FREE

USE BLANK

all texts & images from
https://freeosoblanco.org/

with whatever weapons at hand

oso blanco is a native warrior

While his Cherokee name is Yona Unega (White Bear), from growing up in New Mexico he is used to being called Oso Blanco (White Bear in Spanish). He is now serving 55 years in prison for bank robbery, aggravated assault on the FBI, escape and firearms charges. Oso Blanco defended himself from federal agents in a gun battle on August 13th 1999 at his home in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Although he escaped, he was arrested later that day. After being held just over a year in New Mexico State Penitentiary, he escaped from a prison transport van and almost immediately resumed robbing banks before he was recaptured. Oso Blanco never used a gun in any bank robbery, but he has a long history of living by the gun and will not hesitate to use it on the agents of repression or the occupiers of Aztlan whom force false laws on the true people of this land. He is not asking for monetary support– he's only asking that people become aware of indigenous people's issues. In an interview he expressed: "*I am still able to hold my head up high and feel the gratification for my work in a world where money, power and destructive industries are regarded far above humanity, indigenous and impoverished peoples and cultures. I cannot help that I got deeply into my work…*"

The Case:

On August 13, 1999, two FBI agents investigating the series of bank robberies came to Oso Blanco's apartment. The agents were interviewing Oso Blanco's wife when he returned home. A shootout between the agents and him erupted and he was able to flee. During the shootout, no one was injured.

Oso Blanco was found a little while later in an adjacent apartment with the residents. The FBI surrounded the apartment and within a half hour, Oso Blanco allowed the family members to leave unharmed. He then bashed through walls within the building to slip into adjacent apartments in an effort to escape. He went through two or three apartments before emerging more than two hours later. Oso Blanco tried to run, but was captured after being shot with several bean bags and attacked by a police dog.

He was charged with the robbery of 13 banks and the attempted robbery of a fourteenth. In addition to the robberies, he was also charged with two counts of assaulting a peace officer, two counts of possessing and discharging a firearm, and one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm, all in connection the standoff.

On December 21, 2000, Oso Blanco was being transported by the US Marshall's service from Albuquerque Federal Court to Santa Fe County Jail, when, after unlocking his handcuffs, he kicked out the back window of the prison transport van and got away.

He spent some time in Mexico after the escape, and then continued to expropriate funds from U.S. banks to send to Chiapas. Authorities believe he expropriated funds from about eight banks after his self-liberation. He was placed on the "15 most wanted" fugitive list. On February 7, 2001, Oso Blanco was recaptured, unarmed, after being wounded by gunshots from the Albuquerque police to his back and face.

In the end, he was accused of expropriating funds from about 20-22 banks. He was convicted on 14 of those charges. It is estimated that he expropriated at least $165,000.

In 2016, 25 years were taken off his sentence when he won his Johnson v. U.S. appeal.

write to him and pray for him

Byron Chubbuck #07909-051
USP Victorville
P.O. Box 3900
Adelanto, CA 92301

Oso Blanco would like to meet: True, real people who take a stand, rebels, and people ready to revolt.

He can only receive letters, cards, postcards, photos (not polaroid) in white envelopes. You might want to date your correspondence and keep a copy of your letters as he does not seem to receive all that's sent to him. He cannot receive gifts or cds. Newspaper articles are not allowed, however, xerox copies of the articles are. He does not have internet access.

~ Books are very important to Oso Blanco. When possible, there will be a requested list posted on freeosoblanco.org. But if not, then anything on Native American culture/societies, particularly Cherokee, would be most appreciated. He would also like anything on indigenous struggles around the world and books with old photographs for art projects. Books/magazines must be sent from a bookstore (Amazon.com or allbookstore.com books) - NO HARDCOVERS.

~ Check in on freeosoblanco.org often! Anytime there is an action to help Oso Blanco it will be posted here. Over the years there have been mail issues, medical problems, unjust charges, physical abuse, etc. If we have a good network then we can make a HUGE difference in Oso Blanco's life and ensure better treatment while behind bars. If it would be easier to leave your email (instead of remembering to check the site) for updates then please email: info[at]freeosoblanco.org.

~ Oso Blanco never asks for money - but, hey, everyone could use a little coin. If ya have any extra, hookup his commissary account. A postal money order will take a little longer for the funds to get to him, but Western Union and Money Gram take a hefty fee. Just go to the post office and pay cash for whatever amount you want. Make the money order out to "Byron Chubbuck #07909-051," and send it to:

Federal Bureau of Prisons
Byron Chubbuck #07909-051
P.O. Box 474701
Des Moines, IA 50947-0001

His support crew can also receive donations via freeosoblanco.org.

the childrens art project

Imprisoned by the US government for expropriating from banks to fund the Zapatista Army of National Liberation (EZLN), Oso Blanco has been using art to continue his mission. This artwork was created by Oso Blanco after he had been captured in 1999. Proceeds from the sale of these greeting cards will benefit children in the autonomous Zapatista zone of Chiapas, Mexico, and on reservations here on Turtle Island. Learn more about the beneficiary at schoolsforchiapas.org.

Note from Oso Blanco:

"I did all this art under extreme duress. For years I was trying to make this happen, I was living in a literal hell on Earth where I did these pieces (SMU Lewisburg). Sometimes I couldn't get paper, other times no pencils. Every day was violence, every day was conflict with staff and prisoners. Sometimes I had crazy cellies. I was living in an absolute horror. Often times we got pepper sprayed, we got shook down. My pieces got ripped or damaged or stolen by staff. I would have to struggle, REAL struggle, that most people on the streets couldn't survive, let alone imagine. But I never gave up!

I continue to believe in Children's Art Project (CAP). This art was done by hand, not by some computer. The toil and the suffering and the high cost of sending out my art via certified Mail is seriously no joke. I'm not sitting at some resort in Washington state, relaxing, doing this art with all the best art supplies and resources. I'm literally doing this with extreme difficulty and the bare minimum. I think people must respect the fact that they could probably not even survive in the environments where I completed this art."

freeosoblanco.org/art

"So, please, honor the Children's Art Project, so that we may help the children in Chiapas, where I've risked my life many times in Mexico sending old army surplus, bullets, medicine, horseshoes, vitamins for pregnant women (folic acid), veterinary medicine for horses, you name it. I didn't just fall off the potato wagon and become a Political Prisoner, I earned this through my great sacrifice, through life and death, through turmoil. Being shot by the police and the FBI and having police dogs sicced on me during this case, ripping me apart, all for the humor of the FBI and Albuquerque police."

Love,
Oso Blanco
Zapatista Supply Warrior & Native Anarchist

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