

Updates for June 10th

24 May - Update from Abdullah Majid

We recently received the following letter, via The Jericho Movement.

MORE:

First, I want to say all praise belongs to Allah. And I thank Him for His Blessings upon me.

I want to thank everyone who has continued the fight to assure I received the surgery needed. I finally got it on May 20, 2014. I'm very sore, as you can imagine, but otherwise my prognosis looks good.

Now I am fighting to get released from SHU and put back into general population. So your support is still needed.

Also, I am appealing to the Muslim community in particular to continue to call and write to Imam Ahmad at Central Office DOCCS to demand the removal of Chaplain Afify at Elmira Correctional Facility.

Don't give up the fight!

27 May - New writings by Mumia Abu-Jamal

We're including transcripts of Mumia's latest commentaries.

MORE:

May 27th - Brown at 60

It has been 60 years since the US Supreme Court decided Brown v. Board of Education, outlawing segregated educational systems.

60 years - my entire life - and today, schools are still segregated, if not by law then certainly by practice and custom - and especially by class (which, in America, is about the same thing)

The late legal scholar, Derrick Bell, once told an interviewer, "Now, we're still segregated, but there's nothing under the law that we can do about it."

Professor Bell made those remarks in 2003, and they're as true now, as they were then.

When Brown became law, North Carolina Senator Sam Ervin led a movement of politicians called the "Southern Manifesto", pledging uncompromising opposition to Brown. His efforts won overwhelming support.

This campaign of legal resistance to a Supreme Court ruling has continued from that day to this; segregation, by other means.

It has led us to a separate but unequal educational system, if you can't afford better.

It is the silent spirit behind the charter school movement, the erection of private schools supported by public money, where some get a decent education, while most get none.

It is what it is.

Educational activist, Jonathan Kozol, who has visited perhaps more classrooms across the country than any other living soul, has described American schools as “apartheid” (the term comes from Afrikaans in South Africa: apartness), and called US education institutions “The Shame of the Nation” (the title of one of his books).

Just so.

60 years after Brown - and it has been treated just as the Constitution was treated for 100 years after the end of the Civil War - like it didn't even exist.

May 27th - Boko Loco

The stealing of hundreds of girls from northern Nigerian families, schools and villages - in the name of God - for slavery, no less! - is the triumph of madness over reason.

This, the latest act of Boko Haram, a Hausa group that claims to be at war with Western Education, is at war - not with Westernism, but with fellow Hausas and Nigerians - and at war with Islam itself.

There has always been a tenuous tension between Nigeria's ethnicities and regions, but these conflicts have almost always been resolved short of war (in the Biafran succession attempt during the '60s, this was not the case, of course)

It appears Boko Haram wishes to push across that dangerous line.

These assaults on children, to enslave them and/or sell them, are particularly odious, and have sparked international protests.

This attack on education comes in the name of a man who so admired learning that an Islamic tradition quotes the Prophet Muhammad as saying, “Science lights the road to Paradise”. Another quote (called a hadith) states, “The ink of a scholar is more holy than the blood of a martyr.” And still another: “Take knowledge even from an unbeliever.”

But at its core, the action of Boko Haram reflects an intense hatred of woman and females.

Although not well known, the Prophet Muhammad was, for his time and place, quite the feminist. He loved women, and in one of his first acts as a political leader, forbade the killing of baby girls - something then common among the ancient Arab tribes.

The first convert to Islam was his wife, Khadijah, a wealthy businesswoman - followed by many women, seeking freedom from an oppressive culture.

This madness is a modern creation, of greed, of ignorance, of misogyny.

It is Boko Loco.

June 2nd - Pain and Rage in Chiapas

Since 1994, the emergence and persistence of the Zapatista Movement has been a pain in the side of the Mexican state.

An indigenous, women-commanded, revolutionary army was a nightmare for the globalist, NAFTA-era business servants of the Mexican government.

They have repeatedly attacked the Zapatistas, not just militarily, but via the media, as well.

Now, the state, using paramilitaries, has attacked the Zapatistas again.

On May 2nd, the Zapatista support community, La Realidad in Chiapas, was ambushed, and a teacher there, Jose Luis Solis Lopez, was beaten badly - and shot repeatedly - to death.

Solis Lopez, known affectionately as 'Galeano', taught at La Escuelite (the Little School), a Zapatista institution.

His killers are members of a Mexican paramilitary group, with ties to the government.

As a popular, revolutionary army, the Zapatistas have denounced revenge, but they want their many supporters to know that Galeano's murder has sparked both pain and rage among them.

They also see this as a pretext for attacks to come.

They are calling for supporters worldwide to denounce this attack.

For more information contact: anattackonusall@gmail.com

June 2nd - Elombe Brath: Presente!

Elombe Brath, long-time Black Nationalist organizer and activist, has made his transition after a long career in the Black Freedom Movement.

Elombe, 77, made his passage on May 19th, a day not without irony, for this was the birthday of one of the men he most highly regarded: Malcolm X.

Brath fought numerous struggles, both cultural and political.

When he was 20, he and his brother, Kwame Brathwaite, founded the African Jazz Arts Society in Harlem, where they featured young artists from the community. They were jazz lovers and fans of such icons as Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, Max Roach and Abbey Lincoln.

He didn't just love Black music and culture, he loved Black people, and in 1961 launched the "Black is Beautiful" Campaign, sponsoring shows in Harlem featuring the Grandassa Models -Black women adorned with full Afro hairstyles.

In 1975, he launched the Patrice Lumumba Coalition (the first independent President of the Congo), from which he worked against the racist apartheid government in South Africa. Fifteen years later, he would be a top organizer for Nelson Mandela, when he came to New York, in 1990.

Elombe Brath would work for the freedom of the Central Park 5, the five youngsters condemned in the media, imprisoned and convicted of a gruesome rape that none of them had committed.

Brath, although born in Brooklyn on September 30th, 1936, was a life-long son of Harlem - and there he lived and worked, with the ideas of his nationalist heroes, Marcus Garvey, Carlos Cooks and Malcolm X.

Brath, after a long struggle and illness, returns to his ancestors.

June 5th - Dr. Vincent Harding: A Griot Falls

In West African societies, a Griot holds a special, almost sacred place in the life of the nation.

That's because he is one who holds in memory the history of the nation, its battles, its struggles, its kings and its councilors, He sings such tales of the nation's past, and is thus, a teacher.

His life's memory is so precious that when he dies, he is not buried, but placed in the hollow of a tree, to stand;

as the nation stands.

A legendary historian - and figure of history - Dr. Vincent Harding, has become an ancestor.

In his youth he was an assistant of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and he had so much clarity and influence that he wrote one of King's most controversial and groundbreaking speeches: the radical oration of Riverside Church, where King denounced capitalism, racism and the War in Vietnam.

Dr. Harding wrote: *There is a River; The Black Struggle for Freedom in America*, a beautifully written work of a man who played an important role in that struggle.

