

Black Cross Bulletin

A Los Angeles Anarchist Black Cross Federation Publication

Fall 2017

"The work isn't done for the glory, but because we believe in Mutual Aid." - Boris Yelensky

Vol. 1 Issue 1

Medical Emergency for Robert Seth Hayes

On October 15, members of New York Jericho organization went to visit Robert Seth Hayes on his birthday. While the visit was good, Seth informed them that his blood sugar levels were extremely high. According to Seth, his sugars were at 535 in the morning and at 585 at 4 p.m. These high sugar levels are very serious and can lead to Seth going into a diabetic coma.

Seth was very frustrated, since medical staff at Sullivan keeps saying they are going to send him to Albany Medical Center for an investigation of the pump, but this has not happened. They claim it has a "glitch"; however, they are continuing to use it. Also, the pump has somehow become locked and the endocrinologist at Cossackie cannot access the data in it, so there is no record of his daily sugar fluctuations. All of this could easily be resolved by a simple phone call to technical support at Medtronic, who would then send an expert to Sullivan to examine and reprogram the pump. We can only speculate as to why medical staff at Sullivan has not made this phone call.

The sensor that enables the monitor to work was not even ordered until recently and is expected to arrive at the end of October. Seth has been told for several months now that the monitor, which enables him to see whether his sugars are high or low, will be "phased in". It has been more than a year since the DOCCS endocrinologist at Cossackie recommended the insulin pump/monitor. Yet, Seth is still without the monitor.

Seth now has diabetic neuropathy in his legs. He has fallen on several occasions in recent weeks. In addition, he says his legs are swollen in his calves. However, his feet and ankles are not swollen. He also has sores all over his body, which are not being treated.

Then on Wednesday, October 18, Seth was taken to Catskill Regional Medical after he complained that he was feeling wobbly and woozy and had difficulty breathing. While he was at Catskill, they checked his heart, did chest x-rays, drew 4 tubes of blood and put him on an IV for 4 hours. Seth does not know what medication was in the IV, but reported feeling "much better" on Wednesday night. Jalil

happened to be in the clinic at Sullivan when Seth was wheeled out on the gurney, and reported to New York Jericho that he is very concerned.

Seth also reports that his A1C level is currently 11.6, which is very high. He has been told that he has a high level of proteins in his urine and may soon need dialysis. All of this is because the pump is not working properly, and his sugars have been running very high.

On a positive note, Seth reports that he saw Dr. Wolf, the facility doctor, for his diabetic ulcers. She prescribed an antibiotic and a topical corticosteroid, and this is helping the ulcers to dry up and heal. Seth showed Anne Lamb, from New York Jericho, the ulcers on his arms and she is in agreement that they are definitely healing.

On Friday, October 20, Seth was taken to Albany Medical Center for a check on his pacemaker, which is working properly. Seth reports that his sugars were very high again on Friday. Sugar level was 267 in the morning, but soared to the high 500 range in the afternoon. On Friday evening, Seth's sugar was 357. Fortunately, on both Saturday and Sunday, Seth's sugar was in the high 200's, still very high, but certainly out of diabetic coma range.

We need people to call Dr. Carl Koenigsmann, Commissioner Annucci, Governor Cuomo and the Superintendent Keyser at Sullivan to demand there be a full investigation of the pump at Albany Medical Center and that Seth be given the monitor as soon as possible.

Also, that the problem with his legs be investigated and resolved to the fullest extent possible.

Please write, call, fax and email the following people and insist that Robert Seth Hayes, DIN No. 74-A-2280, be taken to Albany Medical Center as soon as possible for a full investigation of the insulin pump and a complete workup for the problems with his legs and the sores all over his body.

We the people must prevent the medical murder of our captured freedom fighter, who has been in prison since September 17, 1973! Despite Seth's excellent prison record, he has been turned down for parole 10 times, adding 20 years to his sentence.

Seth should have been released in 1998!

While we have provided emails for some of the individuals we need to contact, we do NOT encourage people to use email, which is very easy to ignore. If you do email, please copy the text into a letter format and mail and fax in addition to email.

Superintendent Keyser at Sullivan:
845-434-2080

Carl J. Koenigsmann M.D.
Deputy Commissioner/Chief Medical Officer
NYS DOCCS Division of Health Services
Harriman State Campus, Building #2
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12226-2050
Phone: 518-457-7073
Carl.Koenigsmann@doccs.ny.gov

Anthony J. Annucci
Acting Commissioner
Harriman State Campus, Building #2
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12226-2050
Phone: (518) 457-8126
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Division of Health Services
Nancy A. Lyng, MS, Dir. of Health Services / Operations and Management
Harriman State Campus, Building #2
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12226-2050
Phone: (518) 445-6176
Nancy.Lyng@doccs.ny.gov

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo
NYS Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224
Phone: (518) 474-8390
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form>

Please write a letter to Seth to let him know that he is supported and that people on the outside have him in their thoughts:

Robert Seth Hayes #74A2280
Sullivan C.F.
P.O. Box 116
Fallsburg, NY 12733-0116

What is the Anarchist Black Cross Federation?

The Anarchist Black Cross (ABC) began shortly after the 1905 Russian Revolution. It formed after breaking from the Political Red Cross, due to the group's refusal to support Anarchist and Social Revolutionary Political Prisoners. The new group, naming itself the Anarchist Red Cross (ARC), began to provide aid to those Political Prisoners who were refused support by the PRC.

In the early decades, the organization had chapters throughout Europe and North America. These chapters worked together to provide assistance to prisoners only in Russia. Soon other groups, such as the Latvian Anarchist Red Cross, emerged to provide aid in other Eastern European countries. Armed with the ideas of *mutual aid* and *solidarity*, these groups worked tirelessly to

provide support to those who were suffering because of their political beliefs.

In 1919, the organization's name changed to the Anarchist Black Cross to avoid confusion with the International Red Cross. Through the 1920s and until 1958, the organization worked under various other names but provided the same level of support as the other groups working as Anarchist Black Cross.

After 1936, the ABC expanded its aid to places such as Greece, Italy and Spain.

In 1958, the organization collapsed but reemerged in 1967 in London, England. Once again ABC chapters spread throughout the globe providing support for imprisoned comrades. Sadly, by the end of the 1970s only a handful of ABC chapters still existed.

In the 80s, however, the ABC began to gain popularity again in the US and Europe. For years, the ABC's name was kept alive by a number of completely autonomous groups scattered throughout the globe and supporting a wide variety of prison issues.

In May of 1995, a small group of ABC collectives merged into a federation whose aim was to focus on the overall support and defense of Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War.

Various groups have since merged in numerous networks throughout the globe working on various prison issues. The Anarchist Black Cross Federation (ABCF) has continued its mission to focus on the aid and support of Political Prisoners. We take the position that PP/POWs demand our top priority. We strive to continue with the same dedication and solidarity to our fallen comrades as those before us have shown.

Introduction:

“Crucially important to maintaining the anarchist integrity of this organization is the fact that Branch Groups and Support Groups are freely autonomous to take on whatever initiatives they can to further the Unity of Purpose of the ABCF. So long as these initiatives do not contradict any preexisting agreements (Tactical Unity) that have been made by the ABCF, it is not necessary for all groups to approve of and/or agree with programs, projects or work of other ABCF collectives.” [from the ABCF Constitution and Structure]

The following definitions are used to describe the below terms whenever they appear in the ABCF Update or any other ABCF literature.

