



POST OFFICE BOX 110034 BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11211

Updates for Mar 25th

28 Jan - Update on Eric King's Confinement

We've let a couple of updates on Eric King slip through the cracks and are trying to catch everyone up as well as to let folks know about a new fund raiser in support of Eric's legal defense.

MORE:

This is going to be very long a lot more personal than we usually post. For the first time Eric's partner feels like they need to speak out and share what has been happening to their family.

"There has been radio silence on our end for a bit, and for that I apologize. So much has been happening with Eric, but we have felt incredibly anxious and afraid to publicize. It's been so terrible that even right now...I feel extremely overwhelmed and panicked to write this all out. We have sat on a draft of this for a month now. But its pretty real that FCI Englewood has terrorized our family since Eric's arrival in late August, starting from the VERY FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH THE PRISON. And it is finally time to talk about it.

After Eric arrived at FCI Englewood I attempted to visit the next day. Policy is a spouse can visit in the first week prior to visiting approval. However when he was placed in Englewood in 2016 we ran into major issues attempting that first visit so I did expect to encounter some bullshit... we were not disappointed. After an hour of talking to guards, lieutenants and pushing hard for the visit, I was finally brought back to the visiting room. Because of all of the time it took... we only had 20 minutes to visit. During those 20 minutes, they came to us no less than 4 times claiming there was a kid in my car. They attempted to make me leave the visit to show them there was no child. I refused and told them to go in my locker, get my car keys, and go **in** my car to see there was no child. Desperate for every second that was being wasted. After shutting the situation down we were finally allowed 5 uninterrupted minutes, but it was difficult to relax and connect. It was a year and a half ago the last time we were in the same room. And our reality was so heavy. We JUST got hit with these charges. Those last 5 minutes were sad and vulnerable and so beautiful. It was really difficult to leave knowing fully that when the big dogs got in on Monday the prison was VERY likely going to try to keep us from each other.

We have a history with FCI Englewood, so it was shocking to us he was placed here while awaiting trial. Our journey with this prison 3 years ago ended with them allowing a correctional officer, a grown man, to threaten physical harm on children. The situation blew up when the prison insisted on keeping him on visiting duties. When Eric tried to utilize his "legal process" and work through the grievance system FCI Englewood brought him up on disciplinary charges for allegedly "threatening an officer" with a cartoon he drew. <supportericking.org/2018/06/28/reflections-on-erics-trip-to-fci-florences-shu> He was sent out, held without visits or calls with us for **105 days**, he was bumped up 10 points in security level designation (in prison designation this is a BIG jump) for this **"assault" by cartoon**.

At the end of the day, FCI Englewood succeeded in shutting down the "legal process" Eric was entitled to. Prisoners have to file grievances up the chain of command before filing litigation. If you are in segregation you rely fully on officers: firstly by bringing you a grievance form, and secondly to not just throw them in the trash (which happened over and over at USP Leavenworth regarding the officer who assaulted Eric in 2018). **The grievance process relies heavily on the prisoner physically being at that prison.** The BOP can shut prisoners down on so many levels, and just give them the boot to avoid further escalation of their grievance.... You run out of time after 6 months and you can NEVER file litigation against the prison regarding this issue. We will never be allowed to file civil litigation against the prison or the officer who attacked Eric because of this. If you cannot pay the court costs, you're out of luck. Take a peek through the

dismissed civil rights cases related to prison abuse. You will see account after account of horrible alleged abuses that get thrown out because the prisoner couldn't make it through the grievance process. Its chilling, stories of abuse just dropped into the trash because they couldn't pay the court costs, making **SLAVE** wages. I'm sure it was **FULLY** a 'coincidence' when 3 years ago, **Eric was bounced from FCI Englewood the SAME DAY Eric was to receive an institutional response to his grievance.**

In case anyone is wondering, the officer is still there. The Marshals could have placed Eric at any number of private contracted prisons being that he is pre-trial, but the Bureau Of Prisons couldn't keep their greasy hands off him, so they placed him at FCI Englewood.

There are three prisons on the Englewood complex: the federal detention center (FDC) for pre-trial prisoners, the FCI Englewood, and the federal prison camp. Eric should be held at the FDC as a pre-trial prisoner, but the warden created a mandatory detention order that states Eric will be held permanently in segregation (in FCI Englewood). Without serving disciplinary sanctions there should be no reason to be housed in the segregated housing unit or SHU. Or even held in a prison he **isn't** designated to. Yet some document related to his detention (that we are not allowed to see) says he must be held in segregation indefinitely. Conveniently right smack dab in the middle of the prison where some folks with a bad taste in their mouths are sitting. There is concern that guards with a vengeance has access to him. Folks who are tasked with ensuring Eric has access to his attorney... have friendships with the ENTIRE team involved with the case. How is this not a conflict? He is facing a case brought against him by the BOP, in a BOP facility, being guarded by folks that are directly involved with the witnesses that will be called into his trial. It is all very concerning. And when staff is refusing Eric access to the law library, denying legal visits, restricting legal visits its really hard to feel like these folks don't feel motivated to impact our ability to fight this case. When he could be held at many other Colorado prisons while fighting this case, we are told though it is crucial that he be held in the custody of the BOP. Now I am just saying... IF the BOP had something to hide, they couldn't arrange a better situation for themselves while a questionable case is moving through the courts. Fighting a case in a BOP facility, against the BOP, is playing out 'shockingly' _____. Difficult.

