

## Take Action! - Things you can do to support MOVE

Send stamps, phone cards, Kinko's copy cards or donations to help with the high cost of Phone calls, copies and mailing

Send donations directly to the MOVE Nine for postage, photo copying, and to pay for their pre-paid calls to send them donations, you must send money orders only. (addresses on page 9)

Write to different news media/papers in your area, in Philadelphia and in the papers near the prisons where the MOVE Nine are being held demanding justice for MOVE.

Encourage Bookstores and/or organizations to buy our book "25 Years On the MOVE" in bulk at a discounted rate so that MOVE info is available in your area.

\*Arrange speaking engagements for Ramona Africa or other MOVE members.

\*Write, Fax, Call the following:  
Governor Ed Rendell

225 Main Capitol Bldg.,  
Harrisburg, Penna. 17120

\*D.A. Lynn Abraham  
1421 Arch Street, Phila., PA 19107  
Tel: (215) 686-8700

\*Mayor John Street  
City Hall Philadelphia, PA 19107  
Tel: (215) 686-3000

Demand an investigation into the unjust imprisonment of innocent MOVE members!

\*Organize fund raisers like musical benefits, dinners, drives, etc. to help pay for organizing activities and to pay for the fight to free the MOVE Nine.

\*Start a chapter of Friends of MOVE

IN NATURAL LAW WE TRUST!

ALL PRAISES TO THE ORDER OF LIFE!

THE POWER OF TRUTH IS FINAL!

LONG LIVE MOVE!

LONG LIVE REVOLUTION

LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA!

LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA!

LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA!

ONA MOVE!

MOVEMENT

WEBSITE

www.onamove.com

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NEVER FORGET 1985! NOW IS THE TIME TO FREE THE MOVE 9!

# ON THE MOVE

a newsletter for friends and supporters of MOVE

# MOVE

## 2008 the MOVE 9 are eligible for PAROLE!



### LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA

### ONA MOVE!

It has come to our attention that cops involved in trying to kill our MOVE family on August 8, 1978 were recently given awards for demonstrating valor and bravery on that day (Stu Bykofsky's Daily News article follows). There is absolutely no bravery, no valor in cops that admitted to trying to kill innocent MOVE men, women, babies, and animals. These are cops that actually testified to emptying their guns into corners of the basement of our house where they heard babies crying, reloading their guns and emptying them again in the direction of crying babies. These are cops that attacked our unarmed brother, Delbert Africa, as he came out of our house and beat him almost to death for no reason at all except to vent their sadism and racism. Police officials blatantly lied and denied the attack on Delbert but it was caught on camera by a news team, so they were exposed for not only being vicious but also for being liars. Right after this vicious attack on MOVE people and as a direct result of it, the U.S. Justice Department

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indicted the Philadelphia Police Department for viciousness. Police Commissioner Sylvester Johnson issued these awards while apologizing for it taking so long (28 years) for them to be recognized. Understand something, these awards were given to 9 cops from the MOVE 9's case, including two of the four cops captured on film viciously beating our brother Delbert Africa, this is definitely delib-errate and not a coincidence. They're sending a message, planning a so-called strategy. Stu Bykofsky says that he knows if there were allegations of police misconduct that day it wouldn't have taken 28 years to put the cops on trial. What planet is Bykofsky living on? Very few cops are ever even put on trial for police brutality. Case in point, District Attorney (now Governor) Ed Rendell refused to prosecute the cops that were seen on film beating our brother Delbert on August 8th. When MOVE refused to be quiet about it and consistently pushed the issue, Rendell said he couldn't identify the cops from the film. When Delbert identified the cops by name, Rendell still took more than a year to file charges against these cops, and then he only filed charges of "official repression," not "attempted murder" or even "aggravated assault." The presiding judge of this farce of a trial, Stanley Kubaki, never even allowed the jury to decide the case; he acquitted the cops of all charges himself. In the May 13, 1985 government bombing of MOVE where babies, women, men, and animals were burned alive and shot to death to prevent any escape from the fire, not one single official was ever charged with anything. When our sister, Ramona Africa, the only adult to survive that vicious attack filed a federal civil suit against these officials and got a verdict in our favor, the presiding judge, Louis Pollak, over-ruled the jury and granted "immunity" after the verdict to the two individual defendants that had not already been granted immunity--the police commissioner and the fire commissioner. Once again Bykofsky is exposed for just being a butt-kisser for this rotten system because he's a journalist and knows about these examples and countless more that we don't even know about, yet he made the asinine remark about cops being put on trial for police misconduct. The issue of why it took so long to recognize these cops is raised by Police Commissioner Johnson and Bykofsky but was not answered so MOVE will answer it. These cops were not awarded before because this government did not want to call attention to this massive injustice and raise even more questions that it couldn't answer without indicting itself. MOVE will also tell you why system officials are focusing on these cops now, giving them awards for bravery now. For those of you that don't already know, the MOVE 9 are coming up for parole soon (2008), and officials want to vilify MOVE, label us as violent, as cop-killers while labeling the cops as heroic victims in order to try to build a case against the MOVE 9 being paroled, that's all this is really about. The MOVE 9 have been in prison for almost thirty years for a crime that they didn't

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# Write to a MOVE Prisoner

The MOVE 9 have been locked down for 28 years. Mumia has spent over 25 years on deathrow. Write them a letter to encourage their fierce example!

- Debbie Sims Africa**  
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- Janet Holloway Africa**  
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- Janine Phillips Africa**  
#006309
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- William Phillips Africa**  
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- Delbert Orr Africa**  
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1000 Follies Road  
Dallas, PA 18612-0286

- Mumia Abu-Jamal**  
#AM8335
- SCI-Greene  
175 Progress Drive  
Waynesburg, PA15370

# MOVE Guidelines

To quote **JOHN AFRICA**, quote, "When you understand the principle of freedom you are intolerant of anything that threatens freedom, When people are jailed freedom is threatened and everybody in this system is in jail, including the jailer, and the people that pay the jailer. . . For you see it is impossible to commit a person to the burden of prison without committing yourself to the prisoning burden of keepin that person, in prison," end quote  
**LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA!**

To quote, **JOHN AFRICA**, quote, "Water do not believe in prison, water is the power of LIFE, for water flow with the freedom of LIFE, nobody can stop the power of freedom, this is why nobody will stop the power of MOVE," end quote,  
**LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA!**

**New MOVE Documentary is now being distributed**  
-----  
The new documentary, titled "MOVE" is highly in demand and now available for purchase. After touring film festivals and winning awards internationally this film is now in distribution. To obtain your own copy please contact  
cohortmedia@yahoo.com

commit, a crime that officials know they didn't commit, and now they're mounting a campaign to keep MOVE in prison. There is absolutely no reason why the MOVE 9 should not be paroled (they never should have been sent to prison in the first place) and that's another reason for these official theatrics. They have no valid reason to deny MOVE parole so they're trying to turn public sentiment against us by praising the cops, generating sympathy for the cops and defaming MOVE. They're starting a cam-

paign against the MOVE 9 and the MOVE family an't gonna sit by quietly and watch this vicious plot unfold without exposing it for what it is. Anytime these officials come with these offensive tactics we're coming right back at 'em and exposing them in defense of our family. Stay alert because we expect more of these deceptive and pathetic tactics from officials as the year 2008 gets closer. This is just the beginning.  
**THE MOVE ORGANIZATION**

### Editor's Note

*On the MOVE! This newsletter is an organizing tool. We ask that it is copied and distributed widely. The fight for political prisoners is key to all liberation struggles. Not only do we need our incarcerated brothers and sisters on the streets beside us, but we have spent too much time and too many resources supporting prison commissary, visiting costs, and raising children who need their imprisoned parents. Fighting for political prisoners exposes exploitation of our community by the prison industrial complex while illuminating the issues that were deemed so threatening that this system felt compelled to incarcerate these freedom fighters. As we fight for political prisoners we continue teaching the lessons PP's felt most passionate about. Fighting for the MOVE 9 mandates explaining MOVE Law, the belief in the absolute priority of LIFE. Baiting for Mumia Abu Jamal demands telling his story of accurately reporting on MOVE, police brutality, and all injustices.*

*This issue is laid out to first introduce the reader to the current attacks on the MOVE 9, ranging from Philadelphia's honoring of the murderous cops involved in the attack of 1978, to Bykofsky's media campaign against them. Then, members of the MOVE 9 explain their case in further detail. We've also included statements from other political prisoners currently battling the parole boards to continue solidarity with these brothers and sisters. (Thanks to the Jericho Movement for organizing these statements.) These issues, as explained in this newsletter, are not isolated to MOVE. Parole is yet another tool used by this system to further exploit and oppress the people. Right now we have an opportunity to create a strategic, nation-wide movement mandating parole and/or clemency for all our political prisoners. As Janet Africa, and many other authors explain, parole and other prison policies are not limited in their impact solely to inmates. They obviously affect those close to them, but moreover, are testing tools that later are applied to all people. Parole is a barometer to see how much people will tolerate from this system. We have an opportunity to clearly mandate that we will not accept any of this oppression and demand our people come home!*

*We ask all political prisoner's families, support committees, and concerned people to please, for your conscience and safety, join with us. We need to build a strategic campaign around this issue. All those interested in participating please contact us. We can hold nation-wide conference calls as we build our platform. Perhaps, now is the time to pay the national parole board a visit, or pressure the ACLU, or other bodies into civil suits. Whatever our strategy, we need action!*

*This issue concludes both with explanations from Consuelita and Carlos Africa on the parole board's history of abuse towards MOVE, and statements from Friends of MOVE chapters nation-wide for their call to action on behalf of the MOVE 9. Political prisoners have done so much for all of us. They have sacrificed their daily freedoms for true liberty. They continue their battle from behind bars. What will we do for them?  
**LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA FOREVER!***

# 28-year wait to honor cops' valor

by Stu Bykofsky  
Philadelphia Daily News  
September 24, 2006

TWENTY-EIGHT years isn't too long to wait, is it?

In 1978, Frank Rizzo was mayor, Jimmy Carter was president, Poland's Cardinal Karol Wojtyla became Pope John Paul II, "Laveme and Shirley" was TV's biggest hit, "The Deer Hunter" was the best picture, and Philadelphia police carrying out a judge's order on Aug. 8 were fired upon by MOVE "revolutionaries."



Stakeout Officer James Ramp died, several other cops and firefighters were wounded and other cops risked their lives on that humid August morning. Their bravery was never recognized by their city or even by their department.

That changed last week when nine officers were honored during Police Department commendation ceremonies at Fraternal Order of Police headquarters. The nine are Police Officers James Ramp, Lawrence D'Ulisse, Thomas Hesson, Charles Stewart, Joseph Zagame, Harry Mackel, James Farry and Albert Crane, and Lt. William Krause.

The meeting hall was packed with friends and family of the Nine, plus the families of dozens of other cops recognized for outstanding police work in recent months. The Nine each received the Valor Award, the department's highest, given for bravery under fire.

The Big Question was why it took 28 years to recognize the Nine.

The Big Answer was not forthcoming.

No one wanted to venture an opinion - not former stakeout Officer Hesson, shot in the chest that day; not former Lieutenant Krause, shot in the stomach and right arm; not current Police Commissioner Sylvester Johnson, who was in homicide in 1978 and remembers being stunned by the police radio call about a ferocious gun battle in Powelton Village.