Political Prisoner (PP): A person incarcerated for actions carried out in support of legitimate struggles for self determination or for opposing the illegal policies of the government and/or its political subdivisions. [Special International Tribunal on the Violation of Human Rights of PP/POWs in U.S. Prisons and Jails, Dec. '90]

Prisoner of War (POW): Those combatants struggling against colonial and alien domination and racist regimes captured as prisoners are to be accorded the status of prisoner of war and their treatment should be in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Conventions Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War of 12 August, 1949 (General Assembly resolution 3103)

Certain Days 2018 Calendar!

Check it out at <http://www.certaindays.org>

Order your new Certain Days: The 2018 Freedom for Political Prisoners Calendar. These calendars are an amazing way for you to show your support for our imprisoned comrades. Order yours today. A great holiday gift!

The ABCF is:

Federation Chapters

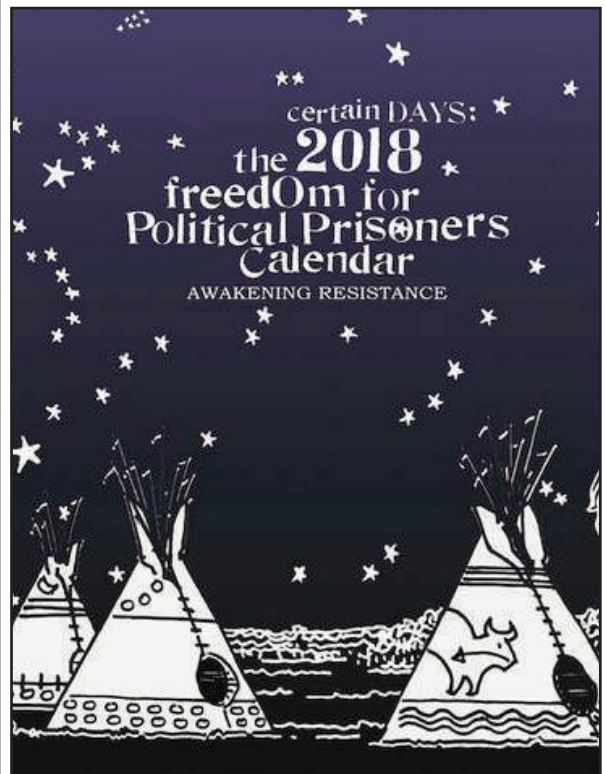
LOS ANGELES ABC
PO Box 11223
Whittier, CA 90603

S. BROOKLYN ABC
(PO Box contact is available on request.)

NYC ABC
PO Box 110034
Brooklyn, NY 11211

MIDDLETOWN ABC
(PO Box contact is available on request.)

LANCASTER ABC
PO Box 8682
Lancaster, PA 17604



Red Fawn Venue Changed

The trial for Red Fawn Fallis has been moved to Fargo, North Dakota after concerns were raised that she would not receive a fair and impartial trial due to “widespread prejudicial publicity regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline protests in general, and her arrest in particular.” Her trial is set for December. It has also been reported that, as of October 28th, Red Fawn has been released to a halfway house.

Jalil Transfer to Sullivan

Please note that Jalil has been transferred and is currently at Sullivan. He can be written to at the following address:

Anthony J. Bottom #77A4283
Sullivan C.F.
P.O. Box 116
Fallsburg, NY 12733-0116

Water Protectors Sentenced

In North Dakota, a judge has sentenced two water protectors to jail time after they were convicted on misdemeanor charges over an October 2016 protest at Standing Rock against the Dakota Access pipeline. Alexander Simon was sentenced to 18 days in jail for obstruction of a government function. Mary Redway was sentenced to six days in jail for disorderly conduct. Judge Thomas Merrick imposed the sentences despite the fact that the prosecution had not recommended the two serve jail time. They are the first two people convicted related to the actions related to the actions against the Dakota Access Pipeline.

Journalist Acquitted

As the anniversary of her arrest is approaching, journalist Sara Lafleur-Vetter has been acquitted on misdemeanor charges stemming from her reporting on the Dakota Access Pipeline protest. She was arrested on Oct. 22 with 140 other people near the pipeline easement and was charged with obstruction and disorderly conduct. She was filming for The Guardian at the time of her arrest and indicated to the police that she was a member of the press.

Anarchists Raid Embassy

On October 11th, a Greek anarchist group raided the Spanish embassy in Athens. The group, Rouvikonas (Greek for Rubicon), entered the building while scattering flairs and hanging a banner on the facade of the building in condemnation of police violence in Catalonia. The group said the action was prompted by the Spanish government’s ‘violence and repression’ but did not express support for Catalan independence. Each of them were sentenced to six months in jail.

The same organization claimed responsibility for an attack on the Turkish Airlines office in September, an attack on the Turkish embassy in July, and the Consulate General office in Komotin earlier in early February.

Five Acquitted in Prague

In late September, five anarchists were acquitted in a Prague municipal court for charges relating to an alleged plot to fire-bomb a train carrying material equipment. According to the government’s case, Petr Sova, Martin Ignacak and Alexandra Scambova planned the attack in order to influence the economic and political landscape.

Two others were also charged. Radka Pavlovska was accused of taking part in the meetings of the anarchist groups and was charged with not reporting its plans to the police. Katarina Zezulova is also accused of taking part in some of the meetings and was accused of allegedly making Molotov cocktails. If convicted, some defendants could have been sentenced to life in prison.

All the defendants denied the charges, stating that two police infiltrators pushed the group to engage in violent acts, chose the target and paid for the material to make the Molotov cocktails.

The attorney for the government immediately appealed the verdict, moving the case to the high court.

BLM Activist Arrested

On September 9th, Jasmine Abdullah Richards, founder of Black Lives Matter Pasadena, was arrested on charges of “interfering with officers”. Richards was arrested after putting herself between three police officers and a young black man who was the victim of constant harassment from the same police officers throughout the day.

One officer by the name of Poirier was recorded saying that Richards “would be handled differently if they were in a Third World country.” This same officer was one of ten officers involved in the killing of Richards’ friend, Reginald “J.R.” Thomas, last year.

Officer Poirier threatened her, saying she would be handled differently if they were in a Third World country (a threat). Officer Poirier is one of the 10 officers involved in the death of Richards’ friend, Reginald “J.R.” Thomas, last September.

Richards is currently on probation for the ridiculous charge of “felony lynching” — she stood up for a woman at a protest and the police didn’t like it. She remains on high-risk felony probation for this charge. This latest arrest puts her freedom in jeopardy again.

She is currently going the court hearings and the case remains unresolved.

Alleged Anarchist is Guilty

Joseph Jakubowski has been found guilty in a Wisconsin court after being accused of stealing an arsenal of firearms from a southern Wisconsin gun shop and sending an anti-government manifesto to Donald Trump.

After he sent his manifesto, the government went on a manhunt for Jakubowski for fear that he may engage in a campaign of guerilla war. Ten days after the manhunt began he was captured hiding out in the woods. He was discovered by the owner of the property.

Jakubowski has declared himself to be an anarchist, but the details of what that exactly means to him is unknown. The only details about him at this time is that he holds anti-government views.

Jakubowski will have his sentencing day on December 20th and could be looking at twenty years in prison.

Victim Charged in Attack

DeAndre Shakur Harris turned himself into Charlottesville Police Department on October 12th, after a warrant was issued for him for unlawful wounding. Harris was assaulted on August 12th in Charlottesville during the “Unite the Right” rally. His attack gained national attention after a video of the assault was released.

About a half of a dozen men were seen attacking Harris with sticks, who received head wounds and other severe injuries. So far three of the men have been arrested after they were identified in social media.

