Solidarity for Bradley Manning, of New Brunswick, Canada, has written (in calling out the shameful silence of North American LGBTQ rights organizations):

”Bradley Manning... is a champion of justice for exposing the truth about US war crimes in Iraq and Afghanistan, a queer hero of the first order, a prisoner of conscience, and a victim of torture. It's about time we in the gay community claimed Bradley as our own and did what we could as a community to protect our queer brother.”

[3] Held for over nine months in military prison in Quantico, Virginia, and subjected to solitary confinement and other ‘hands off’ torture, on April 20 Bradley was transferred to Ft Leavenworth military prison in Kansas and released from solitary – a major victory of an international campaign by a large and growing movement of supporters.

[4] He now awaits an Article 32 pre-trial hearing – the next step toward court martial. It is a total perversion of justice that Bradley Manning faces trial and punishment for telling the truth, rather than the war criminals, first of all those at the top whose lies and manipulations have caused untold deaths, displacement and destitution for millions.

[5] Kevin Zeese, an attorney member of the Bradley Manning Support Network, points out that: President Obama’s recent pronouncement [...] amounts to Unlawful Command Influence, something clearly prohibited. [...] Manning will eventually be judged by a jury of career military officers and noncommissioned officers. Will they be able to set aside the declaration of their commander in chief? Along with the illegal pre-trial punishment already inflicted upon Bradley, the government has more than enough legal basis to drop the prosecution.”

REFUSING TO KILL IS NOT A CRIME!  
INVEST IN CARING NOT KILLING!

[www.globalwomenstrike.net](http://www.globalwomenstrike.net)  
[www.refusingtokill.net](http://www.refusingtokill.net)

### **1 Jun - Time for Action! Walter Bond Asks you to write to the judge TODAY!!**

*Write a letter today to Judge Stewart, requesting the minimum sentence for Walter Bond. Your letter will help to give a more 3-dimensional and personal perspective on the positive character attributes Walter possesses and how highly he is valued by his friends and associates. The judge who handled Walter’s case in Denver made a point to say that she read over 50 letters people like you and me sent her way before handing down the minimum penalty.*

#### **MORE:**

Please write this letter immediately and send it off ASAP! Inspire others to write a letter as well by forwarding the Animal Rights Prisoner Support Newsletter [www.arprisoners.org](http://www.arprisoners.org) where two of Walter’s articles -- “Why I am Vegan” and “Slaughterhouse Blues” -- appear.

Address a formal business letter to:  
**The Honorable Judge Ted Stewart**  
**United States District Court**  
**District Of Utah**  
**Chamber #148**

**350 South Main Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101**

Include your address and the date. The salutation is, "Dear Judge Stewart:" and the reference is "United States of America v. Walter Bond."

Please send this letter to Walter's public defender, who will deliver all the letters to the Judge himself.

**Nathan Crane, Esq.  
STIRBA & ASSOCIATES  
215 South State Street, Suite 750  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111**

Finally, please mail a copy of your letter to Walter as well, to keep him informed:

**Walter Bond 2011-03339  
Davis County Jail  
Post Office Box 130  
Farmington, Utah 84025-0130**

### **2 Jun – Resist to Exist by Walter Bond**

*The updates this time around include several items about Walter Bond. This isn't a surprise, as Walter is someone who writes prolifically and is relatively new in, so there is still a lot of momentum behind his support. Among the updates are a new piece he has written. We've pasted it below and encourage you to read it.*

#### **MORE:**

I am an anarchist.

I'm not the politically-correct hipster anarchist.

I am not the rhetorical anarchist either.

Reading dry accounts of the various factions of anarchism has never held much interest for me. I am an insurgent, an opposer. Why? Because I was born that way. When I was in kindergarten my teacher, Ms. Whirly, had a parent/teacher conference with my mom. I remember her saying something about me being a very bright young man but that I had serious problems with authority and one day it would get me in a lot of trouble. I do, and it did.

I came to find out that school doesn't want you to be a "bright young man." Serious questioning is the enemy of primary and secondary schools' indoctrination of youth. While my grade school teachers prattled on and all the kids answered in unison, I sat at the back of the class reading about dinosaurs, mythology, and astronomy. It made me feel hopeful that places or times existed that were far from here... far from Iowa's Aryan education... times and places where humans weren't the center of the entire universe. Luckily my parents were far from conventional. My father was a half English, half Bohemian musician and my mom was a hot-tempered Puerto Rican that believed in the mystic powers of Earth, Animals, and Nature. My father's father died in World War II fighting the Nazis and he always has a serious contempt for government as a result. He was also devotedly atheist and very anti-racist.