"They should have done it a long time ago when I had people alive who would appreciate it, my family and all," said Hesson, who still carries bullet fragments in his chest. He was gunned down as he ran across the street to aid the mortally wounded Ramp, who had not even drawn his gun.

and the constant pressure our family was putting on the parole board and politicians, when we went before the parole board they removed the stipulation that we not be associated with any MOVE members. Because that meant our children! Our sisters and brothers are our family members and we were not having that. I was released January 6, 1994, which made me have a remaining 8 years that I had to do on parole. From 1994 until my sentence was complete I was on parole. I had to go see a parole officer once a month, then every six months, until finally I had completed my time. And Carlos had like a year left that he had to complete and he had to do the same thing. And every time we wanted to travel somewhere we had to go see our parole officer, things like that, as though we were criminals. MOVE people aren't criminals

I was sentenced to 23 years because my case was severed by the government's hopes of breaking the MOVE Organization up. They were hoping that if they severed me, and along with the other two who announced that they were no longer MOVE members, that there

would be a break in the Organization. It didn't work that way. I did my sentenced until I was eligible for parole. That's why my sentenced was different from the MOVE 9, who have 30-100 years each, who went in front of Judge Malmed. He took it away from the jury and decided to sentence them himself.

This is to make people aware of just how insane these cops are. It's not just the MOVE Organization experiencing this stuff. When we went to prison it was not just MOVE in those jail cells. There were lots of people in those prisons who didn't even know MOVE. So if they're saying this is only an issue with MOVE then explain all those other people long before MOVE got there and long after MOVE was gone. And those people complained of police brutality also. System trains people to think that cops are right and whatever a cop says goes. But cops lock up innocent people, and steal tens of years of their lives away. We're taught by JOHN AFRICA, in our Guidelines, that you don't have to have a reason for the cops to lock you up, they do it and they'll create a reason after.



LONG LIVE  
MERLE  
AFRICAS  
LIGHT!

## Interview with Consuella Africa

My name is Consuella Africa. In 1978, August 8, during the confrontation that started in 1977, I was arrested on trumped up charges. Six hundred cops came out to our home, storm troopers, with one thing on their mind and that was to annihilate the MOVE Organization. On August 8, 1978 we were asleep and they came to our home and attacked our home. We were surrounded by cops. They were on the rooftop, the streets, everywhere! We had nowhere to go, even if we wanted to go somewhere! I'm in the basement; I could see them through the slats in the windows. We're trying to save our babies, protect them in our arms. I saw the cops facing me, making statements like, "Did we kill those motherfuckers yet?!"

They'll never call the mayor another 'motherfucker!' Where those niggers at? Did they dig a hole in the ground?" They were trying to make sure we were dead! "Kill anything you see moving!" Those are the statements the nine cops "honored" by Philadelphia and another 500 of their cronies were making! Bullets were coming so close to my face I could see sparks, feel heat, hear the whizzing of the bullets. They drilled a hole into the floor to have better access to us in the basement. We didn't have glass in our windows, we had wooden slats. They took cranes and literally knocked the slats out so they could have good access at us to take aim and kill us.

I was arrested as well as other

members of my family, twelve all together but two were released because they disassociated from the MOVE Organization. I did 16 years of a 23 year sentence. My sentence was 10 – 23 years for trumped up charges of aggravated assault and conspiracy. This was a lie. I never assaulted anybody. I didn't conspire to do anything. I was simply in my home with my 19 month old breast-feeding baby when they came out to my home and attacked me and my family. I went to prison. I was sentenced by Judge Levi Anderson and held in contempt because I refused to shut up and let them take away my freedom. He gave me 8 years of contempt charges. And 10 – 23 years total.

I was in Muncy prison. I did 16 years for a crime I didn't commit. I was eligible for parole at my minimum. I first came in 1990 and at the time I went to prison I was denied parole as were all MOVE members: Alberta, Ramona, Carlos, and we were all denied parole because we weren't going to go along with the stipulation that we not be associated with MOVE people. We said no, we're not doing that, the MOVE Organization is our family, our belief, so to hell with you and your damn parole. So we stayed in prison. Carlos came up first Dec. 13, 1992, I believe. He was released. I came up January 6 and I was before the parole board, and the pressure of committed MOVE supporters and activists we were working with,

"I've been trying to get them to do it for a long time, but for some reason they wouldn't do it," he said.

Krause was "surprised" to get the recognition, but not surprised it took 28 years.

"I understand why," he said darkly.

I asked him to explain.

He paused. "I don't want to get involved."

Retired stakeout cop D'Ulisse wondered if the delay "was political or whatever."

I think "whatever," but I can't be sure, so I brought the question to Commissioner Johnson, who carefully distinguished between the 1985 Osage Avenue battle with MOVE and the Aug. 8, 1978 shootout.

"When a lot of people talk about MOVE, they talk about 1985,"

Johnson said. "In 1978, it was totally, completely different. I apologize to them for taking so long" for the recognition.

Did some sort of politics play a role?

"I try to stay away from politics as much as I can. I just try to do the right thing and the right thing is to honor them," Johnson said

I looked back at the clips from 1978 and saw a traumatized city. Were the honors denied the cops because Philly felt shame or guilt for allowing the MOVE situation to fester for 15 months? Was it fear of lawsuits? Worry about fanning radical tumult? The city's teeth were on edge after the shootout.

I tried to get a few words out of James Ramp's son, who lost the most that day, but someone pulled him away, maybe someone with bad feelings about the press, I don't know.

I do know if there had been allegations of police misconduct that day it wouldn't have taken 28 years to put the cops on trial.

But it took 28 years to honor them.



Stakeout cops in front of MOVE's headquarters during the 1977-1978 siege.

On October 3, 2006, the MOVE Organization emailed its response to Stu Bykofsky's article (The MOVE Statement ran on the front page) to Bykofsky. He was apparently online at the same time and began emailing back. The conversation follows.

From bykofss@phillynews.com  
To ONAMOVE@aol.com

Rewrite this to include MOVE's refusal to obey lawful court orders. You seemed to have over looked that.

From ONAMOVE@aol.com  
To bykofss@phillynews.com

You're assuming the court order, any court order, is lawful just because it has a judge's signature on it. You're also assuming that the terms lawful or legal are synonymous with right. Are you really that stupid, Stu? Are you that brainwashed by this government, that much of a mindless robot of this system, that you can't even see through the contradictions, the lies? Wasn't slavery legal, lawful? Was it RIGHT? Wasn't the Holocaust legal, lawful? Was it RIGHT? Wasn't Apartheid legal, lawful? Was it RIGHT? Wasn't it illegal, unlawful to resist these abominations? But was it WRONG to resist these things? According to history, wasn't this country founded by people who are said to have defied legality, defied the government (King George), went to war with cops called Red Coats? Aren't these people celebrated as heroes, freedom-fighters? Do you believe in the Fourth of July, Independence Day, the American Revolution? Which is it, Stu? Is it right to defy legality, the government when you know it's wrong or is it right to quietly accept oppression? Doesn't the Declaration of Independence say that it is not only a right but a duty to confront and if necessary abolish this government if it is oppressive? Do you believe in the Declaration of Independence, Stu? What makes Paul Revere, Nathan Hale, Patrick Henry, and others, "freedom-fighters" while making MOVE "criminals?" Also, are you saying that defying a court order justified that vicious attack on MOVE men, women, pregnant women, and babies? Were MOVE people accused of murder, rape, robbery, kidnapping, drug trafficking or something when those cops came out to our home trying to KILL MOVE, not arrest us? No! You're the one who definitely overlooked important facts, Stu, not MOVE. The MOVE Organization.

From bykofss@phillynews.com  
To ONAMOVE@aol.com

Legal is not synonymous with right. Signed court order is just what it says, "order." Do you understand plain English? Obey it and then fight it in court, like normal citizens who don't break the law and then hold themselves above it. You fight the system with guns, don't blame me if you get shot. And no tears for Dear Delbert. The cops over-reacted, they gave him a boo-boo, but you bastards killed a cop and destroyed a family.

Any time you equate the U.S. with Nazi Germany or the old South Africa or King George you make a smacked ass of yourself. The Colonials FIRST petitioned PEACEFULLY and were forced into revolt. Didn't the Afrika Klan get rich thanks to the "racist" court system?

Wise up - and move out. Find another country that will tolerate your insanity as long as the U.S. has.

And have guts to sign your own name next time. I'd like to know which misguided dope I am addressing. Or maybe everything you do is a co-op.

crimes whatsoever! Mary didn't have any felonies, misdemeanors, or none of that. Mo was forced to max out, which he did. I came up for parole after Alberta maxed out on her time. When I came up for parole they kept denying me parole for the same reason. I protested the stipulation that I could not associate with my family, including MOVE people who had never been arrested, who had no charges on them, that I cannot associate with them or the kids. They came back and said that I could not associate with MOVE members with felonies or had been charged, arrested, jailed before, no matter what the charges were. People from all over the world, all over this country, protested this stipulation because they said it's almost impossible for poor people and especially those that live in ghettos to be paroled around family members or even their mothers, fathers, brothers, and sisters that at one time or another have not been arrested by this system. People in the poor community have a higher percentage of arrests, of incarceration, than rich people. It was a lot of prisoners in there: Hispanics, Blacks, and poor whites that were being paroled to houses where they had family members that had misdemeanors or changed that up. Eventually, because of the worldwide pressure they had on them, and they could not get around the stipulation, I was paroled in Dec. 9, 1993. I was the first MOVE member to be paroled unconditionally. One month later Consuella was paroled after 16 years. The parole stipulation wasn't minor. It was a serious situation that they use on us, on our family members, and personally made us max out in prison unjustly. We were never supposed to be in prison from the beginning.



## Interview with Carlos Africa

I was in the MOVE headquarters from May 20, 1977 to May 19, 1978. It was a year long stand-off, confrontation, MOVE against the system. The cops had literally surrounded our home where MOVE people were not allowed to come out or they would be arrested. We had to stay in our headquarters 24 hours a day, every day, for that whole year. The things we went through that whole year crystallized the wisdom and the power of

**JOHN AFRICA.** I thought on May 20, 1978 that they were going to kill us. The way they came out and surrounded the house and had helicopters fly-ing over the house, guns aiming at us. There were men, women, children, and animals at our house. May 1977 to May 1978 we were constantly putting out information about MOVE belief, the teachings of **JOHN AFRICA**, why we took the stand that we did. We told the system that we were not going to let them attack, beat, and kill our babies, our pregnant women, and our men any-more behind closed doors that this time if they did it the whole world would see them for who they are and they would have to do it in front of the whole world. That whole year them cops all they did when supporters and people were not around the house was make all kinds of threats. They called our women "black nigger bitches," "nasty black whores." They called our kids all kind of nasty, foul names. They said we were "filthy." They even threatened to rape our women. They said they couldn't wait for Rizzo to order them to go in the house and kill us, our babies, and our animals. They talked about cutting our kid's heads off.

My mother would come and bring us food every week, her and my father. Every time my mother came when she'd be talking to me on the platform the cops used to point at her and give sexual signs like they were going to rape her. And when she would leave they would hollar to me in the window, that they would rape my mother the next time she came to headquarters. They didn't want anybody bringing us food whatsoever. A lot of times people would bring us food and they would threaten or harass them or stop them a block up the street and try to jail them so they wouldn't come back and show their support. This was the kind of abuse we faced every day.

