

PART's Perspective:

The Best Defense is a Good Offense

by Michael Novick, *Anti-Racist Action-Los Angeles/People Against Racist Terror (ARA-LA/PART)*

It's good that more and more people from all walks of life are beginning to talk and think about resistance to the incoming Trump regime. The colossal damage that can be done to the lives of Black, indigenous and other colonized people, to Muslims, migrants and national/ethnic or religious minorities, to the environment that sustains life, to women and LGBTQ people, to labor, and to common human decency demands effective resistance. Resistance is fertile and essential. You can read more about our perspective on resistance in the previous issue of TTT (available on-line at www.antiracist.org or <http://ara-la.tumblr.com/post/154273945100/resist-to-exist>). We must oppose Trump's anti-Black law & order platform.

But resistance alone is reactive, and places the initiative in the hands of the oppressors and exploiters. We need a proactive movement, fighting for a different and better society. Community and solidarity are the basis of resistance, and liberation must be its goal. If we focus on what we are fighting for, we may be able to waste less energy on fighting each other. Self-defense is a fundamental human right that must be exercised to be maintained, but as the title of this essay declares, the best defense is a good offense.

Even from a position of relative weakness, the forces of revolutionary transformation must always operate from a perspective of taking the initiative and setting the terms of the struggle. To the extent that, facing reality, we recognize the material advantages and the destructive military or logistical capacities of the rulers, the bosses and their allies, we must develop the capacity and skills of political jiu-jitsu, judo or tai-chi: an understanding of how to turn the aggressor's force and momentum against him. We must never lose sight of the fact that the wealth and power of the exploiters and oppressors are stolen from the people and the land they exploit and oppress.

Just as we changed the sub-title of this publication some years ago, from the journal of anti-racist action (a negative definition) to the journal of inter-communal solidarity (a positive statement), our movements need to define what we are *for*. Thus, we see the Movement for Black Lives, and the positive assertion that Black Lives Matter, first of all to Black people themselves, and then to all of us and to the cause of freedom and human liberation. Thus, we see that the Native leadership and definition of the struggle at Standing Rock was not only opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline, but the affirmation that Water is Life, Water is Sacred, and their self-definition not as "protesters" but as water protectors. Thus, the Spirit Run to Manzanar from Little Tokyo every year, marking its 25th anniversary in 2017 from the first run in 1992, expresses the healing of wounds and overcoming of divisions within and between the Japanese and Japanese-American communities, and their solidarity with the indigenous people on whose lands the internment and detention camps were built, and from whose lands the uranium for nuclear weapons was stolen.

Emphasizing what we are for does not eliminate or dispose of contradictions among the people. Exploited, oppressed and colonized people, far from being sanctified or made virtuous by such treatment, tend to internalize our oppression and to identify with our oppressors and their value system. Moreover, privilege as a tool of division and an instrument of social control operates even, or especially, among oppressed people. But emphasizing what we are for helps guard against victimization and identification as victims, instead focusing on the generative and creative energies we possess and the power and potential we seek to actualize.

For people of European descent, in particular, heirs of colonialism and settler colonialism, the struggle for a positive identification with humanity and with a nurturing, restorative relationship with the land and the planet, is essential. Because "whiteness" is an identity forged from and by separation from, and the declaration of superiority over, other people. Colonialism dehumanizes the colonizer, and an affirmation of humanity can only be achieved by struggling for decolonization and by shattering the false community of "whiteness." Standing for humanity, justice and equality will inevitable create ruptures with the forces of racism, colonialism and reaction rooted within settler-colonial "white" or "American" society, and we must be prepared for that, placing the onus on those forces to identify and indict themselves by their opposition to what we, in common with the bulk of humanity and with the needs of the ecosphere, stand for.

This solidarity does not necessarily require ideological or organizational unity on every point. It is enough to identify the critical importance of the oppression of Black people and the theft of indigenous land in the creation of capitalism and white supremacy, and the critical importance of the liberation of Black and indigenous people to the creation of a better world. As a concrete manifestation of this, *Turning The Tide* continues to print and share the perspectives of Black liberationists who may have contradictions with each other, and regardless of any differences ARA-LA/PART may have with them. History and the struggle will sort out what is right or wrong about revolutionary African intercommunalism, Black Marxism, Pan Africanism, or New Afrikan theories which may or may not propose a specific land base inside the current borders of the US. Theories must be tested in practice, whether in quantum physics or in making revolution. Unlike in religion, science does not allow us to appeal to the words of Einstein or Darwin to settle the matter, still less so to the words of Marx or Mao, Avakian, Jesus or Muhammad. It is sufficient to recognize that Black liberation is essential and that white supremacy and capitalism must go for people to be free and the planetary eco-system to survive.

What are some of the things we must stand for and bring about to hasten that outcome, in the process of struggling for which, various theories can be tested and proven or falsified?

Decolonization

- Self determination for Black and all oppressed people
- Dismantle the federal empire-state
- Overturn the "Doctrine of Discovery," acknowledge indigenous land, respect Native treaty rights
- Independence for Puerto Rico
- Recognize Hawaiian and Inuit sovereignty
- Reparations for the descendants of enslaved Africans
- End domination of Mexican people on both sides of the



- imposed border, un pueblo sin fronteras
- Amnesty for all political prisoners and prisoners of war
- Repeal NAFTA, CAFTA, the WTO, No TTP or TTIP
- World-wide Jubilee forgiveness of debt

Democratization

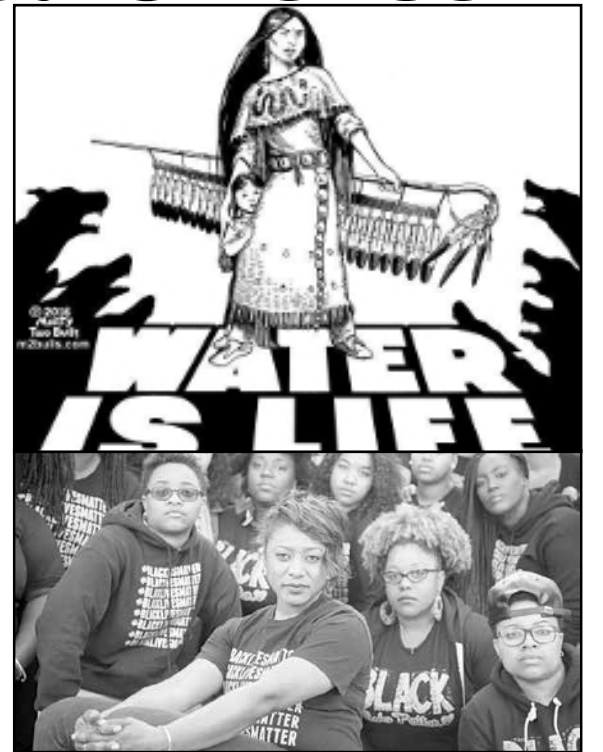
- Community control of policing and education- end police impunity, gentrification and displacement
- Restore the civic rights of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people - Ban the box!
- Protect labor organizing and the right to democracy at work, including the right to strike
- Freedom of speech, press, protest and conscience
- End media monopoly and corporate domination of the airwaves, print and social media
- Amnesty for undocumented - no human being is illegal!
- Cooperative economics and social control over socially-produced wealth

Demilitarization

- End all US open and secret wars, drone attacks, covert operations and military interventions
- Dismantle the National Security Council, the NSA, DIA, CIA, FBI and all agencies of international and domestic repression and counter-insurgency
- Ban nuclear weapons and power and all C/BW WMDs
- Demobilize US troops and bases around the world, such as AFRICOM
- End US military aid and weapons sales to Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and all oppressive regimes

Decriminalization

- Abolish mass incarceration and the prison-industrial complex, close the school-to-prison pipeline
- Provide alternatives to incarceration and mechanisms of transformative justice
- Community controlled treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts and abusers
- Decriminalize consensual sexual activity, sex work, and personal use of intoxicants and mind-altering substances



- End control units, solitary confinement, prison privatization and the exploitation of prison labor
- Abolish the death penalty and solitary confinement
- Defend Human Rights & Environmental Justice and Sustainability**
- Health care, housing, child care, food, water, education and socially-useful work are human rights

- Support women's reproductive rights and control over their own bodies, including abortion
- Recognize LGBTQIA rights and community
- End reliance on fossil fuels, reverse deforestation and global warming/climate change
- Decolonize the biosphere: Ban privatization of seeds, life-forms, and the human genome.

