



Updates for July 8th

16 Jun - Mexico: The trial against the 5E 3 is over and awaiting sentencing

On June 16th, the final hearing was held for the trial against Amelie, Fallon and Carlos, the three anarchists arrested on January 5th accused of damages and attacks against the public peace.

MORE:

Legally speaking, it remains for now to wait for the lawyers and judges to reach their decisions, so that the sentence can then be dictated in the local charges our compañerxs are facing. As for the federal charges, the next hearing will be on Wednesday the 25th. If they do in fact stipulate time periods for these two last stages of the trial to be settled, we know that the judges can delay the time of the sentencing. It is important to continue showing our solidarity with the compañerxs kidnapped by the State. Freedom to All!

17 Jun - Richard Morano Released!

G20 prisoner Richard Morano came home on the 17th of June. His partner and two friends went right to the border at rainbow bridge and picked him up!

MORE:

Rick is doing well, back to work already. He has to pay fines of \$3000. He worked out a pay plan where he pays \$400 a month. He also has to call his parole officer once a month to check in.

Thank you to all who sent in letters to Rick and showed him your support!

18 Jun - Joel's Blog: Dealing With Conflict

Recently imprisoned comrade Joel Bitar has been blogging about his experiences in prison. We'll be printing them here.

MORE:

Before I begin this post, I want to mention that although it's wonderful getting letters in here, it's not so wonderful for some people who see me getting them. Most of my fellow prisoners get no mail at all. When they observe me receiving so much mail, it reminds them of how alone they are in here. Some folks supporting me have sporadically offered to be pen-pals to some of my fellow prisoners so I want to use this blog post to formally ask you all who are reading this to write a friend of mine in here.

His name is Michael. He's a 40 year old Jamaican guy who has a wonderfully positive personality. He could pass for a Buddhist, so impressive is his ability to make light of a terrible situation. Please send him a short letter just to let him know that he's not alone. It will make his day. He told me he's really interested in getting a letter from a woman. Like all heterosexual males locked up, he definitely craves female attention. His address is:

Michael Grant
1501 Fuller Avenue
Penetanguishene, Ontario L9M 2H4
Canada

Back to the topic at hand. Conflict in life is inevitable when you have various competing interests. Conflict in jail is a scientific certainty because all the people with competing interests are trapped together. Walking away isn't an option because there is nowhere to go. If someone calls you a "bitch" on the street, you can literally turn and walk in the opposite direction. That privilege doesn't exist here. There's no walking away. Every conflict needs

to be resolved and this is usually a torturous and stressful process.

Because of who I am – someone who is geeky-looking, educated, and generally different – I have become the target of certain individuals. I attract unwanted attention. So, in response, I am changing. I talk to people as minimally as possible and avoid letting them see the real me. I keep them guessing.

One verifiable truth about jail: people generally confuse kindness for weakness. One of my theories is that some people have never been shown kindness so they immediately assume that there must be something wrong with a kind person. People here will abuse your kindness. If you give them something – an item like a newspaper – they will begin to expect and even demand more of the same in the future. Then, if you decide to cut them off, they will immediately resent you and a conflict is born.

So, I've decided to learn how to fight. It's imperative that I have some idea of how to defend myself against the chaotic and hard to predict violence of jail. Better to be prepared than not. Through some clever jail engineering, I've managed to hang a rolled-up mattress off the top bunk in my cell. Every other day I set it up, wrap my wrists and hands, and go at it. I never punched with my left hand before – I'm developing a quick jab. It's great exercise and after 20 minutes, I'm shirtless in my cell sweating profusely.

For anyone about to go to jail: take MMA, boxing, or some type of martial arts training. Don't sit around for months stewing in self-pity like I did. Knowing that you can defend yourself will prove invaluable. It will give you confidence and allow you to assert yourself. People will be less likely to take advantage of you.

When I first came here, I met a young man who got half his ear bitten off in a fight. He said to me, "People mistake kindness for weakness." At the time I shrugged him off but he was speaking truth and he learned it the hard way. I came to jail with the idea that criminals are better than everyone else: an enlightened segment of society. The truth is that criminals are just people – some are good, some are bad, some are very very bad, and they are the reason for my training.

24 Jun - A Letter From the Old Man

A comrade of ours, who does support work for Joe-Joe Bowen, aka The Old Man, recently asked him about working with the anarchist black cross. Here's what Joe-Joe had to say:

MORE:

Concerning the Anarchist Black Cross people. I first met these soldiers through one of my people who is in a different section of our infrastructure, about 20 years ago. Remember what I told you before, up until I met the soldiers from ABC, we in my section of the People's Struggle against state oppression did not deal with people from the streets. The other section chief told me to get with these soldiers from Anarchist Black Cross and talk with them. I did that, and I like what they were talking about. After that first meeting, we've been operating ever since. We in my section of the People's Struggle against state oppression like the way the soldiers in ABC takes care of the struggle business. They've been operating a long time in the struggle, and we in my section respect them for their work in the struggle.

24 Jun - New prisoner support network seeking input

There has been a steady increase in prisoner resistance for the last few years, but not enough outside support to effectively defend and amplify these prisoner-led struggles.

MORE:

SupportPrisonerResistance.net has been created for two reasons: 1. recruit, educate, and prepare people who are inspired by the acts of resistance happening on the inside, but don't know how to best get involved, and 2. network, raise funds and share resources among the people who are already involved in supporting prisoner resistance. Right now we're looking to collect knowledge from many perspectives on what prisoner struggles can be like, and how they can be more effectively supported.

One feature of this website will be audio and text interviews with anti-prison activists both on the inside and

outside. To this end, we've created a couple sets of interview questions, one for outside supporters, and one for prisoners. We've included the questions below. Please send responses to:

SupportPrisonerResistance.net
c/o Sacramento Prisoner Support
Post Office Box 163126
Sacramento, California 95816

We will transcribe and post your responses to the site. If you have outside supporters who can record your answers over the phone, that'd be great as well. Have them contact prisonerresistance@gmail.com to get us the audio file for posting. If that's not possible, we can have someone else read it for you. That way we can have all the interview responses in both audio and text format.

Interview questions:

1. Who are you? Where are you incarcerated and how long have you been inside? If you would prefer this be anonymous to avoid repercussions, please feel free to use a nickname, or more general / generic info (like the state or region you're in, rather than the specific prison).
2. Can you tell us about any prisoner resistance movements or activities you've openly participated in?
3. What kind of tactics or action (whether they be formal open protests or informal covert "troublemaking") do you think are most effective?
4. Can you tell us a story where outside support made a difference in your life or resistance efforts?
5. What strategies would you like to see emerge or develop among folks on the outside who already do prisoner support work?
6. How could someone who's new to prisoner support work get involved?
 - What if they're far away from places where large prisoner protests are happening?
 - What if they're nearby, but don't know any prisoners / understand a lot about prison?
7. How should we inform or include prison populations that may not already be involved, like female prisoners, prisoners in regions with less activity and support, folks in immigrant detention centers, county jails, etc?