What can I say about FCI Englewood? I have never experienced a weirder, more polarized group of guards. Residing in the Denver-metro area, there is a cross-section of Denver folks merely looking for a paycheck and the increasingly alienated aggravated right; white dudes, facing with a society beginning to hold them accountable... with martyr complexes. (I have to add that right now, thankfully, all of the people assigned directly to the SHU right Eric fall into the first group. The SHU staff, the SHU Lieutenant, the head of health services and the guards on duty for visitation. At this moment those are our only "safe" spaces in FCI Englewood... the rest is fucking landmines). Though the folks who fall into the latter seem to find their way to Eric over and over though. Englewood couldn't wait to start the games. Be it rape threats towards Eric, encounters with previously mentioned guard (carrying a live weapon) that threatened the kids, or repeated attempts at discovering where the kids go to school...they sure kept it interesting. Including being told I was banned from visiting for a 16-year-old bench warrant for a bad check, which was something I disclosed when I was approved for visits 4 YEARS PRIOR AT THE SAME FACILITY, and at 3 OTHER FACILITIES, not to mention my visiting approval was STILL in the computer from last time it was approved. So weeks were spent stressing and ended with us paying a significant amount of money to resolve the warrant so we can visit again. **FULLY** expecting to not be allowed to visit despite being told this is 100% all we needed to do to regain visitation.

Around the time that the bench warrant was released. FCI Englewood responded to a grievance Eric filed regarding visitation. The prison said that due to our ideology we will not be allowed to visit. So here's the thing: When Timothy McVeigh was housed at FCI Englewood his ideology wasn't a problem. Neither has it been for the numerous Nazis that have graced those prison walls. But anarchist/anti-fascist ideology is

not welcome. **A restriction I might add, a warden does not get to make.** Even the CMU and ADX where the BOP holds the majority of prisoners with terrorist designation **does not enforce visiting restrictions based on ideology.** So it was not a surprise that after I emailed documents proving the bench warrant had been released on October 20th, I then attempted to visit 2 weeks later and was told that Warden Bradley Greilick signed a permanent visitation ban on me.

Eric continued the process of fighting internally for visits through his legal process, which is a complete and utter joke. And WE worked from the outside. The prisoners in his segregated housing unit (SHU) went on multiple hunger strikes in response to the constant abuse they suffer under the administration of FCI Englewood. Eric receives a visit from Warden Greilick and was told that there are 3(4) conditions required for my visiting:

- That there is nothing negative posted online about FCI Englewood. No news stories, specifically no blog updates, related to the prison. This is extremely problematic. The warden in a **gross opportunistic move** decided to try to hold our visits over Eric's head in an attempt to silence him regarding abuse he is suffering. As well as a way to try to suppress Eric's support while fighting this case.
- That I not protest the prison... There is SO much to say about this. But I want to keep this short and sweet. I have not been convicted of a federal crime. **The warden has NO jurisdiction over my life outside the prison grounds. The warden does NOT get to tell me that I cannot legally exercise my constitutional rights off prison grounds.** The audacity of this condition is so thick.
- That I respect the prison staff. This is SO loaded. **We have not had ONE disciplinary write up for visit behavior while Eric has been held in the BOP system.** I have not been once told I am being disruptive. We have not in our time had ONE verbal instruction made to us regarding my behavior. I have to follow the same stringent behavior code as ANYONE else visiting any BOP facility It feels like it all boils down to again... our ideology. There has never been a respect issue. The issue they have is with how we feel about them.
- That I not wear anything "antifa." The warden will NOT allow support to be shown for a "terrorist organization" in their prison. This is again ridiculous because as a visitor to a BOP facility it is ALWAYS up to the guards discretion to dictate what any visitor can and cannot wear for any reason. All day long the guards demand visitors change their clothing. And we do...that is how it works. This is nothing more than a super weird BOP flex, as I am already held to BOP dress code regs.

Laying out a set of "guidelines" I have to follow in order to be approved to visit is actually not the way visitors are approved in the BOP. That is not how the process works. All I am required to do is submit to the same background checks I have completed at every facility I have visited. This is a major flex... and one that seems REALLY centered on silencing us while at the same time shaming who we are.

Let's get this straight and out there. We are anti-fascists and anarchists. This is no big secret. We are out, we are open about this. We believe in building strong communities. We believe in gardens, in dumpster diving collectives, in community childcare. But we also believe in a world in which fascists do not feel safe causing harm and oppressing others. A facet of this includes feeling responsibility to use the privilege we have to give voice to the abuses we witness and experience via the BOP. Would it be easier for us to keep quiet...100%. But Eric has a voice, he has folks who care about him and listen. He has folks to bare witness to his struggles. **But so many in prison do not.** They suffer slavery, they suffer abuse, they suffer murder at the hands of prisons. It is the responsibility of those with a voice to amplify the voice and struggle of others. It isn't just about us. Even with this new case, we have a responsibility to fight it and win, and we have a responsibility to fight the illegal visit and phone restrictions, because the BOP has demonstrated a constant pattern of attempting something with one prisoner, or political prisoner, experiencing success

without resistance and then carrying it out again and again with other prisoners. Staying silent, sitting back, is not an option. This is no longer about just us.