To the extent that some of these are policy formulations or demands on the current system, they must be expressed through defiance and resistance. Government rests on the consent of the governed, and in this settler colonial society, settlers and colonized alike must begin to withdraw our consent and begin to impede the operations of the system, to become ungovernable. We must give the widest range to direct action in both creative implementations of the new world that we believe is possible and in disruptions of the old system that threatens human and planetary survival.

The fascist and white supremacist so-called "alt-right" tried to boycott "Star Wars" because they identify with the Empire, and recognize the infectious nature of rebellious resistance to Empires even on galaxies far, far away and long, long ago. Disney, Universal and other purveyors of fantasies of heroic anti-imperialist resistance hope that they can make a buck while selling us vicarious exploits and thrills of the sacrifices required for liberation. They hope to mesmerize us with virtual reality versions of resistance, while sharpening their tools of mental and social analysis and control, and embedding us more deeply in their matrix of domination.

But life is not a film or a video game. The only force that is with us is the force of our unity, our solidarity, or our will to fight and to sacrifice for the cause of liberation, justice and equality. Neither Mighty Mouse nor Luke Skywalker will be coming to save the day. We neither need nor want condescending saviors. We need the heroism that grows out of collective commitment to the beautiful, inter-generational, multi-ethnic and intercommunal struggle for a better world free of colonialism and exploitation.

Criminalization of Social Movements in Brazil

By Aline Piva, Research Fellow at the Council on Hemispheric Affairs
<http://www.mstbrazil.org/content/criminalization-social-movements-brazil>

On April 14, 2016, a board of judges issued an arrest warrant against Luiz Batista Borges, Diessyca Santana, Natalino Jesus, who are small farmers and members of the Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra (Brazilian Landless Workers Movement; MST), as well as a well-known activist and advocate of agrarian reform, Jose Valdir Misnerovicz. Borges was arrested on the very same day he went to the police station to clarify the status of accusations against him, and has been in prison for over 47 days now. Misnerovicz, one of the national leaders of the MST, was arrested on May 31, in a conjoined operation of the State police of Goiás and Rio Grande do Sul. Santana and Jesus were forced into exile to escape arrest.[1]

They are being accused of association to commit crime, under Law nº 12.850/2013 which typifies criminal organizations. It is the first time in over 30 years of the MST's existence that members of the judiciary are formulating such accusations against members of the MST. This application of the law negates the extensive jurisprudence existing in Brazil, which states that the struggle for land reform is an exercise of citizenship and cannot be mistaken for a crime.

This judicial decision is related to the occupation of a small part of the Santa Helena

Sugar Mill, whose owners (the NAOUM economic group) are being prosecuted for misappropriation of social security contributions, non-compliance with labor obligations, and tax fraud. Since the debt of the NAOUM economic group with the State has amounted to over three billion USD, federal prosecutors filed a lawsuit of tax enforcement against the group in a Federal Court. It ruled that the properties of the Santa Helena Mill should be transferred to the State in order to settle just a small part of the debt with the Federal Treasury.

Under Brazilian Law, this is an indication that those lands should then be transferred to the Instituto Nacional de Colonização e Reforma Agrária (National Institute of Colonization and Agrarian Reform; INCRA), the federal authority responsible for agrarian reform. As a means to force the public officials to speed up the process, the landless rural workers started to occupy the property. It is important to note that the legislation that regulates these operations requires this process to be completed within a certain amount of time. A commonly used strategy is thus to artificially delay this process, under the pretext of Brazilian bureaucratic burden, in order to prevent land reform – and return the land to the previous owners.

In fact, the Superior Tribunal de Justiça (Superior Court of Justice; STJ) ruled to nullify the process, and decided that “the property must be intended to cultivate sugar cane, and that the landless workers would have difficulty carrying out such activity, causing immeasurable damage to the city of St. Helena.” It should be noted that no sugar cane is planted in the occupied area, only soy, and that the 1500 families that were in the area were already cultivating the land.[2]

This afternoon, June 7, the Criminal Chamber of the Court of the State of Goiás, ruled on Borge's Habeas Corpus request. The judge presiding the case denied all the defense's requests, and the trial was suspended for further examinations.

Although the violence against popular movements in Brazil is rooted in the country's history, it has been escalating at an unprecedented rate. A report from the Comissão Pastoral da Terra (CPT) shows that in 2015, 50 rural workers were killed in conflicts related to land reform – the highest level since 2004. In the first five months of 2016 alone, 23 rural workers have already been assassinated. Among them were two activists of the MST who were killed by the State police of Paraná in an ambush that left six other activists injured.[3]

The unjustified incarceration of members of the MST reflects a clear intention of State forces to criminalize social justice movements in Brazil, in the context of the resurgence of the conservative forces during the impeachment process against Dilma Rousseff. What we see today in Brazil is a clear expression of the class struggle in the country, deeply rooted in its colonial past. A ruling by Brazilian Courts to prosecute the MST as a criminal organization would set a dangerous precedent and open a new era of State violence against social justice movements, organized or not, in Brazil.[4]

Here you can find the official statement from MST: <http://www.mstbrazil.org/news/mst-statement-harassment-fighters-agrarian-reform-goias>

Photo: Brazil_MST_Agencia_do_Brasil_CC_license



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[1] Comitiva Visita TJ De Goiás Para Pedir Liberdade a Presos Políticos Do MST | Brasil De Fato. [Brasil De Fato](http://brasildefato.com.br/2016/06/03/comitiva-visita-tj-de-goias-para-....). 2016. Accessed June 06, 2016. <https://brasildefato.com.br/2016/06/03/comitiva-visita-tj-de-goias-para-....>

[2] Entidades Divulgam Nota Denunciando Prisões de Militantes do MST em Goiás. [Brasil de Fato](http://brasildefato.com.br/2016/06/04/entidades-divulgam-nota-denunciando-prisoes-de-militantes-do-mst-em-goias/). Accessed June 07, 2016. <https://www.brasildefato.com.br/2016/06/04/entidades-divulgam-nota-denunciando-prisoes-de-militantes-do-mst-em-goias/>

[3] Comissão Pastoral Da Terra. [Comissão Pastoral Da Terra](http://www.cptnacional.org.br/index.php/component/jdownloads/category/5-....). Accessed June 06, 2016. <http://www.cptnacional.org.br/index.php/component/jdownloads/category/5-....>

Dois Sem-terra São Assassinados Pela PM No Interior Do Paraná E Outros Seis Ficam Feridos – Portal Fórum. [Portal Frum](http://www.revistaforum.com.br/2016/04/08/dois-sem-terra-sao-assassinado...). 2016. Accessed June 06, 2016. <http://www.revistaforum.com.br/2016/04/08/dois-sem-terra-sao-assassinado...>

[4] Comitiva Visita TJ de Goiás para Pedir Liberdade a Presos Políticos do MST. [Brasil de Fato](http://brasildefato.com.br/2016/06/03/comitiva-visita-tj-de-goias-para-pedir-liberdade-a-presos-politicos-do-mst/). Accessed June 07, 2016. <https://brasildefato.com.br/2016/06/03/comitiva-visita-tj-de-goias-para-pedir-liberdade-a-presos-politicos-do-mst/>

THE CALL: PUTTING REVOLUTION BACK ON THE AGENDA!

A Call to the 2017 Plenary of the African People's Socialist Party (excerpts)

Members and supporters of the African People's Socialist Party (APSP) from around the world will converge on our headquarters in the city of St. Petersburg, Florida to participate in the Party's Plenary from January 7-9, 2017.

The Party Plenary takes place yearly between our Congress, the highest body of the Party, which takes place every five years. The next Party Congress will be held in 2018.

We are opening up our Plenary to friends of our Party and urge you to join us at this critical time in the history of the Party and our struggle.

We want as many people as possible to share in the celebration of the accomplishments of our Party and to help us critique and correct any errors we may have committed in carrying out the mandates and policies established at our 2013 Congress.

The African People's Socialist Party was founded in 1972, more than two generations ago. It has been our work that, more than anything else, kept the African Liberation Movement alive after the U.S. government's defeat of the Black Revolution of the Sixties.

Because of our Party's continued existence, the struggle of our people did not have to begin anew with the August 9, 2014 Ferguson, Missouri uprising by young working class Africans following the murder of 18-year-old Mike Brown by the domestic military colonial occupation forces known as police.

