


**THE NATIONAL JERICHO MOVEMENT NEWSLETTER  
in Motion Since 1996**

<http://www.thejerichomovement.com>

**P.O. Box 2164 Chesterfield, Virginia 23832**

**(Vol. (4), May/June, 2018)**

**ROBERT 'SETH' HAYES**  
**BLACK PANTHER PARTY/BLACK LIBERATION ARMY AND POLITICAL PRISONER FOR 42 YEARS**



**Seth in 2015**

We need your solidarity and support. In 2018, Seth is scheduled to appear before the Parole Board for the 11th time, originally eligible for parole in 1998. Please call your elected representatives to demand his release, write a letter of support for his release to the

**NYS Board of Parole  
12220 Washington Avenue, Bldg. #2  
Albany, NY 12226-2050 and send it to  
NYC Jericho Movement  
P.O. Box 670927 Bronx, NY 10467**

**Seth also recently suffered a diabetic coma. We urge you to call, write and fax to demand immediate provision of a Pump Monitor to Robert Seth Hayes 74A2280.  
Carl J. Koenigsmann M.D., Deputy Commissioner/Chief Medical Officer  
Call (518)457-7073 or fax (518)445-7553**

## **Revolutionary Greetings,**

Welcome to our National Jericho Movement Newsletter. Thank you to all of our members and affiliations who contribute critical information regarding our Political Prisoner's/Prisoner's of War as well as updates on activities, events and actions. Moving forward, we stand in fierce determination and solidarity to free our beloved Political Prisoner's and Prisoner's of War. With 20 years behind us and much work ahead, Jericho is growing and as we take on new projects and missives our goal is to be obsolete within a few years. It is not our vision to keep Jericho going, but it is our vision that we will reach a time in this country (and others) wherein there will be no more Political Prisoner's/Prisoner's of War. We envision the day when they will walk free and into their families arms-who have been waiting for decades. We hope you join us in making this a reality.

## Political Prisoner's/Prisoner's of War

### 1-Medical :

-No medical updates to report at this time.

### 2-Legal Updates:

**-NYC Jericho reports:** Here is some good news from Oso Blanco:

According to Oso Blanco, his *Johnson v. U.S.* appeal was GRANTED and he has 300 months (25 years) off his sentence! He is full of gratitude for everyone's work!

**From the court's memorandum:** On September 13, 2016, Magistrate Judge Carmen E. Garza concluded that Petitioner Byron Shane Chubbuck (Petitioner) had been improperly sentenced under the residual clause of 18 U.S.C. § 924(c)(3) and recommended that the Court grant Petitioner's MOTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2255 TO VACATE, SET ASIDE, OR CORRECT SENTENCE BY A PERSON IN FEDERAL CUSTODY (CV Doc. 7) (Motion).

After a de novo review of the record and the PFRD, the Court stayed proceedings on its own motion pending a Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals decision that was likely to control the outcome. The Tenth Circuit having now decided the issue, the Court will lift the stay and will adopt Judge Garza's PFRD in part, will grant Petitioner's Motion and, concurring with Petitioner's Objection, will vacate his conviction. In practical terms, this means Oso Blanco is now scheduled for release in six years.

**-Romaine "Chip" Fitzgerald:** On May 4, former Black Panther Romaine "Chip" Fitzgerald agreed to a five-year denial of parole instead of insisting on a parole hearing, even though he has served more time than any former Black Panther still behind bars: 49 years. "Chip is now 67 years old and living with the consequences of a stroke; his friends and family fear he will die in prison. He has been moved from one state prison to another over the years, and is currently in the California State Prison-Los Angeles." (nycabc)

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**-Jalil Muntaqim:** 13 May - "WIN in Jalil Muntaqim's disciplinary case!!!

Supporters just won a victory on the disciplinary charges against Jalil for teaching an authorized AfricanAmerican History Course! This is good news for Jalil, as the charges will be expunged, and he can proceed to have a family reunification visit with his mother and family, which was denied on May 10, 2018, the same day the Third Department Appellate Decision came down. Jalil expresses special thanks to attorney Kathy Manley and would also like to thank all those who supported him while he was in the SHU. You can read the decision at [freejalil.com/images4/5-10-18\\_Decision.pdf](http://freejalil.com/images4/5-10-18_Decision.pdf) (nycabc)

**-Leonard Peltier:** "We have good legal news, our lawyers will be filing a new brief for Leonard regarding sentencing and an FOIA appeal to get the remaining thousands of documents withheld from his attorneys over the last 43 years, by the FBI. We see these filings as a start to getting Leonard's case back into court."

-Jalil Muntaqim: [Let's Bring Jalil Home on Parole in 2018!](#)



To write a letter in you own words in support of parole for Jalil, address to:  
Senior Offender Rehabilitation Coordinator, Sullivan Correctional Facility  
325 Riverside Drive, Fallsburg, New York 12733

**BUT SEND TO:**

Nora Carroll: The Parole Preparation Project, 168 Canal Street, 6th Floor  
New York, NY 10013

The subject line should be "Anthony Bottom 77-A-4283

"We are making an effort to include letters of support for Jalil that are personalized and from people who are familiar with him and his work. If you want further instructions for how to write a strong, personalized letter of support, please email [carroll.nora@gmail.com](mailto:carroll.nora@gmail.com).

Also, please send a copy of your letter to Jalil for his files. **Sign the online petition for Jalil's parole in 2018!**

[https://www.change.org/p/tina-m-stanford-release-anthony-bottom-jalil-muntaqim-77a4283-on-parole-in-june-2018?recruiter=5078994&utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=copylink&utm\\_campaign=share\\_petition](https://www.change.org/p/tina-m-stanford-release-anthony-bottom-jalil-muntaqim-77a4283-on-parole-in-june-2018?recruiter=5078994&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=share_petition)

**Write to Jalil:**

Anthony J. Bottom #77A4283  
Sullivan C.F. P.O. Box 116  
Fallsburg, NY 12733-0116

If you want to help Jalil A. Bottom with commissary, send a Postal money order to his address above.

-Seth Hayes:



“Once again, we are preparing for Seth's upcoming parole hearing on June 12, 2018. Since the PBA, the FOP, and the Correctional Officers union are able to collect thousands of signatures against parole, we must work to gain as many letters of support for Seth as possible. The Parole Preparation Project suggests that letters should be written by people who personally know Seth and have a relationship with him. You can also download and print out the [parole campaign brochure](#) explaining Seth's case as a way of educating people about the political nature of the case and the parole board's constant denials despite national and international support for Seth's release on parole.” Seth has also prepared a [fact sheet](#) for those who would like to write letters to the Parole Board on his behalf.” <http://jerichony.org/sethparole2018.html>

Write to Seth:

Robert Seth Hayes #74-A-2280

Sullivan Correctional Facility, P.O. Box 116, Fallsburg, NY 12733-0116

To contribute to ongoing efforts supporting Robert Seth Hayes, please donate online at:

<https://fundrazr.com/campaigns/810a58>

## Political Prisoner/POW's Writings, Art, Books & Interviews

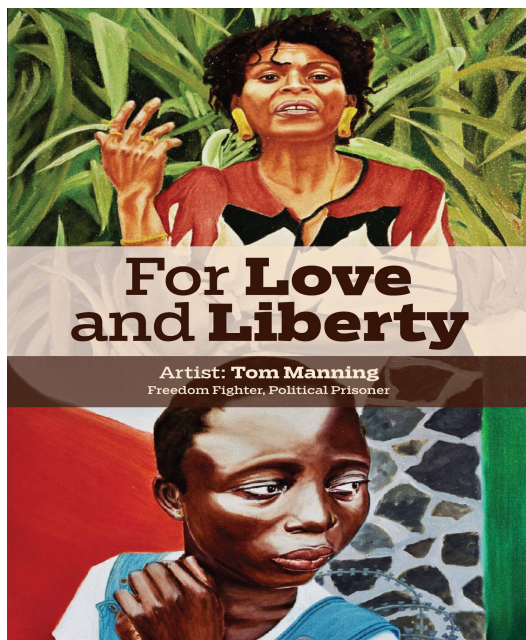
-**Thomas Manning:** For Love and Liberty by Tom Manning.

