IN MASSACHUSETTS
413-733-0565
PO BOX 4690
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01101

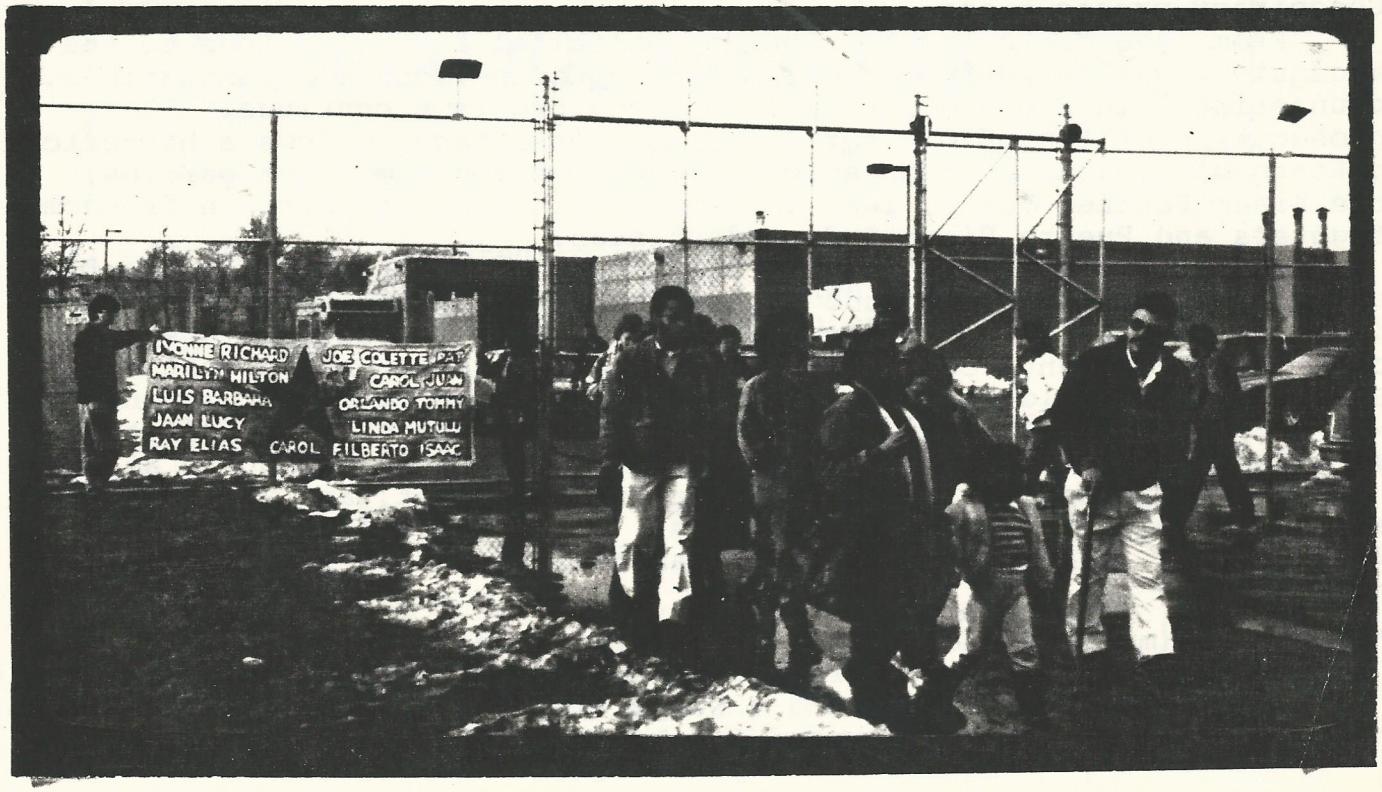
THE SEDITION COMMITTEE

OHIO 7 ON TRIAL FOR SEDITIOUS CONSPIRACY

IN NEW YORK
212-969-0448
PO BOX 1418, CATHEDRAL STA
NEW YORK, NY 10025

MAY SCHEDULE

MAY 15 176 ORANGE STREET SPRINGFIELD 2–6PM	SEDITION COMMITTEE WORK DAY New Biographies for Ohio 7 Women, Press Release
MAY 22 FDC BUILDING WESTON ROAD, HARTFORD, CONN. 3–4PM	VIGIL IN SUPPORT OF FILIBERTO OJEDA RIOS & THE OHIO 7 Outside Federal Detention Center Hartford
MAY 23 URBAN LEAGUE 756 STATE STREET SPRINGFIELD 7:00PM	SEDITION COMMITTEE SPRINGFIELD OPEN MEETING



Federal Detention Center, Hartford, January, 1988. Members of the Connecticut Committee Against Repression and the Sedition Committee shout their support for political prisoners.

