PAN
COME AND GET IT
Prison Action News is a newsletter collaboratively published by prisoner support groups for prisoners worldwide to report on their struggles and acts of resistance from behind bars. All submissions must be RECEIVED by January 1st or July 1st and be in compliance with the guidelines below. Please note that we retain the right as editors to alter submissions for grammatical and content-related issues. Prison Action News is one part of the multi-faceted Prison Abolition movement. We believe that the writing in Prison Action News is as important as poetry or political essays, but is often less represented.

History:
The idea for Prison Action News came out of the 2007 Anarchist Black Cross (ABC) Network gathering. Recognizing that there is far too much activity occurring in prisons to put in our quarterly newsletter, we decided to create a venue for prisoners to share updates of their activities, similar to the updates we wrote in the network newsletter. As people on the outside, we can facilitate this dialog of prison resistance, and help our comrades stay informed about the inspiring actions others are taking. We accept submissions from prisoners and prison groups worldwide, and bilingual writing. With your help this newsletter will be a success- if you know of resistance taking place that is not represented here, please send us a submission, and spread the word!

Please send SUBMISSIONS to:
Prison Action News PO Box 832 Watertown, MA 02472
prisonactionnews@riseup.net

Send SUBSCRIPTION REQUESTS or ADDRESS CHANGES to:
Boston ABC PO Box 230182 Boston MA 02123 bostonabc@riseup.net
or
Central Texas ABC PO Box 7187 Austin TX 78713 twitchon@hotmail.com

Guidelines
1. An update must not exceed 500 words.
2. We will not accept submissions with racist, sexist, homophobic, or otherwise oppressive language.
3. An update may be a report on resistance activities of individual prisoners or prison groups (this can include, but is not limited to, radical book groups, hunger strike, general strike, letter writing campaigns, etc.).
4. A report should not be a political essay or a report on prison conditions, rather, the response and resistance to these conditions.
5. PAN accepts entries of artwork and illustrations.
6. One submission per group, per prison, per newsletter.
7. We will not report on gang activity.
8. We accept bilingual entries (when one language is English), as well as Spanish entries!
9. Entries may be submitted for publication by prison groups and organizations, or individuals, and may be submitted for publication with the name and contact information of the writer, or anonymously, to protect their identity.

Vita-Pro Revisited? November 2011

Do you remember the days when TDJC prisoners were fed the horrible concoction Vita-Pro? Thankfully, I wasn’t here to enjoy those fine meals served to us by the caring TDJC staff, however, I have many friends that were privy to the dog food-like product and, in addition, the stomach, bowel, intestinal and nausea problems associated with it. But now it seems these same caring overseers have found a heck-of-a replacement for the old Vita-Pro. We are now served a “processed chicken” that is truly not for human consumption. We are told it is “ground chicken,” but it appears to be ground chicken guts. Literally! I have talked to several inmates (the staff sure as hell won’t touch it) who have experienced nausea and diarrhea after eating the stuff. I, myself, am one of its victims. So, what do we do until all the writ writers and legal eagles can cause these people enough grief that they will stop serving it? We can all, every one of us, ask for the meat-free substitute when going through the chow line. Make these people break out the extra cheese and peanut butter by the pallet to feed us, and let them feed the chicken guts to the hogs. (If they would even feed the hogs that stuff... I doubt they would.) I would like to see the entire Wynne Unit, and entire TDJC, get together on this chow issue and show some solidarity. Not along race, age, or affiliation lines, but along the line that we are all men and should be treated as such. That may be dreaming, but then again, maybe not. Can we come together as a group that is suffering the same fate at the hands of a few people that don’t give a damn about us? The meat-free idea would work for our dietary needs at the present time. But what about the next issue these oppressors could come up with? We need to be ready to stand together, refuse substandard meals, refuse to work for people who won’t pay us but will charge us $100 for a hand full of cold busters. Profiting off of us while the whole time they are looking down their crooked noses at us. Come on guys, let’s sacrifice a little today so we can all live better tomorrow! We need to all be ready to “lay it down” when the time comes. And that time may be here soon!

Unfortunate Son
Wynne Unit
Huntsville, TX 77340
Maury, NC May 2012

I am an inmate at Maury Correctional Institution, in Maury, North Carolina. I have only been in the system since July of 2011, and have spent almost all of my time in segregation for my open refusal to allow these police to treat me as if I am less of a human being due to my incarceration. I have been on intensive control status for the last 6 months, and just received notification that I am going to be on icon status for 6 more months.

In December, I was denied medical treatment for a broken bone in my foot. After being ignored for 6 hours after declaring a medical emergency, I was placed in restraints and forced to walk to the other end of the prison where c/o’s kicked my foot and mocked me. When I filed a grievance, the c/o’s lied and said that I never declared a medical emergency. The Lt. came to me and told me that it was “pointless to file a grievance, because she knows how to do paperwork.” On my way to the shower, the c/o escorting me to the shower told me that if I ever put his name on another grievance, we were going to go “all the way out,” and followed it up by threatening to throw me down the stairs while handcuffed. I was surprised when DOC deemed the actions in my grievance to be “appropriate,” despite the fact the fact that x-rays taken almost a month later revealed broken bones in my foot.

Two days after being placed in restraints, another c/o refused to give me my food, and when I responded, placed me back in restraints, and tightened the handcuffs up so much that I still have not regained the feeling in my left hand. That was Dec 27th of 2011, and it is now June, and medical has still refused to address the issue.

This ill-treatment at the hands of Maury staff has continued since December, and I still will not back down from them. I can not bring myself to tolerate being treated in such manner by anyone, especially those in a position of authority. What pains me, is watching inmates that are so intimidated by c/o’s, that they will not stand up for anything. If inmates would stand up to the real tormentors, instead of each other, these kinds of actions would not happen.

What I am asking for is a widespread “General Strike” on Labor Day of 2012. If no inmates will work in the kitchen, laundry, or anywhere else, staff will have no choice but to recognize our combined strength. By doing so on a holiday they will be short-staffed, and unable to find additional help. They still have no choice but to feed us, clothe us, and take care of basic needs. Due to the economy, states are unwilling and unable to pay for outside services to do the jobs that inmates do, or hire any additional staff. Failure to meet any inmate needs on a widespread scale will result in fines and class-action lawsuits. It is staff duty to make sure that our needs are met, not that of the inmates.

Just a few days of a mass strike will allow for negotiation of “fair wages for inmates” shorter sentences, and proper treatment from staff. Due to the state’s inability to adequately fund such demands that they will ultimately be forced to concede to, it will start a chain reaction that will begin to unravel the entire prison system. They fund our enslavement through the sweat off our backs. This Labor Day, let’s show them that we will not stand for it anymore.

-Smiley
Disclaimer:
The content of the PAN newsletter is intended solely for information and education. Descriptions and claims appearing in PAN have not been independently verified and should be considered unsubstantiated. Moreover, PAN topics do not necessarily reflect the perspective of any individual involved in its content or production. Likewise, PAN topics do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of any recipient or any individual or group mentioned in PAN. This newsletter in no way encourages or supports any illegal behavior. PAN only intends to provide a printed forum for conversation and news. We regret if any PAN entry or passage is misconstrued as a violation of state and/or federal regulations.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why does PAN have a new address?
From its inception, the PAN Collective was made entirely of members of ABC chapters, most recently including Boston ABC, Central Georgia ABC, and Central Texas ABC. In July 2010, two members, one co-founder and the designer since the third year of publication, relocated and ceased to be involved in any of the above organizations. Publishing the 2011 issues was a difficult process, with physical distance and shifts in organizations preventing efficiency and delaying their release. We made a decision in August 2011 that the submissions needed to be centralized in order for editing and layout to be streamlined. Thus, PAN continues to be published by a collective, with the majority of the initial editing and layout now as the responsibility of two individuals. The new address reflects a location that is convenient for those who handle the submissions themselves. Other collective members are instrumental in soliciting submissions, providing additional editing, and managing subscriptions and distribution.

In my previous submissions, I asked people to contact me- why haven’t I gotten many responses?
PAN was created to facilitate a dialog about prison resistance, primarily among those who are themselves incarcerated. Thus, the primary audience for our publications is prisoners. PAN is distributed on the outside primarily electronically, for the main purpose of reaching other groups who have additional contacts in prison, and who may serve as additional distributors. Therefore, it is important to write PAN entries with the audience in mind. If your purpose and goal is to reach large numbers people on the outside, and receive help or guidance, this may not be the publication for you. PAN is one part of the multi-faceted Prison Abolition movement, which includes many other publications, with varying purposes and intended audiences.

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Petty control measures employed by our captors seem to slowly drain our souls to fight against the machine, to rebel against the oppressor. The old days are gone, reduced to distant memories, and we are in the midst of new times, which require new tactics.

We must begin to show the metal of our convictions and the strength of our souls by refusing to react to the petty control measures of the jailor. When you are “patted down” going in or out of the chow hall, never comment. When you are strip-searched after a visit never make eye contact with the shell of a man who sees you naked. Resist idle banter with our captors- keep it a business relationship – yes or no answers with minimal information sharing. What purpose does this serve? Well, it strips our captors of much of their power. If we fail to allow their little control measures to change our behavior, to take us out of character so to speak, then we disarm them.

Earlier I spoke of new tactics. These are the meat and potatoes of the new “movement,” and a “movement” we must turn it into. We must begin to document the malfeasance of our captors, logging dates, times, and jailors involved. These logs of serious malfeasance must be specific, documenting medical failures, policy violations, and guard upon prisoner abuse. We then coordinate these logs and send them to the many grassroots organizations who are at this time actively fighting for true prison reform. This will be the ammunition for their “guns.” They can bring this to the state house. They can detail it at community meetings where state officials are present, and they can have an ongoing working knowledge of the serious failings of the system. These modern day war tactics, and please know that this is in fact a war, are battle proven, we just need more troops. Can I count on you to enlist?