“Tom Manning is a freedom fighter, political prisoner and prolific artist. His paintings are stories that jump off the page, revealing the outlook of people who struggle for liberation around the world. This book of over 80 full-color paintings were made between 1996 and 2005.”

<https://freedomarchives.org/Tom%20Manning.html?wid=33028>

You can order Tom's book here:

<https://co.clickandpledge.com/advanced/default.aspx?wid=33028>



**-Jalil Muntaqim:** Escaping the Prism...Fade to Black by Jalil Muntaqim. Jalil is a former member of the Black Panther Party and the Black Liberation Army. For over forty-six years, Jalil has been a political prisoner, and one of the New York Three (NY3), in retaliation for his political activism.



“Escaping the Prism ... Fade to Black is a collection of Jalil’s poetry and essays, written from behind the bars of Attica prison. Combining the personal and the political, these texts afford readers with a rare opportunity to get to know a man who has spent most of his life — over forty-six years — behind bars for his involvement in the Black Liberation Movement of the 1960s and early 1970s.

Jalil’s poetry deals with a range of themes — spirituality, history, and the struggle for justice; depression, humor, and sexual desire; the pain and loneliness of imprisonment, the ongoing racist oppression of New Afrikan people in the United States, and the need to find meaning in one’s life. At the same time, his political essays show him to be as eager as ever to intervene in and grapple with the events of today, always with an eye to concretely improving the lives of the oppressed.

Escaping the Prism ... Fade to Black also includes an extensive examination of the U.S. government’s war against the Black Liberation Army in general, and Jalil and the New York Three in particular, by renowned scholar-activist Ward Churchill. In “The Other Kind: On the Integrity, Consistency, and Humanity of Jalil Abdul Muntaqim,” Churchill traces this story from the FBI’s murderous COINTELPRO repression of the Black Panther Party, through the NEWKILL operation which led to the NY3’s incarceration, to the more recent Phoenix Taskforce which orchestrated the re-prosecution of Jalil and other veteran Black activists, in the case of the San Francisco 8.

With illustrations by revolutionary prisoner-artists Zolo Agona Azania and Kevin “Rashid” Johnson, as well as outside artist-activists Bec Young, Pete Railand, Rocky Dobby, and the We are the Crisis collective.”  
([www.freejalil.com/](http://www.freejalil.com/)) “

To order your copy, visit: [leftwingbooks.net](http://leftwingbooks.net), [AK Press](http://AK Press), [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) or [Barnes & Noble](http://Barnes & Noble).

You can download a press sheet about Escaping the Prism here: [escapeprism\\_press-sheet](http://escapeprism_press-sheet)



Jalil is also the author of the book “We are our own Liberators”. Akpress states “Jalil A. Muntaqim is one of the longest held political prisoners in the world, having been incarcerated since 1971. A former member of the Black Panther Party and the Black Liberation Army, he has been a critical influence in the development of revolutionary consciousness in the United States. This book contains more than thirty-six years of Jalil Muntaqim's prison writings and represents some of the significant contributions he has made to the Black Liberation and New Afrikan Independence Movements. This new, second edition contains numerous updates and additional essays added by the author.” It is available at [Barnes & Noble](#), [Amazon](#), [Burning Books Buffalo](#) and <https://www.akpress.org/weareourownliberators.html> For more information about Jalil: [www.freejalil.com/](http://www.freejalil.com/)

-**Jalil Muntaqim** was interviewed by both The Guardian and The New Yorker Magazine in May. We will feature his interviews next month when they are available online!

-**Leonard Peltier**: To help raise money for Leonard's filing costs is to give you the opportunity to purchase one of Leonard's paintings as a lithograph. The lithographs will be available within the next two weeks. “I Was Once a Young Warrior Too” will be 16X20 with a ½ white border on 95 lb. Hopsack paper. It is a gorgeous print and will only be \$125. + shipping.





Another way you can help us raise the necessary legal funds is to purchase a raffle ticket for this incredible hand painted purse by Leonard. If you look closely you can see a portrait of his old friend Dennis Banks in the upper left corner. The tickets are \$25.00 each or 5 for \$100. When we have raised \$1,000 in raffle sales we will have a drawing for the new owner of Leonard's first painted purse. If you use pay-pal or a check we will put 1 ticket in the box per \$25.00 donation and 5 tickets for \$100.00. Amazing if you win you will have an original Peltier painted purse for a \$25.00 a ticket.




Please contact: [contact@whoisleonardpeltier.info](mailto:contact@whoisleonardpeltier.info)

## Family/Community/Supporters News & Calls for Action

**Jalil Muntaqim:** As Jalil prepares for his parole hearing this summer/fall (TBA) he is asking that everyone read and share the Doc "What the PBA does not you want you to KNOW about the NY3". Please download the Doc here: <http://www.freejalil.com/index.html>

What the PBA  
Doesn't Want  
YOU to Know  
About  
The New York Three



Jalil Muntaqim      Herman Bell      Albert Nash Washington

New York City Jericho Movement  
[www.jericho.org](http://www.jericho.org) • [nyjericho@gmail.com](mailto:nyjericho@gmail.com)

### **-Urgent Action Alert: Details of Serious Abuse of Kevin Rashid Johnson**

URGENT CALL ALERT: Prisoner Name: Kevin "Rashid" Johnson #158039, Florida Department of Corrections – Santa Rosa Correctional Institution "DETAILS OF SERIOUS ABUSE OF KEVIN RASHID JOHNSON"

#### **"Speaking up against brutalizing a mentally ill prisoner**

On May 21, 2018, Kevin Johnson was retaliated against for speaking up on behalf of a mentally ill prisoner named Murphy who was being brutalized by corrections officers at the Santa Rosa Correctional Institution (SRCI). As Florida Department of Corrections (FDOC) officers were gassing and assaulting Mr. Murphy for making too much noise, Mr. Johnson raised his voice from inside his solitary confinement cell (in order to be heard on the video and audio recorders on the cell block) and said that prison guards had been abusing Murphy by failing to provide him with needed mental health care, by withholding meals, and by responding to his mental illness with violence by gassing him nine times and brutally extracting him from his cell.

Retaliation for speech. For this act, Lt. Marcus Stokes told Johnson that he was going to be put on "strip cell," a punishment where everything in a prisoner's cell is removed, including toiletries and bedding, and he is left in solitary confinement with nothing but his underwear. Stokes and three other officers then gassed Mr. Johnson six times. After having been put in handcuffs and taken to the showers to clean off the residue from the gas attack, Mr. Johnson was brutally thrown down to the floor, while Lt. Stokes repeatedly threatened to kill him and stated that he was "a marked man."

