



POST OFFICE BOX 110034 BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11211

Updates for August 18th

1 Aug - Robert Seth Hayes Medical Update

Dr. Barbara Zeller visited Seth on Friday, July 31st. The following is her report.

MORE:

He is in his ninth week of HCV treatment, tolerating it very well overall, so he has been able to continue it. But this has caused weight loss and even more fluctuations of his blood glucose levels so that the insulin has had to be adjusted very frequently. As I discussed with Seth, the fluctuations to low levels under 60 are more dangerous to him in the short run than the high levels - because of the dangers of falling out and delays in emergency treatment. We talked about some ways he could protect himself outside of the insulin adjustments and about the importance of hydration.

The lumps are subcutaneous - under the skin - and outside of the body cavities. In my opinion they feel like lipomas, which are benign. Further studies like a CT scan or MRI would not be very helpful since they are in locations that can be examined by physical exam. I told him they can be surgically excised if they bother him symptomatically - he will think about this because the one on the lower abdomen bothers him off and on but not intolerably. This could be an advocacy demand after the HCV treatment is complete. He will decide about this. We discussed how important it is to take every dose of the HCV treatment - so any diagnostic study or procedure that would take him out of the facility and pose a danger of missing or delaying doses is not a good idea. Of course, emergencies would be the exception.

The symptoms he has with his bladder could be from the prostate which is common and can be treated with medications if worsens. The abdominal discomfort is a little confusing because he is lactose intolerant and gets some bloating and pain from this at times and then the lump protrudes more as well.

His weight is 138 - so he is lower. His appetite is poor on some days along with fatigue - again most likely from HCV treatment and diabetes. And because of the lactose intolerance he has cut out milk and cheese which were giving him calories. We talked about other calorie rich options from commissary and food packages. We should see if it stabilizes and starts improving when treatment is over.

Since I have confidence that the HCV treatment can cure this infection, the current priority is completing it. This is a major victory that was won.

The diabetes control and management remains then a serious concern to his overall well being - this has been true since 2000. His glucose has always been very labile and difficult to control. I consulted with him in 2003 about this. The problem is that the ability to carefully monitor and control blood glucose is not under the person's control in prison since they can't do their own fingersticks or regulate or administer insulin because they can't have sharps. This needs a conversation amongst us and with him about how to proceed. The doctor there (who he has been in conflict with) even said he should have an insulin pump but that it wasn't possible in prison because of security issues. So I don't think this is an advocacy demand in the short run - that would be counterproductive, but requires strategic thinking.

Release on parole would be the best solution!

I have my paperwork in for the medical visit.

3 Aug - Marius Mason Is Out Of the SHU + Updates

Great news— Marius has been released from the SHU and his support crew has a new t-shirt for sale.

MORE:

We have good news! Marius was transferred out of the SHU (or Special Housing Unit) on Saturday, August 1st, after nearly a month and a half of solitary confinement.

At this time, we do not know how the alleged violation cited by prison officials as the basis for his punishment will affect Marius in the long term, but we do know that in addition to the time he spent in the SHU, more restrictions have been placed on him that further limit his already limited life in the Administration Unit at the Federal Medical Center Carswell in Fort Worth, Texas.

While we are overjoyed that Marius is out of the terrible and dispiriting world of solitary confinement, we cannot forget where Marius is—prison. The Administration Unit at Carswell is gymnasium-sized, holding up to 20 prisoners, and is frequently and unpredictably locked down for hours on end due to violence and suicide attempts resulting from the claustrophobic and oppressive conditions.

We urge all of you to write Marius a letter or drop a line with a postcard. Your solidarity matters!

August 4th - We have new t-shirts!

Thanks to some wonderful people on the West Coast we finally have new Marius Mason t-shirts!

T-shirts can be ordered by emailing uncontrollableandfree@gmail.com. Shirts currently come in black, grey, and hot pink in sizes YXL to XXL. \$10-15 plus shipping costs, payment will be possible via paypal, money order, or well-concealed cash. Let us know if you want one for yourself or a bunch for an event or infoshop in your neighborhood.

3 Aug - New Commentary by and Update on Mumia Abu-Jamal

Below is the latest health and legal update by Mumia, as well as his latest writing. Untreated Diabetes nearly killed Abu-Jamal in March, and the DOC is refusing to treat his active Hepatitis C.

MORE:

August 3rd - Mumia Abu-Jamal files suit over prison's refusal to provide necessary medical care

Attorneys for political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal filed an amended lawsuit today in the Middle District of Pennsylvania federal court to challenge prison medical staff's denial of necessary medical treatment – denial that nearly killed Abu-Jamal earlier this year.

On March 30, 2015, Abu-Jamal was rushed to the hospital after losing consciousness and going into diabetic shock. Although prison medical staff were aware that Abu-Jamal had a dangerously high blood glucose level of 419 on March 6, they failed to treat, monitor, or even inform Abu-Jamal of his condition. Glucose levels like those that Abu-Jamal had can result in diabetic shock, diabetic coma, and death.

Abu-Jamal's diabetic shock came in the midst of an escalating year-long health crisis that began with a rash in August 2014. The skin condition grew in intensity over the course of the next several months, eventually covering most of his body with a painful, severe rash that is resistant to conventional treatments. The skin condition is abnormal in its duration and intensity, and has led to lesions, open wounds, and swelling.

The lawsuit filed today seeks injunctive relief for prison medical staff's failure to treat Abu-Jamal's active Hepatitis C. Recent blood tests provided at the insistence of Abu-Jamal, his lawyers, and consulting doctors have confirmed that Abu-Jamal has active Hepatitis C, which is likely the underlying cause of his health crisis. Despite the undeniable medical evidence that he is in need of treatment for his Hepatitis C, prison medical staff are refusing to provide any.

Advances in Hepatitis C treatment in recent years have revolutionized the way the disease is treated, with new direct-acting anti-viral medications that have had over 95% success rates in curing the illness in

clinical trials. The medications, however, are extraordinarily expensive in the United States due to monopoly pricing practices by the pharmaceutical companies that have patented them.

The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections has yet to promulgate a new protocol for treating Hepatitis C with the new medications, meaning that the estimated 10,000-plus people in DOC custody who have Hepatitis C are not receiving any treatment.

This issue is the subject of a class action lawsuit filed in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania federal court in June 2015.

Abu-Jamal is represented by Bret Grote of the Abolitionist Law Center and Robert J. Boyle of New York City.

August 6th - Trump: And the Politics of Resentment

When New York billionaire and GOP Presidential candidate Donald Trump launched into his anti-immigrant tirade against Mexicans crossing the border, he was using a long known political technique of plugging into the live wire of American resentment of the other.

Today, it's Latinos, of course; more precisely, those from the Southern borders: Mexicans, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Hondurans, and the like.

But, since the 19th century, politicians have used these currents of fear to fuel movements against those who came from abroad. In these days though, the targets of nativist's ire were the Irish, Russian Jews, Italians and other European sites.

These forces gave birth to the American Party, a fierce anti-immigrant group that became known popularly as the Know Nothings. They formed a third party during the 1850s, and ran former U.S. President Millard Fillmore as their unsuccessful candidate.

U.S. historian Richard Hofstadter (1910-70), in his classic work, 'The Paranoid Style in American Politics', argued that much of the energy in the anti-immigrant forces, stemmed from what might be called 'status anxiety', or the intense insecurities of people unsure of their place in U.S. society, but who could point to others - immigrants - who held weaker positions in society.

Furthermore, these anxiety-ridden groups often have mixed feelings of fear and admiration of social elites; and who is more elite than the super-rich?

Witness the spectacle of Donald Trump, who, without question, is perhaps the richest man ever to run for president - and is a billionaire populist, no less!