In response to the arrests, individuals associated with the assault claimed Harris injured them and the police issued a warrant for him. He was taken before the magistrate and released on an unsecured bond.

Hunger Strike in Alameda

It has been reported that the prisoners in the Alameda and Santa Clara jails have begun a hunger strike.

This hunger strike is a continuation of last year’s strike that ended just after four days due to some of the demands being met. Roughly 300 prisoners participated in that action. The hunger strike resumed after because despite the agreement made last year, prisoners still continued to be the subject of arbitrary practices.

The prisoners have demanded an end to meaningless and arbitrary inmate classification systems and the eradication of indefinite solitary confinement. They also demanded the implementation of a behavioral system similar to what’s instituted in the California Department of Corrections.

The prisoners also called for an end to group punishment, arbitrary practices of cruel and unusual punishment when inmates are out of the cell and the easing of rigid family and friends visitation.

Fabio Vettorel, G20 Defendant, is Currently on Trial

The trial for anti-G20 activist, Fabio Vettorel, began in mid-October. Fabio is one of the individuals arrested during the massive protests that took place against G20 summit in Hamburg, Germany in July of this year. Under the motto "Hamburg G20: welcome to Hell", for four days the city of Hamburg experienced an unprecedented wave of protests against the world's powerful. Since that time, Fabio and others has remained in custody.

Supporters of the anti-G20 activists have argued that those arrested during the G20 summit protests are being retaliated against by the German government for their involvement in the demonstrations. The government has displayed tactics, such as conscious delay of trial dates, obstruction of legal defense teams access to their clients, prevention of family visits and severe charges based on flimsy evidence. These acts of retaliation are especially harsh against non-German citizens.

Fabio's situation is a case in point. After a meeting with a judge, Fabio was transferred to Holstenglacis prison instead of Hanofersand. Fabio, 18, found himself among older prisoners and should have been placed in a prison for juveniles. The "error" was discovered several days later, after his parents traveled from Italy to visit with him and there was no record of Fabio at Hanofersand. His family was able to discover his whereabouts after visiting the Italian consulate.

After speaking with him on the phone, his mother, Jamila Baroni, stated, "He is fine and has asked me to thank all those who are worried about him. I personally thank the institutions for the support, the friends for the solidarity and affection they continue to give us. Tomorrow we can go to find him, to personally realize his physical and psychological conditions."



Fabio traveled to Hamburg from Feltre, Italy to attend his first international demonstration. He was arrested in the morning of the 7th July at Rondenbarg, where excessive police brutality caused most of the severe injuries against activists during the protests.

Calls were made for massive demonstrations in support of Fabio during his trial dates (October 16th - 17th and November 7th.) Actions in various cities throughout Europe were already taking place on October 14th with Banner drops and demonstrations in front of German consulates. In Spain, several simultaneous attacks took place in solidarity with the G20 arrestees.

The German government is continuing its pressure on the anarchist community. On September 27th, 100 cops raided 14 apartments and a store in Hamburg

and the German state of Schleswig-Holstein. The cops confiscated 7 iPhones during the raids, claiming they were stolen from a store that was looted during the demonstrations on July 7th.

Police held a press conference and claimed that they are investigating 2,000 individuals but the number is expected to rise to 3,000. A police task force of 180 individuals is using face-recognition software to scourer through video material from public transportation and other videos obtained during the demonstrations.

The state prosecutor stated that they are investigating 319 people, who have all identified. And currently roughly two dozen people who are still in pre-trial detention.

Meanwhile, there have been some of our fellow anarchists who have already had the fate decided by the State. The Sicilian, Orazio Sciuto, after being sentenced to one year in prison, has been given a conditional release. Ricardo Lupano was released on October 5th after being sentenced to 1 year, 9 months with a suspended sentence. An anarchist from Amsterdam by the name of Peike S. has been convicted to 2 years and 7 months after being convicted of hitting police with bottles and resisting arrest.

Alessandro Rapisarda, one of the six Italian anarchists currently imprisoned will be tried at the end of this month. As for Fabio, his fate will soon be known. We hope for him and his family that he will soon be released.

Anarchists in Italy Arrested in Repression

Two comrades (Salvatore Vespertino and Pierloredo Fallanca) and still remain in prison as part of an ongoing repressive campaign against Anarchist in Italy. This repression brings reminders of the era that took place in the late '60s and '70s known as the "Strategy of Tension", where several anarchists were accused of a bombing campaign through Italy. This led to the death of Giuseppe Pinelli, a member of the Anarchist Black Cross in Milan.

On January 1st, 2017, a homemade explosive was planted in front of a fascist bookstore in Florence. Before police could disarm the bomb, it exploded, cause a member of the bomb disposal unit to lose a hand and an eye.

Police immediately suspected that this was the work of anarchists, leading to the raid of several homes. Under the guise of looking for guns and explosives, the police

seized pamphlets, computers, clothing and other everyday objects.

An investigation was launched against persons unknown with the intention to charge them with the offenses of "manufacturing, possession, and transportation of an explosive or incendiary device to a public place" and "attempted murder". Police also began a separate operation called "Operation Panic." This campaign targeted 35 individuals, leading several of them to be ordered under house arrest, preventing others from leaving the city, curfews and others forced to participation in daily reporting to the local police station. It also lead to the eviction of Villa Panico, one of Florence's historic squats which had been occupied for the past 10 years.

Twelve people were eventually charged with "members of a criminal organization." They stand accused of engaging in

several actions in 2016, including an attack with clubs and bricks on the fascist bookstore, a previous explosion at the same bookstore and the distribution of anti-militarist leaflets. They were also charged with fight with police, which ended up with the arrest of three anarchists.

Two months following the end of the operation, a series of repressive measures were imposed against two comrades, constantly escalating in their severity from daily signing on at the police station to house arrest. A 3rd comrade was also ordered to report daily the police station. This new wave of repression and arrests were linked to the simple appearance of militant graffiti across the city.

On the 3rd of August, a joint nationwide operation between the DIGOS (the police special operations unit), the ROS (the Carabinieri's special operations unit)

and the counter-terrorism police ended up in 8 further arrests: 6 in Florence, 1 in Rome and 1 in Lecce. Five comrades were charged with attempted homicide for the New Years Eve bombing. The others were charged with the offense of “manufacturing, possession, and transportation of an explosive or incendiary device to a public place”. The second charge relates to a Molotov attack against a Carabinieri barracks, which happened on the night of the fight against police mentioned earlier.

On August 5th, 6 detainees were released by the GIP (judge for the preliminary investigation) due to lack of evidence against them. One comrade, Salvatore

Vespertino, is still in jail because the authorities claimed to have found traces of his DNA on components used to build the bomb. Paska, another comrade, who should have been released for lack of evidence for the events on New Years Eve, is still being held in prison for alleged “membership of a criminal organization” based on evidence gathered during Operation Panic.

As Paska’s case shows, the investigation against persons unknown has therefore been incorporated with Operation Panic. This means that they have adopted the same line of inquiry be it for those charged with “membership of a criminal

organization” or for the several specific offenses.

If you wish to contact these two comrades you can write them at:

Salvatore Vespertino
Casa Circondariale Sollicciano
Via Minervini 2/r
50142- Firenze
Italia

Pierloredo Fallanca
Casa Circondariale
Via Paolo Perrone, 4
73100 – Lecce
Italia

The Body of Santiago Maldonado Has Been Found

It is with a heavy heart that we report that the body of Santiago Maldonado’s was discovered on an Argentine riverbank on October 17th. The body was discovered in the branches of willow trees on the Chubut River, about 1,500 meters from the community guard of the Indigenous Mapuche community in Pu Lof, near Esqual. The discovery of the body at that location raises serious suspicion as why the body was just now discovered, after three previous searches had taken place at that specific location.