Alberta Africa was first to come up for parole. The parole board agreed to grant her parole with the stipulation that she could not associate with any MOVE person whatsoever. We said that we were in prison illegally. MOVE had never committed any crime against the system. We simply defended ourselves from this system. You got the right to freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of expression. Every time we spoke out against the wrongs of this system MOVE people were intimidated by these cops, attacked, beat up, put in jail, teh list goes on and on. MOVE people suffered all kinds of brutalities at the hands of this system. They told our brother Alfonso, Mo Africa, that he could not associate with MOVE members with felonies or had been charged, arrested, jailed before, no matter what the

This is one of the many police taken photos of the vicious beating of Delbert Africa that Bykofsky sheds "no tears for." The cops shown were honored for their "bravery and valor" by the city of Philadelphia.

## HERE'S YOUR ANSWER

### By Delbert Africa



sentence goes on to say, "The Big Answer was not forthcoming."

And for damn good reason, as far as the city officials of Philadelphia are concerned. They have kept quiet about the raid of August 8, 1978 for these twenty-eight years because of the guilty knowledge that the murdered cop and wounded cops and firemen were felled by police bullets! And the only reason these nine cops are being so-called honored now is because it's believed, by city officials, that enough time has passed where, once again, government can re-write history, and pull another lie over the heads of people! It's not even a coincidence that the police chose to "honor" nine cops. This ploy is an attempt to draw attention away from the MOVE! See, the government knows full well that there are a great many people world-wide that already know the events of 8/8/78 do not square with the tales put out by Philadelphia authorities. So now that the innocent MOVE are up for parole in two years the city government is already beginning its publicity campaign to further oppress us by assuring that we are denied parole.

Looking at the nine cops that Police Commissioner Johnson chose to honor, it's easily seen that this wasn't nothing but a propaganda tactic on the part of the city. If D'Ulisse and Zagame are to be considered so damn heroic, then why weren't their partners in beating and stomping me also chosen for recognition? Charles Geist and Terrence Mulvihill were as equally heroic as Zagame and D'Ulisse in that all four of them cowards lied about beating, stomping, kicking and punching me! If they so damn heroic why didn't they stand up from the "git-go" and take responsibility for their brutality against me? D'Ulisse was the only one of the four never indicted for the crime, but if he was so proud of doing the right thing that day he would have come forward, leaswise, a real "hero" would have. But when the district attorney (now governor) Ed Rendell said he (D'Ulisse) couldn't be identified (despite the man's picture being seen all over the world, swinging his shotgun), you damn sure didn't see D'Ulisse rushing forward claiming credit for his deeds! And Charles Geist had so much on his mind about 8/8/78 he started into beating his wife (who was also a cop) and his mother-in-law on a almost daily basis! And you know it wasn't from no guilt about jumping up and down on my head! He was so twisted that his wife, Carolyn, ended up shooting him in the head to protect herself and her mother from his murderous rages. He went into a coma and died 8 months later (somebody pulled the plug!?!). Terrence Mulvihill had so much on his mind about 8/8/78 he ended up eating his gun (killing himself) in 1989! Lim

Washington, a Philadelphia reporter that has been on the scene for a long time has stated in a filmed interview that a cop has told him that he (the cop) knew what cop killed James Ramp! Nowdays, Linn Washington got so much pressure on him, he's scared to even reveal the cops name that told him that. He's scared of not only losing his career, but his life! Alphonso Deal, a former Philly cop had death threats from other cops made against him when he not only stated that my beating was wrong, but also, "MOVE might not have even been the cause of Ptl. Ramps death." Yeah, its reasons why the city has waited twenty-eight years to honor these cops!

Stu Bykofsky is trying to seem all naïve about why there was a twenty-eight year wait to so-called honor these cops. But he knows full well that from the very first night after the raid, it was a very strong possibility that Ramp had been killed and the other cops and firemen shot, by so-called friendly fire! There have always been whispers about that being the case. And in part explains why the city broke every law or precedent they could in order to railroad the MOVE 9 for the shooting of those cops and firemen!

Take a look at just a few of the inconsistencies in the so-called evidence against MOVE and anybody will be able to see why the city waited 28 years before daring to bring our case back into the public eye. Take the case of each of the firemen we were charged with assaulting. All four of them claimed to have been hit with shotgun pellets, yet not one of them ever had any pellets taken from their bodies and presented as evidence at trial! Another point about all these supposedly shot up firemen; the shotguns (2) allegedly taken from our basement were (by the evidence technicians own account) loaded with 00buckshot. Yet these firemen were all treated and released! 00 buckshot is as big as a .30 caliber bullet, yet none of these men had to be hospitalized, and some of 'em reported multiple "pellet" wounds. One, Dennis O'Neil, was interviewed at Hahnemann hospital at 11:15 am on

8/8/78, (before leaving) and when asked by the detective how he got shot, replied, "I was on the deluge gun at 35rd and Pearl Sts., then I heard shooting and everybody was ducking. I felt a sting on my 2nd finger, right hand. The doctor (Webber) said there were 3 shotgun pellets in my finger." C'mon, three 00 pellets would have taken his damn finger off! But this is the kind of lie the city put nine innocent MOVE members in prison for the last 28 years! It don't stop there. Fireman John Welsh was interviewed at Hahnemann Hospital at 2:05pm. He stated, "I was aiming the gun (a deluge gun) in a basement window of the "MOVE" compound.

Approximately 5 minutes went by; the gunfire started. I don't know from where (my emphasis added). That's when I felt my back and my arm and I realized I had been hit." I emphasized, "back" because here was a man (Once again) facing our house that was hit in the back! The official injury report of Welsh reads, "Shotgun pellets to neck under chin.

Lower right arm above wrist. Center right chest. Treated at Hahnemann Hospital by Dr. Tilley. Admitted in satisfactory condition." Here we go again people! How in the world these dudes got all these multiple wounds and they just sitting around--Welsh still sitting in the ER, hours after the shooting!

### The "honored" cops beating Delbert in 1978.



However, I'll work with anyone supporting a fair trial. By demanding a new trial, we can work with those who know the trial was rotten but are unsure of Mumia's innocence."

Philly supporters are organizing for Dec. 9—the 25th anniversary of Abu-Jamal's incarceration. Africa is urging supporters to come to Philly or otherwise organize an event in their hometown. "Mumia's case represents all that is wrong with this system. We must take action now before it is too late!"

Hans Bennett is a Philadelphia-based photojournalist who has been documenting the movement to free Mumia and all political prisoners for more than 5 years. He has written for many publications including Z Magazine, Asheville Global Report, SF Bayview, Alternative Press Review, INSUBORDINATION, and AWOL magazine. He can be contacted via email at: [hbjournalist\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:hbjournalist[at]gmail.com)

Please check out his new website:  
<http://www.insubordination.blogspot.com>

For more information on Mumia, go to <http://www.mumia.org> or <http://www.freemumia.com>  
<http://www.insubordination.blogspot.com>

### Twenty Eight Years by Debbie Africa

Oct. 13, 2006

... I was 8 months pregnant with my son and my 23-month-old baby girl in my arms when I was arrested August 8, 1978.

I remember the day the cops snatched my baby daughter from my arms. It felt like somebody ripped an organ from my body, and never replaced it. I had my son in a prison cell. I gave my son his first and last bath at 2 days old. We live as mother and children through telephone calls, letters, and few visits for the time we've been separated. The system not only took my freedom, my husband's freedom, they stole my children's freedom.

People who have never experienced the pain of separation between a child and it's mother have no idea what it's like to never see your child except for a few hours on visit once every 1-3 years under microscopic, suspicious cameras and eyes. People don't know how much pain you go through when you've on the phone just getting into a talk with your daughter and your 15 minutes are up, before you finish your talk, or before you can tell your son you love him, the phone clicks off--or trying to get every word out in the 1 minute you have left, sometimes not getting to say goodbye. You just endure this gut-wrenching feeling of anxiety.

The pain never goes away, but thanks to the wisdom of **JOHN AFRICA** we convert those feelings into energy to keep doing our work to fight against injustice! On the **MOVE!** **LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA!** Debbie Africa



In 1986 the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled against McGill in another case (Commonwealth v. Baker) on the same grounds. When Abu-Jamal addressed this same issue in his 1989 appeal with the State Supreme Court, the court reversed its decision on the legality of such a statement—ruling against the claim for a mistrial.

Incredibly, just one year later, in the very next case involving this issue (Commonwealth v. Beasley), the State Supreme Court flip-flopped and restored the precedent. However, this would not affect the ruling against Mumia, because the court ruled that this precedent would only apply in "future trials." This suggests that the rulings were designed to specifically exclude Mumia's case from its precedent.

#4. The fairness of Mumia's 1995-97 PCRA hearings when the retired, 74-year-old Judge Sabo was called back specifically for the hearing. Besides the obvious unfairness of recalling the exact same judge to rule on his fairness in the original 1982 trial, his actual PCRA bias has been extensively documented.

During the 1995 hearings, the mainstream Philadelphia Inquirer wrote that the "behavior of the judge in the case was disturbing the first time around—and in hearings last week he did not give the impression to those in the courtroom of fair-mindedness. Instead, he gave the impression, damaging in the extreme, of undue haste and hostility toward the defense's case."

Concluding the PCRA hearing, Sabo rejected all evidence and every witness presented by the defense as not being credible. Therefore, Sabo upheld all of the facts and procedures of the original trial as being correct.

#### "I'm Going To Help Them Fry The Nigger"

In 2001 another witness—Terri Mauer-Carter—challenged Sabo's integrity, but the State Supreme Court ruled against the defense's right to include her affidavit in their current federal appeal. Mauer-Carter was working as a stenographer in the Philadelphia Court system on the eve of Mumia's 1982 trial when she states that she overheard Judge Sabo say in reference to Mumia's case that he was going to help the prosecution "fry the nigger."

Journalist Dave Lindorff recently interviewed Mauer-Carter's former boss, Richard Klein, who was with Mauer-Carter when she states she overheard Sabo. A Philadelphia Common Pleas Court judge at the time, who now sits on PA's Superior Court, Klein told Lindorff: "I won't say it did happen, and I won't say it didn't. That was a long time ago." Lindorff considers Klein's refusal to firmly reject Mauer-Carter's claim to be an affirmation of her statement.

The State Supreme Court ruling was an affirmation of lower-level Judge Patricia Dembe's argument that even if Mauer-Carter is correct about Sabo's stated intent to use his position as Judge to throw the trial and help the prosecution "fry the nigger," it doesn't matter. According to Dembe, since it "was a jury trial, as long as the presiding Judge's rulings were legally correct, claims as to what might have motivated or animated those rulings are not relevant."

#### Organizing for December 9

Pam Africa (coordinator of Mumia's support network) explains that "when we defend Rue Mumia, we call attention to Mumia's current battle in the courts. We know the Supreme Court won't hear his case, so this current phase truly is the last chance for a new trial."

"I believe Mumia is innocent and am personally calling for his immediate release.