It wasn't until after the Fed attorney's officer reached out to the prison to inquire about denied visits, and the fact that it has been A YEAR AND A HALF since Eric was attacked **and he STILL didn't have his glasses**, that the prison begrudgingly added me to the visitation list. We also were afforded the opportunity (after asking for over year) to purchase glasses for Eric and send them in. When we asked for Eric's current prescription from his eye exam a year prior at USP Leavenworth and the prison turned it over to us, we were shocked to see that FCI Englewood had been transferred his current prescription on **9/18/19** and had been withholding Eric's glasses in a seemingly punitive move: The Marshals were made aware Eric didn't have glasses prior to his arrival in Englewood. It was brought up in court on 8/29/19 that **Eric could not properly read court documents**. The prison was made aware that Eric needed glasses upon his arrival. We find out that from 9/18 to 12/12 they chose to NOT order Eric glasses after receiving his prescription, and to not even allow US to purchase them ourselves. But when instructed to give Eric glasses by the prosecutor's office, they 'suddenly' find the form allowing us to purchase glasses for Eric. It has been terrible for Eric to not be able to see. He has severe cataracts and it has affected his ability to stay in communication with folks, let alone read the evidence presented against him. Not to mention having to defend himself against attack after attack without being able to see. So even these glasses will change his life. After the stepped up communication regarding the glasses Eric was able to actually speak with the head of Englewood health services who wasn't aware it was all going on and ordered a pair for him as well. It helps to have a spare because there always is this yucky fear that something can happen and he ends up without glasses again. We hope they will step in soon and get Eric the stroke evaluation he still needs. One of the worst thing about having a loved one in prison is that if the prison denies treatment or care, you can not even pay for their care with your own money. How is the denial of care about budget if we can not even purchase care for our loved ones.

We are processing a lot right now. Are we to feel grateful that when backed into a corner they decide to finally allow Eric glasses, decided to finally allow us 1-2 hours a week behind glass after a year and a half of not seeing each other? When they had NO LEGAL REASON to restrict the visits in the first place? We have seen each other for a little over a month now. EACH visit knowing it may be our last. KNOWING that they will find some way to take our communication away again. Not having the legal grounds to do something doesn't stop the BOP. We are going on a year now with this illegal phone block that is still in effect. That is all super heavy. That they can do whatever they want to you, legal or not.

BOP expects to trauma bond with us, abuse us over and over and then when forced to hand us visitation, watch expectedly for the gratitude and fear that they attempt to foster. Gratitude and fear that will hopefully keep us silent. And in every other situation, that would probably be what we would have done, as one must to survive within the BOP. We have kept our heads down, and kept many many many things quiet over the years. But we simply CANNOT do this anymore. We will not do that anymore.

At this point, it feels the safest thing we can do is tell our story. Despite how scary and vulnerable it feels. Dreading the retaliation that will undoubtedly result. But we already live in the worst case. Because of prison abuse, Eric is facing up to 20 more years in prison. The consequences are SO real for us. And they can and have shown us they WILL continue this abuse. They can get to us while he is attempting to defend himself against them in court. **They have orchestrated or attempted to orchestrate white power attacks at almost every single prison he has been placed in since his attack. They have taken our communication away, our phones, emails, visits. They have isolated him from his community by holding and losing his incoming mail. There is worry for the future, as well as after this case is over, and after folks stop paying attention. The things they are doing while under the watchful eye of the**

US Marshals and the federal prosecutors says SO MUCH about what the future looks like when these entities are no longer involved. We fear for his safety now, and in the future.

Right now we have 1-2 hours a week in the same room as each other. And as we did in Englewood the first time, in Florence, we treat each visit as if it were our last. We think about the future. I hope to one day hold his hand again. Sit next to him. Email, talk on the phone again. But right now, we are treasuring these minutes. Being able to cry for the first time together after the attack, after my surgery, catching up on a year and a half of missed experiences, missed moments. Stories of lost teeth and student-of-the-month awards. Us hearing each other's voices. Being able to take in each others faces after a year and a half. In that closet, divided by glass, our souls have begun to heal. Facing these newest charges has been the best part of this last year and a half because we finally get to see each other again. That is incredibly sad. But feeling the VAST improvement in our lives since we've finally been able to talk again, really just clarifies **why** they have done anything and everything to keep us apart. They know what they are doing. They know how to destroy someone from the inside just like they do physically to people's bodies. **We never can forget they know exactly what they are doing.**

Can I say just how much Eric, this amazing person, blows me away? I feel overwhelmed by it every time I sit next to him. I am forever inspired by the strength that he carries, his spirit that refuses to be broken. He survives! I also feel so inspired by the strength of the prisoners at FCI Englewood in the segregated housing unit who have decided to continue to resist against abuse And neglect. Y'all are fucking solid. **We SEE you.**

In a heartbreaking turn of events on New Year's Eve, a prisoner in Eric's unit hung himself. A prisoner who has been jerked around by the mental health team over and over. A prisoner who was on suicide watch, who the prison was aware was off his meds, was taken off suicide watch (which should have never happened) and within 24 hours he was dead. Eric heard a guard yell out about it all; for Eric...it felt like it took forever for guards to get into the cell, cut them down, and call medical. He says it probably could have been 30 seconds and felt like 20 minutes. This is another unnecessary suicide within the segregation units of the BOP. His cellmate in Atlanta 6 months ago attempted to hang himself twice. And was met with violence by the guards. The BOP in the last year has quietly taken books, magazines, newspapers, photos, radios from segregation units. They have taken food products off commissary. They have created complete sensory deprivation. Folks unable to communicate with their family having nothing to read, nothing to occupy their time. **If the BOP continues down this path we expect to see a lot more wardens with blood on their hands as suicides increase as a result.** (not a) Surprise that when the BOP regional officer came to investigate the suicide, FCI Englewood would not allow Eric (who was a witness) give a statement or speak to investigating officers. It feels like Warden Greilick is also attempting to influence the bop regional offices investigation into the suicide.