His writing is so passionate that one could not help but be engaged in the flow of his narrative. He also wrote *The Inconvenient Hero*, a work on Dr. King which shows his struggles, his growth, and his betrayal by those who claimed to follow him.

Dr. Harding, when a young scholar/activist, helped found the Institute of the Black World (IBW), which published pamphlets, articles and books on the struggles facing Black people, and of the growing, burgeoning Black Power Movement.

The IBW did a direct-mail newsletter, *Monthly Review*, and a newspaper column called "Black World View", which addressed the institute's views on the nation and the African world.

With his wife, Rosemarie, Vincent left Chicago in 1960 to establish the Mennonite House in Atlanta, a place for rest, renewal and reflection on anti-war ideas during the early years of the anti-war movement.

Rev. Dr. Vincent Harding was a Griot, telling the tales of the Black Nation. His instrument was his keen mind, his typewriter and his books, written with the loving lyrics of Black Country gospel.

He returns to the Essence: but his sweet music of the history of Black resistance continues to resonate.

June 6th - The Shivving of Shinseki

I first recall the name 'Shinseki' when during the failed presidential bid of U.S. Senator John Kerry; he invoked his name as a virtual talisman; "Gen. Shinseki"; "Gen. Shinseki!"

This was the 2004 elections, when the name could shield Kerry, a Vietnam vet, from the odious attacks of a team of Swift-boaters, who called into question his own military service.

When President Barack Obama ran for the office, he too invoked Shinseki's name, repeatedly, to give heft to his critiques of the Bush-era military debacles unfolding in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Shinseki, like the ill-fated Moor, Othello, 'has done the state some service', and was rewarded with the honor of being named Secretary of Veterans Affairs in 2009 by the President.

Erik K. Shinseki, who has spent decades in the military at various ranks (ending at General), began as head of the V.A. with a 2010 budget of \$108.1 billion. In 2011, it ballooned to \$141.1 billion. A year later, it shrank to \$124.3 billion.

Is there any wonder that the agency is in disarray?

Nonetheless, no agency leader controls funding. Congress does. And this Congress has been driven by the desire to cut budgets, the better to free monies to grant to the rich in lower taxes.

They demanded the head of Erik Shinseki. And Obama gave it to them; a sacrifice to savages who are drunk on

the blood of political virgins.

When I was a boy, I visited the Philadelphia Zoo, where I marveled at the sight of lions, tigers, gorillas and zebras.

Above all the cages and enclosures signs were prominent: "Please Don't Feed the Animals."

Perhaps a similar sign would be posted at the front door of Congress: "Don't Feed These Animals (It Only Encourages Them.)"

June 6th - A Woman Called MAYA: 1928 - 2014

Maya Angelou had to be the name of a poet; for it is too perfect, too lyrical to fit any other personality.

Born on April 4, 1928 as Marguerite Johnson in St. Louis, MO., she blazed an incandescent streak across the heavens as a voice of memory, as poet, actress, author and activist. She taught generations of students as an honored professor of literature. As a young woman she struck the boards as an African dancer.

And she was a close friend and colleague of Malcolm X, working briefly as a leading member of his post-Nation of Islam grouping, the Organization of African-American Unity (OAAU)

During the early '60s presidency of Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana attracted activists from around the world, especially Black Americans. Maya Angelou would be among them, making Western Africa her home.

There she would meet Malcolm again, tanned dark by the African sun, goateed, and fresh from his Hajj to Mecca, appearing at her door.

The assassination of Malcolm X seemed to have marked a turning point in her life, for it seemed like the work of "crazy people", she said.

She got a call while visiting a relative in San Francisco, and the news of Malcolm's fate numbed her into shock.

Her brother appeared at the house, unbidden, and drove her away. As they walked the city's Black district - then the Fillmore - the conversations being heard around them were about Malcolm - but decidedly negative: "[H]e got what he deserved," said one; "Serves him right", said another.

Her brother turned to her and said, "These are the people that he died for."

She would thereafter write, mother, teach and mentor.

Her autobiography, "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings", a tale of childhood betrayal, vengeance, and death, would be joined by works of poetic wonder, light and hope.

Her majestic contralto would lend Presidential Inauguration nobility if did not deserve, when she delivered "On the Pulse of the Morning", reciting:

History, despite its wrenching pain,
Cannot be unlived, but if faced
With courage, need not be lived again. (1993)

It seemed more fitting for her own extraordinary life.
She is the mother of the brilliant novelist, Guy Johnson.

27 May - New Issue of 4Struggle Available Online

As our comrade Jaan Laaman wrote, "Hey everyone -- wanted to let you know that issue 24 of 4strugglemag.org is up online! Yeah, a little tardy, but loaded with useful and good information. So check it out and let folks know and as always, we welcome feedback and more. The hardcopies should be coming out too, I hope in the next couple of weeks. Many of you are aware, but our major hardship is always covering the cost of the, presently about 1000 hardcopies - the postage, so giving this pretty one of a kind mag some support is always very useful/necessary. Enjoy this 4sm and hope each of you are doing at least alright."

27 May - Mi'kmaq warrior pleads guilty to five charges from anti-fracking resistance

A man from Elisapogtog First Nation has pleaded guilty to five charges related to anti-shale gas protests last year, including one that ended in a violent clash with RCMP.

MORE:

Jason Augustine, 34, appeared in Moncton provincial court on Monday and was sentenced to 18 months of probation.

He was also ordered to stay at least one kilometre away from any shale gas exploration activities or protests.

Augustine pleaded guilty to assaulting a police officer, two counts of obstructing a police officer, and one count of mischief in connection with a protest near Rexton on Oct. 17.

RCMP had moved in to enforce a court objection obtained by SWN Resources Canada, which ordered that the company be allowed to carry out exploration work without harassment.

"Police moved in to control a dangerous situation involving firearms, improvised explosive devices and other weapons," Const. Jullie Rogers-Marsh said in a news release.

RCMP say Molotov cocktails — homemade explosive devices usually made using a glass bottle filled with a flammable liquid and a piece of cloth stuffed inside that is set on fire — were thrown at officers and six RCMP vehicles were burned along Route 134.

About 40 people were arrested that day.

Augustine also pleaded guilty to mischief for blocking equipment at a protest near Harcourt on July 27.

27 May - Let's Get Free by Kazi Toure

The Jericho Movement is planning a march on the United Nations on November 2nd. Former political prisoner Kazi Toure has written about it and you'll be hearing more from us as organizing continues and the date approaches.

MORE:

Hopefully this communication finds you all in good health and revolutionary spirit. Let me first apologize for the delay in getting this out to you. I hesitate to make this call for many reasons; my lack of a strong oratory voice and the public persona to put forth the call and generate the necessary response. Someone once told me that the issue doesn't matter, only who put out the call. I remain hopeful that is not true.