The Progress of The Frank's Hearing
TRIAL UPDATE

As the Franks Hearing continued, the breadth of the government misconduct became clearer. Several Special Agents (FBI) were questioned by the defense about their use of material and information supplied by Joey Aceto, a star government witness. The search warrant for Pat and Ray Levasseur's home was based on information provided by Aceto. In the course of this examination of FBI agents, the government was forced to surrender some previously withheld information.

The prosecution produced psychiatric reports which describe Aceto as a paranoid psychotic, detail his medication with major tranquilizers and report that he regularly receives 'messages' from radio and television. He claims to identify Carol Manning as the driver of the getaway car for a robbery, the same robbery for which he was previously identified as the driver. The extensive surveillance of the left was documented anew as the government produced photos of some of the OHIO 7 at a Prairie Fire organizing conference in 1979 in Boston.

In 1971, a group of clandestine anti-war activists broke into FBI offices and liberated the documents which led to the exposure of the COINTELPRO operations, and provided the basis for many successful lawsuits against the FBI. The counterintelligence programs, COINTELPRO, of the FBI were intended to misdirect, discredit and neutralize politically active individuals and organizations. Ostensibly discontinued in 1971, COINTELPRO merely took on protective cover. Operations illegal during the 1960s are now authorized by executive order of the president. Martin Luther King, Jr. was one of the first targets of COINTELPRO. The Black Liberation Movement has always been the primary target of domestic repression. The Puerto Rican Independence Movement continues to be targeted by the FBI and police agencies and subject to Seditious Conspiracy prosecutions.

From 'bad faith prosecution' to political assassinations to the recently revealed spying on CISPES and other political organizations, counterintelligence and counterinsurgency programs continue. The US prosecution of the OHIO 7 for Seditious Conspiracy follows a historical pattern of government repression directed at the communist parties, the Black Panther Party, IWW, anti-war activists, New African freedom fighters and Puerto Rican Independentistas.

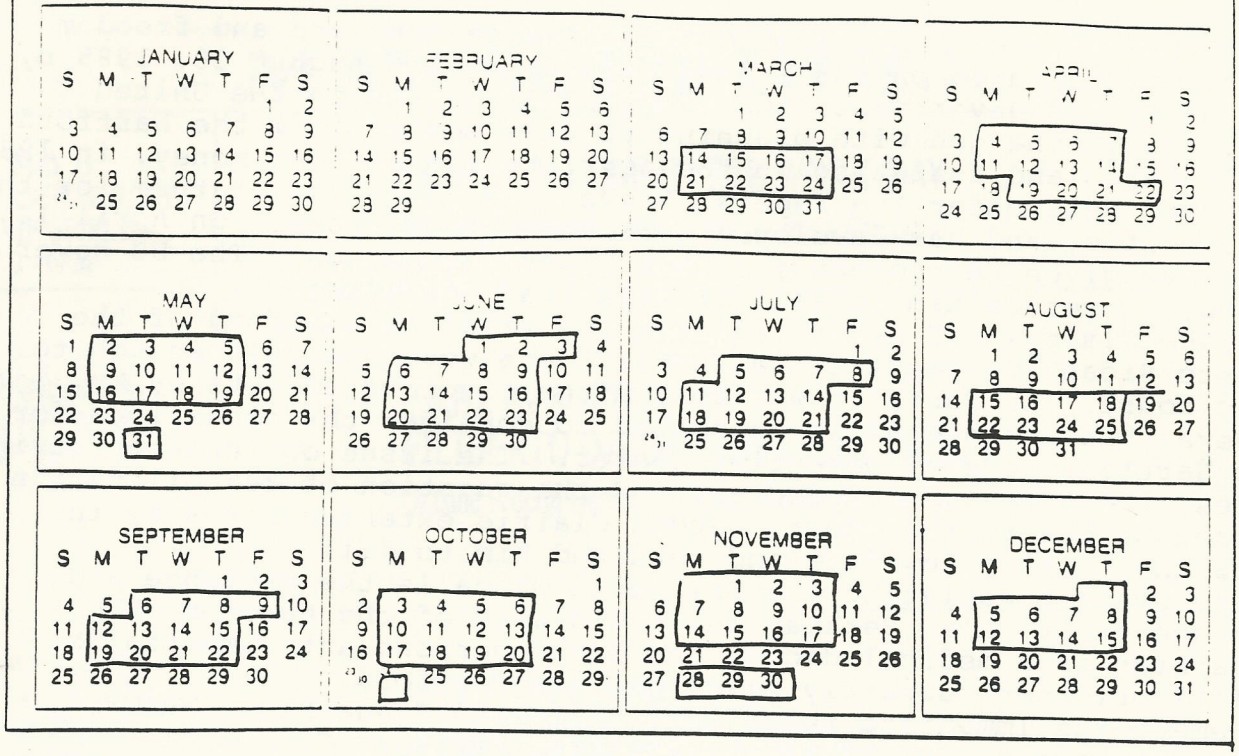
The defense lawyers for the OHIO 7 argued that the Franks Hearing should be expanded to include all of the defendants. So much of the information provided by Aceto was in error that it cast serious doubt over the governments case. The defense lawyers also argued that the BOSLUC files should be turned over to the defense team for examination. Not only the JTTF (Joint Terrorist Task Force) use of the constitution as a doormat, but the blatant use of fabricated information is at stake.