You know who the men are at your facility who are in contact with the outside, grassroots battle forces. Seek these men out and beg to be involved. You get involved by getting your family, friends, and associates on the other side of that razorwire or wall involved. When we strip our captors of their power by failing to respond negatively to their control measures, while working to overthrow the abusive jailor mentality, we strike a bargain with the forces of good that transform the system! Our captors struck such a bargain with the forces of evil and it will take our collective outrage and action to right the wrongs they have perpetrated upon society. Are you ready for this epic struggle? Is it time for you to stop all your sobbing and pick up the sword of righteousness? Only you can answer that question, and it must be answered with actions.

Look around. Take in what you see. Is this the world you envisioned in your youth? Is this the dream you had as a young man? Never forget- YOU’RE IN PRISON- and it is time to do something about it!!!

Timothy Muise
MCI Shirley
PO Box 1218
Shirley, MA 01464
consider myself part of the struggle, yet I’ve never actually helped in any significant way. It’s good to see us “fighting the power” and we have made progress based upon what I’ve seen and read about prison struggle and the prison resistance movement. But we are still not getting the desired results we are demanding. Hence, I’m proposing a plan of action to be encouraged across America.

“Direct Voting Member” is a collective effort designed to provide prisoners with the opportunity to directly propose, vote, fund, and impact prison policies. Here’s how it would work. As an example, 500 prisoners in one state, all members of “DVM” (Direct Voting Member) would each contribute $20.00 per month. That equals $10,000. These 500 members then vote on specific proposals regarding the use of that money. 249 prisoners may propose the money be used to hire political experts aiming to change the PLRA, in order to give prisoners more legal relief. Hypothetically, the other 251 prisoners could propose using the money to fund terrorism against prison officials. The majority would determine the use of the money.

One immediate question is exposure. By simply appointing friends and family to help us draw up the proposals, copy voting forms, etc. we decrease negative exposure. All we do is fill out the forms and send them to our appointees, who execute our wishes.

It’s up to the prisoners in each particular state to mold this concept in a way that best meets their needs. By becoming members of DVM, prisoners can pool their resources, appoint and hire necessary assistance, and thus better address their issues. I hope each state debates and develops upon my idea to make this materialize.

I look forward to more dialogue and development.

If you all have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please write me at: Anthony Jackson #77685 El Dorado Correctional Facility Kansas Dept of Corrections PO Box 311 El Dorado, KS 67042 or my personal address: Anthony Jackson PO Box 25471 Phoenix, AZ 85009

NEW PRISON GROUPS AND PROGRAMS

The Interceptor November 2011

In today’s world, we depend on politicians to guide us, but we often find them to be faulty or questionable, often making decisions that may lead to poor quality of life. Ultimately, these wrongs are righted by people who call themselves advocates for the poor and incarcerated. Some of these advocates may actually be the poor and incarcerated themselves. But their acts bring a balance back to society. One act could be a charitable contribution, while another act would be a lawsuit against a state agency. But whatever the advocate does, it must be organized and funded. Recent events have caused me to question, “where is all the funding for human rights projects and how can I access them?” So I’ve created a forum to teach each other the ropes, trade tips, share ideas, and start an organization of your own to fight for human rights. Welcome to the Interceptor newsletter. It is a product of the yard, a school for disadvantaged minority students.

Bill Bradshaw V-66815 Facility E. Van Westen Upper #134L California Correctional Institution PO Box 107 Tehachapi, CA 93581

Waynesburg, PA March 2012

RebelNotes is a resistance organization founded by political prisoners, prisoners of conscience, and political prisoners of conscience.

“REBELNOTES” is a revolutionary, politically conscious, solidarity-based movement, whose purpose is to use writing as resistance; and as a means to bring awareness to world and cultural affairs; to re-educate, teach, produce arts and poetry; to express, through writing, the effects of neocolonialism, oppression, repression, and injustices suffered by all targeted demographics, but especially the political prisoner in Amerika. “REBELNOTES” aims to resist the attempted psychological and political re-conditioning, re-educating, and re-programming directed at the revolutionary reservoir within the confines of the prison-industrial complex in Amerika.

“REBELNOTES” is a movement whose foundation is built upon solidarity amongst all peoples who seek the destruction of capitalism, imperialism, racism, sexism, homophobia, Zionism, classism, colonialism, fascism, and genocide. “REBELNOTES” doesn’t recognize color, religious, ethnic, cultural, educational, or gender barriers. We stand in solidarity with all righteous movements, as we all seek the same result: Liberation from the jaws of inequality, and an immediate halt to the cataclysmic pillaging of a planet that is being pushed to its limits.
“REBELNOTES” puts forth the following 12 points as our main goals:

1) Re-establishing the family structure as a major component of communal resources, while reconnecting them with political prisoners, and teaching them how to contribute to the struggle for liberation

2) Establishing social autonomy

3) Establishing revolutionary learning centers, and as many ABC prison chapters as possible behind enemy lines

4) Continuing to resist the Amerikan government’s attempts to criminalize poor and minority communities; its military occupation of inner-city ghettos; the growth of the prison-industrial complex, control units, and prison slave wages

5) Establishing methods of effective self-defense and protection against all forms of physical and psychological torture inside of prisons across Amerika, e.g. sensory deprivation, sexual abuse, experimental medication programs

6) Re-establishing the jewels of life: knowledge, wisdom, understanding, freedom, justice, equality, the right to adequate food, shelter and clothing, love, peace, and happiness for all of humanity. Building up our women

7) Establishing self-determination and self-respect

8) Raising prison literacy and consciousness through our chapters

9) Destroying the “class” system; the equal participation between all races and genders; reproductive justice for women

10) Abolishment of all prisons, and the end of authoritarian rule

11) Establishing a dialog which will work to bridge the gap between the generations of past and present, with a focus on building relationships with political prisoners in order to continue the struggle

12) Establishing serious political and guerrilla cadres who are willing to fight to bring about true liberation, in the same manner as those before did – BPP, BLA, RAM, and many others.

S. Muhammad Hyland FX1537
SCI Greene
175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370

Instead of using this publication to complain about your problems, use it to pass along information, tips and tricks on what you’ve found that actually works. For example, I’ve learned that I can obtain public records maintained by the California Department of “Corrections and Rehabilitation” by writing a letter to: CDCR, PRA Administrators, 1515 S St., Suite 314S, Sacramento, CA 94283-0001. So long as my requests were precise and drafted in a way making it clear exactly what I was looking for, they were filled.

Are you concerned with finding a place to go at the conclusion of your sentence? Try writing your public defender with your questions. They’ll either be able to provide you with a list of resources, or refer you to someone who can. Look in your prison library for resource guides, and write them a request for some additional information. Many prison libraries have a book by Matthew Lesko, called “Free Money to Change your Life.” While this resource is better suited for someone living in the free world, there’s still a wealth of information to be found in it.

We’ve all got some legitimate issues when it comes to our gripes about the prison system, but instead of just writing a letter complaining about them, we should do some digging around on our own first. If you’re one of the lucky few who have access to a cell phone, or who have someone on the streets willing to work on your behalf, don’t shy away from social media. Governments in the middle east found out the hard way how powerful social media can be, as sites like Twitter were used to organize the masses against oppressive regimes.

Keep your eyes and ears open, research and ask questions, and put aside your petty differences with your fellow inmate. Issues like race, religion, or even committing offense really aren’t important in the grand scheme of things. You’d be surprised at what kind of help these people are willing to give you, if you only give them a chance. Above all else though, don’t give up just because things don’t go your way right from the start. California doesn’t allow inmates to contact other inmates without having first obtained permission, so if you want to contact me, go through a third party or obtain that permission.

Sincerely,

Shawn L. Perrot CDCR #V-42461
CMC-East Cell #6326
PO Box 8101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93409-8101
It is my sincere hope and request that those of you who are here in the belly of the beast in Texas will get your family, friends, and associates to contact the Texas legislators and request they end the racist institution they call the Field Force, which only wastes tax dollars, and is a breeding ground for hate and a resentment of work. Here on the Coffield Unit, the Field Force is 90% black and Latino with the guards 100% Caucasian. We must move right away as this will also save them dollars in light of budget cuts, for the Field-Guards are paid more, if for NO other reason than the time they have been in the system.

Always a believer in the struggle,
Zufar Fajr Khufu ibu Yak-Yak a.k.a Norris Hicks #505593
Coffield Unit- 2661 FM 2054
Tennessee Colony TX 75884

Inmates have more power than they realize
February 2012

I just finished reading the February 2012 issue of PAN, and I was shocked to see how such a valuable resource was being squandered. Here’s someone taking the time to print and distribute, free-of-charge, a publication to inmates all across the country, and instead of writing to them with information on how others can learn from your lessons, all most people can do is cry about how they’re getting screwed over. With this in mind, I’ve decided to take the proverbial bull by the horns, in the hopes that anyone with the desire to do so can actually find a way to beat these people at their own game.

First of all, what you have to realize is that you’re not as powerless as you make yourself out to be. Think about what you have at your disposal, and start using that to the advantage of the cause, instead of your own personal gain. For example, every time you turn around, you hear of an inmate who got caught downloading porn with his cell phone. More often than not, these are the same inmates who are complaining about how bad the system is, so tell me something: why wasn’t he using this phone to accomplish something good? He could have been using it to set up a webpage log known online as a blog, to let his readers in the free society know from an inmate’s lips how bad things in prison really are. He could have used this phone to secretly take pictures and video of officers violating the rights of inmates, breaking the law, and generally doing things that they know they’re not supposed to be doing, which he could have posted online, so that society could see firsthand that things we’ve been saying all along are in fact true. He could have been using this to send emails to the media, lawyers, and other organizations, trying to get the public interested in what was going on, or even just using it to do legal research.

My name is Yasin F. Rodriguez. Many of you know me as Sayso, from the RAM Squad (of hits “Freaky Tonight feat.Eve,” “Fortunate,” “Ballers Remix feat.Nelly” and “Keep It Real”). My public displays of protests and outright dislike for government, as well as my music career, were brought to a halt in 2005 when I was framed and wrongfully arrested for murder. I was convicted in 2007 and sentenced to LIFE.