Former political prisoners and prisoners of war have always guided the Jericho Movement. We reject the messianic worship of such leaders as Louis Farrakhan, and organizations such as those who call for mass anti-war demonstrations, yet have questionable funding sources and no grassroots presence.

To all of our comrades in struggle, in the words of Bob Marley, "Rise up fallen fighter, Rise up and take your stand again." On November 2, 2014, the Jericho Movement is calling for a March/Demonstration to the U.N. to demand rescinding the \$2 million bounty on Assata Shakur, the respect of Cuba's sovereignty, and the freedom of Sundiata Acoli, Oscar López Rivera, Debbie Simms Africa, Leonard Peltier, Jaan Laaman, Herman Bell, Afia Sadaki, Antonio Negrón, Jalil Muntaqim, Tarek Mehanna, Russell Maroon Shoatz, Janine Africa, Veronza

Bowers, Robert Seth Hayes, Jamil Al-Amin, and all Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War. Our efforts may not bring about the desired result, to “Free ‘em All,” but we must keep up the pressure. This call goes out to the movements whose struggles have produced Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War, and to those organizations doing anti-prison (PIC) work. Jericho has consistently supported all PPs and POWs, so we send out this call with the hope that you will include it in your work this year.

We hope that all of those who support the release of PPs and POWs, and those who oppose the prison-industrial complex, will join us on this march to the U.N. on November 2. Jericho presently has chapters in ten cities across the country. We will have events in all of those cities during the year, in addition to the coalition work we engage in with other organizations. We will reach out to comrades and activists from various movements throughout the country who we have worked with in some capacity, as everyone will have to step it up to make our collective voices be heard.

Having recently mourned the passing of Nelson Mandela, we must remind our communities of the scores of “Mandelas” who remain locked away in the dungeons of America’s gulags as PPs and POWs. It will be the height of hypocrisy to support the spirit and struggle of Mandela and the ANC in South Africa, yet abandon the veterans of our liberation struggles here in the U.S. We will start up conference calls in April.

28 May - Keystone XL resisters headed to trial!

Elisabeth Leja and Alec Johnson both took direct action against the southern section of the Keystone XL pipeline last year with Great Plains Tar Sands Resistance in Oklahoma; were arrested; and now face trial.

MORE:

The Southern Leg of the Keystone XL is in the ground, but Elisabeth Leja and Alec Johnson are still fighting! Elisabeth is a 75-year-old, retired math teacher from Norman, Oklahoma. Elisabeth was the first person to risk arrest opposing KXL in Oklahoma when she locked herself to construction equipment with a bike lock in the wee hours of February 4th, 2013. Alec Johnson is a climate justice organizer based in Nacogdoches, Texas who took action last year on Earth Day in Atoka County, Oklahoma.

When Elisabeth isn’t busy shutting down industrial construction sites, she spends time playing with her companion dogs, Omni and Mega, in the beautiful woods near her home. Elisabeth is a retired math teacher. Citing exponential theory to illustrate the rapid rise of carbon emissions from tar sands exploitation, Elisabeth explains that the Keystone XL just doesn’t add up. “I have nothing to lose personally if the pipeline is completed and used incessantly by Trans Canada. If there were to be a spill, I wouldn’t be directly affected. I live too far away. So why protest? Because I love the earth, our planet. I live on it, and we need to take care of it. Why sit back and let greed run the world?” Determined to put the KXL and the whole tar sands industry on trial, Elisabeth has taken a No Compromise stance in her ongoing legal defense. Elisabeth is now scheduled for trial at 2pm on June 26th in Ofsuke County. She is facing a charge of trespass. She would love to have community support as she defends herself and individuals’ rights to raise their voices through nonviolent acts of civil disobedience.

Alec Johnson is also refusing plea deals and going to trial in order to defend his actions. The prosecutor in Alec’s case is pursuing two charges of Obstructing an Officer, each of which carry a possible one year sentence in Atoka County Jail! Recently an Atoka County Judge overruled a pretrial motion to dismiss Alec’s charges. When asked about his upcoming jury trial, Alec had this to say:

“The KXL Pipeline is a clear threat to our children’s futures. Those promoting tar sands exploitation are engaged in a crime against humanity. My action sought to prevent the expansion of the tar sands industry. The fact that the Keystone XL is even being considered represents a stark failure by federal, state, and local government to protect the atmosphere that all life shares. I am NOT GUILTY by reason of necessity. I am defending a right to life that depends on a habitable atmosphere. I am protecting that right to life for future generations. I look forward to the opportunity to present the facts of global warming to a jury and to highlight the urgency and necessity that we all face in fighting global warming and the destructive tar sands industry.”

Alec has been scheduled to go to trial, possibly September or October, no definite date has been set. Stay tuned for updates!

28 May - Joel's Blog: Settling In

Recently imprisoned comrade Joel Bitar has been blogging about his imprisonment. As we receive new entries, we print them here.

MORE:

It's been three months since I last tasted freedom and I finally feel like I'm settling in to the bulk of my sentence. Fortunately, these early months have gone well and been without any major incident. It's amazing to get so many letters of support from folks around the world.

Getting a letter while behind bars is an amazing feeling. Thank you to everyone who took some time out of their day to sit down and write. I'm doing my best to respond to each letter, so if you haven't gotten anything from me yet, I haven't forgotten. Also, for some reason, the mail censors keep tearing off return addresses so unless you include your return address in the body of the letter somewhere, I have no way of knowing where to send a response.

Now that the weather has been getting nicer, we've been playing a lot of soccer in the yard. Jail soccer is a bit different from regular soccer – pretty much anything goes. Everything from tripping and shoving to holding and pushing is welcome and even encouraged. For a few days in a row, I couldn't seem to avoid getting kicked directly in the face with the ball. It was as if my face had a gravitational pull and the ball landing on it was a scientific inevitability. Also, the shoes they give us are loose fitting so it is common for shoes to accompany the ball in flight after a swift kick. At any given moment it is possible for multiple shoes to be flying through the air at once (yet more projectiles I have to shield my face from).

I can't deny that sometimes I get frustrated in here. My life has essentially been reduced to three spaces: my cell, the range, and yard. Every day is some combination of those three places which makes me claustrophobic if I stop to think about it for too long. When sadness/claustrophobia strikes, I try to stand back and gain perspective. My situation could be a lot worse and it's only temporary. One day in the not too distant future, I will get out of here. Some political prisoners will spend the rest of their lives behind bars so I'm relatively fortunate.

One guy I sit with for meals is doing everything he can to make his experience as miserable as possible. He doesn't go to yard, doesn't order canteen, and intends on avoiding work and school while in jail. His reasoning is that his freedom and his life outside will be much sweeter after depriving himself. He's a man of extremes. Eventually, he says, his misery will get balanced out with positive experiences.