#### **Unconstitutional pretext for punishment**

As a pretext, Lt. Stokes wrote in his disciplinary report that Mr. Johnson was punished because his property was "not properly stored" and his "bedding was on the floor." The practice of FDOC officers gassing and then putting prisoners on "strip cell" for minor disciplinary infractions, as a form of retaliation, or for no reason at all has been well documented by news media and courts. According to one Miami Herald report, previous instances of this kind of abuse caused FDOC to change its policies so that prison guards may no longer gas prisoners and put them on "strip cell" for improperly storing their property or not making their beds.

#### **Interference with access to legal counsel and courts**

On May 24th, Mr. Johnson's time on "strip cell" was to have ended; however, FDOC officials returned only one bag of his property, when there should have been six bags of property. Missing property included legal documents necessary to pursue litigation against FDOC officials for numerous violations of his constitutional rights. By withholding this property, FDOC officials were successful in denying Mr. Johnson the ability to exchange legal documents with his attorney Melinda Patterson during a legal visit on May 24th, thereby interfering with his right to legal counsel and his right to access the courts.

#### **Reading and tampering with legally privileged mail**

A letter clearly identified as legal mail sent by attorney Melinda Patterson to Mr. Johnson on January 22nd, while he was at Florida State Prison, was received already opened and resealed with a pink glue stick. On April 1st, legal mail sent by Mr. Johnson while at SRCI to attorney Dustin McDaniel was opened, read by FDOC guards, and then resealed with tape prior to delivering to the mailroom staff. Another letter sent by Mr. Johnson on April 1st via privileged media mail to his editor Carole Seligman was opened, read, and resealed by guards prior to delivering to the mailroom staff. These letters were delayed and received 2 weeks after the date they were submitted for mailing. Mailroom staff admitted that these letters were tampered with, when responding to Mr. Johnson's grievances #119-1804-0722 and #119-1804-0723.

#### **Destroying legally privileged mail**

Legal mail sent by Mr. Johnson to attorney Dustin McDaniel on April 17th was never received, is now missing, and was presumably destroyed by FDOC officials. Letters sent by Mr. Johnson to his editor Carole Seligman on April 5th, 16th, 17th, and 25th were never delivered and were presumably destroyed by FDOC staff. Included in these mailings were three essays for publication detailing abuses inside the FDOC."

#### **DEMANDS**

Return all confiscated property to Kevin Johnson #158039; Stop the interference with Mr. Johnson's legal and news media correspondence, Stop retaliation against Mr. Johnson for exercising his First Amendment rights;



Stop the repeated, cruel, arbitrary, and excessive punishment of Mr. Johnson; Immediately transfer Mr. Johnson from Florida DOC to Virginia DOC. **PLEASE CALL:**

1. Walker Clemmons

Warden – Santa Rosa Correctional Institution

(850) 981-51992. Kenneth S. Steely

General Counsel – Florida Department of Corrections

(850) 717-3605

3. Patrick Finan

Security Operations – Interstate Corrections Compact Unit

(850) 717-3222

4. Lester Fernandez

Inspector General – Florida Department of Corrections

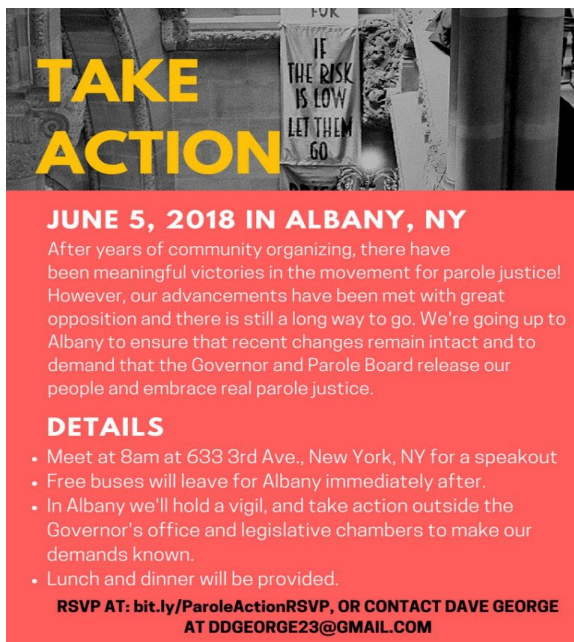
(850) 488-9265

Send reports back to: [jaybeware@riseup.net](mailto:jaybeware@riseup.net)

<http://kersplebedeb.com/posts/urgent-action-alert-details-of-serious-abuse-of-kevin-rashid-johnson/>

**-Parole Justice New York:** “JOIN US FOR AN EMERGENCY ACTION IN ALBANY ON JUNE 5TH! After years of advocacy and community organizing, there have been some important victories in the movement for parole justice! However, there is still a long way to go and our advances have been met with great opposition. Law enforcement is launching a campaign to unseat new Commissioners and New York State Senators are pushing for bills that would devastate the lives of our loved ones in prison seeking parole.

We're going up to Albany to ensure that recent meaningful changes remain intact and to demand that the Governor and Parole Board release our people and embrace real parole justice. Join us on Tuesday, June 5th, 2018 for a day of action and remembrance. Meet at 8am at 633 3rd Ave., New York, NY for a morning speak out. Free buses will leave for Albany immediately after. We'll hold a vigil for all those who have died in prison or after returning home, and then take action outside the Governor's office and legislature to make our demands known. Lunch and dinner will be provided. Please RSVP here : <http://bit.ly/ParoleActionRSVP>. See flyer below. If you have any questions or need transportation from places outside of NYC, please contact Dave George, [ddgeorge23@gmail.com](mailto:ddgeorge23@gmail.com) or 631-885-3565.”



**TAKE ACTION**

**JUNE 5, 2018 IN ALBANY, NY**

After years of community organizing, there have been meaningful victories in the movement for parole justice! However, our advancements have been met with great opposition and there is still a long way to go. We're going up to Albany to ensure that recent changes remain intact and to demand that the Governor and Parole Board release our people and embrace real parole justice.

**DETAILS**

- Meet at 8am at 633 3rd Ave., New York, NY for a speakout
- Free buses will leave for Albany immediately after.
- In Albany we'll hold a vigil, and take action outside the Governor's office and legislative chambers to make our demands known.
- Lunch and dinner will be provided.

**RSVP AT: [bit.ly/ParoleActionRSVP](http://bit.ly/ParoleActionRSVP), OR CONTACT DAVE GEORGE AT [DDGEORGE23@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DDGEORGE23@GMAIL.COM)**

**-Prison Lives Matter: In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela** May 28, 2018

July 18 Call to Action by Kwame Shakur

For the past year, we have been working to organize and grow the Prison Lives Matter Campaign in an attempt to rebuild and strengthen the prison movement in this kkkountry. We must continue this momentum following last years' PLM demonstration in Indianapolis and the Millions for Prisoners Human Rights March in Washington, D.C., by mobilizing all of our leading prison abolition, revolutionary and anti-imperialist activist formations from across the kkkountry to stand in solidarity this summer.

On July 18, 2018, the New Afrikan Liberation Collective and George Jackson University are calling on individuals to attend and organize the "Prison Lives Matter: In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela" demonstration in Indianapolis, Indiana. We are using the organizing slogan "In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela" in an international effort to build off the campaign call put out last year by comrade Jalil Muntaqim for a U.N. investigation into the human rights of U.S. political prisoners.

