

DEMONSTRATE

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY, 1983

IN SOLIDARITY WITH ALL FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR



NATIONWIDE
DEMONSTRATIONS

SAT. MARCH 12-NOON

**WEST COAST: PORT CHICAGO
NAVAL WEAPONS STATION**

from Oakland: 24 East to Route 4 East, W
left on Port Chicago Hwy., gather at Clyde Park
carpools: Oakland-MacArthur Bart, 11 am
San Francisco- 17th and Sanchez, 10:45 am
CONCORD, CA.

**FREE ALL PUERTO RICAN
P.O.W.s AND POLITICAL
PRISONERS!**

**VICTORY TO NATIONAL
LIBERATION!**

**FIGHT FOR THE LIBERATION
OF WOMEN!**

sponsored by:

New Movement in Solidarity with the
Puerto Rican and Mexican Revolutions
Women Against Imperialism
Prairie Fire Organizing Committee

for more information contact:

New Movement
3543 - 18th St., #17 - (415) 561-9055
San Francisco, CA 94110 days

L.A. - (213) 392-8733 days



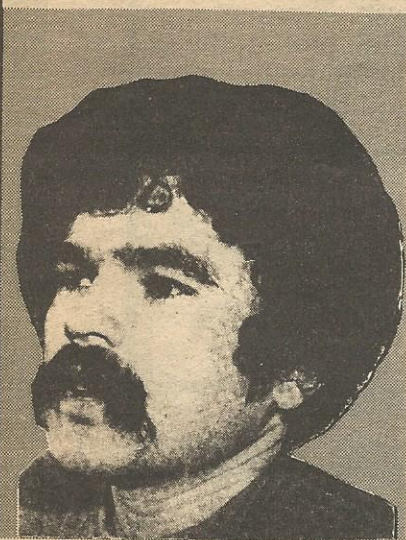
"The emancipation of women is not an act of charity, the result of a humanitarian or compassionate attitude. The liberation of women is a fundamental necessity for the revolution, the guarantee of its continuity, and the precondition of its victory." **Organization of Mozambican Women**



"Part of the Palestinian liberation struggle is the struggle of women to take their rightful role in defeating the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction. Their participation is often the result of a long and difficult process to change the traditional values of both men and women. However, this participation is necessary because we have always stressed that the way to liberation is through protracted people's war, a struggle which mobilizes all our human resources to defeat imperialism. Furthermore, while the war of liberation rages, the foundation of the new society is being laid and the process of eliminating all forms of oppression begins — a process in which women must play a crucial and equal role." **From the Journal of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine**

"It was our aim to develop a new political offensive out of the women's movement, a movement that most of us came from. An offensive that brings our fight against male violence and male supremacy together with our fight against the state and imperialism. We knew that we did not wish to create for ourselves quiet islands within the system, because doing that would mean not to attack male violence and the state, not to abolish it, but to just bypass it. This is why RAF politics are so important to us: the comrades from the RAF and their politics do not bypass reality, do not bypass imperialist structures of violence, do not bypass alienation." **From Women Against Imperialist War, an anti-imperialist organization in West Germany.**

**Red Army Faction*



"I have been slapped and spat upon. I have been arrested for demonstrating peacefully and legally. There is no such thing as fighting the system legally and democratically. That is a farce and a lie. The US government is using their force and lies to deny us our freedom. I stand here because I have had the courage to fight. I admit that, and my presence here is a result of that. I attest to that and attest to the fact that Puerto Rico will be a free and socialist country." **Oscar López Rivera, Puerto Rican Prisoner of War**

"This country do the revolutiona



Haydée Torres, Puerto Rican Prisoner of War

Have You Seen

"La Nueva Mujer Revolucionaria Puertorriqueña?"