Santiago’s brother, Sergio, questioned in the media how his brother’s body was discovered after they had searched the location without seeing the body. He suggested that the body might have been planted there.

Santiago was last seen on August 1,

2017, when he was arrested in Pu Lof, during a demonstration in support of Argentina’s Indigenous Mapuche community. The protest in Patagonia was part of long-running dispute between Benetton, the Italian clothing retailer, which owns 2.2m acres of land, and the Indigenous people who claim part of the territory.

According to witnesses, the rally was interrupted by the federal police force. One witness claimed to have seen officers force Maldonado into a vehicle after knocking him unconscious.

His disappearance has led to massive demonstrations, clashes with police and has become the dominant issue in the political discourse in Argentina. In response to the massive demonstrations, police forces conducted simultaneous raids on different spaces and cultural centers of political and

social organizations in various parts of the city of Córdoba. Several of the locations were anarchist organizations. Police have seized flags, posters, drums, drones, aerosols, fliers and some clothing.

International media has described Maldonado as a “missing backpacker,” ignoring the fact that he was an anarchist and that his presence and then disappearance from the Mapuche community was directly related to his political consciousness.

After the body was discovered, it was taken to Buenos Aires for an autopsy and to identify the body. According to the government, a twelve-hour autopsy revealed no lesions in his body, leading them to make the suggestion that he had drowned. With all the controversy surrounding this case, few believe the explanation given.

Anarchist Professor Deported From Belarus

On October 9th, police in Grodno, Belarus broke in a lecture at “Tsentr Garadskogo Zhytsia” (“The center of the city life”) to arrest anarchist philosopher, Pyotr Vladimirovich Ryabov, and the twenty or so attendees of the lecture.

Ryabov, a senior lecturer in the Department of Philosophy at the Moscow State Pedagogical University, was scheduled to give two lectures in Grodno and Baranovich on the “Libertarian social thought of the last third of the twentieth and early twenty-first century.”

Police charged Ryabov with “small hooliganism” and “distribution of extremist materials (statute 17.1 and 17.11 of codex of misdemeanors of Belarus.) Ryabov has in his possession a copy of the 2007 Belarussian anarchist journal “Svoboda ili Smert №6.” It was this material the police claimed to be extremist material, but it clear that the real motive of the arrest was to halt the lectures.

On October 11th the courts sentenced Ryabov to 6 days of prison. He then declared a hunger strike in response to the political repression.

His arrest and sentencing is part of an ongoing repression against anarchists in Belarus in the last several months. In August, police broke into lecture of Russian anarchist and ex-political prisoner Alexey Sutuga. On September 28th, police raided the two homes of Minsk anarchists, confiscating printing equipment and electronic.

In September, anarchists in Kiev and other cities held demonstrations against the Belarussian government for the imprisonment of Dimitry Polienko and Kirill Alekseev. Polienko is serving two years in prison for his arrest in a Critical Mass after he was accused of assault on a police officer. Alekseev was arrested earlier this year for an arson attack on a billboard that promoted compliance with the law.

A banner was displayed in Minsk early September in solidarity and in honor of Alekseev. The banner read: “We’ll destroy the dungeons, so that together we can go to the end!”

As for Ryabov, he was released from Baranovich IVS (Temporary detention facility) at around 9 p.m. on October 16. He was then escorted on a train to Smolensk, Russia and banned from entering Belarus for 10 years.



Support the Family of Antifa Prisoner

- Brighton Anarchist Black Cross

At the beginning of May 2016 our comrade Patryk Cichoń from Poland was arrested by British police under a European Arrest Warrant. Patryk is a well-known anti-fascist militant notorious among nazi-boneheads in his city for his uncompromising stance against them in the past. Boneheads managed to convince a few of their friends to testify against Patryk and his friend for alleged assault and robbery. As it appeared later, his friend had very good alibi and had the charges dropped (despite being allegedly recognized by the "victim" and his friends), so Patryk ended up being sentenced on his own. The whole trial was an absolute travesty and Patryk as a poor, young working class person was not able to afford a proper defense. He spent two months on remand in 2004 and was sentenced to three years in prison.

It is clear that this whole case was politically motivated and had only one purpose,

which was to get rid of the core of the anti-fascist resistance in Patryk's home town.

Rather than doing prison time, he decided to escape abroad and came to UK in 2005. He started his new life there, continuing to be involved in anti-fascist activity: organizing gigs in London, including United and Strong Fest which has seen lots of great Antifa bands from all over Europe performing, and raising money for antifascist initiatives. He was also the editor of the 'Skinhead Revolt' fanzine, which was the first left wing skinhead publication in Polish.

Patryk lost his extradition case and is being deported to Poland to serve his sentence. He is leaving behind his 10-year-old son in care of his younger brother D, who became his legal guardian. As D has two small children of his own and is only money earner in the household, we are planning to support him financially. We want Patryk to know that his son has

enough money for school meals, clothes etc. and that his younger brother is not pushed into poverty as a result of looking after him.

Our aim is to raise 4000 pounds, which means we can send monthly payments to his son during Patryk's incarceration.

Patryk was always there if others needed help and assistance, please make sure he is not left on his own now.

Fundraising is organized by Brighton Anarchist Black Cross. You can pay money to our paypal address:

thebottledwasp@riseup . net (please choose "payment to a friend" option and add a note saying "for Patryk")

or to our bank account:

Nationwide Acc.

no./Reference: 0321 / 704131186

[NB: The sender will need to quote this account number in the additional reference section on their payment instruction]

IBAN: GB97NAIA07009333333334

Courts Helping in the J20 Prosecution

The J20 prosecution is still moving forward as the judge in the case, Lynn Leibovitz, denied a series of motions to dismiss the charges against the nearly 200 individuals accused of property destruction and felony rioting on Inauguration Day. The defendants, if convicted, to be facing decades in prison.

Dozens of defense attorneys packed a D.C. Superior courtroom early in the summer to argue that charges should be dropped, because the indictments treated the defendants as one group rather than as individuals. Defense attorney argued that the government could only prove that their clients were arrested, not that they have committed any crimes.

In the judge's decision, she stated that the defendants operated as part of the black bloc, using those tactics to commit violence and evade identification. Because the government is using aiding and abetting and conspiracy liability, "each defendant charged in the indictment may be liable for the acts of others alleged in the indictment."

As to whether the government has evidence against the individual defendants that would justify the charges, she argued that is better address at trial, which some will begin in November. The judge also denied a motion to see how the grand jury was instructed before it made its decision to charge more than 200 people with rioting.



In total two hundred thirty-four people were arrested by D.C. police during or in the aftermath of Inauguration Day. Of those arrested, 19 have pleaded guilty (18 of them pleaded down to misdemeanors.) Dane Powell was sentenced to four months in federal prison. Twenty others have seen their charges dismissed. A total of 195 still face up to 75 years in prison for their alleged role in what the U.S. Attorney's Office for D.C. has called a "violent riot" that caused more than \$100,000 in damages to buildings, property, and vehicles, and minor injuries to six police officers.

The government has also issued court orders to obtain information pertaining to online activity relating to the organizing of the J20 protests. Facebook has been in a legal entanglement with the government of its demand for the social media company to give up their private communications and information of several users.