The fact is that there were NO prints, NO motive, NO DNA evidence against me, NO weapon was ever found in my possession (or anywhere, period), and there were absolutely NO eyewitnesses to the crime. Yet here I am. Appeals have been set, but mistakes were made by my previous attorney—causing key grounds to be waived. However, freedom should be near, as my defense team now has newly discovered evidence that will prove that I’m innocent.

I’ve always been a rebel. When I was brought upstate (against my will) I witnessed and suffered the many injustices bros. and sisters face daily within the penal system. It caused me to do what comes naturally to me – REBEL. To stand up against the enemies.

Since landing in the D.O.C., I’ve led several protests from sit-ins to hunger strikes to actual physical revolts. I’ve been shipped from prison to prison. Right now I’m in the “hole,” about to be sent off again. The reason, and I quote: “inmate has too much control and strong influence on other inmates and even staff. Due to the power he has we here can no longer house him. The administration fears he may orchestrate a riot or worse.”

I will continue to stand up for what’s right no matter what. The struggle continues. We can’t just sit back and do nothing while oppression and injustices are rained upon us in these human-warehouses and slave camps they call prisons. I’ve started an organization called F.A.M. (Forefront Anarchist Movement). We stand tall against oppression, injustice, so-called government and the likes. We care and would like to build with other groups and individuals in the struggle, as well as fight in this on-going war against the puppet-masters, powers that be, etc. Stand up bros. and sisters! I salute you all and send my revolutionary strength and love.

To contact me directly, write to:
Yasin F. Rodriguez HG3130
1100 Pike Street
Huntingdon, PA 16654

If you’re incarcerated and would like to contact me, write to:
F.A.M.
Attn: Yasin F. Rodriguez
2109 Knorr Street
Philadelphia, PA 19149

(Please include your name, ID number, and address.)
First and foremost, my most sincere greetings of solidarity and respect are extended to the poor, imprisoned and oppressed. My name is Coyote, I’m a serious Anarchist radical, confined and isolated in the infirmary of Nevada’s most notorious maximum security lock-up: Ely State Prison. 

In 2007, I started up my own prison chapter of Anarchist Black Cross. Because of my efforts – and another comrade’s efforts – and due to the exposure of the blatant medical neglect here at ESP through the Rikers vs. Gibbons / ACLU lawsuits, a solid support structure for NV prisoners has begun to be erected.

This includes the Nevada Prison Watch website that provides oversight of the NDOC: Makethewalltransparent.com, which does the same; the Nevada Prison Newsletter, of which I am now the co-editor; and now the NV-CURE has been re-activated. Whereas before, NV prisoners had no outside resources to connect to, now we have these, so this is just the beginning of many things to come.

I have published zine after zine, all available from the S. Chicago ABC Zine Distro and also the Chicago ABC Zine Distro. Through my zines I have been able to reach many, many prisoners across the country, helping them to make the transformation from gangster to guerrilla, or from criminal to radical, and also showing them how to be active and organized while behind enemy lines. My zine “Starting Your Own ABC Prison Chapter” has been very influential to many prisoner activists who are trying to get themselves started. I have also been in collaboration (on the sly) with many prisoners in different states, helping them get organized where they’re at, showing them how to start up their own prison chapters, how to reach out to activists on the outs, how to reach out to prisoners where they’re at, etc.

Due to my efforts, and my resistance, here at ESP I have been able to flood this prison out with thousands of copies of all kinds of zines, radical literature and empowering reading materials. I have supplied hundreds of prisoners here with their own libraries and their own collections of literature, and they use these materials to not only raise their own consciousness, but also to raise the overall level of consciousness throughout this gulag. It has gotten to the point that there isn’t a tier/unit you can go to in this prison where there aren’t at least 6 or 7 prisoners on each wing who have a good supply of zines and literature, most of which has come from me.

In January 2011, I started up a book drive for the ESP Library that lasted until May 2011, where people from all over the world donated thousands of books to our library. When administration caught wind that an Anarchist radical was behind the whole thing, they hurried up and shut it down!!!

I have participated in mostly all of the riots, protests and demonstrations of resistance here at ESP, and have been accused by the pigs of being the main organizer of several of them. I have been placed on High Risk Potential status and
with other prisoners who take advantage of mentally ill prisoners, bullying, sexual assault, taking their meals.

Of course, should you inquire/investigate after reading this missive, the PA DOC will try and convince you otherwise, misdirect you, try and pull you into their fold, slowly indoctrinate you to accept the conditions you see. And if you mention my name, they’ll tell you I’m a trouble-maker, anti-social personality, violent criminal, manipulator, and mentally ill if it suits their argument. I’ll admit I got issues with depression, manic behavior, but when I get manic, I generally pick up an inkpen and write truth that few desire to become aware of, and with this I’ll close this ranting communication.

In the spirit of resistance,
Eric Wildcat Hall

Ione, CA June 10 2012

Hello PAN and all in the struggle!
It’s Dymitri again (known mostly as Linus here, though), speaking from the hell we all share. Please don’t forget that...no matter what flavors of ice cream your captors offer or how many channels your stupid TV gets, no matter what great little hamster wheels they put in our cages, we’re still in cages. Don’t lie to yourself about that, and remind the poor folks around you, too. To “accept” the cage is to give up, and to give up is to die.

Here are the updates on my struggles, which I hope encourage you to keep fighting yours. My lawsuit against abusive Satan Diego pigs is headed to trial. They can’t just toss pretrial detainees in the hole without due process nor steal all our things to fish for evidence, and if they get away with it, it won’t be because I let them.

My criminal appeal, sadly, was denied. So, does anyone know of any resources for pro se state habeas legal research or guidance? I could use some help for sure. I’m a political prisoner with an illegal arrest, some crazy “3 strikes” issues, and a boatload of attorney incompetence to attack, but no matter what, you can bet I’m fighting, filing documents on toilet paper if necessary. NEVER surrender.

Some final thoughts: PAN is an anarchist-oriented newsletter, but how many of its core caged audience call ourselves anarchists, or even know what that means? Most “anarchists” I meet in prison are just authoritarian fascists with tattoos of symbols they don’t understand. So, here’s a suggestion: When you submit to PAN, add your full name and address so we can find each other. I met a friend who found me from my last update, but overall “solidarity” in prison is a pitiful joke. Let’s get some networking amongst ourselves. If you have enlightening books and zines that can open eyes, minds, and hearts, then reach out to those who are still blinded by lifetimes of status-quo brainwashing. Offer what you can in the spirit of mutual aid. Legal beagles, help your fellows! Don’t steal their time, money, or chances for freedom by being an unscrupulous “jailhouse lawyer” fake,

labeled a ‘threat to the safety and security of the institution,’ moved around from one hole to another every 30 days, which I have indeed used to my advantage to pass out literature, form alliances with other radicals, raise awareness, plant seeds and to organize. Through my efforts I have been able to bring small numbers of enemy factions together, and unite prisoners across racial lines, to fight the true enemy. I have been a leader, a teacher, a comrade and a mentor to many of these youngsters here, regardless of their race, ethnicity, etc. Now there are many prisoners here at ESP who have become radicalized, and we now even have a handful of serious Anarchists here, all who have been taught and trained to be effective writers, propagandists, activists, leaders, teachers, and organizers, and some who are now in the process of starting their own collectives.

Yes, I can proudly say that I’ve accomplished many things, have resisted all the way through, becoming a thorn in their side, but I claim no victories, because this prison still exists, we’re still locked down and treated like shit, still in the deathly hands of the enemy, and there are still many prisoners here who are unaware, asleep, afraid, or walking around ignorant and blind. There’s still much work to do, many battles still to be fought…

Still Striving for Real Victories
Coyote Sheff #55671
P.O. Box 1989
Ely, Nevada
89301-1989

Coyote’s beautiful, inspiring writings can be viewed on these sites:
1) coyote-calling.blogspot.com
2) nevadaprisonwatch.org
3) www.scribd.com/prisonwatch

Coyote’s zines can be obtained at either of these addresses (free to prisoners):
Chicago ABC
1321 N. Milwaukee Ave.
P.M.B. 460
Chicago, Illinois 60622
- or -
S. Chicago ABC Zine Distro
P.O. Box 721
Homewood, Illinois, 60430

Eli King Thistlewood
(see page 16 for full credit)
Army of the 12 Monkeys, Ohio  June 2012

The situation in Ohio: Ohio Governor John Kasich hired Corrections Corporation of America crony Gary Mohr to run Ohio’s prison system. After the failed attempt at statewide union busting, austerity cuts forced the prison system to cut food portions in half, to refuse basic medical care, and to cut jobs for security staff. Mail and food services were outsourced to private companies. With the absence of daily operations and to regain control, they have implemented new measures. Now, prisoners are divided into “A” level and “B” level. At the prisons with cell blocks, “B” level prisoners are on 21-hour lockdown.

The Army of the 12 Monkeys: We are getting organizing and training manuals into prisoners at every prison. Prisoners have disrupted prison operations at several prisons by cutting phone and computer lines with toenail clippers, putting potatoes down drains, breaking equipment, obstructing production at Ohio Penal Industries slave-labor factories, mass-flushing toilets to back-up water mains and break pipes, jamming locks with staples and gum and pencil lead, and uniting prisoner organizations against the common enemy. Some prisons, due to constant threat from 12 Monkey sabotage, maintain black-clad Special Response Teams around the clock, anticipating the complete collapse of control...which is coming soon, statewide.

The resistance is winning!
We are everywhere. We are growing.
Support the Army of the 12 Monkeys.

Monkey #4
Army of the 12 Monkeys

Dear Mental Health Advocates, II
February 16 2012

Some Pennsylvania history for you, should you have read the plea of Christopher Balmer, in Prison Action News vol 5.1, February 2012, and not dismissed it off hand, as is often the case with prisoner writings for various reasons, such as “well it’s not my area of expertise,” “someone else will take up this challenge,” “well, they’re quite literate, they should be able to handle this without outside assistance,” the list goes on and on.

