

P.O. Box 2164 Chesterfield, Virginia 23832  
<http://www.thejerichomovement.com>

# The Dragons Fire

THE NATIONAL JERICHO MOVEMENT NEWSLETTER  
in Fierce Determination Since 1996  
June 15-July 15, 2021 Vol. 40



**“When the prison doors are opened,  
the real dragon will fly out”  
Ho Chi Minh**

## Revolutionary Greetings,

Welcome to our National Jericho Movement Newsletter. Thank you to all of our members and affiliates who contribute critical information regarding our Political Prisoners/Prisoners of War as well as updates on activities, events, and actions. Moving forward, we stand in fierce determination and solidarity to free our remaining Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War still languishing behind the dungeon walls. Our shared vision is that we will reach a time in this country (and others) wherein there will be no more Political Prisoners/Prisoners of War. We envision the day when they all will walk free and into the arms of their families—who have been waiting for decades. We hope you join us in making this a reality.

### Table of Contents

- Current Work and Progress.....p. 2
- Chairperson’s Corner.....p. 2
- Jericho Highlights and Tributes.....p. 2
- Political Prisoner Updates .....p. 4
  - a. medical.....p. 4
  - b. legal .....p. 4
  - c. other .....p. 4
- Political Prisoner Birthdays .....p. 4
- Former & Current Political Prisoner Voices.....p. 5
- Community Calls for Action .....p. 8
- Community Events and Resources .....p. 17
- News, Articles, & Updates .....p. 27
- In the Spirit of Mandela Campaign-I.T. 2021 .....p. 38
- Moving Forward.....p. 41
- Gratitude and Appreciation.....p. 41



*"If you walk through life and don't help anybody- you haven't had much of a life."  
[Ancestor] Fred Hampton*

### **Current Work and Progress**

Jericho actively maintains direct connections with our Political Prisoners by visiting or writing them monthly. We also maintain contact with and assist their families. We monitor health & legal status and provide support and intervention. We hold political education classes, table at events, travel to give presentations, interviews and speak on radio shows.

We are actively involved in collaborating with and supporting other organizations and events which are in alignment with our missions and values to break down walls of injustice, racism, oppression, and Free our Political Prisoners. Jericho meetings and teleconferences occur during the month nationwide.

We are also focusing on the campaign "In the Spirit of Mandela", raising funds to support our PP's, and addressing health and legal issues. We are assisting our comrades who have finally come home, and we are actively monitoring the Covid-19 prison crisis by keeping track of latest developments and statistics. We have been attending many online meetings, calls to action, as well as strategizing on gaining the release of our Political Prisoners. Lastly, we hope you will connect with some of our powerful allies who are hosting events and Calls to Action (past and future). As you can see, there are many "boots on the ground"! Free Em All!!

### **Chairperson's Corner**

**Please Check back Next Month**

### **Jericho Highlights and Tributes**

**A Salute to our Beloved Sister and Comrade**

**Consuewella Africa**

**August 11, 1953-June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**



The National Jericho send its deepest condolences to Consuewella's family and friends. The transitioning of our dear sister is such a great loss on so many levels. As a MOVE family member and activist, she was a warrior, a

fighter, a loving, devoted mother, and an inspiration to all who seek truth, righteousness, and justice. May she rest in peace and power with her beautiful children whom she lost at the brutal hands of the oppressors. In prayer we say: "Innallahi wa innallayhi raji'oon," from Allah we came and to Him we shall return. In Respect, Honor, Love, and "OnaMOVE"  
The National Jericho Movement

### WELCOME HOME COMRADE BROTHER JAAN LAAMAN!



On behalf of the National Jericho Movement we extend our great joy and gratitude for our brother's release. After 37 years in prison and now 73 years old, Jaan was released on May 15, 2021! We honor Jaan for his sacrifices, his unbreakable spirit, his love, devotion, and solidarity to and for the people, as well as his determination to create healthy people and communities through the teaching of yoga.

**Welcome home Comrade!**

With Respect, Honor, Love, and Solidarity,  
The National Jericho Movement

### Balloons for Liberation and Justice! July 18

#### BALLOONS FOR LIBERATION AND JUSTICE!



Join the Jericho Movement as we distribute balloons and decorate the park in memory of the prisoners who have died behind prison walls because of COVID-19. Join us as we stand in solidarity with U.S. held Political Prisoners who are suffering from medical neglect like Mumia Abu Jamal and Russell Maroon Shoatz.

Bring a balloon!

**MUSIC, POETRY, AND  
SPEAKERS!**



Sunday, July 18th, 2021 @ 2pm-4pm  
Marcus Garvey Park  
Entrance on 124th St. and  
5th Avenue



"Join NYC Jericho and Friends in Marcus Garvey Park on Sunday, July 18, 2021 from 2 to 4 p.m. as we remember those who have died from Covid inside the walls. Join the Jericho Movement as we distribute balloons and decorate the park in memory of the people who have died behind prison walls due to COVID-19. Join us as we stand in solidarity with U.S. held Political Prisoners who are suffering from medical neglect like Mumia Abu Jamal and Russell Maroon Shoatz. Bring a balloon or candle! If you have lost a loved one due to Covid inside or outside prison walls, please join us in memory of your loved one! More than 2,700 people have died unnecessarily from Covid in prisons throughout the U.S. We will have music, poetry and speakers! José Saldana from the RAPP Campaign will be joining us to speak on this issue! See Facebook event page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/520101029034544>"

**Video from National Jericho Chairperson Jihad Abdulmumit.**

See <https://www.facebook.com/quixote.scarborough/videos/3845368605560126/?sfnsn=wa>

## Political Prisoners/POWs Updates

### 1. Medical

-No News to Report

### 2. Legal

-**Ruchell MaGee:** Ruchell has a Parole Hearing July 15, 2021

-**Alvaro Luna Hernandez (Xinachtli):** Xinachtli has his first ever Parole Board Hearing July 18<sup>th</sup> 2021

### 3. Other Political Prisoner Updates

-**Grailing Brown (Kojo): NEW ADDRESS-**From Kojo: "Things have changed again regarding mail and publications. Everything now must be reverted back to this address:

Grailing Brown #39384066, USP Canaan, P.O. Box 300, Waymart, PA 18472.

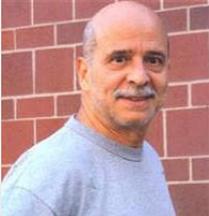
Thank you, may Allah bless and protect you all. Kojo"

-**Eric King:** "On July 7th after his communication restrictions expired SIS (special investigation services) from FCI Englewood gave him word that they were renewing the expired restrictions. For another 6 months, Eric will be unable to communicate with anyone who is not family. This will bring him to a total of a year and a half being held incommunicado from the public when this restriction ends. Like the last two blocks this one comes without much explanation other than a general statement about how his communication might pose a threat to the institution and to the public."

## Political Prisoners/POWs Birthdays: Please Send a Card!

### July Birthdays!

#### Simon Trinidad- Birthday: July 30th



Affiliation: THE FARC

#### Contact Information/Prison Address (International Prisoner)

Mr. Simón Trinidad, 27896-016 a/k/a Juvenal Ovidio Ricardo Palmera Pineda  
US Penitentiary Florence-ADX P.O. Box 8500, Florence, CO 81226-8500 United States

"Ricardo Palmera, popularly known as Simon Trinidad in Colombia, is a political prisoner of the U.S. government. Simon Trinidad is being tortured in solitary confinement in the Florence, Colorado supermax prison. Trinidad beat the U.S. government in three out of four

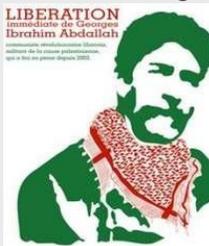
court trials. Trinidad is held in solitary confinement violating his human rights. Trinidad is held as a political prisoner by the U.S. government under Special Administrative Measures (SAMS), meaning his rights are more restricted than other prisoners. The FARC is saving a chair for Trinidad as one of the top five negotiators at the peace table." "The imprisonment of Ricardo Palmera is a direct result of U.S. intervention in Colombia's civil war." See <https://www.thejerichomovement.com/profile/simon-trinidad>, The National Committee to Free

Ricardo Palmera at [www.Freericardopalmera.org](http://www.Freericardopalmera.org) or

<https://www.facebook.com/SupportTheColombiaPeaceProcess?fref=ts> [Info@freericardopalmera.org](mailto:Info@freericardopalmera.org)

### June Birthdays!

#### Abdullah Georges Ibrahim -Birthday: June 2



Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Factions

**Contact Information/Prison Address :** France

Hundreds march in Paris for freedom for Georges Abdallah, justice for Palestine. Several hundred people marched in Paris, France on Sunday, 19 June, the International Day for the Freedom of Revolutionary Prisoners, for freedom for [Georges Ibrahim Abdallah](#), the Lebanese Arab struggler for Palestine who has been imprisoned for 32 years in French prisons. Abdallah, who received a life sentence in 1987, has been eligible for release from prison since 1999. His parole has been approved twice by the judiciary, once at the highest level – only to be

blocked by the personal intervention of then-Interior Minister (today Prime Minister, and anti-Palestinian advocate) Manuel Valls, alongside that of then-US Secretary of State (and today presidential candidate) [Hillary Clinton](#)." See <https://www.facebook.com/GeorgesIbrahimABDALLAH/> and <https://www.thejerichomovement.com/profile/abdullah-georges-ibrahim>



***The National Jericho Movement sends our Beloved PP's/POW's Love, Respect, and Honor as we Celebrate your Birthday with Continued hope and Determination for Freedom...Now!***

## **Former & Current Political Prisoner Voices**

### **Photo and Painting:**

**Marius Mason sent a friend and supporter a new photo of himself and a recent painting of his. June 11**

"Both can be viewed at [supportmariusmason.org](http://supportmariusmason.org). About the painting: "This painting was done from a photo in the New York Times, taken in 2008. The couple, Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, were a kind of 'power couple' among LGBT activists in the Bay Area for many, many years... they used their home as an organizing center and safe haven for queer folks looking for community and affirmation. I thought the photo showed so much love between two movement elders-and I wanted to celebrate that kind of care and commitment."

<https://nycabc.files.wordpress.com/2021/06/updates-28-jun-2021.pdf>

### **Leonard Peltier's June 26, 2021 Statement**

"Greetings My Relatives,

Another year is gone since I was able to write to you.

This past year has been so very tough for all of us. We have lost two of our greatest men. In December we lost my Brother Tom Poor Bear to Covid and now we have lost my brother and teacher Chief Leonard Crow Dog. Both were original AIM to the core and of course Treaty men. These were two great men who did so much for our people and the world looks very different now without them.

My memories of them both are clear and strong and I hold them in the highest respect.

I know Covid has been devastating and has caused great suffering in the Indian country and I am praying that it is coming to an end. I send heartfelt condolences and love to all our people who have lost relatives and friends in this past year. And my sister Belva has now walked on. She was a powerful water protector and Wounded Knee Veteran. She never stopped working for the people and for me.....even when she was very sick. I am grateful for her love and support all these years. I send my love and condolences to all Belva's family and friends and the entire Oglala Oyate in these sad times.

As for me.....This past year the prison has been in lockdown almost constantly because of both Covid and gang violence. This has been hard on me and the others who are warehoused here.

Almost like being in the hole for many months.....Almost.

I am hopeful that Covid is finally being brought under control. And that things will get better for our people in the coming months and years.

I want to send prayers for comfort for my Brother Edgar Bear Runner who is struggling now..

I am so proud of my young Brother Kevin Killer who I know will be a strong and honest Tribal Chairman for the Oglala Lakota people. I send him my prayers and support for the hard job he has taken on and my gratitude for his sacrifice for the people.

I am allowing myself to become hopeful and to believe that I may live long enough to walk out the doors of this concrete and steel cage. My health problems continue to mount but I am trying very hard to take care of myself in this place so that I can live long enough to get out of here on my feet.

I am deeply grateful to all of you who have come together each year to remember me and all that was lost and gained on June 26th, 1975.

I say Thank You to all of my dear friends who continue to organize this day each year. To the Runners and the Riders and of course the elders who still come.

I hope that one day I can be there with you and can sing and pray and eat with all of you.

I remain your Brother and will keep hope alive for us all.

Doksha,  
Leonard”

### **Hanif Shabazz Bey**

“Many thanks to Hanif’s supporter for sharing these writings with us!”

#### **“Free The Fathers**

I am 70-years-old, and this coming September I will be 71, and will have been locked up for my 49<sup>th</sup> consecutive year in prison. At the age of 27 I met Leonard Peltier in the US Federal prison at Marion, Il., and at the age of 29 I met Leonard again in Lompoc, CA. Leonard Peltier is 6 years older than I. I recall attending an “African Cultural Society” program at Marion in 1977, and Leonard was also in attendance. There came a question & answer segment of the program, and as I sat attentively in the background Leonard approached me and said “Bro. Hanif, you have a political case, and at times like this, you should assert yourself, and let your views be heard.” It was encouragement as it was this that catapulted me through the years, to be outspoken on issues affecting Prisoners. In more than 46 years in prison, Leonard has been confined to some of the most violent Prisons in the Federal Prison System. Prisons that have always been awry with violence due to disputes and Rivalry, and through it all Leonard has remained a helpful Prisoner, who will give other Prisoners encouraging advice.

I also met, and served time in the same cell block with Sundiata Acoli in the mid eighties in Marion, Ill. He is 14 years my senior, and a bastion of knowledge in the struggles of the oppressed People of the World. Whenever I approached his Cell, I would be met with a broad smile that was enhanced by the Thick Lens Reading Glasses that he wore. He is a brilliant educator, with a photoscopic memory, and a gregarious spirit, who is affectionately called “Sunni” by his Prison Peers. At least, this is how I recall Sundiata, but now at age 84, and having suffered a series of health maladies including Co-Vid-19, and now in the early stages of Dementia.

Both Sundiata and Leonard are experiencing serious health problems, and with their Remaining Time, if they were Released would make many contributions to their Families and Communities. Yes, both of these Humanitarians were involved in actions that Resulted in 2 Agents of the State losing their Lives. However, there has Never been any evidence that the bullet from either of their weapons took the lives of their victims. Throughout their incarceration Neither of these men have ever been accused or charged with committing acts of violence against anyone, which Attest to the fact that Neither has a propensity for violence. Yet still, the State continues to maintain their vindictive state sponsored attempt to murder.

On November 16th, 1968, U.S. Troops on Patrol in the Sovereign Nation of Viet Nam came upon the Village of “My Lai”, and one Lt. William Calley gave the order to Attack this Village. This Attack resulted in the death of 138 unarmed Women and Children. For his Actions Lt. William Calley spent less than 5 years in a “Country Club” Detention Compound in the States. It’s as if these two men are paying for Lt. Calley’s crime, because they both came to Prison around the time Lt. Calley was being released. The State uses Sundiata and Leonard’s continued torture and incarceration to dishearten and put fear into those who would dare to stand up and fight for Social Justice.

When I look at Sundiata’s situation, I see myself in the same predicament 14 years from now, and I am not disheartened at the possibility. Instead, my convictions are strengthened to continue Resisting a System that is so disparately Unjust in the dispensing of Justice.”

5/19/21 Hanif Shabazz Bey

#### **“Sunni Needs Our Help”**

Just a brilliant Country Boy who came along with a smile, and a willingness to help.

The more he studied and learned, the harder  
 they tried to circumvent his ability to help.  
 Through decades of torment his smile remained bright,  
 and his study turned to wisdom, as he continued to help.  
 Who ever thought that the Country Boy would become  
 a treasure so rich. A treasure so rich,  
 that the more they tried to hide it, the more it continued to help.  
 The Country Boy knew that the more he sweat,  
 the less he would bleed, so he continued to move forward,  
 and he continued to help.  
 Now legions of helpers came forward following the Country Boy's example,  
 all eager to study and eager to help.  
 The Country Boy is now ready for some fresh air, and yet it will not be easy,  
 but he knows he will need our help."  
 5/31/21, Hanif Shabazz Bey"

**Write to Hanif:**

Hanif Shabazz Bey/a.k.a Beaumont Gereau, #19-1952  
 Citrus County Detention Facility, 2604 W. Woodland Ridge Dr., Lecanto, FL 34461

**Address envelope to Beaumont Gereau**

**Xinachtli- Alvaro Luna-Hernandez**

**Interview: Political Prisoner Xinachtli's case featured on The Final Straw Radio** June 28

"Here is featured an interview with Xinachtli that we received from comrades in the Anarchist Black Cross who were doing support work for him. The original interview was incomplete, missing the voice of the interviewer, so we did our best to edit and reconstruct the audio to better fit a conversational format and present his conflicts with the Prison Industrial Complex, his views on his political prisoner status at the time of this interview and his views on his case. More info on his case, plus his writings and ways to get involved in his support campaign can be found at [FreeAlvaro.net](http://FreeAlvaro.net). This segment was first aired on TFSR in 2013 and then again in 2015. We thought it was time to share some of the story of Chicax, anarchist-communist political prisoner Xinachtli, in his own words. Throughout the segments original audio, I used his state name of Alvaro Luna-Hernandez as he had not yet adopted the moniker Xinachtli, which means "seed" in Nahuatl. Xinachtli is a collective member at and editor of the Certain Days political prisoner calendar. Listen at: [thefinalstrawradio.noblogs.org/post/2021/06/27/free-xinachtli-and-updates-from-greece](http://thefinalstrawradio.noblogs.org/post/2021/06/27/free-xinachtli-and-updates-from-greece) See <https://nycabc.files.wordpress.com/2021/07/updates-13-jul-2021-1.pdf>

**Interstate prison transfers as weapons of political repression: My nine years in domestic exile.**

**By Kevin 'Rashid' Johnson** June 5

"Transferring prisoners between states is human trafficking, a legacy of slavery and a form of "enforced disappearance" – a crime under international law since the 1946 judgment of the Nuremberg Tribunal against Nazi war criminals. Rashid, along with thousands of other prisoners, has been bounced back and forth between supermax prisons, death rows and work camps in Virginia, Indiana, Texas and Florida with the intention of alienating him from friendships and pitting people against him. Nothing deters Rashid from making art or speaking out against these oppressors and his efforts to enlighten minds softened by the prison system.  
 by Kevin 'Rashid' Johnson.