I wouldn't get too excited about his place in the polls right now. In 2012 the toast of both press and polls was a pizza exec named Herman Cain. We know how that worked out.

But most candidates, especially of the GOP, worship at the throne of the wealthy, for they are the ones they serve.

The thousands and millions who rage at Latino immigrants also worship the rich.

In Donald Trump they have found their voice. And he has found the energies of resentment undeniable fuel for failure.

5 Aug - Chelsea Manning Update

With an eventual appeal trial pending, the government is playing games with Chelsea Manning. Get the details and find out how to help below.

MORE:

August 5th - Our \$45,000 challenge to pay for Chelsea's legal appeal

We're launching a new effort today to finish paying Chelsea Manning's critical legal appeal. This will be Chelsea's first, and possibly most important, opportunity to challenge of her unjust Espionage Act conviction and draconian 35-year jail sentence. Today, we need your help funding the last \$45,000 of this upcoming appeal before the US Army Court of Criminal Appeals.

This week, your donation will be effectively doubled, up to \$15,000! A group of Chelsea's most dedicated supporters have gotten together to pool their resources for this matching grant challenge.

Chelsea Manning recently shared this with us:

Being in prison while trying to figure out how I will pay for my legal appeal has been a great source of stress and anxiety. I'm so honored that a new campaign is supporting me in my effort to vindicate my legal rights, and I am truly grateful to anyone who is helping.

We hope this is more than just a chance to donate to Chelsea as her legal team continues their quest overturn the horrible military precedent for future whistleblowers. It's also an opportunity to show your support for Chelsea in a meaningful and public way, and to make a statement about how important brave whistleblowers like Chelsea are in a just and transparent democracy.

Finally, a huge thank you to the Freedom of the Press Foundation, First Look Media (publisher of the Intercept), and journalist Glenn Greenwald, for their recent fundraising success on behalf of Chelsea, which has gotten us to within sight of the finish line for this legal appeal campaign.

Go to <http://www.chelseamanning.org/press/chelsea-manning-defense-fund> for more options on how to donate.

August 12th - US Military Threatens Chelsea Manning with Indefinite Solitary Confinement

by Kevin Gosztola (*Shadowproof*)

The United States military has issued a set of "charges" or allegations against Chelsea Manning, which could potentially result in a punishment of indefinite solitary confinement at Fort Leavenworth where she is serving her sentence.

According to a list the military sent to Manning, which Fight for the Future posted, the allegations include "disrespect," "disorderly conduct," "prohibited property," and "medicine misuse."

All of the alleged misconduct took place during the first part of July. On July 2, Manning allegedly was disrespectful to a "correctional specialist"—or prison guard—during dinner. She also allegedly swept food on to the floor.

Manning, who was placed in solitary confinement while under investigation, had her cell inspected on July 9. Officers found "prohibited property"—books and magazines. An expired tube of toothpaste was also found in her cell, which is apparently uncalled for in the military.

The "disrespect" toward Manning essentially consisted of Manning refusing to talk to the guard about her conduct. She repeatedly stated, "You are accusing me," "This interview is over," and, "I want my lawyer," which are justifiable responses when anyone is being told they did something punishable. In fact, it is more respectful than arguing with an authority figure.

Fight for the Future has shared the names of the books and magazines, which the US military considers contraband.

Advocate, OUT Magazine, Cosmopolitan issue with an interview of Chelsea, Transgender Studies Quarterly, novel about trans issues "A Safe Girl to Love," book "Hacker, Hoaxer, Whistleblower, Spy — The Many Faces of Anonymous," book "I Am Malala," 5 books by Robert Dorkin, legal documents including the Senate Torture Report, book: "Hidden Qualities that Make Us Influential."

The military had a problem with Manning having the *Vanity Fair* issue with Caitlyn Jenner on the cover, too.

What is additionally troubling is a hearing on these "charges" is planned for August 18, and the public and press may be prohibited.

Fight for the Future called this a "disturbing attempt to silence Chelsea's voice" and launched a petition.

Manning has in the past months used a Twitter account to express her views on "government transparency, transgender rights, and the prison system." She has become a columnist for *The Guardian* and written a bill to push for reform of the Espionage Act, which she was convicted of violating when she provided US government documents to WikiLeaks.

Freedom of the Press Foundation and First Look Media have also raised more than \$159,000 so that Manning can pursue an aggressive and thorough appeal. The appeal is expected to be filed this year.

The US was already shamed by world leaders when Manning was placed in conditions of solitary confinement at the Quantico Marine brig during her pretrial detention. UN Special Rapporteur on Torture Juan Mendez concluded Manning had endured "cruel and inhuman" punishment. It is rather stunning that, once again, she might be put back in solitary for a significant period.

August 13th - Fight for the Future has started a petition to keep Manning out of solitary

Dear Boards Branch, Directorate of Inmate Administration: putting any human being in indefinite solitary confinement is inexcusable, and for offenses as trivial as these (an expired tube of toothpaste, and possession of magazines?) it is a discredit to America's military and its system of justice. We demand that these charges against Chelsea Manning be dropped, and request that Chelsea's hearing on August 18th be made open to the public, to ensure she is treated fairly.

Please sign the petition! <https://www.freechelsea.com/#salsa-email>

August 16th - US Military Denies Chelsea Manning Access to Prison Legal Library Prior to Hearing

by Kevin Gosztola (*Shadowproof*)

Days before Chelsea Manning is supposed to appear before a disciplinary board, the United States military has denied her access to the prison legal library.

Manning, a whistleblower who is serving a 35-year sentence for providing over a half million documents to WikiLeaks, has been accused by officers at Fort Leavenworth of "disrespect" and "disorderly conduct." The military also alleges she had "prohibited property" in her cell and "misused" medicine.

The "disrespect" Manning showed toward guards apparently consisted of her refusal to talk to a guard after she was accused of "disorderly conduct" for brushing food on to the floor. She claims she said, "You are accusing me," "This interview is over," and, "I want my lawyer," and that is what upset the guards.

The prohibited property were books and magazines having to do with LGBTQ and political issues, including a copy of *Vanity Fair* with Caitlyn Jenner on the cover, a copy of the *Cosmopolitan* issue

featuring her interview, and a copy of the Senate intelligence committee report on CIA torture. The medicine she allegedly misused was an expired tube of toothpaste.

She faces the potential of being placed in solitary confinement for an indefinite period as punishment for her alleged misconduct.

Manning planned to use the prison legal library to prepare for her hearing, but today she reported the military has prohibited her from visiting the library at scheduled times.

Prison staff are now denying me access to the law library @ scheduled times—w/only 2 days until my board

— Chelsea Manning (@xchelsea) August 16, 2015

Nancy Hollander, who is the lead counsel handling Manning’s appeal, reacted, “Chelsea is facing serious repercussions and punishment if these charges are upheld yet the prison has denied her the right to legal counsel, even legal counsel at her own expense. Now, we have learned the prison authorities have denied her the use of the prison library to prepare for her hearing.”

Manning’s ACLU attorney, Chase Strangio, described how she has “had to endure horrific and, at times, plainly unconstitutional conditions of confinement.”

“She now faces the threat of further dehumanization because she allegedly disrespected an officer when requesting an attorney and had in her possession various books and magazines that she used to educate herself and inform her public and political voice,” Strangio declared.

Over 67,000 have signed a Fight for the Future petition since “charges” against Manning were announced last week. The petition demands that the military back off its pursuit against Manning dropped and requests that “Chelsea’s hearing on August 18th be made open to the public, to ensure she is treated fairly.”

“I am heartened to see the outpouring of support for her in the face of these new threats to her safety and security. This support can break down the isolation of her incarceration and sends the message to the government that the public is watching and standing by her as she fights for her freedom and her voice,” Strangio suggested.