Pennsylvania at one time had a very extensive array of state hospitals. Some were brutal and some not so brutal, and as conditions became known more and more activists got involved through public oversight of the state hospitals, laws were enacted granting specific rights to mentally ill patients to protect them from abuse. Hospital staff had to be qualified for employment and as a result the state of Pennsylvania started closing down the state hospitals because of the expense and converted these state hospitals into prisons after having thrown out all the patients. Prisons are cheaper to automate (or were at the time), but more importantly, prisoners have no real rights and the majority of individuals on the outside don’t care about prisoners.

Ironically, thousands upon thousands of mentally ill individuals have been railroaded through the criminal justice system of Pennsylvania. At least 3000 severely mentally ill people, and most likely another 15,000 who have some form of mental illness in the moderate range, languish in the prisons of Pennsylvania, primarily because the government and society as tax-payers refused to take on the financial burden of ensuring that mentally ill individuals didn’t fall between the cracks and into the hell of today’s prisons. These prisons are made to look nice for the college student tourists, but our lives are full of daily deprivations and psychological torture, most especially for the mentally ill, who sit in cells without TV’s or radios, scavenge for tobacco butts off the ground, sell their prison meal food for tobacco, coffee, or sugary treats, because they are unemployable or unable to work for extended periods of time, and thus have to survive on a stipend of .72 cents a day, minus holidays and weekends.

There are the Special Needs Units, but in truth they are a joke, the Pennsylvania DOC parades outside people through these SNU’s, direct pre-chosen inmates to talk to these outside people, “Oh it’s nice in here, yeah, they treat us good, etc etc.” As these outside inquisitors walk outside the gates, the Prison Administrators joke and laugh, “Ah, we really pulled the wool over their eyes, got them believing this is a mental health paradise for the mentally ill no one wants to be burdened with.”

The worst of the suffering mentally ill are those who are consigned to disciplinary punishment in the Restrictive Housing Units (solitary confinement). Because of overcrowding in the RHU’s, some passive mentally ill are double celled.
Charleston, MO  June 9 2012

Greetings PAN,

Here at the Charleston Correctional Center, I, along with over 16 other prisoners, was unjustly confined in an ad-seg unit here under a false investigation for no reason at all. This happened on about 4-6-12, and on 6-7-12 a group of the prisoners who were unjustly placed in ad-seg began a hunger strike. We are asking others to call the DOC regarding our unjust confinement in ad-seg under a false investigation. The investigation claim is only a tool being used to harass us. The MO DOC number is 573-751-2389. Support is truly needed.

Jerome White-Bey

Malone, NY  November 2011

Greetings of Peace & Solidarity!

We’re writing to inform you that we’ve been going in hard and finally got the NYCLU to investigate the Prisons and STU’s in New York.

We tried to get some help here ourselves as we had a little protest on 10/10/11. They gassed us out and broke my finger on purpose due to my writings, etc. They’ve been taking all our property on phony deprivation orders and just did a bunch of real stupid shit! We wanna know if we can get some help.

I’ve been trying to raise the consciousness of the brothers around here. If we do nothing then those outside these walls will think that nothing is wrong here.

So it’s only so much we can do as we’re locked down tight in this box and we’re W-A-Y out in the mountains. Right now, we’re writing assembly persons in New York, filing lawsuits, and doing what we can to get outside help.

Peace and Respect!

Brother DeAndre Williams, #99A0052, Akeem Simmons, #08B1607, & T. Dumpson, #86B2265
UCF PO Box 2001
Malone, NY 12953

THE ALMIGHTY PEN AND PAPER:
GRIEVANCES AND LEGAL WORK

A Call for Community Support:
Help us help ourselves!!  June 2012

My name is Kijana Tashiri Askari, I am a New Afrikan Black Political Prisoner, by way of my political activities within these slave kamps (a.k.a. “prisons). I am also a class representative of the Pelican Bay Human Rights Movement, by way of my participation in the hunger strikes that just took place throughout California’s prisons and abroad, in torturous and inhumane social conditions of solitary confinement to which we prisoners in the state of California have been subject for the past 10 to 40 plus years!!

Through the course of our current human rights struggle, it has been consistently revealed to the world communities, the nature and the extent to which we prisoners have been arbitrarily validated as prison gang members and then relegated to indefinite solitary confinement status. This practice is now affecting our families, as they’re now being labeled prison gang members via the mail correspondence that they send to us.

So I am now challenging the confiscation of my mail, that includes my published pamphlets called: “The George Jackson Lives” series, which were confiscated on the grounds that they promote gang activity. But per a settlement conference that was held in this case (Harrison v. Milligan, et al. Case No: C-09-4665-SI, US Dist. Lexis 107073) on May 25, 2012, Magistrate Judge Nandor J. Vadas stated the following:

“I have read/reviewed your published pamphlets, etc. and there is absolutely not any violence or unlawful criminal activities (e.g. “gang activity”) being advocated in them. Your published pamphlets remind me of the same material that I see being distributed on college campuses and in bookstores. PBSP – DCDR (“I.G.I”) officials have not produced a shred of evidence to demonstrate a connection to any prison violence that has taken place as a result of any prisoner reading your published pamphlets, etc.”

This makes him believe that the confiscation of my mail is an exaggerated response. See: Turner v. Safley 482 US 78 (1986). Judge Vadas believes that the ACLU needs to be involved in this case!! Thus, I’m calling out to all civil and human rights attorneys to contact us at:

Kijana Tashiri Askari
S/N M. Harrison #H54077
PO Box 7500
D3-122 SHU
Crescent City, CA 95531
www.myspace.com/dare2struggle
email: tashiri@gmail.com

Attn: U.S. Northern District Ct.
c/o Judge Nandor J. Vadas
PO Box 1306
Eureka, CA 95502
707-445-3612

All power to the people!!
Censorship on the Sly by CRCC Mailroom Supervisor and Deputy Warden June 2012

I am writing to represent my fellow prisoners and brothers who are housed in housing unit #1 of CRCC which is Missouri’s version of the SHU. It is time we come together and stand up for our constitutional rights. We must put aside our gang ideologies, our religious differences, and become colorblind to our skin differences. We must mount a defense against mailroom supervisor W. Morgan and Deputy Warden Ronda Pash who are cunningly diverting our mail (including religious material) to the prison’s property room with absolutely no notification to the prisoner, in violation of our first amendment constitutional rights guaranteed by the US Constitution and Missouri’s Constitution’s Bill of Rights (Religious Freedom Art. I sec. 5) and (Freedom of Speech Art. I sec. 8).

SOP21-1.2 Administrative Segregation Policy states “HU-1 Offenders may be in possession of 5 soft bound books. This will include any combination of sacred writings, library reading material, GED Material, and dictionaries, in addition to one newspaper and one magazine.”

This same policy also states: 7. SOP: “Segregation offenders are not allowed to purchase items from vendors which are not permitted in the segregation units.”

So myself and other brothers in solidarity here in HU-1 ordered or requested free religious and other soft bound books from our churches and from the good folks at the Lucy Parsons bookstore, like dictionaries, bibles, and self-help books. But when they arrived here at the prison, W. Morgan quietly diverted them to the property room without notifying the prisoner.

Recently, I was generously (along with 2 other prisoners) awarded a grant to receive the free GED materials and a free dictionary, but when the GED materials arrived here at this prison, as usual they were diverted to property even though policy clearly states we are allowed this material in HU-1 AD-SEG. W. Morgan and Ronda Pash also have another secret policy (unpublished) that states if you receive anything in the mail over 50 pages it also is quietly diverted to the property room, and all catalogs received for prisoners housed in either of the two AD-SEG units are diverted to the property room without notification. This is against Policy IS13-1.1 Offender mail procedures (1) g.i: catalogs which specify an offender’s name and department number will be sent to the offender.

The Chaplain, Matt Mason, who is supposed to oversee our religious needs should be wearing a guard’s uniform instead of pretending to be a man of god, because he does everything he can to hinder and deny our sincere religious requests here in HU-1. The Warden Larry Denney and Deputy Warden Ronda Pash have also banned ALL bible or religious studies from coming into the AD-SEG units of CRCC and it doesn’t take a rocket scientist, just a half-ass jailhouse lawyer, to figure out that it is in direct violation of our religious freedom and against the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act 42 USCS 2000 cc (RLUIPA) in 2000.

I welcome all my comrades to join in on the 42 USC 1983 suit that I am preparing, as our heroes said on 9-11 on that doomed jet, “‘Let’s Roll!”
A wave of prisoner resistance sweeps the South  June 1 2012
by Jen Waller and Thomas Hintze   http://seattlefreepress.org/2012/06/01/a-wave-of-prisoner-resistance-sweeps-the-south/

L ast week, prisoners in two different facilities in the United States resisted inhumane conditions — one through an uprising that the mainstream media dubbed a “riot,” and the other through a hunger strike. The tactics employed by the two groups differ, but the messages are clearly linked: Prisoners are protesting their conditions and are willing to put their lives on the line for better treatment. On May 20, inmates took control of the Adams County Correctional Facility in Mississippi for over eight hours. One inmate managed to access a cell phone during the uprising and called WLBT TV in Jackson, proving his presence in the prison by sending pictures. He gave the station the following statement: “They beat us; we’re just [paying] them back. We just need better treatment and services. We need medical attention. We just want some respect. They call us wetbacks” — referring to a racist slur used against undocumented immigrants.

The prison is privately owned by Corrections Corporation of America (CCA), which manages over 60 facilities and touts a capacity of 90,000 beds. The prison in Adams County is populated by immigrants from over 70 countries awaiting deportation and is part of a larger war on undocumented immigrants in the United States. 2011 was a record year for deportations: 396,000 people were removed from the country, and more than half of those people were convicted of crimes and held at private immigration detention facilities like the one in Adams County.

During the uprising, one guard was killed, and several guards and inmates were injured. Over two dozen guards were reportedly held hostage. The prisoners were subdued by SWAT teams, which dropped pepper spray grenades and tear gas bombs into the facility. Before it was quashed, more than 600 of about 2,500 total inmates were reportedly involved in the takeover.

[...]