We introduced PLM as a united front for prison-class individuals, political prisoners and prisoners of war and their organizations, and the past few months I have been reaching out to several comrades behind enemy lines establishing the Prison Lives Matter-NCC (National Coordinating Committee). In developing this cohesion of cadre leaders and orgs, I believe it is fundamental to the overall struggle that those of us who have or will take on this task of the NCC also take part in and help form a "Coalition on Human Rights for Political Prisoners" as proposed by Jalil to formulate a strategy to push the following:

Build a national determination focused on petitioning the International Jurists to initiate a human rights violation investigation;

Create a political environment to build international solidarity among progressives around the world in support of our political prisoners;

Build a media propaganda campaign in support of this determination, giving greater recognition to our political prisoners and the conditions of their imprisonment;

Expose U.S. hypocrisy on its human rights record and its continued violation of the "Mandela rules";

Strengthen our capacity to represent our political prisoners, broadening the base of unity and support among the New Afrikan/Black, Native American, Puerto Rican, Chicano/Mexican, Euro-American etc. anti-racist and anti-imperialist trends in the overall struggle;

Have the U.N. International Jurists report to the U.N. General Assembly, hence to the world, the U.S. human rights violations as they specifically pertain to the existence of U.S. political prisoners;

Use the report by the International Jurists for the development of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission with international observers to remedy the COINTELPRO persecutions and convictions.

On July 18, 2018, the New Afrikan Liberation Collective and George Jackson University are calling on individuals to attend and organize the "Prison Lives Matter: In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela" demonstration in Indianapolis, Indiana.

**I am calling on Chairperson Jihad Abdulmumit of The Jericho Movement as a keynote speaker to represent Comrade Jalil and introduce the masses to the organizational determination of "In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela";** I am also calling on Alicia Garza of Black Lives Matter; Millions for Prisoners Human Rights Organization; Kevin "Rashid" Johnson of NABPP-PC; Malik Washington of End Legal Prison Slavery in Texas Movement and Comrade Heshima of Amend the 13th: Abolish Legal Slavery in Amerika movement to have their orgs and supporters attend and/or help organize and mobilize boots on the ground July 18, Nelson Mandela International Day, 11 a.m., outside the Indiana Government South Department of Corrections building at 302 Washington St., Indianapolis, IN." Please read full article at: <http://sfbayview.com/2018/05/prison-lives-matter-in-the-spirit-of-nelson-mandela/>

**-International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee:** "Jean and Yvonne along with members of AIM West presented an intervention on Leonard's behalf and made the following request "We respectfully request the

17th session United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to appoint Special Rapporteur Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz to study the US Department of Justices' actions that are based on 'Racial Decimations' and 'double standards ' and to also investigate the case of Leonard Peltier. We also ask the Special Rapporteur to make a personal visit to Leonard Peltier inside the US Penitentiary in Coleman Fl. and make a special report before the 18th United Nations Permanent Forum session.”

**-Eric Tolliver:** Political Prisoner **Jalil Muntaqim** requests we support his friend Eric Tolliver in his quest for exoneration. Eric has served 25 years for a crime that he did not commit. Take the time to watch [the video and read the documents](#)! Be sure to click on Show More to read the documents. New evidence has surfaced in this case. Reach out to offer help. For serious replies, you can contact his sister Lauren: [LaurenKing653@gmail.com](mailto:LaurenKing653@gmail.com)

**-KC IWOC Request for Assistance with Prison Riot:** There was a riot at CRCC prison in Missouri. If people could help us follow up with this, we would greatly appreciate it! Please let me know if you can send a short note to like 5 prisoners and just ask how they are, if they are ok, etc. You can put the IWOC GHQ return address on the envelopes / post cards so you don't need to commit to a lot of follow up. I would like to start with prisoners in the facility where it happened and then if there are enough volunteers to reach out to prisoners in other facilities, that would be great because I know a lot of people are going to be moved after this. To help out, just email / fb / text me at 816-617-2336 and let me know how many people you can write to and I will send you contact info :) Here's a script you can copy...

"Hello prisoner name and prisoner number,

I heard there was some disturbance in your facility (at a facility in Missouri). I'm just writing to check and see if you are ok. Let me know please if you need anything. You are not alone! We hear yall out here!

In Solidarity,

Name"

The return address you can use...

First and Last Name (doesn't matter what name you put)

PO Box 414304

Kansas City, MO 64141

Here's more details...Missouri on Saturday:"The riot began as what inmates call a sit-down, where they ignore officer commands and do not get up. "We are going to start peaceful and we are going to let you guys know something is wrong," the officer said about a conversation he had with an inmate. "And he said, 'well, from there we don't know where it is going to turn.'" Among other areas, the inmates destroyed the food area, kitchen, and a manufacturing facility after hot-wiring forklifts to break down the gates to get in.

"It shut down a third of our institution and a building the size of two football fields was completely trashed on the inside," said the corrections officer.

Employees who were inside the prison during the riot said one of the most alarming things is that four gangs inside the prison -- who usually hate and fight each other -- actually banded together to organize and pull it off. Officers from the Western Missouri Correctional Facility next door, as well as law enforcement officers from city and county agencies, were called in to help gain control, which took about 6 hours.

Monday, a spokesperson with the Dept. of Corrections acknowledged the damage is more extensive than they first thought and said the incident is still under investigation.

No one was injured, but a prison employee who was there told FOX4 that after the riot, the inmates warned, "it was property this time. It will be staff next time."

<http://fox4kc.com/2018/05/14/cameron-prison-officers-knew-riot-was-coming-but-administration-did-nothing-to-stop-it/>

### **-Running Down the Walls**

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

WHEN: 2:00-7:00pm, Sunday, June 3rd, 2018

WHERE: Prospect Park– Lincoln Road/East Lake Drive, east of the Terrace

Bridge (see the below map for exact location). COST: \$10 registration (includes food and drinks afterwards) Every year, prisoners and supporters of political prisoners organize solidarity events with Running Down the Walls. In the last few years, we've had runs in Albuquerque (NM), Arcata (CA), Ashland (OR), Bellefonte (PA), Boston (MA), Buffalo (NY), Chico (CA), Denver (CO), Elmore (AL), Inez (KY), Los Angeles (CA), Marion (IL), Minneapolis (MN) New York (NY), USP Navosta (TX), Pelican Bay (CA), Phoenix (AZ), Tucson (AZ), Seattle (WA), and Toronto, Ontario. This year we hope to expand the amount of runs in prisons and other cities, as well as increase the amount of funds raised for community projects. NYC ABC's goal with this year's run is \$4,000. You can donate online by going to <https://www.paypal.me/nycabc> This year's run will take place on Sunday, June 3rd, 2018 at 2:00 pm in solidarity and conjunction with runs that will take place in cities and prison yards across the country at the same time. <http://www.abcf.net/warchest-program>