I try not to think too much about time and dates. Once you start counting days, you are in trouble (counting months is ok though). It still feels like I have a mountain of time ahead of me, but the thought of being free again is what wakes me up every day. Out in the world people are living their lives but in here time seems to stand still. We are living in some sort of black hole where time has no real meaning. It's a bizarre and disorienting feeling. Freedom is precious, folks... treasure every day as if it were your last. Unfortunately, human beings have this persistent dilemma: we don't know what we've got till it's gone. For freedom that's especially true.

31 May - Earth First! Activist Jailed on Trumped Up Charges, Support Needed

Earth First! Journal friend and comrade Elliot Hughes was arrested May 29th evening as he left the Albany Bulb — a homeless community within a park that sits atop a former landfill, as well as the ecocide wreaked by the Koch Brothers.

MORE:

From the GoFundMe page: This comes in the wake of the arrest of two of the last bulb residents and the destruction of their house, as well as the arrest of two other Bulb supporters.

Elliot is being hit with multiple trumped up charges, including possessing tools to escape from jail and possession of weapons, both felonies, as well as two misdemeanors. His bail is set at \$65,000, which means that we need \$6,500 to bond him. Please support!

Hughes has been on the frontlines of campaigns against the eviction of the Albany Bulb.

He has been targeted by police for his extensive and effective involvement in environmental justice campaigns throughout California.

Although the charges are not likely to stick, the police state is trying to make a demoralizing point. Let's hit them back by supporting Elliot and getting him out of jail ASAP.

1 Jun - Interviews with Political Prisoner Jalil Muntaqim

Thanks to many hours of work by Joe Friendly, two different interviews with Jalil Muntaqim, one from the year 2000 and one from 1988 by Paper Tiger TV, have been digitized and uploaded to YouTube.

MORE:

The 1988 video also includes a response to Badge of the Assassin with Safiyah Bukhari, Attorney Brian Glick, and the New York 3.

These can be watched at:

www.freejalil.com/jalilinterview.html

www.freejalil.com/jalilinterview2.html

1 Jun - Update on Sundiata's Parole Appeal Hearing

The hearing for Sundiata Acoli's parole argument happened Wednesday May 28th in New Jersey's Appellate Court.

MORE:

It was in response to the New Jersey state parole board's continued denial of Sundiata's release after serving 40 years in prison and completing his sentence.

The hearing was open to the public. The panel of three judges will provide a decision in about three weeks. As soon as we hear anything, we will update folks. We ask everyone to keep Sundiata in their thoughts and prayers until then.

Contributions towards Sundiata's legal fees are also needed. Funds can be sent by logging into to Paypal.com and sending funds to The Sundiata Acoli Freedom Campaign at the email address: SAFC766@gmail.com.

Folks can also write to Sundiata at:
Sundiata Acoli #39794-066 (Squire)
FCI Cumberland
Federal Correctional Institution
Post Office Box 1000
Cumberland, Maryland 21501

For more information on Sundiata's case in general, visit www.sundiataacoli.org or email TheSAFC@gmail.com.

2 Jun - New Campaign: Welcome Home Dylan Sutherlin (Tinley Park Five)

Over the next several months, the remaining Tinley Park 5 anti-fascist political prisoners will be released on parole. Those three are the Sutherlin brothers-- Cody Lee, Dylan, and Jason. After a successful campaign for Cody Lee, we're now focusing on Dylan. It's understandable that folks not familiar with the case might get

confused and think they've already recently supported someone named Sutherlin. So we're emphasizing that there are three brothers, all facing parole, all needing support as they plan to transition back into the world.

MORE:

Dylan Sutherlin of the Tinley Park 5 is due to be released from prison in July. So Bloomington ABC, NYC ABC, and Sacramento Prisoner Support have launched a campaign to start a release fund for Dylan.

From j.mp/DylanSutherlin:

“In May 2012 five antifascists were arrested and, in early 2013, took non-cooperating plea deals for 3 felonies each for taking part in emphatically stopping a meeting of white supremacists organizing under the guise of the Illinois European Heritage Association at a restaurant in Tinley Park, Illinois. For more information, see tinleyparkfive.wordpress.com.

Dylan Sutherlin is the third of the five to be released, rejoining us in July. Bloomington ABC, NYC ABC, and Sacramento Prisoner Support have launched a campaign to start a release fund for Dylan. By the time Dylan is released, he will have been locked up for over two years, will have a felony record, and certain things just won't be the same. Let's help him make a smooth transition! Let's raise some money and secure a fund that will welcome him upon his release. Your donations will help Dylan pay bills and costs of living while he looks for a job, as well as to buy a phone.”

Please remember that prisoner support doesn't end when a comrade is released. Through halfway houses, supervised release, parole, or probation, there is usually state supervision beyond the initial sentence. Also, prison is traumatic. And of course there is the stigma of being a former prisoner that effects nearly every aspect of one's life. All of this adds up to the less obvious, but equally necessary, support needed when our loved ones come home. Donate to your ability and show an anti-fascist comrade how we welcome folks home.

If for whatever reason you'd rather donate to Dylan offline, please make the check payable to Dylan Sutherlin and mail it to:

Sacramento Prisoner Support
Post Office Box 163126
Sacramento, California 95816

If you'd like to write to Dylan to let him know you're thinking of him and that you're glad he's getting out soon, he'd love to hear from you. His current address is:

Dylan Sutherlin M34022
Centralia Correctional Center
Post Office Box 7711
Centralia, Illinois 62801

More information is available at tinleyparkfive.wordpress.com and j.mp/DylanSutherlin

2 Jun - Yuri Kochiyama's Activism 'Sustained By People in the Movement'

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Yuri Kochiyama over the weekend. She was a warrior for political prisoners until the end.

MORE:

by Jamilah King (*ColorLines*)

Pioneering Japanese American activist Yuri Kochiyama passed away on Sunday night. She was 93 years old. For some, she's known as the woman who cradled Malcolm X as he lay dying on stage at the Audubon Ballroom in 1965 (“I just picked up his head and put it in my lap,” she recounted in a 2008 interview with Democracy Now! “I said, “Please, Malcolm! Please, Malcolm! Stay alive!”). But even that iconic image of her doesn't do enough to capture the life she spent dedicated to social activism.

Kochiyama's journey began with her family's internment during World War II and wound its way through the

Black Power and Black Arts Movements of the 1970s. She played an instrumental role in helping Japanese Americans win reparations for their internment, and spent the last years of her life inspiring countless young activists.

“Most people make life; some people make history,” her biographer Diane Fujino told the San Francisco Chronicle in 2005 ahead of the release of “Yuri Kochiyama, Heartbeat of Struggle.” “Yuri organized her life around making history. I think of her as a very ordinary person, who’s done extraordinary things.”

She embodied the multiracial spirit of racial justice, and while there are plenty of tributes — like this song from Seattle-based hip-hop group Blue Scholars, or this heartfelt essay from Kochiyama’s granddaughter, Maya, or actress Sandra Oh’s performance of her speech on her internment — what’s most instructive is to listen to what she had to say about her own life.