Hollander added, “The whole system is rigged against her. She cannot have a lawyer to assist her; she cannot prepare her own defense; and the hearing will be secret. This harassment and abuse must end and we are grateful for the support from the public to demand justice for Chelsea Manning.”

In February, Manning was received her first hormone treatment after the ACLU filed a lawsuit on her behalf in September of last year. The military was ordered to stop using male pronouns by an Army court in March. She also has been writing columns for The Guardian on torture, freedom of the press, and transgender issues in the military.

Freedom of the Press Foundation and First Look Media have also raised more than \$161,000 so that Manning can pursue an aggressive and thorough appeal. The appeal is expected to be filed this year.

5 Aug - From Abdullah Majid: legal defense funds needed

New York State political prisoner Abdullah Majid needs help as he prepares his parole campaign.

MORE:

Peace

I want to first thank you for your support of political prisoners in the u.s.a. You like many others who write, ask what can you do to help me in my present circumstances? In fact there is something you can do at this time to aid me in my freedom. Presently a Defense Committee has been established and we are trying to raise funds for my legal defense. I have an attorney as well as an investigator who has recently joined our team.

The assistance most needed at this time is funds to pay for expenses in which we incur for documents and investigative work by our investigator. Those wishing to help can do so by organizing fund raisers, there is no amount that is too small or too large. And your help is most appreciated and welcome. Funds may be sent to the following:

Abdullah Majid Freedom Campaign
Post Office Box 1274
Bronx, New York 10467
718.512.5008
info@abdullahmajid.com

Please make checks or money orders payable to the N.Y.C. Jericho Committee. Please specify what it's for (i.e. legal defense).

NOTE: Do not send funds to me directly, all funds should be sent to the above address.

6 Aug - Animal Activists' Chalking Charges Have Been Dropped!

The criminal charges against four animal rights activists who chalking slogans on the public street have been dropped, and they're now free to continue with their protests against a new animal testing lab.

MORE:

by Will Potter (*Green Is the New Red*)

At their arraignment this week, the activists with the No New Animal Lab campaign were told the district attorney will not be filing charges.

Perhaps the district attorney noted that, on the same day as the arraignment, the city was sponsoring a chalking event.

Encouraging non-political chalking, while prosecuting people who do the exact same thing with a political message, would clearly not withstand constitutional scrutiny.

"We are very pleased that these absurd charges were not filed by the DA," the activists said in a joint statement. "Clearly Skanska and Beaverton police are reaching for anything to disrupt the campaign, but their efforts have been unsuccessful. No New Animal Lab will continue to organize and build momentum against Skanska for choosing to build this lab. We look forward to the March on the University of Washington on October 2nd."

The story of their arrest, which was first reported here at GreenIsTheNewRed.com, is just one component of the backlash against the growing movement to shut down this controversial lab.

The activists were accused of using washable sidewalk chalk to write slogans such as "Save the animals."

News of their arrest prompted solidarity "chalkings" in other cities, including one from Berlin.

6 Aug - A Crowdfunding site for eco-defense prisoner, Krow!

Krow created a "Rad Enviro Fund" which breaks down the percentage of your donation. If you wish to donate just to Krow's legal fees be sure to write that down.

MORE:

<https://fundrazr.com/campaigns/811D5c>

Thank you for supporting Krow! This Eco-Warrior has been in custody in the Iron County WI Jail since early February 2015 for standing up to Goegebic Taconite which was trying to level the ancient Penokee hills to create the world's largest taconite mine. While the mine has been stopped due to immense public pressure and the overwhelming scientific evidence supporting environmentalist and Native activist's claims about the pristine nature of the surrounding wetlands, Krow still is in great need of support. Between the lawyer legal fees and fines Krow is looking at a pretty hefty bill to pay raking close to nine grand. The fund breaks down like this:

- 1.) 40% for my (Katie Kloth) legal fees (& some envelopes for correspondence and phone calls)
- 2.) 40% for the womyn warrior project, which entails: A. Utilizes 'resources' for forest/ecological defense in the Northwest Great Lakes Bioregion (NWGLB) Utilize finds to procurement mycellium for mycorediatory direct action projects in NWGLB. Finish "The ethnobotany of (the) Penokee Hills" zine/book and host a womyn-oriented (queer and trans inclusive) rad gathering and skills shre in the spring of 2016 in the NWGLB (Time and Location TBA)
- 3.) 10% to the production of EarthFirst! Journal
- 4.) 10% to the non-religious house-less shelter project in Ashland, Wisconsin

Listed below are a few different steps and ideas on ways to send support to Krow. In these hard times we know everyone doesn't always have money to give but your support or thoughts go a long way as well!

6 Aug - Idaho's 'Ag-Gag' Law Criminalizes Muckrackers, So a Federal Judge Struck It Down

A federal judge in Boise, Idaho, ruled that the state's so-called "ag-gag" law violates the United States Constitution, the first time that has happened to this kind of statute.

MORE:

by Rob Verger (VICE)

The law made it illegal in Idaho for a person in certain types of agricultural facilities to take photos or videos without the permission of the owner, and carried a penalty of up to a year in prison.

Ag-gag laws are aimed at punishing and deterring whistleblowers and activists who discreetly document the abuse they witness on factory farms or slaughterhouses.

US District Court Judge B. Lynn Winmill said that Idaho's law violated both the free speech guarantee of the Constitution's First Amendment as well as the document's Equal Protection Clause. He wrote that undercover investigations on issues like animal rights are a form of speech, and even invoked Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*, the seminal muckraking novel from 1906 about the meatpacking industry, in his verdict.

"Sinclair's novel, a devastating exposé of the meat-packing industry that revealed the intolerable labor conditions and unsanitary working conditions in the Chicago stockyards in the early 20th century, 'sparked an uproar' and led to the passage of the Federal Meat Inspection Act, as well as the Pure Food and Drug Act," Winmill wrote. "Today, however, Upton Sinclair's conduct would expose him to criminal prosecution under [Idaho's law]."

Matthew Liebman, a senior attorney for the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF), told VICE News the ruling was vindication of the public's right to know about how food is produced.

"It's really a significant win for transparency, for animal rights, for public safety, for workers' rights, so obviously we're thrilled with it," he said.

The ALDF, along with other groups like People for Ethical Treatment of Animals, led the challenge against the statute soon after it became law in early 2014.

"This statute is part of a concerted nationwide effort to pass ag-gag laws over the last 10 years or so," Liebman added. "There's been a lot of undercover investigation at animal agricultural facilities. Every single one has revealed extreme cruelty." That cruelty can be either intentional, he said, or just part of the routine reality of factory farming.

In this case, the passage of the law followed a grim 2012 video made by Mercy for Animals that shows cows being beaten by workers.

"It's wonderful to see a federal judge stand up and confirm what we already knew," Matthew Dominguez, who fights the enactment of such laws for the Human Society of the United States, told VICE News. "Ag-bag bills and ag-gag laws — they're unconstitutional, they're bad for the public, [and] they promote animal cruelty."

Senator Jim Rice, a lawyer who voted for the law and also chairs the state's agricultural affairs committee, said that he does not agree with the judge's decision that the law violated free speech and also that he supports the timely reporting of animal abuses.

"We want people to report animal abuse and cruelty," Rice told VICE News.

One of the purposes of the law is to protect private property, he said: "If you want to film on somebody's private property, you have to have their permission."

He said that abuse should be reported quickly and through the proper channels, so that an animal could receive medical care from a veterinarian if it needs it.

"Abused cows don't give as much milk," Rice added, meaning that dairy owners have an incentive to stop abuse. "Not just because dairy farmers tend to be people who care about their cows — and they really do — but also there is a tremendous financial incentive to making sure that the cows are not abused."