**Introduction**

In December 1990, a Special International Tribunal was held on the existence and abuse of political prisoners and prisoners of war (PPs and POWs) in the United States. The tribunal was conducted both to politically educate the public and as a semi-judicial event to put the Amerikan government on public trial, in light of its persistent denial of the existence of PPs in the U.S. and its use of extreme methods of repression to suppress political activism and expression of the poor, workers, oppressed nationality people of color and their anti-imperialist allies." See full article here:

<https://sfbayview.com/2021/06/interstate-prison-transfers-as-weapons-of-political-repression-my-nine-years-in-domestic-exile/>

## Community Calls for Action

(New Calls for Action)

### URGENT: DEMAND MEDICAL CARE FOR RUSSELL MAROON SHOATZ! June 17



“The DOC canceled his scheduled chemotherapy treatments last month. Maroon is very ill and upset that he still cannot begin these life-saving treatments. Your voice can make the difference!

**PA Governor Tom Wolf**, Phone: 717-787-2500 ext. 3, FAX: 717-772-8284

[Brunelle.Michael@gmail.com](mailto:Brunelle.Michael@gmail.com), [govcorrespcrm@pa.gov](mailto:govcorrespcrm@pa.gov), facebook: @governorwolf,

@TomWolfPA Instagram: @governortomwolf **PA DOC Secretary John Wetzel**, Phone: 717-728-2573, [iowetzel@state.pa.us](mailto:iowetzel@state.pa.us), [Ra-crpdocsecretary@pa.gov](mailto:Ra-crpdocsecretary@pa.gov) Prison SCI Dallas: Phone: 570-675-1101 **PA DOC, Christopher Oppman**., Deputy Secretary for

Administration who oversees healthcare, Phone: 717-728-4122 **Philly DA Larry Krasner**, Phone: 215-686-8000, [justice@phila.gov](mailto:justice@phila.gov), Twitter: @DA\_LarryKrasner, Instagram: @larrykrasner

### SUGGESTED SCRIPT

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I demand:

1. The immediate scheduling of necessary chemotherapy treatments for Russell Maroon Shoatz #AF-3855, who has stage 4 cancer and is recovering from COVID-19.

2. I am aware that he had previous been scheduled for treatment and this it was postponed indefinitely. Mr. Shoatz must be put on the schedule for treatment today.

Russell Shoatz’s health is rapidly deteriorating. They track the calls from different phones and how many times the same number calls so please keep calling and activate your networks. Make the calls, emails and tweets to ensure Maroon gets immediate response and medical treatment. Our sincere gratitude for all of your support.”

### STAND WITH THE WORLD AS THE UN VOTES AGAINST THE US ANTI-CUBA BLOCKADE! June 20 & 23



**3 Days Before the June 23rd U.N. General Assembly Vote To Oppose US ECONOMIC AND TRAVEL SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA!  
COME TO HARLEM ON JUNE 20TH!**

The NY-NJ Cuba SI Coalition, representing dozens of groups and activists, will hold its 7th Car Caravan in cities across North America, initiated by Cuban-Americans in Florida, demand an end to the embargo causing great economic hardship in Cuba. Stop US attacks on the right to travel and family visits for residents of both countries. Washington's attacks are particularly criminal in face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

1:00 pm Assemble at Harlem State Office Building - 1:30 pm Caravan Departs  
2:00 pm Return to Harlem State Office Building for Rally and Music  
Adam Clayton Powell Jr. State Office Building, 163 West 125th Street.  
Everyone welcome, with or without cars or bikes! For more information: 917-887-8710

Sponsored by New York-New Jersey Cuba SI Coalition

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US AT:  
[www.us-cubanormalization.org](http://www.us-cubanormalization.org)



**Gather and Rally - 4:00 to 6:00 pm  
Cuban Mission to the United Nations  
315 Lexington Avenue  
(between 38th and 39th Streets in Manhattan)**

On June 23, 2021 UN General Assembly will vote overwhelmingly condemn the United States government's "Economic, Commercial, and Financial Embargo" against Cuba. Decades-long US economic and political aggression, aimed at asphyxiating the socialist island, deepened under the Donald Trump Administration and has been wholly maintained by the Joseph Biden White House. This cruel sanctions policy is maintained despite Biden's promises on the campaign trail and despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Cuba's exemplary example fighting the pandemic on the island and it's amazing medical internationalism is respected and loved around the world.

Join us after the UN vote when opponents of the blockade will gather at the Cuban Mission to the United Nations to celebrate the victory and exposure of the utter political isolation of US aggression.

**Cuba SI, Bloqueo No!**

FOR INFORMATION ON JUNE 17th - JUNE 23rd WEEK OF ACTION  
AGAINST THE BLOCKADE!  
VISIT: [US-CUBANORMALIZATION.ORG](http://US-CUBANORMALIZATION.ORG)

**RESPECT THE ANCESTORS, STOP THE LOOTING: Demand USF Protect Indigenous cemeteries at USF Forest Preserve** June 22

“Indigenous peoples in the Western Hemisphere do not even have the right to rest in peace. Indigenous cemeteries in Florida are routinely looted by ghoulish grave robbers. The University of South Florida Forest Preserve is the location of at least one well known Indigenous cemetery and they have not been allowed to rest in peace. The USF Administration was well aware of the Indigenous cemetery existing on the site. The USF Administration was well aware of the risk of grave robbers looting the Indigenous cemetery when USF publicized a Request for Information (RFI) indicating they would develop the property. It was then no surprise when USF students and faculty touring the USF Forest Preserve noted the grave robbing and looting in May. Members of the Florida Indigenous Alliance (FIA) joined with students and faculty touring the site a couple of weeks ago and FIA members removed over a dozen shovels and rakes, numerous buckets, sifting screens, chairs, camping gear and litter from the site and deposited it at the USF Police Department. USF Police have extended the dialogue of cooperation in this matter, but there has been silence and inaction by the USF Administration. Florida Statute 872.05 prohibits disturbing or looting Indigenous unmarked grave sites. The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act further protects Indigenous cemeteries. Yet, as we see with local unmarked African cemeteries nothing is being done to protect the site.

The FIA Demands the University of South Florida take the first steps to show they intend to act to protect the site. At a minimum they must:

1. Place adequate and visible No Trespassing signs around the USF Forest Preserve
2. Place adequate and visible signs noting it is illegal to dig in the area pursuant to FSS 872.05
3. Review where appropriate to place fencing and where not appropriate to increase patrols and visibility of law enforcement to deter looters.

These are basic requests. If someone was digging up the USF President’s grandmother how would he act, what would he do? We expect no less than that. Please write USF and demand the basic first steps noted above.

Steve Currall, USF President, [scc@usf.edu](mailto:scc@usf.edu), Ralph Wilcox, USF Provost, [rcwilcox@usf.edu](mailto:rcwilcox@usf.edu), Nick Trivunovich, Interim Senior VP of Finance/Business ([ntrivuno@usf.edu](mailto:ntrivuno@usf.edu)), Kim Hill communications director ([kimberlyhill@usf.edu](mailto:kimberlyhill@usf.edu)), Nick Setteducato incoming senior VP of finance/business ([nsetteducato@usf.edu](mailto:nsetteducato@usf.edu))

**BE ADVISED:** Under Florida law dissent by three or more persons is a crime. Opposing celebrations of the genocide of Indigenous peoples is illegal. BE FURTHER ADVISED this electronic message is in no way encouraging individuals to violate the fascist draconian laws of the State of Florida.” See

<https://www.facebook.com/AIMFloridaState/posts/344397507251094>

**DONATE!! Introducing Standing Rock’s Niyakhe Yuza Teen Center!** June 22

“Great news! We have a deal in place to purchase a newer, better building for our Standing Rock teen center. If you’ve been with us for a bit, you’re already aware of our plan to provide Standing Rock teens with a safe space — when school hours are over — to learn, play, and connect with our Lakota culture. We’ve decided to call it the Niyakhe Yuza Teen Center. The term niyakhe yuza means “taken alive,” and the name honors Jesse Taken Alive, a language keeper, youth supporter, and former tribal chairman we tragically lost to Covid last year.

Because the new building has two floors, we hope to hire three tribal employees to run it each day. Can you pitch in now to help us put the final pieces in place? In addition to program staff, we’re looking for a pool table for the playroom and a van to transport kids to and from every corner of this 35,000-square mile reservation. In-kind gifts of much needed equipment will be gladly accepted!” “Your support of the Lakota People’s Law Project makes so many amazing things possible, from pipeline victories to the care of our youth. It means the world that you value our family connections and the safety of our people.” **Please chip in what you can today, as we’re currently allocating funds for each aspect of the teen center.** Donate here:

<https://action.lakotalaw.org/action/kinship-care-donations>

### #Halt Solitary: Please Sign Letter & Join Webinar re NYC's Fake Ban on Solitary-Take Action Now to Stop NYC's Fake Ban on Solitary Confinement July 6

“While falsely claiming to end solitary confinement, New York City is moving forward with a plan that will clearly continue solitary confinement. It will also clearly violate the HALT Act. Under this plan, people will be locked alone in a cell 23 hours a day, indefinitely. **Please sign** this sign-on letter (as an organization and/or as an individual) to call this out for what it is - solitary confinement by another name - and to urge the New York City Council to pass legislation to truly end solitary confinement as promised:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd4hf26hbYj7R6wCJBQN7NeVDA9MQXvuldsXdmmO3A9Am7x0w/viewform> . We are looking for organizations and groups to sign, and individuals to sign. Please also join a virtual webinar on Tuesday, July 6 at 12:30 pm to learn more about what New York City is planning and how you can join efforts to push for a true end to solitary confinement. **Please register here:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join-link> We cannot allow New York City to claim to end solitary confinement when they will lock someone alone in a cell 23 hours a day.

Please see the pictures below. Although NYC claims that people will be “out of cell” for 10 to 12 hours a day, they will actually just spend that time alone in the small extension of their cell in the pictures. Being locked ALONE in a tiny cell is not "out of cell" time - it is solitary confinement.” (From Email).

### #SaveSilwan: Protest and March to Defend Silwan! July 2

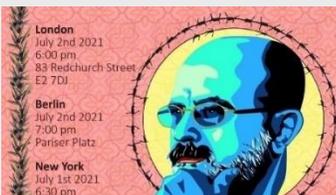


“Friday, 2 July, 4 pm. Settler Organization – Friends of Ir David.575 Lexington Ave, off E 51st St., New York, NY.

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/events/545053236503800/>.

Protest the Friends of Ir David, funders of an illegal Israeli settlement park in the occupied Palestinian neighborhood of Silwan, Jerusalem, then march on the office of Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer.”

### FRIDAY 2 JULY - JOIN US IN DEMANDING ALI MUSTAFA'S FREEDOM July 2



“This Friday it will be 8 long years since Wafa's father, Ali Mustafa, was forcibly disappeared in Syria by the Assad regime. To mark 2,922 days that have passed since his disappearance, we are inviting people to bring photos of detained loved ones to our wall in London, to remind the world who they are - and that they will never be forgotten. And we invite everyone to come and stand in solidarity with those whose loved ones are detained. We will be virtually joining Wafa who is in

Berlin, in demanding her father’s release as well as the freedom of the thousands of others that the dictatorial Syrian regime has unlawfully detained or disappeared. Please join our event this Friday **2 July, in London**. Time: 6pm London time. Where: Action For Sama wall, 83 Redchurch Street, E2 7DJ. If you are able to join us please come to show support, take photos and share your memories. As we want to avoid crowding, we ask that you please respect social distancing rules and each other by keeping a safe distance apart. There are also **events taking place in Berlin and New York City**, so please share information about them with any contacts you have there: **Thursday 1 July, New York City**, Time: 6.30pm NYC time, Where: Updated address - 158 West 23rd Street, 10011, between 6th and 7th avenue. Friday 2 July, Berlin. Time: 7pm Berlin time. Where: Pariser Platz.” See <https://www.change.org/p/join-me-in-standing-with-one-of-the-last-doctors-in-aleppo-call-world-leaders-to-act-now-to-savealeppo/u/29275813>

**Philly, Sat. July 3: March and Rally for Mumia Abu-Jamal! July 3**



“Join us in Philadelphia as we March and Rally for Mumia on the 39th Anniversary of His Sentencing.”

**UPCOMING PB HEARING: Support parole for Ruchell Magee, in prison for 58 years July 9**



“The Coalition to Free Ruchell Magee was founded in 2020 to support the freedom of Ruchell “Cinque” Magee. Ruchell Magee is an 82-year-old political prisoner currently incarcerated in the California Medical Facility. Ruchell has worked as a jailhouse lawyer to help prisoners fight for their freedom. The Coalition is building support to free Ruchell Magee, just like he’s helped other people win their release. Ruchell deserves to be free and spend his remaining time with his loved ones. 58 years is far too long - Free Ruchell Magee! SUPPORT RUCHELL TODAY! WRITE TO RUCHELL’S PAROLE BOARD-**Ruchell Magee's next parole hearing is scheduled for Thursday, July 15th.** That gives us 1 week to support him with as many letters of support as possible. Please take a couple of minutes to draft a letter using the guidelines below: Write a one-page letter to Ruchell’s parole board about your support for Ruchell based on his length of confinement (over 58 years). People have committed horrendous crimes and gotten much less time than Ruchell. Mention that Ruchell was very young when he was arrested and he should be able to enjoy the rest of his life outside of captivity. Add that we as taxpayers pay to keep this elderly man incarcerated instead of in his community, where he could make a positive contribution toward community development.

**Address:** Board of Parole Hearings Post Office Box 4036 Sacramento, CA 95812-4036. **OTHER QUICK ACTIONS:** NEW: SIGN THE PETITION to Free Ruchell Magee: <https://bit.ly/freeruchell> NEW: WRITE THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE Requesting Commutation: <https://bit.ly/write4ruchell>”

**PB HEARING-LETTERS NEEDED: Alvaro Luna Hernandez (Xinachtli) July 10**

“Xinachtli (Nahuatl, meaning “seed”) is an anarchist communist community organizer and Chicano movement revolutionary, currently imprisoned in Texas. Formerly known as Alvaro Luna Hernandez, he worked diligently in the barrio on civil and human rights issues, known widely for his legal skills. Gaining international recognition as the national coordinator of the Ricardo Aldape Guerra Defense Committee, Xinachtli was instrumental in helping to free Mexican national Aldape Guerra from Texas’ death row, where he had been framed for the

murder of a police officer. In July 1996 Xinachtli was arrested after disarming a County Sheriff who was attempting to shoot him. After defending himself at trial, Xinachtli was sentenced to 50 years in prison for aggravated assault, a charge he vehemently denies. While imprisoned, Xinachtli continues to write frequently, has helped to organize multiple prison strikes, and has been held in solitary confinement for the last 19 years



and counting. Xinachtli is a prolific jailhouse lawyer, as referenced by Mumia Abu Jamal in his book *Jailhouse Lawyers: Prisoners Defending Prisoners v the USA*. Xinachtli assists many prisoners in seeking new trials, and filing suits against the repressive, inhumane Texas prison system. Texas prisons are now one of the nation's COVID-19 virus' 'hotspots,' and the courts are refusing to intervene, while prisoner dead bodies pile up in local morgues. Xinachtli is an elderly person, with his life in danger. **Presently, Xinachtli is preparing for his first ever upcoming Parole Review Hearing, on July 18, 2021,** and so the Xinachtli Defense Committee is calling for people to send letters to his lawyers that they can use in support of his application.

**Key points to mention** are that he has a solid support system waiting, with available opportunities of employment, residence, and transportation, and that he is in his late 60s with several health conditions which would put him at high risk if infected with COVID-19. Letters should include his registered name, **Alvaro Luna Hernandez**, and prison number, **TDCJ-CID#00255735**.

**Parole letters should be addressed to:**

Texas Department of Criminal Justice – Parole Division, P.O. Box 13401, Austin, Texas 78711-3401

**But the letters themselves need to be sent to Xinachtli's lawyers at:**

Allen Place Law, 109 South 7th Street, Gatesville, Texas 76528

Sending them to Allen Place instead of directly to the parole board will help his lawyers to use them effectively."