One thing I always loved about both my parents is they never cared to conform to the uppity idiocy of their immediate surroundings and they also allowed me to formulate my own opinions. No one in our house went to church, I didn't have to get involved in little league or cub scouts or any of that. The only rule in our house was you learn to play an instrument. I chose drums. When I was 7-years old I learned "Cocaine" by Eric Clapton and

the 50s hit “Johnny be Good.” Music proved to be the love of my life. Music and resistance.

By age 10, my parents divorced and I was in Denver, Colorado with my mom. We lived in a duplex with my aunt, her boyfriend, my Gramma and Grampa, 3 cousins, and a steady parade of family friends. Talk about culture shock! In any case I became close with my cousin Eric. He was 5 years older than me and lived in the basement. Eric did whatever he wanted and was largely ignored. He was the kid downstairs. Everytime a teenager came over with spiked hair or tattoos it was a quick hello and then down to the basement. Of course my aunt and mom didn't want me to hang out down there. “Let the older kids be left alone” they would tell me but it was to no avail. The first time there was no adult supervision in the house, downstairs I went. It was the most amazing place my young eyes has ever beheld! On the old beat up record player was a band by the name of Dead Kennedys. It sounded like the Beach Boys on Ritalin! There were crazy banners and posters everywhere. Pentagrams, circle As, cryptic lettering. I was in love.

My cousin introduced me to his friends, all teenagers. But even though I was just a boy they didn't mind me at all. On that day I figured out that I was an anarchist. Within a couple years I was playing drums with my cousin and his friends and was officially part of the Denver hardcore/metal/punk underground. I'm happy to say that the core group of kids that was to me like family never seriously changed, 20 years later we are still all irrevocably anarchist. Of course outside of that solid 5 of us everyone else came and went. But for us it was not a phase, we found bedrock.

By the 8th grade I refused to go to school. Although I still love to read and learn it's a decision I never regretted. School for me felt like 8 hours a day of getting my soul murdered with boredom and chalkboards. I would much rather be skateboarding on private property or breaking things. But that was then and this is now. The only thing that's really changed for me was the sureness that only comes with life experience. Now in my mid-thirties I realize more than ever how much people and their governments suck. Systems of control everywhere you turn. Get married, have kids, buy a house, work for some evil corporation 'til you die, buy a car, buy a bigger car, watch t.v., get drunk, don't think, just consume. No thanks, I'd rather eat a shotgun. I'd rather have a boyfriend and a girlfriend than a wife. I don't have any kids cause most of 'em I meet act like loud mouth little drunk people. Besides nits become lice.

I didn't buy a house cause it seems like a hassle and impossibility that the bank will ever let me own it. I have worked for some stupid places but in exchange for exploiting me for labor I stole everything I possibly could. So I broke even on that one. I didn't learn to drive 'til I was 25 and even then it was very infrequent. What can I say, I'd rather ride. I threw my t.v. in the trash years ago because I don't like plastic rectangles or squared with Technicolor trying to indoctrinate me with the hive mentality of a 10 Watt human existence. I don't drink because alcohol turns people into slobbering, vomiting idiots! Honestly I don't know, it just comes natural to me. I think back to the doldrums of the classroom or the evil of the slaughterhouses I've worked in and I'm reminded that things are not okay. I see Christian scumbags peddle their sanctimonious trite to the peoples of the world as if it were ‘the good news’ and I'm reminded that many people have shit for brains. I see the country of my birth wave its red, white, and blue murder rag as if it stood for more than anything short of genocide and used cars!

Then I look at the shackles on my own feet. The cuffs and black box digging into my wrists and the dinky confinements I'm kept in and I am reminded that cops, feds, jailers, judges, deputies, correctional officers and all their ilk are the agents of repression, the haters of true freedom, the enemies of social justice! The betrayers of the Earth, Animals and all life!

How can I remain defiant?

How can you remain complacent?!

I guess that's just what's in your nature. It's a shame though, really it is. I won't pretend I understand or even empathize, because that would be a lie. I'm a wild animal myself and domestic breeds are largely a waste of my time. It's a fact that this domesticated world hates the wild and free and it's also true that many sheep like to run

around in wolves clothing writing their little books admonishing people about the evils of civilization. Trying to motivate others to dismantle what they're too cowardly to themselves.