She walks with the stride of the borinquen ancestry as a "Taina Clasica" She bears the child which will reap the benefits of our new society. She knows where she is headed, for her commitment is to her people. She speaks with dignity and defiance, for she knows that her principles are correct and reflect the oppression of her homeland and her people. She stands with fervor with arm in hand beside her companeros. For she is prepared to meet whatever consequences arise. The signal is given! She responds fearlessly for she is certain that victory will prevail. She is captured by the enemy But she does not despair, for she knows that her actions have been heard and her people will respond. The struggle continues until death.

Puerto Rican Prisoner of War, Dylcia Pagán

FREE NEW AFRIKA! FREE THE LAND!

"History has shown us that We will never win our liberation through legislation, through the judicial system, or through integrating with white people. And it's equally clear that We cannot win our liberation through the ballot, voting for the lesser of two evils. We need a cohesive solid plan to win our liberation. We need a nation. Sisters and brothers, nobody on the face of this earth has more of a need or a right to a nation than We do. We aren't citizens of america, We are victims of america. And We have a right to determine our own destinies..."

Our backs are up against the wall and more than anytime in our history; more than anytime of our history of being captives in america, We need an army. We need an army to defend ourselves and We need an army to fight for our liberation...

Especially to my sisters, I'd like to say: Black people will never be free unless Black women participate in every aspect of our struggle, on every level of our struggle...

Sisters, We've got to take control of our lives. We've got an enormous job ahead. We've got to rebuild our communities. We've got to build an underground railroad. We've got to build a nation." **Assata Shakur, Freedom Fighter of the Black Liberation Army**



s not know how to combat y spirit of a people in arms.” --Haydée Torres

JOIN US! DEMONSTRATE ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

This March, we will be celebrating International Women's Day in the best way possible — by participating in nationwide demonstrations in solidarity with all Freedom Fighters and Prisoners of War. In the Midwest, people are mobilizing to the gates of Dwight Women's Prison, where four of the Eleven Puerto Rican Prisoners of War are being held. Here on the West Coast, we are targeting the Port Chicago Concord Naval Weapons Station. From this major weapons depot, the Navy shipped 96% of the napalm and B-52 bombs that devastated Viet Nam. The phosphorus bombs that today are quietly loaded in Port Chicago, 30 minutes from Berkeley, tomorrow will explode in Puerto Rico during U.S. Navy target practice in Vieques. The missiles will be aimed at the people of El Salvador, the Congo, Palestine: everywhere oppressed people are defying U.S. imperialist rule.

Just down the highway from Port Chicago, Puerto Rican Prisoner of War Haydée Torres is imprisoned at Pleasanton Federal Prison. While the Navy “lawfully” ships out its napalm and bombs, the U.S. government calls Haydée a dangerous “terrorist.” She is being kept behind bars for life without the possibility of parole. Her crime? Fighting with her compañeras and compañeros — Carmen Valentín, Alicia Rodríguez, Lucy Rodríguez, Dylcia Pagán, Oscar López-Rivera, Carlos Torres, Elizam Escobar, Ricardo Jiménez, Luis Rosa, and Adolfo Matos — for independence and socialism for Puerto Rico, which was invaded and colonized by the U.S. in 1898. The Eleven Puerto Rican Prisoners of War have refused to recognize the legitimacy of the U.S. colonial courts to try them, and claim Prisoner of War status as freedom fighters in a war for national liberation. When Haydée was taken to court, she turned her back on the federal judge and took political control of the courtroom. Surrounded by burly guards and dozens of FBI agents, this Puerto Rican woman, only five feet tall, delivered a political speech to the hundreds of supporters who jammed the courtroom:

“I, Haydée Torres, am a Puerto Rican Prisoner of War. I am the product of this continuous struggle waged by my people. I am the conscience of my people in arms. And like a captured prisoner of war, neither this court, nor this country has any right to treat me like a criminal... I am free, and neither these bars nor this miserable and shameful country can keep me imprisoned.”

It is this refusal to compromise, this courage, that is the personification of the Puerto Rican people's struggle. It is this strategy embodied by the Eleven — the strategy of protracted people's war — that is the only strategy which can free Puerto Rico and all other colonized nations.