Our Party has a fighting history that has provided lessons and political maturity usually denied to African people who have historically had to revive our revolutionary struggle after every setback.

After the re-emergence of revolutionary African working class militants in Ferguson, the African People's Socialist Party has been able to prevent a host of opportunists and radical liberals from hijacking the struggle of African working people who have suffered since the 1960s without the benefit of our own revolutionary leadership.

Many of the African people entering into political life in the wake of the Ferguson rebellion are new to political life and do not have the advantage of the revolutionary era that characterized our movement of the sixties when revolution was the main trend in the world.

But our Party was there during that period. We experienced the sixties and the two subsequent generations of counterinsurgency, during which we consistently worked to rebuild a revolutionary movement.

Our organizational and political history did not begin on August 9, 2014. The African People's Socialist Party has been

fighting for the liberation of our people and engaging our oppressors in struggle since May 27, 1972!

Therefore, unlike most others, we did not respond to the youthful working class resistance on Canfield Drive with an attempt to build another middle class Civil Rights movement. The African People's Socialist Party set out immediately to use the events of Canfield Drive to forge a political movement to complete the Black Revolution of the 1960s.

No other organization in the world is better prepared to take on this monumental task than our Party. We have solved every political, ideological and practical problem that our movement was confronted with at the time of our defeat by the guns and prisons of our oppressors.

We have developed the science of African Internationalism, the revolutionary theory explaining the rise of capitalism stemming from the European imperialist enslavement and colonization of Africa, Africans and most of the world.

African Internationalism is a revolutionary theory that not only explains the place and destiny of African people in the world, it also explains the place and destiny of the all the peoples of the world.

African Internationalism shows the inevitability of our victory over colonialist-capitalist white power. African Internationalism has destroyed the myth and mystery of white people who as mortals, like the rest of us, are subject to the laws of society that predetermines that production of life is the primary motive force of society. Our political theory has proven that white people, unlike most of us, have captured others to produce life for themselves through the parasitic colonialist-capitalist system.

For most of our existence the African People's Socialist Party has also worked to build a response to the counterinsurgency war that debilitated our freedom struggle for more than four decades, pushing millions of ordinary African people out of political life through jailings, assassinations and other forms of terror.

We built the International People's Democratic Uhuru Movement (InPDUM) whose main task has been to expose and defeat the counterinsurgency and fight for the democratic rights of our people with self-determination as the highest priority.

We have initiated the development of our independent anti-colonial economy, creating an assortment of economic institutions that provide resources for our movement and create jobs for other workers while providing practical evidence of the efficacy of African Internationalism, our theory of liberation.

With each passing day the African People's Socialist Party

strives to bring African workers fully back into the political life that we enjoyed before our movement was crushed by imperialist white power.

One of the most important accomplishments of our Party has been our leadership in creating the African Socialist International. The International is the African People's Socialist Party organized everywhere Africans are located globally. It provides advanced, organized revolutionary leadership to the struggles of our people everywhere under a single organizational structure. It makes us invincible.

We have prevented the isolation of the African working class by forging alliances and other political relationships with anti-imperialist forces around the world.

Our Party has led the fight against slavish political reliance by the African working class within the U.S. on the Democratic party and other U.S. imperialist political institutions.

Along with the Black is Back Coalition for Social Justice, Peace and Reparations, within which our Party plays a crucial role, we worked throughout the U.S. to organize the National Black People's Convention for Self-determination in Washington, D.C. on November 5 and 6.

This process of building the National Convention and the Convention itself provides us an opportunity to promote a National Black Political Agenda for Self-determination that is independent of all imperialist organizations, parties and other institutions in or outside our colonized community.

However, of all the work we have done and all the accomplishments we have won, none is more important to us than the creation of the African People's Socialist Party itself, the greatest weapon in the hands of Africans colonized every where on earth.

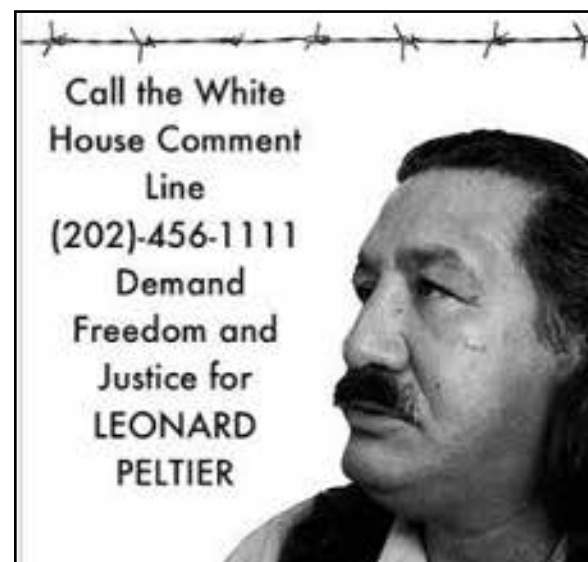
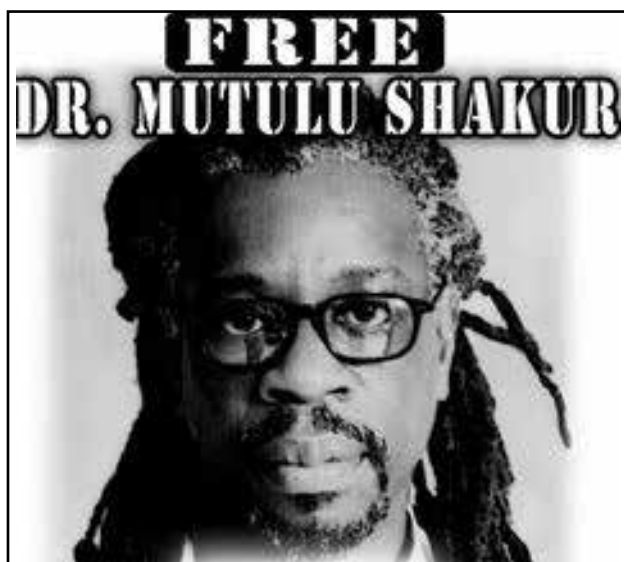
It is the Party that allows us to put revolution firmly back on our agenda in the U.S., Africa, South America, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia, the Pacific Islands and everywhere we reside and experience colonial domination, oppression and exploitation.

This is a call for you to join with us on January 7-9, 2017 to celebrate, sum up our last period of work and prepare for the struggles and victories to come. This is a call for Party members, non-members and/or supporters of the African People's Socialist Party to consider joining our ranks.

History beckons and we have answered. Will you?

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Free Mutulu Shakur! Free Oscar Lopez Rivera! Free Leonard Peltier! Free Chelsea Manning! Free All Political Prisoners!



In the recent US elections, the question seemed to be who most voters found more repugnant. The dissatisfaction with the kinds of people offered up by the dominant parties, especially in the general election, is a measure of the corrupt, morally and politically bankrupt, sociopathic and bloodthirsty “leadership” that corporate imperial politics provides. But there is a different kind of leadership that arises from self-sacrificing, committed freedom fighters who put their lives on the line for their people. The most concentrated form of that leadership is demonstrated by political prisoners - people locked up for their commitment to the people and a vision of a better world.

There’s a small window of time remaining as we go to press to force lame duck President Obama grant executive clemency to free political prisoners in federal custody. We must pressure him to overturn the incarceration of Native, Puerto Rican and Black freedom fighters targeted by COINTELPRO, of whistleblowers and war resisters, and if he does not act, we must immediately redouble our efforts to demand that Trump make their release one his first acts in office, no matter what agenda he wants to pursue.

Who are these people?

