Who is Bill Dunne?

Bill Dunne is an anti-authoritarian political prisoner imprisoned for an attempted 1979 prison break from the King County Jail in Seattle, Washington. Dunne and his former co-defendant, Larry Giddings, were accused by police of being “members of a small, heavily armed group of revolutionaries,” associated with the Wellspring Communion.

Based primarily in San Francisco, the Wellspring Communion, engaged in radical Leftist political outreach, merging the ideas of communism and anarchism into a single praxis. Though active mainly in the Bay area, the organization was said to have practice guerrilla training on a property in Humboldt County. According to media reports, the group — once known as the Tribal Thumb- was an offshoot of the Symbionese Liberation Army and with membership having backgrounds in “the Students for a Democratic Society, Weatherman, Black Panthers, Black Liberation Army and other guerrilla families.” Despite these accusations, none of this has ever been confirmed.

Prior to Dunne’s arrest, another accused member of the Wellspring Communion, Artie Ray Dufur (also known as Artie Ray Baker), was arrested for the murder of a border inspector that took place during a scuffle. Baker was scheduled to have his sentence hearing at the King County Courthouse on October 19, 1979. Dunne and Giddings, along with unknown individu-
In January of 1993 Larry Giddings was paroled from the sentences given to him by the State of Washington, which landed him in federal custody to serve what amounted to a 75-year term. In March of 1993 he received a "Sentence Computation Summary" stating that he would become eligible for parole in another ten years, in 2003. In August 2004, he was finally released.

Bill Dunne spent over a decade in the notorious Marion prison before being transferred to USP Leavenworth. There he assisted social prisoners in both political and scholastic education.

One prisoner, Ernesto Santiago, received his GED (General Education Diploma) with the help of Dunne and fellow Political Prisoner Jaan Laaman. In the summer of 2002, Dunne was then transferred to the new USP Atwater in California and was moved again to USP Big Sandy in 2006.

Bill has continued to maintain his political activity organizing solidarity runs in conjunction with the ABCF's Running Down the Walls 5K Run for Political Prisoners. He is also works on the Prisoner Committee of the Anarchist Black Cross Federation. Bill has worked as an editor and writer for the 4Struggle magazine produced by political prisoners and Toronto ABC.

Free Bill Dunne!

Free All Political Prisoners!

Write to Bill at:
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