Of course, the most blatant example of a lie from the city is in the case of James Ramp. Everybody that was around on 8/8/78 knows the initial reports on Ramp's death reported him shot by a downward coursing bullet! Police Commissioner O'Neil, at the official pronouncement of Ramp's death reported him shot in the back with the bullet traveling downward through his heart! After these initial statements and reports it was seen that they better get that changed, so the story of Ramp's injuries began to change. Entrance wounds became exit wounds and the path of the bullet changed. But, as **JOHN AFRICA** teach "THE POWER OF TRUTH IS FINAL!" For, despite all their attempts at a cover-up and frame of the MOVE 9, the truth still prevails. Dr. Robert Catherman, deputy medical examiner, said in his official autopsy report and testimony that, "...the path of the bullet was horizontal from left to right with no deviation of angle." So even though the city tried to cover up their wrong doing, the truth still came out that MOVE could not have shot James Ramp from our basement! There is no way a bullet is going to come from a basement up to the street and then level off to travel horizontally! All these are just some of the lies this system has tried to cover up for the last twenty-eight years! These callous misfits have kept innocent MOVE people in prison all this time knowing we didn't shoot any cops or firemen!

On August 10, 1978 there was a command staff meeting of police at The Police Administration Building (PAB). Besides the command staff, the various commanders of the special units present on 8/8/78 were there. The notes of that meeting clearly show that the cops knew they had

messed up on 8/8/78. Captain Taylor spoke about, "...the number of firemen who were in the line of fire." On page 3 of the notes, a Captain Small is "...of the opinion that there was an excessive amount of unnecessary firing on the part of police personnel when there were no target per se to shoot at." Deputy Commissioner Solomon (later to become Commissioner) said in his point 5, "...There were too many police personnel present at the focal point of the action who had no authority or business to be there. He could not state emphatically enough the serious breakdown and lack of discipline."

Here you got commanders and command staff of the police admitting that there was a serious lack of discipline and indiscriminate firing from the police on 8/8/78. Also, that there were unauthorized police there (this applies to James Ramp, who was actually off duty!). So, is it any wonder that police and firemen were getting shot up by their own! This is why the city has waited 28 years to dare to open up what is going to become a Pandora's box for them. They have thought to out-wait the truth, let a generation go by and then spin whatever lie they wanted. But MOVE welcomes this opportunity to bring out all the lies, and speak on all that has been unsaid. Just like on August 8, 1978, ain't nothing these demons plan is going to go right for them! They will be exposed for the murderers, liars, cowards and racist crooks they are! Delbert Africa, Minister of Defense  
The MOVE Organization  
ON THE MOVE! THE POWER OF TRUTH IS FINAL!  
**LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA FOREVER!**



## Response to Stu Bykofsky's 28 year wait to honor cops' valor By Mike Africa

In your article you question why it took 28 years to honor the cops who participated in the attack against the MOVE Organization August 8, 1978. Saying that if there had been allegations of police misconduct that day it wouldn't have taken 28 years to put the cops on trial.

There were and still are not only allegations of police misconduct that day, but also direct proof of Philadelphia officials murderous intent toward MOVE as well as their collusion with police, the DA, and judges to carry it out.

It is evident from the people that you sought those answers from that you were not really trying to find the truth behind that 28 year wait of those fake awards, but only interested in corroborating your own long held bias views. For if you were really interested in the truth, or in any semblance of objectivity in your quest for answers, you would not exclude the facts.

Linn Washington, an award-winning columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News and the Philadelphia Tribune, was an eye witness to the entire attack against MOVE, August 8, 1978. He has stated publicly, in print, on film, and during live interviews that he knows for a fact that MOVE did not shoot James Ramp. He says this not only as an eye witness, but because he says another cop on the scene told him that not only had a fellow cop shot Ramp, but that he also told him the identity of that cop.

During my sister Ramona Africa's civil suit against Philadelphia city officials for their murderous attack on MOVE May 13, 1985, Wilson Goode testified in open court, saying that due to information he received as managing director and later as mayor, he concluded that the MOVE 9 were innocent. He also asked Supreme Court Justice Robert Nix to head an independent legal inquiry into our case. Instead of asking this maniacal murderer of MOVE people what information he had obtained that led him to that conclusion,

the Daily News featured a cartoon of Goode wearing dreadlocks and called him "Wilson Africa."

In your emails to MOVE, you were fervid when claiming MOVE failed to adhere to court orders, but hypocritically view that same court's order as a non-issue when it is pointed out that the police violated court orders in attacking MOVE August 8, 1978.

In the OJ Simpson trial, proving that the prosecution tampered with just one single drop of blood was enough to show prosecutorial misconduct. In the MOVE 9 case, within hours of the assault the city had deliberately demolished the entire crime scene, despite a court order not to do so. And despite of the fact that it is common procedure that no murder scene be disturbed anyway.

They uprooted and destroyed the huge tree that stood in front of MOVE Headquarters, where they say the first shots from MOVE were fired into.

They destroyed the window and window frame they confiscated from the house across from MOVE that contained the single bullet hole they say fir the same trajectory of the bullet that killed the cop.

They destroyed the bullet that came out of the dead cop.

The DA changed the medical examiner's report, in open court, and in full view of the presiding judge, indicating the location of the fatal wound.

They claimed to have a dozen guns confiscated from MOVE Headquarters, and a dozen cops testified to seeing MOVE men with those guns. Yet not one of those guns, including the one they said was used to murder Ramp, had any MOVE fingerprints on them.

They denied brutalizing MOVE as we were arrested, until channel 10 aired the

On October 23, attorney Robert R. Bryan (attorney for death-row prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal) filed the 4th Step Reply Brief with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, Philadelphia. Because this should be the last round of reply briefs, Bryan estimates that the public hearing of arguments should begin within three months. After the hearing, the panel of judges will then decide whether to grant Abu-Jamal a new trial.

The courts are now considering the following four issues:

- #1. Whether the penalty phase of Mumia's trial violated the legal precedent set by the US Supreme Court's 1988 Mills v. Maryland ruling. This issue was Yohn's grounds for overturning the death sentence and is now being appealed by the DA.
- #2. "Certified for appeal" by Yohn in 2001, the Batson claim, addresses the prosecution's use of peremptory challenges to exclude Blacks from Mumia's jury. In 1986, the US Supreme Court ruled in Batson v. Kentucky that a defendant deserves a new trial if it can be proved that jurors were excluded on the grounds of race.

At Mumia's trial, Prosecutor McGill used 11 of his 15 peremptory challenges to remove black jurors that were otherwise acceptable. While Philadelphia is 44% black, Abujamal's jury was composed of ten whites and only two blacks. From 1977-1986 when current Pennsylvania governor Ed Rendell was Philadelphia's District Attorney, the evidence of racism is striking: from 1977-86, the Philadelphia DA struck 58% of black jurors, but only 22% of white jurors.

#3. The legality of McGill's statement to the jury minimizing the seriousness of a verdict of guilt: "If you find the Defendant guilty of course there would be appeal after appeal and perhaps there could be a reversal of the case, or whatever, so that may not be final."

**S U P P O R T M O V E  
a n d e d u c a t e y o u r s e l f !**

**\* Free The MOVE 9 Button \* 25 Years on the Move Book**  
- Show your support everyday - 50 cents \$5 an excellent history of MOVE

**"Welcome to Philadelphia" T-Shirt - \$10**

- depicts the bomb being dropped on MOVE that killed six adults, five children, burned over 60 homes to the ground and left 250 people homeless

**\*The MOVE Confrontation Video - \$10**

- includes original black and white documentary on the 1978 confrontation and a short piece on the 1985 bombing

**\* New Documentary - "MOVE" -**

- This amazing new documentary has recieved international acclaim. The film documents MOVE's history as well as present day battles. It is shocking with a fast paced soundtrack and narration by Howard Zinn.

**\*\* To purchase send check or money order to the address below \*\***

at City Hall. However, the Supreme Court ultimately rejected the petition on grounds that it was not done on the official form created by the courts.

Arguably the world's most famous political prisoner, Mumia's international supporters include the Japanese Diet, the European Parliament, and members of both the British & German Parliaments.

In 1982 he was convicted of killing white Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner in a trial that Amnesty International has declared a "violation of minimum international standards that govern fair trial procedures and the use of the death penalty."

Calling for a new trial, supporters around the world feel that the original one was tainted by racism, prosecutorial & judicial misconduct, coerced witnesses, suppressed evidence, and a denial of Mumia's constitutional right to represent himself.

His case has attracted activists around the world organizing against racism, poverty, corporate media censorship, mass incarceration, political repression, and the death penalty.

Activist Noam Chomsky argues that "Mumia's case is symbolic of something much broader...The US prison system is simply class and race war...Mumia and other prisoners are the kind of people that get assassinated by what's called 'social cleansing' in US client states like Colombia."

### Still on Death Row

In December, 2001 Federal District Court Judge William Yohn affirmed Abujamal's guilt but overturned the death sentence. Citing the 1988 Mills v. Maryland precedent, Yohn ruled that sentencing forms used by jurors and Judge Sabo's instructions to the jury were confusing. Subsequently, jurors mistakenly believed that they had to unanimously agree on any mitigating circumstances in order to be considered as weighing against a death sentence.

Mumia's case is now in the federal Third Circuit Court of Appeals. DA Lynne Abraham is appealing the death penalty ruling while Mumia is appealing the guilty verdict.

If the penalty ruling is overturned, a new execution date will be set for Mumia. If his ruling is upheld, the DA can still impanel a new jury to rehear the penalty phase, which could then sentence Mumia to death—regardless of the 3rd Circuit ruling.

Because the DA appealed Yohn's death penalty decision, Mumia has never left death row, and is still unable to have such "privileges" as full-contact visits with his family.

### The Legal Update

In December, 2005, the 3rd Circuit announced the beginning of deliberations and shocked many by agreeing to consider two claims not "certified for appeal" by Yohn in 2001.

Mumia's attorney Robert R. Bryan declared it to be "the most important decision affecting my client since his 1981 arrest, for it was the first time there was a ruling that could lead to a new trial and his freedom."

hearings captured on their video.

They denied having the same type of weapons as they claimed was used to kill the cop, until the video showed them carrying them.

And when we came up for appeal, the DA claimed that they no longer had any of the photos, videotape, or even most transcripts of our trial. No evidence of the trial they say was the longest and costliest in Philadelphia history. And when anyone questions the DA about it, it becomes crystal clear why they destroyed every piece of evidence. Because it all points to them. How they killed and shot up their own, and the photos and videos they took to prove our guilt, clearly shows their own.

When the cops assault and murder MOVE children, women, men, and animals, you label it an "over-reaction" that warrants no action or criminal charges at all. If, as you claim, the cops simply "over-reacted" when nearly beating Delbert Africa to death following the attack on MOVE, what then do you think MOVE's response should have been after the Philadelphia police stomped and murdered Janine and Phil Africa's three week old infant on March 28, 1976, after the DA's office failed to even investigate it, and even after your paper did a cover story on it, where the press and members of city council viewed the murdered child. Yeah, that's what I thought. This is what led to the confrontation of 1978.

You said you asked relatives and friends of James Ramp for a comment on why they felt it took so long to honor those 9 cops. Why don't you ask Consuela Africa, who wrongfully spent 16 ½ years in prison for a crime those same city officials you talked to that day knows she was innocent of, while some of those same cops you gave medals to hid on rooftops behind Osage Avenue May 13, 1985 and cold bloodedly shot and murdered her two little girls.

Why don't you ask Sue Africa why she thinks it has taken so long to honor those cops, some of who participated in the murder of her pre-teenage son who they shot as

he tried to escape the flames of May 13, 1985, while they had her in prison for 12 ½ years for nothing.

Ask Janine and Phil Africa, with yet another son murdered by those same honorees that day, while trying to encourage people to forget how they murdered their children May 13, 1985.