There is really no place to end this... Every time I type something out, it is instantly outdated as the prison up the ante. **We need folks more than ever.**

PLEASE send letters, articles, jokes, and memes. After resisting mail changes, the prisoners also won the right to have magazines!! Please shoot us an email if you want to get a subscription for Eric."

February 9th - FCI Englewood tries again to remove Eric's Visits

Eric's partner posts a blog speaking out about the abuse they are suffering at the hands of FCI Englewood.... She expresses concerns that because of the choice to speak out and share their story, staff would attempt to illegally restrict visits. Staff have been instructed to check his support blog daily as well as numerous newspapers in case any messages are being given to him via the USA Today (lol). 7 hours and 42 minutes later Eric received his first shot (disciplinary write-up) for using the bathroom and being unable

to stand for count. 5 hours later he receives another. He received a total of 5 shots in 24 hours. Not standing for count, hanging clothes to dry...

2 days later on a Saturday he is brought into the UDC (unit discipline committee) where staff attempted to illegally impose disciplinary sanctions, which removed his ability to visit. When Eric's wife attempted to visit on Sunday she was told their visits were removed.

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Eric has been able to challenge this retaliatory illegal removal of visitation. And just as he made them aware... the UDC staff did not have the power to restrict his visits since he is being held indefinitely in Administrative segregation it is considered cruel and unusual to remove visits for these "disciplinary violation". The SHU Lt and Captain backed him up after he was able to show these restrictions were illegal and his visits were restored. They only lost 1 week of visiting, however we remain concerned. It's one thing or another...FCI Englewood is still up to no good.

Blog was posted at 9:18pm Jan 28th. His first shot came at 12 noon Jan 29th and visits were removed by Jan 1st.

We fully expect to experience more and more creative illegal action against visits and an increased attempt to hold him incommunicado. Be it denying legal visits, stacking him with shots on the order of the warden or just old fashioned violence... at this point its all up in the air.

February 26th - Eric's Legal Defense Fundraiser and Case Filings

Eric's legal team has finally been able to get his legal fundraiser up! We ask the community to please share far and wide: **fundrazr.com/e1cKo1**

The fundraiser page will also be a place that his legal team can provide case filing updates. These filings are also available for viewing and public record for those who setup a pacer account. Setting up an account requires a credit card and you will be charged for viewing any document over \$15 a quarter. So they are public record but ...as much as requiring someone to setup a **paid** account can be considered "public record". Because the way this system works excludes those from accessing this information without disposable funds or bank accounts, and in an attempt for total transparency, his legal team will be posting these court documents on the fundraiser page for all to see.

The first filings have been posted on the fundraiser page under campaign updates. Filed today was a motion to continue and various supporting documents.

If you want to read the email between Eric and his partner that started this ALL head over and take a peek.

25 Feb - Pennsylvania Supreme Court Takes Jurisdiction of Mumia's case

In a blatant attempt to try and stand on the scales of justice, these judges sided with the Fraternal Order of Police's (FOP) King's Bench Petition requesting that the court take jurisdiction from Philadelphia's District Attorney to investigate a charge of bias in favor of Mumia!

MORE:

via *Prison Radio*

Really, "a special master" to investigate charges of bias in anti-corruption crusader Larry Krasner's DA office?

You have fnnn got to be kidding me. It is the old guard of the racist Philadelphia prosecutorial regime - Frank Rizzo, Ed Rendell, Joe McGill, and Lynne Abraham - who were biased and corrupt.

Philadelphia's progressive DA, Larry Krasner, had stated that a new evidentiary hearing should be held in Mumia Abu-Jamal's case because of exculpatory evidence suppressed by the earlier prosecutorial team. The Judge Leon Tucker of the Common Pleas Court had excoriated the former prosecutors for literally burying evidence.

Wonder who the special master will be? A FOP official? A former DA?

This move undermines the movement for accountability that elected Krasner. In that move, the people rejected the business-as-usual police corruption. This is for sure an end run around local democracy.

This petition calls for something called "Extraordinary Relief" - claiming that Krasner's choice to allow Mumia's call for a new trial to proceed is somehow corrupt. "Extraordinary Relief" is supposed to be reserved for moments when the Pennsylvania Supreme Court needs to ensure that justice is done. But this decision is all about thwarting justice. This "intervention" reeks of a coverup - until Krasner and Tucker, every step of Mumia's criminal conviction and appeals process has been saturated with racist corruption. If they cared about justice they would have done this long before, when Sabo, Rizzo, and Rendell were running the show.

Now they suggest that Krasner might be biased in favor of Mumia because he turned over newly discovered evidence that the former prosecutor buried! Kafka would be proud.

When Mumia - and all those other Black and Brown men and women were being harassed and swept into the brutal prison industrial complex - where was all this oversight?