As of 2011, Idaho was the third-largest milk producer in the United States, according to the USDA.

The Animal Agriculture Alliance, a food industry communication organization based in Virginia, said that activists who publish videos taken on farms do not actually want to reveal abuse.

"What they are about is the use of illicit, underhanded, and manipulative tactics to produce videos to mislead the public into thinking their food is inhumanely produced," Kay Johnson Smith, the group's president, said in a statement. "These groups' ultimate goal is ending animal agriculture by misrepresenting the industry — and that's what farm protection legislation is meant to guard against."

The judge's ruling is a victory for animal-welfare activists and whistleblowers, but it comes on the heels of a setback earlier this summer when North Carolina enacted into law a broad, controversial ag-gag bill despite a veto from the state's governor.

In addition to North Carolina, ag-gag laws are currently in effect in Utah, Iowa, and Missouri; other ag-gag laws that date from the 1990s are in place in North Dakota, Montana, and Kansas, according to Will Potter, author of the book *Green Is the New Red*. Potter has followed the ag-gag laws as well as what he describes as the trend of animal rights movement being slapped with a terrorist label.

Potter, a plaintiff in the suit against Idaho's law, referred to the judge's decision as a "truly landmark constitutional victory."

He said that he disagrees with the argument that people like Rice make about the protection of private property and reporting abuse through the proper channels. For one, he said, the national food industry, with its billions of animals and enormous scope, is in the public interest, and not a private concern.

As for abuse, he said, "The industry loves to say, 'Well, we want to stop abuse.'"

"They define abuse as anything except what they're doing every single day," he continued. That includes practices, like chickens being debeaked, which the industry or the government does not consider to be abusive, but consumers do, he said. "And part of these investigations, I think the most important part, is showing consumers what happens every single day."

7 Aug - Jaan Laaman On Black August

Below is the transcript of Jaan Laaman's latest commentary.

MORE:

Hiroshima - 70 years later and the bomb still burns.

Hi folks. I thought I'd send a little thought out about nuclear bombs, past and present; about Black Lives Matter, past and ongoing, about the horror of it all as we remember the crimes of u.s. imperialism. From the first and only nuclear bombing of civilian cities and the many many wars the usa state has started since. From the still ongoing murders of Black people by government agents as well as rag tag racists. The injustices and repression against people of color by the state machine, as well by the capitalist system and the many people poisoned by the ugly and false ideology of white supremacy. But it is August-- Black August, and a time to recall fallen warriors -- Jonathan and George [Jackson] first of all. A time to reflect and share with youth and everyone, about the history of hard, militant, revolutionary struggle for Black Liberation and Revolution. It is clear we have a new generation that is gaining awareness and militancy-- Yes!, Black Lives matter! They always have and will and it is good to see it taken to the streets and beyond. I've always felt Black August is a time of energy and fight back -- history and remembering too, but all directed to the tasks, the revolutionary struggles still ahead. So hope all of you are feeling positive and in a fighting mood too -- Amandla!

7 Aug - First Harass the Activists... Then Their Attorney

Environmental activists challenging the transport of petroleum extraction equipment from the United States to Canada are the target of a series of intrusive and threatening visits from federal agents. Now civil liberties attorney Larry Hildes is a target as well.

MORE:

by Chip Berlet (*Dissent*)

"They appear to be interested in actions" seeking to block tar sands petroleum production "and the Keystone XL pipeline," civil liberties attorney Larry Hildes told a reporter. Hildes has represented environmental and peace activists for over a decade from his offices in Bellingham, Washington. His clients have drawn repeated visits from state and federal law enforcement and intelligence agents.

The current targets of aggressive interviews by state and federal agents are clustered in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho but they reflect a trend that has continued for over a decade that is based on the empirically false claim by the US government that radical ideas lead to violent acts.

Hildes previously went through a spate of traffic stops and agent visits for questioning around 2009, he told *Dissent* Newswire, but he thought authorities had come to realize he posed no threat to public safety. Hildes had filed a lawsuit against the US Army "for illegal spying on activists in the port militarization resistance movement," Hildes recalls. "These were activists objecting to US military vehicles being shipped from ports" on the west coast to war zones in the Middle East including Iraq.

Bellingham, Washington—where Hildes lives and works—is much closer to Vancouver, Canada than Seattle, Washington. “We routinely drive across the border 3-4 times a month on a fairly consistent basis,” notes Hildes who adds that he and his wife sometimes cross the border just to go out to dinner.

After he filed the 2009 civil liberties lawsuit Hildes “we started to get flagged crossing the border and even the state police began to stop us,” recalls Hildes. Once he was told his car was on an alert that “three known anarchists were in the car.” Pushing back, Hildes and a supporter forced the disclosure of public record document that revealed that there were 167 pages of files representing each time his license plate was run through the federal National Crime Information Center and state databases for identification.

In another incident “There was an “alert for the three known anarchists” in a car which “happened to our client Phil Chinn, who was arrested for DUI, ” recounts Hildes. The “charges were dismissed after we started asking about the alert code. We sued and settled for \$169,000 plus \$248,000 in attorneys fees.” And Hildes notes with irony that “Phil is now a Public Defender in King County.”

All of the explanations and excuses for the traffic stops in 2009 seemed to Hildes to be specious and merely a pretext for interrogating him and seeing who else and what else might be found in the vehicle. He brushed off this campaign of harassment as the price he paid for being a civil liberties lawyer representing clients willing to commit civil disobedience to press their political demands.

For a few years the border incidents became a memory, and Hildes and his wife as frequent travelers who passed through the border crossing began to recognize the border agents and interact with them on a casual level. “We got to know a lot of them over the years and as they got to know us they realized we were not a threat,” says Hildes. “They would chat with us and ask us a few routine questions...we had no problems for years.”

Hildes is a member of the National Lawyers Guild, an organization that has pursued aggressive civil rights and civil liberties litigation and activist support since the 1930s. The Guild was the first integrated Bar Association in the United States. The NLG tends to attract more radical members than other civil liberties legal groups. As such it has had a close relationship with the government and people of Cuba throughout the decades of US sanctions. In the Spring of 2015 Hildes served on an official Guild delegation to Cuba, returning on May 6.

He knew there was a problem when his passport verification photo, machine issued on entry to the US, bore a large red “X” through his face. He was asked to stand against a wall until he was collected by someone representing Customs and Immigration and placed in a windowless room with other hapless people selected for questioning. After a few hours of cooling his heels in a locked room, Hildes was brought to an interview where he was asked what he was doing in Cuba. “I explained I was an attorney and was in Cuba representing the National Lawyers Guild.”

Was this just random? It seemed unlikely to Hildes when they began asking him about his law office in Bellingham, Washington, and “read of my office address” from a sheet of paper. All this is clearly frustrating and annoying to Hildes as he rattles off a series of recent border stop, question, and search incidents as he returns to the United States from Canada. One incident stands out. After being stopped once again at the border while entering the United States, one border agent asked Hildes what his relationship was with “Deanna Meyers.”

Meyers is a nationally known eco-activist and part of the Deep Green Resistance group which appears to be a major target of government surveillance as part of preparing a criminal case against the group. Deep Green Resistance encourages aboveground and underground networks. Underground networks are free to engage in acts of eco-sabotage based on their own volition. Open and above ground members are expected to take a pledge of nonviolence.

Hildes explained that he represented Deanna Meyers as her attorney. The agent wanted to talk about Meyers. Hildes noted that to chat about Deanna Meyers would be unethical and violate attorney-client privilege. The agent began to back-peddle and claimed that it was just a routine agricultural inspection stop. A routine stop during which the name of Hildes' client Deanna Meyers just dropped from the sky? Not likely. Hildes asked what was going on. The border agent retorted: "You can't tell me anything? Then I can't tell you anything."