Ask Janet and Delbert how they feel about their two daughters murdered by this city's award winning cops, as they serve a sentence of 100 years for one cop they didn't kill, while those who admitted murdering their babies weren't even charged.

It does not matter one bit to the MOVE Organization that you view us as esoteric. Our security comes in our understanding and acknowledgment of LIFE, the principle we adhere to. While you claim to believe in and claim is understood by most, has caused and continue to cause the most mayhem, death and destruction the world has ever known.

So you can continue to be an agent of repression for that murderous gang called the Philadelphia police, and give all the phony accolades y'all want. They know the truth, which is why they hid behind those 28 years. But the days for honoring yourselves will end because more and more people are recognizing the truth, recognizing people like them and you for what you really are. And are fast realizing that it ain't just MOVE people that y'all treat this way.

When the city officials attacked MOVE there were seven Pennsylvania state prisons. Today there are 28 with another two under construction! All filled to capacity with poor folk's children. This country is imprisoning black children at a rate that is 4 times that of South Africa during the apartheid era! Are you trying to convince the public that that is the result of housing code violations too?

Somebody like you would look at the events of 1978 and blindly conclude that that one event in the history of this racist city is what caused racial tension. Fifteen months of a

defiant MOVE Organization standing up to racist officials, versus a lifetime of oppression and brutality meted out to the poor community by avowed racists named Rizzo, Tate, O'Neal, Fencel, Abraham, Sambore, Malmel, Sabo, Rendell, the Daily News, the Inquirer, the Bulletin, as well as all the rest that towed, enforced, and supported that red line.

In the end you are going to see that those 28 years wasn't long enough. Conscious people will never forget this city's heinous treatment of MOVE. And, only those who are completely devoid of life would even want to.

Ona MOVE!  
Michael Africa

### LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA!

### MOVE Women respond to Bykofsky

October 20, 2006

Here we are still in prison after 28 years, due to come up for parole in 2008 to be released, and the city of Philadelphia, along with the news media, in particular Stu Bykofsky, ain't satisfied. They're still sniping at MOVE through his article in the Daily newspaper, and via email, to try and rally public opinion against us to try and keep us in prison. The truth is Stu Bykofsky never interviewed, or talked to any of the MOVE 9, to determine that MOVE is guilty, like unbiased reporters are supposed to do. Bykofsky don't know the truth about MOVE, or what happened August 8, 1978, and don't have the right to condemn us as guilty.

Bykofsky said we should have obeyed the order, fight in court like normal citizens. . . Five MOVE babies were murdered at the hands of Philadelphia cops before 1978. MOVE made hun-



dreds of court appearances before 1978 to fight for our so-called rights, to expose the unjust beatings, and baby killings MOVE suffered at the hands of Philadelphia cops and sheriffs, before 1978. MOVE went to court, filed charges against cops who were on the scene when MOVE babies were thrown from porches, kicked from the wombs of MOVE women, trampled to death, before 1978, only to be ignored, and dismissed. There was never justice in the courts for MOVE. That was the whole point of the May 1977 demonstration against the city. If Bykofsky really wanted to be fair-minded, if he had done his homework, like reporters are supposed to do he would have understood why we didn't trust the courts.

Despite that though, MOVE still gave the city the opportunity to resolve this issue of police brutality, and abuse from the cops against MOVE in

### Rue Mumia Abu-Jamal

At the Rue Mumia inauguration ceremony in St. Denis this past April, Mayor Didier Pallard declared: "Mumia's struggle is a symbol for justice, the abolition of the death penalty, human rights, and resistance against a system which has the arrogance to reign over the world in the name of those same human rights that it tramples with complete impunity on its own soil."

In response to the street-naming, resolutions condemning St. Denis were introduced in the US Congress, the Pennsylvania State Senate, and the Philadelphia City Council.

In September, a delegation visited from France to defend Rue Mumia. They attempted to meet with Philadelphia Mayor John Street, but after several hours of being ignored, they left his office to speak at the town meeting nearby organized by Mumia's local supporters.

At the town meeting, the visitors proclaimed: "As long as the city of St. Denis exists, we will have Rue Mumia Abu-Jamal."

Mumia's supporters later presented their own resolution defending Rue Mumia at the City Council.

Supporters in New York City have started an online petition calling for a street in Harlem to be named after Abu-Jamal. <http://www.gopetition.com/online/9723.html>

### A History of International Support

Support from France has been extensive. In November, 2002 a delegation of more than 40 French supporters of Abu-Jamal traveled to Philadelphia to hand-deliver a 250,000 signature petition (demanding a new trial) to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania office

## TAKE ACTION NOW!

- 1) **Educate** - Contact the International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal and receive copies of flyers and information books to distribute
- 2) **Stay Updated** by checking the website or calling our info number regularly. Email [ICFFMAJ@aol.com](mailto:ICFFMAJ@aol.com) and get added to our email list. Be ready to come to Philadelphia or set up demonstrations in your area at a moments notice.
- 3) Encourage your local **bookstores to order and stock Mumia's books**. Organize book readings or have Mumia's regular **commentaries** read or published. To hear commentaries go to [www.prisonradio.org](http://www.prisonradio.org)
- 4) Go to open mic's, poetry readings, political events and **speak out** about Mumia, the death penalty and political prisoners.
- 5) **Donate** funds to the movement! Send funds to: The National Black United Fund, 40 Clinton St., Newark, NJ 07102 - Checks must be earmarked "Mumia Organizing."
- 6) **Start your own local coalition** for justice for Mumia and let us know.

### International Concerned Family and Friends of

Mumia Abu-Jamal

[www.Mumia.org](http://www.Mumia.org) 215-476-8812 [ICFFMAJ@aol.com](mailto:ICFFMAJ@aol.com)

## Is Honoring Mumia a Crime?

By Hans Bennett

Is it a crime to publicly honor black death-row prisoner and journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal (convicted of killing white Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner in a 1982 trial that Amnesty International has declared a "violation of minimum international standards that govern fair trial procedures and the use of the death penalty")? Future Philadelphia mayoral candidate Peter J. Wirs thinks so.

Acting as the Chairman of Philadelphia's 59th Republican Ward Executive Committee, Wirs has filed criminal charges against the French cities of Paris and St. Denis. Their crime?

In 2003 Abu-Jamal was declared an honorary citizen of Paris—the first time since Pablo Picasso was similarly honored in the 1970s. This April, the French city of St. Denis (a Paris suburb) named a major street after him. Located in the Cristino Garcia District of the city (named after an anti-Franco Spanish Republican), Rue Mumia Abu-Jamal leads directly to the largest sports arena in Europe: "Nelson Mandela Stadium."

Wirs and the GOP ward committee allege that these public honors violate French Penal Code, Article 24 § 2 (L. 29 juillet 1881), prohibiting "the glorified perpetration of a crime [whose elements include] the voluntary trespass to another person's life or physical integrity ..."

The committee's press release explains that:

"The 59th Republican Ward Executive Committee's French counsel, Martin Bozmarov, Esq. filed a plainte, (criminal complaint) with the Procureur de la Republique, akin to a District Attorney, in two separate départements (France's primary political subdivision) who represents the government before the trial courts, the Tribunal de Grande Instance de Paris for the capital city and Tribunal de Grande Instance de Bobigny that has jurisdiction over Saint Denis. Once each Procureur determines the charges founded, a instruction judiciaire (judicial investigation) is requested of the Chambre de l'Instruction, a separate body of judges, who appoints the Juge d'Instruction, a special investigating judge, to conduct a full scale investigation for both exculpatory as well as inculpatory evidence, including interviewing parties and witnesses."

"If the Juge d'Instruction estimates prosecution is warranted, the dossier is transferred back to the Procureur, while the three-judge Chambre de l'Instruction, if determining there is sufficient evidence to charge, issue the mise en examen, the formal indicting instrument, and transfers the case to a trial court." <http://www.politicspa.com/pressreleasesdetail.asp?id=750>

Calling Abu-Jamal a "punk," Chairman Wirs proclaims that "Abu-Jamal's gratuitous exploitation of genuine international opposition to the death penalty should be exposed for the 'snake-oil' scam that it is."

Wirs will be among the numerous Philadelphia city officials traveling to France on November 27 to lobby against Rue Mumia and his honorary citizenship in Paris. In an advance letter requesting a meeting with the Paris City Council, this delegation writes:

"To give to honours of the city to a cop killer is both an immoral and irresponsible choice. It is all the more choking to see the name of a murderer next to that of Pablo Picasso in the gallery of the "Parisian Honours". But the message that the decision of your assembly is making is much more disturbing as the French policemen are everyday exposed to an increasing number of assaults and violent urban acts." [http://www.freemumia.com/Philly\\_City\\_Council\\_Delegation\\_Letter\(2\).doc](http://www.freemumia.com/Philly_City_Council_Delegation_Letter(2).doc)

peace-but pride would not let the city resolve this peacefully.

It was the city of Philadelphia that sent the cops to our house claiming to be arresting MOVE for not appearing in court on a housing violation. Understand what I am saying, all this happened because Judge G. Fred DiBona, with the city's backing, ordered those cops to come to our house with a bulldozer, crane, fire hoses, and all types of weaponry for not appearing in court on a housing violation—not murder, rape, drug trafficking, or child abuse, but because we did not appear in court to speak to a civil issue. Does this sound like the city, the cops just wanted to bring us to court alive? Does Bykofsky understand English? MOVE did not sign an order for those cops to come to our house. We did not go out to their houses that day. Let me make it clear, MOVE did not kill anybody, so if Stu Bykofsky wants to blame somebody for the family that was destroyed, blame the city.

Nine of us have been in prison for 28

years, because we were a family, we lived there. Yet not one cop has ever been arrested or indicted for all the babies' lives that were destroyed by the cops before, or after 1978. Nobody from the city, police department, or media seems to ever want to talk about or show remorse for all the lives that were taken from MOVE though. Why? Can anybody answer that? People like Bykofsky who so dangerously misjudge people, like MOVE, poor folks, and assume they are guilty, criminal, just because they don't wear a certain kind of uniform, or protest against injustice, would not be so quick to take the position he claims MOVE should have taken if he and his family received one eighth of the injustice MOVE was dealt from the city of Philadelphia and the cops. Nobody needs to try and convey to us the pain of the lose of loved ones, we know.

### LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA

The Power of Truth is Final!  
MOVE Women, Cambridge Springs,  
PA



MOVE youth and supporters running in support of the MOVE 9.



## Policies of Enslavement By Janet Africa

The physical and mental abuse, the exploitative conditions and invasive policies inflicted on inmates are designed to restrain and control people in prison. Most of

society is indifferent and unresponsive to the disturbing things that go on in prison because they feel like it don't affect them.

