

THERE ARE WOMEN POLITICAL PRISONERS IN U.S.

A political prisoner is anyone jailed because of their self-conscious political actions against the government. We believe that all prisoners are political because the laws and the courts in this country are completely political and not at all fair.

Womyn have been imprisoned for the following political acts:

- *providing sanctuary for Central American refugees
- *anti-nuclear and anti-military activities
- *self defense against sexual abuse
- *fighting for Black liberation
- *defending land and treaty rights of Native peoples
- *refusing to testify before a grand jury in a government investigation
- *fighting for the independence of Puerto Rico from the U.S.
- *defending the rights of lesbians and gay men

There are over 100 political prisoners and Prisoners of War in the U.S. now, at least 25% of them womyn.



Susan



Alejandrina



Silvia

In October 1986 the Federal Bureau of Prisons opened a new control unit specifically for womyn political prisoners. Currently incarcerated are:

- Alejandrina Torres: Active in Chicago's Puerto Rican community through her church as well as an alternative high school and clinic. When arrested in 1983 she assumed Prisoner of War status. Serving 35 years for seditious conspiracy.
- Susan Rosenberg: A Northamerican political prisoner who has worked in solidarity with the New Afrikan and Puerto Rican movements. She's dedicated her life to anti-imperialist struggles. Sentenced to 58 years for possession of weapons, explosives and false I.D..
- Silvia Baraldini: An anti-imperialist Northamerican who has worked for years in solidarity with the New Afrikan Independence Movement. She comes from an Italian family long involved in the resistance against fascism. She is serving 43 years for charges of conspiracy (under RICO) stemming from Grand Juries called to investigate the 1981 Brinks case..

Control Units are not a new concept. Since 1977 the Bureau of Prisons has set up at least three of these facilities, each one more advanced in sensory deprivation than the last. New techniques for psychological torture have been refined by Germany and Ireland in response to the political climates in their countries. The U.S. has implemented several of these techniques in this control unit. The U.S. government says there are no political prisoners. Yet increased sexual and psychological torture are being used daily at Lexington against women who are incarcerated for politically motivated acts.

"I cannot stress enough the importance of keeping the work going. The people in charge are going to respond only to increased pressure.... The issue of political prisoners must be raised. This is the reason why we have been sent here and this is the reason the conditions are so harsh. Everything is aimed at isolating us from the struggle developing outside..." Silvia

This special unit was built in the basement of a high security building- separate from the rest of the Federal Prison in Lexington. The cost of this "prison within a prison": \$735,000!



SHUT DOWN the WOMEN'S CONTROL UNIT at LEXINGTON!

STOP the PSYCHOLOGICAL TORTURE of POLITICAL PRISONERS and POW'S!

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Write a letter or telegram to the Warden to protest the treatment
also demand their transfer to general population.

Warden

P.O. Box 2000

Lexington, Kentucky 40512

2. Send a copy of your letter to:
Norman Carlson, Director
Federal Bureau of Prisons
320 1st St., N.W.
Washington, DC

3. Demand that all Control Units be closed.
4. Demand an end to the selective harassment of Political Prisoners and POWs.

**Committee To Shut Down Lexington Control
Unit (info: 652-4401 ext. 656)**