In 1996, Kochiyama sat down with Angela Davis to talk about activism. They picked the conversation up again 12 years later. The documentary film, “Mountains That Take Wing” by C.A. Griffith & H.L.T. Quan, is long (more than 90 minutes) and not the best quality, but it documents how Kochiyama approached her life’s work. When asked by Davis what helped sustain her decades of activism, Kochiyama responded, “People in the movement sustain each other. It’s because their spirit is so contagious.”

June 3^d - For Yuri From Mutulu

FATE IS A STRANGE AND TWISTED FIBER THAT RUNS THROUGH THE MATERIAL OF OUR LIVES. THE INEVITABLE MEETING BETWEEN YURI AND I WAS NOT BY CHANCE. THE COMBINED DESTINY OF OUR LIVES, AT LEAST FOR ME, WAS SPIRITUAL. WE FOLLOWED EACH OTHER IN A DYNAMIC EVOLUTION. I BENEFITED EXTRAORDINARILY FROM SISTER YURI'S SACRIFICES AND AUDACITY IN THE STRUGGLE.

SHE BECAME A BRIDGE TO HER WORLD THAT I DID NOT KNOW. I BEGAN TO SEE THROUGH HER EYES, MEETING BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF I WOR KUEN, DISCOVERING ACUPUNCTURE FROM HER INTRODUCTION. AND SHE FOLLOWED ME TO PLACES, UNBEKNOWNST TO MY THEN YOUNG MIND, IN SEARCH FOR THE TRUTH. AS PART OF THE REPUBLIC OF NEW AFRICA, WE WENT TOGETHER TO MOUNT BAYOU MISSISSIPPI TO EL MALIK. SHE FOLLOWED TO HELP ME WATCH MY STEPS, NEVER UNTANGLING OR DISLOYAL TO OUR COLLECTIVE FATE.

I'M NOT MISSING YOU YURI, FOR YOU ARE WITHIN ME. YOUR LIFE HAS SET A STANDARD WITH WHICH SOLIDARITY IS BUILT. THERE ARE VERY FEW IN THE WORLD THAT CAN COMPARE A LIFESTYLE I COMMITTED MYSELF TO OVER THESE YEARS TO GIVE HONOR TO YOUR MENTORSHIP. I'M SO THANKFUL FOR YOUR EXAMPLE. MUCH OF WHAT OUR STRUGGLE HAS ACCOMPLISHED, YOU HAVE BEEN A DRIVING FORCE. I AM SO THANKFUL.

I TAKE THE PREROGATIVE TO THANK YOU FOR THE MANY WHO ARE WAITING FOR YOU IN THE UNIVERSE, AND THE MANY WHO ARE UNAWARE OF YOUR TRANSITION. WE LOVE YOU SO VERY DEARLY. I WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE, AND SPREAD THAT SPECIAL LOVE FOR LIFE AND JUSTICE ALL OVER THE WORLD.

IT IS SAID THAT STILL WATERS RUN DEEP. BUT YOUR LOVE, YURI, WAS NEVER STILL, YET VERY DEEP. TROUBLED WATERS WAS WHEN YOU SHINED AND MADE LOVE MANIFEST. SUCH LOVE IS ALWAYS IN THE EYES OF THE STARS.

WE WILL NEVER FORGET WA 6-7412. LOOK OUT COMRADES OUT THERE IN THE UNIVERSE! HERE SHE COMES!!! WHAT A SHOW ;) AND TO THE KOCHIYAMA FAMILY, LEST WE FORGET, LOVE GOES ON FOREVER BECAUSE IT IS BORN IN A PART OF US THAT CANNOT DIE. I LOVE YOU ALL AND THANK YOU FOR BEING YURI'S ROCK AND INSPIRATION.

2 Jun - Jeremy Hammond Reacts to Hector Monsegur's "Sentencing"

Upon receiving news that the snitch who set him up got released after time served, Jeremy Hammond replied with, "show solidarity by retaliating and escalating! Reject the NSA White Hat Sabu Ideology!"

MORE:

In many ways, the disgusting spectacle of Sabu's hearing was similar to mine: we were both sentenced in the same courtroom under the same judge, the outcome already predetermined with all parties reading from well-rehearsed scripts. I was condemned to the maximum prison term for having committed "mass mayhem," while Sabu received the most lenient of all Anonymous-related sentences for embracing "good, not evil". Hugs and high-fives all around as Judge Preska saluted Sabu for having betrayed his comrades and his ideals, preventing hundreds of cyber attacks, and helping the FBI catch their "most wanted cybercrime target".

The government hopes the case is closed and that the public will swallow this superficial narrative that even they probably had a hard time reciting in court with a straight face. But unanswered questions remain, and they have made every attempt to prevent the evidence from being seen by the public, because it provides yet another confirmation that the US is involved in widespread hacking and surveillance operations far greater than any of the supposed crimes they lock us up for.

Prosecutors assert that Sabu's cooperation prevent "over 300 cyber attacks," but not once during my involvement with Anonymous were any of my attacks stopped despite the FBI's full knowledge. To be fair, while breaking into a few targets I noticed attempts to lock their systems down, but I had owned and backdoored each target so thoroughly that they were unable to protect themselves (demonstrating the futility of the defenses of so-called security professionals). Other targets the FBI never bothered to notify at all – they sat by and watched them being owned one after another. The US Attorney only explicitly charged me with hacking a dozen or so entities, but they were well aware according to chat logs and evidence recovered from my computer that there were hundreds more that have never been publicly named. I shed no tears for these law enforcement agencies and federally contracted corporations, but I wonder how they feel about the FBI's inability or unwillingness to protect them.

The FBI was, however, very interested in our techniques and capabilities, particularly the Plesk 0day root vulnerability. When Sabu's beggings for a copy of the exploit were denied, he scanned the internet and identified lists of vulnerable foreign government websites which he then asked me to hack. The government reframes this blatant espionage plot in their sentencing memorandum saying that Sabu helped protect other governments from cyber attacks. Because evidence was withheld (Sabu's interviews and statements with the FBI) or under a protective order (chat logs), it is unknown what they ended up doing with these backdoors. What is clear is that the US cyber security agenda is less interested in preventing attacks on our own soil than they are using the skills of rogue hackers to spy on valuable intelligence targets.

By aggressively prosecuting hackers who play by their own rules, they want to deter others from taking up the cause and hope future arrests will yield more aspiring cooperators. We must continue to reject excuses and justifications that make it acceptable to sell out your friends and become a pawn of cyber-imperialism. Before getting involved in hacking and direct action, you should be aware of and fully prepared for the worst case scenario if caught. But fear not, because we have a strong movement of lawyers and supporters who will have your back if you get jammed up. Sabu avoided a prison sentence, but the consequences of his actions will haunt him for the rest of his life. Not even halfway through my time, I would still rather be where I'm at: while they can take away your freedom temporarily, your honor lasts forever.