More about the website:

SupportPrisonerResistance.net is a broad-based non-sectarian clearing house of information and resources for outside support. Our mission is simple: to help you- whoever you are- shine a protecting light onto the struggles of prisoners.

The last few years has seen a steady increase in prisoner protests, from work strikes in Georgia, Alabama, and North Carolina, to hunger strikes at supermax prisons in Ohio, California and Illinois, to many other forms of protest and resistance all across the country. Everyday in many ways prisoners attempt to stand up for themselves and assert their rights all across this country, often facing severe and violent retaliation.

Committed support and engagement from people on the outside can make all the difference in these struggles, but it often feels like a daunting task to people on the outside. As the struggles for prisoner rights and against mass incarceration continue, we hope to collect the knowledge of both experienced activists and inspired new comers to increase the ability to support and sustain a movement against prison.

25 Jun - Jalil Muntaqim Denied Parole...Again Guess which one's serving time?

We recently heard from Jalil Muntaqim, via the Jericho Movement that he has been denied parole for the eighth time.

MORE:

According to the law, Jalil should have been released in 2002, after serving his full minimum sentence of 25 years on a 25 to life indeterminate sentence.

The Police Benevolent Association (PBA), Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and Correctional Officers Benevolent Association (COBA) consider Jalil's ideas to be a true threat.

We will have more details as soon as we get them, as well as an organized response to this denial of justice.

25 Jun - New writings by Mumia Abu-Jamal

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

MORE:

June 25th - Chained as Children

In 2012 the U.S. Supreme Court decided that mandatory life sentences for juveniles was a violation of the Constitution's Eighth Amendment prohibition against "cruel and unusual punishment".

Ever since then almost a dozen states have resolved how their states should address retroactivity issues, or whether this new constitutional rule applied to older cases.

Six states have decided yes -including, for example, Texas and Mississippi; - and 3 states, among them Pennsylvania, have ruled no, meaning the new rule doesn't apply to earlier cases.

That's significant because Pennsylvania has more juvenile lifers than any other state in the United States - some 462, at last count. And, not surprisingly, Philadelphia leads the state's other counties in the number of jailed juvenile lifers: 265.

And recently, the U.S. Supreme Court decided that it would not hear appeals on the issue of juvenile retroactivity.

So thousands of people, many of whom have been imprisoned for decades - with mandatory life sentences - remain in prison without chance or hope of parole.

In that Miller. v. Alabama case from 2012, the court majority reminded other members of the court that "children are still children".

That lesson has not yet reached Pennsylvania.

June 26th - IRAQ: A State at War With Itself

Lightning strikes. Those are the words that came to me as I witnessed the speed with which the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) was rolling through northern Iraq, forcing government forces to flee.

The cities of Mosul, Samarah, Tikrit and others fell in a matter of days, with nothing but token resistance from the central government.

Photos appeared of long lines of men, unarmed and out of uniform, making haste in their flight from the seized cities.

Now, in shocked reactions to ISIS gains, U.S. politicians are clamoring for the return of thousands of U.S. soldiers, to buttress Iraq's fast-fading forces. In essence, they are agitating for more war.

It's a safe bet that this won't happen, but the partisan call for war continues to sound.

One wonders: war for what? For a government that has made the lives of Iraq's Sunnis a living hell? It is this very region that forms the springboard for ISIS power.

Since the fall of Saddam they have suffered the lion's share of American and now, Iraqi state violence.

Did we think resistance would never have arisen?

Iraq may be on the road to civil war, but that probability arose the day Americans invaded, not the day they left.

The U.S. Army didn't invade in pursuit of peace, but of petroleum. They split Iraq asunder and left it in tatters.

The Iraq invasion, a neoconservative dream that became a nightmare, was a disaster from Day One.

It remains so.

The war began with lies. It could not have ended otherwise.

The neocons, who created this mess, are now trying to restart the war anew.

On this, they must fail.

June 26th - Imam Jamil Ailing

His name is Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin, A Muslim Imam, and a prisoner of the U.S. government.

But perhaps he is better known (or remembered) as a fiery young icon of the 1960s-era Black Power movement, H. 'Rap' Brown. He was called 'Rap' because of his quick, snappy style of speech, when he gave voice to the most oppressed Black communities in America.

His outspoken defense of self-defense earned him the eternal enmity of the government (local and federal), and his war against drug dealers in New York resulted in a stretch in New York's prisons.

In 1976 he was released, a new man, a convert to Islam, and renamed Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin. He became a founder of the local mosque, and a leader of the community. In this new role, he continued to fight against drugs in the community.

In 2000, in what many believe was a set-up, he was charged with shooting 2 cops in Atlanta, convicted and sent to prison. This, despite conflicting evidence provided by one of those very cops! One of those shot reported flash information that the shooter was a man 5ft, 10in., with gray eyes. Jamil stands 6ft. 5in. and has brown eyes.

The surviving cop claims to have shot his shooter, and a blood trail seems to support this report.

There's one problem with that scenario: when Imam Jamil was apprehended, days later, he had no gunshot wounds.

But, ultimately, as stories changed, two convictions were returned.

Today, Imam Jamil, at 71 years is seriously ill, the result of a gum infection which has spread throughout his body, causing weakness, swollen feet and ankles.

Poor medical treatment is the norm in American prisons - and Imam Jamil's experience is no exception.

For 7 years he hasn't seen the sun.

In his youth, in the '60s, he was at the very forefront of the Black Freedom Movement, serving as a leading

figure in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and the Black Panther Party. He was a stalwart opponent of white supremacy and racism.

As an Imam he worked to make Atlanta a better city, free from the crippling scourge of drugs.

He deserves better than this.

July 1st - "MILITARY ADVISERS": The Way Back Into Iraq?

With the news that President Barack Obama is now sending 300 military advisers back into Iraq (identified as Special Forces), we may be eyeing the beginning of a new phase in the Iraq War.

The war, we have been assured, is over, and the bulk of U.S. troops have been withdrawn. Thus, the president can claim one of his campaign promises have been fulfilled: the ending of an unpopular war.

But the striking successes of the insurgent ISIS [Islamic State of Iraq and Syria] army, and its subsequent occupation of over a third of Iraqi territory, coupled with the blatant failures, corruptions and the sheer incompetence of the government of Nuri al-Maliki has opened doors that once seemed sealed shut.

Over half a century ago, when Vietnam began preparations for free and fair elections (which the U.S. feared for they knew of the popularity of Communist leader, Ho Chi Minh), the UN opened the door to countries involved there to bring in a limited number of troops, in a so-called 'peace-keeping' mode.