We must always remember how deeply they want to keep Mumia Abu-Jamal in prison. The stronger we get, the nearer to freedom, the more they have to lose. Accountability is looming. We will soon know how thick the corruption is that stands between us and freedom.

February 26th - Mumia's Vision Restored

On the morning of February 22nd, 2020, we received amazing news that Mumia, who has been suffering from failing eyesight, went through a successful procedure to remove cataracts from his right eyes. Cataracts on his left eyes were removed on August 29th, 2019. Mumia supporters have been putting public pressure to make this happen, and after months of uncertainty, Mumia's vision is renewed.

Putting pressure on the prison to cure Mumia's vision is an example of how everyday folks have the ability to make monumental changes towards a fairer and more just society. Wherever there is injustice, people are struggling against it, waves of resistance are overtaking the globe, because now, more than ever, we are coming to understand the Martin Luther King Jr. quote "No one is free until we are all free."

26 Feb - Support Leonard Peltier - Save Elder/Medical Unit

Leonard recently wrote, "We were just notified that this is no longer a elders or medical unit. and we will all get cellies (cell mates). The last cellie they put in my cell was a snitch who snitched on his own son, and all he did was ask me about my case."

MORE:

This means that Leonard will be moved into general population rather than staying in a medical/elders unit.

Here is what we would like you to do; Please send letters asking that Coleman I maintain the Elder & medical care unit for Leonard Peltier and other elder & medical inmates.

We would like your email, letter or fax to include the following points:

- Closing the Elder and Medical care unit would be disastrous to the physical and mental health of the inmates, including Leonard Peltier.
- As a Level 3 Care facility the Coleman I Elder & Medical Care Unit has inmates with significant health issues. Putting these inmates in the general population places them at significant risk due to the ongoing violence at Coleman I as seen by the six month lockdown in 2019 and the current lockdown.
- If you would like to as well personalize Leonard Peltier's circumstances you could add the following facts
 - a) Leonard Peltier is 76 years old
 - b) Leonard's health has had consistent care and monitoring in the unit for his prostate, aortic aneurysm, extreme arthritis in his hip and knee as well as spots on his lung and kidney issues.

Send Letters to:

Warden Roy Cheatham

USP Coleman I

Post Office Box 1023 Coleman, Florida 33521

Email: coa/publicinformation@bop.gov

Fax: 352.689.6012

Also send a copy to:

Bureau of Prisons, Southeast Region

3800 Camp Creek Parkway SW, Building 2000

Atlanta, Georgia 30331

Email sero/execassistant@bop.gov

Fax 678.686.1229

5 Mar - National Jericho Statement of Thanks for Robert Seth Hayes Memorial

In Memory of Comrade Robert Seth Hayes October 15, 1947 – December 21, 2019

MORE:

On Sunday, March 1, 2020, we joined together to share our love and experiences in remembering Robert Seth Hayes and the many other righteous sisters and brothers who have passed on. Thank you for this opportunity. Their legacies will not be forgotten. Indeed, we gain strength and inspiration from their lives and example.

We heard special and personal testimonies from Daniel McGowan of the Certain Days Calendar Collective, Anne Lamb, Matt Meyer, Sister Pam Hanna, and National Jericho Chair Jihad Abdulmumit. Bro Shep McDaniel produced and distributed commemorative Robert Seth Hayes buttons to all present at the event.

We received heartfelt messages from some of our comrades behind the walls: David Gilbert, Russell Maroon Shoatz (read by his daughter Theresa Shoatz), Leonard Peltier, and the Prison Branch of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

We were deeply honored by the presence and statements of our recently released Comrades Janine Africa, Janet Africa and Eddie Africa.

Brother Ngoma and SpiritChild delivered powerful and profound messages through their edutainment. We thank Sister Yasmeen and the National Alumni Association of the Black Panther Party for their contribution of much food and beverages.

We also recognize the presence and support of activists from solidarity movements, anti-racist, anti-imperialist and other political prisoner support initiatives, such as the Anarchist Black Cross Federation, Resistance in Brooklyn, NEPPC, and other formations.

We especially want to express our deep appreciation to The Lynne Stewart Organization and The New Abolitionist Movement. Ralph Poynter and Sister Betty Davis are tireless fighters on many fronts, including education of our communities and our children. They have dedicated most of their lives to fighting against this system, especially in their unwavering support for political prisoners. The Jericho Movement is part of the weekly speakers' panel on What's Happening with Ralph Poynter on BlogTalk Radio every Tuesday night from 9 to 10 p.m. EST. If you want to listen to the show, you can call 347.857.3293 or go to blogtalkradio.com/humanrightsdemand

We thank the ProLibertad Freedom Campaign, Call to Action on Puerto Rico, Holyrood Church Ministry of Solidarity with the Peoples and NYC Free Peltier. National Jericho would like to acknowledge and express our appreciation for the efforts of the members and supporters of our New York City Jericho Chapter for organizing this amazing event.

And finally, we give special thanks to Sister Claudia de la Cruz, Executive Director of The People's Forum, for so graciously hosting us and for their ongoing support.

6 Mar - A Month of Action for Boman Shukur

Call to participate in a month of solidarity with political prisoner, Boman Shukur.

MORE:

This April, 2020, we invite you to participate in a month of actions and events for comrade Boman Shukur.