See <https://freealvaro.net/>

### **Please Sign On: Civil rights organizations and lawyers challenge First Amendment problems with FL prison protest case July 12**

"Civil rights organizations and lawyers challenge First Amendment problems with FL prison protest case

PICTURE FROM DEC. 6 PROTEST: <https://www.flprisonersolidarity.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Danielle-arrested-and-cop-with-tazer-1-1-2.jpg> BODYCAM VIDEO AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

A group of protesters has gathered today at noon at the Eight District State Attorney's office, 120 W University Ave, in support of three individuals arrested on Dec 6 in Bradford County during a protest in front of Florida State Prison.

Earlier today, 15 prominent organizations and civil liberties attorneys sent a letter explaining the dangerous First Amendment implications of further pursuing prosecution in this case. The group is currently set to begin trial on July 20 in Bradford County, where the only industry is a massive prison complex. The initial judge in their case, Judge Tatum Davis, had to be recused, because the prison warden is his father. The judge currently presiding over the case is Judge James Colaw. While the evidence of First Amendment violations is clear in these cases, the reality of a pervasive pro-prison bias is also undeniable. For this reason, the community has rallied behind having the State Attorney drop the charges before trial begins, thus saving court resources on this case.

In addition to this sign-on letter, the case has attracted over 600 letters of support from all across the country, as can be seen in this online letter writing campaign." To sign & see additional details about the case see

<https://actionnetwork.org/letters/defend-free-speech-drop-the-fsp-3-charges>

## Hands Off Cuba demonstration July 15



"HANDS OFF CUBA! JULY 15 | 5PM ET | UNION SQUARE

Join us to demand an immediate end to the genocidal U.S blockade on Cuba and all regime change efforts by the United States. ¡El bloqueo es ilegal, asesino y criminal!"

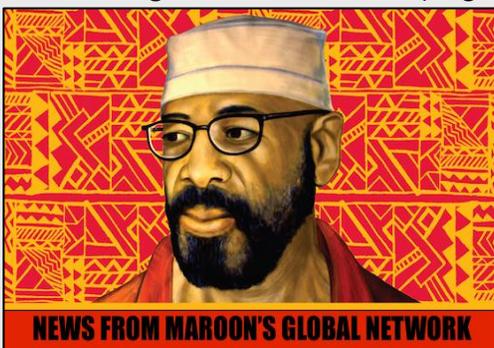
## SF Car & Bicycle Caravan: End the U.S. Blockade! U.S. Hands off Cuba! July 25



"Gathering at 1875 Marin Street, San Francisco-Sunday, July 25, 11:30am. Join us for a car and bicycle caravan to build awareness and solidarity with Cuba as we travel through San Francisco!" "For 60 plus years, Cuba has remained under the criminal blockade of the United States government. The world sees the U.S. blockade of Cuba for what it is: an unjust and criminal attack on the sovereignty and rights of the Cuban people. On Sunday, July 25, Cuban-American anti-blockade travelers and supporters who are trekking 1,300 miles from Miami to Washington D.C. will rally in front of the White House at Lafayette Park to deliver demands and a petition signed by over 25,000 people to the Biden administration. Solidarity caravans and other actions will take place in many U.S. cities in support of this effort." See [https://www.answercoalition.org/san\\_francisco](https://www.answercoalition.org/san_francisco)

## (Ongoing Calls for Action)

### Maroon: Urgent action needed!!! (Ongoing)



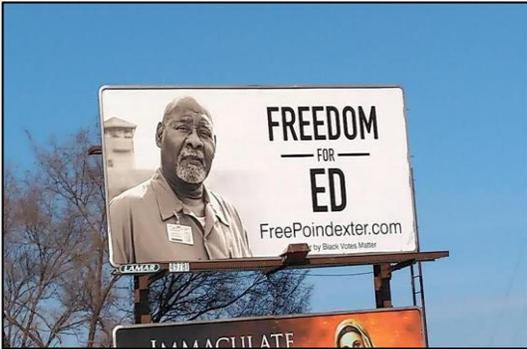
"Our beloved elder Russell Maroon Shoatz... suffering stage 4 cancer for the last year and a half." "Maroon is asking that all supporters call the office of Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf and demand his immediate, unconditional release, as well as that of ALL elderly prisoners infected with COVID-19. Please call (717) 787-2500 and keep the pressure on! All PA based organizations, please sign a community letter demanding the immediate release of Russell Maroon Shoatz:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScx2SeLR-Z1f3XLp0F9BopPRDZyVKbldUwh7wker97yr7D-Mw/viewform> New

Go-Fund Me to support the Shoatz Family <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-for-the-shoatz-family-fighting-injustice> For sample tweets and graphics, check out the #FreeMaroon Social media kit <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MaFFFCapISjN2MdoL0eYSQomEaKoW30PezJHNIVkSf8/edit>

Continue to Call Governor Tom Wolf: Contact: (717) 787-2500. Russell Shoatz's health is rapidly deteriorating. His DOC is #AF3855. Demand Immediate Release of Russell Maroon Shoatz. <https://www.instagram.com/p/CHI85IFhiAm/>

#### CALL-IN CAMPAIGN FOR ED POINDEXTER--Demand Freedom for Ed Poindexter (ongoing)



"Please phone the Nebraska Pardons Board as many times as you and your friends, comrades, associates, and family can. Please give your name and the state that you live in, and if you can, leave a phone number. **CALL:** Governor Pete Ricketts 402-471-2244, Attorney General Peterson: 402-471-2683, Secretary of State Evnen: 402-471-2554. Please share this campaign, write a letter to the Pardons Board and **sign the online petition:** <http://chn.g.it/vctskKv49k> Ed would be very grateful. We would also appreciate if you could send us a copy of your letter to: [freedomford@gmail.com](mailto:freedomford@gmail.com) **EMAIL:**

[ne.pardonsboard@nebraska.gov](mailto:ne.pardonsboard@nebraska.gov) **WRITE:** Nebraska Board of Pardons, P.O. Box 95007, Lincoln, NE 68509. See <https://www.jerichony.org/edpoindexter.html> for further info and a script." See [www.freepoindexter.com](http://www.freepoindexter.com)

#### Bring Imam Jamil Home In The Next 6-12 Months! organized by Kairi Al-Amin (Ongoing)

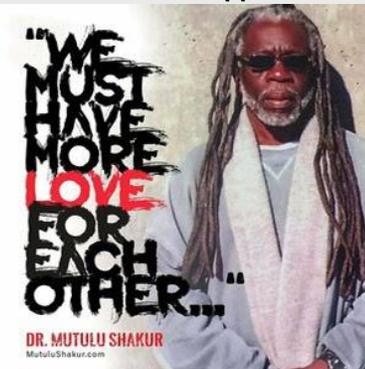


"As-Salaamu Alaikum, For 20+ years we've been fighting not just for the freedom of my father, H. Rap Brown/Imam Jamil, but also to prove his innocence. My Name is Kairi Al-Amin, son of Imam Jamil Al-Amin and before we go any further, on behalf of myself, my father and my family I would just like "As-Salaamu Alaikum, For 20+ years we've been fighting not just for the freedom of my father, H. Rap Brown/Imam Jamil, but also to prove his innocence. A video of the actual perpetrator confessing under oath to the murder my father is currently serving life in prison for." Watch The Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWXNr1BaI88&feature=youtu.be>

For full petition see: <https://www.change.org/p/fulton-county-district-attorney-paul-howard-new-trial-for-imam-jamil-al-amin-fka-h-rap-brown/u/27297316>

#### Mutulu Shakur: Support Parole and Compassionate Release for Dr. Mutulu Shakur (ongoing)



" Dr. Mutulu Shakur is a political prisoner, sentenced to 60 years in prison because of actions motivated by his political beliefs. He was targeted and victimized by the FBI's now-infamous Counter-Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO) as early as 1968. Dr. Shakur has served over 30 years in prison, and is currently suffering from multiple myeloma (advanced bone marrow cancer). He has been denied parole 9 times and was recently denied a compassionate release. Friends and Family of Dr. Mutulu Shakur has started a new campaign seeking Mutulu's release by President Biden. We will be submitting a legal clemency petition to the President on Mutulu's behalf, and this public petition is an important part of the campaign. We want to show the President that Mutulu has community — friends, family, and supporters —

who will welcome him home. Please sign the new petition for Mutulu's release via Presidential clemency." See <https://campaigns.organizefor.org/petitions/grant-clemency-for-dr-mutulu-shakur-a-father-grandfather-healer-human-rights-activist>

### Online Fundraiser for Joy Powell (ongoing)



“Joy’s family recently covered some legal expenses in order to proceed to the next step in appealing her wrongful conviction. The online fundraiser is to cover these costs as well as any future costs for her support. We are still seeking options for pro bono counsel to keep these costs as low as possible, but even with pro bono representation there will be filing fees, legal visit costs, etc. Every dollar truly counts, and Joy is very appreciative of everyone’s

support. The link for the fundraising page is <https://fundrazr.com/freejoypowell>, and we have added a link to her website at <https://www.freejoypowell.org/support/>. Don’t hesitate to let us know if there are any questions and THANK YOU for helping spread the word about this important step to secure Joy’s freedom. -Philly ABC and NYC Jericho”

### Release or Home Confinement for Dr. Aafia Siddiqui (Ongoing)



“The 48-year old Dr. Siddiqui has been imprisoned since she was 31. She has been in very poor health for much of this time, including appearing in a wheel chair at her New York trial, due to the extremely harsh—some would say unlawful—conditions of her capture as well as her incarceration. She is clearly at grave risk from COVID-19.” See <https://www.change.org/p/donald-j-trump-release-or-home-confinement-for-dr-aafia-siddiqui-from-coronavirus-infected-prison> (Photo from <https://www.change.org/p/donald-j-trump-release-or-home-confinement-for-dr-aafia-siddiqui-from-coronavirus-infected-prison>)

### The Freedom Campaign for Sundiata Acoli (Ongoing)



“Acoli has been consistently denied parole for more than twenty-five of those years, going all the way back to 1994. The Sundiata Acoli Freedom Campaign (SAFC) is the largest coordinated campaign to free Acoli since his incarceration and follows years of behind-the-scenes advocacy and legal filings. For more information visit our Facebook page or email [Sundiataacolifc@gmail.com](mailto:Sundiataacolifc@gmail.com).” See: “The Freedom Campaign for Sundiata Acoli with Soffiyah Elijah” here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPUb7R03pisSoffiyah&feature=youtu.be>

“This year, on January 14th, Sundiata spent his 84th birthday in a prison cell and his health is deteriorating in his late stage of life. The Bring Sundiata Acoli Home Alliance (BSAHA), has regrouped and is committed to utilizing this moment to bring Sundiata home this year after 48 years of tortured incarceration. Sundiata is an educator, mathematician, poet, profound visual artist, mentor, and grandfather. Sundiata suffers from advanced dementia, cardiovascular disease, hypertension, emphysema, post COVID 19 symptoms and glaucoma. He also still suffers from lingering COVID-19 symptoms. His life and health are in jeopardy as he continues to battle harmful prison conditions.” “The BSAHA is calling for NJ Governor Phil Murphy to release Sundiata Acoli immediately! We are calling on allied organizations and institutions to support Sundiata by signing and sharing this petition. We welcome collaborations and partnerships to help secure Sundiata’s release. Sundiata’s life depends on us. We must #BringSundiataHome now!” Please sign here: <https://campaigns.organizefor.org/petitions/bring-sundiata-home>

### Free Leonard Peltier! (Ongoing)



“At Peltier’s request, lawyers will be working to get him transferred closer to his family on the Turtle Mountain Reservation in North Dakota. Second, his legal team will continue to work on a possible parole hearing for early summer. Third, the attorney in Peltier’s first-amendment case in Seattle, Wash., is prepared for trial this summer. Despite strong support by former U.S. Attorney James Reynolds, 55 members of Congress and international dignitaries including Bishop Desmond Tutu, the U.S. government refuses to

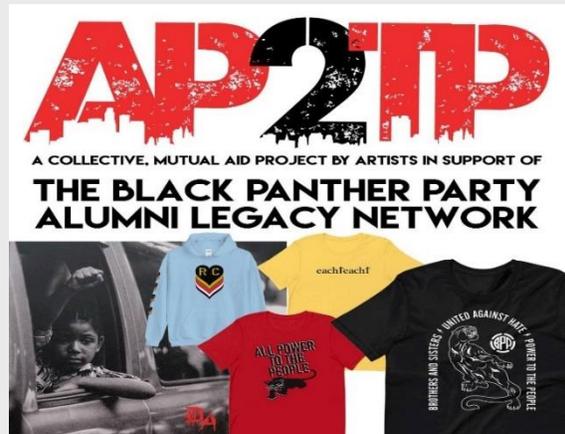
release Peltier, whose health is rapidly failing after more than four decades of incarceration. To make a donation to Peltier's legal effort and to support his campaign for freedom, please go to the ILPDC FB Page ([facebook.com/PeltierHQ/](https://facebook.com/PeltierHQ/)) and to the fundraiser ([tinyurl.com/yxtkb77a](https://tinyurl.com/yxtkb77a)) This is the year to free Leonard Peltier!" See [https://fundrazr.com/e1lwxe?ref=ab\\_39woXa\\_ab\\_0RczzOepD4I0RczzOepD4I](https://fundrazr.com/e1lwxe?ref=ab_39woXa_ab_0RczzOepD4I0RczzOepD4I)

### Support SF Bay View -PLEASE DONATE NOW (ongoing)

"The San Francisco Bay View National Black Newspaper is doing a fundraiser to keep Black media alive and keep our voices loud! Read and learn: [www.sfbayview.com](http://www.sfbayview.com). Without Black media, there is no learning the depth and breadth of Black history to lead the charge forward to dismantling systems of oppression and envisioning what can take its place. Without funding, there is no Black media. We want to make sure you can get those tax deductions, so mark your donation as for our nonprofit organization HRIN and we will send you a donation acknowledgment letter. We need your help to make sure the voices of the people are heard and media stays independent! **DONATE TODAY!** Learn about us and the work we do at [www.sfbayview.com](http://www.sfbayview.com)." See <https://www.gofundme.com/f/fundraiser-for-the-bay-view-newspaper> (Photo retrieved from SF Bay View) **Support the Black Panther**



### Black Panther Party Alumni Legacy Network! (Ongoing)



"The BPP Alumni Legacy Network is composed of original Black Panther Party members passionate individuals, elected official's community organizations, educational institutions, and community-oriented businesses that not only have their own well-being at heart but also have a passion for every member of the community to live long prosper and grow educationally, socially, and economically from generation to generation. Together we embrace the legacy of the 63 documented social service programs created and implemented by original Black Panther Party members that grew out of the 10-point and program of the Party. Now is the time to come together to use our knowledge and collective resources to lay the foundation for self-determination and generational prosperity that will only be established thru our efforts. Join Us!!" **"Donate to Black Panther Legacy Network.** B.P.P. Legacy Network is seeking to build a network of "legacy keepers" who are already doing community work as well as educate anyone who wants to bridge the gap of knowledge from the time of the BPP to the present. Donations are tax-deductible under as a non-profit through the Pledge Group Foundation 501(c)3, B.P.P. Legacy Keepers." See <https://bppalumnilegacynetwork.org/>

"In a historic rare collaboration, **Destroy Art Inc.** is granted access to sell Black Panther merchandise by artist John Yates aka Stealworks. 50% of all sales is donated back to the Black Panther Alumni Legacy Network. To purchase the All Power to the People collection and support the Black Panther Alumni Legacy Network go to: <https://ap2tp.bigcartel.com/>. (Photo's retrieved from <https://bppalumnilegacynetwork.org/>)

## Community Events & Resources

### (June 15-July 15, 2021)

#### Welcome to M4BL's Reparations Month! June 17-30

"This month, in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre, the 2020 Uprisings, the 50th Anniversary of the War on Drugs and Juneteenth, the Movement for Black Lives is sponsoring a month of activities focusing on reparations for slavery and its afterlives -- convict leasing, police violence, mass incarceration, the war on drugs, segregation, redlining, and environmental racism to name a few -- in the US. **What are reparations? Why are we owed reparations? How do we get them?** This month we are making a series of educational offerings to answer these questions and more to help you better understand the movement for reparations, get the skills you need to start local reparations campaigns, and support national efforts to pass reparations legislation at the federal level.

Each week of June we will focus on a different front in the battle for reparations.

**The third week of June will focus on reparations for the War on Drugs.** Join us for a teach-in about decriminalization and reparations. When: **Thursday, June 17** at 5:00PM ET

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_tWV6R5y7RLaSzL6Bi3ZCYw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tWV6R5y7RLaSzL6Bi3ZCYw)

**The fourth week will focus on reparations for slavery and passage of HR 40.** But you don't need to wait till then to demand reparations! How: Tell congress to pass HR 40: Text HR40 to 90975."