The late great historian Howard Zinn noted in his A People's History of the United States:

Under the Geneva Accords, the United States was permitted to have 685 military advisers in southern Vietnam. Eisenhower secretly sent several thousand. Under Kennedy, the figure rose to sixteen thousand, and some of them began to take part in combat operations. (South Vietnam President Ngo Dinh was losing). Most of the South Vietnam countryside was now controlled by local villagers organized by the National Liberation Front. *

Zinn writes of summer, 1963. Before the year was gone, President Diem was dead, slain by his own generals at the behest of the CIA.

The criticisms of President Ngo Dinh Diem then, are strikingly similar to the criticisms of Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki now.

What lies uncontested is the right of the US Empire to choose who should lead other countries. What happens when 1, 5, 10, or 20 of these so-called 'military advisers' gets killed or wounded?

What happens when anti-aircraft fire brings down a U.S. helicopter stuffed with 'military advisers'?

President Obama may find that he is trapped in the marshes of war, just as President Lyndon Johnson was trapped in the jungles of Vietnam, where, not only Vietnamese peasants, or U.S. soldiers died, but so too did his hopes for The Great Society.

July 3rd - War Changes Everything

In a matter of days, a tiny, rag-tag group of militiamen have changed the map of Iraq.

Calling themselves (oddly enough), ISIS (the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria), (odd because 'isis' is the Grecian name of an ancient Egyptian goddess). They have used pick-up trucks, automatic rifles, no air power and little more than will to take over a dozen Iraqi cities, chief among them, Mosul - the country's second-largest city.

They have seized oil refineries, and robbed banks - but more importantly, they have completely intimidated the national army -which would rather run than fight.

Confident, mobilized, and motivated, they are going from victory to victory, from strength to strength - with only token resistance.

What does this portend for the future of Iraq?

Civil War? Partition?

The destruction of Iraq as a Shia - ruled State?

No one knows.

Two weeks ago, who knew they existed?

War, the old adage goes, is the mother of all things.

We shall see.

26 Jun - Health Campaign for Robert Seth Hayes

NYC Jericho received a report from Seth regarding continuous harassment by C.O. Darius at Sullivan Correctional Facility, including extremely dangerous retaliatory action by C.O. Darius, who has been deliberately delaying Seth from getting his 11 a.m. insulin shot.

MORE:

Seth had written a complaint about C.O. Darius some months ago about an incident regarding the New York Times. Seth, who loves the sun, was going to the yard with his newspaper to sit and read, and C.O. Darius insisted upon inspecting the paper, which he then made a mess of and gave back to Seth. Seth complained, stating that the paper was not in the condition it should be, and C.O. Darius basically ignored him, resulting in the written complaint by Seth.

Seth's sugars are finally under somewhat better control after a long campaign to get him proper medical treatment following his sudden weight loss at the end of last year. Seth must be on a strict insulin regimen, and this delay of 20 to 40 minutes on a daily basis could actually endanger his life.

We must be making phone calls and writing for Seth to demand that this harassment by C.O. Darius stop immediately. We must also demand that Seth receive his insulin on time every day.

NYS DOCCS states on its website that denial of adequate medical care is a violation of a person's eighth amendment constitutional rights, as this would be cruel and unusual punishment. Of course, adequate medical care would include a diabetic diet, which is absolutely not provided by NYS DOCCS. Additionally, they refuse to allow food package items such as diabetic cookies and candies.

Of course, if Robert Seth Hayes had been released on parole instead of having 15 years added to his sentence by the NYS DOCCS Parole Board, he would be a free man today and would have better access to adequate medical care than he currently does.

Please write, call, fax and email the following people and insist that Robert Seth Hayes, DIN No. 74-A-2280, receive his insulin on time. If you are a doctor, nurse, or any other kind of medical personnel, please use your letterhead. Please email nycjericho@gmail.com and let us know what response you receive. Also, if you are able to find out any additional phone or fax numbers, we will be grateful for the information.

Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci
NYS Department of Corrections
and Community Supervision
Harriman State Campus, Building 2

1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12226-2050
Phone: 518.457.8126

Carl J. Koenigsmann M.D.
Deputy Commissioner/Chief Medical Officer
NYS DOCCS Division of Health Services
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1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12226-2050
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Division of Health Services
Nancy A. Lyng, MS, Director of Health Services
Operations and Management
Harriman State Campus, Building #2
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12226-2050
Phone: 518.445.6176

Sullivan Correctional Facility
Post Office Box 116, 325 Riverside Drive
Fallsburg, New York 12733-0116
Phone: 845.434.2080
Patrick Griffin, Superintendent

Write to Seth and let him know he is in our hearts and on our minds:

Robert Seth Hayes #74A2280
Sullivan Correctional Facility
Post Office Box 116
Fallsburg, New York 12733-0116

26 Jun - Statement from Leonard Peltier

There's a new campaign to raise funds for Leonard Peltier's legal fees. Details, as well as Leonard's latest statement, follow.

MORE:

Greetings my Relatives, Friends and Supporters

As I have said so many times in the past I am deeply and truly honored that you remember me on this day and I am honored to have my words read to you today. I think this commemoration day should be about the lives of all our people who in some way lived and died for us.

By the time of the Oglala shoot-out there had already been some 60 something of our Native people killed.

These people are the ones we are commemorating here today. I always especially remember Joe Stunz, who was a mentor to some of the younger boys in the community.

Of all the things I want us to remember today and everyday, I want us to remember who WE are, I want us to remember where WE came from, I want us to remember our ancestors that we are so proud of, and I want us to live in such a way that our children and our children's-children will look back at us and be proud of who they are because of what we were.

I want to see a day where our people do not have to depend on any other source than ourselves.

I want to see a day where our people aren't suffering from the bitter cold in the winter months.

A day where our people are not suffering from mal-nutrition and improper medical care.

I want to see fires burning inside well built homes that are not unstable and falling apart.

I want to see a day where alcoholism and drug abuse is not rampant throughout Indian country.

There are so many other things I could mention that need to change, and I will tell you for a fact they won't start changing until WE change them.

We must look back to our traditions. We must look back to our own cultures and the teachings of our elders who taught us that the greatest gift the creator gave us was our bodies in good health and the Earth around us. We must remember from our traditions, that it is our responsibility to take care of our bodies and health and the bodies and health of our children,

Our traditions also taught us to be the caretakers of all the nature around us.

There is an old saying back when the Buffalo were almost totally done away with, I think there were only about 25 or so left, in the U.S., the saying was that when the Buffalo come back, the American Indian would also come back. Well, the Buffalo are back, they are not what they were, but they are thriving. WE are also coming back, and we are not what we were yet, but we will be.