At another stop Hildes and his wife were asked to fill out a customs declaration, and the agents performed a "superficial search" of the car. "As we are leaving," explain Hildes, "my wife asked the border agent who finally cleared us what took so long."

The response? The border agent explained:
"I had to get clearance from another federal agency and they told me to go ahead and let you go."

The story of Hildes' travails has become international news. "At this point we want to know what's going on," Hildes told The Guardian in London, "we want the details and also personally I want it to stop."

8 Aug - Maliki Shakur Latine's Birthday is August 23rd!

Here are three things you can do as the day approaches...

MORE:

1) Send him a birthday card!

Let him know he is not forgotten on his birthday! Find or make a simple card without layers, glue, glitter, or other fun components which are unfortunately not allowed in most prisons. Try to send 1-2 weeks before the 23rd if possible. This week would be great!

2) Send a birthday donation to his legal fund!

As many of you know, the parole board has acknowledged that Maliki Shakur Latine has a stellar record of self-rehabilitation and community service and a low risk of reoffending, yet they denied him parole for the sixth time in 2014 and his appeal was denied in May 2015. Now he needs to raise 4000 dollars to file an article 78 appeal. Please donate what you can and give Maliki a gift that will count toward community healing and justice for his birthday.

3) Spread the word!

Reblog, repost, retweet, and share this message with your family, friends, and community! Freedom is the solution!

8 Aug - Update on Joseph and Nicole

Joseph Buddenberg, who was arrested along with Nicole Kissane at their apartment on July 24th by the FBI and then formerly charged with "conspiracy to violate the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act," had court on Wednesday, August 12th.

MORE:

First, thank you to all of the supporters who showed up today to show solidarity for Joseph. About 15 people turned out and it is much appreciated. The group offered help to Joseph in anyway and they were very warm and caring. Let's make sure to keep this kind of support sustained for the length of this case! This is what movement solidarity and counter-repression organizing should look like.

Joseph appeared in court today as his attorney Bob Bloom argued for his release from 24 hour lockdown house arrest. Although they worked very hard to argue his case, the court would not grant release from full house arrest. There was a very small victory though. Joseph's house arrest conditions were eased slightly. He will be given two hours a day, two days a week, each week—specifically to buy books at second hand stores to then be sold on the internet. That is all that was granted today.

We move forward. Stay posted for more updates and please be prepared for support on September 9th. This will be Nicole and Joseph's arraignment and they will need all the support that they can get!

Thanks and solidarity.

11 Aug - Anarchist Needs Help Following South Carolina Anti-klan Protest

On Monday, July 27th, Stephen Loughman was arrested and charged with "breach of peace" for his support the week before at an anti-KKK rally in Columbia, South Carolina on July 18th, 2015.

MORE:

Local activists had called on folks from across the southern region to help South Carolina's communities stand against the Klan and other hate groups, who like many groups were trying to use the Confederate flag debate as a recruitment tool.

We would like to bring attention to the many mistakes the media made while covering this story. Even though the chapters of the Ku Klux Klan and National Socialist Movement (a neo-Nazi group) were also from out of state, the media and the local sheriff's office would have you believe that Stephen makes "a career" out of traveling around and causing trouble. This is blatantly untrue and is a tactic that has been historically used to undermine people's movements struggling for liberation, particularly in the South. In addition, the skewed coverage by WISTV10 also fails to mention Stephen as an explicitly anti-racist protester, potentially putting his reputation and safety on the line. Stephen was also never contacted for his part of the story. While we understand that white power hate groups have a history of seeking retaliation against people who oppose them, including harassment, intimidation, and physical violence, we want to take this opportunity to clarify why Stephen was there because the media did not do so. This irresponsible coverage has the potential to put our friend in real danger in a multitude of ways.

The smear campaign that has begun against Stephen is an obvious attempt to distance South Carolina residents from any image of discontent and anger against both popular and institutional white supremacy. The KKK and the NSM are trying to defend and proliferate white supremacy at all costs. In the wake of righteous sadness and anger, fueled by Dylann Roof's acts in Charleston, the state and the police still stand to protect these and other hate groups that inspired him. His political violence in the murder of 9 black people was a spark that lit the fire against institutions set up in South Carolina centuries ago. From the clandestine attacks on a dozen black churches, to the every day brutality of police departments and prisons across the country, we can be sure that white supremacy is alive and well in the U.S.

Although Stephen was in direct contact with the arresting officer the day of the protests, he was never arrested or told he had a warrant until he went back to South Carolina to retrieve his confiscated phone a week later. He was then taken to the deplorable Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center, where he was held in unclean facilities. Steve has since had to see a doctor for a Staph infection he received in custody.

Don't let the authorities and the media paint the events of July 18th as the work of a lone white anarchist. The communities that stood against white supremacists, the true "outside agitators," that day did so on their terms, to defend their city. If that means calling friends for help, so be it.

Towards a world without white supremacy,
The Defend Steve Support Committee

Please circulate and donate to Steve's support fund:
[gofundme.com/e6b3tukuc](https://www.gofundme.com/e6b3tukuc)

Keep Updated:
[facebook.com/defendsteve](https://www.facebook.com/defendsteve)

11 Aug - Nebraska killer contradicted trial testimony to state senator in COINTELPRO case

After 25 years a recorded interview with killer Duane Peak has emerged contradicting Peak's trial testimony against the Omaha Two, Edward Poindexter and Mondo we Langa.

MORE:

by Michael Richardson (*The Examiner*)

A court researcher discovered a micro-cassette tape recording in a box at the Douglas County Courthouse regarding the murder of Omaha Patrolman Larry Minard, Sr. The researcher made a transcript available of the recording on August 11 and the details are now published for the first time in this exclusive report.

Nebraska State Senator Ernie Chambers, a politician known for his independence, has been trying to bring justice to the murder of Omaha Patrolman Larry Minard, Sr. ever since the bombing that claimed Minard's life on August 17, 1970. Chambers, then a community activist, held several public meetings in the days after the crime questioning the police investigation which zeroed in on the Black Panthers. In 1990, Senator Chambers travelled to Spokane, Washington and interviewed the confessed bomber, Duane Peak, in an effort to get the truth.

Chambers was targeted as the mastermind of the Minard murder by Lt. James Perry, who was in charge of the police murder investigation. Perry asked Douglas County Attorney assistant prosecutor Sam Cooper to charge Chambers but Perry said in a 2002 interview with a private detective that Cooper refused because charging Chambers would trigger rioting. Chambers has denied he was the subject of attention by Omaha police, however, his name appears on a suspect list prepared by detective Jack Swanson, who worked under Perry.

Duane Peak made a deal with prosecutors to testify against Black Panther leaders Edward Poindexter and Mondo we Langa, then David Rice, in exchange for his freedom. Peak was allowed to plead guilty to juvenile delinquency instead of first-degree murder and was sent to reform school instead of prison. When Peak aged out of the juvenile system he was released and disappeared. Peak's whereabouts was the subject of several court hearings in 1980 as Mondo sought to reopen his case.

Mondo and Poindexter were convicted on the strength of Peak's testimony against them and remain in prison, serving life sentences. The two men were counterintelligence targets under COINTELPRO of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. When Mondo surrendered after being charged for murder, he was accompanied to the police station by Chambers who has remained the most outspoken advocate for the Omaha Two, as the two inmates have come to be called. The FBI withheld laboratory evidence on the identity of an anonymous 911 caller, allowing Peak to claim he made the call that led Minard to his death.