Understand that prisons are controlled by politicians the same way the streets are controlled by politicians, so what affects prisoners affects you too. Nobody is immune to these conditions! While inmates are being pressured, forced into doing what this government tell them to do, politicians are slowly creating these conditions and enforcing the same policies on society. MOVE constantly complain and fight hard against these oppressive policies. When we were sent to prison 28 years ago, female inmates were completely isolated from male officers, as years passed, policies were put in place allowing male guards to work on female units as long as a female officer was present. Now, there are mostly men working in the units, walking the halls, strolling in our cells at night while we sleep. In 2002, a policy went into effect sanctioning male officers and maintenance men supervisors to run their hands across the women's shoulders, down the arms, down the entire back, between and under the breast, down the sides of the torso, around the waist, down the buttocks, down the inside and outside of the thighs and eggs starting at the crotch (a routine pat search). People should have been outraged about this, strange men putting their hands on women in this manner. This is a female institution with female officers here, this is totally uncalled for and unnecessary. The apathy and lack of concern from those outside the prison has allowed this to spill right on society. These days when female citizens board planes, to into subways, or look (what cops call) suspicious walking down the street, they are just as likely to be pat searched by a male cop, or security guard. These past few years of the government has been working to put into effect a ex-ray machine that enables screeners to see if explosives or weapons are being concealed in body cavities. This blatant disrespect and disregards for people is highly offensive and wrong. If people keep sitting back letting this go on, the next thing you know male guards will be strip searching inmates, police and security guards will be strip searching women on the street. It sounds outrageous but don't forget, in 1978 male pat searches were unheard of and sounded ridiculous too. Inmates were threatened and sent to solitary confinement for refusing to give blood samples for a criminal state DNA database for thought up by some politicians. In the beginning, this policy was deemed unconstitutional by their own Federal Judges because it violated people's fourth Amendment Right. Politicians got around that by getting legislators to make it law and this invasive policy has found its way deep into society too. You can't get a certain job, go to a particular school or obtain different licenses without giving your



4. Write to Veronza! Uplift him with your words and stay updated. The increased mail will also show prison officials that Veronza Bowers has global support and give his legal team leverage!

Veronza Bowers #35316-136, FCC Medium C-1, P.O. Box 1032, Coleman FL 33521-1032  
 Fliers: Distribute Widely!  
 Press Release [www.veronza.org/U-PressRelease.html](http://www.veronza.org/U-PressRelease.html)  
 Case Background [www.veronza.org/G-Summary.html](http://www.veronza.org/G-Summary.html)  
 Letters of Support [www.veronza.org/B-TOC-Letter.html](http://www.veronza.org/B-TOC-Letter.html)  
 (Including Prison Officials and State Attorneys)

For more information, visit: [www.veronza.org](http://www.veronza.org)

## Support Robert Seth Hayes parole denial appeal

November 12, 2006

Seth called this morning and wanted to pass on some important information about his parole appeal and some harassment that he has been facing lately. The interview with Seth on these issues is on the Internet, and you can listen to what he has to say at [www.radio4all.net/proginfo.php?id=20492](http://www.radio4all.net/proginfo.php?id=20492)

July 28, 2006

Greetings,  
 I am writing to thank you for your support, love and concern in my bid for release at my fifth parole board appearance. Sadly, release wasn't granted. Instead I've received once again, an

additional two-year hit for the fifth time, "due to the seriousness of the crime, release at this time would undermine respect for the law."

This is a standard, pat answer based upon political views (the governor continually insists that violent felony offenders should not receive parole) rather than the application of the law. We are going to appeal.

Naturally that brings up the need for your continued support. You have been strong for me over this difficult period and I ask you for that support and commitment awhile longer. I have already submitted my appeal papers. I now await the transcripts from the parole board hearing. It is from those transcripts and our strategy that I hope to secure release via the courts.

As things develop, I will update everyone through mail and the web page [www.seth-hayes.org](http://www.seth-hayes.org). It is hoped that the court will agree that there is unreasonableness by the parole commissioner's decision and opt for another hearing that follows the guidelines of parole law rather than the implicit political stance of the governor. Again thank you for your continued show of love and support. I look forward to seeing your efforts in the vanguard of the future. We are correct, and we will win.

In struggle,

Robert Seth Hayes, BPP/BLA/PP/POW 2006, Please

address all correspondence to:

Robert Seth Hayes #74A2280, Wende Correctional Facility, P.O. Box 1187, 3622 Wende Road, Alden, New York 14004-1187 USA



**AN ACT OF TERROR****Veronza Bowers Held Hostage by the Federal Prison System!**

Support Veronza Bowers, Jr. who remains in prison 18 months past the expiration of a 30-year sentence he has already completed.

Scheduled for mandatory parole on April 7, 2004, Veronza Bowers, Jr. was a model prisoner whom prison officials showered with praise in the past. Mandatory parole is a requirement by statute after a prisoner has

completed his full sentence if there is a record of positive institutional behavior and if one cannot consider the inmate a "threat to society" upon release. Four different

Parole Examiners, as well as the U.S. Parole Commission (USPC) itself, the most powerful parole authority in the nation, agreed that Mr. Bowers has complied with these prerequisites. In spite of this, just minutes before his April 7th release, the

USPC rescinded his parole at the request of a law enforcement lobby group known as the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), which claimed to have evidence that Bowers had violated prison rules.

At a subsequent hearing, the court dismissed FOP claims as unsubstantiated and a new parole date was set. But, the FOP then lobbied U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales to intervene and, as a result, Mr. Bowers has languished in prison over 18 months past his scheduled release date.

Mr. Bowers' conviction occurred during the FBI's infamous COINTELPRO

<http://thetalkingdrum.com/cointelpro.html> operations, which used covert and illegal actions to eradicate civil rights, political and peace organizations. On October 6th,

2005 the five members of the U.S. Parole Commission met at the request of the U.S. Attorney General. They upheld the U.S. Attorney General's request to deny Veronza Bowers parole and to keep him indefinitely in prison.

This system prefers to do its dirt under cover of darkness. Like in countless other situations, it has been the voices and actions of righteous people that freed those incarcerated unjustly by shining light on their dirty work.

TOGETHER, we can help force the U.S. Parole Commission and the federal prison system honor its obligation to let Veronza Bowers go free.

For information offline, please contact:

Rhonda Jones (480-460-9232) or

Maynard Garfield (828-462-0249).

What You Should Do Now:

1. Even with some of the attorneys working pro bono, there are many legal and court costs. In order to continue the struggle for Bro. Bowers' freedom, please find it in your heart and pocketbook to help in any way that you financially can. Donations should be sent to: Veronza Bowers, Jr. Legal Defense Fund, PMB 201, 2614 N. Tamiami Trail, Naples, FL 34103-4409

2. Veronza's immediate concern is staying out of the prison mess hall. There are too many fights and problems there. He buys food (sardines, crackers, etc.) from the commissary and takes it back to his cell and is hurting for phone and food money. Please send whatever you can (check or m.o.) to help our Bro. survive this gulag: Federal Bureau of Prisons, Veronza Bowers, Jr. #35316-136, P.O. Box 474701, Des Moines, Iowa 50947-0001

3. Write letters to the U.S. Parole Commission, the Attorney General and the National Appeals Board. It is very important to make your voice heard in this matter.

Emphasize Veronza's excellent record in prison and unquestionable legal entitlement to parole.

U.S. Parole Commission, 5550 Friendship Boulevard, Suite 420, Chevy Chase, MD20815-7286 TEL.: (301) 492-5990 FAX: (301) 492-6694

Alberto Gonzales, U.S. Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice, 950

Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001 TEL.: (202) 353-1555 E-

MAIL: AskDOJ@usdoj.gov

DNA. This controlling government intends to put every human being in this country on record by DNA testing. That includes taking DNA blood samples from new born babies. People saw nothing wrong with random drug testing in prisons but when this same policy was enforced in their work places, out there, people were furious and felt their rights were being infringed on and being forced to do something they felt was wrong, and didn't want to do. In prison, they say for security reasons inmates are under surveillance every place we go, our phone calls are limited, monitored, and taped, our mail is opened and censored, visits are monitored and limited. Things have gotten worse at a slow rate in these prisons and gotten worse on the streets. Without your permission, whether you like it or not, this government can tap your phone, read your mail, raid your house, and your place of business, they can retrieve your computer hard drive, snoop into your financial business, put you under surveillance, investigate your family, friends and associates. This government has gone as far as to force libraries to notify them if people check out certain kinds of books and reading material. This policy is called the Patriot Act and they claim it's done for national security. Times is hard and things ain't right. This is nothing to take casually. As long as this kind of conduct is accepted and allowed to go on in the prisons, or on the street, this government will slowly continue taking your rights. Hitler didn't persecute Jews across Europe overnight, it was slowly infiltrated through rules and policies. The Spartards slowly annihilated almost a whole race of Indians and through their policies made them prisoners on their own land. The same was done to the American Indians. It's never done drastically--it's always done gradually, so it doesn't cause panic and alarm. America is rapidly approaching a police state. This country condemns other nations for violating their citizen's human rights, but the U.S. is doing the same thing and just calling it something different.

The MOVE 9 are coming up for parole soon (2008). We have been in prison for 28 years for a crime we didn't commit. This government wants to stop us from getting parole, they have started an active campaign to keep MOVE in prison by trying to vilify us, label us as violent but our family on the street ain't sitting quietly watching this vicious plot unfold without exposing it for what it is. Anytime these politicians, officials come with these offensive tactics our family comes right back at them and exposes them in our defense. This is what all family members should be doing for their family members when this government tells you that your family members can't come home and have to do another 12, 18, 24 months in Iraq or Afghanistan after already serving their required patriotic duty. The dictating mentality of these government officials is the same, only the circumstances are different. This government is building a platform to invade other countries, very soon this government will put the draft policy into effect making you, your family, and loved ones forced to fight wars in Iran, Syria, Venezuela, and North Korea. Anybody that accept this system's double standard and don't fight to eliminate it compromise themselves and give up their right to complain when they become a crystallized victim of this system's double standard. We will never stop fighting this system, we refuse to compromise with politicians and their enslaving policies.

To quote **JOHN AFRICA**,  
**THE COORDINATOR**, quote, "WHEN YOU ENDORSE THE SYSTEM THAT CAUSE YOUR BROTHER TO COMPLAIN YOU LOSE THE RITE TO COMPLAIN WHEN WHAT IS DEVASTATING YOUR BROTHER BEGIN CRYSTALLIZIN TO YOU..." end quote, **JOHN AFRICA**  
**LONG LIVE JOHN AFRICA!**

Ona MOVE!  
 Janet

## Statement on Parole

ONA MOVE! In the very near future, the MOVE 9 will begin preparing for parole. Their minimum sentence date is August 8, 2008, but the paperwork begins much earlier than that. In fact, prison officials are already approaching them about the paperwork for their parole hearing. Prison officials have not usually been a problem when it comes to parole for MOVE people, it's these politicians and cops that influence the parole board against paroling MOVE



people and many other political prisoners. There is absolutely no valid reason for MOVE people to be denied parole and these officials know it. This is why they are already beginning their campaign against parole for the MOVE 9, they're doing it through the news media. They're trying to convince the people that MOVE is vicious, violent, and should not be allowed back out on the streets. We are confident that people know better but it's not enough to just know it. People have to get into action, get on the move and let the parole board and these sneaky, deceptive officials know that you're aware of what's going on here and that you're watching. Let them know that you're well aware that the issue is people who should never have been put into prison in the first place. There are several very clear issues that we expect officials to try to use against the MOVE 9. The first is the issue of accountability and remorse.