Leonard Peltier has been unjustly imprisoned more than 40 years for defending indigenous sovereignty and Native peoples’ lives against US-organized tribal goon squads and militarized FBI repression. When Bill Clinton contemplated freeing him, as he had promised, active FBI agents staged a public protest at the White House. Internationally recognized as a prisoner of conscience, he must be freed. See:

<http://www.whoisleonardpeltier.info/>

Oscar Lopez Rivera is a Puerto Rican independentista, a Vietnam vet convicted of a “thought crime:” seditious conspiracy -- planning to overthrow the US government in Puerto Rico. He’s served 35 years, almost half his life, the longest-held Puerto Rican political prisoner in US custody. Boricuas are united in demanding his release and in opposition to the PROMESA junta Obama and Congress imposed on Puerto Rico that exposes the colonialism Lopez opposes. See: <http://boricuahumanrights.org/>

Dr. Mutulu Shakur was supposed to get paroled already yet remains in federal prison. A founder of the Black Acupuncture Anesthesia Association of North

America, a therapist who helped Black people de-tox from heroin, and stepfather of Tupac Shakur, Mutulu was accused of helping Assata Shakur escape prison. He’s pushed for a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to expose the crimes of COINTELPRO against the Black community and freedom struggle. See:

<http://mutulushakur.com/site/>

Chelsea Manning (then known as Bradley) was a private convicted of unauthorized release of classified information exposing US war crimes. She should’ve been thanked for upholding international law embodied in the Nuremberg Tribunals, but was tried and imprisoned by a kangaroo military court, subjected to torture inside military and federal prisons, and driven to attempted suicide, for which she’s been subjected to further punishment. See: <https://www.chelseamanning.org/>

Obama has only days left in office. Call the White House every day and demand he free Peltier, Lopez Rivera, Shakur, and Manning and pardon Edward Snowden: 202-456-1111, or twitter him @POTUS with the same demand. And if he disappoints one more time, then increase the pressure still further on Trump!

Support Standing Rock Grand Jury Resistance

From Water Protector Legal Collective <https://www.facebook.com/WaterProtectorLegal/> and Water Protector Anti-Repression Crew <https://www.facebook.com/Water-Protector-Anti-Repression-Crew-786328344839092/> wpantirepression@protonmail.com



An inspiring show of solidarity today outside the court in Bismarck, where Steve Martinez made clear his intention to refuse to cooperate with a federal grand jury that is investigating Water Protectors. Steve made a statement to supporters outside before heading in:

My name is Steve Martinez. I have been subpoenaed to this federal grand jury. I refuse to cooperate with these proceedings on the grounds of not helping opposition towards water protectors. I will in no way condone or cooperate with this attempt to repress the movement here at Standing Rock. I know that by refusing to cooperate I will most likely be incarcerated. The loss of my own freedom is a small price to pay for keeping my dignity and standing up for what is right- the defense of the earth and all that is sacred. Mni Wiconi!

Steve Martinez [then] emerged from the federal courthouse in Bismarck, ND after being issued a federal grand jury subpoena. The judge denied the motion to quash the subpoena. His next court date is February 1st.

HELP STANDING ROCK GET THROUGH THE WINTER

The Standing Rock water protectors are here to stay. While the threat of environmental damage to the Missouri river still exists, these brave souls have committed to staying on site, to prevent the destruction of the river. Hundreds of people are still on site at the camp, preparing the land for the winter ahead.

Basic needs such as food and water systems need to be built up again. And key winterization infrastructure, such as wood fired stoves, snow plows, generators, and food storage are needed to keep the water protectors safe during the cold winters of North Dakota.

We are working on site with the tribe to help build out winter infrastructure and ship supplies in.

Help support the movement by donating now towards the Oceti Winterization needs.

<https://risewithstandingrock.com/home>

Even as we continue to struggle to free political prisoners locked down for decades, the state continues to criminalize and incarcerate the defenders of the people. Red Fawn Fallis is a human rights advocate, organizer and a community leader within the Oglala Lakota Sioux. Red Fawn grew up in Colorado and was raised in traditional Lakota ways, grounded with love and a deep connection to the earth and all living things. Her mother Troylynn Yellow Wood, taught her the importance of fighting for social and environmental justice.

On Oct. 27, police raided the 1851 Treaty Camp. Grandmothers and grandfathers and youth were pulled out of sacred sweat lodges, old and precious teepees were destroyed, along with holy ceremonial items such as the chanupa, our sacred ceremonial pipe.

More than 140 people were arrested that day. Bail was raised from \$200 to \$1,500 for each. All have been released except Red Fawn. Her bail is set for \$110k. That day, Red Fawn was serving as a trained medic. She was helping injured water protectors who had been sprayed with mace and hit by rubber bullets. As Red Fawn retreated from the front lines, three officers targeted, tackled and threw her to the ground. One officer pulled his weapon and placed it against her back. While she was pinned to the ground, shots were fired.

Red Fawn is being accused of firing a weapon. Eyewitness accounts and video show otherwise. “Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier said he couldn’t confirm any shots were fired by the water protectors on Oct. 27,” according to Democracy Now. Red Fawn has been behind bars since that day. She is facing up to 20 years in prison. On Fridays, in a show of unity and support, we ask all water protectors to wear red in solidarity for Red Fawn until she is free. Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/FreeRedFawn>. Donate at <https://www.generosity.com/fundraising/free-red-fawn>

FREE RED FAWN!



Ungovernable2017.com: WHY WE RESIST

We resist because we refuse to allow Trump and his views on climate change and his deep investment in the oil industry lead us to the brink of human destruction with his “drill baby drill” and “burn baby burn” orientation. We will not allow the 6th great extinction to advance on our watch.

We resist because the US has always been a problematic project and we refuse to go backwards on the limited political, economic, and social gains that have been won by Indigenous and oppressed peoples, women, religious minorities, LGBTQI communities and individuals, workers, children, and in the protection of our life-giving environment. We refuse to accept the wanton reintroduction of white supremacy, right wing populism and fascism, state sanctioned patriarchy, and the expansion and consolidation of a neo-Confederacy.

We resist because we will not allow US imperialism to go unchallenged. We refuse to allow the Trump regime to allow for the ethnocide of the Palestinian people, to start a war of aggression with Iran, to legitimize a puppet regime in Haiti, to escalate tensions with China, to support a coup d'état in Venezuela, to intensify AFRICOM's acts of aggression on the African continent, to threaten and sanction the progressive governments of Bolivia and Ecuador, and the list goes on. We cannot and will not sit idly by and allow US imperialist expansion and aggression to advance either within the territories it currently controls or on the peoples, nations, and states outside of its jurisdiction.

We resist because we must. We resist knowing that one day of action will not stop any of the destructive plans of the Trump regime and the neo-Confederates that now control ¾ of the state governments. This day of action is a beginning. A way for us to come together, resist together, and to start the hard work of building a new political force and program that will help us co-construct a liberated future.

Join us!

“BUILD AND FIGHT; FIGHT AND BUILD” A PROGRAM FOR THE FUTURE

We cannot afford to “wait and see” what the Trump regime is going to do, or “give them a chance”. His cabinet appointments clearly indicate that we have to take him for his word, and that he clearly meant all of the racist, xenophobic, Islamophobic, anti-Semitic, China bashing, queer hating and misogynist rhetoric that he espoused and he fully intends on implementing all of the promises and policies he proposed to target these subjects on the mission to make the United States a white republic once again.

Therefore, we should expect the Trump regime and the Tea Party dominated neo-Confederate state governments to further demonize any and all opposition, to ramp up surveillance to even greater levels, to unleash massive amounts of repression and terror (from both government and reactionary white supremacist forces) on progressive social movements and non-compliant populations, and use various types of economic threats to subject people to their will. Hoping and praying for things to work themselves out for the better won't work. Efforts at trying to isolate yourself, your family, and your community and shield it from the repression that is coming won't work. Trump and the reactionary forces that he embodies and represents must be defeated, politically, socially, and economically. Solidarity and joint struggle are our greatest forms of both offensive and defensive resistance. But, the solidarity must be practical, programmatic, and visionary.

To defeat Trump and the neo-Confederates we have to develop a strategic “Build and Fight; Fight and Build” program. This program must address the imperative need to build economic and political power from the ground up – amongst workers, the underemployed, unemployed and structurally unemployable on the community, county, state and national levels.

Both dimensions of our Build and Fight program we believe must have offensive and defensive dimensions to them. What follows are some preliminary thoughts on what we believe must be built and/or strengthened going forward, to not only survive the Trumpocalypse, but to build the world we and our children and great grandchildren need.



The Build

Build Community Farms and Food Distribution Centers to address basic subsistence needs of the people in our communities.

Build Production or Supply Chain Networks and Alliances to ensure food security and sovereignty on municipal and larger scales.

Build Community Energy Networks and Centers to address basic energy needs in our communities and municipalities.

Build and Reclaim Common Spaces to ensure that communities have space for various types of production, community engagement, and the practice participatory democracy and community governance.

Build Cooperatives (Worker, Consumer, and Community) to address the basic material and service needs of the people in our community.

Build People's Assemblies and/or other types Vehicles for the Practice of Participatory Democracy to continue the struggle for equality and equity.