The judge has not ruled on these questions yet, and will continue selecting a jury while he deliberates. He has agreed to review the BOSLUC files, said to number more than half a million pages, in his chambers.

*** BOSLUC (multi-agency police task force, including and headed by the FBI) which targeted revolutionary organizations, community activvists, family, friends, and a surprising number of complete strangers. BOS = Boston, LUC = Raymond Luc Levasseur

THE TRIAL SCHEDULE

1988 Calendar TRIAL DAYS ARE BLOCKED



So You've Decided to Go to Court:

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

- You must be prepared to show the Federal Marshalls Service photo identification, (driver's license or passport) and give your social security number in order to enter the courtroom.
- You may not carry any bag, satchel or briefcase, other than a 'standard ladies handbag' into the courtroom.
- You cannot bring cameras, recording devices or any weapon, such as a pocketknife, into the Federal Building.
- There are only 20 or 30 seats allowed for the public, so come early.
- Court begins at 9:30AM, but the two sets of metal detectors and searches are time-consuming. Be prepared with patience and vigilance, remembering that you are in the face of the State.

DEMAND THE RELEASE OF
FILIBERTO OJEDA RIOS

Filiberto Ojeda Rios, Puerto Rican Independentista and freedom fighter, was captured on the island of Puerto Rico August 30, 1985 by agents of the US government and kidnapped to prison in the United States. He is charged with planning to take monies from the Hartford CT Wells Fargo and assisting in the distribution to that money, in 1983. He has been held under the Federal Preventive Detention statute for the last 33 months, and has developed serious heart disease. On April 11, 1988 he was given an emergency triple bypass operation. The US government was ready to return him to jail in less than two weeks.

Judge Clairie refused to adjourn the trial in Hartford of the 15 Puerto Rican Independentistas until Ojeda would be well enough to come to court. In fact, it was only after vigorous efforts by Mr. Ojeda's attorneys that Judge Clairie consented to consider the conditions for him at Hartford Federal Detention Center. The issue of repeated strip searches, the absence of a doctor, and the question of rehabilitation were brought before the court. Judge Clairie extended his stay in Hartford Hospital a few days and returned him to jail.

One small consolation for Filiberto Ojeda is the presence and assistance of Dr. Alan Berkman in in his wing of the Hartford FDC. Alan Berkman is a medical doctor and Northamerican anti-imperialist political prisoner currently being held in Hartford.

Demand the immediate release of Filiberto Ojeda Rios! WRITE:
Warden Dewalt, FDC Hartford, Box 178, Hartford CT 06141
Judge Clairie, Federal District Court, 450 Main St., Hartford, CT

THE SEDITION COMMITTEE
Box 4690
Springfield, MA 01101