Peak was finally located in Spokane by a British film crew making a documentary about the case but he refused to talk with them on camera. When Ernie Chambers learned of Peak's location he decided to visit the confessed killer and see if he could get Peak to answer some questions. Ben Gray, now on the Omaha City Council, accompanied Chambers on the trip to Spokane. Gray then worked as a reporter for KETV in Omaha and hosted a weekly program called Kaleidoscope. The two men also wanted to get a recording of Peak's voice to compare with the deep, gravelly voice on the 911 recorded call.

Chambers and Gray showed up on Peak's doorstep unannounced and Chambers got Peak to invite them in. Gray operated a micro-cassette recorder which captured the conversation. Peak's soft voice is often inaudible on the recording. The tape was turned over by Chambers to authorities and it made its way to the Douglas County Court Clerk office where it has sat for twenty-five years in a box of miscellaneous exhibits from the case. The interview recording reveals details about life in exile from Omaha but Peak claimed he did not remember much about the bombing.

Peak did not want to talk about the crime. Peak rambled about his fears and failures, offering excuses and explanations in a confused stream of consciousness during his first conversation about the murder in two decades since the trial. Peak poured out his bottled up rationalizations to Chambers and Gray. However, one emotion Peak did not express was remorse for Minard's death. At the trial, Peak's sister testified Duane and Donald both laughed about the murder. Peak has never made any known statement expressing any regret for Minard, only for himself and the trouble he got himself into.

Chambers directly asked Peak if he placed the suitcase bomb in the house. Peak mumbled an answer, "Hmm huh."

Chambers asked about the 911 phone call but Peak avoided answering: "I am not going to try and make myself remember. I can't....If I could remember, I don't want to try and tell you something that I think because I haven't really thought about it, I guess."

Peak recalled his brother Donald was present at his arrest: "I can remember, it was at night when they arrested me. Umm, Donny was there, Donny was there."

Chambers pressed Peak to open up explaining he did not need to fear retaliation, "I've never heard anybody say they have a desire to do anything to you."

"Don't tell me that." Peak snapped back. "I missed out on my whole family life, for twenty years. I never knew that." Peak continued his theme of woe is me. "All I had, uhh, I got one letter from my dad, you know, and it was a real brief letter. I guess there was some things that happened in his life that were real devastating, and umm, that I talked to my grandfather maybe once or twice every year."

Peak continued his rambling tale of woe focusing on himself, ignoring a dead policeman and two men in prison for life. "I had to do everything on my own. You, know, I haven't gotten any help, you know, money wise, or anything, from anybody, and just the drive to try and be something good in my life for, you know, I wanted to show my grandpa that it wasn't all bad...I could have achieved something."

Chambers confronted Peak with a letter Mondo we Langa had written to Ben Gray denying any role in the bombing. Peak countered, "That thing was made in David's basement. It was his basement."

Peak denied witnessing the construction of the bomb. None of Peak's previous six versions of the crime, including sworn testimony, support Peak's claim to Chambers that the bomb was assembled outside his view in Mondo's basement. At trial, the bomb was allegedly assembled by Ed Poindexter in the kitchen while Peak watched on. Every time Peak has told the story he has offered a different version.

Chambers and Gray returned to Nebraska, submitted the recorded interview, and returned to their careers. Chambers continues to serve the residents of Omaha's Near Northside as a state senator in Lincoln. Gray has left KETV television and is now on the Omaha City Council.

Duane Peak's voice was tested by forensic audiological analysis in 2006 and it was determined by internationally acclaimed expert Tom Owen that Peak did not make the 911 call, leaving an unknown killer, Peak's accomplice, still unaccounted for. Ed Poindexter and Mondo we Langa remain imprisoned at the maximum-security Nebraska State Penitentiary where they continue to deny any part in the crime. The Nebraska courts have never addressed the role of counterintelligence manipulation of the trial under the COINTELPRO program. Now, with the Chambers interview, Duane Peak is left telling one more lie about the murder of Larry Minard, Sr.

11 Aug - Support Eddien Patterson

Columbia, South Carolina native Eddien Patterson was arrested during the July 18 anti-KKK demonstration in South Carolina. He was initially charged with 2nd degree felony assault and battery by a mob as well as 3rd misdemeanor assault and battery.

MORE:

Eddien was on probation at the time of arrest and now is serving ten months for violating the probation. He is currently being held at the Richland County jail. On July 29, Eddien was given the additional charge of Breach of Peace of a High and Aggravated Nature for allegedly breaking the windows of a KKK member's pick up truck. Currently we are trying to find a lawyer for Eddien, but he has requested that money be added to his books and desires to receive letters.

To send money, either send donations to free.eddien@gmail.com on PayPal or go to <https://richland.mcdanielsupply.co/deposit/index> -- his reference number is 591561.

12 Aug - Support Eric King Shirts Are Now Available

We're excited to announce that the Eric King support t-shirts are in!

MORE:

Show your solidarity by ordering one today! We're asking for a \$20 donation per shirt. All proceeds go to Eric's support, including commissary and phone calls.

To order a shirt, donate online at <https://fundrazr.com/campaigns/0yoZc> and then email us at erickingsupportcrew@riseup.net with your shirt size (XS, S, M, L, XL) and mailing address. You can also email us to get a mailing address for donations by check or money order.

In other good news, Eric is out of solitary confinement! He now has greater access to recreation, is able to be social once more, and has been reunited with a friend who is also serving time there. Send him a letter or card to help him celebrate this change in his conditions and to let him know he's not forgotten!

12 Aug - Rest in Power Hugo "Yogi Bear" Pinell

On Wednesday, August 12th, our comrade in the struggle for revolution, Hugo "Yogi Bear" Pinell was murdered.

MORE:

The context for his murder remains unclear, save for the fact that it happened in the midst of a prison riot. On Wednesday, August 12th, our comrade in the struggle for revolution, Hugo "Yogi Bear" Pinell was murdered. The context for his murder remains unclear, save for the fact that it happened in the midst of a prison riot. We have no faith that the state will do anything to determine how or why Yogi Bear was murdered and presume cops and corrections officers are relishing his death. We do not doubt the possibility that he was specifically targeted and those in authority did nothing to protect him.

In the early 1970s, while imprisoned in San Quentin State Prison, Hugo Pinell made contact with revolutionary prisoners such as George Jackson, one of the Soledad Brothers, and W.L. Nolen. On August 21, 1971, there was a prisoner uprising in Pinell's housing unit at San Quentin, led by George Jackson. On that date, Jackson used a pistol to take over his tier in the Adjustment Center. At the end of the roughly 30 minute rebellion, guards had killed George Jackson, and two other prisoners and three guards were dead. Of the remaining prisoners in the unit, six of them, including Pinell, were put on trial for murder and conspiracy. Together, they were known as The San Quentin Six. Three of them were acquitted of all charges, and three were found guilty of various charges. Pinell was convicted of assault on a guard.

Activists in prison to this day continue to mark the San Quentin prison rebellion as Black August, often with fasting.

Although Pinell was convicted of assault, and another of the San Quentin Six had a murder conviction, only Pinell remained imprisoned at the time of his death. During his astounding 50 years of imprisonment, Pinell was primarily held in solitary confinement. Though not as active in his political organizing as in his youth, Pinell was part of the historic hunger strikes that spread throughout the California prison system in 2013 to protest the treatment of prisoners held in solitary confinement.

According to his attorney, shortly before the August 12th, 2015 riot, Hugo Pinell was transferred to general population, though the threat of harm and history of threats against him were known to prison officials.

In this month of Black August, we raise a fist for Yogi Berra and all prison rebels—you will have neither lived nor died in vain.

August 14th - Dedication From 4Struggle Magazine

We are saddened by the news of Hugo Pinell's death. Hugo Pinell always expressed a strong spirit of resistance. He worked tirelessly as an educator and activist to build racial solidarity inside of California's prison system.