The last week of June will focus on reparations for economic racism and redlining by dropping resources and tools that allow you to see the ongoing and long lasting effects of these practices on your lives today. TOOLKIT:

<https://m4bl.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Reparations-Now-Toolkit-FINAL.pdf>" See

<https://m4bl.org/policy-platforms/reparations/>

#### "Voices Against Empire: A Discussion on Black Radical Media June 17

**THE BLACK ALLIANCE FOR PEACE PRESENTS**

**Voices Against Empire**  
*A Discussion on Black Radical Media*

**Margaret Kimberley**

**Tierney Peprah**

**Eugene Puryear**

**Jared Ball**

**Milton Allmadi**

**MODERATOR**  
**Netfa Freeman**

**THURSDAY**  
**June 17, 2021**

**7 p.m. ET**

**Interpretation provided in ASL**

**REGISTER**  
[bit.ly/voicesagainstepire](https://bit.ly/voicesagainstepire)

"Join the Black Alliance for Peace at 7 p.m. ET on Thursday, June 17, 2021, for "Voices Against Empire: A Discussion on Black Radical Media." We will explore the radical traditions in Black emancipatory journalism and learn about how revolutionary struggle can be supported with media that share a vision for liberation." Register here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_AoR5adcTQPSN6VmDK\\_x7w](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AoR5adcTQPSN6VmDK_x7w)

#### DOCUMENTARY: **The Farm: Angola, USA ( 1998 )** June 17

"Liz Garbus and Jonathan Stack co-directed this documentary, which explores life behind the bars of Louisiana's notorious maximum-security prison, Angola. Stationed on an old slave plantation, Angola is populated overwhelmingly by black inmates, and staffed by a white administration. The stories of various inmates convey the injustice and futility but also the hope that is part of prison life. A prisoner puts forth exonerating evidence to the parole board, and another speaks prior to execution." See

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=odx9NEHc17M>

### New Website for Oso Blanco! June 17

"Folks with ABCF collective Philly ABC have exciting news—a new website for political prisoner Oso Blanco: [freeosoblanco.org](http://freeosoblanco.org). Oso Blanco is an indigenous activist originally serving 80 years in prison for a series of bank expropriations throughout the southwest in 1998-1999. In 2016, 25 years were taken off his sentence when he won his Johnson v. U.S. appeal making him eligible for release in 2048. He is part of the wolf clan Cherokee/Choctaw, raised in New Mexico. His indigenous name is Oso Blanco, or Yona Unega in Cherokee. He was known to the FBI as 'Robin the Hood' because he informed the bank tellers he was expropriating funds to assist the Zapatistas fighting for independence in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas. Oso Blanco continues his assistance to Zapatistas and native kids from within prison through the Children's Art Project (CAP). Check out the artwork he created to raise funds for native kids, for sale online as greeting cards and posters, on his new website at [freeosoblanco.org](http://freeosoblanco.org). Please support the 'Zapatista supply warrior' in his mission and share the link within your networks! And be sure to get the amazing greeting cards that Oso Blanco made as a fundraiser for the Children's Art Project at [burningbooks.com/products/oso-blanco-greeting-cards](http://burningbooks.com/products/oso-blanco-greeting-cards)." See <https://nycabc.files.wordpress.com/2021/06/updates-28-jun-2021.pdf>

### VIDEO: The International Tribunal "In the Spirit of Mandela" Coalition. Webinar 2: Inter Faith Perspectives June 18

"On May 23, 2021, the Spirit of Mandela coalition hosted a webinar on "Interfaith Perspectives on Human Rights Abuses in the USA: the role of the International Tribunal." It featured presentations by El-Hajj Mauri' Saalakhan (President of the Aafia Foundation; founder of the National Association for Police Accountability; writer for muslimmatters.org); Rabbi Drorah Setel (Temple Emanu-el; feminist theologian and biblical scholar; co-author of the world renowned "Mi Shebeirach" prayer); Rev. Lukata Mjumbe (Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church of Princeton; Sundiata Acoli Freedom Campaign); and Mary Anne Grady Flores (long-time Catholic Worker / Plowshares organizer; Puerto Rico and Palestine solidarity activist; former prisoner of conscience, and sister of current Kings Bay Plowshares prisoner of conscience\_ Facilitated by Tribunal coordinating committee members dequi kioni-sadiki (Northeast Political Prisoner Coalition) and A'isha Mohammad (spoken word poet, Oakland Jericho, National Jericho Movement), the inspiring event served as a call to organize for true freedom." See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Knebdh5-Ss>

### Leonard Peltier Freedom Ride 2021 June 21-26

**Leonard Peltier** WAS NOMINATED 7 TIMES FOR THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE for his contributions to humanitarian and charitable causes for his People. A Father, Grandfather, Great Grandfather, Artist... **INCARCERATED SINCE 1976** **Free LEONARD PELTIER** "The Constitution is set up to right wrongs & correct injustices. One way it does that is through the absolute Presidential power of clemency." "Acknowledging misconduct in the investigations and prosecution of Leonard Peltier will also be a major catalyst for healing." -FORMER FEDERAL CHIEF JUDGE KEVIN H. SHARP

**#FreedomRide2021** **Free Leonard Peltier** Incarcerated since 1976. [www.WhoIsLeonardPeltier.info](http://www.WhoIsLeonardPeltier.info) The planned #FreedomRide2021 events start on June 7 in SD... with stops along the way. On June 21st, the Freedom Riders will arrive in Washington DC, to begin a vigil until June 26. ALL Freedom Riders from across the Land will commemorate the anniversary of the Shoot-Out at Pine Ridge. **FOR UP TO DATE INFO:** [www.FreedomRide2021.com](http://www.FreedomRide2021.com) **GOFUND/DONATIONS:** [www.gofundme.com/leonard-peltier-freedom-ride-2021](http://www.gofundme.com/leonard-peltier-freedom-ride-2021)

**#FreeLeonardPeltier** Incarcerated since 1976 [www.FreedomRide2021.com](http://www.FreedomRide2021.com) Leonard Peltier (Anishinabe/Dakota) has been incarcerated for 45 years. His sentence is Aiding & Abetting. However the 2 co-defendants were acquitted on the basis of self-defense. **LET LEONARD PELTIER KNOW** LEONARD PELTIER #80637-132 USEY COLEMAN I U.S. PENITENTIARY P.O. BOX 1038 COLEMAN, FL 33521 **HE'S NOT ALONE. WE ARE STILL HERE** **#FreedomRide2021** **FOR UP TO DATE INFO:** [www.FreedomRide2021.com](http://www.FreedomRide2021.com) **GOFUND/DONATIONS:** [www.gofundme.com/leonard-peltier-freedom-ride-2021](http://www.gofundme.com/leonard-peltier-freedom-ride-2021)

In a letter dated April 24, 2020, to @PPTUS (4504 Adams), Secretary John Estelak asks to release Mr. Peltier. "Due to this overwhelming support, we believe it is highly appropriate that the administration prioritize the expedited release of Mr. Leonard Peltier since he is an elderly inmate with serious underlying health conditions, leaving his vulnerable spouse the devastating health emergency. For these reasons, we respectfully ask that Leonard Peltier be immediately transferred to his home on the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Reservation, North Dakota." -DH

It is our understanding that you, the recipients of this letter might have some power of intervention, or promote some form of judicial change in the case of Leonard Peltier and other political prisoners who have suffered the same fate. -DH (excerpt of DHS letter)

"Freedom Ride 2021 will be leaving from Omaha going through Kansas City, Lexington, Charleston, and will be in Richmond on the 19th. Five riders on horseback confirmed. There will be public events, a camp and people are welcome to come. Afterwards they will head to the state capital in their regalia. It took about two months from South Dakota to Florida last time. This time will only be about 15 days to be safer for the horses. David

Hill will be one of the riders. People can go to DC on the 26th. There are also 8-10 bike riders for Leonard who will join from Nebraska to DC to Richmond to speak about Leonard." More info to Come!

### **Rally for Cuba and ProLibertad's statement at the UN! June 21**

"Click the link or copy and paste to watch Benjamin Ramos, of ProLibertad, deliver ProLibertad's statement at the UN Decolonization Committee Hearings on Friday, June 21st, 2021. **Link:** <https://youtu.be/dGyKTYhK7FM>  
The ProLibertad Freedom Campaign, [www.ProLibertad.org](http://www.ProLibertad.org), [ProLibertad@hotmail.com](mailto:ProLibertad@hotmail.com),  
Facebook.com/ProLibertadFC, Twitter: @ProLibertad, Instagram: @ProLibertadFC, ProLibertadTV/YouTube Channel, Telephone: 718-601-4751"

### **VIDEO: Angola for Life June 22**

"There are more than 6,000 men currently imprisoned at the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola—three-quarters of them are there for life, and nearly 80 percent are African American. It's the end of the line for many convicted criminals in Louisiana, which has the highest incarceration rate of any state in the U.S. In this Atlantic original documentary, national correspondent Jeffrey Goldberg goes inside Angola to speak with inmates and with warden Burl Cain, who has managed the prison for two decades. Cain and his colleagues grapple with the crucial question: What does rehabilitation look like when you're locked away for life? Read Goldberg's recent reflection on the filmmaking process (<http://theatlantic.com/1MmKfuG>), as well as his in-depth report on crime in Louisiana, "A Matter of Black Lives," from The Atlantic's September issue (<http://theatlantic.com/1HE39rg>).

Authors: Jeffrey Goldberg, Sam Price-Waldman, Kasia Cieplak-Mayr von Baldegg

Watch more videos: <http://www.theatlantic.com/video> Subscribe to The Atlantic on YouTube:

<http://bit.ly/1pE29OW> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TheAtlanticVID> Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/TheAtlantic> Google+: <https://plus.google.com/+TheAtlantic>

Subscribe to The Atlantic on YouTube: <http://bit.ly/subAtlanticYT>" See Angola Video Here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=7ABpWhY5Xzk>"

### **Ralph Poynter: What's Happening BlogTalkRadio Tuesday, June 22, 2021 Call in 1 (347) 857-3293 @ 9-10pm ET June 22**

"The lessons of history can not be learned without the correct analysis of historical facts"

**1. NEWS ANALYSIS** - An anatomy of oppression requires an anatomy of colonialism/imperialism i.e. An anatomy of the American Capitalist System: Ralph Poynter, Tom Siracuse, Joel Meyers, Gwen Goodwin, Nellie Hester Bailey, Gil Obler

**2. UPDATES** -- Political Prisoner Death Camps - Anne Lamb (NYC Jericho)

**3. Liberation Poetry** – NZINGA – in remembrance of Sister Lynne

===**SPECIAL GUESTS**=== **Don Fitz:** Don is a Green Party member since 1990, he is editor of the Compost-Dispatch newsletter, published for the Green Party of St. Louis. He was the 2016 candidate of the Missouri Green Party for Governor and its 2018 candidate for State Auditor. **Gil Obler:** "Growing Up A Red Diaper Baby"- Featuring **NZINGA & Liberation Poetry**==== **SPECIAL PACIFICA UPDATE** ==="

### **Celebrate the Overwhelming UN General Assembly Vote Against Washington's Anti-Cuba Blockade! SPECIAL SOLIDARITY WEBINAR! June 23**



"Please join us for a very special webinar Wednesday evening June 23, from 8:00 to 10:00 pm Eastern (5:00 to 7:00 pm Pacific) following the vote at the UN General Assembly against Washington's criminal and brutal economic and political war. This webinar will celebrate with words and music what will again be an overwhelming vote of solidarity with Cuba and an expression of utter US political isolation. International US-Cuba Normalization Committee, Canadian Network on Cuba, National Network on Cuba, La Table Concertation Quebec-Cuba" Register here: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_QO2NmyIZSXXmAGaOJuP9Pg](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QO2NmyIZSXXmAGaOJuP9Pg)

The International Tribunal “In the Spirit of Mandela” coalition cordially invites you to our Third Webinar: “Leading Up till Tomorrow!”: International Perspectives on Legal, Educational & Political Imperatives to hold the US government Accountable and END Human Rights Violations NOW! June 22

**International Tribunal 2021**



**In the Spirit of Mandela Coalition Invites you to an Urgent Webinar**

*As US Human Rights abuses ESCALATE, we need to take the case of We, the People to an INTERNATIONAL arena— like Minister Malcolm X and like those who “charged Genocide” before us.  
We are building for such a forum, to take place on October 22-24 in NYC and virtually...*

**Join Us on Tuesday, June 22, 2021: 5pm PDT/ 8pm EDT**

**“Leading Up till Tomorrow!”:  
International Perspectives on Legal,  
Educational & Political Imperatives  
to hold the US government Accountable and  
END Human Rights Violations NOW!**

**Featuring**

**Mary-Louise Patterson, MD:** Board member, Physicians for a National Health Program; daughter of William Patterson (co-petitioner with Paul Robeson of historic 1951 WE CHARGE GENOCIDE filings to the United Nations)

**Lennox Hinds:** International Association of Democratic Lawyers; convener of the historic 1979 Petition to the UN on Human Rights Violations in the US; convener of the historic 2021 International Commission of Inquiry on Systemic Racist Police Violence Against People of African Descent in the US

**Dr. Kwame-Osagyefo Kalimara:** Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Afrika; co-founder of the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement and the New Afrikan People’s Organization; professor of law, psychology, and history

**Olga Sanabria Dávila:** Comité de Puerto Rico en Naciones Unidas; Advisor to the annual United Nations Decolonization Committee of 24 hearings on Puerto Rico

**Joy James (invited):** Abolition Collective Black Internationalist Unions; editor of The New Abolitionists and Imprisoned Intellectuals

**With SPECIAL GUESTS ... and emcees:**  
Matt Meyer (IPRA; NEPPC) & A’isha Mohammad (Jericho)

**To attend the webinar, register at:**  
<https://www.crowdcast.io/e/international-tribunal/3>

**To get involved with and endorse the Tribunal:**  
<https://spiritofmandela.org/>

To attend the webinar, register at: <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/international-tribunal/3>  
To get involved with and endorse the Tribunal: <https://spiritofmandela.org/>



**Spirit of Mandela International Tribunal  
on Human Rights Abuses in the USA  
invites you to save the date for our next webinar:**

**Leading up to Tomorrow: International  
Perspectives on Legal, Education and Political  
Imperatives to Hold the US Accountable and  
END Human Rights Abuses NOW!**

Tuesday, June 22, 2021  
5:00 PM PDT | 8:00 PM EDT



**Join us on Wednesday, June 22, 2021 at 6:00 pm PT for Richmond People's Movement Assembly Planning Meeting June 22**

“From now until **October 2021**, we will be walking in the city wearing our masks while knocking on every door of the Richmond City residents. No, it's not for political elections. It's for the purpose of bringing together the unsung voices and unsung heroes of our city. Those of us who have survived the COVID-19 pandemic. There is value in the black, indigenous, and brown silenced voices and we must bring a one-on-one in - person process of democracy back to the people most impacted. We must listen to the poor and the marginalized, the youth and the elders within a safe, circled space. We must principal not only their stories but their political analysis.

Not to be answered by our political elected, not to be answered by our city, state or federal government but by "The People" in a Peoples' Movement Assembly (PMA) which is all day, sun-up to sun-down. The Peoples' Movement Assembly (PMA) was first introduced to us on Wednesday, November 4th, 2020, the day after elections wearing masks on the steps of the Richmond City Hall and proposed a radical need to bring our residents their basic human needs; smashing austerity; collectively saving our environment; leaning into justice for victims of police brutality; being the New World planners despite what the government leaders put together preventing community isolation and coming together more often through care, wanting to know how people are faring since 2020, and wanting to hear their stories.

We lifted our red or green papers in a democratic voting process where everyone present was valued, including the youth that were there at the Richmond City Hall outdoor venue on November 4th. We will be using the People's Movement Assembly (PMA) Handbook Link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/recent>  
What are the problems we face? What are the solutions? And what are we going to do about it?

**Join us at our bi-monthly zoom meetings** on this Wednesday, June 22, 2021 at 6:00 pm P.T.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84014159693?pwd=MUtHK0tsNOhLTlVMMnNzL01xOXAQT09>"

### "No Easy Answer" Music Video June 23

"No Easy Answer" Music Video by DJ Free Leonard Produced by Malik Yusef ----DJ Free Leonard (The Broken Treaty Poet) wrote this well thought-out song that compares and contrast the meaning of being right and/or wrong, and the true essence of a contradiction layered within the language, society, religious upbringing, political and scientific context, a debate or argument over who is the right one (being "good") and wrong one (being "bad"), in the search for no absolute Truth and a seaming looming idea of absolute Justice and Faith. -- Please Share!" See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fk3di3HotB4>

### Time For Sundiata Acoli To Come Home: TOMORROWS UPCOMING WEBINAR EVENT AND NEWS UPDATES ON OUR ESTEEMED 84 YEAR OLD ELDER POLITICAL PRISONER AND CO-DEFENDENT OF ASSATA SHAKUR June 23

**BSAHA: PRESENTS**  
Bring Sundiata Acoli Home Alliance

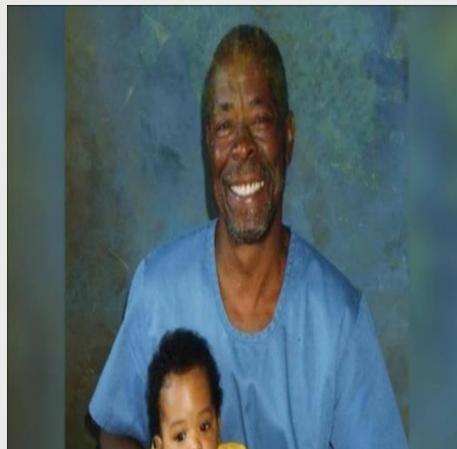
**ART 4 LIBERATION**

**#BRINGSUNDIATAHOME**

Renowned visual artist and former Black Panther, **Emory Douglas**, joins the brilliant and powerful **Sophia Dawson** in a virtual conversation on Sundiata's incarceration, contributions, and art as a tool for liberation.