## Articles, News & Events

**-The Unofficial Gag Order of Jamil Al-Amin (H. Rap Brown):** "16 Years in Prison, Still Not Allowed to Speak by Obaid H. Siddiqui - May 30, 2018. "At the modern intersection of Islamophobia and the Black Lives Matter movement resides Jamil Al-Amin (formerly H. Rap Brown), the now forgotten civil rights activist and revolutionary leader who, 16 years ago this year, was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of Fulton County, Ga., Sheriff's Deputy Ricky Leon Kinchen and the wounding of his partner, then-Sheriff's Deputy Aldranon English, during a March 2000 gunfight. On the night of March 16, 2000, Deputies Kinchen and English were serving a warrant for the arrest of Al-Amin for missing a court hearing regarding a traffic stop when they were engaged in a gun battle outside Al-Amin's grocery store in the West End neighborhood of Atlanta. Kinchen died the next day in the hospital, and English, who had wounds that reminded arriving paramedic Kristin McGregor Jones of "Vietnam War wounds that I've seen in the movies," later identified Al-Amin as the shooter before being rushed into surgery. Prior to his murder trial, Al-Amin released a statement proclaiming his innocence and empathy for the family of Kinchen. Afterward, the trial judge, Stephanie B. Manis, placed a gag order on Al-Amin to prevent him from speaking. That gag order has unofficially been reinstated over the past 10 years, ever since Al-Amin was secretly moved from a state prison in Georgia to the federal Administrative-Maximum (ADX) supermax prison in Florence, Colo., amounting to the de facto silencing of a man who has been targeted by the federal government for decades and who many believe is innocent of the crimes for which he's been convicted."..."The de facto silencing of Al-Amin is "more about what [he] represents, not the nature of his conviction. The government believes he's a radical voice among Muslims and black people, and they'd rather that his followers did not hear from him," said Kundnani. Khalil Abdul-Rahman, a close friend of Al-Amin's and a leader of a Muslim community in Greensboro, N.C., recalled seeing Al-Amin in 2013 as a legal assistant to former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who visited Al-Amin at the ADX supermax prison in Colorado. Al-Amin was "allowed out in the yard for a little bit with a few other prisoners ... the [Hispanic prisoners] gravitated toward him, and when [they] were called back in, they asked the guards for Qurans," Abdul-Rahman said. "[The then-] warden [David Berkebile] was watching the whole time," and he turned to Al-Amin and said, "'This is why we don't want you talking.' For Full article please see: <https://www.theroot.com/the-unofficial-gag-order-of-jamil-al-amin-h-rap-brown-1826396693>

**-J20 Inauguration Protesters:** Prosecutors Withheld Evidence That Could Exonerate J20 Inauguration Protesters, Judge Rules by Sam Adler - May 23 2018 "Chief Judge Robert E. Morin of the D.C. Superior Court found on Wednesday that federal prosecutors suppressed potentially exculpatory evidence against six Inauguration Day protesters. In a motion filed late last night, attorneys for the defendants accused the government of withholding evidence that could have exonerated their clients — a serious violation of pretrial discovery rules. Attorneys allege that the state withheld evidence by editing a video of a protest planning meeting. Defense

attorneys called on the court to sanction Assistant U.S. Attorney Jennifer Kerkhoff for “blatant hiding of evidence” and requested that the indictment against their clients be dismissed...” Please read full article at: <https://theintercept.com/2018/05/23/j20-trial-project-veritas-video/>

**-Speakers challenge audience to rethink modern incarceration** by Cheri O’Neil, May 29, 2018

“Distinguished Professor of Psychology Craig Haney introduced the panel of speakers by saying all four have experienced the criminal justice system from the inside and now devote their lives to its abolition. Angela Davis was held in prison for 16 months before she was acquitted of the charges related to a 1970 shooting. Debbie Kilroy spent three years locked up for selling cannabis during an undercover police sting in Australia. Robert King and Albert Woodfox served a total of 72 years in solitary confinement — 29 years for King and 43 for Woodfox — at Louisiana’s notorious Angola Prison.

On display was a large photo of the third member of the “Angola 3,” Herman Wallace, who died of cancer three days after he was released. All three were imprisoned in 6-foot-by-9-foot cells at what was once a 19th-century slave plantation.

“It’s helpful to recognize that punishment in the form of imprisonment bears a direct relationship to slavery,” said Davis, an iconic activist and distinguished professor emerita at UC Santa Cruz. Davis was a professor in the History of Consciousness Department for 17 years until her 2008 retirement.

The emergence of what’s called mass incarceration can be traced back to the 19th century, right after slavery was outlawed, when “free black bodies had to be managed,” she said. Now the United States, with just 5 percent of the world’s population, has 25 percent of the world’s prisoners—or 2.2 million people in jails, detention centers and prisons, and a disproportionate number of them are black.

Woodfox also referred to slavery when he talked about the economic exploitation of prison labor by major corporations. “Every prisoner represents profit,” he said. “The irony is that companies will freely use ‘slave labor’ to produce their products, but if an individual is lucky enough to be released from prison, they won’t hire him ... now he’s of no value to them.”

Haney, a leading expert on the psychology of imprisonment, suggested that today’s prison system has more than a historical or metaphorical connection with slavery.” For full article please see:

<https://news.ucsc.edu/2018/05/haney-incarceration.html>

**-Trump, Lynch, And Who We Call Animals: A Safety Alert May 22, 2018.** Article by Susie Day.

“Did you hear Trump call undocumented immigrants animals? It’s stirring up — rightly — a lot of concern. Among humans, “animal” is the essential, go-to word to deprive people of their humanity. It’s the permission some people give themselves to ridicule, enslave, and commit genocide against other people. “Animal” is a term we read as a danger signal, even in a society such as ours, which was built on ridicule, enslavement, and genocide. And “animal” is often used by law enforcement to describe anyone accused of assaulting a police officer. Interesting, how we’ve let this one go. Over and over, my friend Herman Bell, who spent almost 45 years in New York State maximum-security prisons, has been called an animal. Herman was convicted in 1975 of killing two New York City police officers and sentenced to 25-to-life — meaning that, after 25 years, he was eligible for parole. Thanks to his accomplishments and compassion over the years; thanks to advances in state parole regulations weighing who a person has become and not just the “nature of the original offense”; thanks to enormous love from family and friends, Herman was released in April, after his eighth appearance before the Parole Board.

But this column isn’t about Herman. It’s instead about the institutions and the people who wanted him to die slowly over more decades in prison. As an animal. When Herman’s parole decision came down last March, Patrick Lynch, president of the Patrolmen’s Benevolent Association (PBA), declared at a press conference, “We’re gonna get you, we don’t care why you’re behind bars... We just care that you are behind bars.” The PBA also issued a “safety alert” to NYPD officers: “In the event of Bell’s release, all PBA members are urged to remain vigilant, both on- and off-duty, to ensure their own safety and to provide back-up to any other law

enforcement officers in their vicinity.” The danger to public safety posed by Herman Bell out of prison roughly approximates the danger posed by 99.6 percent of undocumented immigrants inside US borders: **NONE**. The real danger — which most of us are sleeping on — is the vigilante mentality that powers our law enforcement. Since way before Stonewall, cops have rounded up queers; they can still arrest and brutalize us at street protests. But queer communities don’t necessarily see how the cops also work alongside the prison system. So here’s another safety alert; this one’s about the police.

Be on the lookout for: Use of Scathing Pejoratives: Words like “monster,” “vermin,” “blood-thirsty,” and, of course, “animal” used by police as synonyms for actual people accused or convicted of crimes. This degree of loathing is designed to authorize the deepest kind of lynch-mob contempt. These names are, in fact, used so often to describe people of color that you wonder if they’re simply society’s latest ploy to get away with saying “n\*gg\*r.”

Lurid Press Coverage: This is the aorta through which “law-and-order” pejoratives and vigilantism enter the public bloodstream. Mainstream media repeat — unquestioned and un-fact-checked — whatever police officials tell them. “Cold-blooded cop-killer” headlines boost ratings. Meanwhile, the press is too busy buying tough-on-crime accounts wholesale to ask journalism-101 questions, such as why a law officer such as Pat Lynch threatening, “We’re gonna get you, we don’t care why you’re behind bars” isn’t ... well ... illegal?