Boman Shukur has been showering our world with beautiful gifts. His words and actions haven't missed a beat in elevating those he knows and even those he has never met. Shukur is best known for the 1993 Lucasville Uprising, a rebellion inside the walls of an Ohio prison against tyranny and harsh conditions.

In the aftermath Boman was falsely accused of having murdered prisoners and having "led a death squad." No physical evidence connects him to the murders that took place when the prison in Lucasville was in uprising. The verdict itself only came about due to a forced testimony by a prisoner turned snitch. In 2004 Boman wrote a book called *Condemned*, to highlight his life and the truth about what happened. Prisoners

organizing, confronting their oppressor and the organizers being attacked by the state as retaliation is nothing new. In 1971 prisoners in San Quentin, California revolted, George Jackson was killed and Hugo Pinell would spend the following 44 years in California's harshest prisons only to be stabbed to death in 2015 by white supremacists. It's important to recognize that prisoners stand up, organize and are attacked by the state for it. In response, the prisoner strikes back by persevering, surviving and continuing to build with fellow prisoners and those of us on this side of the wall.

As we see with letters, articles or the book Bomani wrote, the message carried by his words have touched people inside and out and spread far. How could a man sitting on death row, his execution date only three years away, be the source of so much kindness and inspiration?

It is because, as he says, this situation is much bigger than him. This is about the entire movement.

It is about how we come together, learn how to work together, and prepare to unseat those in power who are running the most efficient life destroying machine: the prison system.

He is clear how this works on his end: he's not interested in allowing others to characterize him as unsuccessful, as a victim. He doesn't want activists crowding around, showing pity. It is not for them to decide who he is and if he is successful. Success has already begun the day you decide to get up and do something about the situation. He is looking for collaborators, people who understand and want to struggle together.

This is where we come in. The fact that the state has set Bomani Shakur's date of execution is not a moment of tragedy or for despair, but a moment to build from, and to be moved to action.

This is how we follow his excellent example and this is how we turn this situation against the state. Their system thrives off despair. We will build our bonds of solidarity, lines of communication, respectful dialogue, and comradely exchange. We will amplify the words of Bomani Shakur, and become an impenetrable and irretractable force; a force for life, a force for comradeship. We will be as kind and accepting to our comrades and those hunted by the state, as we are dangerous to and unrelenting against the prisons.

We begin with April: a month of solidarity actions with Bomani. Please join in this initiative by: holding a letter writing event, screening the movie about the Lucasville uprising, putting up posters, posting about it on social media, hanging banners, inviting Bomani to do a call-in event with you and your comrades, or any other action or event that raises his profile and builds the kind of movement that is a reflection of his steadfastness and generosity.

April is the anniversary month of the Lucasville prison uprising: a powerful decision to stand up and reclaim a life of dignity and an example of the power of unity among prisoners. This month is to raise awareness about Bomani and his contributions, and by doing so, to build stronger connections with one another, and with comrades inside.

Join together with us and carry forward Bomani's strength and spirit!

From your comrades in:

Antifa Sacramento, Atlanta Abolition, Blue Ridge ABC, NYC Anarchist Black Cross, Page One Collective, Revolutionary Abolitionist Movement

8 Mar - An Update from Xinachtli

Here is a report from the Texas political prisoner Xinachtli, discussing his conditions of confinement and asking for people to show solidarity on May Day.

MORE:

“Love is contraband in Hell, cause love is an acid that eats away bars. But you, me, and tomorrow hold hands and make vows that struggle will multiply.” – Comrade Assata Shakur, Black Liberation Army (in exile in Cuba)

In the spirit of revolutionary proletarian internationalism, from within the belly of this racist, fascist, neo-colonial military stockade, also known as the Guantanamo of Texas prisons, from the occupied territories of the U.S. Southwest under siege for over 500 years, I salute you, and thank you and all freedom-loving peoples of the world, who support me, the Texas prisoner freedom struggles, and the global fight against monopoly capitalism and imperialism.

Viva la revolucion obrera! Viva la lucha! Long live the struggle!

Since my return trip from Polunsky in Livingston, TX, from my Hep C medical treatment, I found a “new administration” in ad. seg. (meaning solitary confinement), more repressive than the last one when I left here in July 2019. Since my return on October 18, 2019, I have been repeatedly assigned to a “disciplinary segregation” cellblock, more punitive than the regular ad. seg. cellblock. I mean, the pigs claim it is just a temporary 30-day “assignment”, but they keep repeating me on it, saying it is due to “overcrowding overflow”, but of over 500 ad. seg. prisoners, who they could easily “rotate”, they have singled me out for repeated assignments to this merry-go-round, under false pretexts.

This was a historical, institutional practice under the past regime of the notorious racist Dr. George Beto, who was prisons chief for many years (after which the Beto Units were named in his “honor”), and glorified in the Texas Prison Museum, as having “invented” the leather strap to beat “disobedient prisoners” who refused to work the agricultural prison fields, picking cotton all day long, only to come in and get fed a piece of dried-up “pork roll.”*

Much like the question of the Confederate monuments being torn down, our prison struggles involve the same communality of our mutual struggles against the Yankee neo-colonial, capitalist, imperialist mentality as the historical foundation of white racist Amerikkka, built on the altars of white supremacy, chattel slavery of Blacks, genocide, ethnic cleansing of indigenous nations tribes, white settler-colonial wars of conquest, and mass incarceration.**

These “punitive assignments” are designed to put me in conditions where those around me, unfortunately, are mentally or intellectually disabled, stay under “psychotic” dazes with their addictions to psychotropic drugs, are constantly cutting themselves and attempting suicide, or are mindless, heartless robots, warehoused in solitary confinement. One cannot have a rational or intellectual conversation with most of them, much less get them motivated to stand up for their human rights, because the system (capitalist society and its oppressive prisons) has beaten them down so much, to the point of demoralization and dehumanization. These same practices were outlawed in the landmark prison conditions case Ruiz v. Estelle.***

The system, the state, know of these problems, but they have all gotten to the point of return to the old pre-Ruiz days, involving overcrowding, grossly insufficient staff, which affects all human needs services and necessities, and so on and so forth.