Parole boards generally require inmates to take responsibility for the crimes they're convicted of and express remorse. Obviously this is not going to happen with MOVE because MOVE is innocent and has nothing to be remorseful about. This procedure of the parole board is blatantly in violation of their own laws because, first of all, they are not allowed to force somebody to incriminate themselves, which is what you're doing if you're coerced into saying you're guilty. MOVE is innocent and is not gonna lie and say we're guilty of something we didn't do. What are these officials gonna lie and say we're guilty of something we didn't do? What are these officials saying? If you say you're a murderer you will be released but if you maintain your innocence you stay in prison? What kind of sense does that make? Secondly, the parole board has deviously overstepped its authority by denying inmates parole under the guise of "serious nature of offense" even when the inmate has a clear conduct record in prison and has completed all the programs that they were assigned to. The parole board has no right to do that. The judge took into consideration the "serious nature of the offense" when the judge gave the

Robert Dennison, NYS Division of Parole, 97 Central Avenue, Albany, New York 12206, and demand that a FULL BOARD REVIEW be conducted of Anthony "Jalil" Bottom's August 1, 2006 parole denial. We need as many letters as possible to be sent protesting the parole denial and Governor Pataki's unwritten parole policy. Thank you for your support.  
 Anthony Jalil Bottom

## Sign the online petition for Sekou Kambui

New Afrikan political prisoner Sekou Kambui had a parole hearing scheduled for this past June. The hearing date has passed, but the hearing still has not taken place. We spoke with Sekou, and he has advised that the hearing will now probably be held in December. We are asking supporters



to sign the web petition below. Thank you for your continued support.

Write to Sekou:  
 Sekou Kambui (William Turk) #113058  
 Box 56, SCC (B1-21)  
 Elmore, AL 36025-0056

To: Board of Pardons and Paroles, State of Alabama  
 We, the undersigned, call upon the Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles to release Sekou Cinque T.M. Kambui (William J. Turk), # 113058 from prison. Although he is due for a parole hearing in June 2006, he has already spent more than 28 years in prison for crimes he did not commit.

After years of activism in the Civil Rights movement, Sekou was falsely accused of murdering two white men in Alabama in 1975. He is recognized as a political prisoner by several international organizations. Sekou is a well-respected community leader and has consistently demonstrated an ability to lead a responsible and productive life. He is a paralegal professional and has been an active jailhouse lawyer and prisoners' rights activist for more than 25 years.

We demand an inquiry into this case and the timely release of Sekou Kambui!

Sincerely, The Undersigned  
[www.petitiononline.com/sekou/petition.html](http://www.petitiononline.com/sekou/petition.html)



Republicans appointed to their positions by Republican Governor George Pataki. Governor Pataki has in place an unwritten policy that all those convicted of violent crimes be denied parole. After Kathy Boudin was paroled at her third appearance, Governor Pataki publicly stated he would not have paroled her. He then summarily demoted the Chairman of the Div. of Parole, and replaced him with one of his Republican appointees, Mr. Robert Dennison.

In the July 20, 2006 New York Law Journal, it was reported that prior to Robert Dennison's appointment as Chairman, he functioned as a parole commissioner. Chairman Robert Dennison is presently being sued for acting outside of his authority while he was a commissioner. The lawsuit alleges that Robert Dennison, disapproving of two other commissioners granting parole to a prisoner on a panel he was serving, soon after met the family member of the victim. He suggested to the victim's family member that the prisoner "should die in prison," persuading that family member to make a statement opposing the prisoner's release on parole. Then Commissioner Dennison conducted a new parole hearing after ensuring the first was rescinded, and denied the prisoner's release on parole. The prisoner is now suing Robert Dennison, but for this act Governor Pataki awarded Dennison the Chairman position of the Division of Parole.

In 2004, Mr. Waverly Jones, Jr., the son of one of the police officers killed in my case, met with then Chairman Dennison, providing a victim impact statement. Mr. Jones informed Chairman Dennison that he felt that I and my co-defendant had done enough time in prison, that he and his family had forgiven us for the crime, if in fact we were guilty of it, and questioned the policy of continuously hitting us at the parole board every 2 years. Subsequently, that victim impact statement was not provided to the parole commissioners conducting my 2004 parole hearing. I was summarily denied parole in 2004, for the very same reasons I was denied in 2002.

At the 2006 parole hearing, none of the three parole commissioners mentioned the victim impact statement or the many other accomplishments provided them as part of my institutional record. In fact, the commissioners were not aware that I had obtained both a BS in Psychology and a BA in Sociology from SUNY New Paltz in 1994, or that I received two commendations for preventing prison gang riots, or accomplished other vocational training. However, when I raised my concerns about the July 20, 2006 New York Law Journal report of the suit against Chairman Dennison and his failure to provide the favorable 2004 victim impact statement advocating my release on parole to the parole commissioners, the only comment was by Commissioner A. Croce, who asked how I got a copy of the transcript of the victim impact statement.

These parole denials are in direct violation of the legislative mandate in Executive Law §259i, that establishes the standard that parole commissioners are to consider for parole releases. It is obvious that the NYS parole system has become a political tool of nepotism by the Governor, where 16 commissioners are Republicans.

I am preparing my appeal of the parole denial. In this regards, I am asking for your support. Please write a protest letter to Chairman

sentence. When the judge gave the minimum sentence, the judge determined when that inmate should be released, barring any problems within the prison during the sentence. The parole has no authority to go beyond that and virtually resentence people, adjust their minimum sentence. These are very clear issues that people can deal with simply and effectively when dealing with these officials. Don't let these official idiots fast-talk you, they cannot justify their position at all. You have all the leverage you need because your position is right and true. The people should be focused on the parole board itself but also District Attorney Lynn Abraham who has been involved in the conspiracy against MOVE, particularly the MOVE 9, since 1977, when she was a judge signing illegal warrants that ultimately lead to the August 8, 1978 police attack. The other person is Governor Edward Rendell, who was the District Attorney in 1977 and 1978 and fully and knowingly participated in the conspiracy to send innocent MOVE people to prison. These two officials are still in positions where they can be and must be held accountable for their role in this atrocity, especially since they are in official positions where they can actually do something about it. From now until 2008, we expect the official campaign against parole for the MOVE 9 to escalate, so be prepared. Arrange whatever informational forums you can to allow us to keep people informed of the situation, even radio programs where we can arrange for the MOVE 9 themselves to call in. Below you will find the information for the Pennsylvania Parole Board, Lynn Abraham, and Ed Rendell. Contact them and let them know that you're watching this situation and that the MOVE 9 must be paroled, nothing else is acceptable.

PA Board of Probation and Parole/  
Central Office  
Riverview Office Center  
1101 South Front Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17104  
717 787 5699

District Attorney Lynn Abraham  
Three South Penn Square  
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3499  
215 686 8700  
Fax 215 563 0047  
Da\_webmail@phila.gov

Philadelphia District Parole Office  
State Office Building, 14th Floor  
1400 Spring Garden Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19130  
215 560 2452

Governor Edward Rendell  
225 Main Capital Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
717 787 2500 Fax 717 772 8284  
Governor\_sites.state.pa.us/PA\_Exec/Governor/govmail.html

Board Members:  
Catharine C. McVey/  
Chairperson; Michael L  
Green; Jeffrey R.  
Imboder; Matthew T.  
Mangino; Benjamin A.  
Martinez; Gerard N.  
Massaro; Michael M.  
Webster; Lloyd A.  
White

Cops beating MOVE.



**Statement from New York City Friends of MOVE**

As I sit here today watching the leaves on the trees change colors and even watch some of them fall as we are now entering another fall season. Sitting in the park while the cold air hits me leaves me with a feeling of such comfort and oneness with mana nature. At the same time though a bitter feeling is left in me not because of the warmth of mana but knowing that another fall season has arrived and there are still innocent freedom fighters in prison. It has now been 28 years that the move 9 have been incarcerated in Pennsylvania state prisons. All survivors of the 8/8/78 shoot in where police tried to kill MOVE men, women, and children. their only crime was surviving . They were tried, convicted, and sentenced for nothing more than being MOVE members.

As 2008 is fastly approaching The Fraternal Order Of Police who have long campaigned for the execution of Mumia Abu Jamal have now lobbied a campaign along with journalists Monica Yant Kinney and Stu Bykofski to dehumanize the Move Organization in the eyes of the people to make move appear as violent people in hopes of the Move 9 not receiving parole in 2008. The police going as far as to have Philadelphia police commissioner Sylvester Bell honoring cops that were involved in 8/8/78 confrontation with awards for heroism and bravery. The same cops who fired thousands of rounds at screaming women and children. Cops who snatched babies out of there mothers arms, cops who damn near beat Delbert Africa to death were honored for heroism and bravery.

How many times have we seen this tactic used by the police and media to criminalize political prisoners in the eyes of the public through the media. we have seen this campaigned lobbied in the state of new jersey with Sundiata Acoli. In new York with Kathy Boudin all in hopes of keeping people who dared to stand up against this system in prison. The state parole board of Pennsylvania has now required that any inmate who goes before the parole board must sign a confession confessing to the crime they were convicted of. Move people are innocent. Prison officials knows, The state parole board knows this, The district attorney of Philadelphia and The governor of Pennsylvania knows this. We cannot allow the parole board in Pennsylvania or any state (as this stipulation is now spreading to other states) to stop us in our fight to bring our loved ones home. This letter is being written as an appeal for justice and for people to take a stand and help in the fight to free the Move 9. How many people who are reading this have ever met move people and have experienced the warmth, love, sensitivity, and the revolutionary fire that MOVE people demonstrate.

People can call or write Governor Ed Rendell  
225 main capitol bldg Harrisburg penna 17120 (717)787-2500

District attorney Lynn Abraham three south Penn square Philadelphia pa 19107  
(215)686-8000

Also people can call Chairman Katherine McVeigh of the Pennsylvania State Parole Board and demand that this stipulation be dropped immediately.

In support of the MOVE 9 Tibby Brooks, Anne Lamb, and Orié Ross of The New York City Friends of Move

to 25 years to life for the killing of two New York City police. This was their second trial, the first ending in a hung jury with the majority of jurors voting to acquit. The parole board panel made note of Herman's impressive prison record and parole packet, which included over 120 letters of support as well as letters from one of the slain officer's family members urging Herman's release.

However, the NY State parole commission denied his release due to "the nature of his offense."

As the reason for his conviction will never change, Herman, like many other political prisoners, is essentially being re-sentenced at every so-called parole hearing. Herman Bell maintains his innocence and points to a tainted legal process that reveals the over-zealous and illegal actions of the Cointelpro program which targeted the Black Movement 30 years ago and continues today.

It is not coincidence that testimony obtained through torture was central to his conviction and has recently re-emerged as the basis for jailing 5 other Black activists in San Francisco for resisting a grand jury witch hunt.

Cointelpro and torture continue to be at the center of the state's arsenal against activists—the torture methods used against Herman Bell and other members of the Black Panther Party in 1973 are similar to those used today in Guantánamo and Abu Ghraib.

"The authorities would love to see you abandon us, because it would discredit our movement and undermine the legitimacy and moral character of our struggle. They would love to dismiss us as misguided lunatic fringe idealists who deserve everything that happens to them.

As I've already said: Yes, I know the authorities were looking for me (and I say this not out of arrogant pretensions or braggadocio) but I did not run. Someone said: 'It is better to die on your feet than to live on your knees.' I felt that way then, I feel this way now. And as you all know we've consistently maintained that we had no involvement in the act we've been convicted of."

—Herman Bell

For more information:  
[www.prisonsactivist.org/pps+pows/ny3\\_update.html](http://www.prisonsactivist.org/pps+pows/ny3_update.html)  
One of Herman Bel's codedefendants, Jalil Muntaqim, will go before the NY State parole commission this July and the other, Nuh Washington, died due to medical neglect in the hands of the NY prison system in 2000.