Meanwhile, 45 prisoners at Red Onion State Prison in Wise County, Virginia were plotting another kind of resistance: a hunger strike, which they launched on May 22. With the help of a network of prisoner-support activists in the area, the hunger strikers released 10 demands and a press advisory. Among these demands were such basics as fully-cooked food and access to fresh fruit and vegetables, adequate medical care. Five hundred of the 1,700 inmates at Red Onion — Virginia’s only “supermax” prison — spend 23 hours a day in isolation. Inmates at Red Onion have also reported being beaten by guards and bitten by dogs.

Prisoner hunger strikes like this have been growing in frequency. Just in the past year, hunger strikes have happened at the Ohio State Penitentiary, the Corcoran State Prison, Pelican Bay State Prison, Ironwood State Prison, Kern Valley State Prison and more. Prisoners around the world are also choosing to resist by hunger


TDJC prisoner Billy Ross Sims filed a civil lawsuit D-1-GN-10-000102 against two prison employees, Jennifer Smith, Director of TDJC’s MSCP, and Celia Turner, a local mailroom supervisor when they interfered with a contract Sims had made with a prison resource company by falsely claiming that the agency’s mail rules (BP 03.91) banned anyone’s address. The Board Policy 03.91 complies with the U.S. Supreme Court laws controlling prisoner mail, Turner v Safely, 107 S.CT.2254 (1985); Thornburgh v Abbott 109 S.CT.1874 (1989); and the Texas Constitution’s Article 1, §§ 16, 29, prohibiting “any law impairing the obligation of contracts” Robinson v Crown Cork & Seal, 251 SW3d 520 (T.A. 2006).

The employees’ attorney is Texas Attorney General Gregg Abbott. At the summary judgment stage, the group tried to prevail using a perjured affidavit from Smith, and a dishonest state district judge named Stephen Yelenosky was going to let them get away with their criminal act, and even went so far as to claim that the AG’s Motion for Summary Judgment “raises valid issues of sovereign immunity” when in reality the motion never mentioned at any place “sovereign immunity.” The usual ethics complaint filed by Sims as a prisoner went nowhere and the State Bar Grievance was quashed to avoid censuring of the State’s dishonest AG.

Sometime between January 25, 2011 and February 24, 2012, Celia Turner committed a felony criminal act by stealing non-public information from the TDJC mailroom and giving it to Gregg Abbott and his staff to use in a legal filing as an Exhibit in their “Plea to the Jurisdiction,” in an attempt to escape the lawsuit. The AG’s document grossly misstated the facts in violation of the law. The stolen, non-public information was legal mail Sims had written to Twitch regarding the litigation they were working on and it was a core work product.

Sims, as a pro se prisoner party acting as his own lawyer, is by law entitled to all of the privileges of an attorney inside of the civil litigation, and Texas State laws protect the communication from any public disclosure. It is exempt from the Texas Rules of Discovery and not even subject to the Open Records Act. Rule 503 of the Texas Rules of Evidence protect the communication; and TDJC Agency Law PD-22, Rules 33 and 49(3) protect the non-public information from disclosure. Gregg Abbott and the two state employees knew this and so they decided to steal the information that they could not otherwise obtain legally, and this is a felony crime under Texas Penal Code, Chapter 39, since Sims is in custody and entitled to the pro
Abbott obtained a hearing on the Plea to the Jurisdiction which was scheduled for March 22, 2012. The AG was able to round up a “judge” named Rhonda Hurley to hear the matter. Once Sims was on the telephone at the prisoner telehearing, he asked to speak to Hurley before the hearing started.

Sims began by complaining about the criminal acts used to obtain the Exhibits in Abbott’s document, that they were non-public information protected from disclosure by state laws, and a core work product in the litigation between a party and paralegal, and the law prohibited the employees from obtaining any benefit by intentionally disclosing the non-public information obtained only by virtue of their employment positions in the mailroom.

Hurley indicated that she was going to allow the other party to benefit from their criminal acts. Sims realized Hurley intended to assist Gregg Abbott in furthering his criminal act, and was not the neutral and detached judge the law required, and so Sims made an Oral Motion for Recusal which Hurley accepted without objection from the AG. Hurley then heard Sims’ reasons for his motion, and denied his motion and opened the hearing on the AG’s plea, heard the AG’s argument which referenced the stolen non-public information. Hurley refused to acknowledge the state laws in Sims’ reply protecting the non-public information, and she then granted the AG’s plea and hung up the phone on Sims.

The Texas Civil Procedures, Rules 18.1 and 18.2 at 18.1 (f) (A), and (B) regarding recusal only gave Hurley two choices: A. sign and file with the clerk an order of recusal, or B. sign and file with the clerk an order referring the motion to the regional presiding judge. She had no jurisdiction to hear the motion against her, nor to open the hearing on the AG’s plea, or to grant any favorable ruling. Her Order, which she designated as a Final Judgment is void under state law.

Sims was forced to file a Notice of Appeal from the void order as a jurisdictional defect existed antecedent to the granting of the plea and the signing of the order by Hurley.

Sims also filed an ethics complaint 12-0783-DI with the state’s commission on judicial conduct, that is pending. He filed a criminal complaint with the Travis County District Attorney’s Office Public Integrity Unit. Sims filed another criminal complaint in Anderson County with District Attorney Douglas Lowe, who referred the matter to the TDCJ-OIG Investigations Director Elizabeth Mulen, which is like asking the rats to watch their own cheese, and she wrote back that they were not even going to investigate the criminal act, so while the TDCJ says it has an “ethics” policy (ED 02.01) it is easy to observe that it is a lie as well.

The Texas Attorney General, Gregg Abbott, continues to lie and cheat, trying to prevail in the Sims litigation. The docketing statement was due to be filed by June 15, 2012, at the Court of Appeals for the third district of Texas in Austin, and after that the process will extend into the summer, so stay tuned for another update in the next PAN issue.

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**Switzerland – Marco, Silvia and Billy on hunger strike against the WEF**

*January 2012*

This was distributed during the demo against the World Economic Forum in Bern (Switzerland) on the 21st of January 2012.

The three green anarchist prisoners held in the Swiss jails decided to join the week of mobilization against the World Economic Forum, which will be held in Switzerland during these days. Marco and Silvia went on hunger strike for 10 days, from the 20th to 30th of January 2012. Billy is abstaining from prison food and refusing to work (working is compulsory in Swiss jails), against the WEF but also as a response to their prison conditions, more precisely for the liberation of Marco Camenisch in May 2012 and against the presence of dividing glass in the visits of friends.

Marco Camenisch was incarcerated in Switzerland in 1991, he’s always been active in green anarchist struggles; Silvia and Billy were arrested, along with Costa, in April 2010 in Zurich for having tried to attack with explosives the newly built nanotechnology research center of IBM.

We’re not surprised by the fact that this year in the schedule of WEF they will also deal with nanotechnologies, because, as with all the technological systems and even more the new technologies (nanotechnologies, biotechnologies and cybernetics), they are not neutral but subjected to the ones who manage economics, and a further tool in the hands of those who hold power.

While the state and corporate bosses meet with each other to impose the new world economic developments, in the labs experts and researchers study to create new means with which to increase social control, strengthen the soldiers, try to make our lives even more artificial and automized, to the point of manipulating the living. Manipulations that provoke devastating and irreversible effect on the earth’s equilibriums and on human and non human animals.

We will always fight against those who are turning the earth into a land of plastic and concrete, commodities and technologies, industries and offices: a world devoid of life. Against the State and capital which, with their dominating and exploitative logics, want human beings to be slaves, the animals to be good, and the planet to be an infinite source of things to sack. The WEF event cannot but increase our anger and desire to keep on struggling, in and outside jails.

Solidarity with the prisoners on hunger strike!

Solidarity to Marco, Silvia, Billy and Costa.
Hello my brothers and sisters behind prison walls! I write in solidarity to you all. In numbers we stand strong and without numbers we fall. Some of you may know me from my past writings, but I’m a 26-year-old animal rights activist and have my own organization going from behind prison walls. After being battered by staff again during one of my last protests at WCI over animal products on my tray, I protested by not eating the trays that staff put animal products on. Then I had serious medical problems: my blood sugar went as low as 48 for my love of the animals. I went on. After getting inside protesting going for this and other injustices, I was emergency transferred back to CCI, the prison that started most of the problems.

At CCI I did find out that a lot of letters, books, and other papers were just put in my property and were not given to me so I could see my activism and resistance were working. One thing I have to say is thank you to the people who took part in our last protests at WCI. To not get people in trouble, I would just like to say thank you for not taking the cruel conditions and putting pen and paper to work, and the few who took it further. I may not be at WCI but that is no reason to stop the protesting already started. They would not fix the problems so they just moved me out so they could try and stop the protesting by one of the only ones who continually put paper to pen and other forms of resistance, the resistance we need to tear down the prison walls.

At CCI they refused to feed me vegan food again I went on protest and refused to eat any food with animal products in them and had low blood sugar. But the DOC did give in and gave my vegan food back, but it’s still not nutritionally adequate. Currently I am also working on helping write up a petition getting our grievances to be properly looked at. I know a few other states have taken part in the petition to stand for our rights and a copy can be received from the address below, along with their free prisoner magazine. The Wisconsin petition will be written up within the next six months.

I request, as Black August is coming, that in a show of solidarity we take part in a unity fast of one meal a day, as I have done for years and so have others. To take part in this is a showing not only of unity but also respect to our past revolutionary leaders and fallen comrades that died in the fight for justice and not just us but for all humans. Let’s stand down our differences and the ones who consider themselves a leader take the opportunity to use this month as an educational class and to ask others to take part in this and show them our history of anarchist prisoner liberation and in some cases, animal liberation and the fight for justice for all. At one time there was no prison and that day will come again when respect is shown to all. We fight together, we stand together and we shall show respect together and help the blind to open their eyes to reality. Until next time I wish you the best in all your fights and please let’s stop the fighting among us and use August as a stepping stone to better unity.