The Fight Back

Build Self-Defense Committee's and Educational Campaigns to protect our communities from state and reactionary militia repression and terror.

Build Sanctuary Networks to Defend Immigrants, Muslims, Organizers and the Persecuted.

Build Autonomous Communication and Information Sharing Institutions and Networks to ensure safe and direct connection amongst the people in our communities and networks.

Build Broad Civil Action Units to engage in Massive Civil Disobedience, Occupation and General Strike Actions to stop the advance of political and economic reaction.

None of these initiatives can be built overnight and they cannot be done individually. They require organization on various different scales and scopes.

Starting with your endorsement, we propose initiating a process of ongoing engagement and organizing to build a national network that can and will grow into a radical force of political resistance, power, and vision to move us out of the forest of gloom that is presently surrounding us.

We propose the following organizing process after January 20th:

That there be a national evaluation call immediately after the day of resistance on January 20th.

That we host municipal forums and/or assemblies to discuss the program presented above and how it can be applied and/or expanded in our municipalities.

That we host regional organizing and resistance networking gatherings in April or May.

That we host a national networking and resistance coordination meeting in the summer of 2017.

BECOME #UNGOVERNABLE

Actions on January 20

Asheville, NC, Pritchard Park, 10 AM, Asheville General Strike

Atlanta, GA, Little Five Points

Bronx, NY, 339 Morris Ave., 3:00 P.M., Youth Speak Out!, With United Playaz Of Ny/Integrate Nyc 4 Me

Burlington, VT, Co-Op City Market, 82 Winooski Ave., 3:30 P.M., Demonstration

Chicago, IL, Millennium Park, 12:00 P.M., Rally

Jackson, MS, Jackson City Hall

Little Rock, AR, 500 Woodlane St., 1:00 P.M., Ungovernable Protest

Marquette, MI, US Post Office 202 W. Washington St., 9:00 A.M., Ungovernable Protest

Nashville, TN, Centennial Park Band Shell, 2500 West End, 10:30 A.M., Demonstration

New York, NY, Union Square

Reno, NV, 2 S. Arlington Ave., 12:00 P.M., Rally

Washington, DC, McPherson Square Park, 10:00 A.M., Rally, with #DisruptJ20

West Palm Beach, FL, 525 S. Flagler Drive, 12:00 P.M., Death Of Democracy March

Wilmington, DE, Rodney Square, 920 N. King Street, 10:30 A.M., Demonstration

Endorsers: Malcolm X Grassroots Movement; Organization for Human Rights & Democracy; Kali Akuno; Kamau Franklin; Community Movement Builders; Lamis Deek; Al-Awda; Kazembe Balagun; Jed Brandt; Jared Ball; Rosa Clemente; Cliff Albright; Black Votes Matter Fund; Former Black Panthers Dhoruba Bin-Wahad, Ashanti Alston.

100X100 Campaign to Increase Publication Frequency of Turning the Tide

Over its 29 year publishing history, *TTT* has been published in magazine format, as a 24-page tabloid, and from time to time on a bi-monthly basis, six issues a year. For the last few years, economic necessity has dictated that we guarantee four 8-page issues a year. We have managed to print an extra fifth issue this year and last, but couldn't afford to send it to prisoners. Now, to restore full bi-monthly publication, we have a fund-raising campaign we've dubbed “100X100.”

We're looking for one hundred people who will donate \$100 a year, or \$10/mo, to make it possible for *TTT* to resume publishing six issues a year, and continue mailing over 1700 copies of each issue into the prisons. You can donate online at <http://gofundme.com/eugzgg> or via paypal to antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com.

Turning the Tide doesn't print or mail itself. Some prisoners who get the paper contribute a few stamps; their contribution more often comes by writing articles, letters and poems or sending in drawings. Often, they pass the copy of *TTT* that they received from hand to hand, cell to cell, or they send in the names and addresses of half-a-dozen or more other prisoners. **Prisoners, if you can find donors or subscribers outside prison to subsidize your sub, that would help a lot.**

If you'd like to see *Turning the Tide* more frequently, if you want to contribute to breaking down the walls of isolation and separation imposed by the prison system, please contribute. If you can't manage \$100 all at once, you could donate \$10 a month. But any donation you make can

help. Postage costs for a single issue of *TTT* are almost \$1000 and climbing. If you can't donate yourself, please help spread the campaign via your social media, to your Facebook friends, Twitter followers, and email contacts, so that the social media fundraising pitch will work.

If the campaign is successful, we will begin publishing every other month in 2017. Postage is our biggest expense. Nobody gets paid at *TTT*. But the Postal Service is not so generous. We have a handful of people who are sustainers, making a monthly donation; a larger number of people subscribe once a year or so. Right now, we are at about 10% of our goal. LA supporters could set up house meetings, where the editor will pitch to your friends for support. The future of *Turning the Tide* is in your hands. Now, while you're thinking about it, go to:

<http://gofundme.com/eugzgg>

and donate. Then share it with your contacts. With your help, *Turning the Tide* can step up to the “urgency of now” -- the necessity for radical organizing, educating and analyzing to respond to the growing crisis of the Empire -- endless war, police terror with impunity, mass incarceration, colonialism, ecological devastation that will shortly become irreversible. If you think *TTT*'s a useful tool in the struggle for people's power and a new world, please donate today. If you wish, you can also just send cash, check or money order to **Anti-Racist Action, PO Box 1055, Culver City CA 90232.**

Black Anti-Klan Researcher Daryle Lamont Jenkins Speaks in LA Sunday, January 15, 6 pm



Daryle Lamont Jenkins, one of the leading anti-Klan researchers and archivists in the US, will be speaking in Los Angeles on Sunday, January 15, 2017 during the Martin Luther King weekend, at 6:00 PM at the Peace Center, 3916 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City 90232, between Washington Place and Venice Blvd. (free parking in rear, dial 22 for entry), hosted by Anti-Racist Action-Los Angeles/People Against Racist Terror (ARA-LA/PART).

At a conference immediately after the election of Donald Trump, so-called "alt-right" leader Richard Spencer declared, "Hail Trump! Hail our people! Hail victory! To be white is to be a striver, a crusader, an explorer and a conqueror. We build. We produce. We go upward. And we recognize the central lie of American race relations. We don't exploit other groups. We don't gain anything from their presence. They need us, and not the other way around. America was, until this past generation, a white country, designed for ourselves and our posterity. It is our creation, it is our inheritance, and it belongs to us." Hail Victory, of course, is the English translation of the nazi chant to Hitler, "Sieg Heil!"

Spencer was greeted with stiff-armed nazi salutes from many in the crowd, visible on the video. The gathering had been called before the election to strategize and commiserate over an expected Trump loss and swiftly metamorphosed into a victory celebration. One unanticipated result of the election may be the over-confident self-exposure of closeted white supremacists and neo-nazis, suit-and-tie Klansmen who are blowing their cover and making antifa opposition research a lot easier.

Jenkins, knowledgeable about all this, has appeared on TV, produces a podcast and is the L.A. area for the first time for this exclusive speaking engagement here. Jenkins spoke, along with ARA-LA/PART founder Michael Novick at the TORCH Antifa Network gathering in Denver CO in November. Jenkins will be sharing some of his voluminous informational files on the threats posed by various white power groups that operate locally and nationally and talking about how to gather intelligence about and expose their operations. We will also discuss up-coming actions and organizing in southern California against white power and neo-fascist factions in the so-called alt-right, such as Milo Yiannopoulos, banned from Twitter for his racist and sexist harassment, who will be appearing at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo at the end of January, and at UCLA in early February, and CSULB Professor emeritus Kevin McDonald, a leader of the neo-nazi "American Freedom Party," committed to making the US an exclusively white nation. For more information, contact ARA-LA/PART at 323-636-7388 or email antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com

Chicago Antifascists Shut Down Neo Folk Show Featuring 'Blood and Sun' and Et Nihil

<http://southsideantifa.blogspot.com/>

On December 16-17, Neofolk band King Dude was scheduled to play shows throughout the Midwest on tour with known Neofolk bands Blood and Sun (led by Luke Roswell Tromiczak) and Et Nihil. They were met with resistance in Minneapolis, Milwaukee and, in anticipation of direct confrontation in Chicago, were compelled to cancel their remaining shows and crawl back to their homes. Enclosed is a statement from some of the Antifa groups in Chicago who were stood up by the cowardly fascists outside of The Beat Kitchen in Chicago, the venue they were set to play.