Everyone likes to talk big, write big, and pose like they're for real.

So few are, so don't believe the hype.

And don't believe anyone that can't back up their talk. You'll know a wolf by their teeth, not their howl. And I'm proud of that. All the traps and trials I face are worth it. All the persecutions and oppressions of my person, I won't run from them. If I could go back to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and reconsider the arson that I'm now sitting in prison for, I wouldn't change a thing.

Life is meant to be free. Not murdered, skinned and tanned then sold and perpetuated for profit. Life is meant to be defended, not subjugated.

This sick and twisted human supremacist culture does not dictate what's right and wrong. Not for me, not ever. Western civilization has rivers of blood on its hands, I don't. A good Christian-American patriot is partaking in one of the worst cultures and traditions of genocide in the history of the world! The only real crime of groups like the Black Panthers, American Indian Movement, and Animal Liberation Front are challenging state sanctioned authority or having the courage to fight fire with fire. The only faith I have is that it won't last forever. Oppression and power-madness sooner or later will implode.

Contrary to the capitalist or industrialized worldview, we live on a finite planet. We can only bleed the Earth so far before even our technology will not allow billions of people to breed endless minions of ever-fatter, ever lazier, and ever-degenerated generations. My faith is that one day the Earth will flood and burn the human parasite off its back and if I have the great good fortune to witness even the beginning of that process, I will gleefully go down with the ship, laughing all the way. And honestly why should it be otherwise? You get out of things what you put in. So it should come as no surprise that when you build huge mechanized "civilizations" off of the blood and bones of suffering and murdered animals and the decimation of the natural world, that at the end of the day you will reap what you sow. How hard is it to comprehend that a fair and equitable society will never come from the rape, murder, and theft of its indigenous population, or the slavery and displacement of a race. As surely as  $2 + 2 = 4$ , oppression + murder = self-destruction, whether by violent revolution or moral degradation.

Do I seem negative in my world view?

Do I come off as apocalyptic?

Perhaps. But I think I'm just being a realist. I fight for a moral, peaceful, and just world. That's been what I've sacrificed much of my time, energy, and now my freedom for. But I do so because I'm optimistic. If humanity were on trial, the overwhelming evidence in the case would point to cruelty, subjugation, and greed. And on the other side would be a handful of actual freedom fighters whose caring and courageous stands throughout history get immediately co-opted by sign holders, petition signers and a bunch of feel good faddists.

Only now am I starting to truly see the writing on the wall, only now am I realizing how intuitive me and my friends were as little punk rock kids. The angst and passion we had is what makes real changes. The only reason it ever even fades is because we let it. So many people write off extremism as inherently flawed, but is it? A very real case could be made for extremism in the cause of liberation. It's those that don't compromise that the rest hold their comparisons up to. And it's the militant that keep things on target when the others get distracted and forget their movements, their causes. How short sighted the compromises are, how forgetful of the acute wrongs are the welfarists and fair-weather activists. And in their lukewarm ideology they create forgetful movements of paper pushers and people pleasers. But it's not an endless cycle that can rise and wane. It is a finite world as I said. And sooner or later we will reach the end of the line.

Greed and apathy will become played out to their inevitable end.

So now I sit in my prison cell and read about dinosaurs, mythology, and astronomy and I remain hopeful that not only have there been times and places free from menacing human hands but that, one way or the bloody other, there will be again.

Total liberation, whatever it may take!

### **6 Jun – New Support Walter Bond T-Shirts are Available!**

<http://supportwalter.org/Main/Shirt1.htm>

Get the Gear ! Support the Cause!

### **11 Jun - June 11th International Day of Solidarity with Marie Mason and Eric McDavid**

**WHAT:** Solidarity BBQ + Raffle For Marie Mason and Eric McDavid

**WHEN:** 2:00pm to Late, Saturday, June 11th

**WHERE:** 190 Orchard Street (Between Houston & Stanton), LES Manhattan

**COST:** Cheap Drinks (alcoholic and not) and Eats (vegan burgers, dogs, and sweets). Please do not BYOB.

It's hot outside! Join us on a Lower East Side rooftop for drinks, food, and music, all in support of two long-term greenscare anarchist political prisoners! Events in support of Marie Mason and Eric McDavid are happening on four continents– come and be a part of this [worldwide day of international solidarity!](#)

[Support Marie Mason NYC](#) and [NYC Anarchist Black Cross](#) are hosting a barbecue and raffle to provide material support for the two Earth and animal liberation prisoners serving the longest sentences. Disproportionately long sentences are one characteristic of the government's campaign against Earth and animal liberationists known as the Green Scare.