As we march, we will also honor Black freedom fighters. We celebrate the continued freedom of New Afrikan Freedom Fighter Assata Shakur, who was liberated from prison in 1979 by the Black Liberation Army (BLA). We demand the release of Sekou Odinga, Kuwesi Balagoon and all New Afrikan Prisoners of War. We reaffirm our support for white anti-imperialists who are fighting for New Afrikan liberation, people like Judy Clark and David Gilbert.

We are going to Port Chicago to name our enemy for what it is — U.S. Imperialism, the system that colonizes millions of people around the world. It is

the U.S. state that is the real terrorist! On International Women's Day, we affirm that we as women take our stand on the side of all Freedom Fighters and Prisoners of War, those who make war on the warmakers!

The lives of colonized Third World women are completely shaped by the fact that they are members of nations whose land, labor and resources are controlled by foreign exploiters. The very survival of whole nations is threatened, and genocide is a reality. 40% of all Puerto Rican women of child-bearing age have been sterilized, 25% of Puerto Rican men, 24% of Black women and 42% of Native American women. Cutbacks in welfare and health care mean that infant mortality is rising. Children are contracting what used to be rare diseases, they are suffering of malnutrition, and drug abuse is rampant.

Under the slogan “Flag and Family,” America's rulers are reinforcing oppressive roles for white working class women as part of an effort to “make America No.1 again.” In the words of Paul Laxalt, Reagan's closest Congressional ally and the author of the reactionary Family “Protection” Act, “The family is the lifeline of America's continued existence and the cornerstone of America's growth and future development.” (Laxalt is not talking about Third World families that this government is systematically attacking). All this reminds us distinctly of the Kinde-Kuche-Kirche (Children-Home-Church) of Nazi Germany. This reactionary campaign takes place at a time when the white working class is under greater economic attack and pressure than any time since the 1930s. For white working class women these attacks take the form of rising unemployment, cutbacks in welfare and health services, and a shocking rise in violence, rape, and pornography. Anti-lesbian and anti-gay legislation and the sandbagging of even that paper statement of equality, the ERA: all this makes clear that rising male supremacy is an integral part of America's move to the right.

While the Republicans are calling for “Moral Rearmament,” the Democratic Party offers us a role that is equally imperialist in its content. “Women's liberation” Ms. Magazine-style is defined as equal participation in all the “rights and responsibilities” of this oppressive system. We can become killer cops and join in the police murder of 400 Third World people every year; we can join the Army and become part of the U.S. military machine. The “Justice” Department invites us to use our organizing skills to form Neighborhood Watch committees so we can report “suspicious” — (Black and Brown) — people to the police.

In the late 1960s, significant sectors of the women's liberation movement were inspired and led by the Vietnamese people and the Black Liberation struggle. Tens of thousands of us acted on the knowledge that there was something fundamentally wrong with this system, and that our own liberation was completely tied to the liberation of people all around the world. Now it is 1983, more than a decade later. Most Women's Day celebrations will be addressed by politicians like Mayor Diane Feinstein or Jane Byrne. Some will listen and agree, many of us will be disgusted and say, “I don't want to attend any more of these picnics.” We should be disgusted! While the mayors are urging us to hide our heads behind the curtain of a voting booth, the forces of fascism are gathering across the U.S.

The prison population has doubled in only a decade, and the death penalty has been reinstituted as a means of legal lynching. The Klan is becoming more aggressively terrorist and boasts a membership that is 40% women. We watch in horror as Ronald Reagan embraces the bloodiest dictators on the face of the earth; as billions are poured into the maw of the largest military machine in world history. Unemployment, recession, and cutbacks are indicative of a continuing worldwide economic crisis that the imperialists can only solve by going to war.