We are not art critics, we are anti-fascists. Neo-Folk is not a strictly fascist music scene. Paganism is NOT fascist. Assatru is NOT fascist. Heathenism is NOT fascist. That being said, Wotanism IS a fascist bastardization of those ideas. Luke from Blood and Sun has a tattoo emblazoned on his chest supporting racist fascist killer David Lane of The Order. He's been photographed with his arm around white supremacist militia member Robert Taylor.

Unfortunately, as with other music scenes, fascists and racists attempt to infiltrate in order to shape those communities to their liking. By not confronting and rejecting fascists in your scene you are de facto giving them your solidarity. By allowing space for Blood and Sun as 'artists' you're acknowledging that fascists and Wotanism have value in your scene. Luke and others are crypto fascists who attempt to fly under the radar with their fascist ideologies under the guise of art and free expression. Their success is measured in indoctrinating young impressionable white music goers seeking belonging and connection to their ancestry.



There's nothing wrong with getting to know your roots and seeking an alternative to a hollow culture in the US, which is based in racism and white supremacy. But the rise of fascist inspired werewolf workout clubs, the writings of misogynist, racist Jack Donovan or other alt-right skills, the election of Trump are signs that a neo-fascist movement is on the rise. These people won't provide real answers, only hatred. You weren't a fascist before, but they've started making you one and you didn't even realize. This is the danger of allowing acts like these to espouse their neo-fascist ideologies. Their music is a platform to inspire organized fascist groups and recruit into those already existing.

WHERE'S MILO? SHUT HIM DOWN!

Milo Yiannopoulos, established racist and figurehead of the alt-right (a fascist white power movement aimed at disenfranchising Blacks and other people of color, women, and LGBTQ folks) is coming to southern CA. Though openly gay, Milo's a primary agent of Breitbart's crossover promotion of the white power "alt-right". After winning fame while harassing women over GamerGate, Milo moved on to writing at Breitbart where he contributes click-bait intended to incite anger against women, transgendered people, Muslims, and just about everyone else. He wrote a guide to the Alt Right for Breitbart, allowed people like Richard Spencer to attend his RNC party, interviewed Jack Donovan on his podcast, and speaks highly of suit-n-tie racist Jared Taylor. Milo has made himself a celebrity (and earned a sizeable fortune) traveling to colleges and ramping up violent bigotry and reactionary sentiment.

He'll be speaking at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on Jan. 31 from 6-9pm in Spanos Theatre. SLO Anti-Racist Action doesn't believe in allowing hate to have a platform and are calling upon the community to shut down the event. Fighting fascism is a moral duty, not a political one. They believe most people are good and are willing to stand up against racial hatred, and are calling for a picket beginning at 3 PM at the venue.

See <http://sanluisobispoantiracistaction.tumblr.com/post/153579820123/the-alt-right-is-the-new-face-of-the-american> for more information.

Milo will also be speaking at UCLA, on Thurs., Feb. 2 at 12 noon. The alt-right is a white power nazi movement and Yiannopoulos, though gay, is an open racist and misogynist, banned from twitter for anti-Black and anti-woman harassment. Opposition is planned by UCLA students and alumni, endorsed by ARA-LA/PART. For info, see <https://www.facebook.com/events/578416109012878/> Contact UCLA chancellor Gene D. Block and urge him to cancel this abhorrent display of white nationalist and patriarchal tone on his campus. You can call the chancellor at 310-825-2151, or email chancellor@ucla.edu or write to UCLA Chancellor's Office, Box 951405, 2147 Murphy Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1405. His on-campus mail address is 2147 Murphy Hall, Mail code: 140501. **White Silence = Violence.**

Celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Anti-Racist Action-LA/ People Against Racist Terror Saturday February 11, 7pm

For three decades, ARA-LA/PART and its journal, *Turning The Tide*, have provided an outlet for the voices of prisoners and liberation movements, gathered and shared intelligence about fascist forces operating from above and below and how to fight them, campaigned to free all political prisoners, supported the CA prison hunger strikers, and more. TTT was one of the first publications to print the commentaries of Mumia Abu-Jamal. TTT has been sent free to thousands of prisoners over the years, currently to nearly 1700 almost every issue. ARA-LA/PART, founded in 1987, promoted International Human Rights Day actions for many years on Dec. 10, including co-sponsoring a march and rally on Dec. 10, 2001 demanding the US get out of Afghanistan, and has been part of too many coalitions for peace, justice and equality to list. On Saturday, February 11, ARA-LA/PART will celebrate its 30th anniversary year since its 1987 founding (and coincidentally the 70th birthday of founder Michael Novick) with a cultural/political commemoration at the Peace Center, 3916 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City 90230 (between Washington Place and Venice Blvd; free parking in rear, dial 22 for entry). A \$20 donation is requested to benefit continued publication of *Turning The Tide: A Journal of Inter-communal Solidarity*.

For more information, call 323-636-7388
or email antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com.

On-Line Resources for Turning the Tide & ARA-LA

You can find archives of *Turning the Tide* at www.antiracist.org that go back at least 10 years. In addition, there are several Facebook pages, such as [facebook.com/tideturning](https://www.facebook.com/tideturning), and [facebook.com/intercommunalsolidarity](https://www.facebook.com/intercommunalsolidarity). You can follow @ara_losangeles on Twitter, and the De-Colonize LA! blog at ara-la.tumblr.com.

URGENT APPEAL

We need your financial support to continue sending the paper free to nearly 2000 prisoners around CA and the US.

PLEASE SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

\$20 a year regular \$12 low income \$50 sustainer

payable only to **Anti-Racist Action**
at P.O. Box 1055 in Culver City 90232

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Postage alone for this issue comes to nearly \$1000. We would like to increase the size and frequency of *Turning the Tide*, but we can only do it with your support. If you're a prisoner and can send stamps or get someone outside the walls to subsidize your subscription, please do so. If you work with an info shop or other zine or record distro, please consider ordering a bundle of TTT to distribute; \$5 will get you 20 copies. And check out our 100X100 campaign elsewhere in this issue. If you live in L.A. or nearby, we can come to house meetings to speak and collect donations for the paper. Email antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com

Bound and Gassed: My Reward for Exposing Abuses and Killings of Texas Prisoners

by Kevin 'Rashid' Johnson, *Minister of Defense, New Afrikan Black Panther Party (Prison Chapter)*

On December 21, 2016 I was set up for both assault and to have almost all of my personal property permanently taken upon threats to do so by several ranking guards at the Clements Unit in Amarillo, Texas where I am confined.

The Why

At around eleven o'clock a.m. on Dec. 21st, I was confronted by Captain Patricia Flowers and lieutenant Crystal Turner and told to allow myself to be handcuffed to be removed from my solitary confinement cell. Several weeks prior to this, I had a run-in with Flowers while she was making rounds in my cell block along with others, including the Major Leroy Cano.

Another prisoner asked me if she was the new segregation unit captain; I told him "yes" and she was taking the place of the previous captain Donald Dean, who was apparently under investigation for an incident involving another guard. I told him her full name. At that time Flowers was talking to another prisoner in a cell across from me. When I said this she turned to me and stated, "You need to shut the fuck up!" I replied in a humored tone that her "potty mouth isn't professional." She responded that she knew who I was, and I have a habit of putting my own mouth in things that I "have no business; you call it 'exposing us' huh?" She then stated if I didn't learn to stop running my mouth, "I'll take all your shit!" I asked for what reason she could justify taking my belongings. She answered, "I don't have to have a reason." I then addressed Major Cano about her threat as he walked by and he only smiled at me and kept going.

When I was then confronted by her on Dec. 21st, she had me taken to a holding cell by a guard Andrew Leonard. While I was in the cell, at separate times Flowers and Turner came past me and I asked what was going on. Both stated they were taking all my belongings because I don't know how to "mind [my] own business." Again I asked. Flowers how she could justify taking my things when most of it is legal. She replied that it was "improperly stored," and called back to Turner on her radio (Turner was then in my cell having all my property packed up), and told her to leave some of the legal property in the cell. This obviously to deflect any future complaints by me that they'd taken my legal materials needed to pursue pending cases.