**JUNE 23RD, 2021 @ 6PM EST**  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED @ [RB.GY/VTKBTL](https://rb.gy/VTKBTL)

FOR MORE INFO AND TO SIGN THE PETITION  
[WWW.SUNDIATAACOLIFC.ORG](http://WWW.SUNDIATAACOLIFC.ORG)



"Join us Wednesday, June 23rd, 6pm for Art 4 Liberation. A virtual conversation between two amazing visual artists, Emory Douglas and Sophia Dawson. They will discuss 84 year old Sundiata Acoli, a Black Panther Party Veteran who has been incarcerated 48 years, his art and life and the role of art as a tool for liberation. Registration is required! Register here:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_r7L2gPQRQ8iLkrsp8Leq3g? x zm rtaid=KSs\\_CvJjRSakFswlh1dhg.1623941538043.dcef8e42863f4217521e3bb8a93bed50& x zm rhtaid=163](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_r7L2gPQRQ8iLkrsp8Leq3g?xzm_rtaid=KSs_CvJjRSakFswlh1dhg.1623941538043.dcef8e42863f4217521e3bb8a93bed50&xzm_rhtaid=163) \*Also, don't forget to sign and share this petition demanding NJ Governor Phil Murphy commute Sundiata's sentence to time served."

### VIDEO: In the Spirit of Mandela Tribunal Webinar 3: "Leading Up till Tomorrow!" (Legal, Educational, Political Imperatives) June 24

"On Tuesday, June 22, 2021, the Spirit of Mandela coalition organizing the International Tribunal planned for October 22-25, 2021 on US Human Rights Abuses Against Black, Brown, and Indigenous Peoples held its THIRD public webinar. "Leading Up till Tomorrow!": International Perspectives on Legal, Educational & Political Imperatives to hold the US government Accountable and END Human Rights Violations NOW! was a long title for a basic task: setting the historical context for the upcoming event to be held virtually and live in New York City. The event and this video features presentations from:

\* Mary-Louise Patterson, MD: Board member, Physicians for a National Health Program; daughter of William Patterson (co-petitioner with Paul Robeson of historic 1951 WE CHARGE GENOCIDE filings to the United Nations)

\* Lennox Hinds: International Association of Democratic Lawyers; convener of the historic 1979 Petition to the UN on Human Rights Violations in the US; convener of the historic 2021 International Commission of Inquiry on Systemic Racist Police Violence Against People of African Descent in the US

\* Dr. Kwame-Osagyefo Kalimara: Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Afrika; co-founder of the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement and the New Afrikan People's Organization; professor of law, psychology, and history

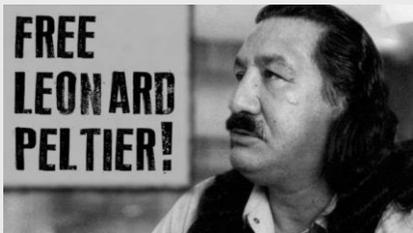
\* Olga Sanabria Davilla: Comité de Puerto Rico en Naciones Unidas: Advisor to the annual United Nations Decolonization Committee of 24 hearings on Puerto Rico

\* Joy James: Abolition Collective Black Internationalist Unions; editor of The New Abolitionists and Imprisoned Intellectuals

National Jericho Movement's A'isha Mohammad was joined by IPRA's Secretary General Matt Meyer as co-emcees of the event, which begins with two internationalist anthems sung by Paul Robeson." See

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z9osuy\\_ZF8I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z9osuy_ZF8I)

### Join Us on Saturday, June 26th for a Vigil for Leonard Peltier! June 26



"The Bronx Greens will be holding a vigil for Leonard Peltier: Manhattan - Union Square, Saturday, June 26th – The 46th Anniversary of the Incident at Oglala, 3:30pm.

We will be around the South West part of Union Square, near the Gandhi Statue, if it isn't too crowded. Members of the Jericho Movement and NYC Free Peltier will be there with their big Free Leonard Peltier banner.

Leonard has been in prison for over 45 years. He is in bad health, and the

International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee is trying to get him moved to a geriatric hospital prison in Minnesota. Please take a look at the video from last year. Here's a photo montage

<https://www.facebook.com/1931313380422533/videos/575794603124557> This is an informal event, so

everybody who has something to say about Peltier gets to speak, if we even have speakers. For those who don't know who Leonard Peltier is, - <https://www.whoisleonardpeltier.info/> Facebook Event Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/869064047157179>"

### Broadcast: PALESTINE & POLITICS IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE June 27

Salaams to All: Today's broadcast was dedicated (a first time ever) to an exceptional young Pakistani-American sister by the name of Huda Ayaz. "Palestine & Politics in the African American Experience," features a One-On-One with me and our listeners and viewers. Among the issues included in the broadcast are the following:

(1) The Middle East controversy that visited New York City's mayoral campaign;

(2) The recent Palestine-related controversy that erupted around a Pakistani-American student on her graduation day in Westbury, NY.

(3) A thought-provoking Nov 1, 1970 statement, published in the New York Times as a paid advertisement, by "THE COMMITTEE OF BLACK AMERICANS FOR TRUTH ABOUT THE MIDDLE EAST." The program also features four short videos which collectively underscore the magnitude of the challenge confronting us all today. May ALLAH (God Almighty) bless us to step up to our challenges...before it's too late.

El-Hajj Mauri' Saalakhani" See <https://www.facebook.com/743770622/posts/10165242111520623/?d=n>

### Ralph Poynter: What's Happening Blog Talk Radio Tuesday, June 29, 2021-Call in 1 (347)857-3293 @ 9-10pm ET June 29

"The Original SIN in America was SLAVERY. The 2nd SIN is the attempt to keep the former slaves in economic & political ignorance"

**1. NEWS ANALYSIS** - An anatomy of oppression requires an anatomy of colonialism/imperialism i.e. An anatomy of the American Capitalist System: Ralph Poynter, Tom Siracuse, Joel Meyers, Gwen Goodwin, Nellie Hester Bailey, Gil Obler

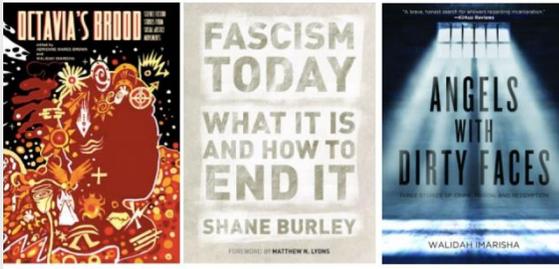
**2. UPDATES** -- Political Prisoner Death Camps - Anne Lamb (NYC Jericho)

**3. Liberation Poetry** – NZINGA – in remembrance of Sister Lynne

**SPECIAL TOPIC**--"COMMUNITY CONTROL VS. MAYORAL CONTROL OF EDUCATION": DR. KELLY HARRIS- Black Studies Dept- Seton Hall Univ., BRANDON JOHNSON- Chicago Tchrs. Union."

**July Bundle O' Books for Books through Bars** June 29

"July's pick for NYC Books Through Bars"



"Following June's drive (over 330 books collected!) and a year after Freebird initiated this campaign, we focus on worker-owned publisher AK Press, a longtime supporter of NYC Books Through Bars and a leading publisher of literature on social justice and anarchism. We have chosen a selection of titles that exemplify their ethos while exploring themes important for incarcerated readers. On previous drives we have featured Octavia Butler's own influential speculative fiction. In Octavia's Brood we share the fruits of those influences: 20 short works

of sci-fi, fantasy, horror, and magical realism that connect visionary worlds with movements of social change. That anthology happens to be co-edited by the educator, writer, and spoken word artist Walidah Imarisha, the author of our second selection, Angels with Dirty Faces, a real life but poetic study of incarceration's toll. And in Fascism Today, Shane Burley provides a practical guide to understanding and combating a troubling political trend that did not end with the last administration." Order at <http://www.freebirdbooks.com/shop.html>"

**Letter-writing to Russell Maroon Shoatz** June 29

**"WHAT:** Political Prisoner Letter-Writing **WHEN:** 7pm, Tuesday, June 29th, 2021 **WHERE:** YOUR HOME

**COST:** Free. This week, NYC ABC and Page One Collective ask you to write to a Black liberation political prisoner, the truly implacable Russell Maroon Shoatz, himself accused of taking action against the brutality meted out by cops on Black communities. Russell Maroon Shoatz is a dedicated community activist, founding member of the Black Unity Council, former member of the Black Panther Party and soldier in the Black Liberation Army. In 1970, along with 5 others, Maroon was accused of attacking a police station, which resulted in a cop being killed. This attack was said to have been carried out in response to the rampant police brutality in the Black community. For 18 months Maroon functioned underground as a soldier in the Black Liberation Army. In 1972 he was captured. Twice he escaped—once in 1977 and again in 1980, but both times he was recaptured and today he is held in Pennsylvania where he is serving multiple life sentences. As with many of our imprisoned elders, Maroon faces health concerns and should immediately released. On June 17th 2021 there was an emergency action to get Russell his much needed chemo treatments which had been cancelled by DOC. Please stay tuned for more updates. Please take the time to write a letter to Maroon (and share a photo of your completed envelopes with us online)"

Smart Connections/PA DOC

Russell Shoatz #AF-3855, SCI-Dallas, Post Office Box 33028, St. Petersburg, Florida 33733

See <https://nycabc.wordpress.com/>

**Video: A Nation's Story: "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" Comment by Frederick Douglass What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?** July 4

"On July 5, 1852, Frederick Douglass gave a keynote address at an Independence Day celebration and asked, "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" Douglass was a powerful orator, often traveling six months out of the year to give lectures on abolition. His speech, given at an event commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence, was held at Corinthian Hall in Rochester, New York. It was a scathing speech in which Douglass stated, "This Fourth of July is yours, not mine, You may rejoice, I must mourn." "Click the link for the video <https://animoto.com/play/mz6eRjLr6b9mjp9auSHoSw#details>. Thank you, Bro. Zayid Muhammad. July 5, 1852, Read the whole speech" See <https://nmaahc.si.edu/blog-post/nations-story-%E2%80%9Cwhat-slave-fourth-july%E2%80%9D>

**SF Bay View's Live Stream with Editor Nube Brown! July 9**

Tune in to SF Bay View's Live Stream with Editor Nube Brown!

Bay View TV Live on Instagram - Fridays at 9:00 am. See

[https://www.instagram.com/p/CRFMrt8rDjP/?utm\\_medium=share\\_sheet](https://www.instagram.com/p/CRFMrt8rDjP/?utm_medium=share_sheet)

**Letter-writing to Xinachtli July 13**

**WHAT:** Political Prisoner Letter-Writing **WHEN:** 7pm, Tuesday, July 13th, 2021 **WHERE:** YOUR HOME

**COST:** Free. In July 1996 Xinachtli was arrested after disarming a County Sheriff who was attempting to shoot him. After defending himself at trial, Xinachtli was sentenced to 50 years in prison for aggravated assault, a charge he vehemently denies. While imprisoned, Xinachtli continues to write frequently, has helped to organize multiple prison strikes, and has been held in solitary confinement for the last 19 years and counting. Xinachtli is a prolific jailhouse lawyer, as referenced by Mumia Abu Jamal in his book Jailhouse Lawyers: Prisoners Defending Prisoners v the USA. Xinachtli assists many prisoners in seeking new trials, and filing suits against the repressive, inhumane Texas prison system. More information at <https://freealvaro.net>.

Please take the time to write a letter to Xinachtli (and share a photo of your completed envelopes with us online):

Alvaro Luna Hernandez #255735

W.G. McConnell Unit, 3001 Emily Drive, Beeville, Texas 78102

\*Address envelopes to Alvaro Luna Hernández, cards/letters to Xinachtli." See <https://nycabc.wordpress.com/>

**UPDATE: July 1st - Chase Iron Eyes: My D.C. trip to free Leonard Peltier July 13**

"I've just returned from a productive, week-long trip in Washington, D.C. At the behest of Carol Gokee, president of the International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, I joined people from around the nation in taking action to raise awareness about Leonard's imprisonment, in hopes that he's eventually freed. I encourage you to watch a speech I gave on a Black Voters Matter stage in D.C., in which I express our solidarity for all political prisoners everywhere.

The events in the capital were scheduled around this past Saturday, which marked the 46-year anniversary of the shooting deaths of two FBI agents at Pine Ridge, for which Leonard was falsely convicted and sentenced in 1977. I have met with Leonard — an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Tribe and an original American Indian Movement activist who fought hard to combat racism and police brutality. I visited him in Coleman, FL, at the federal prison where he has been incarcerated for more than 43 years. He is a good man.

Though President Obama denied his petition for clemency in 2017, the list of those who have voiced support for Leonard's freedom includes the Dalai Lama, Mother Teresa, Bishop Desmond Tutu, Nelson Mandela, and Amnesty International. 55 members of Congress and counting have also called for his clemency, as has our first Indigenous U.S. Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland. After Robert Redford visited Leonard in prison, he made the powerful documentary "Incident at Oglala — the Leonard Peltier Story," which I strongly recommend you watch, if you have not already done so.

It's a grave miscarriage of justice that Leonard remains behind bars, even after the FBI admitted that nobody knows who actually killed the agents. And it's not right that Leonard was never allowed to present evidence about 57 unsolved murders of Native people at Pine Ridge, a true reign of terror against AIM during the early 1970s. That's why I and Lakota Law will continue to work with a diverse coalition of partners — including Carol and her committee, Leonard's lead counsel, Kevin Sharp, and AIM activist Jean Roach — to ensure we're doing everything possible to get him out." See

<https://nycabc.files.wordpress.com/2021/07/updates-13-jul-2021-1.pdf>

**Nelson Mandela Human Rights Lecture July 14**

"Second Annual Nelson Mandela Human Rights Lecture. Wednesday 14 July 2021 16:00 – 18:10 CET, online

The 2nd Annual Nelson Mandela Human Rights Lecture will focus on the theme of contemporary forms of racial discrimination. The lecture is held in collaboration with the African Group of Ambassadors in Geneva. The

lecture will be presented online and will reflect on the achievements and remaining challenges of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

The World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (WCAR) was held in 2001 in Durban, South Africa. Its outcome document, the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action was the foremost mechanism which would serve towards bringing the international community towards speaking with a single voice emphasizing that such intolerance would not be acceptable. FULL INVITATION AND REGISTRATION HERE: [Invitation - Nelson Mandela Lecture 2021 web.pdf](#)

featuring DR NAVI PILLAY Former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, DR GAY MCDOUGALL UN Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination, DR EDNA MARIA SANTOS ROLAND Chair/Rapporteur of the Group of Independent Eminent Experts on the Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, Ms MONA RISHWAMI Chief, Rule of Law, Equality and Non-Discrimination Branch, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.” See <http://www.ushrnetwork.org/>

### Online event: Let Cuba Live! End the U.S. Blockade Now! July 14

IMPORTANT ONLINE EVENT

## LET CUBA LIVE! END THE U.S. BLOCKADE NOW!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14  
5PM PT / 6PM MT / 7PM CT / 8PM ET

TUNE IN:

@answercoalition facebook.com/AnswerCoalition  
youtube.com/user/ANSWERCoalition

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS:

**Gail Walker**  
Executive Director, JFCO  
Pastors for Peace

**Manolo De Los Santos**  
International People's  
Assembly

**Brian Becker**  
Executive Director,  
ANSWER Coalition

**Gloria La Riva**  
Coordinator, Cuba and  
Venezuela Solidarity Committee

ANSWER

“Trump added 243 new sanctions to tighten the 62-year long US economic blockade of Cuba. Imposed shortages of basic goods have created grave suffering throughout the island. Covid-19 too has severely damaged Cuba's tourism industry. The US wants to topple the Cuban revolution but supporters of the revolution are fighting back. Join us for an online event TODAY, July 14 (5PM PT, 6PM MT, 7PM CT, 8PM ET) for an in-depth perspective of what's really happening in Cuba and a

discussion of how we can build the movement to end the criminal blockade! Tune into the online event from: Facebook: [www.Facebook.com/AnswerCoalition](http://www.Facebook.com/AnswerCoalition) Twitter: @answercoalition YouTube: [www.youtube.com/answercoalition](http://www.youtube.com/answercoalition)” See <https://www.answercoalition.org/san-francisco>

### Justice Works 2021 Citizen Action Organizers on Organizing July 17-18

**JUSTICE WORKS**  
A Conference for Progressive New York

## BUILD THE MOVEMENT.

JULY 17 & 18 | BECOME A SPONSOR

“Justice Works is Citizen Action’s contribution to the overall struggle for racial, social and economic justice. Justice Works is Citizen Action’s premier determination to forge a State and National narrative of resistance. Justice Works is Citizen Action at work. Justice Works is Citizen Action. **On July 17-18, 2021**, Citizen Action will be conducting “Justice Works 2021,” a series of workshops on “Organizing”. This virtual/remote two day program is a must for activists and organizers across the country. We will answer many of your questions such as how

best to galvanize people to build a strong base, how to conduct on-the-ground research, and how to mobilize people around issues important to them. This is actually a two-day course on Movement Building. Our skilled people will show you how to grow your organizing efforts exponentially. Citizen Action is taking on the challenge of “Building the Bigger We”. We intend to dive deep into workshops concerning the three faces of power, seeking to pull together alignments across regions, organizations, and various sectors of the movement. Our major goal is to assist organizers to position themselves for success in constructing more powerful social change and justice apparatuses, not just in New York State, but across the country as we collectively ramp up for 2022.