Incarcerated in 1965, like so many others, Hugo became politicized inside the California prison system.

In addition to exploring his Nicaraguan heritage, Hugo was influenced by civil rights activists and thinkers such as Malcolm X, Martin Luther King as well as his comrades inside including George Jackson. His leadership in combating the virulent racism of the prison guards and officials made him a prime target for retribution and Hugo soon found himself confined in the San Quentin Adjustment Center.

While at San Quentin, Hugo and five other politically conscious prisoners were charged with participating in an August 21, 1971 rebellion and alleged escape attempt, which resulted in the assassination of George Jackson by prison guards. Hugo Pinell, Willie Tate, Johnny Larry Spain, David Johnson, Fleeta Drumgo and Luis Talamantez became known as the San Quentin Six. Their subsequent 16-month trial was the longest in the state's history at the time. The San Quentin Six became a global symbol of unyielding resistance against the prison system and its violent, racist design.

As the California Prisons began to lock people up in long-term isolation and control unit facilities, Hugo was placed inside of the SHU (Secure Housing Unit) in prisons including Tehachapi, Corcoran and Pelican Bay. There, despite being locked in a cell for 23 hours a day, he continued to work for racial unity and an end to the torturous conditions and racially and politically motivated placement of people into the SHU. This work included his participation in the California Prison Hunger Strikes as well as supporting the Agreement to End Racial Hostilities in 2011.

At the time of his death, Hugo had been locked behind bars for 50 years yet his spirit was unbroken.

12 Aug - Repression In Denver

Denver Police have been systematically targeting and arresting those actively involved in anti-police murder organizing.

MORE:

Over the last year there has been a strong resistance to police murder and terror across the city of Denver. This is only the most recent surge in resistance to police terror in our city, going back to the loss of Paul Childs in 2003 or more recently Marvin Booker in 2010.

Denver Community Defense Committee, a group which has organized extensive support for families of people murdered by police, has five of its seven members under prosecution or known to be under investigation by the Gang Unit of DPD. Prominent independent journalists, those with an expansive reach through social media, have been targeted and arrested while filming the police in Denver.

At a rally outside the statewide conference of Chiefs of Police on July 20th it was observed that DPD had a handbook with names, photos and details on local organizers or participants in demonstrations against the police. DPD has a history of this type of behavior with the “Denver Spy Files,” (<http://articles.latimes.com/2002/sep/10/nation/na-spies10>) where local law enforcement had kept files on those involved in social movements for decades. While it was found to be illegal by a federal court to compile such files on community organizers and activists, and while DPD settled with the ACLU and promised to cease politically motivated surveillance, it appears that they have picked up the practice once again.

Since Friday, August 7 at least three organizers in Denver have been visited at their residences by Denver Police officers. DPD has been asking for people by name and snooping around their homes. At least two activists have found out that police officers tried to enter their residences, without a warrant, while they were away from home. Others who have pending legal cases have had more charges added, many months later with no additional evidence, by the office of Mitch Morrissey, Denver District Attorney. It doesn't seem to be a coincidence that after demonstrations were held in front of Morrissey's home to protest his failure to indict killer cops, his office is maliciously adding false charges against police brutality protesters. There was also a petition to recall Morrissey as DA that garnered 20,000 signatures, a petition supported by the same protester community he is now targeting.

This morning two activists who have been targets of this harassment from DPD were taken into custody. A month ago they were detained while they were walking down the street and given a request to appear with a detective for an interview. They then were notified they were to be interviewed by the Gang Unit. Last Friday 8 officers came looking for them at a previous address. Today they chose to turn themselves in and are currently being held awaiting booking and the setting of bond. Please contribute to their bond fund at: Denver Anarchist Black Cross Bail Fund

Knowing your rights does not ensure that the police honor them. They do not care. They are legally allowed to lie to you, and will lie to you. However knowing your rights and methodically going through them might help you in your interacting with the police and might help you later if you end up having to go to court.

1. Anything you say will be held against you. Do not answer questions. Do not talk to the police.
2. If police come to your door, you do not have to let them into your house if they do not have a search warrant. You do not have to answer any questions. You can exercise your right to remain silent and to speak to an attorney. Videotape them from inside your home.
3. If you are stopped on the street ask if you are being detained. If the answer is no, ask if you are free to leave. If the answer is yes that you are free to leave, leave immediately. Get as far away as you can, call friends and comrades who you trust.
4. If the police are searching your belongings or home, say out loud “I do not consent to this search.” Keep repeating “I do not consent to a search without a warrant.” It will not stop them from searching necessarily but it may impact what is admissible in court.
5. If they do have a warrant ask to see it(they can show it through the screen or glass, or slide it under the door) verify that it has been signed by a judge. Make note of the items listed on the warrant of what they are allowed to search. If they attempt to search or take any additional items say out loud that you do not consent to items being searched that are not on the warrant.

Let's keep our heads up and hearts strong.

If you are an organizer or activist being harassed, detained or have officers come to your home let folks know at defenddnvr@gmail.com and people can be in touch as quickly as possible!

Repression only makes us stronger! Haters make us love harder!

12 Aug - Update on Brandon Baxter

Not long ago comrades received a letter from Brandon Baxter informing them that he has been put in the SHU.

MORE:

Brandon has been in SHU since June and is uncertain how much longer he will be there, but it seems like it could be several months. Brandon was originally accused of making threats to an officer and assaulting an officer. These charges stemmed from an incident in which Brandon himself was pushed down the stairs by his throat, almost causing him to fall backwards, and then choked in the hallway. The officer claimed that Brandon assaulted him by “touching his nose.” This was apparently retaliation for Brandon calling out the cops for their negligence in the rape of another prisoner (by a prisoner).

The DHO has found him guilty of disobeying a direct order and making a threat, but they dropped the assault charge. The prison has taken 27 days of good time and 18 months of his phone and email “privileges.” Brandon is currently appealing all of this (the entire incident was caught on video camera but the prison only provided 1 of 4 camera angles).

Please take some time to send Brandon a letter of support. The SHU is a terribly isolating place and Brandon would love to hear from all of us to help drive away that isolation. He could also use some good reading material, so send books if possible.

14 Aug - Call out for an International Week for Anarchist Prisoners

In summer 2013 members of several ABC groups discussed the necessity of introducing an International Day for Anarchist Prisoners. Given there are already established dates for Political Prisoners Rights Day or Prison Justice Day, we found it important to emphasize the stories of our anarchist comrades as well.

MORE:

Many imprisoned anarchists will never be acknowledged as ‘political prisoners’ by formal human-rights organizations, because their sense of social justice is strictly limited to the capitalist laws which are designed to defend the State and prevent any real social change. At the same time, even within our individual communities, we know so little about the repression that exists in other countries, to say nothing of the names and cases involving many of our incarcerated comrades.

This is why we have decided to introduce an annual Week for Anarchist Prisoners on August 23-30. We chose August 23 as a starting point, because on that very day in 1927 the Italian-American anarchists Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti were executed in prison. They were convicted of murdering two men during an armed robbery at a shoe factory in South Braintree, Massachusetts, United States. Their arrest was a part of a bigger anti-radical campaign led by the American government. The State’s evidence against the two was almost totally non-existent and many people still today believe that they were punished for their strong anarchist beliefs.

Given the nature and diversity of anarchist groups around the globe, we have proposed a week of common action rather than a single campaign on a specific day making easier for groups to be able to organize an event within a longer target period.

Therefore, we call on everyone to spread the information about the Week for Anarchist Prisoners among other groups and communities and think about organizing event(s) in your city or town. The events can vary from info-evenings, screenings and benefit concerts to solidarity and direct actions. Let your imagination run free.