I told her and Leonard (who also came by), that my property was separated and sitting out of the cell storage areas under instructions of law library staff who were supposed to come and perform an inventory and measurements of all my legal and other property per policy, under what's called a "subsequent legal storage review," which is a procedure done every six months for prisoners with pending court cases during which s/he must separate all of her/his property so staff can determine what specific materials relate to what pending cases. The property is then measured to determine what quantity s/he retains for each case and this is recorded. The remaining non-legal property is also sorted so it can be looked over to ensure it has the prisoners' name and prisoner number on it and a measure is taken of what s/he'd like to retain that doesn't exceed a space of 2 feet by 2 feet cubed.[1]

Furthermore, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice [sic!] (TDCJ) prisoner orientation handbook specifically states that the only time that property must be stored away in the cell is when the prisoner voluntarily leaves her/his living area, otherwise s/he is free to have it out of the storage areas to use while inside the cell, to clean living areas, to reorganize it, etc.

So the entire claim that my property was "improperly stored" was bogus and an obvious specious pretext to have it taken under Flowers' prior threats. In fact while I was in the holding cell both Flowers and Turner further threatened me with physical assault by other guards.

I was then later taken back to the cell, around 12 p.m., and upon entering the cell observed that my belongings were indeed largely missing and what was left were loose papers thrown along the right wall of the cell. I told Leonard I needed to see Flowers and/or Turner because I needed my taken property, which I saw was a lot of my legal materials (including all of my books, and stationery), and other materials. Leonard called a Sergeant Arleen Waak to the cell; both refused to summon Flowers or Turner, whom Waak said already knew what I wanted and didn't care about my issues, since I knew why they really took my things. Waak also became verbally abusive and threatened

me with assault by staff. In anticipation of using force on me she had a guard bring a portable audio-video camera to my cell and record me, at which point I began stating my issues, and that I needed my taken property to, among other things, meet court deadlines.

Instead of addressing my issues Waak had Leonard spray me with a large burst of chemical gas from a large canister as I stood in the locked cell still handcuffed behind my back. I was never threatening nor did I refuse any orders; I only tried to get them to have the ranking staff who had taken my property address the situation. During the entire time the use of force was going on Turner was standing with a nurse Tammy Williams at the opposite end of the cell block so they could both say they hadn't directly observed the use of force, and thus Turner could do any "investigation" of the incident and there would be no medical witness to the attack. Williams collaborated in doing this, although per TDCJ "use of force" policy a nurse is to be present when gas is used in this manner. She is in fact a defendant in several pending lawsuits involving the killings of prisoners at this Unit which she was involved in (one of whom died as a result of her denied care), and she's aware that I was instrumental in assisting the attorneys in locating witnesses and evidence that led to those cases being brought. I'm also a witness in one of those cases.[2]

I was left in the gas-contaminated cell with gas-covered linen and bedding, clothing and walls/floor. I asked on camera to be decontaminated (I also had gas on me), to have the cell decontaminated, to receive fresh air, have my eyes flushed and be given a shower. This was all refused. It was days later before I obtained clean sheets (I still have contaminated blankets and mattress) and clothes, during routine clothing and linen exchange. The cell remains contaminated and I have thus been subjected to continual gas contamination and re-contamination. I was unable to sleep for 2 days because of the continual burning and reactivation of the gas on all parts of my body.

Only after I was gassed and the handcuffs were removed did the nurse Williams come to the cell with a gas mask on. I repeated to her all my decontamination requests, which she ignored and left. The denial of decontamination by medical and security staff was illegal in the extreme and violated TDCJ policy on use of chemical agents.[3]

At 1:08 pm I informed another nurse who is also involved in the lawsuits with Williams of my decontamination and medical needs, as she made pill rounds in the cell block. She also refused me any aid although this nurse, Delores Carrizales, was coughing and gagging from the gas coming from my cell as she walked past.

Turner orchestrated much of what took place and admitted to another prisoner who complained as she and the nurse stood at the opposite end of the cell block, that she did this so she could perform any investigations and control the narrative of the incident, and outcome of any "investigation." She could also collaborate on any disciplinary reports filed against me.

Prior to the assault, Waak had a prisoner working the pod throw away a substantial amount of my property that had been thrown out of the cell by Turner as trash, including



my drinking cups, pens, boxers, and other items.

I was able to talk to another guard, Rodolfo Trevino, whom Turner had fill out the inventory and confiscation notice for my taken property. He admitted that Turner's original intent was to take all my property under Flowers' orders, but decided to leave some of the legal papers when Flowers called her on the radio and told her to. He admitted not knowing what was legal that they took and what wasn't and they'd already packed up a lot of documents before Flowers' call, which they went ahead and confiscated rather than pull it all back out of the bags. He said he was coached in everything he did by Turner, including claiming my things were "improperly stored" as the basis for confiscating them.

Much later another guard signed and confirmed in a written statement that I was left in a gas contaminated cell with "a lot" of gas on the cell surfaces and gas all over the linen, mattress, etc. This guard also confirmed that their own ranking supervisor admitted that my property should not have been confiscated as "improperly stored" while I was in the cell with it out. This guard did express to me fear of retaliation if I allowed their peers to find out that they made this written admission; however I did send the statement out to a publisher and the attorney representing the lawsuit to which nurse Williams is a defendant, Jesse Quackenbush, of Amarillo, Texas (the guard executed several copies of the statement).

I also found that my typewriter's frame had been broken, which might "allow" for a future confiscation of it as "altered."

Numerous other prisoners witnessed the foregoing events and several wrote sworn statements which I also sent out; others wanted to submit witness statements on the abuse of force on me, but Turner and others sarcastically refused to provide them the entitled documents.

I also sent out to various legal and media source portions of the gas-stained sheets and paint from the walls in the cell, showing the bright orange (still active) gas that I was left in the cell with. The base and stain of the gas is so toxic that it doesn't wash out or off of fabrics or even stain-resistant surfaces, like the cell walls paint. The gas is the color of a #2 pencil.

As one witnessing prisoner, Jason Walker, wrote in a statement he sent out, this taking of my belongings and assault on me is the culmination of months of officials here attempting to frustrate and deter my and others whom I have given the example to writing and otherwise bringing outside attention to the killings and abuses of prisoners in the TDCJ, such as was not occurring before, and these officials were thus previously getting away with. And while I need all possible support, aid and exposure in response to these abuses against me, I am not and won't be deterred in continuing to shine a much needed light into these dark and corrupt institutions.

**Dare to Struggle Dare to Win!
All Power to the People!**

(Full notes available at <http://rashidmod.com/?p=2321>)

Sign an on-line petition to support Rashid at <https://diy.rootsaction.org/petitions/prison-activist-gassed-in-clements-unit-prison-texas-law-enforcement-is-violently-out-of-control>

Update & Next Strategic Step Forward to Abolish Prison Slavery in Amerika

by Keith 'Malik' Washington #1487958, Eastham Unit, 2665 Prison Rd. #1, Lovelady TX 75851

I've been in solitary (Ad-Seg) since Sept. 8, 2016. I've been transferred twice since then, arriving at my current location on Nov. 10. I believe the bus ride on the transit bus was another tactic by the state to place me in harm's way. The Classification Dept. and the STG Dept. ignored many security precautions and packed a volatile diverse mix of active street tribe members on the bus I was on. Needless to say there were numerous *bloody* assaults. STG is like CDCR's IGI

The good news is I haven't spent my time in prison making enemies -- on the contrary. One of the 'old school' Mexican street tribe members recognized me from a photo in the Bay View. A lot of prisoners throughout Texas who are *awake* and conscious have heard of me and my work.

The key is for me to take our struggle more into the mainstream media realm so we can reach a broader and more diverse audience - inside and outside.

My current living conditions are some of the worst I've experienced. The cell's very small -- peeling lead paint, roaches everywhere, and contaminated water! The water has a strong sulphur smell to it lately; they've been trying to cover it up with added chlorine. Historically the well water here has had high levels of copper and lead. The pipes underground have corroded and deteriorated badly. I am attempting to get some help outside from Fight Toxic Prisons and the Prison Ecology Project.

I'm proposing a twitter campaign that will introduce our struggle to *specific* individuals with the hope our message will resonate in the heart of a few influential individuals and they will join with us in a mutual pact of solidarity in order to throw off this yoke of imperialist oppression that is around our neck!

Another part of my strategy is to move comrades all over, starting in Texas and LA to make affordable "Amend 13!" t-shirts and hoodies. I keep hearing the current t-shirts and hoodies are

too pricey -- Go to <https://113670.spreadshirt.com>

The plan is to get students, folks in the 'hood, activists, celebrities, pro athletes, rappers, etc., to wear our t-shirts and hoodies as a political statement -- post photos on snapchat or Instagram, even make YouTube videos where we have comrades ask t-shirt wearers provocative questions!