I know things have changed, as they always do and we must rise to meet those challenges. Everything in life is based on some challenge and we have faced challenge after challenge and we are still here. I want to encourage all of you from the depths of my soul and with my deepest prayers; to set up programs for our children that would teach them the survival skills that it will take to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. To find ways to protect and restore our Earth.

As a man I encourage you men out there to step up stronger than you have been, more determined than you have been, more consistent and persevering than you have been, and do all you can to make this a better place for all people.

Our enemies are many, but most of it has to do with money. People, at times, love money more than the Creator, or the gifts the creator gave us. Our people will be approached even more in the coming future to sell off our lands and our resources and we must do what we can to protect them for our children and the coming generations.

We must also at every opportunity remind the Gov't of the agreements and treaties they have made with our people. We should also remind them at every opportunity that the Black Hills are still ours, and the lease is up. We should also remind them, at every opportunity that we are part of the treaty they call the constitution and that we should be respected and given every equal right under that agreement. One thing in particular that the constitution says, is that you will receive a trial with a jury of your peers and yet every Indian that is arrested and tried in federal court is tried off the reservation, there is no jury of our peers.

That is just one point, there are many.

I know for a fact that our people have it within their blood, history and understandings, to win out over this time of trial that our people have been going through for a couple hundred years now.

If we want things to be different we are going to have to DO them different.

When I think about our young people and elders who commit suicide I am full of sorrow. When I hear about what is happening to Mother Earth, I weep with anguish.

These things won't change until we take responsibility for making that change ourselves. These corporations are not embarrassed at all by hurting us. They always find some legal, moral or religious reason to justify stealing from us. We as a people must take responsibility, rise to the challenge and teach our children to be able to face that challenge. We need to get back to eating the foods that our bodies are designed for, the ceremonies that our hearts and spirits are designed for, and the love and caring for one another that we are ALL designed for.

A wise elder once said you cannot live with one foot in a White mans canoe and one in an Indians canoe, you have to choose one or the other. He said that in relation to perhaps culture, but when we look at the destruction of the air and the water and the soil and the dangerous possibilities that face all mankind that are taking place right now, we are all in the same boat.

I always remember Floyd Red Crow Westerman once said, that the flowers are not all the same color... the birds don't all sing the same song but together, they make a beautiful forest. I know for a fact there are people of other races and other colors that feel the same way we do, and when we meet them, we need to join together to stop this common destruction that faces all mankind. There can be no diversity of life on an Earth that cannot sustain life.

I was and am a common man just like you, but in all of this, I came to realize that each of us carries within him the spirit of our people and wherever we go, whether we like it or not, we represent our people. Since I was hauled off to boarding school it has been the same fight, If I would just admit that this Government is always right and never wrong, and if our people would back off from the position of remaining who we are and stop clinging to our cultures, to assimilate, etc, etc... but in my heart of hearts and in the core of my being I have always remembered what so many of our people have lived and died for, I have remembered that they died for the right to remain on their own land where the creator put us. They lived and died for the right to practice our religion that was given to us. They lived and died to be able to keep their children among them and not be taken off to some boarding school. They lived and died for the right to be Indian, by OUR standards not theirs. I have done my best to live up to that all my days

I am tired, and at kind of at a loss for words now, and I am sure you are all sitting in the hot sun about ready for some cool water and a breeze, but in closing I want to say that

I miss you.

I long to be with you.

I long to have the sun shining on me without the shadow of bars or chain link fencing in the way.

I long to see an eagle circling the Sundance grounds.

I long for the touch and hugs of close friends and loved ones.

I long for life as a free man.

I will never give up, on who we are. I encourage you to stay strong and be a good representative of our people wherever you go. Be an encouragement and a source of strength for those in need.

Wherever they put me, or keep me, or lock me away,- rest assured that my heart and prayers are always with you

Forever in the Spirit of Crazy Horse

27 Jun - Mr. Koti Wins Article 78 Appeal. Support letters needed ASAP

New York State political prisoner Mohaman Koti won his Article 78 appeal of his May 2013 parole denial, which was a split decision.

MORE:

He will have a de novo hearing, but was informed by Ms. Papaleo at Mohawk that the hearing will be in 10 days. We feel this is a deliberate attempt by DOCCS to have him go to the hearing without having time for people to write letters of support for him.

We will be visiting Mr. Koti on Saturday, June 28th. We have been in touch with his lawyer, Susan Tipograph, to see if this de novo hearing can be postponed.

Start writing those parole support letters now.

Address them to:

Tina M. Stanford, Chair
New York State Parole Board
New York State Division of Parole
1220 Washington Avenue, Building 2
Albany, New York 12226-2050

Letters are actually sent to:

Ms. Papaleo
Offender Rehabilitation Counsellor
Mohawk Correctional Facility
6514 Route 26, Post Office Box 8450
Rome, New York 13440

Make sure to keep a copy of your letter. Good idea to send them priority mail, because you have a tracking number.

27 Jun - Imam Jamil Al-Amin Health Crisis Update

Imam Jamil continues to be aware of your efforts and sends his greetings and thanks to all who support this effort or are otherwise advocating on his behalf.

MORE:

As of 24 June 2014, we are aware that Imam Jamil's health status is somewhat improved. However, serious concerns remain: one of Imam Jamil's feet remains badly swollen and he is unable to walk on it without pain, he continues to lose weight (30 lbs. as of 6/24), has not received the results of any of the diagnostic tests administered to him two weeks ago and most importantly, he has never been seen by a physician before, during or after this crisis, as is his right.

NOTE: Given his age and health status--it is imperative that Imam Jamil receive adequate medical treatment and on-going health care

Continued Action is Needed

GO TO: <http://www.bop.gov/inmates/concerns.jsp>

SELECT LOCATION: Florence ADMAX USP
ENTER INMATE: Mr. Jamil Al-Amin #99974-555

VOICE YOUR CONCERNS:

In your own words you may want to express concern that: (1) Mr. Al-Amin's need for dental care was ignored until it actually became life threatening, (2) that he is suffering significant after-effects of that delayed dental care, including: weight loss (30 lbs.), still has some difficulty eating, has painful and swollen feet, and continues to have respiratory problems; (3) he has not been receiving adequate and timely medical care, as is his right; (4) despite his age and health status--and even when he was unable to eat--he was never seen by a physician; (5) he has never received the results of any of the diagnostic tests administered at ADMAX two weeks ago. Finally, we are requesting that Mr. Al-Amin be transferred to Butner Medical Center in Butner, NC; a facility that has the resources to meet his current and anticipated future medical needs.

30 Jun - Cecily McMillan Released!

Occupy activist Cecily McMillan was released from Rikers Island on Monday, June 30th and we've included a couple of relevant news items below.