Prosecutors are demanding all of the information from the Facebook accounts of Legba Carrefour and Lacey MacAuley from November 1, 2016 through February 9, 2017, as well as that of the "DisruptJ20" Facebook group page (now called "Resist This") moderated by Emmelia Talarico, who called the warrants "a direct attack on D.C.'s grassroots organizing community."

The American Civil Liberties Union of D.C. is trying to quash, or at least narrow, those warrants, which it describes as "overly broad" and therefore a violation of the Fourth Amendment. The ACLU has argued, "The government under these warrants would be able to see intimate messages exchanged with romantic partners, prescription drug and psychiatric information, credit card and banking information, accounts of users and third parties who suffered domestic violence. This is deeply personal stuff. Opening up a person's Facebook account can open up a person's entire life."

The warrants would also reveal a treasure trove of information about political

activities and associations, including what rallies and demonstrations the activist have organized or attended, political commentary or viewpoint. Such access would have a chilling effect on free speech and association.

It is important to note that none of the three individuals - Carrefour, MacAuley, or Talarico – were arrested during the J20 demonstration. However, Carrefour and MacAuley both served as press contacts

for organizing efforts. Talarico was the moderator for the “DisruptJ20” Facebook group page (now called “Resist This”).

Dreamhost, the online service provider that hosted the DisruptJ20.org website, also received a warrant to provide the IP addresses for more than 1.3 million visitors to the DisruptJ20.org website, along with addresses, phone numbers, bank accounts, and other personal information for thousands of subscribers. After chal-

lenging the request, a judge granted a more scaled-back warrant under the condition that the court would be overseeing the search.

The court has also been establishing a process for an online portal with evidence gleaned from the phones confiscated by police during arrests and mined for data, including those of legal observers and journalists. For more information on the case: [http:// defendj20resistance.org/](http://defendj20resistance.org/)

‘Scripta Manent’ Trial to Start in Turin

The first hearing of the trial ‘Scripta Manent’ will begin on November 16th, 2017 in Turin, Italy. In total, fifteen anarchists, seven still imprisoned, are accused of being part of the Informal Anarchist Federation [F.A.I.] — International Revolutionary Front [F.R.I.]

Charges included the ‘creation and participation in a subversive association’, several explosive attacks on carabinieri, politicians, journalists and companies involved in the construction of prisons and migrants’ detention centers – all claimed by the Informal Anarchist Federation, as well as instigation to commit a crime and attempting to defend criminal acts following pieces published in Croce Nera Anarchica (Anarchist Black Cross.)

Four those who stand charged are members of the Anarchist Black Cross. Three of them were the same individuals who were the targets of the 2005 ‘Operation Black Cross’ in which they were accused of several bombings, as well as attempting to defend criminal acts. As is the case today, they were accused of being part of the F.A.I.

Daniele Cortelli, an editor of the Croce Nera Anarchica was also arrested after finding some batteries and an electrician’s manual. Although he was set to go trial, he was released. We are not aware of what happened to his case.

The imprisoned comrades have been subjected to constant harassment with severe communication restrictions between one another and outside. Despite



this they have continued to show resolve and have found opportunity to resist.

- In January 2015, 7 anarchists held in the AS2 unit of Ferrara were each given 15 days’ solitary confinement following noisy protests and strong confrontations with the guards,

- In August 2016 anarchist Alfredo Cospito smashed the partition glass between the visiting room and the guards’ room in solidarity with the imprisoned members of the Conspiracy of the Cells of Fire. He was given 15 days’ solitary confinement.

- In the days following operation “Scripta Manent”, anarchists Anna Beniamino and Alfredo Cospito went on hunger strike to put an end to isolation and the prohibition for those arrested to see each other.

- In September and October 2016, anarchist Marco Bisesti refused to be subjected to a tuberculosis test on his arrival in the prison, following which he spent a long time in the basement of the Rebibbia prison.

- In November 2016, anarchist Alessandro Mercogliano refused to comply with the identification procedure (photos and fingerprinting) in the prison of Ferrara. He was given 15 days in solitary confinement.

- In December 2016, anarchist Marco Bisesti damaged the windows of the screws’ office in the AS2 unit of Ferrara, where he’s being held. Not satisfied, as soon as he was in the cell he destroyed the opaque panels installed on the air vents. He too got 7 days in solitary confinement.

- From 3rd to 13th May 2017, anarchist Alfredo Cospito was on hunger strike against censorship, which had become more pressing after the end of the investigation; as a result, practically all incoming and outgoing letters are blocked.

Those individuals currently imprisoned and are awaiting trial are: Anna Beniamino, Alfred Cospito, Nicola Gai, Marco Bisesti, Alessandro Mercogliano, Danilo Cremonese and Valentina Speciale.

Eight other anarchist awaiting trial are: Patrizia Marino, Carlo Tesseri, Stafano Del Moro, Claudia Cospito, Stefano Fosco, Elisa Di Berardo and Gabriel Pombo Da Silva.

Anarchist Given 73-Months Sentence for Arson

Damion Feller, an anarchist from Portland, had been sentenced to 73 months in prison after pleaded guilty to first-degree arson, second-degree arson, riot and first-degree criminal mischief. Feller was arrested during the May Day protests in Portland earlier in the year. He was accused throwing burning flares into a Portland police cruiser and in a downtown Target store during a May Day demonstration earlier in the year. He was eventually identified through photos and new film footage.

Over twenty-five individuals were arrested for vandalizing property, setting fires, throwing rocks and other violence. Other than Feller, only one other person has pleaded guilty of crimes related to the May Day demonstration. Sarah Pugh was given three years of probation, as she pleaded guilty to second-degree arson and riot. It seems that her sentenced was lightened by the fact that she was homeless and as she indicted to police, it was her “first anarchist riot.”

In March 2017, Feller was arrested along with several others during a demonstration against the police murder of Quance Hayes. He was charged with disorderly conduct and reckless burning. Charges against him were eventually dismissed.

He also was charged in federal court for his crimes. But as part of his plea deal, he won’t be sentenced to any additional prison time. Feller will be eligible for release from prison after four years, if he gets time off for good behavior.



Mumia Abu-Jamal Cured of Hepatitis C!

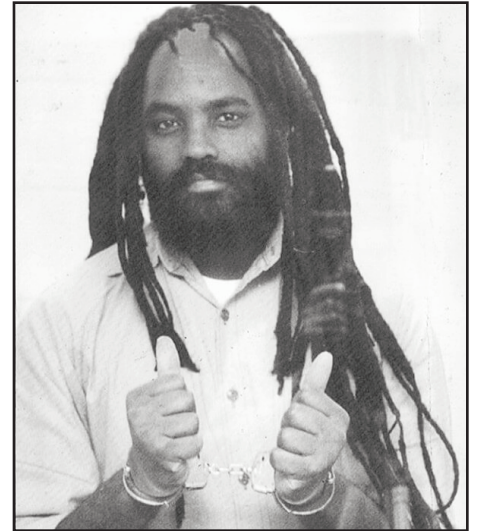
In January, Federal District Court Judge Robert Mariani granted political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal's request for a preliminary injunction, forcing the PADOC to provide him with drugs capable of curing his chronic hepatitis C infection. During an evidentiary hearing in December 2015, it was shown that Mumia had a chronic hepatitis C infection that was progressively attacking his liver, causing scarring, a severe, itchy, painful skin rash that had lasted more than 18 months, and anemia of chronic disease. The Court finally ruled in our favor and granted a preliminary injunction at the beginning of this year, and on May 28, 2017, Mumia announced that he is now free of the hepatitis C virus.