We are so pleased to announce one of our keynote speakers, Sarah Lewis! Sarah Lewis is among the most insightful and eloquent speakers on race in America, one of only two professors ever hired at Harvard to focus on African-American art. Her research focuses on the intersection of African American and Black Atlantic visual representation, racial justice, and representational democracy in the United States.



Join us for dozens of workshops on building political power from the ground up at this year's virtual conference. Our theory of change is simple - We Win, We Build, & We Change the Story! Learn what that means & how YOU can be part of the movement at #JusticeWorksNY, New York's premier progressive conference for organizers & activists. See our Online Workshop Itinerary:

<https://www.justiceworksnny.org/workshops>; Facebook event: <http://bit.ly/JW2021FB> and Register here:

<https://pheedloop.com/register/JusticeWorksNY/attendee/> Join the Struggle, Join the Resistance... Join us!!!

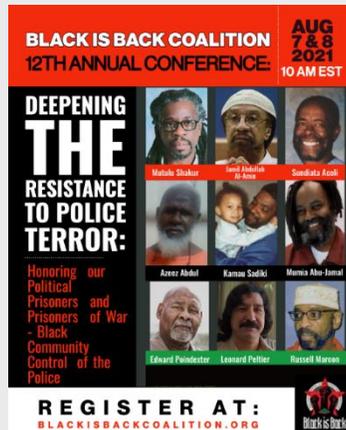
In Solidarity,

Rosemary Rivera and Jess Wisneski, Co-Executive Directors Citizen Action of New York

Jalil Muntaqim, Community Organizer, Citizen Action of New York”

See <http://justiceworksnny.org>.

### Black is Back Coalition Conference August 7 & 8



“On August 7th and 8th, 2021, the Black is Back Coalition for Social Justice, Peace and Reparations (BiBC) will be hosting our 12th Annual Conference. It will be a virtual conference, designed to take our struggle forward during the ever-deepening crisis enveloping the U.S. and the colonial-capitalist world. The theme of this conference, “Deepening the Resistance to Police Terror: Honoring our Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War. Black Community Control of the Police,” is designed to establish a coherent mission for the Coalition and define the tasks of the U.S.-based Black Liberation Movement at this time. This is a Call to Africans and others who support the ongoing, irrepressible movement of our people for self-determination against U.S. domestic colonialism. **What:** 12th Annual Conference. **Title:** “Deepening the Resistance to Police Terror: Honoring our Political Prisoners And Prisoners of War! Black Community Control of the Police!” **When:** August 7 & 8, 2021. Virtual Zoom Conference. Contact Secretary Elikya Ngoma 786 505 9859, Vice Chair, Lisa Davis 973 517 1405 or [info@blackisbackcoalition.org](mailto:info@blackisbackcoalition.org)” See

<https://blackisbackcoalition.org/chairman-omali-yeshitelas-call-to-the-bibc-12th-annual-conference-aug-7-8/>

### “Attica is every prison; and every prison is Attica.” Sept 9



## Attica Is Every Prison

50 YEARS LATER

REFORMS, REPERCUSSIONS, AND REMEMBERING

SEPTEMBER 9, 2021  
THURSDAY, 5:30-7:30PM

NEUEHOUSE MADISON SQUARE  
110 E 25th Street

CANY PRESENTS  
A SHORT DOCUMENTARY FILM PROJECT  
by producer David Kuhn  
A PANEL EXHIBITION  
by the New York State Museum  
CONVERSATION AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

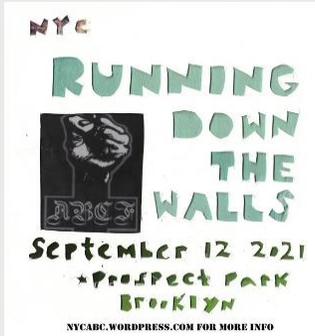
“From The Official Report of the New York State. Special Commission on Attica. 2021 marks the 50th anniversary of the uprising at Attica.

Join CANY Thursday, September 9th at Neuehouse for the premiere of “Every Prison Is Attica,” a short documentary film by David Kuhn, and the NYS Museum exhibition “Open Wounds.”

Sep 9th 2021 at 5:30 PM EDT to Thu, Sep 9th 2021 at 7:30 PM EDT.

RSVP here <https://secure.givelively.org/event/cany/175-years-of-progress/every-prison-is-attica>

## Running Down the Walls Sept 12



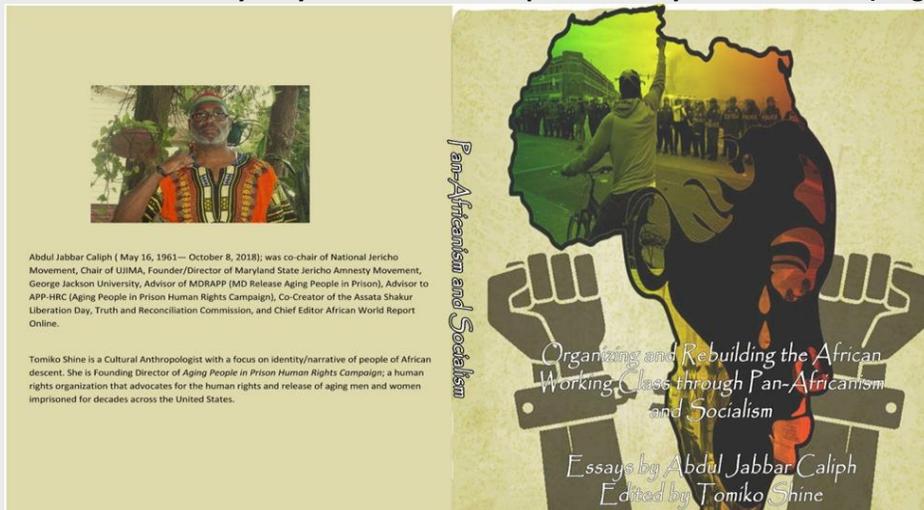
“NYC ABC is excited to announce that we will be hosting an in-person Running Down the Walls On September 12, 2021 in Prospect Park, Brooklyn! (pandemic permitting). Check our site for details (coming soon).

See <https://nycabc.wordpress.com>

## Bay View TV and Prison Focus Radio (ongoing)

“Prison Focus Radio is a project of California Prison Focus and is aired (pre-recorded since COVID) on **KPOO 89.5 FM in San Francisco on Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. to Noon**. Prison Focus Radio is a Commercial Free Radio, and can also be streamed via TuneIn and other platforms. Archives of previous shows can be accessed at [newest.prisons.org](http://newest.prisons.org). **To access Bay View TV Breaking News**, one must have an Instagram account. The handle is “@sfbayview”. It goes Live daily, Monday-Friday at 9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m., PDT.”

## “Organizing and Rebuilding African Working Class through Pan-Africanism and Socialism, a Collection of Essays” by Abdul Jabbar Caliph; Edited by Tomiko Shine. (Ongoing)



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## News, Articles, and Updates

### (Political Prisoner Specific)

## ONA MOVE June 16



“The MOVE ORGANIZATION just wants to take the time to inform people that our beloved sister Consuewella Africa passed away today. Consuewella had been hospitalized these past couple of weeks due to health complications behind the stress of this situation with The University Of Pennsylvania and the remains of her Daughter Tree Africa. Consuewella was a minister of confrontation for The MOVE ORGANIZATION , and a survivor of The August 8th 1978 Confrontation who spent 16 years in prison for refusing to renounce MOVE. Her Daughters Tree and Netta Africa were murdered by this Government on May 13th 1985. We were advised by The University of Pennsylvania's Anthropology Dept that Tree Africa's Remains were sent to Terry's Funeral Home and are ready to be picked up. We hope that we can put Tree and Consuewella together. We will keep people posted on a memorial service. We will keep people posted on A memorial service in the meantime people can call Sue Africa 215 387 4107 Janine Africa 610 704

4524. Rest Easy Consuewella. Our Dear Sister, We Love you And Will Hold You In Our Hearts Forever, YOUR MOVE Family”

**It's time to release Sundiata Acoli: commute his sentence to time served!** June 17

“I first “met” Sundiata Acoli over 25 years ago after sending him a letter to where he was imprisoned in a maximum security prison in Leavenworth, Kan. Sundiata Acoli is a graduate of Prairie View University in Texas and was a mathematician and computer analyst who worked for NASA prior to committing his life full time to the civil rights movement and as a leader in the Black Panther Party. When I learned about Sundiata, I was a recent college dropout turned full time activist working as a Human Rights Fellow for Amnesty International-USA. I was intrigued by his story and I wanted to learn more. I was assigned the responsibility of working on a wide range of domestic human rights projects including the abolition of the death penalty and advocacy on behalf of those identified as “political prisoners” in the United States. I came to learn that Sundiata Acoli was so much more than his political history or an iconic symbol drawing passionate responses from both supporters and opponents...” See <http://amsterdamnews.com/news/2021/jun/17/release-sundiata-acoli/>

**Jaan Laaman’s First Steps of Freedom: After 37 years, political prisoner Jaan K. Laaman has been released**  
June 18



“On May 15, 2021, after 37 years in captivity, Jaan Laaman walked out of McCreary Federal Prison. He carried a few clothes and personal items and a drawing of Breonna Taylor, 26-year-old Louisvillian, murdered by LMPD on March 13, 2020. The first stop Jaan wanted to make, was not for food or anything like that, but to send a message to family and friends who had been supporting him all these long years. We stood on the side of the road, video rolling and Jaan shared some thanks and other thoughts, ending with his fist raised and the words—“Black Lives Mattered then (37-years-ago) and Black Lives Matter NOW”

Jaan also reflected on his beloved comrades Tom Manning and Richard Williams who had died in captivity. “Richard and Tom never got to take these first steps of Freedom.” Jaan shared that he had always planned to leave prison and go stay with his son Ricky, it was something they had spoken of during visits, from the time Ricky was a child, but Ricky died in October of 2011, while Jaan was inside. As Jaan stood there in the grass, still wearing his drab prison garb, relatively free (still on parole.) I remembered over 37-years-ago when my comrades and I heard about one of the biggest manhunts in U.S. history that ended in the capture of a group of white working-class men and women suspected of being part of an armed underground movement, the United Freedom Front.

At that time, we lived in a collective of anti-racist activists and were members of the John Brown anti-Klan committee as well as the New Movement in Solidarity with Puerto Rican Independence and Socialism. These organizations regularly received copies of communiques from the underground, in the mail, about actions within U.S. borders targeting racist police brutality and murders, representatives of South African Apartheid, and Death squad governments such as El Salvador and companies supporting repressive and murderous policies. Activists helped disseminate those communiques to the wider public so that people would understand why these attacks (in which no human beings were targeted or injured) were happening. These were the actions of the United Freedom Front, which was the organization that the Ohio 7 were being charged with having been part of. The Ohio 7 trials were some of the most militarized court room situations. In a New York City courtroom, Members of the Ohio 7 stood and denounced the injustices of the U.S. government and its support of Apartheid in South Africa, the colonization of Puerto Rico and support for death squad governments in power in Central America. In March of 1985 I stood in the courtroom and watched as Marshalls stunned and beat them for refusing to be silent, all the while other Marshalls had their guns trained on us, the supporters. Needless to say, neither that beating, nor others, ever silenced this group of passionate and committed revolutionaries.

Jaan Karl Laaman is an Estonian, born in a refugee camp in Germany in 1948 and emigrated to the United States with his family. The family of mostly women and children were fleeing converging armies—they knew that regardless of the flags of the armies, they would be targets. In 1951, Jaan’s family moved to Roxbury, the heart of the Black community in Boston, Massachusetts. In letters and visits, Jaan shared that living in Roxbury with Black friends and school mates, he developed a sense of solidarity with Black people in the community, and even at a young age he felt a connection in terms of economics, as a working class, immigrant family. Some years later when his family moved into a predominately white neighborhood in Buffalo, New York, he witnessed white supremacy and racism for the first time. These were some of his earliest influences in his understanding of life in America...” See <https://prisonersolidarity.com/prisoner/jaan-karl-laaman> (Article & Photo from email)

**“Freedom Riders” demand release of political prisoner Leonard Peltier** June 21

“This year marks 45 years since the illegal and cruel incarceration of Leonard Peltier, a political prisoner and world-renowned fighter for Native liberation. To honor Leonard’s fight for freedom and his support for the struggle to save the environment, a group of supporters referring to themselves as Freedom Riders set out on a horseback journey from the Winnebago Nation in Omaha, Nebraska to Washington D.C. They are stopping along the way in various cities to raise awareness about Leonard’s case. The Freedom Riders describe their journey on their website, “As First peoples, along with our allies of all colors, we are committed to this journey across mother earth, not only for Leonard’s freedom, but for the respect due to all of the two legged, four legged and winged beings that exist here, and for their protection and for future generations.” They will also be raising awareness about honoring Native treaties that are routinely flouted by the U.S. government.” See <https://freedomride2021.com/>

**Report from July 3 Mumia Rally** July 4

“Rain prevented us from marching but the participants and the Mumia puppet moved under the Municipal Office Building’s overhang and continued to rally. The photos begin with the assembly of the puppet, under the direction of Jacqueline Wade and Little Wolf. NBC Channel 10 filmed us putting it together and interviewed Jacqueline, Little Wolf and me about the puppet and Mumia’s case. If it gets aired, we will share it. Just ten minutes into the rally, rain and thunder showed up, forcing us to take cover. We had to abandon the planned march but all the speakers were able to give their presentations. The last photos show the puppet and Mumia supporters posing at the exact location where the hated Rizzo statue used to be located. Joe.” See <https://www.flickr.com/photos/109799466@N06/albums/72157719491214618>

**(General)**

**Palestinian medics on the front line fighting to save lives** June 15

“Bassem Sadaqa points at a bullet hole lodged in the driver’s door of the ambulance he drives, tangible evidence of what he says is a regular occurrence of Palestinian medics being “regularly targeted” by Israeli forces. The father of five lives in Niilin and has been a paramedic with the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) for 20 years. “At first I thought the ambulance had been hit by stones until I saw the hole. The shooting wasn’t an accident, the Israeli soldiers were aiming at the ambulance as I was standing right near it. And it also wasn’t the first time ambulances I have driven have been targeted.” See <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/6/15/palestinian-medics-on-the-frontline-fighting-to-save-lives>

**Supreme Court trips up the First Step Act** June 15

“The justices limited the scope of the 2018 reform law on Monday, ruling that a person convicted of a crack offense is only eligible for a sentencing reduction under the First Step Act if the offense triggered a mandatory minimum sentence.” See <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2021/06/14/supreme-court-no-retroactive-sentence-change-small-crack-amounts/5277991001/>

**NSA Whistleblower Reality Winner released from federal prison amid calls for full pardon** June 15

“Press freedom advocates were among those celebrating the release of former National Security Agency contractor Reality Winner on Monday after her attorney announced Winner had been transferred from federal prison to a halfway house. Alison Grinter Allen, Winner’s lawyer, said the legal team is continuing to pursue a full pardon from President Joe Biden. Winner’s release was not part of a commutation but was the result of “time earned from exemplary behavior while incarcerated,” according to Grinter Allen, who added that San Antonio’s Residential Reentry Management field office may allow Winner to serve the rest of her time in home confinement. “The Residential Reentry center is in charge right now and will manage her transition, but we are definitely still seeking commutation and pardon,” the attorney said in a tweeted statement. “The fight continues and I’ll still be taking meetings in Washington to press forward the case for commutation and pardon, but the family will be stepping back to concentrate on Reality and her health and healing.” See <https://therealnews.com/nsa-whistleblower-%ef%bb%bfreality-winner-released-from-federal-prison-amid-calls-for-full-pardon>

**Over 3,100 Palestinians detained by Israeli occupation in May 2021: Prisoners’ associations report** June 15

“According to the research and follow-ups made by the Palestinian prisoners’ institutions, Israeli occupation authorities arrested 3100 Palestinians, including 42 women and 471 children, throughout the month of May, in different areas of Palestine, at demonstrations, in night raids and random arrests. As of the end of May 2021, there are approximately 5,300 Palestinian detainees, including 40 women and 250 child prisoners. Of these, 81 child detainees are from occupied Palestine ’48 – that is, Palestinian citizens of Israel. There are currently approximately 520 Palestinians jailed without charge or trial under administrative detention, after 200 administrative detention orders were issued since the beginning of May.” See <https://samidoun.net/2021/06/over-3100-palestinians-detained-by-israeli-occupation-in-may-2021-prisoners-associations-report/>

**The Marshall Project: Biden extends harsh drug regulations** June 16

“Congress and the White House missed another chance to ease the war on drugs. Federal legislators and the Biden administration last month temporarily extended DEA regulations that classify a broad swath of fentanyl “analogues” as illegal drugs. The policy makes it easier for federal prosecutors to gain convictions, but critics say the heavy-handed approach will result in harsher sentences disproportionately ensnaring Black people.” See <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2021/06/16/biden-could-have-taken-the-war-on-drugs-down-a-notch-he-didn-t>

**The unintended consequences of making Juneteenth a national holiday** June 17

“It is easy to imagine a facile narrative in which people essentially tell themselves, ‘Slavery was bad. The good guys won the Civil War. And now racism is over.’ On Wednesday, the House followed the Senate in passing a bill to make Juneteenth a national holiday. President Biden signed it into law Thursday afternoon. After a century and a half, the oldest celebration of Black emancipation is now a federal holiday. Juneteenth is an occasion we should all commemorate, but what are the risks of taking the celebration of Black freedom mainstream? As more organizations and communities across the nation recognize Juneteenth, there may be some unintended consequences that make it harder for people to recognize the significance of the occasion. The long effort to make Juneteenth a federally recognized holiday nearly became a reality in 2020 with momentum from historic protests for racial justice. A single lawmaker, Republican Senator Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, opposed the effort, and other GOP officials moved on to other matters.” See <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2021/06/17/opinion/unintended-consequences-making-juneteenth-national-holiday/>

**Few cops we found using force on George Floyd protesters are known to have faced discipline** June 17

“Last summer, ProPublica compiled 68 videos that appeared to show police officers using disproportionate force against protesters during the nationwide events following George Floyd’s death in police custody. We had culled the videos from hundreds circulating on social media in the wake of the protests and highlighted the

cases that seemed to clearly show officers using disproportionate force. We then reached out to dozens of law enforcement agencies whose officers are in the videos and asked some straightforward questions: Have the officers' police departments investigated the incidents? And what consequences, if any, have the officers in the videos faced?" See <https://www.propublica.org/article/few-cops-we-found-using-force-on-george-floyd-protesters-are-known-to-have-faced-discipline>

#### **What the moral panic about 'critical race theory' is about** June 17

"Whatever Republican politicians and rightwing media are referring to when they talk about "critical race theory", it has little to do with critical race theory as an actual discipline. Developed in the 1970s and 80s by law professors – notably Derrick Bell and his acolyte, Kimberlé Crenshaw, at Harvard – the real CRT is analytic framework through which academics can discern the ways that racial disparities are reproduced by the law, and how the legacies of historical racism can persist even after discriminatory policies are revised.