MORE:

June 30th - Occupy Protester Cecily McMillan on Rikers: "In Some Ways, I'm Treated Better Than Anyone Else In Here, Which is Horrifying"

by Anna Merlan (*Village Voice*)

After serving a little less than two months in jail, Occupy Wall Street protester and graduate student Cecily McMillan will be released from Rikers Island on Wednesday, July 2. As you might recall, the 25-year-old was found guilty in May of assaulting a police officer during a 2012 protest. She was sentenced to 90 days in jail and five years probation, with time off for the good behavior and time served. It seems safe to say that both McMillan and the city's Department of Correction will be happy to see her off the island, where, true to form, she's been protesting and organizing almost since the moment she arrived.

Rikers has been in an uproar lately, after two officers and 20 inmates were arrested as part of a corruption sweep. But none of them were in the Rose M. Singer Center, the jail unit where women are kept. McMillan and her fellow inmates didn't know about the arrests until relatively recently. The regular paper for the inmates is the Daily News; when they ran a cover story about the arrests last week, the paper arrived with the front cover torn off.

In a recent phone call, McMillan said her time at Rikers has been curious, a mix of special treatment that no other inmates receive and weird restrictions that seem tailor-made just for her.

"I'm treated better than almost anyone in here in terms of healthcare," McMillan told the Voice in a recent phone call. She's been able to get access to physical exams and even, after a lengthy delay, her ADHD medications. But she also says she was physically assaulted by a guard in early June, a man who shoved her and shouted a string of obscenities for no reason she could see.

"I guess he was having a bad day," she says.

McMillan filed a complaint against the corrections officer about the incident. Her support team provided us with a copy of that statement. It reads, in full:

"June 7th, 2014 at approximately 10:00am - I approached the "800 building" medication window located down the hall from the 1st floor viewing "bubble", between the rooms designated "salon" and "inmate assignment", to receive supervised medication (adderall). Shortly thereafter I was verbally abused then physically assaulted by a male correctional officer later identified as "Griffin," badge number 14966 (according to the officer himself). In addition to me, the incident (in whole or in part) was witnessed by the pharmacist on duty, one female officer, and one additional male officer in a light blue shirt - further, the officers in the "bubble" also seemed alert of the exchange. Namely, Officer Griffin (#14966) called me a string of obscenities - in an increasingly loud and threatening manner - before rushing me and slamming

his body into mine. If not for the other officers intervening, it is my belief that he would have caused further injury - more than just sending me stumbling backward with my glasses askew. This is based on his continued advances upon me (following the physical assault) despite no verbal or physical attack on my behalf. The entire explanation of the event is available as needed. However, I have spoken to my attorney Martin R. Stolar and given the full account (on the evening of June 7th): at that meeting we mutually agreed that no major harm was caused - I was just frightened - and therefore we would forego further action.

Finally, I found that such behavior was atypical amongst the interrelations I've had with correctional officers; most have generally treated me with basic respect, many with courtest, and several have been outright kind and helpful. That being said, I understand that this is not an easy job (the hours are long and stressful) and everyone is entitled to a bad day - especially as it seemed Officer Griffin was already upset from an incident occurring as I walked up."

There have been other, smaller issues: both McMillan and her support team say it's been a "daily battle" for her to get her mail, especially letters. "Everybody but me is allowed to get letters in their mail packages," McMillan says. Her letters seem to go through a different sort of scrutiny and have been arriving "absurdly late," she says. It usually takes two to three days from the time a letter is delivered to Rikers to the time the inmate receives it. On June 17, she got a letter postmarked May 22.

Lucy Parks, a friend of McMillan's who's been organizing much of her jail support, says McMillan's visitors also go through a special screening. "Both me and Cecily's thesis advisor are both flagged to be required to do pat down searches before we can visit, but someone else who goes in every week isn't," she says. Pat-down searches are usually only reserved for visitors who set off the metal detector. Neither of them do. "It's something that comes up in the system when they check our IDs." They also frequently have to wanded over with an ion scanner, a device that tests for the presence of narcotics and explosives on someone's clothing or skin. Another friend of McMillan's says he recently noticed a note on a stack of papers at a front desk where the guards sit. The note said to "call the captain" when McMillan has visitors.

The Voice asked the Department of Correction whether McMillan or her visitors have been subject to any special security measures due to the high-profile nature of her case. Department spokesperson Robin Campbell responds, "Any special security measures would be done at the request of a judge."

McMillan says, though, that most of her "special treatment" amounts to minor annoyances. She's far more concerned with some of the system-wide issues she's observed. One that sounds minor, but has become a major problem is the fact that the 50-some women in her "pod" don't receive the outside recreation time they're entitled to each day. That's because they're called to recreation at the same time that they're called for their meals, medication, and mail. It's not possible to do all four. You have to pick: go outside or eat. Eat or take your meds.

"Last night, I didn't eat," McMillan says. "And sometimes, we'll be called to recreation, but we'll just end up waiting in the day room for two to three hours." Then they'll be returned to their cells without ever going outside.

"The UN has said that it's torture not to allow people to be outside," McMillan says. She organized a "dormwide collective action" last week, where every woman wrote letters of grievance. McMillan's hopes are not high: she's previously spoken to the jail official in charge of hearing grievances, pointing out that the right to recreation is in the Rikers prisoner handbook.

"She told me she didn't write the handbook and she's not required to uphold it," McMillan says. "There's nobody to talk to to enforce these basic rights."

Spokesperson Campbell responds: "We comply with minimum standard set by the Board of Correction. BOC standards require inmates to have access to all mandated services. On occasion, recreation times are rescheduled to accommodate special programs. When this happens, staff provide inmates with reasonable means for accessing all mandated services."

Finally, McMillan also says she's deeply concerned with the quality of healthcare provided to other inmates. She spoke specifically about a woman named Ida in her pod, who McMillan says was kept secluded in the jail hospital for two weeks. "Someone thought she had tuberculosis," McMillan says. During that time, Ida, a throat cancer survivor, discovered mass on her neck. She's been waiting six weeks, and still hasn't received a biopsy.

The day after we spoke, McMillan's support team issued another statement on her behalf via Facebook, saying that the medical privations had become much, much worse. "My friend 'Fat Baby' was denied medical attention after falling in the shower until she awoke this morning unable to move from the concussion," McMillan wrote. "Our friend Jack was only taken to the hospital after coughing up blood for three days and the women in my dorm came together in uproar. We found out that she died this morning. She had undiagnosed liver cancer and Hepatitis C. I remain strong with my sisters. We are developing a list of grievances that I will read at the gates of Rikers upon my release."