The victory was bittersweet, however, as the PADOC's 2-year fight against providing Mumia treatment allowed the disease to

progress to cirrhosis of the liver. We continue to fight for Mumia to obtain a full redress for his injuries at the hands of the PADOC.

Mumia's recovery is a product of the ALC's Hepatitis C Project, aimed at organizing a network of pro bono attorneys to provide legal services to hepatitis C (HCV) positive inmates in the Pennsylvania prison system. Because of medical advances, HCV can now be cured with new direct-acting antiviral medications, as seen in Mumia's case. However, more than 6,000 incarcerated patients in Pennsylvania are still being denied the cure. Attorneys are needed to provide representation in this important public health effort to establish a right to the cure.

(This article was originally published by the Abolitionist Law Center. For more information: <http://abolitionistlawcenter.org>)



Anarchists Convicted in a Paris Courtroom

In October, a Parisian court convicted several anarchists in connection to an arson attack against a police car during the May 2016 demonstrations against the government labor reforms.

Joachim Landwehr, a Swiss man, was convicted in absentia and received a seven-year sentence. He is accused of throwing a teargas grenade causing the car to catch on fire. Police are currently seeking him.

Kara Brault, aka Kara Wild, is a U.S. citizen who was sentenced to two years in prison and two years suspended. Kara, a transgendered woman, was brutally arrested week after the incident and has since been held within a men's prison while awaiting trial and conviction. For a period

of time she was also being denied her hormone treatment.

Ari Rustenholz was sentenced to two and a half years in prison and two years suspended sentence. Both he and Kara were accused of breaking the car windows while the police were inside.

Nicolas Fsnch was accused of hitting police with a metal bar and received a five year sentence and two and a half suspended sentence.

Antonin Bernanos, an antifascist activist who is the great grandson of famous French writer Georges Bernanos, was found guilty of assaulting an officer and breaking the rear window of the car. He was given a three years in jail and two

suspended, while his younger brother, Antonin, was found not guilty, along with another young man.

Having spent 10 months in detention awaiting trial, Georges Bernanos and Nicolas Fensch may not return to prison and could serve their rest of their sentences under police surveillance, electronically tagged.

After the convictions were handed down, about forty of their supporters in the courtroom erupted in angry and defiant chants until they were eventually cleared from the courtroom.

Last month in solidarity for the defendants, a group of anarchists allegedly set fire to a gendarmerie building in Lyon.

Eco-Activists Cleared for Necessity Defense

A judge in Minnesota has cleared the way for an unusual and potentially groundbreaking defense, allowing climate activists to use the "necessity" of confronting the climate crisis as justification for temporarily shutting down two crude oil pipelines last year.

Three environmental activist, Emily Johnston, Annette Klapstein and Benjamin Joldersma, are charged with felonies over the shutdown of two pipelines there in Minnesota on Oct. 11, 2016. A fourth defendant, Steven Liptay, who filmed the pipeline shutdowns, is charged with two gross misdemeanors.

During their last hearing on October 11, a district court judge in Clearwater County, Minnesota, ruled on Oct. 11 that three

activists who were arrested and charged with felonies last year can argue that they violated the law in order to protect citizens from the impacts of global warming and that they had no legal alternative.

The ruling is the third recent case in which a judge in the United States has allowed for such a defense in a climate case in a jury trial. A case in Massachusetts in 2014 did not go to trial after the prosecutor dropped the charges. A judge allowed the necessity defense in a Washington State case in 2016 but then instructed jurors they could not acquit on necessity. There was also a recent non-jury case in which a county judge in Slate Hill, New York, allowed a necessity defense for climate activists charged with misdemeanor

trespassing, but he issued a guilty verdict in June, stating the defense failed to prove "imminence", or immediate harm posed by climate change.

Use of a necessity defense is typically used not for protests but for more clear cut cases of individuals intentionally committing a crime to prevent imminent danger.

Political activists have, however, used the necessity defense in the past in opposition to issues including the Vietnam War, nuclear weapons and abortion.

The pipeline shutdowns in Minnesota were part of a multi-state protest by the group Climate Direct Action to protest the flow of tar sands crude into the U.S., and to show solidarity with the Dakota Access pipeline protests in North Dakota.

Herman Bell's Beat-Down *Written by Susie Day*

“Why don’t you Americans drop the bullshit about the land of the free and the home of the brave? Admit you’re now basically a tinpot dictatorship.”

This, from my playwright friend Diane in London, with whom I’m Skyping. I’ve just told her about what happened to Herman Bell, my friend in prison. He’s a former Black Panther who turns 70 this January and has been locked up since 1974. On September 5, Herman survived a “beat-down” by five to seven white correctional officers half his age at Great Meadow prison — one of the more Klan-friendly joints in upstate New York. Two of Herman’s ribs are broken; he’s lost some vision in one eye; probably has a concussion.

Diane continues. “The mind fuck: ‘Everybody’s created equal?’ Please...”

I find it refreshing to hear my United States besmirched by a non-American (even one who shops at Banana Republic when she comes here). This means a lot when it pertains to Herman, who, after 40-plus years inside, only wants to get out on parole, to live what’s left of his life with his wife and grandchildren. Herman isn’t a saint; he isn’t my hero. He is my friend, one of the kindest, funniest people I know. Now, he’s badly hurt.

What happened to Herman isn’t unique in New York State, where brutal — sometimes fatal — assaults by guards on prisoners have persisted for years. As an American, though, I don’t usually hear about this, since the normalizing zeitgeist in this tinpot land o’ the free is that people behind bars — especially “convicted cop killers” — deserve whatever they get.

Herman’s beat-down happened when he was out in the rec yard. There’s a bank of phones there, and he was talking with his wife, Nancy, who was coming in a few days for a contact visit — their first in almost three years. Herman and Nancy have been allowed to see one another sitting across a divided table in a crowded visiting room. Recently, though, the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) allowed them family, or “trailer,” visits, which is when a prisoner can actually be alone in a makeshift room with a family member for a day or two. Herman and Nancy were planning their first time in awhile being really together, when across the yard, a fight broke out. The officers announced the yard was closed, and Herman said to Nancy, “I got to hang up.”

Next thing he knows, one guard yanks Herman away, drags him into a hall where there are no surveillance cameras. Then he slaps the glasses off Herman’s face and



starts in punching him. Other guards pile on, punching and kicking, and somebody sprays mace in Herman’s eyes and mouth. They try to pull off his boots and break his legs. When they slam his head repeatedly onto the concrete floor, Herman thinks that he is surely dying. But Herman never hits back. He knows how to act in prison. He never hits back.

Herman Bell after a recent beat-down in the upstate Great Meadow prison.

I know this happened in this way because Herman is widely respected as a humble and peaceable man by the people incarcerated with him. One of them heard about the beating and called a friend outside. From there, word got to Herman’s lawyer, who managed to call Herman. Nancy stepped in. Immediately, people started working on his case...

Back at the prison, the guards, after beating Herman, do the usual thing cops do: they charge him with assaulting an officer. Herman is transferred to another prison and placed in SHU — an Orwellian acronym for “special housing unit,” which means solitary confinement.

About four days later, Herman and Nancy get one short, no-contact visit. Herman is brought in, beat-up and handcuffed, stumbling in leg shackles. He and Nancy have to yell through a hole in a thick Plexiglas wall.

At my regular therapy session, I describe all this.

“Herman must have done something,” says my therapist — a well-mannered, white, liberal American, who believes in balance, symmetry, and National Public Radio. “What did Herman do to cause this?”