Copying down “cop-killer” denunciations, reporters seldom bother to question if adjectives like “cold-blooded” and “monster” are close to accurate. NYPD Commissioner James O’Neill, on hearing of Herman’s parole, wrote that Herman should remain in prison because, “His mind has not changed, his heart has not opened...” Mainstream news outlets never asked how James O’Neill knew this.

It’s inconsequential that O’Neill (also Lynch, Mayor Bill de Blasio, and any other official denouncing Herman’s parole) never met Herman Bell or evinced an interest in records describing how Herman’s changed over the years. This sidelining of journalistic curiosity in favor of garish headlines is the foundation of media and police collusion. Through it, we’re bullied out of wondering if “criminals” might actually be people a little like ourselves.

Backlash Against New Parole Board Regulations: In another press conference, Patrick Lynch lamented the “coup” at the State Parole Board, where “right-minded” commissioners were ousted and replaced by those with an agenda. Already, conservative state senators, who only noticed progressive regulation changes after Herman’s parole, have passed several bills overturning these advances.

Although the bills still need Assembly approval, they include regressions such as mandatory life sentences without parole for a broad range of offenses; requiring the Parole Board to accept statements from third parties — specifically, the police — which would remain confidential; and extending the waiting period between prisoners’ parole applications from two to five years.

These bills would enforce a penal structure denying mercy and equality to thousands of human beings who, for a moment, had hopes of not being seen as animals. Already, tabloids are carrying stories about why the Parole Board should not make the Herman Bell mistake and should deny parole to other “cop-killers.” Already, the PBA has bought radio ads to keep Herman’s co-defendant in prison for the rest of his life.

Assuming the Life of a Police Officer Weighs More than that of a Civilian: In a May 17 editorial titled, “Will every cop-killer in New York now go free?”, the New York Post writes, “cop-killers strike at the core of public safety. That’s why there was long a presumption against ever granting them parole.

But the PBA’S “public safety” means protection from “animals” — not protection for people like Eric Garner or Sandra Bland. It encourages a “worst-of-the-worst” category, which, once established, endangers everyone’s



humanity. [Recently, in The New Yorker, Masha Gessen wrote](#) about the plight of immigrants and refugees, of Hannah Arendt's concept of "the right to have rights." These rights, in theory, "belong to every person by virtue of existence." So either we all have this right to have rights or we buy into a safety that ultimately removes our individual agency. Accepting that we don't matter as much as the person in blue with the badge and the gun provides a cornerstone of an oncoming police state. And — remembering why Hannah Arendt wrote in the first place — that kind of thing has happened before." <http://gaycitynews.nyc/trump-lynch-call-animals-safety-alert/>

**-Aging People in Prison Human Rights Campaign:** The population of aging and elderly prisoners in U.S. prisons exploded over the past three decades, with nearly 125,000 inmates aged 55 or older now behind bars, according to a report by the American Civil Liberties Union. This represents an increase of over 1,300 percent since the early 1980s. .." **Read more at:** <https://www.apphrc.com/>

**-Jalil Muntaqim** would like people to watch Freedom Archives excellent video documentary: [SYMBOLS OF RESISTANCE – a Tribute to the Martyrs of the Chican@ Movement](#). Take the time to read reviews, watch a trailer, and purchase the video for screening in your community!

**-International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee:** The ILPDC board is going to help us redesign our newsletter and we are asking for your suggestions in how to make it more interesting. You can send your suggestions to [contact@whoisleonardpeltier.info](mailto:contact@whoisleonardpeltier.info) and put newsletter on the topic line.

**-National Jericho Movement:** Is seeking volunteer doctors, nurses and other qualified medical professionals to assist our Political Prisoners with health needs. Time invested is usually a few hours a month and the rewards of assisting our freedom fighters is priceless. Please contact us at: [www.thejerichomovement.com](http://www.thejerichomovement.com)

**-Good news!** The federal Bureau of Prisons has rescinded the policy changes that [would have made it more expensive](#) and more difficult for inmates to receive books. The BOP seems to have backed down on this policy change but keep a watch out for an attempted end-around." <http://handbasketnotes.blogspot.com/2018/05/bop-backs-down-on-restrictive-book.html>

**-NYC Books through Bars.** NYC Books Through Bars is an all-volunteer group that sends free, donated books to incarcerated people across the county and has been doing so for over 20 years. Books through Bars gathered at Mayday Space on May 12<sup>th</sup> in Brooklyn. NYC BTB puts on a bingo event about every two years to raise money for postage costs, their only operating expense. Currently they send out anywhere from 700 to 1000 packages a month to incarcerated people throughout the country. Thousands of people a year write them because they need access to free and radical educational materials as the prison population continues to grow and prison systems around the country cut educational programming. Please read more at: <https://booksthroughbarsnyc.org/>

**-Ralph Poynter** will on the panel at this years Left forum 2018 at John Jay College in Manhattan. June 2. At 4pm "Book Reading and Discussion: Follow The Money: KPFA Flashpoints Radio Voices for Peace and Justice | Left Forum"

Affiliation(s): New Abolitionist Movement, Lynne Stewart Organization, New Abolitionist Movement, Black is Back Coalition

Biography: "Ralph Poynter is the son of a union organizer in steel. He was a founding member of The Teacher's Freedom Party Caucus in the UFT. Jailed during the human rights struggle for community control of schools in the sixties, he organized the first successful prison protest during incarceration. He supported recently deceased spouse Lynne Stewart in her lifelong struggle against the judicial double standard and successfully led

the worldwide movement to free her from Carswell Federal Prison." Please see details and further info on this event here:

<https://www.leftforum.org/events/book-reading-and-discussion-follow-money-kpfa-flashpoints-radio-voices-peace-and-justice>

**-Emergency Demonstrations were held world wide for Gaza.** Some of the events in NYC included– Stop the Slaughter in Gaza was held May 11; Anti-War Protest and Petitioning for Gaza May 12<sup>th</sup>, Jerusalem is Palestinian! Rally to End 70 Years of Colonialism May 14 [and](#) Nakba Day 2018: Rally and March for 70 Years of Resistance

**-WET PAINT.** Sophia Dawson: SOPHIA WAS FEATURED IN THE WHITNEY MUSEUM ISP 2018 EXHIBITION Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. "Sophia Dawson is a Brooklyn based visual artist who has dedicated her life's work to exposing the stories and experiences of individuals who are striving to overcome the injustices they face". <http://www.sophia-dawson.com/>

**-(ILPDC): The important Bunduge Conference** "took place last weekend in Paris and we received wonderful news that Angela Davis, the Key Note speaker spent part of her speech talking about the importance of Leonard's case. While we were not able to attend the conference Leonard's statement and documents were translated into French, thanks to our comrades in Montreal and submitted by our representative in Paris, Sylvain Duez-Alesandrin. Merci Beaucoup!"