**And if you can't make the BBQ, you can support Marie and Eric by buying tickets for the June 11th Raffle!**

**Raffle tickets are ON SALE NOW!**

Available for purchase at the BBQ and ahead of time at [Book Thug Nation](#) (100 North 3rd Street) in Williamsburg.

Tickets are \$2.00 each or three for \$5.00.

Win prizes from:

[Spectacle Theater](#)

[Book Thug Nation](#)

[Champs Family Bakery](#)

[Autonomea](#)

[Black and Red Books](#)

[Mooshoes](#)

[Lula's Sweet Apothecary](#)

Acupuncture by Famous

[Sparrow Media](#)

[Arissa Media](#)

[Kingsland Sandwich Shop](#)

[Green is the New Red](#)

[Bluestockings](#)

Amie's Vegan Truffles  
Local Artists  
& many more!!

For more information, visit:

[june11.org](http://june11.org)

[SupportMarieMason.org](http://SupportMarieMason.org)

[SupportEric.org](http://SupportEric.org)

### **18 Jun – COINTELPRO 101 Film and Discussion**

WHAT: COINTELPRO Film Screening and Discussion

WHEN: 4:00-6:00pm, Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>

WHERE: The Brecht Forum (451 West Street, between Bank and Bethune Streets, Manhattan)

COST: Free, but donations appreciated

*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. Join former political prisoners Shaba Om, Laura Whitehorn, and Francisco Torres for a discussion after the film.*

#### **MORE:**

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.

### **25 Jun – Potluck BBQ For Native American Prisoner of War Leonard Peltier**

WHAT: BBQ for Native American Prisoner of War Leonard Peltier

WHEN: 1:00-4:00pm, Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> (Rain Date :Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>)

WHERE: Dias y Flores Community Garden (13th Street between Avenues A & B)

*Since we are unable to accept monetary donations at the Garden, we strongly encourage YOU to bring a dish in the true spirit of a potluck! To arrange what dish to bring for the potluck, call MD (our food coordinator)*

after 7 pm: 347-731-9947

**MORE:**

The three years following the occupation of Wounded Knee are often referred to as the Pine Ridge "Reign of Terror" because anyone associated with the American Indian Movement was targeted for violence. People's homes were burned and their cars run off the road. People were struck by cars, shot in drive-by shootings and beaten. Between 1973 and 1976, over 70 traditionalists were murdered and scores more were assaulted.

As the situation worsened, the traditionalists asked AIM to return to the reservation to offer protection. Leonard Peltier was among those who answered the call. He and a dozen others set up camp on the Jumping Bull ranch at Pine Ridge, the home of a number of traditional families.

In Native American history, June 26th is a day of anguish. On that date in 1975, two FBI agents in unmarked cars pursued a red pickup truck onto the Jumping Bull ranch. Gunshots rang out. While mothers fled the area with their children, other residents started to return fire. A shootout erupted between the FBI agents and the residents. Law enforcement immediately mobilized. Within a couple hours, over 150 FBI SWAT team members, Bureau of Indian Affairs police and GOONS surrounded the ranch.

Peltier helped lead a small group of teenagers out of the Jumping Bull area, barely escaping through the hail of bullets. He fled to Canada and was illegally extradited to the U.S. on Feb. 6, 1976 based on false information provided by the FBI.

This assault has not ended. For 35 years, Leonard Peltier, a Lakota/Anishinabe organizer of the American Indian Movement (AIM), has been in prison, falsely accused of killing the FBI agents. U.S. prosecutors have publicly admitted that they do not know who actually fired the shots that killed the agents, but they have refused to consider Peltier for parole or to turn over thousands of pages of documents that could prove his innocence.

This event is honoring AIM warrior Leonard Peltier, so no alcohol or drugs are permitted.

**31 Jul – Running Down the Walls 2011**

**WHAT:** Running Down the Walls (Solidarity run with PPs and POWs)

**WHEN:** noon-4:00pm, Sunday, July 31st

**WHERE:** TBA

**COST:** TBD

**MORE:**

On Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011 at noon, the New York City Anarchist Black Cross will host a 5k run/walk/jog/bike. This run/walk/jog/bike is designed to raise much-needed funds for the ABCF Warchest program, and an as yet to be named local organization.