Too many women in the predominantly-white women's movement think that we can win our liberation separate from the struggles of colonized peoples inside and outside the U.S. These politics have almost destroyed our movement. Many women who used to be political have become cynical and inactive. Others devote themselves to the cultural alter-

native, building a safe island for a few women. Many think that white feminists are the inventors and judges of women's liberation, not seeing that it is within the national liberation movements and socialist societies that women are most dramatically changing their lives. This amounts to a racist politics that cuts women off from the revolutionary national liberation forces inside and outside the U.S. that are leading the worldwide fight to defeat this empire. Cynicism and passivity mean that we become “good Germans,” silent in the face of colonized peoples' struggles against killer cops, the KKK, Grand Juries: genocide.

It is against this background that on IWD 1983 we feel the urgency of building a fighting anti-imperialist women's movement, committed to ending colonialism, white supremacy, and the oppression of women. We want to be part of building a revolutionary movement of white working
(Continued on back page)



Ida Luz Rodriguez, Puerto Rican Prisoner of War

Statement of Puerto Rican POW's Carmen Valentín and Dylcia Pagán on International Women's Day, 1982.

“Many who have visited with us have inquired as to the circumstances that lead to our decision in becoming combatants in our war of national liberation. To best answer one can say that as individuals specific experiences in our lives aided us in making a decision, but the essence of all of us is a strong sense of love of our fellow man, a strong sense of justice and a continual commitment to our principles. It is true that most of us have children just beginning to talk and at crucial ages. We have husbands and wives from whom we must be separated as part of the sacrifice for creating a new life for our people. We, as combatants in the war for national liberation, chose to commit ourselves to struggle no matter what the consequences. It is our sincere love for humanity that makes it all worthwhile.”

STOP THE GRAND JURIES! NO POLITICAL INTERNMENT!



The five grand jury resisters: (left to right) Andres Rosado, Steven Guerra, Maria Cueto, Julio Rosado, and Ricardo Romero.

Political internment is becoming a reality in the United States. The U.S. government, through the use of the Grand Juries, is locking up political activists for no other "crime" than refusing to become informers against their own people.

Currently, five Puerto Rican and Mexican activists are facing up to ten years on criminal contempt charges for refusing to testify before a Grand Jury investigating the FALN, an armed clandestine Puerto Rican organization. The government knows that the Movimiento de Liberacion Nacional (MLN) Five will never squeal against their nations' struggle, and the federal prosecutor has publicly stated that he wants to make an example of them.

Another U.S. Grand Jury sitting in Puerto Rico has interned Raymond Soto and Ricarte Montes Garcia for 18 months for their refusal to testify before an investigation of the armed clandestine movement for independence in Puerto Rico. The government is also trying to intimidate North Americans who support the Puerto Rican independence struggle — Silvia Baraldini (May 19th Communist Organization) and Shelley Miller (New Movement in Solidarity with the Puerto Rican and Mexican Revolutions) are facing 18 month jail terms.

At the same time, six New Afrikans and white anti-imperialists are in jail for refusing to testify before a RICO Grand Jury investigating the Black Liberation Movement and the October 20th Brink's expropriation.

These women and men will never testify. As long as people uphold and support the principle of noncollaboration, Grand Juries are exposed for what they are — tools in a strategy of political internment, no different than in Ireland or South Africa.

International Women's Day (Continued)

class people which will fight alongside the national liberation movements to overturn this oppressive system.

The stand taken by POWs exposes the reality of colonialism within U.S. borders. The U.S. empire built its home base by colonizing New Afrikan (Black), Mexican and Native American peoples and lands. Today, the revolutionary leadership of domestically colonized people are developing a strategy to dismember this internal empire and regain control of their land, resources and destiny. The heart and core of revolution in North America is the struggle for an independent and socialist Puerto Rico; an independent and socialist New Afrika; the reunification of the occupied north of Mexico (the so-called "southwest") with a socialist Mexico, and sovereignty for Native nations.

Everywhere in the world, victory has only come about through armed struggle. This is why the imperialists always try to isolate POWs and freedom fighters as "terrorists." Why do we think the struggle will be different here? We can no longer accept a situation where people cheer those freedom fighters who are located halfway around the world, but ignore or condemn forces like the FALN and the BLA who are breaking America's predatory "peace" by bringing the fight into the heart of the empire.