## Support Jericho Co-Founder Jalil Muntaqim's Appeal of Parole Denial!

August 2, 2006

Dear Friends and Supporters:

On August 1, 2006, for the third time I had a parole board hearing at Auburn Correctional Facility. The parole hearing was conducted by Commissioners K. Ludlow, L. Lazzari and A. Croce, all of whom are

One of the requirements for parole is community support upon release. Forty letters from teachers, professors, human rights advocates, social workers, friends, family, and even the Public Defender, Jeff Adachi, offering Hugo San Francisco's new reentry program upon parole, were discounted and scorned by the Commissioners.

Another point the Board used against Hugo was his unwillingness to "program." Insistence on programming in reality is about domination and submission, since the extremely limited "programs" they provide do not produce truly marketable skills. SHU prisoners don't even have access to the programs available to mainland prisoners. They can only take certain correspondence courses or read self-help books to demonstrate their compliance.

Hugo's lack of submission to the system's programming has to do with his own program of survival under conditions designed to produce insanity. The supermax SHU is itself a human rights violation. The United Nations and Amnesty International assert that the conditions of the SHU are inhumane and in violation of the international conventions on the treatment of prisoners. Psychiatrists in the field of prison mental health have documented through dozens of studies since the 1970s that SHU conditions - 23-24 hours a day in small cells with no natural light, no windows, no view outside their cells, no contact visits, prolonged isolation -- are always harmful. One such expert, Dr. Terry Kupers, author of "Prison Madness: The Mental Health Crisis Behind Bars and What We Must Do About It," evaluated Hugo's mental health in 2004, and concluded that he is nothing short of amazing. Hugo has been able to maintain his sanity through a strict regimen of vegetarian diet, exercise, prolific writing to relatives and friends, and other forms of self care. This is a full time effort to be sure, and the result is that Hugo remains compassionate, mentally and physically healthy and alive against all odds. It's even more remarkable considering that in 2005, a record 44 prisoners killed themselves in California prisons; 70% of the suicides were in segregated units. In a national study of 401 suicides in one year, 1986, two out of every three

people who killed themselves were in control units. (Hayes and Rowan 1988).

In summary, this Parole Board Hearing was anything but fair and impartial. We sit in a room in the SHU with the Commissioners facing Hugo and I (his attorney), three guards behind us and Hugo chained hands to waist, feet to waist. Openly hostile, the commissioners recounted the history of 115s, alleged attacks on guards over 35 years ago, with SHU guards looking at us, looking at them. It's unfair because the commitment offenses cannot change; only the prisoner can change.

Despite their unfairness, despite their violation of his rights, despite their refusal to display humanness or common sense, and despite their utter rudeness and obvious contempt for Hugo, I must say my client remained strong and upbeat. I felt proud of him.

We were all but sure that they wouldn't grant him parole before going into the hearing, but we knew that we had to make a good record so that we could move into the second stage of the strategy to get Hugo Pinell out of SHU, out of prison.

We intend to file a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus with an outside court to appeal the Board's denial. We are announcing our search and need for a law firm with the resources to represent Hugo. If you know any law offices or friends in firms please ask them if they would be willing to take the case and to call or write me, his attorney, Gordon Kaupp, 115 1/2 Bartlett Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110,

(415) 285 8091.

For more information go to [www.hugopinell.org](http://www.hugopinell.org)



## Herman Bell's Parole Request DENIED!

On Feb. 15th, U.S. political prisoner and former Black Panther Herman Bell was denied parole for the second time. Herman, Jalil Muntaqim/ Anthony Bottom and Nuh Washington—known as the New York Three—were sentenced in May 1975

## Parole and Political Prisoners By Janine Africa with Orié Ross

On the Move

August 2008 the MOVE 9 will be eligible for parole, but we don't want people to relax and assume we're coming home. I say this because the parole board is notorious for denying inmates parole for not admitting guilt or showing remorse for the crime they were convicted of. An inmate can have an exemplary prison record, have good recommendations from the prison administration and the parole board still denies them parole for these reasons.

It's unfair because there are people, like the MOVE 9, who are truly innocent. Why should a person be forced to show remorse for, admit guilt for something they didn't do in order to make parole? The threat of staying in prison is intimidating people into confessing to crimes they didn't commit. Because of this intimidation people are crying, apologizing, saying whatever they think the parole board want to hear so they can go home. The parole board know this which shows they aren't interested in people's sincerity, the truth. The parole board is doing this to make their records look good, to make the court system look fair, just, and make society think judges don't send innocent people to prison, make it look like everybody who say they're innocent are liars, they're just trying to get out of going to prison.

When a person is denied parole sometimes the parole board stipulates that the person can't be reviewed for parole again for another 1, 2, 3 years. And every time that person comes before the parole board they are denied for another 1, 2, 3 years. The parole board has made people, some of them innocent, do their maximum prison sentences just because they wouldn't admit guilt or show remorse. We've seen women do 10, 15, 20 years in prison because of this. People in prison have already been tried, convicted, and sentenced, we shouldn't have to go through that again with the parole board. We shouldn't be punished for telling the truth about being innocent.

This is why we don't want people to relax and think we're coming home in 2008. Because the parole board is denying people parole whose convictions aren't politically motivated. We know what they do to people who dare to confront this corrupt government. Even though these officials forefathers were considered revolutionaries who went against their government. This country hates revolutionaries and do all they can to try and stop us. Like in the case of:

Sundjata Accoli -- a former Black Panther who has been in prison 33 years. He went before the parole board twice, once in 1993 and 2003.

Both times he was denied parole. The second time he was denied parole the parole board said he wouldn't be eligible to see the parole board for another 10 years. The New Jersey state troopers lobbied a campaign to stop his parole.

Herman Bell -- a former Black Panther member who has been in prison since 1973. He went before the parole board in 2004 and 2006 and was denied parole. The Philadelphia Fraternal Order of Police campaigned to stop his parole.

Veronza Bowers -- another Black Panther member who has been in prison since 1973 was granted parole in 2003. The day he was to be released on parole, prison authorities said he wasn't being released because he was considered a threat to homeland security. After two successful appeals of this decision, Veronza still has not been released. This government, the U.S. Attorney General refuse to let him go, citing concern of homeland security based on several letters from the FOP.

We're letting people know this because the parole board could try this same thing with the MOVE 9. The Philadelphia FOP, this government don't want MOVE out of prison. They have already started their campaign against us by honoring 9 of the cops who were involved in the August 8, 1978 attack on MOVE. It's nothing but a publicity stunt by Philadelphia officials to make people see the cops as heroic victims and the MOVE 9 as violent killers. Philadelphia officials deliberately chose only 9 of the 600 cops to honor, 28 years later, because people around the world call us the MOVE 9. They are trying to make some kind of sick comparison, 9 cops -- MOVE 9. And they waited 28 years to do this because we're coming up for parole in two years. That's the only reason those cops got honored, officials are once again trying to hurt MOVE. Philadelphia officials don't care about those cops, they're just misusing them for political reasons.

You can see from this that Philadelphia police and officials will do anything to keep us in prison. People can counteract this devious tactic against MOVE by contacting the parole board and letting them know you want the MOVE 9 back in the community. The public is supposed to have just as much influence on the parole board's decision as the police and district attorney. We know from all the letters we get that there are a lot of people who want us released but don't know what to do. This is something y'all can do that will be a big help to our family who are working hard for our freedom. Let the parole board know you want the MOVE 9 home so they don't think the public will accept them keeping us in these prisons.

The Power of Truth is Final!

On the MOVE! Janine Africa with collaboration from Ori Ross



## HUGO PINELL DENIED PAROLE

By Gordon Kaupp, Esq. with Keith Nyasha

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's Board of Parole Hearing, for the 8th time, denied Hugo L.A. Pinell parole at a hearing held Tuesday, November 14, at supermax Pelican Bay State Prison, Crescent City.

Apparently, 42 years in California prisons, the last 36 in solitary confinement, including 16 in the windowless, hi-tech SHU (Security Housing Unit) with sensory deprivation in the extreme, was not enough retribution against Hugo Pinell, nicknamed Yogi Bear. They gave him two more.

Since Hugo has had a clean record, no 115s, (rule infractions) for 24 years and his last crime was committed 35 years ago, it was a almost purely a political decision.

Hugo was part of the Black Movement formed in resistance to the deplorable conditions and unspeakable brutality that was exacted on prisoners, especially Blacks, in the 1960s and 70s. Born in Nicaragua, Hugo also resisted the Mexican/Latino segregation of Blacks, i.e., he broke ranks, identifying as Black instead of "Latino." That made him even more of a target and a bilingual threat.

It is indisputable that it was the prisoners' Movement led by George Jackson and W. L. Nolen, which brought attention to the appalling conditions and eventually Congressional oversight and overhaul of the California prison system. (See The Melancholy History of Soledad Prison, by Min S. Yee.)

The mandated changes that grew out of that struggle serve as an open and undeniable acknowledgment of just how bad it was and how necessary the resistance. Although it's difficult to imagine worse conditions than those in today's 5000 prisons and jails across the country, most grossly overcrowded -- yesterday's filthy dungeons, literal "holes," virtual hatched from racist guards and prisoners alike, officially sanctioned brutality, torture, and murder comprised more horrific conditions 40 years ago.

The stance Hugo Pinell took resulted in prolonged torture and isolation, plus a long record of 115s. E.g., Hugo often intervened physically when another prisoner was being beaten, getting beat up himself and thrown in the hole. Almost any Black person who has suffered guard or police assault knows that when the brutality stops, it's the victim who gets the charges or write-ups for assault, not the official

aggressor.

At one point in the turbulent 60s, the Movement organized a hunger strike which lasted eight days. Hugo's file reflects eight 115s, one for each day and that was used against him at the hearing!

During the hearing, the Commissioners virtually ignored his 24 years of clean time, and tallied his 115s, counting well over 100. Although Hugo has not gotten a violation since 1982, the Board found a way to hold that against him too. Commissioner Shelton said something like, "when I see a man as violent as you and I see that you have not had a 115 for 24 years it makes me wonder, and it reminds me of a story I once heard. At a parole board hearing of an inmate who had received many 115s early on but hadn't received any in a long time, a commissioner asked him how he was able to stay out of trouble. The inmate told the Board, "It's because I'm the shot caller on the yard and I can get anyone to take the fall for me." That story is incredible for several reasons: that a prisoner would even say such a thing; the fact that Hugo is never on the yard; and SHU prisoners are completely isolated, no phone calls, censored mail, restricted, monitored, no-contact visits.

What's more, the Board violated Hugo's right not to discuss or admit to the crimes for which he was convicted. An in-depth look at Hugo's convictions reveals serious questions of reliability of evidence and basic fairness in the trials. Except for the original case that landed him in prison, all of Hugo's subsequent convictions were for acts against prison guards, reflecting the historic struggle referred to above. Nevertheless, one Commissioner did hold his denial against him and berated him for it, saying, "and you continue to show no remorse and you even deny doing those things." What good is the right not to admit to something, if your lack of remorse (for something you didn't do) can be used against you?

I'm reminded of the case of Gerotimo ji Jaga (Prat) who spent 27 years in California prisons convicted of a murder for which he was ultimately exonerated. He faced the same reason for being repeatedly denied parole -- his refusal to show remorse for a crime he didn't commit. Similarly, Hugo's denial of guilt and lack of remorse was used against him, a clear violation of his rights under Cal. Penal Code Sec. 5011.