July 3rd - Can Cecily McMillan Be a Representative for Prisoners?

by Natasha Lennard (*VICE*)

The activist and New School grad student returned to freedom (relative freedom — she still faces five more years probation) with a set of horror stories from inside. They were all the more terrible, McMillan stressed, because on Rikers Island, they were commonplace.

“On the inside, I discovered a world where words like ‘freedom’ and ‘rights’ don’t even exist,” she told press.

One of the friends McMillan made while in prison, an inmate known as "Jack," died in the hospital after allegedly being denied treatment for a day as she coughed up blood and chunks of her liver, having suffered from chronic illness and being given a very high dose of methadone. It was, according to McMillan, "a clear case of medical malpractice." Another fellow inmate had a tumor on her neck grow without treatment, and yet another fell in the shower and suffered a concussion after she was denied medical care.

McMillan is admirably using the attention garnered by her case — one of a few felony trials to emerge from Occupy Wall Street — to make public the plight of prisoners. The student has aptly acknowledged that her platform and privilege is rare for prisoners. She left Rikers with a list of demands from fellow inmates, including better access to medical care.

No one, least of all McMillan, sees her punishment as among the US justice system's most egregious, unjust as her treatment has been (she was convicted of assaulting an NYPD officer after she swung round and knocked him in the head in response to him grabbing her breast from behind).

We should join McMillan in the fight against a system that imprisons more people than any other country in the world, per se and per capita. We should help McMillan shine a light on the harsh realities of caged life. But we should be careful, too, not to lionize the young woman. While 2.5 million are currently behind bars, this is a time for collective action, not heroes. McMillan told press on her release, "I walked in with one movement, and return to you a representative of another." And while in solidarity with McMillan's sentiment, I urge caution on this point.

It may be a semantic point, but it's an important one. McMillan's work as a vessel for messages from inside, all too often silenced, is crucial. But she is not "representative" — she is a young white woman with a wealth of support and media attention. This is not representative of the vast majority of people inside.

McMillan serves her friends inside as an ally and a platform. "Representative" is problematic. But perhaps the term is sadly apt in this case; McMillan can speak where other inmates are silenced and caged. "Speak, if you can, speak," my favorite poet George Oppen reminds us. McMillan can speak, so she speaks for those who cannot. If only she didn't have to.

30 Jun - Statement from Kevin Chianella

Our comrade is in need of help with repaying the folks who put so much on the line when he was facing trial. Here's what he has written about the situation.

MORE:

Since 2010 I've feared for my freedom in the outside world. Now in 2014 sentenced for my crimes 4 years ago at the G20 summit in Toronto, Ontario I worry daily for those who stuck their necks out there to defend me. My very close friend Evan Potts donated around 5000 dollars to help his friend pay his legal fees. Without him I would not have had legal representation for my trial hearings and sentencing. I would have been in prison longer and would not have had 37 of my 53 charges dropped. He is not the only one that helped me through this. My 90 year old grandmother stepped up to the plate. She was the only family member that donated money to my cause. She helped me and let me borrow 8000 dollars on top of all the other money she put into the cause. There is nothing I can do in prison to try and pay them back. I'm crying out for help in this situation I face. Being the good friend Evan is I only have to pay him back half of the money that I owe him a total of 2500 dollars. All together including both of them I need to raise 10, 500\$. This is a callout for help. There's nothing I can do in prison but as soon as I get out I'm going to work toward my goal everyday. On top of all my worries I fear for my grandmother's health and I don't want her last memories of me being a prisoner who couldn't keep his word. My thanks go out to those who read this and to everyone who has helped even in small ways you know who you are.

4 Jul - FBI, JTTF & US Marshals Are Reportedly Visiting Political Activists About Thirty Year-Old Case

Agents with the FBI, US Marshal's Service and Joint Terrorist Task Force (JTTF) have reportedly been making visits to over a dozen political activists in Chicago, New York and the San Francisco Bay Area to ask about a case that is more than thirty years old.

MORE:

by Kevin Gosztola (*The Dissenter*)

The case involves Donna Borup, who the FBI believes was part of a "violent anti-apartheid demonstration at JFK International Airport in Queens, New York, on September 26, 1981."

A wanted notice further alleges that she "tossed a caustic substance into the eyes of a Port Authority Police Officer, leaving him partially blind" and that at the time she was a part of the May 19th Communist Organization. (The FBI pursued the radical group as a terrorist organization and had arrested all of its members for their alleged role in bombing attacks on government buildings by 1985.)

Borup was indicted on assaulting a police officer and riot charges. She did not appear at her trial on May 20, 1982, and ever since the FBI has wanted to catch her for fleeing to avoid prosecution. In recent years, the FBI has renewed its pursuit of her.

Why is any of this a priority for the FBI today? What makes it so important to the FBI to catch her?

The Bay Area Committee to Resist Political Repression (BACPR), which released a statement alerting activists, suspects that the FBI is using Borup's case as a pretext to go around questioning activists. It also makes it possible to continue the government tradition of equating "political resistance with terrorism."

According to the statement, one activist was questioned decades ago about Borup. The unnamed activist refused to talk to FBI agents in the 1980s. "Why would I talk to them now?" the unnamed activist added.

"We believe these visits are an effort to intimidate political activists and stifle free speech and association. We strongly encourage anyone who is visited by the FBI or other agents, whether it concerns this case or any other politically motivated investigations, to insist on your right to remain silent. It doesn't matter if you think you 'have nothing to hide.' Even the most seemingly innocuous information can help the government further repress our movements," BACPR declared.

The FBI has been engaged in a wide fishing expedition into political activists in this country, especially those who have ties to revolutionary or left-wing groups from the days of COINTELPRO.

A number of antiwar and international solidarity activists in the midwestern United States had their homes raided by FBI agents in September 2010. The FBI seized property from them, anything they deemed suspicious. Subpoenas were issued to twenty-three people to appear before a grand jury. The activists all refused to appear and resisted the grand jury, since then the cloud of an investigation has hung over them.

Meanwhile, the FBI has been targeting well-known activists in their social network and cases that appear to be blatantly political have been pursued against long-time Chicano activist Carlos Montes and Palestinian organizer Rasmia Odeh. These cases seem to have been brought with the intention of pressuring them to inform on the twenty-three activists who have been targets of an FBI investigation for many years now.

BACPR advised activists in the areas where the FBI has been questioning people to not answer any questions if they are approached by a government agent.

Phone calls were made to individuals connected to groups seeking to build support and solidarity in communities where FBI encounters have taken place. However, activists were unwilling to provide additional details or further comment on these encounters with government agents at this time.