Because everywhere I go, the pigs know I will preach prisoner unity, and resistance, on any and all levels, their “repeated assignment, re-assignments” of me to these punitive “psychiatric wards” are deliberate acts

of retaliation for exercise of constitutional and human rights, including me helping others file lawsuits against the prison, and helping prisoners here understand the true nature of their class-war capitalist imprisonment, and the true nature of prisons in capitalist Amerikkka! So, I keep fighting back against these racist inhumanities, nurturing, as always, outside support.

I am suggesting that for this coming May Day, May 1, 2020, groups prepare a banner raising my case of wrongful political imprisonment, and denouncing the U.S. government, and this Texas prison, for human rights violations, calling for my immediate release, during May Day events in their respective countries. What do you think? Want to organize something like that where you live?

* see Cruz v. Beto, 603 F.2d 1178 (1979), which can be found at [here](#).

**see Texas Tough: The Rise of America's Prison Empire, Robert Perkinson, 2010, Metropolitan Books

*** Ruiz v. Estelle, 503 F. Supp. 1265, reaffirmed at Ruiz v. Johnson, 37 F. Supp. 2D 855

8 Mar - Call for Art: 2021 Certain Days Calendar

The Certain Days: Freedom for Political Prisoners Calendar collective will be releasing their 20th calendar this coming autumn.

MORE:

The 2021 theme is "A Generation of Support Through the Bars," reflecting on the roles of political prisoners in social justice movements, historically, currently, and as we look to the future.

We are looking for 12 pieces of art and 12 short essays to feature in the calendar, which hangs in more than 6,000 homes, workplaces, prison cells, and community spaces around the world.

We encourage contributors to submit both new and existing work. We especially seek submissions from people in prison, so please forward to any prison-based artists and writers.

Deadline: Sunday, May 17, 2020

THEME GUIDELINES

When the first Freedom for Political Prisoners calendar went to print over two decades ago, the list of political prisoners and prisoners of war numbered over 100. That number has diminished considerably in the last 20 years, sometimes as a result of successful campaigns and strong outside support, but all too often due to attrition. Medical neglect combined with years of confinement has meant that too many political prisoners have joined the ancestors before we were able to free them.

The Certain Days project was intergenerational when it began: the inside members and almost all of the prisoners featured were involved in the freedom struggles of the 1960s and 70s. The outside collective were in our twenties when the project began, eager to learn from our elders and to provide concrete solidarity across prison walls. Now, 20 years later, the world has changed but the need for solidarity remains as strong as ever. As new movements have risen up to confront forces of repression, we have seen an increase in political prisoners from Indigenous struggles and Earth and Animal liberation movements, to anarchists, anti-fascists, Grand Jury resisters and hacktivists.

While we have covered many themes connecting political prisoner solidarity work over the last two decades, for this 20th anniversary issue we wanted to focus our attention on the core reason for the calendar's existence: the ongoing place of political prisoners in social justice and revolutionary movements.

Topics may include, but are not limited to the following:

- The role of longtime political prisoners in ongoing struggles for liberation, whether as inspiration, mentors, and/or as active participants.
- How do we provide meaningful support to prisoners? How has this role changed over time, and what does it mean to support activists who are now at risk for involvement in ongoing movements?
- The relationship between political prisoner solidarity and the broader movement for prison abolition.
- Our understanding of political prisoners/prisoners of war, and how this has evolved over time.
- How can we bring the voices of political prisoners into our everyday lives and organizing efforts?
- Political prisoners are often involved in raising the consciousness of fellow prisoners, as well as prison organizing and legal support. How has this role changed in the face of escalating state repression?

FORMAT GUIDELINES

ARTICLES:

- 500 words max. If you submit a longer piece, we will have to edit for length.
- Poetry is also welcome but needs to be significantly shorter than 500 words to accommodate layout.
- Please include a suggested title.

Due to time and space limitations, submissions may be lightly edited for clarity, with no change to the original intent.

ART:

- The calendar is 11" tall by 8.5" wide, so art with a 'portrait' orientation is preferred. Some pieces may be printed with a border, so it need not fit those dimensions exactly.
- We are interested in a diversity of media (paintings, drawings, photographs, prints, computer-designed graphics, collage, etc).
- The calendar is printed in color and we prefer color images.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Send your submissions by Sunday, May 17, 2020 to [info @ certaindays.org](mailto:info@certaindays.org).

ARTISTS: You can send a low-res file as a submission, but if your piece is chosen, we will need a high-res version of it for print (600 dpi).

You may send as many submissions as you like. Chosen artists and authors will receive a free copy of the calendar and promotional postcards. Because the calendar is a fundraiser, we cannot offer money to contributors.