For petition copies: MIM (Prisoners) PO Box 40799 San Francisco, CA 94140
Manual Salas 504212 CCI
PO Box 900
Portage WI 53901

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Cruel Unusual Punishment being exposed at the Coffield Unit due to the Heat Related Deaths

June 26 2012

No one tell you that it gets hot in Texas. Some armchair meteorologists might say, “It’s the humidity, not the heat that makes it feel so hot.” This is true, but try telling that to a prisoner locked up in a cage with direct sunlight beaming at you and the temperature in the cell at 120 degrees at noon without a fan, without cold water, and you cannot block the sunlight coming into the cell. Then you have sergeants like Sergeant Jackson and Lieutenant Green telling prisoners “that’s life.” A dog owner can be placed in jail for leaving his dog locked up in a car with the windows rolled up, but a prisoner locked in a cage in direct sunlight is the way of prison life.

All three wardens, Larry Doyle, Jeff Catoe, and John Rupert are the moving force in refusing to place rotating fans up in the day rooms and two fans at the end of the runs, and ensuring that cold water is passed out. They have even acted with evil intent and removed the sun blockers that were built when the unit was built to prevent direct sun from coming into the cells on the hottest wings. The wardens have even violated their own written policies which govern heat illnesses: AD-1064.

We have filed dozens of grievances on the heat illnesses and the Safety Manager, Officer McKnight, and the wardens state additional fans have been ordered. We have not seen one additional fan.

It was Mr. Thomas Myers TDCJ #680515, a 36 year old Caucasian male, housed on R-Wing cell 215 right above me, who died on August 3, 2011 around 8:00pm. You would think that the prison officials would have changed their procedures. Well, they haven’t and they don’t give a damn whether we live or die! We are denied daily showers which also goes against their heat summary AD-1064 “heat stress.” We are only allowed three showers a week for a total of 9 minutes!!! We are deprived of all our privileges, denied outside recreation. The prison officials claim that they are short staffed. But they are not short staffed to run the slave field force outside five days a week!

If you wish to make a complaint in regards to the Cruel Unusual Punishment, please contact the following TDCJ Official, Mr. Livingston, below:

Mr. Brad Livingston
Executive Director
PO Box 99
Huntsville, TX 77342
936-437-2101 Fax 936-437-2123

Endless Struggle 4-Life!!!
Kazim Abdul ’Umar 428622
f/k/a Wesley L. Pittman
Coffield Unit
2661 FM 2054
Tennessee Colony, TX 75884
Ill still stood strong and turn-a-keys have to do their job fully, which is making sure that H-u1 showers, floors, etc. are cleaned for us daily.

Hiram Johnson 1177967
Crossroads CC
1115 Pence Rd
Cameron, MO 64429

**Occupy San Quentin Protest**  
**February 20 2012**

On February 20th, 2012, Occupy protestors gathered at the main gate here at CSP San Quentin. A little over 200 attended, including two of the Americans arrested and imprisoned in Iran. Protestors marched peacefully in solidarity and spoke out against inhumane treatment that those of us here suffer on a day-to-day basis. Budget cutbacks have only created harsher conditions. Though there is a new hospital facility here, medical treatment is inadequate. Educational programs cut, food quality has dwindled, and no secret, the death penalty is a waste of time and money. Protestors especially spoke out against capital punishment.

The condemned population has reached over 700. Inequality seems to be the norm. Though the Occupy movement blessed us with their presence and support, we are a long way from a revolution. Occupy San Quentin is a stepping stone in the right direction. We must all come together in one accord. Long live the Occupy movement!

Mr. L. Samuel Capers
PO Box K-01264, CSP
San Quentin – I-EY07
San Quentin, CA 94974
Jailed Russian Punk-Rockers ‘Pussy Riot’ Begin Hunger Strike July 5 2012

by Common Dreams staff http://www.commondreams.org/headline/2012/07/05-4

Three members of Pussy Riot, the Russian feminist punk-rock band, began a hunger strike Wednesday after a Moscow court suddenly told them they must prepare their defense for trial by Monday.

Maria Alyokhina, Yakaterina Samutsevich and Nadezhda Tolokonnikova were taken into custody in March, after the group’s February performance of “Virgin Mary Put Putin Away,” an anti-Putin song, inside the Russian Orthodox Church’s main cathedral, asking the Virgin Mary to chase President Vladimir Putin out of power.

The three women were arrested over four months ago and have been held without bail on charges of criminal hooliganism — which carry a possible seven-year prison sentence. Two other female members of the band have avoided arrest thus far.

“I announce a hunger strike because it is unlawful,” said Tolokonnikova, wearing a T-shirt with the famous slogan of the Spanish Civil War, “No pasaran!” (“They shall not pass”) emblazoned across it.

“Until July 9 is not enough (time) for me. I think it is absolutely unlawful,” she said in the Tagansky district court.

“I am categorically against it and I announce a hunger strike,” Alekhina also said after the court delivered a separate ruling on her and another one on Samutsevich.

As the case generates media attention, activists all over the world are advocating for Pussy Riot’s release. Over 100 Russian cultural figures, including some known for pro-government views, have signed a letter calling for the release of the trio. “We see no legal basis or practical reason for the further isolation of these young women, who do not pose any real danger to society,” the letter said.

The Russian Orthodox Church has come under criticism for not intervening in the case and calling for mercy. Instead, leading church figures have criticized the women. Thousands of Orthodox Christian worshipers have turned out in the Russian capital Moscow in April for a prayer to support the controversial Church in what it perceives to be an attack on its authority.

Cameron, MO May 2011

Down the road at Crossroads Correctional Center, the “turn-a-keys” and high-and-mighty paper pushers try and expect convicts to scrub showers and buff floors daily for no-benefits, in Ad-seg H-u1. Convicts stress if they do work, they’re not offered double portions, or even brown bags, or a thank-you for their sweat. So, everybody in H-u1 stood together and refused to work. They began to scatter inmates, moving people that they thought would solve the problem, to other walks, but the protest only got stronger. Turn-a-keys had to clean up themselves. People began throwing trash on the walk, wetting it and were written up for (9.1) organized disobedience. In the end

June 2012

Dear Prison Action News,

Hi, my name is David Duran. I am reporting to you a complaint concerning correctional officers taking my food. I filed a Step 1 grievance. Staff denied allegations that “I am not being fed.” An investigation was done. They checked the activity log regarding “meals” and it showed I was “fed.” The activity logs are done by seventy staff in the picket who monitor officers’ conduct on the floor. Since they all work together, they learn to stick together as a team or group. They learn to cover up for each other. The staff in the picket cover up the truth, “not being fed” and lie that I was “fed” when in fact they saw me get jacked for my food.

This could happen to other inmates so we have to learn how to prove our claims, even when staff cover up and lie for each other. We need to learn to collect statements from inmates, and send them to the Warden by US Postage and certified mail. We need to get investigators to investigate our claims. OIG will not investigate our claims, so we need to find a way to get a private investigator to do this.

We have no notary public officer to notarize our witness statements, so we have unsworn documents. We need to find someone who can help us notarize our documents. We need to learn to certify our legal mail so when we send it they have to sign documents that they received it, so later on they won’t deny they did not receive it. We need to learn to write informal complaints on I-60’s and send them by US postage and certified mail, get lawyers or investigators to send it to the Warden for you.

David

Los Angeles, CA June 20 2012

I was illegally brought to the US for 187 (p.c.). The Los Angeles District Attorney’s office submitted a false affidavit for my extradition from Mexico to Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Sam Ohta. In return, the judge attested that all the documents contained in that application for requisition were true and correct copies of the originals, which is false. In turn, this fraudulent affidavit was sent to the Governor of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger, who then sent the fraudulent documents to the US Sec. of State, Condoleezza Rice, who in turn sent the fraudulent documents to the President of the United Mexican States, Vincente Fox. I was unlawfully extradited back to the US under the rule of Mexican President Felipe Calderon.

I went to trial and was found guilty in March 2009. The same judge who attested to the truthfulness of the extradition documents was presiding. I filed a number of motions for him to rescue himself because of bias and prejudice, but to no avail.

Thereafter, I went to prison in December 2009, subsequently my appellate lawyer filed a brief with the California appellate court, alleging that the DA discriminated in the jury selection process. During the voir-dire of the jurors, I made a motion about the DA’s discriminatory intent. In ruling on my motion,
the Judge, Sam Ohta, did not allow me to present all of the facts of the prosecutors’ prior conduct in the jury selection to establish a prima-facie case, according to Baston V. Kentucky, therefore violating the law. My case was conditionally reversed to allow the prosecutor to state his reasons for excluding the black jurors. However, by depriving me of the right to explain myself, the judge violated more of my constitutional rights, such as first amendment freedom of speech, the right to petition the redress of grievances, sixth amendment assistance of counsel and the 14th to due process of law. All just to cover up one wrong. So now that I’m back from state prison on a conditional reversal, my fight for justice continues. I now have a public defender who does not really know the ins and outs of this Baston issue, who is doing nothing more than delaying time to pay her husband’s doctor bill, using me as her means of income, without working. Trying to send me on a wild goose chase with her incompetent means of defense that does not measure up to the issue at hand. Therefore, I think that my only means of receiving justice is to go Pro-per again. Knowing all the while by doing so, I can never receive justice. So, if I have to spend the rest of my life in prison, illegally, I’d rather represent myself so that the important issues will become manifest in the courts in hopes of receiving some kind of justice, because a silent record has no meaning or substance at all in the reviewing courts. And if there are any lawyers or paralegals that would like to help me in my quest to regain my freedom, feel free to write to me in the Los Angeles County Jail. All legal help is welcome, suggestions as well.

To all my comrades in arms, our fight for freedom must continue and we shall prevail. The real militant stand in 2012 is a constitutional one. Peace, all power to the people.

Reginald (Reggie) Fiecos #2729-290
PO Box 86164
Terminal Annex
Los Angeles, CA 90086

Tennessee Colony, TX
June 2012

I am an indigent Texas state prisoner, who has been active in the prison reform movement and the New Afrikan Independence Movement for over 15 years. I believe I got two letters, providing contact info, but no resource support, from two activists in other parts of the country, as a result of my last PAN update.