Funds will be divided between the two programs:

**ABCF Warchest:**

The ABCF Warchest program is now almost 17 years old; funds for the Warchest are divided and distributed through monthly stipends to political prisoners who receive little or no financial aid. Prisoners use this money to cover the basic necessities of everyday living. These funds have been used by prisoners to pay for stamps, shoes, clothes, as well as assisting their families with what little they can.

**Second Group To Be Determined**

**Solidarity Runs:**

Every year, prisoners and supporters of political prisoners organize solidarity runs with Running Down the Walls. In Sync with each other, we will collectively pound the pavement with our feet and bike tires as we exhibit our strength and stamina as examples of our tireless effort to free our imprisoned comrades. In past years we had runs in: Albuquerque (NM), Arcata (CA), Ashland, (OR), Bellefonte (PA), Boston (MA), Connecticut River, Dannemora (NY), Denver, (CO), Detroit (MI), Elmore (AL), Guelph (CAN), Inez (KY), Los Angeles (CA), Marion (IL), Mexico City (MEX), Los Angeles (CA), USP. Navosta (TX), Pelican Bay (CA), Phoenix (AZ), Sandstone (MN), Tucson (AZ), USP Tucson (AZ), and Toronto (CAN)

**Raising Funds:**

The Warchest program was created in November of 1994. Its purpose is to send monthly financial support to Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War (PP/POWs) who have been receiving insufficient, little, or no financial support during their imprisonment.

**Support the Struggle:**

We must remember that many of those arrested in the past or present are not far from us. Many of them were and are community and labor activists, queer, and environmental activists; people who decided to speak out against various forms of oppression and paid the price of their freedom for their actions. We must remember that anyone of these people could have at one time stood beside us in a demonstration, at a speak-out, or even at an organizing meeting. At any given moment it could be us who finds ourselves in this situation, so it is imperative that we ensure that a strong enough community of support exists for these people as well as ourselves. The strength of our movement is determined by how much we support our fallen comrades. As Anarchist and former POW Ojore Lutalo says, "Any Movement that does not support its political internees, is a sham movement." So please help us, help them! Help us help you!

**We encourage people to participate in helping us raise funds for the Warchest, which can be done in the following ways:****Be a runner:**

We are asking people or groups who are running to collect as many sponsor for the run as possible. Remember the money received is going to help imprisoned comrades who need your help. The person who collects the most amount of funds will be given a prize for their involvement and dedication to helping our fallen comrades.

**Sponsor a runner:**

This can be done through a flat donation to the runner of your choice, each flyer is a sponsor sheet. We ask from those who wish not to run to actively support those who are running in hopes of collecting as much for our comrades as possible.

**Sponsor Running Down the Walls:**

Any amount helps. Contact the Los Angeles Anarchist Black Cross if you wish to simply donate money to the cause.

**Donate to:**

**-The Warchest:**

Send funds directly to the NYC ABC (Post Office Box 110034, Brooklyn, New York 11211) or to the Philadelphia ABCF (Post Office Box 42129, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101) Make checks or money orders out only to Tim Fasnacht.

**Get involved in the planning of Running Down the Walls:**

We always need help with organizing the event and we encourage people to contact us if they would like to get involved. You can do this by contacting the NYC Anarchist Black Cross, [nycabc.wordpress.com](http://nycabc.wordpress.com), [nycabc@riseup.net](mailto:nycabc@riseup.net)

-Jaen Laaman, UFF Political Prisoner Statement of Solidarity

"Thank you for running at this special event that means so much to many of us all over the world, both free and imprisoned. In a relative way, we are all political prisoners because it is the politics of this system of things that is exploiting, crushing, imprisoning, and destroying the masses all over the world and the earth itself. Then there are those who know this and take actions against those who seek to deny us our rightful place on earth as common human brethren. Those are the ones we run for and seek to help... whom sacrificed their family, freedom and lives, so that our lives may be better! The fact that you ran with us is a sign that when the red-hour comes, you will not be caught asleep. You are conscious and you too are willing to represent. The potential in you is great. Thank you for running for the cause!"

"As we ran we were thinking and talking about all the runners in Los Angeles and how we'd love to be out there running with them. We also spoke about the other political prisoners who were running with us in at least some other prisons."