Most importantly, the government hopes these arrests will have disrupted Anonymous and deterred others from engaging in politically-motivated hacking. But Anonymous is a decentralized, leaderless movement, and reports of our death have been greatly exaggerated. CEOs and cops are still getting dox'd, websites are still being defaced, and stolen databases are still being plastered all over the internet.

2 Jun - UPDATE: Sekou Kambui Facing Continued Retaliation

Sekou Cinque T. M. Kambui, after having his cell ransacked, has been written up by Bibb County officials on an alleged contraband violation. For this he faces at least forty-five days in a disciplinary unit (it is unclear

whether this is SHU or some other high-security wing of Bibb County Correctional).

MORE:

He cannot receive visitors for the next 145 days, meaning of course that he will be lacking crucial support before and after his parole hearing. This is simply the latest in a long list of retaliatory actions taken against Sekou for his political activity behind bars, and reflects a history of transfers, write-ups, and mail-tampering preceding upcoming parole dates.

This ploy to silence Sekou at a crucial moment in his fight to be free is nothing new, but it must be met with resistance. For now, Sekou simply requests continued support through the petition for his freedom and letters to the Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles. The link to the online petition is below. Freedom to Sekou Kambui and all political prisoners!

<http://www.change.org/petitions/alabama-board-of-pardons-and-paroles-free-political-prisoner-sekou-cinque-t-m-kambui-aka-william-j-turk-113058a>

2 Jun - Luke Self-Defense Hearing Set for July 1st

Luke O'Donovan had a status hearing at the courthouse on June 2nd where we learned that his self-defense hearing will be held on July 1st at 9am.

MORE:

Everyone who can show up to court should, as this will be an important date for Luke. His legal team will be arguing that he should be immune from prosecution because he was acting in self-defense. If you are able to come please show up dressed for court. It will be held at

Fulton County Superior Court, Courtroom 5B

185 Central Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia 30303

2 Jun - ATF Agent had vials of dynamite with evidence in Omaha Black Panther case

The longstanding mystery of how dynamite particles got in the clothing of Ed Poindexter and Mondo we Langa has a likely answer...ATF agent Tom Sledge dusted their clothing with vials of dynamite powder he possessed.

MORE:

by Michael Richardson (*The Examiner*)

Thomas Sledge, an agent of the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division, in Omaha, Nebraska, carried small plastic vials of dynamite powder with him while transporting evidence in the 1970 bombing murder case of an Omaha policeman. Two Black Panther leaders, Edward Poindexter and Mondo we Langa (then David Rice), were convicted of the crime and sentenced to life imprisonment. Included with the evidence against the two men were dynamite particles found in their clothing.

Dynamite traces were found in the shirt pocket of Ed Poindexter and pants pockets of Mondo we Langa upon their arrests. However, both men deny any knowledge of how the dynamite got into their clothing and its presence is suspicious. Both men were tested for dynamite when their clothing was seized and were found clean. In Mondo's case, the Omaha World-Herald photographed Mondo while waiting for the jail elevator with his hands deep in his pockets just moments before his hands tested clean.

Agent Sledge is now deceased but has become a focal point of controversy following the recent disclosure of the terminated Midwest 22 conspiracy investigation. Sledge was the lead agent in the biggest investigation of his career into a purported four-state bombing conspiracy by twenty-two black radicals. Both Ed Poindexter and Mondo we Langa were targets of Sledge's conspiracy investigation.

United States Attorney Richard Dier nixed the ATF investigation by refusing to prosecute Sledge's suspects. Dier explained the "trend in the judiciary is away from major complex conspiracies." In July 1970, the Justice Department cancelled Sledge's planned search of the National Committee to Combat Fascism headquarters in

Omaha. Sledge was no doubt angry at his cancelled search as Assistant U.S. Attorney William Gallup was so enraged he resigned as a federal prosecutor.

Thomas Sledge was not a career ATF professional but rather a new agent with less than a two year history with the agency. However, Sledge was a nine year veteran of the Omaha Police Department and older brother of James Sledge, a patrolman injured in the August 17, 1970 bombing that claimed the life of Larry Minard, Sr.

Sledge was determined to make a case against those he suspected of a series of unsolved bombings in Omaha and other cities in the Midwest that summer. Sledge testified at the trial of the Omaha Two, as Poindexter and Mondo are now known, and handled crucial evidence in the case. Thomas Sledge hand-carried their clothing to Washington, D.C. for analysis at the ATF Laboratory. Sledge also carried small vials of dynamite powder.

The testimony of Sledge at the Minard murder trial was recorded and the trial transcript reveals that Sledge could have dusted the pockets with dynamite powder on the way to the ATF laboratory.

Thomas Sledge testified at trial: "I received a call from Special Investigator Casper at 4:30 a.m., that there was a bombing and that my brother was involved....I went down to the police station at about five a.m. and checked on my brother."

Sledge then went to the blast site, arriving at seven o'clock in the morning and searched continuously for the next twelve hours. Within days Sledge would make several trips to the ATF Laboratory with evidence in the case delivering it to ATF chemist Kenneth Snow.

Thomas Sledge was also involved in the purported discovery of dynamite in Mondo we Langa's basement during the August 22 search of Mondo's home with detective Jack Swanson, who claimed to have found the dynamite. Convenient to a frame-up, Swanson also maintained his own dynamite cache at a quarry in Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he stored dynamite seized from three men in July 1970.

Later, after Swanson's death, detective Robert Pfeffer would claim he found the dynamite not Jack Swanson. Pfeffer also would later claim he, along with ATF agents at the search, found rigged suitcases. The alleged rigged suitcases were not noted on any report or documented in any fashion by anyone and their disposal or location is unknown and unrecorded. Sledge testified that Pfeffer found blasting caps but did not mention any rigged suitcases or Pfeffer's role in discovery of dynamite.

Sledge and Swanson did transport fourteen sticks of dynamite to the police station. At the station, Sledge and another ATF agent emptied two of the sticks. Sledge testified, "We also took samples of each stick." Sledge then placed the dynamite powder in plastic vials and said "I took those to Washington" with other evidence.

Sledge's testimony about his sole custody of the dynamite evidence is confirmed by a prosecution "Trial Memorandum" found buried in the files of the Douglas County District Court by a court researcher.

The Trial Memorandum states: "Thomas Sledge, Special Agent for the AT&F people, will be mainly responsible for the custody of the items found at 2816 Parker [Mondo's house] in that he personally carried them to Washington, D.C. and turned them over to the laboratory in Washington".

Thomas Sledge, upset and angered over his brother's injuries in the August 17 bombing, frustrated about his cancelled search of NCCF headquarters, was alone with vials of dynamite powder and clothing of the accused Black Panther leaders. The answer to the mystery about the dynamite particles in pockets may have been there all along, unnoticed, hidden in the trial transcript.