But maybe the very obscurity of this genuine critical race theory is the point: before it became the object of the American right's latest moral panic, few people had heard of critical race theory, and even fewer understood what it really was. The phrase itself sounds distant, lofty, and abstract – "critical", "theory" – the kind of thing that comes out of the mouths of people in tweed blazers who think they're better than you. The very opacity of the words made them the perfect vehicle for what the right wing wanted: a new vessel for white racial anxiety and grievance." See <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/jun/17/critical-race-theory-republicans-moira-donegan>

#### **Dozens Who Died In Texas Prisons During The Pandemic Had Been Granted Parole, New Report Shows** June 17

"At any given time, thousands of Texas prisoners have been approved for parole but not yet released. At least 42 of those people died in the 12 months after the coronavirus first swept the state." See <https://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/articles/news/2021/06/17/400921/dozens-who-died-in-texas-prisons-during-the-pandemic-had-been-granted-parole-new-report-shows/>

#### **Sen. Brian Schatz reintroduces bill that would allow prisoners to ask for early release** June 17

"It's called the "Emergency GRACE Act" and would allow prisoners to ask for early release for compelling reasons including old age and terminal illness. On Thursday, Hawai'i U.S. Senator Brian Schatz reintroduced a bill that would allow prisoners to ask for early release for compelling reasons including old age and terminal illness. He wants the Bureau of Prisons to accelerate the process of compassionate release -- during public health emergencies. "People who are eligible for compassionate release are the most vulnerable to public health emergencies like COVID-19, and they are needlessly being put at risk because the process takes too long," said Senator Schatz. "Our bill will help speed up the approval process so that sick and elderly who qualify for compassionate release get it." He says many federal prisons across the country have experienced COVID-19 outbreaks." See <https://www.kitv.com/story/44126802/sen-brian-schatz-reintroduces-bill-that-would-allow-prisoners-to-ask-for-early-release>

#### **Juneteenth — June 19th, also known as Emancipation Day — is one of the commemorations of people seizing their freedom in the United States.** June 17

"This beautiful tradition of Black freedom needs to be taught in school. Yet, if the right wing has its way, it will be illegal to teach students about Juneteenth. Six states now prohibit teaching about structural racism, and legislation is underway in at least 15 more states. If conservative legislators succeed, it will be illegal to teach about the founding of this country on slavery and genocide or the long Black freedom struggle. A bill in Texas states that teachers "may not require, make part of a course, or award a grade or course credit, including extra credit" service-learning work, lobbying, advocacy, or political activism. Some statewide bills go as far as to ban teaching about the very structures and systems that led to enslavement and the ongoing iterations of how these structures continue to manifest in policing, redlining, voter suppression laws, and more. But educators around the country pledge to teach the truth about structural racism — regardless of the law. On June 12th, hundreds of teachers in at least 50 cities and towns joined the national day of action to #TeachTruth. At historic

sites, they pledged to teach the truth, to illustrate the history that teachers would be required to lie about or omit where the GOP anti-history bills become law." See <https://www.zinnedproject.org/news/juneteenth-2021/>

**After 32 Years in Prison, Gilbert Lee Poole Jr Exonerated** June 18

"The Oakland County conviction of Gilbert Lee Poole, Jr. has been vacated after collaboration between the Michigan Department of Attorney General's Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU) and the Western Michigan University Cooley Law School Innocence Project (Cooley Innocence Project). Poole was wrongly convicted of murder in 1989. DNA evidence from the scene exonerates him after nearly 32 years in prison." See <http://oaklandcounty115.com/2021/05/27/after-32-years-in-prison-gilbert-lee-poole-jr-exonerated/>

**Carlos DeLuna should never have been executed** June 18

"Evidence uncovered years after Carlos DeLuna's execution reveals not only that Carlos Hernandez existed, but that he was well-known to police and prosecutors at the time of trial and had a long history of violent crimes similar to the one for which Carlos DeLuna was executed. The prosecution's description of Carlos Hernandez is now the title of a deeply disturbing documentary, which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival on June 14 and is set for release in theaters on July 2. The documentary presents a damning portrait of the United States' criminal legal system, which has heavily disadvantaged both members of the Latinx community and people living in poverty." See <https://innocenceproject.org/the-phantom-the-killing-of-an-innocent-man/>

**What, to the American Prisoner, is Juneteenth & the Fourth of July?** June 19

"The designation of Juneteenth as a federal holiday is an important step in reconciling America's legacy with chattel slavery. It is also an opportunity to see how the institutions of slavery and involuntary servitude still exist today—written into our laws and currently practiced in our society—and how we can take another step towards true freedom for all of us. Juneteenth celebrates the arrival of the news of "Freedom!" to African American communities in Texas in 1865—two years after the Emancipation Declaration was signed by President Lincoln. One look at the currently incarcerated thousands still laboring for pennies, however, makes you think that, 156 years later, some didn't get the message." See <https://prisonerswithchildren.org/abc/>

**Two Yemeni Guantanamo inmates win release after being held without charge for 17 years** June 19

"Two Yemeni prisoners held without charge at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba for the last seventeen years have been released by the US government, new documents reveal. US Defence Department files show that Ali al-Hajj al-Sharqawi, 47, and Abd al-Salam al-Hilal, 49, were approved for transfer to other countries on 8 June. "The Periodic Review Board, by consensus, determined that continued law of war detention of the detainee is no longer necessary to protect against a continuing significant threat to the security of the United States," documents released by the Pentagon's Review Board showed." See <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/guantanamo-yemen-detainees-win-release-held-without-charge>

**Angola prisoners file a federal proceeding over the cancellation of "strange and lawless" parole** June 20

"In a proceeding filed in federal court in the central Louisiana district of Baton Rouge on Friday, Frumpton found that members of the Louisiana State Commission on Abbott and parole violated state law and due process requirements to keep him in prison. Suggests. According to the proceedings, the decision was at least partially made in retaliation for going to the media in his proceedings over the past few weeks, violating his First Amendment rights. On Monday, Abbott told Lens that he would not comment on the proceedings in dispute. "This proceeding, unlike any other case in Louisiana's history, involves the cancellation of a strange and unlawful parole," the proceedings said. Frumpton has urged the court to prohibit the Parole Commission from implementing a decision that revoked and refused Sneed's parole." See <https://illinoisnewstoday.com/angola-prisoners-file-a-federal-proceeding-over-the-cancellation-of-strange-and-lawless-parole/260243/>

**Deb Haaland Launches Review of 'Devastating' Native American Boarding Schools** June 22

“Interior Secretary Deb Haaland announced Tuesday that she is launching the Federal Indian Boarding School Truth Initiative, a first-of-its-kind comprehensive review of the “devastating history” of the U.S. government’s policy of forcing Native American children into boarding schools for assimilation into white culture. “At no time in history have the records or documentation of this policy been compiled or analyzed to determine the full scope of its reaches and effects,” Haaland said in remarks at a National Congress of American Indians conference. “We must uncover the truth about the loss of human life and the lasting consequences of these schools.” Under the new initiative, the Interior Department will investigate past boarding school facilities and sites, the location of known and possible burial sites near school facilities, and the identities and tribal affiliations of children who were taken there. The effort also serves as a starting point for improving public awareness of the former policy, which most Americans never learned about in school.” See [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/deb-haaland-native-american-boarding-schools\\_n\\_60d21d55e4b01da305b7a159](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/deb-haaland-native-american-boarding-schools_n_60d21d55e4b01da305b7a159)

#### **The Atlantic: Our New Postracial Myth** June 22

“The signposts of racism are staring back at us in big, bold racial inequities. But some Americans are ignoring the signposts, walking on by racial inequity, riding on by the evidence, and proclaiming their belief with religious fervor. “America is not a racist country,” Senator Tim Scott said in April. Black babies die at twice the rate of white babies. Roughly a fifth of Native Americans and Latino Americans are medically uninsured, almost triple the rate of white Americans and Asian Americans (7.8 and 7.2 percent, respectively). Native people (24.2 percent) are nearly three times as likely as white people (9 percent) to be impoverished. The life expectancy of Black Americans (74.5 years) is much lower than that of white Americans (78.6 years). White Americans account for 77 percent of the voting members of the 117th Congress, even though they represent 60 percent of the U.S. population.” See <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/06/our-new-postracial-myth/619261/>

#### **Health Conditions of Palestinian Prisoner in Hunger Strike Deteriorate** June 22

“The health condition of a Palestinian prisoner has seriously deteriorated as he entered his 49th day of hunger strike in Israeli detention facilities, according to the Prisoners’ Affairs Commission. The commission spokesman, Hassan Abed-Rabbu, said in a press release that urgent medical intervention is required to save the life of Ghadanfar Abu Atwan, who has been on a hunger strike for 49 days in a row to protest his administrative detention. Abu Atwan’s health condition has seriously deteriorated due to the lack of body fluids, which endangers the heart and kidneys. In an interview with Voice of Palestine, Abed-Rabbu cautioned against the serious health deterioration of Eyad Hreibat and Ali al-Hroub, both residents of Dura town, near Hebron (Al-Khalil), due to the Israeli Prison Service’s (IPS) policy of deliberate medical negligence, as he held IPS fully responsible for their fate.” See <https://www.palestinechronicle.com/health-conditions-of-palestinian-prisoner-in-hunger-strike-deteriorate-2/>

#### **N.Y.C.’s Police Chokehold Ban Is Struck Down by Court** June 23

“In a victory for the city’s powerful police unions, a state Supreme Court judge struck down a city law banning police officers’ use of chokeholds and other physical restraints on Tuesday, saying the wording of the law was “unconstitutionally vague.” The law, passed last summer, had been met with fierce resistance from police unions, who sued the city last fall over its passage. The language of the statute — which forbids officers from compressing a suspect’s diaphragm — was overly broad, the suit said, and made it nearly impossible for officers to physically engage suspects, even if the use of force was in good faith. Justice Laurence L. Love agreed: “The phrase ‘compresses the diaphragm’ cannot be adequately defined.” See <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/06/23/nyregion/police-chokehold-ban-supreme-court.html>

#### **What about the hundreds of thousands of people hospitalized by police?** June 23

“While the debate about excessive force focuses on police killings, there is little data tracking those injured seriously enough during violent police encounters to require hospitalization. Since 2015, at least 400,000 people have been treated in emergency rooms after violent encounters with police or security guards, but little

is known about those cases because so few agencies tally or disclose them. San Jose, California, is an exception to the rule: Officials there require police to report injuries and encourage officers to take injured people for medical care." See <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2021/06/23/violent-encounters-with-police-send-thousands-of-people-to-the-er-every-year>

**First Nations finds 751 unmarked graves at Saskatchewan residential school site** June 24

"We are seeing the results of the genocide that Canada committed," Chief Bobby Cameron said. "The unmarked graves of more than 751 people have been discovered at the site of the former Marieval Indian Residential School in Saskatchewan, after hundreds of remains were found in other provinces in the past month. "We are seeing the results of the genocide that Canada committed — genocide on our treaty land," Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations Chief Bobby Cameron said in a virtual press conference Thursday. Cameron said the burial site on Cowessess First Nation, 90 minutes east of Regina, is evidence of "a crime against humanity, an assault on First Nation people." See <https://www.politico.com/news/2021/06/24/first-nations-saskatchewan-unmarked-graves-496082>

**Chauvin Gets 22.5 Years for Murder of George Floyd** June 25

"While this may help heal our grieving community, this rare moment of consequence for killings by police does not represent justice." "Derek Chauvin, the former Minneapolis police officer convicted in April of murdering George Floyd, an unarmed Black man, outside a convenience store in May 2020 was sentenced Friday afternoon to 22.5 years in prison. "Justice is about more than a single sentence or a single verdict: Justice would mean George Floyd was still alive today."—Ben Feist, ACLU of Minnesota. Hennepin County District Judge Peter Cahill, who presided over the trial, said that he was "not basing my sentence on public opinion or on any attempt to send any message" as he explained he was adding 10 years to Chauvin's sentence due to the aggravating factors of abuse of authority and "particular cruelty." See <https://portside.org/2021-06-25/chauvin-gets-225-years-murder-george-floyd>

**Man exonerated 16 years after Benton Harbor killings** June 25

"McCall was serving a life sentence for the 2005 deaths of three people, including a 12-year-old boy, who was shot in the head during a home invasion. McCall was not accused of being the shooter, but he was identified by a surviving victim as one of the gunmen in the house. McCall told police that he was at a Walmart, but his alibi was ultimately discredited by Walmart employees. Nearly two decades later, the Michigan Attorney General's Conviction Integrity Unit received information saying that McCall was not a participant in the crime. His innocence became apparent after new evidence, witnesses and documents that were not present at the trial were discovered, Nessel said. The convicted gunman, Andrew "Pumpkin" Miller, also recently told investigators that McCall wasn't present." See <https://www.woodtv.com/news/michigan/ag-nessel-to-announce-second-conviction-integrity-unit-exoneration/>

**A 76-year-old woman was sent back to prison for not answering her phone during a class** June 27

"To prevent prisoners from contracting COVID-19 last year, the Trump administration allowed nearly 4,500 inmates to be released. Seventy-six-year-old Gwen Levi was among those who qualified for the early dismissal. Levi served 16 years of a 24-year sentence for conspiracy to sell at least one kilogram of heroin. According to The Washington Post, Levi is back in prison. The senior citizen was arrested, this time, for not answering her phone when authorities attempted to reach her. Levi was reportedly in a computer word-processing class in Baltimore's Inner Harbor at the time. As of June 12, she is in a Washington, D.C. jail, waiting to be transferred to a federal facility, her attorney Sapna Mirchandani told The Post." See <https://www.revolt.tv/2021/6/27/22552785/76-year-old-woman-was-sent-back-to-prison-for-not-answering-her-phone-during-a-class>

**Cops Brutalize and Arrest Queer Marchers on Anniversary of Stonewall Uprising** June 29

"On early Sunday evening, after the Queer Liberation March and the Stonewall Protests' Pride March, the police brutally arrested eight people. We must fight for the charges to be dropped, against the racist police and for the right to free, public space. Just one day before the 52nd anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, a riot

against the police led by trans women of color, New York City cops brutalized and arrested marchers as well as a street vendor. On early Sunday evening, after the Queer Liberation March and the Stonewall Protests' Pride March, people poured into Washington Square Park. After individuals allegedly moved barricades, the police arrested, brutalized, and pepper-sprayed eight people." See [leftvoice.org](http://leftvoice.org)

**Lessons not learned from COVID-19 in prisons: A Half-Million People Got COVID-19 in Prison. Are Officials Ready for the Next Pandemic?** June 30

"Corrections officials are still struggling to implement public health policies to better protect the incarcerated and staff from this pandemic – and the next. That's one of the takeaways from our 15-month effort to chronicle the 500,000 cases of COVID-19 inside state and federal prisons across the country. Some penitentiaries simply don't have the space for "social distancing." Others suffer from chronic understaffing and budget shortfalls that preclude medical supplies." See <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2021/06/30/a-half-million-people-got-covid-19-in-prison-are-officials-ready-for-the-next-pandemic>

**Torture and Ill-Treatment Beyond Interrogation: Violent Raids against Palestinian Prisoners in Israeli Occupation Prisons** June 30

"For over 29 years, Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association has documented the systematic use of torture by the Israeli occupation regime against Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons and interrogation centers. Despite the absolute prohibition on torture under international law, Israeli Occupation Forces routinely employ physical and psychological torture, along with degrading and inhumane treatment, against Palestinian detainees. Such practices begin with the violent arrest of Palestinian detainees, who are often brutalized and beaten, and escalate during interrogation[1] when detainees are subjected to various forms of torture, including physical assaults, beatings, positional torture, and psychological torture. Torture and ill-treatment persist, beyond interrogation, as a staple condition throughout Palestinian prisoners' incarceration in Israeli prisons and detention centers." See [addameer.org](http://addameer.org)

**I've Been a Critical Race Theorist for 30 Years. Our Opponents Are Just Proving Our Point For Us.** June 30

"Some 25 states have already enacted or are considering laws to ban teaching what they call "critical race theory" ("CRT") in public schools, a concept that school officials around the country deny they even teach. A parents' group in Washoe County, Nevada wants teachers to wear body cams, just to make sure. And Ted Cruz just charged that CRT is "every bit as racist as the klansmen in white sheets." As a law professor closely associated with the critical race theory movement for more than 30 years, I am astonished. Most academic work never gets noticed at all, and ours is being publicly vilified, even banned. While we wrote footnotes and taught our classes, did our ideas become the new orthodoxy in American society and the foundation of K-12 education, as our critics charge?" See <https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2021/06/30/critical-race-theory-lightning-rod-opinion-497046>

**Scientific American Retracted Pro-Palestine Article Without Any Factual Errors** July 1

"After right-wing outrage, the esteemed journal removed an opinion piece expressing solidarity with Palestinians under Israeli bombardment." "Sabreen Akhter felt an urge to help in whatever way she could. Like many people around the world this May, Akhter was following news of war in the Gaza Strip, where Israeli bombardment was exacerbating a humanitarian crisis in the territory. Scanning her social media feed, Akhter, a doctor from Chicago, made contact with a few other health care professionals across the United States who had also been posting news online about the crisis." See [https://theintercept.com/2021/07/01/scientific-american-palestine-israel/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=The%20Intercept%20Newsletter](https://theintercept.com/2021/07/01/scientific-american-palestine-israel/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=The%20Intercept%20Newsletter)

**A Monument To Journalist, Civil Rights Activist Ida B. Wells Is Unveiled In Chicago** July 1



“A monument to journalist and civil rights activist Ida B. Wells-Barnett was unveiled Wednesday in Chicago.