5 Jul - Post-release Statement From Cody Lee Sutherlin (Tinley Park Five)

Here is Cody Lee Sutherlin's post-release statement. Please keep in mind that two of his brothers are still locked up and that there is an active fundraising campaign for Dylan Sutherlin's post-release. To donate, visit <http://j.mp/DylanSutherlin>

MORE:

When it comes to thanks, I don't know where to begin. Do I mention certain individuals or organizations? Do I start with the cards and letters full of love and support? How about the amount of donations that came in for the book drive back at Robinson's library? Or, do I lead off with all of the fundraising that kept money in the commissary and continues to pour in for help post-release? I should probably lead off with the lovely lady in my life that has sacrificed and endured so much for me and our relationship the last couple of years. Maybe it should be the amazing legal team that stepped up and have continued to help to this day. I can't forget my new friend that has opened his home and heart to me in my greatest time of need. I must mention all of the people that used to flood the courtroom in solidarity every time they would walk us in there. With so many wonderful people, faces old and new, doing so many amazing things, it's impossible for my thanks to have a beginning or an end. The thanks that I have for all of you is so deep and infinite that it can't be measured or explained. Any act of kindness, no matter how big or small, has meant the world to me, as well as the other four. Thankfully, we're down to just two, and in a few weeks it'll just be one. Let's show my brothers our love, support, and appreciation for them. Thank every last one of you for all you've done and continue to do!

With the deepest gratitude and unconditional love,
Cody Lee

6 Jul - Donate to Sundiata's legal fees

The Sundiata Acoli Freedom Campaign (SAFC) is raising funds for Sundiata's legal fees. If you would like to support, please consider donating \$25 today and sharing with your friends. We are still awaiting a decision from the Superior Court of New Jersey Appellate Division. Let's continue to keep Sundiata and freedom in our thoughts. Free 'em All.

<http://www.gofundme.com/a7kk40>

7 Jul - NA ABC Conference Fast Approaching - Help Needed!

Did You Secretly Enjoy the Fireworks on July 4th? Don't worry, we understand. Sparkly lights in the sky are

hard to beat. But one thing definitely beats that any day—liberating our political prisoners!

MORE:

Don't feel bad about secretly enjoying a celebration of this oppressive imperialist state...instead, help support efforts to defend and free political prisoners trapped in their imperialist prisons!

The 2014 North American Anarchist Black Cross conference desperately needs funds to pay for the space, food for participants, and travel funds for comrades (particularly former prisoners) who wouldn't be able to attend without assistance. Please donate by midnight on Friday, July 11 to help us raise \$2000 of the \$7500 we need for this year's conference. Your donations help bring prisoner support activists from across North America together for this important annual strategizing session!

You can donate online at <https://fundrazr.com/campaigns/ek5vc/ab/f3E260>. If you would like to send a check or money order, rather than using the link below, contact us at [naabcconference\[at\]riseup\[dot\]net](mailto:naabcconference@riseup.net) to find out where to send it.

Want to make donating to freeing prisoners from imperialist prisons even sweeter? Donate by midnight on July 11th and enjoy one of these gifts donated by generous supporters of the NA ABC conference and its mission:

A donation of \$15: 2 stickers*

A donation of \$30: 1 political prisoner support shirt** and 2 stickers

A donation of \$45: 1 tshirt***, 2 stickers and a book**** or video*****

A donation of \$65: 2 tshirts, 2 stickers, and a book, video or 2015

Certain Days calendar

AND the first 3 donations of \$75 will get you everything that \$65 gets you PLUS a one year subscription to 4Struggle Magazine!

Remember, donate by midnight on Friday, July 11th to help us meet our \$2000 goal for this month. We will contact you after you donate online or email us to find out where to send your check or money order. If you would like to donate but not receive a gift, let us know that as well.

Thanks for contributing to our efforts to support, defend, and free our prisoners. This annual conference has become one of the most important events in prisoner support efforts across North America, and we can't do it without your support!

Until all are free!

The NA ABC Organizing Crew

To see pictures of the gifts offered, visit <http://sacprisonersupport.wordpress.com>

*Eric McDavid and Marie (Marius) Mason

**Eric McDavid or Tinley Park 5

***For \$45, choose between Eric tshirt, TP5 tshirt, or a "Prisons Are for Burning" tshirt (There are a limited number of the latter - the sooner you donate, the better! If you donate after we have run out, we will send you one after they are reprinted.)

****Book options are: 'Black Flags and Windmills: Hope, Anarchy, and the Common Ground Collective' (1st ed) by scott crow; 'Government Repression, Prisoner Support' by Sacramento Prisoner Support; or 'Conspiracy to Riot in Furtherance of Terrorism' by the RNC 8

*****Video is 'The Angola 3: Black Panthers and the Last Slave Plantation'

7 Jul - Free Marius Jacob Mason!

We would like to let everyone know that Marius Jacob Mason will no longer be using the name Marie, and will

be using male pronouns. We hope that you will all join us in supporting Marius through this transition, which will no doubt be extra challenging within the prison system.

MORE:

Until his name is legally changed, any mail sent to Marius in prison will still need to be addressed to ‘Marie Mason’ on the envelope. This goes for donations also. Please write to Marius at this time! Receiving supportive and friendly mail makes a world of difference. Below is a statement read out by Moira Meltzer-Cohen, one of Marius’ legal representatives, at a solidarity event organized by New York City ABC recently.

“My name is Moira Meltzer-Cohen. I’m an attorney working with a person of immense courage and integrity, someone who struggles for liberation and self-determination on behalf of other people, non-human animals, and life on Earth itself. This is someone whose courage and integrity are made even more salient by the fact that their own liberation and their own autonomy have long been severely circumscribed.

Even more than most people in prison, my client and those in their unit face rigid, arbitrary constraints on communication and expression that impact every part of their lives. But even more – I want you to imagine how difficult it would be if all your struggles toward liberation and autonomy were taking place not only in a prison, but in a world that always targets trans people for further violence, confinement, and abuse.

I am proud to be working with Marius Jacob Mason to change their name to the one that reflects his masculine gender identity.

It is my sincere hope that this announcement does not serve as any kind of excuse for argument or debate – it should be self-evident that trans-exclusion is indefensible in any movement claiming to move us toward collective liberation. If we are serious about liberation and autonomy, it is incumbent upon us to take seriously that all our various struggles are mutually implicated, that earth liberation and trans liberation are not simply mutually compatible, but that achievement of each is a necessary condition for the satisfaction of the other.

So I want to call on “us” – anarchists, allies, environmental justice advocates – let us acknowledge Marius’ gender now, not only for Marius’ sake, but for the sake of our collective liberation. This transition not only does not undermine the importance of Marius’ environmental and other social commitments – it is further evidence of his commitment to justice, and bravery in the face of repressive and destructive systems. It has not been and will not be easy for Marius to transition while in custody of the most heinous part of the U.S. prison system.