Ed Poindexter and Mondo we Langa remain imprisoned at the maximum-security Nebraska State Penitentiary serving life sentences. Both men continue to deny any involvement in the murder of Larry Minard, Sr.

6 Jun - Calle 13 Honored By NYC As Band Demands Political Prisoner's Release

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito (D-East Harlem) honored one of the most popular anti-imperialist bands in the U.S. on Friday as the group's frontman donned a T-shirt demanding freedom for Oscar López Rivera.

MORE:

At Gracie Mansion ahead of Sunday's Puerto Rican Day Parade, the elected officials bestowed René Pérez and Eduardo José Martínez of Latin hip-hop group Calle 13 with a proclamation praising the group for "igniting minds, imaginations, and conversations around the world." It would have seemed an odd sight just a few months ago, during the city's more conservative Bloomberg administration.

Pérez was crowned the king of this year's Puerto Rican Day Parade, which chose the liberation of Oscar López Rivera as one of its main themes.

"They say that this is the country of freedom and human rights," Pérez told The Huffington Post. "But if this were happening in another country, like Venezuela or China, people would say, 'That's a dictatorship.'"

Noting that President Barack Obama had visited the Robben Island jail cell where former South Africa President Nelson Mandela spent most of his 28-year confinement as a political prisoner, Pérez added: "You've got a political prisoner in your own country."

López belonged to the Armed Forces of National Liberation, known by its Spanish initials as the FALN, which committed bombings, killings and kidnappings during the 1970s and 1980s in its efforts for Puerto Rican independence. He was convicted in 1980 of seditious conspiracy and sentenced to 55 years in prison, with 15 years added later after he was found guilty of attempting to escape. He has spent 12 of his 33 years in jail so far in solitary confinement, according to Puerto Rican news agency Primera Hora.

Those calling for his release say that at 71 years of age in an era in which the violent struggle for Puerto Rican independence has fizzled out, López no longer poses a threat. The Chicago-area bombings in which López was connected killed no one, and were intended to damage property rather than hurt people, according to Puerto Rican Resident Commissioner Pedro Pierluisi, who represents the island as a non-voting member of the U.S. Congress.

The issue has widespread support on the island. Both Pierluisi and Gov. Alejandro García Padilla, who belong to opposing political parties, have called on the Obama administration to free López. U.S. Rep. Luis Guterrez (D-Ill.), himself of Puerto Rican descent, has also pressed for López's release.

Wildly popular throughout Latin America as well as among Hispanics in the United States, Calle 13 has become known for its revolutionary politics as much as its eclectic rhythms and risqué lyrics. The band rages against the U.S. killing of Puerto Rican nationalist Filiberto Ojeda Ríos in "Querido FBI," extends its solidarity to immigrants in "Pa'l Norte," and offers an anthem to Latin American unity in "Latinoamérica." Calle 13's most recent album, "Multiviral," features a guest appearance by WikiLeaks founder and U.S. government nemesis Julian Assange.

Though de Blasio refrained from discussing Calle 13's politics in his public remarks, the band's anti-imperialist message likely strikes a personal chord with the mayor. As a young man, de Blasio supported the Central American solidarity movement, traveling to Nicaragua in 1988 during the left wing Sandinista government to distribute humanitarian aid.

De Blasio's support of the Sandinistas ran counter to that of the U.S. government at the time, which funded a right wing rebel army in Nicaragua known as the Contras during the Ronald Reagan presidency. A 1989 Human Rights Watch report describes the Contras as "major and systematic violators of the most basic standards of the laws of armed conflict, including by launching indiscriminate attacks on civilians, selectively murdering non-combatants, and mistreating prisoners."

A corruption scandal had threatened to cast a shadow on this year's Puerto Rican Day Parade. An investigation by state Attorney General Eric Schneiderman revealed in February that the nonprofit that organizes the annual event had mismanaged \$1.4 in corporate donations, according to the New York Daily News.

But Councilwoman Mark-Viverito, the first Latina to serve as city council's speaker, praised the reorganized board as she spoke to the crowd at Gracie Mansion on Friday.

"Their efforts and the efforts of a community that is demanding accountability are bringing this parade back to its roots," Mark-Viverito said.

She applauded the parade's new leadership for championing the cause of Oscar López, saying that previous parade organizers had "never wanted to highlight" demands for his release.

Mark-Viverito said she chose to honor Calle 13 this year to send a message that those in positions of influence should use their fame to press for social change.

"We have added responsibility to raise our voice," Mark-Viverito said. "And that is what Calle 13 does."

In addition to López, this year's parade will pay tribute to the 100th anniversary of the birth of poet Julia de Burgos, as well as the 65th Infantry Regiment, known as the Borinqueneers. Taking its name from the indigenous name of the island, "Borinquen," the segregated Puerto Rican 65th Infantry Regiment fought in World Wars I and II and the Korean War, before being disbanded in 1959.

11 Jun - International Day of Solidarity With Marie Mason, Eric McDavid & All Eco-Prisoners

WHAT: JUNE 11th

WHEN: 8:00PM, Wednesday, June 11th

WHERE: The Ho_se – 28 Lawton Street Brooklyn, New York 11221 (Directions below)

COST: \$5-20, sliding scale

MORE:

Every year in New York City, founding members of Marie Mason's support group and NYC ABC have hosted a June 11 event, and this year is no exception! We have an amazing multi-media presentation of words, images, music, and dancing. All proceeds will go to Marie Mason and Eric McDavid, who are both doing 20+ year sentences for their environmental activism.

Short talks from:

- lawyers who represent Marie Mason
- members of her support group
- former political prisoners on what support means to people on the inside

Slideshow:

Elektra KB (guest contemporary artist)

Music:

- What A Fiasco! (cult singer-songwriter)
- Known Universe (xVx hip-hop)
- Remember When We Trashed the Golf Course (radical folk-punk)
- Vulture Shit (stunning punk rock!)

For more information on June 11, see earthfirstjournal.org/june11

For more information on Marie Mason, see supportmariemason.org

For more information on Eric McDavid, see supporteric.org

For the Never Alone exhibit, see neveraloneart.org

Directions:

Getting to The Ho_se is simple:

From the J/M Train:

Myrtle Avenue Stop: Walk southeast on Broadway (away from Melrose Street, toward Jefferson Street). Walk about five blocks down and turn left on Lawton Street. We're half a block up, on the right side of the street.

12 Jun - New York press conference marks release of study on domestic terror cases

WHAT: Press Conference

WHEN: 11:00am, Thursday, June 12th

WHERE: Center for Constitutional Rights - 666 Broadway, 7th floor

COST: FREE

MORE:

"...the war on terror has been largely a charade designed to make the American public believe that a terrorist army is loose in the U.S., when the truth is that most of the people convicted of terrorism-related crimes posed no danger to the U.S. and were entrapped by a preventive strategy known as preemptive prosecution."