**-Encounter with Lula in prison: spirituality and politics by [Leonardo Boff](#)**- May 23, 2018

"As of May 7th, former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva had spent 30 days in prison. For the first time, he was allowed to receive visits from his friends. I had the honor of being the first to visit him, due to our friendship of more than 30 years, and that we share the same Causa: Liberating the impoverished, and reinforcing life's spiritual dimension. I fulfilled the evangelical precept: "I was in jail and you visited me". I found him as we knew him before he was imprisoned: the same face, hair, beard... only somewhat more slender. Those who hoped to see him angry or depressed must be disappointed. He is filled with energy and hope. His cell is large, very clean, with built-in-cupboards, and a bathroom and shower in an enclosed space. The first impression is good, even though he lives in isolation because, other than his lawyers and children, he can only talk with the guard, who is of Ukrainian origin, gentle and attentive, who has become his admirer. He brings Lula his food tray, more warm or cool, and coffee whenever he requests it. Lula does not accept the food his children bring him, because he wants to eat as the other prisoners do, without any privileges. He has his time to take in the sun. But lately, when he does that, drones appear overhead. As a precaution Lula leaves, because the purpose of those drones is unknown: to take photos of him, or perhaps something more sinister." Please read full article at: <https://www.alainet.org/es/node/193043>

**-Gaza:** "58 Peaceful Protesters Murdered, 2,700 Injured in Gaza as US Embassy Opens in Jerusalem. Israeli military killed at least 58 Palestinians and injured 2,700 - 1,350 by gunfire, in the highest death toll yet in the Gaza protests known as the March of Return, for the return of Palestinian land and against the move of the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem" <https://therealnews.com/stories/58-peaceful-protesters-murdered-2700-injured-in-gaza-as-us-embassy-opens-in-jerusalem>

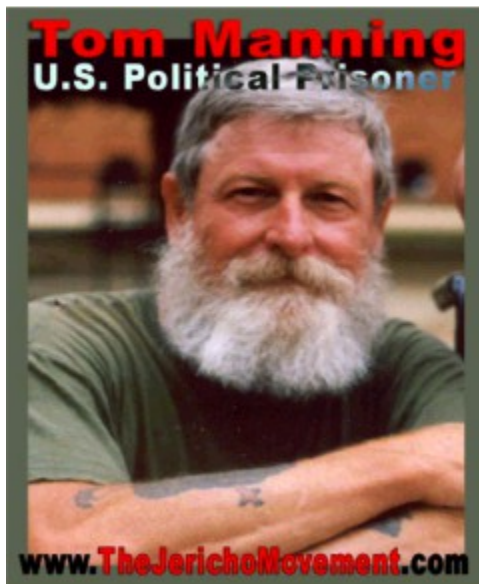
**-How the aging prison population challenges correctional facilities:** "According to a **2012 study by Human Rights Watch**, "prisons were never designed or intended to be geriatric facilities." Compared to their counterparts in the community, older prisoners have a greater incidence of illness, disease, disability and **mental health diagnoses**. Elderly prisoners tend to have the same physiological age and health concerns as individuals who are 10 to 15 years older than them, so they require more care at a younger age..." "any correctional facilities are considering releasing elderly inmates. This initiative is generally supported by

research. A [2014 study by the United States Bureau of Justice Statistics](#) indicated that older prisoners are substantially less likely to engage in [additional criminal behavior](#) after they are released from prison compared to younger prisoners. Numerous other studies have reaffirmed that age is one of the most reliable predictors of recidivism and that elderly prisoners have lower rates of re-arrest than younger prisoners”. Please see full article at:

<https://www.correctionsone.com/correctional-healthcare/articles/474317187-How-the-aging-prison-population-challenges-correctional-facilities/>

### **BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE:**

**Please send a card to let our Freedom Fighters know they are not forgotten!**



Thomas Manning

Birthday: June 28, 1946

ANTI-IMPERIALIST POLITICAL PRISONER

Affiliation: ANTI-IMPERIALIST FREEDOM FIGHTER

Captured: 1985. Sentence: life.

Contact Information

Prison Address

#10373-016 USP Hazelton

P.O. Box 2000

Bruceton Mills, WV 26525

United States

“ The People must fight for their own system in all ways—one of those being armed clandestine struggle. We have a long way to go, but we are getting there. I am accused of being a part of the Sam Melville/Jonathan Jackson Unit in the 1970’s and the United Freedom Front in the 1980s. I am proud of the association and all it implies”\* <https://www.facebook.com/thomas.manning.315?fref=ts>

## BIRTHDAYS THAT WERE IN MAY

(Please send a card, it's never too late to show you care!)



### **HERNANDEZ, ALVARO LUNA**

Chicano Political Prisoner

#### **Contact Information**

Prison Address: #255735 James V Allred Unit, 2101 FM,  
369 North Iowa Park, TX 76367 United States

#### **Birthday: May 12, 1952**

Affiliation: Chicano Political Prisoner

Captured: July 18, 1996: 50 years sentence. IN PRISON 22 YEARS

Alvaro Luna Hernandez is a political prisoner of the State of Texas and the U.S. government. He is nearly 22 years into a 50 year prison sentence for an "aggravated assault" conviction stemming from a July 1996 incident in which he disarmed a Brewster County Sheriff attempting to shoot him. Alvaro vehemently denies the charge that he assaulted the Sheriff. To Mexican-Americans in the cities, slums, plains, deserts, and prison cages of the Southwest, he is a civil rights hero, a Chicano freedom fighter true to his barrio roots and eternally fearless in the face of injustice. For years, he has been internationally recognized by amnesty movements and human rights lawyers and experts as a U.S. political prisoner, yet inside the United States, the name Alvaro Luna Hernandez remains largely elusive on the lips of progressives and social justice advocates.

<http://FreeAlvaro.net> LET FREEDOM RING-WWW.KERSPLEBEDED.COM/letfreedomring.html



**BROWN, GRAILING KOJO**

Affiliation: Black Liberation Army

Captured: 1975: Life

IN PRISON 43 YRS

**Contact Information**

Prison Address: #39384-066 USP Canaan

P. O. Box 300, Waymart, PA 18472 United States

**Birthday: May 27th**

## **Jericho Movement's Current Work and Progress**

Jericho is actively maintaining direct connection with each political prisoner by visiting and writing them monthly. Financial assistance was provided in May to Political Prisoner's to cover some of their needs.

Jericho meetings occurred during the month of May across the nation. The campaign "in the Spirit of Nelson Mandela met in NYC on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The next one is scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Jericho also held political education classes, prisoner letter writing sessions, visited Political Prisoner's, organized for various events as well as supported affiliates and other organizations in shared missives. Jericho members participated in many forums this month as well as were keynote speakers at events. Jericho members are currently in the process of planning their next yearly conference.

The Jericho Movement has initiated as well as supported and participated in many events and calls to action this month. Thinking forward-we will be updating our website, increasing our international reach to build continued solidarity and plan to create additional resources for our Political Prisoners/POW's and their families. As Jalil Muntaqim, Seth Hayes (June 12<sup>th</sup>) have parole hearings coming up, we are campaigning for

their freedom. Additionally, Jericho is considering adding two more additional Political Prisoner's to our list of freedom fighter's. Stay tuned for more updates on this.

## **In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela Campaign**

Jericho is spearheading the “In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela” campaign proposed by political prisoner and co-founder of the National Jericho Movement Jalil Abdul Muntaqim. This initiative appeals to the international community, including the International Commission of Jurists, to call for special hearings within the United Nations to review the cases of Political Prisoners. Several meetings have already occurred in collaboration with interested others, and much headway is being made regarding organizing efforts. The next meeting is **June 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Please contact: [nycjericho@gmail.com](mailto:nycjericho@gmail.com) if you are interested in becoming involved. We invite you to support this initiative.