But we can make this process a little easier by supporting his gender identity, by using the appropriate masculine pronouns and his correct name, writing to him and other incarcerated trans folks, providing meaningful social support, and funding legal battles and medical needs both in and out of prison. We have an opportunity as a community to demonstrate conclusively that we are strong, that we understand the mutual implications of all forms of oppression, and that we can reject the subordination of any cause to another. I want to also remind you that because transpeople are disproportionately and aggressively policed, there are many many folks in prison who need your support, including one I want to highlight, Jane Doe, a 16 year-old trans girl who is being held without charges in Connecticut. You can find more information at [facebook/justice4janeCT](https://www.facebook.com/justice4janeCT). You can find information about incarcerated trans people at [SRLP.org](https://www.srlp.org), and more information about Marius Jacob Mason at [supportmariemason.org](https://www.supportmariemason.org)“

7 Jul - Self-Defense Immunity Hearing Report

Luke’s self-defense immunity hearing was held last Tuesday, July 1st. Unfortunately, the judge denied Luke immunity, so Luke’s case will continue to trial.

MORE:

A self-defense immunity hearing is an opportunity for the judge to decide that a defendant was acting in self-defense, and therefore that he or she can’t have charges brought against them. In the hearing, both the defense and the prosecution make their cases, and the judge (without a jury) makes a ruling. The burden of proof in these hearings is on the defense, unlike in a trial where the burden of proof is on the prosecution.

If Luke had been granted immunity, the charges would have been dropped and there would be no trial. However, the fact that he wasn't granted immunity isn't the end of the world. At trial, arguments for self-defense can still be made. Now, the case will move on as a "normal" case might, and go in front of a jury.

In court, the prosecution made a series of ludicrous claims in order to prop up their case. They made a point of asking every witness whether or not the term "faggot" was offensive, or just a synonym for other "non-offensive" terms like "pussies or bitches," and later used the word "nigger" as another example of a "non-offensive" term. The prosecuting attorney accused Luke, with no evidence or witnesses of any kind, of having stabbed a homeless person. To try to justify the attempted murder charge, the prosecution also claimed that Luke had held workshops on knife skills and "kill zones." These things are completely outrageous and false.

During cross-examination by the defense, Officer Jones of the Atlanta Police Department, the lead investigator of the incident, testified that she had failed to ask anyone any questions whatsoever about the stab wounds inflicted on Luke. Furthermore, her report referred to Luke as merely "cut," rather than "stabbed," which was the term she applied to every other wounded individual. When questioned, she was unable to explain why – she simply stated that that was what she had written down.

The prosecution's witnesses admitted to being intoxicated on that New Year's Eve, and were unable to recall the testimonies they had given to the police directly after the incident. Their conflicting stories about who was there and when, the sequence of the fight, who was involved in the fight, and where they went that night further reduced their credibility. One witness, while under oath, claimed both to have punched no one and to have punched Luke. All of the prosecution's witnesses had been stabbed in the incident, save one – who was the sister of one of the stabbed. The defense's witnesses were all third party, save Luke and Luke's ex-partner.

The beginning of trial is currently scheduled for August 11th, but we have reason to believe that the start date will be pushed back to October 2014. This will be the "real deal," so if you are capable and willing to come to court to support Luke, please do. We will post an update with the date and time of the trial as soon as we have that information.

7 Jul - Sekou Kambui Released!

On June 30th, Sekou Kambui was transferred to a halfway house in Dotham, Alabama. He is likely to remain in that or another halfway house for the next six months.

MORE:

His transfer represents much more freedom and an end to the retaliation of vicious prison guards; Sekou, however, will certainly continue to need support to meet his basic needs. More updates will come as DABC knows more about his situation.

To the years ahead of working with Sekou outside the walls, and to a world without prisons!

12 Jul - Dispatches from the Underground Benefit for NYC ABC

WHAT: Punk/Hardcore Fundraiser

WHEN: Doors at 8:00pm, Saturday, July 12th

WHERE: The Shillelagh Tavern – 47-22 30th Avenue Astoria, Queens

COST: \$10 (includes one drink)

MORE:

Dispatches from the Underground presents:

A fundraiser for NYC Anarchist Black Cross
featuring:

All Torn Up (Punk)

Thirsty! (Fast Punk)

Penguin (Fast Punk)

Sangharsha (Hardcore)

Pre/Science (Experimental Hardcore)

SHOW INFO:

- This event is 21+

- Doors are at 8pm
- The show costs \$10 to get into the door, BUT you get a free drink ticket with admittance, so really it's like \$7!

DIRECTIONS:

Getting to The Shillelagh Tavern is simple.

From the M or R:

46th Street Stop: Walk northeast on 47th Street (toward Newtown Road, away from Broadway) for four blocks. Turn right on 30th Avenue. We are half a block down on the right.

15 Jul - They Flew Me to Canada, and Boy Are My Arms Tired!

WHAT: Discussion with Dane Rossman and local G20 extraditee prisoner supporters

WHEN: 7:00pm, Tuesday, July 15th

WHERE: The Base - 1302 Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn, New York 11221 (directions below)

COST: Free, but donations are appreciated.

MORE:

On Friday, July 15th, NYC ABC is excited to host our comrade Dane Rossman and the discussion of his experience being extradited to Canada for actions during the 2010 G20 Summit in Toronto. This discussion will also include updates on the remaining G20 extraditee prisoners-- Joel Bitar and Kevin Chianella, with members of their local support crew.

Dane Rossman is an anarchist living on occupied Tohono O'odham land in Tucson, Arizona.

He's been involved for several years in anti-colonial, No Borders, and prison/police abolition movements, and will try to situate his experience of incarceration and extradition within that history, with an emphasis on ongoing struggles in Arizona.

Dane hopes to use this opportunity to raise funds for the other G20 extraditees still being held by the Canadian state, so bring cash if you can.

For more info on those cases and struggles in Arizona, see the following:

notorontog20extradition.wordpress.com

guelphabc.noblogs.org

supportjoel.com

tucsonabc.wordpress.com

indigenouaction.org

nomoredeathsvolunteers.org

pronetaction.org

Directions:

Getting to The Base is simple:

From the M Train:

Central Avenue Stop: Walk east on Myrtle Avenue (away from Hart Street, toward Cedar Street). We're about two blocks down on the south side of the street.

Knickerbocker Avenue Stop: Walk west on Myrtle Avenue (away from Harman Street, toward Himrod Street). We're about three blocks down on the south side of the street.

From the L Train:

DeKalb Avenue Stop: Walk south on Stockholm Street (away from Wyckoff Avenue, toward Irving Avenue).

We're about four blocks down, at the intersection of Stockholm Street and Myrtle Avenue.

From the J Train:

Myrtle Avenue Stop: Transfer to the M train and follow the above directions.