—from the introduction to *Inventing Terrorists*

Project SALAM (Support And Legal Advocacy for Muslims) and the National Coalition to Protect Civil Freedoms (NCPCF) jointly announce the release of a substantial new study, "Inventing Terrorists: The Lawfare of Preemptive Prosecution," about the government's post-9/11 strategy of preemptive prosecution of domestic terrorism cases. "Inventing Terrorists" is the first study to directly examine and critique preemptive prosecution and its abuses. The study's authors, Albany attorneys Stephen Downs and Kathy Manley, will discuss the study's findings and conclusions at a press conference on Thursday, June 12 at 11 a.m. at the New York City offices of the Center for Constitutional Rights, 666 Broadway, 7th floor.

Downs and Manley are co-founders of Project SALAM and officers of the Washington, D.C.-based NCPCF. Marwa Elbially, Esq., NCPCF's executive director, will also be available at the press conference.

"Inventing Terrorists" has been posted for public download on the Project SALAM website, <http://www.projectsalam.org/Inventing-Terrorists-study.pdf>. Printed and bound copies will be available for review.

The 175-page study defines preemptive prosecution as "a law enforcement strategy...to target and prosecute individuals or organizations whose beliefs, ideology, or religious affiliations raise security concerns for the government." "Inventing Terrorists" draws on the metaphor of "lawfare"—the use of the law as a weapon of war—to detail the government's deliberate use of preemptive prosecution and associated legal tactics. The study argues that the government "has used preemptive prosecution to exaggerate the threat of Muslim extremism to the security of the country," and compares a list of 399 "official" terrorism cases published by the U.S. Department of Justice in 2010 to a unique database of terrorism cases from 2001 to the present, compiled by Project SALAM, to categorize, analyze, and re-think terrorism prosecutions across America.

A compelling statistic that emerges from analysis of the 399 cases shows that 94% were either preemptive prosecution cases or cases that contained significant elements of preemptive prosecution. The study makes a firm distinction between individuals who represented real security threats to the nation and those who were preemptively prosecuted and never represented any threat. Examples of preemptively prosecuted cases and individuals include the Newburgh 4 (2009) in Newburgh, New York; José Padilla (2002) in Chicago and Florida; the Aref-Hossain case (2004–2006) in Albany; Tarek Mehanna (2012) in Boston; Professor Sami Al-Arian (2003–present) in Florida; and the Holy Land Five (2007–2012), officials of a large Muslim charity in Texas.

The study gives background on the origin of the concept of preemptive prosecution, discusses its tactical patterns (such as use of stings, agents provocateur/informants, and material support laws), and concludes with specific recommendations to change the current unfair practices in such cases. The study also includes additional details,

drawn from the Project SALAM database, on the 399 cases that are analyzed; describes all cases referenced in the body of the study; and offers a large bibliography of references, sources, and literature.

One of the recommendations of “Inventing Terrorists”—“Stop False Statements Prosecutions Based on Unrecorded Interviews”—will be implemented in mid-July by the FBI and other law enforcement agencies under a newly announced DOJ directive. According to the study, “The FBI and other federal agencies have a practice of refusing to record formal interviews with defendants, notwithstanding that it is a felony to lie to a federal agent...because the present system of questioning unfairly stacks the deck against a target, most lawyers advise their clients not to appear voluntarily for an interview with the FBI.” Attorney General Eric Holder said in a video message on May 22 that recording such interviews “will allow us to document that detained individuals are afforded their constitutionally protected rights.”

12 Jun - Zapatista Film Screening at Interference Archive

WHAT: Corazon Del Tiempo

WHEN: 7-9pm, Thursday, June 12, 2014

WHERE: Interference Archive - 131 8th Street, Number 4, Brooklyn, New York 11215

COST: FREE

MORE:

As part of programming for the *Autonomia es la Vida* exhibition at Interference Archive, we will be screening the following film this coming Thursday. Come on out!

Corazon del Tiempo (Heart of Time) is a film about love in the time of Zapatista Resistance. Things get complicated when Sonia, a Zapatista civilian supporter living in an autonomous community, falls in love with Julio, an insurgente (rebel fighter), because she is already promised to Miguel, a young community leader. The film shows how the community deals with this romantic dilemma. Spanish with English subtitles.

Corazón del Tiempo was filmed in a Zapatista community in the heart of the Lacandón Jungle of Chiapas, Mexico. The actors are all non-professional Zapatista actors who uncovered their faces and opened their communities for the world to see.

21 Jun - Speak Out for Marissa Alexander

WHAT: Speak-out

WHEN: 12:00-2:00pm, Saturday, June 21

WHERE: 125th Street and Lenox Avenue - Harlem

COST: FREE

MORE:

With upcoming pretrial motion hearings, jury selection and trial, it has never been more urgent to take to the streets demanding freedom for our sister Marissa Alexander.

Racist and sexist Duval County State Attorney Angela Corey has moved full speed ahead with Marissa’s prosecution. Marissa was convicted in a bogus first trial. Through the growing movement to free her, she won a second trial on appeal. But the State has thrown the book at Marissa, seeking the maximum penalty possible—60 years!, for defending her own life and the lives of her children.

Women around the world will not sit silent as Marissa is prosecuted for a second time. Marissa is not guilty of anything, and should not have served one day behind bars. She should not be facing trial, but more so, she should be free.

One month before the jury selection in Marissa’s case, people all over the United States will take to the streets demanding her freedom. Nationwide actions are taking place June 20 – 21!

21 Jun - Free Maroon Shoatz Event

WHAT: RISE UP FOR MAROON!

WHEN: 6:30-9:00pm, Saturday, June 21st

WHERE: First Unitarian Congregational Society of Brooklyn - 116 Pierrepoint Street

COST: \$10 (includes food - no one turned away!)

MORE:

Featuring:

Prince Cy'Riq (Zulu Youth)

Dread Blaq

Art Start

Ni Dios Ni Amo

The RAPP Campaign (Release Aging People in Prison)

In February of this year, senior citizen, published author, and U.S. political prisoner Russell Maroon Shoatz was released into general population from solitary confinement after over 22 consecutive years of torture! This was a historic people's victory of the international campaign mobilized around Maroon.

Join us on June 21st for an evening of music, arts, poetry, and delicious food in celebration of this victory as one small step in the continued struggle to free all of our elders incarcerated, and ALL political prisoners. The next step must be to demand full freedom NOW for Russell Maroon Shoatz! We won't allow less than complete freedom. We must be prepared for our next steps and calls to action.

Let's RISE UP for Maroon and take a stand for freedom as we work toward building a better world!

For more info, contact: [freemaroonNYC AT gmail.com](mailto:freemaroonNYC@gmail.com)

<http://twitter.com/freemaroonNYC>

<http://facebook.com/freemaroonNYC>