Officially called The Light of Truth Ida B. Wells National Monument, the commemoration created by sculptor Richard Hunt was dedicated in the South Side neighborhood where Wells lived out her life. The monument has three bronze columns that support intertwined bronze sheets twisted into coils and spirals. One observer had trouble describing the abstraction at the top of the monument, asking if it was a hat or a crown of thorns. She was more certain about the columns.” See <https://www.npr.org/2021/07/01/1012203967/ida-b-wells-new-monument-unveiled-in-chicago>

### **Even guards don't trust prison healthcare-Prisons Have a Health Care Issue -And It Starts at the Top, Critics**

**Say July 1**

“One reason why so few federal prisoners get adequate medical care is that top officials at the Bureau of Prisons responsible for health care lack basic medical training and experience. The BOP official in charge during the pandemic reportedly claimed that sunscreen, not the sun, caused skin cancer and that there was no such thing as radon. The problem is not limited to the federal system. Prisons across the country are similarly understaffed or led by medical professionals with dubious qualifications.” See

<https://www.themarshallproject.org/2021/07/01/prisons-have-a-health-care-issue-and-it-starts-at-the-top-critics-say>

### **Organizers Are Calling on Congress to Close Loophole That Enables Prison Slavery July 5**

“While the 13th Amendment abolished chattel slavery, an often ignored clause still allows for slavery and involuntary servitude as “punishment for a crime.” This “slavery clause” is now the target of #EndTheException, a new campaign launched this year on Juneteenth weekend. #EndTheException is pushing for the passage of the Abolition Amendment, a joint resolution cosponsored by Sen. Jeff Merkley and Rep. Nikema Williams, which would strike the slavery clause from the 13th Amendment making it so that “neither slavery nor involuntary servitude may be imposed as a punishment for a crime.” “The inclusion of the “slavery clause” made the passage of restrictions targeting Black people like the Black Codes possible as well as convict leasing of the late 19th century. It’s important not to erase the unique horrors faced by those who were enslaved and those who are currently or formerly incarcerated, but the fact is that the “slavery clause” helped enable the current system of prison labor where incarcerated people are forced to work for both the state as well as private companies for little to no pay.” See <https://portside.org/2021-07-05/organizers-are-calling-congress-close-loophole-enables-prison-slavery>

### **Native children didn't 'lose' their lives at residential schools. Their lives were stolen. July 6**

“Terms like residential school are deeply inadequate. These were not schools; they were prisons and forced labour camps. We’d all heard the stories, long before they started to receive this summer’s 24/7 coverage by every news station in Canada. Long before ground-penetrating radars confirmed the presence of unmarked graves, we knew that our missing family members did not simply “disappear” nor attempt and fail to run away from residential schools, despite what we were told by missionaries and government officials. Indigenous communities are necessarily close-knit, and we live in the histories of our people despite every effort at the eradication of our knowledges, cultures, languages – and of our lives.” See

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/jul/06/native-children-didnt-lose-their-lives-at-residential-schools-their-lives-were-stolen>

### **Op-Ed: Trump started a war on journalism. Biden has yet to end it July 6**

“When the Trump administration indicted WikiLeaks publisher Julian Assange under the infamous 1917 Espionage Act, journalists and other public figures sounded the alarms, warning of a war on the free press. Biden’s Justice Department has not called off the attack. On the contrary, it is moving full speed ahead with the prosecution. So where is the chorus of voices who denounced the indictments in 2019? They’ve gone quiet this

year. Members of Congress have been silent. They should speak up now, as the case hangs in the balance.” See <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2021-07-06/op-ed-trump-started-a-war-on-journalism-biden-has-yet-to-end-it>

**Palestinian community in West Bank demolished for seventh time** July 7

“Israeli forces destroyed homes and farming equipment in Humsa al-Baqai’a in the occupied Jordan Valley. Israeli forces demolished the Palestinian Bedouin community of Humsa al-Baqai’a in the Jordan Valley on Wednesday, including living and farming structures provided by the international community. At least 65 people, including 35 children, were displaced, said Christopher Holt of the West Bank Protection Consortium, a group of international aid agencies supported by the European Union that is assisting the residents.” See <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/7/7/palestinian-community-in-west-bank-demolished-for-sixth-time>

**Uncle of teen who recorded George Floyd's arrest is killed in police chase. He wasn't a suspect** July 7

“The Black teen who earned a special citation for a Pulitzer Prize for “courageously recording the murder of George Floyd” has suffered another loss at the hands of police: the death of her uncle, Leneal Frazier. “Leneal was killed Tuesday, July 6th, 2021 at the intersection of 41st Avenue North and Lyndale Avenue after being struck during a police chase,” activist Lisa Clemons said on a fundraising page she created for the family. “The person police were chasing got away, and (Leneal) who was driving a different car was killed.” Police confirmed Clemons’ account of what happened to WCCO and said the person they were chasing is a suspect in a robbery and carjacking.” See <https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2021/7/7/2038722/-Uncle-of-teen-who-recorded-George-Floyd-s-arrest-is-killed-at-hands-of-police>

**Victory for Ghadanfar Abu Atwan after 65 days of hunger strike - towards victory for Palestine!** July 8

“Samidoun Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network salutes Ghadanfar Abu Atwan on his victory over Israeli imprisonment after 65 days of hunger strike. Abu Atwan’s sister, Benazeer, and his lawyer, Jawad Boulos, confirmed that he will be released later today, 8 July, and the administrative detention order against him cancelled. His steadfastness and commitment to struggle, like that of his fellow Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails, inspire all those around the world who support the Palestinian people and their just cause of return and liberation. His family has confirmed that he will not end his strike until he is with his family and outside Israeli prisons and detention.” See [samidoun.net](http://samidoun.net)

**Chilean Students Demand Release of Prisoners From Social Unrest** July 8

“Students on Thursday occupied the headquarters of the National Institute of Human Rights (INDH), in Santiago de Chile, calling for the release of prisoners of the popular revolt that broke out in October 2019. The students, members of the Coordinating Assembly of High School Students (ACES), also called for the release of Mapuche detainees. Spokespeople of this organization told the media that they occupied the INDH offices because it has not strongly taken a stance on human rights violations in the country. The students put posters and banners on the outside fence of the building, in which they called for justice for the people who are being held in custody without due trial, many of whom have been in this condition for more than a year.” See [telesurenglish.net](http://telesurenglish.net)

**UN Report Calls for Reparations for Victims of Systemic Racist Police Violence** July 12

“On June 28, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet released a stunning 23-page report accompanied by a 95-page conference room paper for the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) documenting systemic racism and human rights violations by police forces against Africans and people of African descent throughout the world. The report considered more than 340 interviews and more than 100 written submissions from civil society organizations. Bachelet grounded her analysis in “the long-overdue need to confront the legacies of enslavement, the transatlantic trade in enslaved Africans and colonialism and to seek reparatory justice.” She took aim at “misconceptions that the abolition of slavery, the end of the transatlantic trade in enslaved Africans and colonialism” and subsequent reforms have eliminated “the racially discriminatory structures built by those practices and created equal societies.” See and

<https://undocs.org/A/HRC/47/53> and <https://portside.org/2021-07-12/un-report-calls-reparations-victims-systemic-racist-police-violence>

### **Over 160 unmarked graves found on island where infamous residential school branded ‘Canada’s Alcatraz’ stood – indigenous group** July 13

In the fourth such discovery in recent months, a Canadian indigenous group has said it has found over 160 “undocumented and unmarked” graves on Penelakut Island, which once housed a residential school dubbed ‘Canada’s Alcatraz’. Representatives of the Penelakut tribe confirmed that the graves had been found on the “grounds and foreshore” of the territory, previously known as Kuper Island, located in the strait of Georgia between Vancouver Island and the western province of British Columbia on the mainland.” See <https://on.rt.com/bc8m>

### **IFCO Stands With Cuba** July 13

“IFCO/Pastors for Peace unapologetically stands in solidarity with our Cuban family during this difficult time. We recognize that the combined impact of the devastating pandemic and an economic crisis fueled by the 60-year old U.S. blockade gripping the country is creating tremendous hardship for our Cuban brothers and sisters.” See <https://ifconews.org/>

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

**2021 IS THE YEAR TO FREE ALL U.S. HELD POLITICAL PRISONERS & POWS  
FREE EM' ALL: PRISONER ADVOCACY AND JUSTICE NEWS!**

**In the Spirit of Mandela: International Tribunal On Human Rights Violations & U.S. Held Political Prisoners**



**New York City... Friday, October 22, 2021 – Monday, October 25, 2021**

**To:** All Prisoner Advocacy Organizations, Campaigns & Individuals

**From:** National Jericho Movement - Spirit Of Mandela Coalition, Outreach Committee

**Re:** 2021 International Tribunal On Human Rights Violations & U.S. Held Political Prisoners

**Greetings Friends, Families, Comrades & Supporters of U.S. Captured Freedom Fighters,**

The “In the Spirit of Mandela” IT (International Tribunal) 2021 campaign was proposed by 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. In collaboration with interested others, much headway is being made regarding organizing and media efforts. The campaign “In the Spirit of Mandela” has almost completed the research, and the academic team will meet with the lawyers for an initial review of the condensed summary points. Collaborating, attending working sessions, media prep, among other activities continue.

Set your calendars now: The International Tribunal on U.S. Human Rights Violations and Political Prisoners (ITUSHRPP) is set to take place in October 2021.

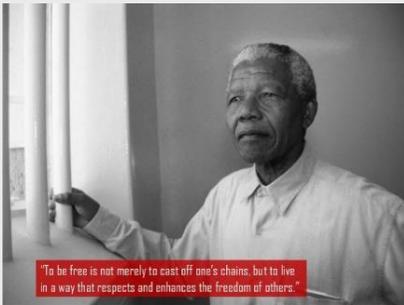
We intend to document, in detailed evidentiary form and utilizing all available contemporary human rights precedents, the gross violations faced by colonized people and those who have defended basic self-determination principles. But this will not be a narrow or dry legalistic affair. This people’s Tribunal is designed to both educate and mobilize, so renewed fight back movements can emerge and be strengthened.

**We Are Aware That We Stand on Formidable Shoulders**

In the 1940's, W.E.B. DuBois first petitioned the newly-formed United Nations regarding the rights of U.S.-born people of African descent; in the 1950's Paul Robeson was one of a number who "Charged Genocide" against the U.S. government to the global body. Minister Malcolm X's formation in 1964 of the Organization of Afro-American Unity was part of a direct campaign to put the case of "the 22 million Black people who are the victims of Americanism" before the Organization of African Unity and the U.N. On Human Rights Day 1978, attorney Lennox Hinds— working on behalf of the National Conference of Black Lawyers, the Commission for Racial Justice of the United Church of Christ, and the National Alliance Against Racism—petitioned the UN's Human Rights Commission, resulting in a team of seven international jurists investigating cases of gross violations pertaining to U.S. political prisoners.

Throughout the 1980's and 1990's, Dr. Luis Nieves Falcon and a wide array of petitioners held a variety of Tribunals in Europe, the U.S., and Puerto Rico, with verdicts indicating further abuses of the U.S. prison, police, political, and military systems. And in 2014, the UN Human Rights Committee issued a report criticizing the U.S. for 25 distinct violations of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. We are aware that the people's voice—including the voices of our long-incarcerated elders—must be heard!

Dr. Mutulu Shakur asserted the need for a U.S. process of truth and reconciliation, and many have begun to discuss and implement grassroots forum for truth-telling, where witnesses listen and reflect upon voices "from the margins" to organize for an end to structural and militarized state violence. Jalil Muntaqim has called for a



campaign "In the Spirit of Mandela," where the international social and political context which helped revise the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners in 2015 be utilized in the case of those incarcerated in the U.S. Our International Tribunal will call for testimony from both sides of the wall, both on issues of the torturous conditions of political imprisonment and on the root colonial and neo-colonial conditions and repression which inevitably lead to growing numbers of political prisoners. We will not separate the work to free our prisoners with the work to free the land, and for ultimate liberation of all."

Get Ready for I.T. 2021! I.T. 2021 (International Tribunal October 2021). Please begin to prepare for the "International Tribunal" organized by the In the Spirit of Mandela Coalition. At this date we solicit your assistance in the brainstorming, planning, and donating. We value your input and what you do and have done for the movement and championing real issues impacting communities across America, prisons, and people of color. The "In the Spirit of Mandela" initiative is the brainchild of Jericho's co-founder Jalil Muntaqim (Anthony Bottom). Hopefully, you will agree to assist, and if you do, please feel free to engage at your own level of comfort and capacity.

**Dates:** Friday, October 22nd – Monday, October 25, 2021. **Location:** New York City (Venues TBA)

Formally indicting the United States government and its States with historical, systematic, and ongoing human rights violations against people of color, working class people, and the planet! Outcomes Reparations Establishment of People's Senate International Solidarity Truth & Justice Commission to Free All Political Prisoners.

Contact your local Representative or:

**Jihad Abdulmumit, Outreach Committee Representative**

[jihadabdulmumit@gmail.com](mailto:jihadabdulmumit@gmail.com)

<https://spiritofmandela.org/>

804-304-8595

**Get Ready for I.T. 2021!**



Jericho meets virtually to work on the campaign “In the Spirit of Mandela/I.T. 2021”. Due to Covid19, our meetings are online. For future meetings contact [spiritofmandela1@gmail.com](mailto:spiritofmandela1@gmail.com) if you are interested in becoming involved. We invite you to support this initiative. **Everyone is encouraged to check out the website <http://spiritofmandela.org>**. In the Spirit of Mandela, 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”.

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*“It is said that no one truly knows a nation until one has been inside its jails. A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but its lowest ones.” Nelson Mandela*

*“The government can become so elitist and concentrate on elitist interests. To help the government, you must constantly hold its attention.” Winnie Madikizela-Mandela*

The IN THE SPIRIT OF 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 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 are not 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 contacting 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 Mandela Coalition



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

## Moving Forward

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 fighters who are now elders **still** in these dungeons, but also for those Political Prisoners 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 prisoners will grow. COINTELPRO is still alive and running many missives in which to entrap those who oppose the tyrannical, oppressive & racism regime. 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 Prisoners/Prisoners 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. 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. *“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*

## 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/Prisoners 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/Prisoners of War, your support helps make this possible. We know it, and our Political Prisoner’s/Prisoners of War know it as well. There is power in the people, and this is where 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 family’s 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 superpower 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 Prisoners/Prisoners 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**

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Please consider signing up to be a being a Monthly Sustainer!

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

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

**There are two ways to donate:**

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

National Jericho Treasury  
 Mail to: “Jericho Treasury/Michael Alston”  
 Ashanti Alston  
[162 Miller Ave, Providence, R.I. 02905](http://www.thejerichomovement.com/donate)

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

**Please make the check out to: IFCO/Jericho**  
 Mail to: IFCO/Jericho, PO Box 1368  
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Or visit our website at: <http://www.thejerichomovement.com/donate> and click our “donate” button.