Prisoner submissions are due Sunday, June 7, 2020 and can be mailed to:

Certain Days c/o Burning Books
420 Connecticut Street
Buffalo, New York 14213

OR

Certain Days c/o QPIRG Concordia
1455 de Maisonneuve Ouest

Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8
Canada

12 Mar - Tribute to Rafael Cancel Miranda

WHAT: Memorial

WHEN: 5:00pm, Thursday, March 12th

WHERE: El Maestro, Inc. - 1300 Southern Boulevard, The Bronx 10459

COST: FREE

MORE:

Commemorating and celebrating the life of our national heroes Don Rafael Cancel Miranda

13 Mar - Metropolitan Anarchist Coordinating Council (MACC) General Assembly

WHAT: General Assembly

WHEN: 6:30-9:00pm, Friday, March 13th

WHERE: Verso Books—20 Jay Street, Brooklyn

COST: FREE

MORE:

The Metropolitan Anarchist Coordinating Council (MACC) is hosting one of our monthly general assemblies. GAs are a great opportunity to get plugged in with MACC's projects and working groups. MACC assemblies are open to all anarchists, antifascists, anti-authoritarians and those interested in anarchist ideas and organizing so please invite your friends and share widely! We encourage everyone to come with ideas about what they would like to see for future campaigns or actions and what direction they'd like MACC to take to build a more powerful, militant anarchist movement. Bring snacks (pre-packaged, vegan, and gluten-free options encouraged)!

Agenda will be announced after the organizing assembly.

An orientation will precede the assembly starting at 6:30 PM for those interested in familiarizing themselves with MACC, general assemblies, and anarchist ideas. General Assembly will begin at 7:00 PM. For more information visit macc.nyc or contact us at info@macc.nyc

13 Mar - Lucio the Anarchist: Film

WHAT: Movie night

WHEN: 7:00pm, Friday, March 13th

WHERE: The Base – 1302 Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn, New York 11221 (directions below)

NOTE: The Base is on the ground floor, is wheelchair accessible, and has a gender neutral toilet.

COST: FREE

MORE:

Join us for a screening of the 2007 film Lucio, which tells the story of Lucio Urtubia Jiménez: a dedicated Spanish anarchist who is famous for his practice of anarchist expropriation. At times compared to Robin Hood, Lucio robbed several banks and carried out many forgeries in the 1960s and 70s. He also collaborated with Che Guevara and Eldridge Cleaver, and swindled Citibank out of 3,000 million pesetas.

14 Mar - Celebrate Release of the MOVE 9

WHAT: Celebration

WHEN: 5:00pm, Saturday, March 14th

WHERE: Holyrood Episcopal Church - 715 West 179th Street, NYC 10033

COST: FREE

MORE:

Over the course of the past three years we have won the release of all of the surviving members of the MOVE 9 who have been wrongfully incarcerated for over 40 years.

This will be Delbert Africa's first trip to New York City since his release in January 2020. He will be joined by other members of the MOVE 9, of the MOVE Organization, of the movements to free the MOVE 9, Mumia Abu-Jamal, and countless other US political prisoners.

This is truly a People's Victory flying in the face of the false narrative that the global US Empire is omnipotent. The people united will never be defeated, and this victory is a testament to the fact that with persistence and solidarity anything is possible.

There is more work to do, to bring our other imprisoned leaders home, and to dismantle the System which maintains the Prison Planet we live in and threatens the destruction of all life. However, now is a time to celebrate this great victory, and begin to plan the road ahead.

15 Mar - SecuriTEA Time: FeministCyberSelfDefense

WHAT: Skillshare

WHEN: 1:00pm, Sunday, March 15th

WHERE: Bluestockings—172 Allen Street, New York 10002

COST: FREE

MORE:

From the introduction to Holistic Security:

"Caring for myself is not an indulgence, it is self-preservation and that is an act of political warfare." - Audre Lorde

The holistic approach [to security] integrates self-care, well-being, digital security, and information security into traditional security management practices."

Our digital lives may not be as separate from our analog lives as they used to be. And, just like in the analog world, abusive and toxic dynamics play a role in continually marginalizing historically marginalized identities. This social event from the CyPurr Collective hopes to build a system of support offline by creating a comfortable space to discuss issues, share experiences, ask questions, and build up our digital-agency. All while enjoying delicious tea and snacks, of course.

15 Feb - Anarchists Care About Books (ACAB): Anarchy by Errico Malatesta

WHAT: Book club

WHEN: 4:00pm, Sunday, March 15th

WHERE: Bluestockings—172 Allen Street, New York 10002

COST: FREE

MORE:

Join us to discuss Anarchy by Errico Malatesta

Available online at: theanarchistlibrary.org/library/errico-malatesta-anarchy

MACC events are open to all anarchists, antifascists, anti-authoritarians and those interested in anarchist ideas and organizing.

Bluestockings is wheelchair accessible, with no steps or platforms, and wide aisles between shelves. The bathroom is not wheelchair accessible. There is a Starbucks two short blocks down the street with an accessible bathroom (at Allen and Delancey). Metered street parking is available in the blocks surrounding Bluestockings. Bluestockings is not a scent-free space, but we encourage visitors to please refrain from wearing perfumes, colognes or other scented products (including essential oils) and smoke far away from the entrance to the space.