Please send reports of your activities to tillallarefree@riseup.net

21 Aug - Fight the Good Fight

WHAT: Birthday party in honor of Dr. Mutulu Shakur
WHEN: 5:00-10:00pm, Friday, August 21st
WHERE: Peace Health Center - 582 Halsey Street, Brooklyn
COST: Food and drink by donation

MORE:

Please join us for an evening of live jazz by the Donald Smith trio, plus a 70s set by DJ Jah Medicine, and dancing in celebration of the birth and struggle of Dr. Mutulu Shakur. Food (vegetarian options) and beverages (alcoholic and non) available by donation. Brief presentations will be made by Family & Friends of Mutulu Shakur and the PEACE Health Center.

26 Aug - CCR Freedom Flicks Presents a “If A Tree Falls”

WHAT: Center For Constitutional Rights Film Screening
WHEN: 6:00pm, Wednesday, August 26
WHERE: Downtown Community Television Center (DCTV), 87 Lafayette Street New York, New York 10013
COST: FREE

MORE:

This month the Bertha Justice Institute at the Center for Constitutional Rights invites you to a free screening of “If a Tree Falls: A Story of the Earth Liberation Front.” This academy award nominated film for Best Documentary goes behind the scenes of the Earth Liberation Front, telling the story of former CCR client, environmentalist and activist Daniel McGowan, and the events that led to his prosecution and imprisonment related to his activism.

Exploring how far is too far in the fight for environmental justice and in the pursuit of criminal justice, If a Tree Falls is a deeply personal story that interrogates what we mean by terrorism and the strategies we use to bring about the social change we want to see.

We will be joined after the screening by CCR attorney and Animal Enterprise Act (AETA) expert Rachel Meeropol and activist Daniel McGowan.

28 Aug - Anarchist Organizing Assembly

WHAT: Anarchist Gathering
WHEN: 7:00pm, Friday, August 28
WHERE: The Base - 1302 Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn, New York 11221
COST: FREE

MORE:

These last few years have been important for the anarchist struggle. In the US, the reaction to police executions have manifested in riotous uprisings and the Black Lives Matter movement, both of which have exposed a new generation of people who defiantly reject subjugation and reformist solutions. A hunger for new social proposals is visibly spreading city to city, hood to hood. The time has never been more pressing for a complete shift in how revolutionary struggle is manifested.

Simultaneously, one of the most massive anarchist-inspired societies has come to fruition: the decentralized region of Rojava. While Rojavans engage in bottom-up, liberatory social practices, their fighters have successfully defended the Cantons against the brutal, reactionary IS. For anarchists around the world, the councils and communes they have instituted have become pragmatic examples for our own communities.

Anarchist resistance in New York has been growing at a steady pace. Through the infrastructure of the Base, new anarchists have gotten involved and together we've been able to generate wider public knowledge about radical left politics, while laying the foundations for new social organizations.

We are eager to expand the range of these projects.

So many anarchists with new ideas pass through the space, but it is often by chance that they stumble upon collaborators. This anarchist assembly is intended to be a forum to allow organizers who have similar ideas to find each other. We invite participants in longstanding NYC anarchist projects to present their work as well as those with new project ideas.

If this assembly functions well, the result could be a new burst of energy for the anarchist struggle in New York and manifest a formidable force to our political opposition.

29 Aug - Punk Rock Karaoke For Arrested Animal Activists

WHAT: Benefit for Nicole and Joseph

WHEN: 8:00pm, Saturday, August 29

WHERE: The Silent Barn - 603 Bushwick Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11206

COST: \$8

MORE:

Well, we are headed back to The Silent Barn in Brooklyn for another night of raucous sing-a-longs for a cause. Silent Barn was wonderful to us last time and we couldn't be happier to be returning.

As always, this is a benefit. This time we are raising money for the legal defense/support fund of two recently arrested animal rights activists who have been indicted under the controversial Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act (AETA) for allegedly releasing thousands of animals from fur farms and destroying breeding records in Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania. . So come out, have fun, and give some much needed support to Nicole and Joseph.

It's been a while since we have been on our home turf and as always, we have some new tracks for y'all. Trust us, this is going to be a blast. See you there.

Punk Rock Karaoke is a DIY, fund-raising event that benefits a different community group each time.

6 Sept - Running Down the Walls 2015

WHAT: Running Down the Walls – 5k Run/Walk/Jog/Bike

WHEN: 2:00-7:00pm, Sunday, September 6th

WHERE: Prospect Park– Lincoln Road/East Lake Drive, east of the Terrace Bridge (see the below map for exact location)

COST: \$10 registration (includes food and drinks afterwards)

MORE:

You can donate online by going to <https://gumroad.com/nycabc>

Every year, prisoners and supporters of political prisoners organize solidarity events with Running Down the Walls. In the last few years, we've had runs in Albuquerque (NM), Arcata (CA), Ashland (OR), Bellefonte (PA), Boston (MA), Denver (CO), Elmore (AL), Inez (KY), Los Angeles (CA), Marion (IL), New York (NY), USP Navosta (TX), Pelican Bay (CA), Phoenix (AZ), Tucson (AZ), and Toronto, Ontario. This year we hope to expand the amount of runs in prisons and other cities, as well as increase the amount of funds raised for community projects. NYC ABC's goal with this year's run is \$2,500. You can donate online by going to <https://gumroad.com/nycabc>

This year's run will take place on Sunday, September 6th at 2:00pm in solidarity and conjunction with runs that will take place in cities and prison yards across the country at the same time.

REGISTER AS, OR SPONSOR, A PARTICIPANT

To raise our goal of \$2,500, we need your support.

1. Run/walk/bike/roll in the 5k – We need participants who can run/walk/bike/roll the 5k and are able to collect financial pledges to offer as donations to the run. Download the brochure, complete with registration and sponsor form right here.
2. Volunteer for the run – We need folks who are willing to staff a registration/literature table, hand out water, bike the route as street medics, and help chalk the route beforehand.
3. Donate to the run/sponsor a participant – If you are not able to attend, but want to support this fundraising effort, please mail donations to:

NYC ABC
Post Office Box 110034
Brooklyn, New York 11211

Your donation of \$10 or more entitles you to the celebratory picnic after the event.

Each year, we split proceeds between the Anarchist Black Cross Federation's Warchest Program and a local organization. This year's partner group will be Family and Friends of Maliki Shakur Latine.

The Warchest Program:

The Anarchist Black Cross Federation (ABCF) has initiated a program designed to send monthly checks to those Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War who have been receiving insufficient, little, or no financial support during their imprisonment. The Warchest program was initiated in November 1994. Its purpose is to collect monthly funds from groups and individual supporters, and send that money to Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War (PP/POW) via monthly checks. Over the last two decades, the ABCF warchest has dispensed over \$75,000 to political prisoners in the United States. Currently, there are ten imprisoned comrades who receive a monthly stipend as part of the program; they are:

Joseph Bowen
Russell Maroon Shoatz
Alvaro Luna Hernandez
Herman Bell
Robert Seth Hayes
Maliki Shakur Latine
Ruchell Magee
Sundiata Acoli
Hanif Bey
Oso Blanco

For more information, visit: abcf.net/warchest-program

Family and Friends of Maliki Shakur Latine:

Maliki Shakur Latine is a political prisoner, held in New York state. A former Black Panther, Maliki directly faced state repression and, after a 1979 incident with NYPD cops, was sentenced to 25 to life. We are raising funds to aid in the campaign to secure parole for this elder. For more information, visit justiceformaliki.org

Directions:

From the Q train, get off at the Prospect Park stop. Walk to Lincoln Road and turn right into the park. We'll be about 700 feet away.

The event will be two laps around what is known as the Inner Loop, and will total five kilometers.