Since that last update, in PAN Vol. 5 #1, I have submitted 13 formal prisoner grievances, called I-127’s. One concerned cell problems (broken light socket, and toilet running continuously) that complaints to wing officers had failed to get

Draper, UT
June 25 2012

Greetings of resistance from the bowels of an infamous Amerikkkan solitary torture chamber, the beast’s mask titled “Draper,” where the most heinous state-sanctioned murders pop off, literally, still 30-30’s, starvation, mental and physical tortures, medical malpractice, unconstitutional censorship a la “Corrections,” a la “Freedom,” a la “democracy spreading” fascist camo-weenies. Just another day at the beach called “bye bye Babylon.”

Green v. Downs 2: 12-CV-00432 was filed in opposition to the tortures. Green v. Turley is being filed, if the shady contract attorneys don’t shred it, against the unconstitutional policy fdr 25 that upheld censorship. No more though. After I’m through with it, bank on it. And Green v. Abbott will put the hands on the medical malpractice going on. I’m about to light ‘em up. Please, all, look for Memorial Day essay on BrandonGreensblog.blogspot.com and more on SolitaryWatch.com for a gaggles of us in contact with the salamander who puts in work for us for Solitary Watch news.

Do comrades remember my first essays in PAN on the “sit-down-plug-the-bastard-up” strike in Unita one? Well, it’s going strong. Food portions were cut last month. It’s fucking horrible, but we maintain. Rattling clips off of doors and swallowing them, leading to x-rays and doctors putting in orders to remove them, is a tactic we’ve been voting to settle the score ‘tab-wise.’ $375.00 per lawsuit is hateful to us who get $25.00 from senior grandmothers per month. But they steal more than from just old ladies here in Utah. Lest we forget Abu Grahib and those two sadistic punks, Gary Deland and O’Lane McCotter, taken from Division Director/Warden positions here in Draper to run that disreputable Middle East gulag.

Shady strategies like hanging ourselves, cutting ourselves, grabbing pigs’ arms and biting off fingers (at least trying to), throwing piss and shit have resulted in SWAT extractions and riot style crowd control smoke being set off in our cages. Flooding cells by sprinklers or toilets, with the swallowing of the metal sprinkler pieces, occur as the rage boils and the hunger gnaws at our sanity.

Right now my liver’s shutting down from my Hepatitis C and the prison’s not helping me. I’m in pain like no other. Dying’s no joke, comrades. I’m seeking liver biopsy and CT scans, as these liver enzyme testing procedures smokescreen the medical malpractice. It’s common medical knowledge liver enzyme testing is pointless, but it’s all the Kamp offers. The prison’s phone number is 801-576-7000 and the Warden can be contacted through the post at: Warden A.C. Bigalow, USP PO Box 250, Draper, UT 84020-0250. Y’all got my back out there, amigos? Put it down for the Warden can be contacted through the post at: Warden A.C. Bigalow, USP PO Box 250, Draper, UT 84020-0250. Y’all got my back out there, amigos? Put it down for

Brandon K. Green #147075
Utah State Prison
PO Box 250
Draper, UT 84020-0250
since the courageous and peaceful strike by Georgia prisoners in December 2010, began refusing food.

They demanded medical care, including but not limited to care for injuries sustained in the wave of retaliatory beatings which were the state’s response to the December 2010 strike, when more than one prisoner was beaten into coma and paralysis. In the past year and a half, Miguel Jackson and other prisoners whom the state appears to believe were leaders of the December 2010 strike have been denied showers for weeks and months on end. They demanded access to these basic needs, and the restoration of the meager personal property inmates are allowed to accumulate behind the walls. They demanded that authorities cease arbitrarily removing the visitation privileges of their families and their ability to access legal books and other assistance. They demanded that the Department of Corrections follow its own procedures and review the status of prisoners in punitive isolation at 30 day intervals, and that the hearings and their records be public.

“These are dignified, peaceful, minimal demands,” declared Rev. Kenneth Glasgow of the TOPS Society and the Prodigal Child Project. “After more than two weeks, the men are starving and their health is in great danger. Would the state of Georgia rather let these men die than give them medical care? Is that what we’ve come to?

“It’s time to call the warden at Jackson Prison, to call the governor, to call the Department of Corrections in respectful support of the dignified demands of these prisoners. It’s time to call today and not delay. This is a matter of life and death and human dignity. [...]”

“Prisoners are our brothers, our uncles, our nieces and our daughters, our sons and our cousins. When we allow them to be confined without education, without recreation, with due process and without dignity or hope we debase ourselves and disgrace each other.”

[...]

“The Georgia Green Party endorses [the] solidarity fast,” said spokesperson Hugh Esco. “We hope that people of faith and others will join it, and will spread the word. The US has 2.4 million prisoners, far more than anywhere else on earth. African-Americans are 12% of our people, but more than 40% of the locked down. Latinos are 13% but almost 30% of all prisoners. That means 70% of US prisoners come from the 25 percent of our population that is non-white.

“Our nation’s over-reliance upon prisons as answers to homelessness, to mental illness, to drug use has taken a terrific toll on our families and communities and futures. It’s time that people in Georgia and across the country work to roll back the prison state. We hope you’ll sign the petition to Georgia’s governor at www.endmassincarceration.com, forward it widely, along with whatever news becomes available of the strikers’ status.

“And above all, we need you to call Jackson Prison (404-656-1776), the Georgia Department of Corrections and the governor to demand fairness for the men behind the walls, some of whom have not eaten since June 11. The state should also release the names of all those it has placed under close confinement at Jackson and spell out in public why they are confined there. Secret imprisonment without public trial has been illegal since the 13th century, and this is the 21st.”
Numerous acts go on continuously, the good, the bad, the pretty and the ugly. Some go unnoticed and some get noticed by whatever means, e.g. social media, youtube, facebook, etc. Whether one is perceived as negative or positive, nonetheless, the act still goes on.

In a prison setting, it’s the same, acts continue, albeit there are bad acts, negative acts, ugly acts that continue to be fixed as prisoners dwell in that fixed room for untold days on end.

The act of filing a 602, also known as a grievance, through the administrative means, can truly work wonders. But one mustn’t get their hopes up as if simply letting your issue be known it will be resolved. It’s not an ends but only a means to bring attention to the plight and dilemma one faces. Yet, a majority of prisoners don’t know how to file or put in a grievance. This is either through the lack of knowing or a problem with the logistics of the process. But, as one didn’t know how to ride a bike, walk, or swim, it shouldn’t discourage many, for this knowledge was gained and learned through a process of trial and error. For instance, here at my building the hair clippers were broken, and while trying to use them, I cut myself. This issue has been going on for awhile, but finally I took action and 602‘ed this. And wouldn’t you know, the next time I go to the yard, we prisoners have a new clipper for the hair machine. Now, I can’t say the 602 did it, but most likely prompted someone to act. This is at a small level. Most have more complicated issues to resolve, but with practice and experience, one can gain greatly by filing 602 grievances.

Problems that arise can be resolved through a simple act of filing a 602 or not (to put it bluntly). But that shouldn’t stop anyone. Don’t just sit there and take abuse day after day, lowering yourself to be docile and copacetic. Act and act with that pen, mind and the grievance process. It may work or may not, but hey, you acted!

Gerasimos and Panagiotis won their final transfer from Domokos prisons. Gerasimos got transferred to Koridallos prisons and Panagiotis because he is considered a long term convict (he is sentenced to 37 years) and could not come to a prison such as Koridallos (a prison mainly for people who are waiting to be judged), won a transfer to a prison of his “choice” and will be transferred to Trikala prisons where three other members of the Conspiracy Cells of Fire are also being held.

This victory puts in its own way another pledge in our aim for political coexistence of the members of the CCF within the walls and abolishes the isolation they try to impose on us. In this confrontation opposite the system, time and fatigue, we put our bodies as a barricade and as a pawn of our decency. That’s why we did not plead, neither did we beg for solidarity in the places we avoided to hang out during our course as anarchists of praxis.

We stayed clear of leftist parties, from press conferences with a humane background, from reformist circles. Choosing thus a conscious loneliness we counted friends and enemies, comrades and indifferent, actions and silences… We do not have spare words for the small time politicians and the meaningless.

On the contrary the term “thank you” is very poor for the comrades from the whole of Greece who ran, gave out flyers, put up posters, set up PA systems, organized gatherings, occupied a TV station, they came with a demo by the prisons, carried out counter-information actions from radio stations…

Finally we send our warmest hug to all those vandals, the hooded ones, the provocateurs, the night time arsonists and bombers in Greece, the anarchist nihilists in Spain, our brothers in Bolivia, England and to all the cells of the Informal Anarchist Federation and of the Conspiracy Cells of Fire… Nothing would be the same, without all of you…

May we meet soon comrades. Although we won, we have nothing more to do than start the next battle.

Georgia Prison Hunger Strikers Endure
June 27 2012

by Black Agenda Report managing editor Bruce A. Dixon

Since [June] 11, at least ten, and possibly more prisoners in Jackson GA have refused food, vowing to fast till death if they cannot receive medical care, visitation and fair, transparent status reviews. The state of Georgia is adamant, reportedly threatening the prisoners with death where they are, rather than even hospitalize or closely monitor their deteriorating condition.

Georgia’s massive Diagnostic and Classification Prison near Jackson is the place where Troy Davis was murdered by the state last year. It may be the place where state authorities manage to kill more prisoners this year. On June 11, ten prisoners, most or all of whom have been in solitary confinement for 17 and half months,
of the hunger strike, the federal government would forcefeed brothers intravenously. We knew that our very healthy bodies could live 30 days without food and ten days without water. We learned this from our brothers the resistance fighters in the Irish Republican Army imprisoned by the monarchy occupying Ireland. They died one at a time resisting to free their homeland in which they were successful.

I am now serving 36 years to life under the three strikes law. I lost my direct appeal so now I must use a habeas corpus writ to fight for my freedom with the same law I adamantly resist. I am now imprisoned in the infamous Calif. State Prison in Corcoran, the home of the prison guard gang “the Green Wall.” They set up rival prison gang members in the security housing unit to kill each other, calling it “the fight club.” The government wants us to continue to fight each other instead of uniting and causing direct resistance against the prison system. Divide and conquer is what they do.