“I don’t know,” I snap. “Maybe he didn’t hang up the phone fast enough? Maybe he was looking too black that day? If he’d raised one finger to defend himself, those thugs would have killed him. And if he’s convicted, he’ll spend an indefinite amount of time in SHU, lose any privileges, and kiss his last chance of parole goodbye.”

“I’m curious,” continues my therapist, who really did ask this: “If these officers are so thuggish and macho, why was Herman maced? Isn’t pummeling and kicking more satisfying than spraying a chemical into somebody’s face? Wasn’t Herman convicted of something serious?”

Pause. Inwardly, I reel at the degree to which TV shows like “Law and Order” have permeated even the most professional, free-to-be-you-and-me brain. I blurt out something rhetorical like, “How many US Army vets who wiped out whole villages in Vietnam or Iraq do we pass every day on the street? Do they spend any time in jail?”

“You have a big heart,” she counters. “But what life choices have you made that would attract you to a friendship with someone like Herman?”

“Why shouldn’t I be friends with Herman?” I ask. “He’s a good person.” I realize this therapeutic relationship has reached its “sell-by” date. “You know what, lady?” I say, “you just asked the kind of what’s-in-it-for-me question that keeps us all in hell. It’s certainly keeping Herman in lockdown.”

Then I fire her.

Thing is, I believe Herman. I never had any doubt. I visited him maybe 10 days after his beating. With a “land-of-the-free” sincerity, Herman talked about the “right to remain innocent,” meaning everyone’s need to expect justice.

And here’s a fucking miracle: Evidently, DOCCS believes Herman, too. Because on October 5, they dropped his charges and moved him into general population at a prison closer to New York City. This bare-bones justice almost never happens — even to prisoners like Herman, with several hundred supporters mailing letters and making phone calls. That’s why we need to make this miracle an ordinary, procedural occurrence for everybody Herman describes as “the mass incarcerated and the voiceless.” Because we should not have to work so hard to prove that brutality is wrong. Because incarcerated people have human rights and can be believed.

Meanwhile, Herman remains in prison. “Let’s hope,” says my stalwart, non-American friend Diane, “that life will now unravel in a way that leads to Herman’s coming home.”

(Since the writing of this article, the charges against Bell have been dropped. For more info: www.freehermanbell.org)

Please write letters of support at:
Herman Bell 79-C-0262
Shawangunk Correctional Facility
PO Box, 700
Wallkill, New York 12589

A Message on Running Down the Walls

On September 17th, people came together in various cities and prisons throughout North America to engage in the annual event known as Running Down the Walls (RDTW). This event is a 5k run that raises funds and awareness for political prisoners and prisoners of war.

The idea for the event began as a passing comment made by a member of the Los Angeles ABCF back in 1998. It wasn't until the following year that we organized our first RDTW in Griffith Park.

Thankfully, with the help of our imprisoned comrades - like Bill Dunne and Jaan Laaman - and our friends in various cities, the event has continued to grow. RDTW has now taken place in well over thirty cities, three countries and numerous prisons through North America. It can now be said that Running Down the Walls has become its own movement.

This year alone we had runs in location such as: Hamilton, Ontario, Puget Sound, Denver, NYC, Los Angeles, Middletown, Boston, Buffalo, Riverside, Minneapolis and Bloomington, Indiana. Comrades in

FCC Victorville (CA), FMC Carswell (TX), and Eloy (AZ) and other prisons joined us behind the prison walls. This year was the first run inside of a women's prison.

It should be noted that our comrade, Jaan Laaman, was unable to participate in the event because of his continued lockdown in Tucson. Jaan has been a critical agent in keeping this event going. While we know he was there in spirit, his absence was recognized and deeply felt.

If the importance of this event is missed, consider the fact that a critical aspect of the event is that people engage in action that transcends beyond the prison fence, connects people in difference locales, and unifies individuals in one single thought - the freedom and solidarity with our imprisoned comrades.

The significance of this is certainly not lost on our enemies. In 2015, our dear comrade, Bill Dunne, received a 15-year hit on his parole hearing. Now while the commission listed numerous reasons for their rationale, including Bill's "continued

association and affiliation with anarchist organizations" and his "anti-authoritarian views," the examiner took special interest in the run. He denounced "Running Down the Walls," but did not specify why. It is clear that opposition is rooted in the fact that the event connects rather than isolates our comrades, letting them know they are not alone.

Over the years, former political prisoners, like Daniel McGowan, Sara Jane Olson, Matt Lamont, Sherman Austin, Rob Middaugh and many others have taken part in runs outside the prison walls. Their continued support in the event shows us that there is value in keeping this event going.

It is important for us, in Los Angeles, to thank all those who have continued to build this event. We thank you for taking ownership and building it with us. It is an honor to create this with you. We hope that others will join us in this endeavor.

We will soon be announcing the date for next year's RDTW. We hope to expand this year to more countries, more cities and more prisons - Until they are free.

FREQUENTLY USED

Acronyms/ Terms

ABCF: Anarchist Black Cross Federation - anti-authoritarian federation of ABC groups who support and defend PP/POWs.

ABC-BG: Branch Group - ABCF group with more responsibilities than a SG.

ABC-SG: Support Group - ABCF group with fewer responsibilities than a BG.

AIM: American Indian Movement - above ground revolutionary organization of Native Americans.

Anarchism: Free or libertarian socialism. Anarchists are opposed to government, the state, and capitalism. Therefore, simply speaking, anarchism is a no government form of socialism. Types of anarchists include: Anarcho-Communist, Anarcho-Syndicalist, Autonomist, Collectivist, Individualists, and Mutualists.

BLA: Black Liberation Army - revolutionary Black clandestine formation formed to defend the Black community and the BPP, inactive since the '80s.

BPP: Black Panther Party - above ground Black revolutionary group seeking Black political power, disbanded in the mid-'70s.

FALN: *english translation:* Armed Forces of National Liberation - revolutionary clandestine group fighting for Puerto Rican independence.

FC: Federation Council - decision-making body of the ABCF.

MOVE: Not an acronym, the name of an organization based in Philadelphia whose members are committed to the teachings of John Africa. Their belief is in "life."

PC: Prisoner's Committee - rotating body of 5 PP/POWs on the ABCF's FC.

PP/POWs: Political Prisoners and/or Prisoners of War. (See page 1.)

Self-Defense: The legal act of protecting one's life or the life of another with the idea/purpose of self-determination and independence. Armed self-defense is relative to the ABCF, specifically in the U.S., in that as the organization grows, so too grows the need to protect ourselves from the armed aggressor of the state, right wing, and other ideological opponents. (Firearms training as preparation for self-defense are legal activities within the confines of the U.S.)

Self Determination: The right by virtue of which all peoples are entitled freely to determine their political status and pursue their economic, social, and cultural development. All peoples may, for their own ends, freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international economic cooperation, based upon the principle of mutual benefit and international law. In no case may a people be deprived of their own means of subsistence.

SDS: Students for a Democratic Society - left student group founded in the '60s.

The Update: This is a quarterly publication of the ABCF.

WUO: Weather Underground Organization - first the Weathermen, later known as the WUO, evolved out of the SDS as an underground formation of primarily white anti-imperialist revolutionaries from the student movement.

(The Anarchist Black Cross Federation (ABCF) produces the Revolutionary Political Dictionary with these and other expanded definitions of political terms. Available from Los Angeles ABC for \$1 and two 41 cents stamps.)

\$100,000 Raised Through the Warchest Program!