Around the world, revolutionary women are destroying the bourgeois myth that women are weak and passive. These women are participating in the exercise of power, taking their destinies into their own hands as they help rebuild their nations. In Nicaragua, the new revolutionary government has prohibited the exploitation of women's bodies to sell products; in Viet Nam, prostitution has been wiped out and a half a million women retrained so that they can lead useful and productive lives. The struggle for the liberation of women in these revolutionary societies is a fundamental part of the process of building socialism.

For us, women's liberation means turning around the experiences we have had — defined by weakness, alienated from ourselves, separated from the oppressed peoples of the earth. It means building a movement which is accountable to the forces of national liberation. It means participating in the destruction of imperialism and the building of socialist societies free of all forms of oppression.

As we demonstrate, we know that the defining contradiction in the world today is between imperialism and white supremacy on the one hand, and the forces of national liberation and socialism on the other. This is the ground on which we carry out our fight for women's liberation and the freedom of all people. This struggle is sharpening and there is no sitting it out.

Mobilize for the Demonstration!

*Show the slide show "The Puerto Rican Independence Struggle As Told By Revolutionary Puerto Rican Women" to your friends or organization.

*Distribute this flyer and the poster

*Have your organization endorse the demonstration

*Request our literature packet and reading list of books and pamphlets on women and revolution

*Make a contribution

Contact us for ways to get involved. San Francisco: 3543 - 18th St., No. 17, San Francisco, CA. 94110, (415) 561-9055 (days); Los Angeles: P.O. Box 60925, Los Angeles, CA. 90060, (213) 392-8733.

WRITE TO THE PRISONERS OF WAR AND POLITICAL PRISONERS!

Puerto Rican Prisoners of War and Political Prisoners

Pleasanton Federal Prison

Unit 2

P.O. Box 1000

Pleasanton, CA 94566

Maria Haydée Torres

No. 88462-024

Dwight Correctional Center

P.O. Box C

Dwight, Illinois 60420

Alicia Rodríguez

No. 7157

Ida Luz Rodríguez

No. 7165

Dylcia Pagán

No. 7166

Carmen Valentín

No. 7167

Pontiac Correctional Center

P.O. Box 99

Pontiac, Illinois 61764

Felix Rosa

No. N11373

Carlos Torres

No. N03000

Menard Correctional Center

P.O. Box 711

Menard, Illinois 62259

Elizam Escobar

No. N02996

Ricardo Jiménez

No. N02997

U.S. Penitentiary

P.O. Box 1000

Leavenworth, Kansas 66048

Oscar López Rivera

No. 87651-024

Stateville Correctional Center

P.O. Box 112

Joliet, Illinois 60434

Luis Rosa

No. N02743

Adolfo Matos

No. N02998

Women's Federal Correctional Institute

P.O. Box A C-16

Alderson, West Virginia 24910

Nydia Cuevas Rivera

No. 00868 C-16

U.S. Penitentiary

P.O. Box 1000

Lewisburg, Pennsylvania 17837

Jorge Albizu Orta

No. 00799-069-D-121

Metropolitan Correctional Center

150 Park Row

9th Floor South

New York, New York 10007

Ricarte Montes García

No. 01364-069

Metropolitan Correctional Center

150 Park Row

9th Floor North

New York, New York 10007

Raymond Soto

Federal Correctional Institute

P.O. Box 1000

Otisville, New York 10963

Pablo Marciano García

No. 10037-158

New Afrikan Prisoners of War

Queens House of Detention

126-02 82nd Avenue

Kew Gardens, Queens

Abdul Majid

Bashir Hamid

Rockland County Jail

New Hempstead Road

New City, NY 10958

Sekou Odinga

Kuwesi Balagoon

North American Freedom Fighters and Political Prisoners

Rockland County Jail

New Hempstead Road

New City, NY 10958

Judy Clark

David Gilbert

Kathy Boudin

New Movement in Solidarity with the Puerto Rican and Mexican Revolutions

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