I am a political prisoner. It was politics that invented California’s three strikes law. My bank robberies happened in 1978, 34 years ago. I did my time and now I’m doing life because of them. All of us that are resisting this life sentence under the three strikes law are being held in bondage because of politics. I myself will never stop resisting.

Brothers and sisters, stay strong, keep on resisting, never fold. Anyone like-minded please write to me. I couldn’t possibly be all alone. Fellow convicts must piggy-back mail.

Sincerely and respectfully, your brother in the resistance, stay united,
James Carroll F67996
CSATF/SP D4-143
PO Box 5246
Corcoran, CA 93212

Why Can’t Prisoners Have Human Rights?
June 11 2012

SCI Fayette prevented the February 1 Prison Action News issue from arriving into the prison, using the Pennsylvania Statute DCADM 803 policy against me in an arbitrary way because of a past civil action I filed against them for tampering with my mail. However, that constitutes retaliation. I ran into a prisoner who received the same issue and the mail room allowed it into the prison, which now constitutes a deprivation of equal protection rights.

This has turned into an ongoing pattern of interference with incoming publications, whereas the mailroom’s official conduct is unreasonably related to legitimate penological interest. Therefore, I just filed a civil action in the United States Court of the Middle District of Pennsylvania because I was temporarily housed at SCI Waymart when the officials retaliated against me when helping Fayette get away from liability when opening and destroying my incoming legal court mail outside my presence which put my litigation in jeopardy of meaningful access to the court. I then filed a grievance on the matter because I was deprived of freedom of speech rights, the opportunity to object to the publication denial sheet. However, the mailroom supervisor’s answer stated that the legal court mail arrived at the prison open... Nonetheless, he deprived me of a substantive, procedural interest to receive a written notice of the open legal mail, and abused his power when failing to make an adequate provision to report this matter to a higher official for investigation. I was born with rights so these should have never been deprived of me.

Muwsa Green HV-5362
SCI-Fayette
Box 9999
LaBelle, PA 15450

CCF – Victory of the Hunger Strikes
January 5 2012

Translated by boubourAs/Act for freedom now!
From https://athens.indymedia.org/front.php3?lang=el&article_id=1396345
“A battle has been won but the war does not end here...”

After 23 days of hunger strike, we come out as winners against the corruption, defeatism and captivity that dominate in the world of prisoners.

We wrote: “We made a decision… we fight till the end...” We stood consistent to this choice of ours even when we saw our brothers Gerasimos and Panagiotis leave and be hospitalized in a bad condition at Tzanoi hospital. Because from all that is written, we love what is written with blood and sealed with actions. All the rest is hollow babbles and a waste of time.

These 23 days we did not regret the hunger strike even for a moment. We knew the risk. We know everyone dies… but there are deaths that weigh differently, because we ourselves decide the way we will die, just as we choose the way we live. And we decided to come out of this battle as winners.
Harold Clarke was prison warden in the State of Nevada until something motivated him to move to the State of Washington where Governor Christine Gregoire appointed him to the positions of Secretary (Head) of Department of Corrections, Chairman of the Office of Public Defense Advisory Committee, & Member of the Organized Crime Advisory Board. Governor Gregoire also appointed Eldon Vail to the positions of Deputy Secretary of Department of Corrections & Commissioner of the Criminal Justice Training Commission.

As a member of the OCAB, Harold Clarke learned about organized crime and gained a lot of political clout by working with politicians, chiefs of police, and sheriffs. As the Secretary of DOC, Harold Clarke: (1) sought to maximize the profits of correctional industries and have as many people imprisoned as possible both by lawful and unlawful means; (2) directed correctional staff to participate in organized crime, wage criminalistic campaigns against prisoners in general, devise and experiment with unlawful patterns of practice, see how many different ways correctional staff could screw with prisoners and get away with it, and routinely commit a combined total of about 230 crimes/violations against prisoners inclusive of, yet not limited to, campaign harassment, false reporting, hearings violations, cruel & unusual punishment, psychological warfare, torture, terrorism, assault, battery, brutal assault, attempted murder, and murder; (3) encouraged correctional staff to intentionally take unlawful courses of action to cause prisoners to assault them and/or excuse a use of force upon prisoners then file false L&I claims for financial compensation and additional “relief” such as paid leave; and (4) otherwise engaged in criminal activity.

As Chairman of the OPDAC, Harold Clarke, and about four other correctional system representatives who were members of the committee, utilized their powers & privileges to weaken the Office of Public Defense, prevent public defenders from providing defendants with good legal defense, and cause public defenders to sabotage or otherwise lose defendants’ cases so the four layered body of government’s agents, operatives, hirings & delegated authorities could claim more funds at “public expense,” traffic humans, place more stock in prisoners (stock & bond), and increase the number of jobs, funds & profits within the DOC.

The efforts of the Prison Activist Resource Center, Partnership for Safety & Justice, Justice Works, Prison Legal News, Doctor Terry Kuper of American Association for Community Psychiatrists, and others participating in the StopMax Campaign generated an awareness that directly and/or indirectly caused the People of the State of Washington to publicly announce that they were campaigning against DOC Secretary Harold Clarke and demanding a no-confidence vote so he relinquished his positions to his Deputy Secretary Eldon Vail who appeared to come out of retirement (I suspect he was actually being prepped to take over the position during the “retirement”) then Harold Clarke became the President of the American Correctional itments; a good number. By breakfast, only roughly half had refused their meals of two cold thin pancakes and a small slot of cold oatmeal. By lunch, only 7 or 8 of us were still on board to refuse our trays. The diminishing numbers acted as a wet blanket on our once high spirits and by dinner (chicken night) our hunger strike was virtually dead with only 2 or 3 not eating dinner. Only one brother went for 3 days. As quickly as we united to stand, we disbanded just as fast. It was a big disappointment to see how easily we were broken without the oppressors even beginning to implement their retaliatory tactics yet. We heard more negative comments from other inmates then police. A neighbor asked me if I was participating in the strike too and when I assured him that I was, he asked if he could have my trays! Most non-participants laughed and said we were crazy for what we were doing. More inmates opposed us than pigs. They might as well have done their job for them! Although the effort was a circus act, it was not a complete waste; it was a start. We must start somewhere if we are able to see an end to our conditions. We can only progress from this point on, not regress. I take it as a learning experience that we can utilize for the next time by outlining the do’s and don’ts. I look at all that we did wrong and all of the areas we lacked in. We can only get wiser as the struggle rages on. I end this with a message for all comrades black, white, brown, yellow, and red; all political prisoners and all lumpen organizations who comprise at least half of the Florida Prison System: “Those in power are so afraid of our unification because you can only keep a person [or a people] down for so long. Then when unification comes, all of us have the same damn enemy, and they can’t have that. But they can’t stop it.” (Minister Fontain, United in Peace, the Lumpen Times vol 2 no. 13.)

All power to the people,
Comrade Borleone

Corcoran, CA June 18 2012

Brothers and sisters in the resistance for freedom and anarchy:
I just received my first Prison Action News resistance network newsletter. It touched the very depth of my heart and gives me strength to continue to resist and fight for anarchy. Not only for me, but also for the whole world.

My name is Jimmy James, and I am a resistance fighter from way back in the day. In 1968 I volunteered into the tribal thumb to resist capitalist imperialist government. We resisted in ways I cannot admit. I stood ready to give away Turks for the SLA from sister Patty Hearse’s capitalist filthy rich father, until the fascist LAPD assassinated with fire my brother in the SLA Sinque.

In 1978 I was convicted alone of three armed bank robberies. I served every day of fifteen years in the federal penitentiary where I was a participator in work strikes in the main kitchen. We would not eat in the government chow hall and refused to work in their prison industry. The government would lock us all down and transferred us all to different penitentiaries all over the country. There were prisoners who wouldn’t strike, effectively shutting down the strike. After ten days
**Direct Action/Non-Compliance**

**AmeriKKKan Justice**  
March 13 2012

My name is Matthew “London” Smith. I am the founder/leader of Soldiers of Bondage (S.O.B.); a communist revolutionary vanguard movement. I extend camaraderie to any revolutionary, be they communist, socialist, anarchist, etc.

On September 3, 2011 in North Cell House of Pontiac Correctional Center (Segregation) c/o Jody Davis beat me out of my lunch tray and shower for being “loud.” In retaliation I blasted Davis with water. After Davis and two other c/o’s cuffed me up, they threw me to the ground and started to stomp and kick me. Their assault left me with several cuts, scrapes, and bruises.

Several months later on January 20, 2012 the state of Illinois indicted me on one count of aggravated battery for assaulting Davis with water. On January 23, 2012 the state of Illinois charged me under the Habitual Criminal Act. That means that the Aggravated Battery, which normally carries 3-7 years, will now carry 6-30 years.

This is AmeriKKKan justice. The tyrannical, imperialist pigs are attempting to take away more of my life because I fight the oppressor. AmeriKKKa is trying to take 6-30 more years of my life when they already have 19 years of it within their clutches. But, even if they succeed in stealing another chunk of my life, I will not give in or give up. I will continue to fight the oppressor in the name of revolution to my dying breath if need be.

At times though, it gets hard. Any letters of support would be welcome and greatly appreciated. For the people! For the revolution! For liberation!

“Is life so dear or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and bondage?...I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!” - Patrick Henry

Matthew Smith B86629  
Pontiac Correctional  
PO Box 99  
Pontiac, IL 61764

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**Floridas June 2012**

I am writing regarding a “Hunger Strike” that took place in May 2012 here at Florida State Prison CM (Close Management Unit). Unfortunately, due to the lack of organization, communication, and unity, you can hardly call our efforts a true “hunger strike,” not when you look at our comrades in California. Our reasons for attempting this strike were righteous ones: lack of sufficient food on trays, lack of cleaning supplies to clean our houses, lack of laundry, etc. We were fed up and decided to take a stand. The night before the strike we had at least 25-30 verbal com
Work is what I want
And not Charity
Who will help me get
A job—7 years in Detroit

Capitalism: 1930.....

and 2012—Still not working!