SUPPORT THE ABCF WARCHEST

The ABCF has initiated a program designed to send monthly checks to PP/POWs who have been receiving insufficient, little, or no financial support during their imprisonment. PP/POWs requesting funds complete an application of financial questions. When the ABCF has collected sufficient funds to send out another monthly check, the applications are reviewed by a rotating body of PP/POWs called the Prisoner Committee, who make a judgement on which applicant is in the most financial need. There is also an emergency fund designed to immediately send checks to those PP/POWs in need of one-time or emergency assistance.

Founded in 1994, the Warchest has provided consistent and reliable financial aid, serving a much-neglected comradely function. Since its inception, the ABCF has raised over \$100,000 with just this one program. All funds raised go directly to the political prisoners, for which the program is designed. Despite our success, our comrades are still in dire need of funds. Endorse this program by giving a monthly or one-time donation to increase the number of prisoners being supported monthly. A financial report is published that documents all money received and the prisoner it was sent to. This is done in order to be as accountable as we can to the prisoners and the movement.



FUNDS IN	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
NJ ABCF	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
LA ABCF	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0
Through the	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Michael Zemel	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wulf Ticket	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marcin Wolynski	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
David Torcivia	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Daniel Camp	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Matt Roberts	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Mia Levitt	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sebastian Ross	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erik Brink	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Benjamin Stone	0	20	0	0	10	0	0	10
Daniel Symons	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rosalie Wilcox	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bart Vesteegen	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	0
Camilio Bernal	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
Allison Mackay	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0
Christopher	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0
Dermont Kelly	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0
Zachary Packard	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0
Andrew	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0
Katrin	0	0	0	0	0	1500	0	0
Alexander	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0
Jacob Free	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
Helen Harris	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Donald Helfrich	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Total	219	413	173	153	133	1613	153	153

Send cash, checks or mos made to
TIM FASNACHT to:
Lancaster ABCF • P.O Box 8682 •
Lancaster, PA 17604 • timABCF@aol.com

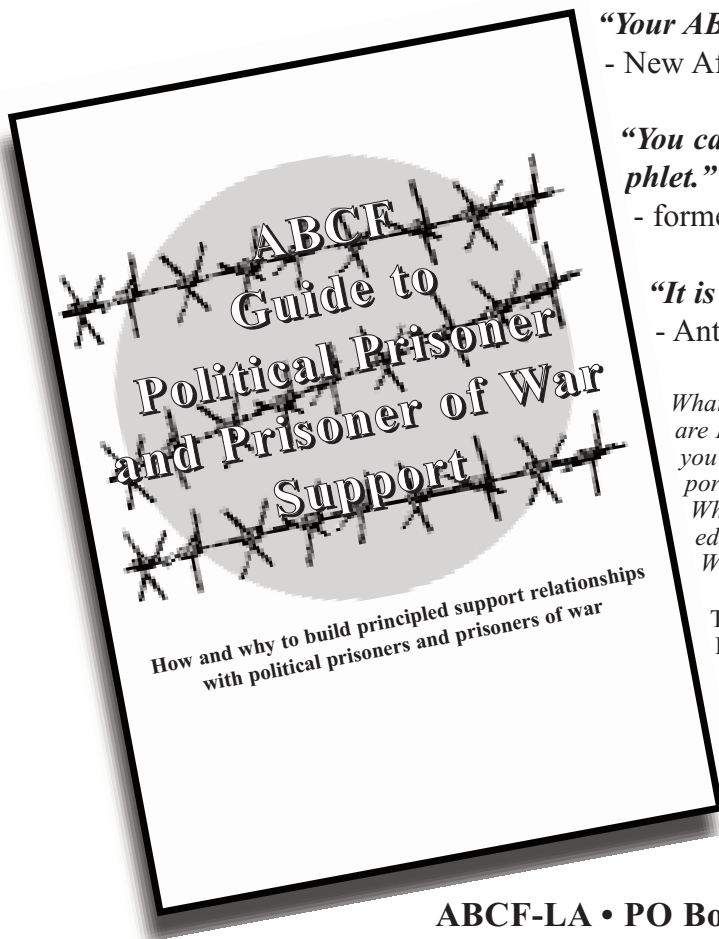
FUNDS IN	
1994	351
1995	3860
1996	4143
1997	3544
1998	7643
1999	5814
2000	3514
2001	5290
2002	2873
2003	1785
2004	0
2005	4439
2006	3268
2007	4312
2008	3448
2009	6468
2010	6225
2011	5867
2012	4795
2013	4633
2014	6004
2015	7657
2016	9406
2017	3010
TOTAL	99,995

FUNDS OUT	
1994	120
1995	2796
1996	4308
1997	4588
1998	6412
1999	5191
2000	4544
2001	4637
2002	4320
2003	1300
2004	0
2005	2620
2006	2880
2007	3471
2008	3750
2009	3700
2010	5200
2011	7730
2012	6480
2013	5360
2014	4880
2015	4960
2016	5200
2017	4300
TOTAL	75,332

FUNDS OUT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
OSO BLANCO	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
ROBERT SETH HAYES	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
JALIL MUNTAQIM	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
ALVARO HERNANDEZ	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
RUCHELL MAGEE	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
HANIFF BEY	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
JOSEPH BOWEN	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
SUNDIATA ACOLI	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
JAAN LAAMAN	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
HERMAN BELL	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
MALIK SMITH	0	0	0	240	40	40	40	40
TOM MANNING	0	0	0	0	40	40	40	40
DAVID GILBERT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40
MALIKI LATINE	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	900	400	400	640	480	480	480	520

(*Funds unaccounted for due to unreported funds from Jacksonville ABCF)





“Your ABCF Guide to PP/POW Support is great, PERIOD!”

- New Afrikan POW Sundiata Acoli

“You can see many of our concerns addressed in this pamphlet.”

- former Puerto Rican POW Carmen Valentin

“It is extremely well thought out and put together.”

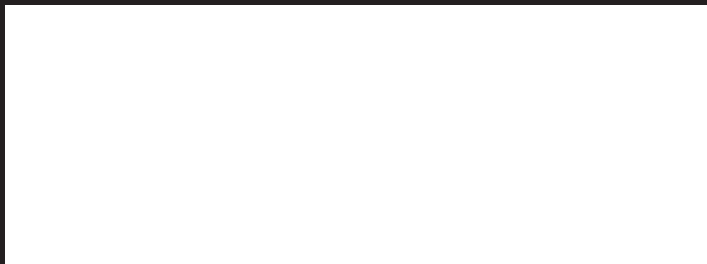
- Anti-Imperialist PP Tom Manning

What's the ABC? What's the ABCF? Who are Political Prisoners? Who are Prisoners of War? Where are they? Why make a criteria? What do you mean by 'documentation' and how do I get it? What kinds of support do Political Prisoners need? How should I go about my work? What can PP/POWs get in prison? What do I need to know if I wanted to visit? Can I bring them food packages? What about clothes? What do you mean by 'principled support'? How do I get involved?

This is a practical guide compiled by Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War themselves, based on concrete history and work experience. It will help answer all of the above questions and more. The ABCF guide to PP/POW includes definitions that were democratically agreed upon at an international tribunal, specific procedures for obtaining documentation on PP/POW's, information on visiting, phone contact, food/clothing packages, and the working policies of the ABCF in our work to support PP/POW's. Send \$1 and two stamps to:

ABCF-LA • PO Box 11223 • Whittier, CA • 90603

LA-ABCF
Branch Group
PO Box 11223
Whittier, CA 90603



“This work is not done for glory, but because we believe in mutual aid.”