Make sure folks know that I am pushing this campaign and encourage folks to read my work by visiting this direct link: <http://sfbayview.com/?s=keith+mailk+washington>

Dirty Water Cover Up!

There's a serious issue with the water in this unit. The American Corrections Association is due to inspect this place within the next few weeks. I need somebody reliable to contact the ACA and alert them to the water contamination. I'm so isolated here I don't know what's going on out there! My mail is being tampered with. My snail mail is not arriving on time. And I certainly don't know what letters are getting out, so drop me a line when you receive this. In solidarity, Panther Love, Malik

Hepatitis gets a knockout punch

by Mumia Abu-Jamal

Just a few hours ago, I place a call to my civil lawyer, Bret Grote, of the Pittsburgh-based Abolitionist Law Center. I could hear the excitement in his voice. Then he told me that we had won, the Abu-Jamal vs. Wetzel case, and the judge, Judge Robert Mariani, granted our motion for a preliminary injunction, ordering health care staff to cease their unconstitutional protocol, and begin treatment of my hepatitis infection with direct-acting anti-viral medications.

It was good to hear, and good to win. I thought of the good hard work by Bret and attorney Bob Boyle. I thought of the many people who filled the court room because of the organizing prowess of sister Pam Africa, Doctor Suzanne Ross, Dr. Johanna Fernandez and others who made it happen.

I thought of Dr. Joseph Harris, MD, who has an expert witness, hushed the courtroom by his medical explanations, which made scientific argument so clear, that anyone could understand it.

And I thought of thousands of prisoners in Pennsylvania, suffering from the ravages of Hepatitis-C, and now, who have hope. I thought of the prisoners who suffered from Hepatitis-C and died from this infection, as their liver failed to function. They did not live long enough to see this day.

From imprisoned nation, this is
Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Mumia Victory

From Bret Grote

Abu-Jamal v. Wetzel - Court orders hepatitis C treatment for Mumia!

Victory - late this afternoon Judge Robert Mariani of the federal court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania ordered officials from the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections to treat Mumia Abu-Jamal's chronic hepatitis C with the latest direct-acting antiviral medications that have a 95% cure rate. This is the first case in the country in which a federal court has ordered prison officials to provide an incarcerated patient with the new medications that came on the market in 2013. We expect an appeal, but for now this is a major victory.

Very honored to represent Mumia along with the impeccable Robert Boyle.

Much gratitude to the family and friends and supporters of Mumia who have rallied and fought for his health and his freedom - Pam Africa, Johanna Fernandez, Suzanne Ross, Keith Cook, Wadiya Jamal, Noelle Harrahan and so many others.

Hasta la victoria siempre!

From Bob Boyle

A Victory: A Federal Judge in Pennsylvania has granted our request for a preliminary injunction requiring that the Pennsylvania DOC administer the hepatitis C anti-viral medication to political prisoner Mumia Abu Jamal. The struggle is far from over: the DOC will no doubt appeal this ruling. But a victory!

Thanks to my co-counsel Bret Grote of the Abolitionist Law Center, Pam Africa and all the Mumia supporters and all of you.

Dear Friend- this is the moment we have been waiting for. Late this afternoon, Federal Judge Robert Mariani ordered the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections to immediately give Mumia Abu-Jamal the life-saving latest direct-acting antiviral medications that have a 95% cure rate! After a year and a half of constant legal battling, near death hospitalization, and agonizing chronic sickness, Bret Grote of the Abolitionist Law Center and attorney Robert Boyle, and thousands of activists, on behalf of Mumia, have prevailed. It took two lawsuits hundreds of hours of motions and your calls, letters and demands.

Winning a preliminary injunction is a tall order and requires proving there will be irreversible harm in delaying the order. This is a tremendous victory. It will pave the way for all incarcerated people who seek hepatitis C treatment.

"This is the first case in the country in which a federal court has ordered prison officials to provide an incarcerated patient with the new medications that came on the market in 2013"-Bret Grote Esq., Abolitionist Law Center

This victory is yours. I want to take a moment to let this sink in: nearly two years ago when Mumia fell into diabetic shock and was near death, you fought with us through the many phone calls, action alerts, fundraising campaigns, and the continuous struggle to keep Mumia alive, stabilize his health, and get him treatment. When Judge Mariani denied our preliminary injunction in August on a technicality, you stuck with us again to raise funds, re-file, and persist onwards. In 2015 and 2016, we raised over \$130,000 for Mumia's Medical and Legal Defense because of your support.

The overwhelming whiteness of US environmentalism hobbles the fight against climate change

By Nicole Smith Dahmen, Troy Elias, Deborah Morrison, Daniel Morrison (excerpts)

<https://qz.com/877447/the-overwhelming-whiteness-of-the-us-environmentalist-movement-is-hobbling-the-fight-against-climate-change/>

The election of Donald Trump has many environmentalists on edge. The Republican has nominated the CEO of ExxonMobil as secretary of state, and his pick to head the Environmental Protection Agency, Scott Pruitt, is a climate-change denier with close ties to the fossil-fuel industry.

The results could be disastrous for the national and international population. But communities of color, who are disproportionately susceptible to climate change including heat waves, extreme weather, and pollution, are especially at risk. As Peggy Shepard, executive director of WE ACT, an organization dedicated to climate health for communities of color, said: "From Standing Rock to Flint to Harlem, make no mistake that environmental racism is real."

Given the environmental threats posed by a Trump administration, it's more crucial in order to achieve broad, collaborative action, [that] the mainstream environmental movement take a hard look at how its overwhelming whiteness has hobbled its efforts.

Despite the immediate threat of climate change to communities of color, cultural stereotypes maintain that Hispanic people, African Americans, and other people of color are less concerned than whites about environmental issues. But in reality, Hispanics and African Americans are some of the most ardent supporters of progressive climate and energy policies. They're more likely than whites to voice support for these policies, even when it means personally incurring greater costs. Studies have found that Hispanics are significantly more likely than whites to say the Earth is warming because of human activities, and that the US should do whatever it takes to protect the environment.

Clearly, people of color are working to address climate change and other environmental issues. Yet the mainstream environmental movement has failed them, largely because it's been designed by and for a white, upper-middle-class demographic. So it should come as no surprise that racial minorities, who are underrepresented in such organizations, are less likely to identify as "environmentalists" or to align themselves with environmental advocacy groups.

Climate change is a highly politicized issue, with conservative[s] tending to voice opposition to new and existing environmental measures. But research suggests that opinion about climate change is less rooted in political orientation for US racial minorities than it is for whites. In other words, people of color who identify as moderate or conservative may still care about addressing climate change—but environmentalists are failing to reach them.

Immediate significant actions must be taken to reach these communities of color. Given that people of color are largely supportive of actions to address climate change, climate messages should prioritize people of color as essential allies in the climate-change mitigation movement.



California is taking the lead. Gov. Jerry Brown announced that California would work directly with other states and nations to take action against climate change. This is promising for communities of color given that more than 45% of the state's 40 million residents are Hispanic or African American. As a leading producer of farm products, many of the state's 15 million Hispanic residents work in agriculture—an occupation in which people are exposed to the consequences of climate change, such as air pollution and extreme heat.

We must look beyond mainstream environmental organizations to minority-focused organizations and activists emerging as leaders in the environmental movement. GreenLatinos, a national non-profit addressing environmental issues, has been an outspoken advocate in the wake of Standing Rock and the Trump election. Celebrities of color, including Pharrell Williams and Edward James Olmos, are also helping to create a voice for communities of color regarding climate change.

Black churches across the country are stepping up as leaders in advocating for the environment. Pope Francis,

the first Latin-American pope, has emerged as a strong voice in favor of caring for the climate. Research findings have shown that opinion leaders such as these clergy can be allies in promoting awareness and mobilization action regarding climate change.

The environmental movement as a whole must explicitly seek to protect the interests of vulnerable communities. One such strategy is embedded environmentalism, which compensates people who will be most affected by environmental regulations.

Last, it's not just the environmental movement that needs to change. The way we narrate it must also evolve to be more inclusive. [Media] can respond to environmental dangers ushered in under the Trump era by producing stories of what people and companies can do to fight climate change—featuring the communities of color who are already leading the way.

Learn how to write for Quartz Ideas. We welcome your comments at ideas@qz.com.

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