As we prepare to launch the In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela, Bring Back the International Jurists Campaign, we are providing links to some important documents. One of these is the United Nations Mandela Rules, unanimously passed by the Security Counsel in December of 2015. Another important document is Jalil Muntaqim's essay regarding the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the International Jurists. Please see links and Docs at: <http://www.freejalil.com/2017juristsUN.html> **Also in German!!** [Click here to read the Report of International Jurists—Visit with Human Rights Petitioners in the United States, August 3-20, 1979.](#)

Political Prisoner/Prisoner of War, Jalil Muntaqim states in his blog “recently the Jericho Amnesty Movement embarked on a new national and international campaign to persuade the U.N. International Jurists to initiate a formal investigation on human rights abuses of U.S. political prisoners. To further demand the U.S. Corporate Government implement the U.N. Minimum Standards on the Treatment of Prisoners, and for the immediate release of our political prisoners. This especially calls for the release of those with COINTELPRO convictions who have languished in prison for 30 to 50 years. These political prisoners were contemporaries of Nelson Mandela; when he was fighting against Apartheid in South Afrika, they were fighting against Jim Crow segregation and second-class citizenship in the U.S. This Jericho campaign motto is “In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela” and activists across the country are urged to join and support in whatever way they are able in political solidarity toward the building of the National Coalition for the Human Rights of Political Prisoners”. (<http://www.freejalil.com/blog47.html>).

Please read our invitation below and contact us if you are interested in endorsing, sponsoring or otherwise becoming involved in “The Spirit of Nelson Mandela” initiative.

### **“Greetings of Peace!**

The IN THE SPIRIT OF NELSON MANDELA COALITION invites you to join our campaign to develop an International Coalition to acknowledge, recognize and push for the release of US held Political Prisoners. The conditions under which US political prisoners are forced to live and the length of their sentences violates international law and the UN Nelson Mandela Rules. In December 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted its landmark resolution 70/175 entitled “United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules”) (<https://www.penalreform.org/priorities/prison-conditions/standard-minimum-rules/>). These Rules condemn the United States’ policies and practices of punitive solitary confinement, medical neglect and long term solitary confinement. This particular international initiative stems from a call from Political Prisoner and co-founder of the National Jericho Movement to Free All Political Prisoners, Jalil Abdul Muntaqim. Although efforts to present our issues in the international arena certainly aren’t new—Malcolm X urged such in the 1960s—this Initiative begins with a much needed renewed energy, focus and commitment.



While constantly organizing and soliciting endorsers and sponsors, our first campaign objective was to contact the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) (<https://www.icj.org>) to initiate a formal investigation into the holding of Political Prisoners in the United States. Representatives from the ICJ had come to the United States before in 1979 to visit Political prisoners Sundiata Acoli and Ed Poindexter. Some forty years later these prisoners still remain in prison. Ultimately, we hope to use this investigation to bring the following results:

- Generate international awareness and attention
- Implore the United Nation to convene a Truth and Reconciliation Tribunal to explore, expose and address the social, economic and political historic conditions of people of color, and particularly black people in the United States, revolutionaries and movement organizations that struggle against these conditions, and the government's brutal and illegal response to those organizations and people resulting in the deaths and incarcerations of hundreds
- Build political and legal pressure to call for the release of Political Prisoners

We realize that we have a difficult job ahead, but the more national and international solidarity we garner, the greater the chances for victory. We hope you will join the campaign by -

1. Agreeing to support by clearly identifying your organization and contact person;
2. Providing your accurate email and phone number (We will keep you informed of developments of this initiative); and
3. Partaking of the unique experience of collectively brain storming strategies to bring this struggle to the international arena and to the United Nations.

Your input is valued at any level.

In solidarity,

The National Jericho Movement  
In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela Coalition"

FREE ALL U.S. HELD POLITICAL PRISONERS!!!



As we move towards accomplishing our goals, we seek to continue to form new alliances, to help build a more unified front both nationally and internationally. We look forward to expanding our scope of services as well as increasing our dedicated members, especially reaching out to the youth to carry on the torch of justice for not only our beloved freedom fighter's who are now elders **still** in these dungeons , but also for those Political Prisoner's who are to come in the future-and surely they will, given the escalating oppression and fascism that is swiftly seeping through every "right" in this country. Unless a sudden change permeates the power

structures, the number of political prisoner's will grow. COINTELPRO is still alive and running many missives in which to entrap those who oppose the tyrannical, oppressive & racism regime. In the many decades of their operations they have become even more cunning and sophisticated. Our hope is to unify the people who truly want to move forward towards a better future for all, **not just some**-and to use the power of unified numbers to stand as strong as a spider web against those who have chosen a destructive path to abolish human rights.

As our Political Prisoner's/Prisoner's of War are aging and too many have already died behind these dungeon walls, it is imperative that we as a collective, continue to go even harder in the quest for their freedom. They have been waiting patiently... for 30, 40, 50 years. "For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."—**Nelson Mandela**

As Jericho has withstood many obstacles in the past 20 years, we are still here, and we will not fall back. We are relentless in bringing our beloved freedom fighters home.

## Gratitude and Appreciation

It is with great gratitude that we express our sincere appreciation to you-our supporters. Without your help, we could not accomplish all that we do for our Political Prisoner's/prisoner's of war. From helping their families visit them, to assisting with legal and medical needs, to putting monies in their commissary as well as providing forums wherein we can hold events to educate others about our political prisoners/Prisoner's of war, your support helps make this possible. We know it, and our Political Prisoner's/Prisoner's of war know it as well. There is power in the people, and this is where their freedom lies. It is because of people such as yourselves, who so graciously give of your time, your donations as well as your thoughts towards this cause that brings us closer to the day when we can finally say-They are Home at Last....Can you imagine? After sacrificing for the community-the community is the one who brings them home. After languishing in a steel dungeon waiting for freedom for decades, when that door finally swings open and they finally step into their families arms for good, it will be a powerful day indeed. We are all links that join together as one. No act, no deed is too small. Together we are strong, powerful. We just have to keep going-as they did back in the days when they were fighting the same old oppressive, racist regime.

"Freedom can never be taken for granted. Each generation must safeguard it and extend it. Your parents and elders sacrificed much so that you should have freedom without suffering what they did. Use this precious right to ensure that the darkness of the past never return."—[Nelson Mandela](#).

Thank you-for safeguarding and extending the fight for justice, freedom and human rights. There is a light down the way, it is called our children's eyes. May they know a better world.

As you know, the obstacles to helping free our political prisoners are immense. It is to challenge the super power and its many facets. It is to fight repression through education, organizing, mobilizing, and creating a movement that embraces freedom and dignity for all people and freedom for all political prisoners.

Your financial support at this time is needed for Jericho's continued work and effectiveness.

If you cannot support financially, please do continue to read our newsletters, share them widely, tell others about our Political Prisoner's/Prisoner's of War-volunteer to help us if you can, for everything matters and no sincere deed is left unnoticed. We are the ones, for a prisoner's options are limited, we have the key, we just have to figure out together, how to unlock those doors.

Free all Political Prisoners!

In struggle and gratitude, The National Jericho Movement

**Your Generous Contributions Help us Provide Real Support to our Political Prisoners!**

\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_ \$ Other \_\_\_

There are two ways to make a donation:

**Please make non-deductible donations to:**

**National Jericho Treasury**

**Mail to: "Jericho Treasury/Michael Alston"**

Ashanti Alston

[162 Miller Ave](#)

[Providence, R.I. 02905](#)

**For tax deductible receipt, send donations to:**

**Alliance for Global Justice**

**Subject Line: Jericho**

**Mail to:**

**Nasim Chatha**

**Alliance for Global Justice**

[225 E. 26th Street, Suite 1](#)

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Or Visit our website at: <http://www.thejerichomovement.com/donate> and click our "donate" button.