

Russell Maroon Shoatz

BLACK LIBERATION PRISONER

imprisoned since 1972



Russell Maroon Shoatz is a dedicated community activist and revolutionary, founding member of the Black Unity Council, former member of the Black Panther Party and soldier in the Black Liberation Army. He is serving multiple life sentences for an attack on a Philadelphia police station that killed one officer and injured another. The attack was carried out in retaliation after the notoriously racist police force killed an unarmed black youth. Russell Maroon Shoatz has endured a lot during his time in prison. He has seen many different state, county, and federal institutions and has escaped twice; once in 1977, once in 1980. Russell has also experienced long stints in solitary confinement, the longest and most recent being for 23 years, from 1991 to 2013.

“The question we must ask ourselves is ‘How do we construct societies where the individual is able to broadly exercise self-determination?’”

Check out Maroon’s support website for more information as well as a mailing address. Writing letters is one of the simplest and most important ways to support political prisoners. **They’re in there for us, we’re out here for them.**

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