

# All Out for May 1 General Strike!

## Join the Four Winds Peoples Power Caravans and Convergence!

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

By the time you read these words, May Day, International Working Peoples Day, will be nearly upon us. Six months of political struggle, organizing and alliance building since the call for a May 1 General Strike first emerged at Occupy Los Angeles in early November will reach fruition. The General Strike was designed to exert peoples power, and enable Occupy to again transform the paradigm of the possible as we did with the Occupations themselves in September and October. But it is only another step forward in the process of direct action, and of creative and critical political, social and economic reconsideration, expression and experimentation.

That’s why we will end the day on May 1 in Los Angeles with a General Assembly in Pershing Square devoted to international solidarity and a consideration of next steps. The May 1 General Strike is a means towards building lasting alliances and structures, neighborhood assemblies, Councils of the Unemployed and the Unhoused, that can chart a path forward for direct action and working and colonized/oppressed people’s self-organization and self-determination.

The May 1 General Strike, as consented to by the Occupy Los Angeles General Assembly, is

**For immigrant Rights!**

**For Economic, Social and Environmental Justice and Labor Rights!**

**For Peace with Justice!**

**For Civil Liberties – End the Police State!**

**For Housing, Education and Health Care as Human Rights!**  
**For Women’s Rights, LGBTQ Rights and Gender Equity!**

Called for by the General Assembly of Occupy LA on Nov. 14, it was reiterated after the successful Occupy the Ports action in December, ratified and endorsed by Occupy the Hood in Los Angeles, and is spreading via the Occupy movement around the US and internationally. The May 1 General Strike is a bold step forward for Occupy on the path of community engagement. In LA, the main vehicle for this has been the Four Winds Peoples

Power bike/car caravans and convergence. Occupiers and our allies will be converging on downtown LA at 6th and Main, the area of Skid Row undergoing intense gentrification and police repression, for a protest action in the financial district from four directions:

**South Wind**, working with the Black Riders Liberation Party, Black churches, the formerly incarcerated people’s civil rights movement, Mexicano/indigenous groups, and students, will come north on Central Avenue from Cal State Dominguez Hills, via Compton, Watts and South Central Los Angeles. We will be joined along the route by convergences from the Crenshaw corridor and elsewhere by Rise Up LA, Youth Justice Coalition, groups working around the prison-industrial complex and against mass incarceration, as well as labor mobilizations. The Black Riders are holding build-up rallies with food and clothing distribution, with the co-sponsorship of Occupy LA.

**East Wind**, working with the Brown Berets, Corazon del Pueblo and other grassroots groups, will start near East LA College with a rally against police brutality at the Steven Rodriguez Peoples’ Memorial at Atlantic and Cesar Chavez. It will proceed with a caravan towards downtown, with rallies along the way on the themes of education and health care as human rights. Students from CSULA are expected to join the caravan. At Plaza Olvera, they will unite with –

**North Wind.** Occupy San Fernando Valley will begin the day at 8:00 AM at Hermandad Mexicana Transnacional, 7915 Van Nuys Blvd. in Panorama City with a march through the heart of the Valley, bringing in immigrants, casualized and temporary workers and high school and college students, then “Occupy the Metro” to link up with the East Wind downtown via the Orange Line and Red Line. A separate strand will start at 11 am at American Reclamation, 4560 Doran Street, LA for a labor action in defense of mostly immigrant workers at a public-contract recycling facility, with a caravan down San Fernando Road to meet at Olvera St.

**West Wind** will commence from Ocean and Wilshire in Santa Monica, with participation from Occupy Venice, Topanga Peace Alliance, Culver City Families and Friends for Peace & Justice, Westside Progressives and others and proceed across Wilshire Blvd. with stops at the Veterans Administration on Federal to protest elite privatization of land meant to house veterans; a “Let them eat Cupcakes” rally at Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills, and a convergence with the Queer Affinity Group and Out and Occupy at the B of A on Wilshire & LaBrea, before stopping near MacArthur Park, scene of a May 1, 2007 attack by the LAPD on an immigrants rights rally, to march downtown for the convergence.

Once downtown, we will meet up with Occupiers at 2:30 staffing a welcome tent, wellness tent and food distribution in the Skid Row area, to start a mobile demonstration against the elite in the financial district, and join the Southern California Immigration Coalition immigrant rights march and rally at 4:00 PM at Olympic and Broadway.

We will end the day (as stated above) with a General Assembly in Pershing Square devoted to international solidarity and a discussion and focus on next steps. We are planning on break out groups by both geographic location and common interest groups for small discussions, and depending on our numbers, possible General Assembly consideration of proposals for future actions. Affinity or working groups will form up to carry the ideas forward from May Day.

For more details, maps, schedules and other information about how you can get involved in building to the May 1 General Strike and beyond, check out

**www.occupymay1st.org,**  
**occupymay1st@gmail.com,**  
**323-250-MAY1**

or check us out on facebook and twitter or via any of the Occupy Los Angeles sites, FB pages and other social media.

## A CALL FOR ACTION, AID AND ASSISTANCE

By the New African Collective Think Tank (NCTT), Corcoran SHU

Greetings, sisters and brothers, a firm embrace of love and solidarity to you all. As you know, we are in the midst of a contentious struggle for social justice and economic equality on multiple fronts. We’ve had both victories and setbacks; some as a result of the efforts of an entrenched elite, others by own missteps. Yet what is clear from our successes is that, where we’ve galvanized the support of our friends and neighbors, forced corporate mass media to take note of the will of the common man/woman, there we have won. In this spirit of mutual sacrifice and collective success, we call on you to stand with us. There are two areas in which we ask your assistance:

### 1) Support the UN Petition on behalf of CA prisoners in administrative segregation (AD SEG) and Security Housing Units (SHU).

The Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law has prepared a petition to the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, opposing long term solitary confinement/isolation in CA, considered by most experts, and defined by treaty, to be torture. We hope this will lead to the abolition of the practice or an improvement of the conditions. There was a demonstration at the Reagan State Building on March 20 in support of the petition. [Editor’s note: This call for support, mailed in February to *Turning the Tide*, was not received until more than 6 weeks later, after the demonstration, an example of the kind of harassment, isolation and political suppression the prisoners are subjected to.—*Ed.*] If you do not have access to the petition, draft one of your own, on paper or on-line. Please send, fax or email the signatures to:

**Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law**  
**Attn: Peter Schey, Attorney [Bar # 58232]**  
**256 S. Occidental Blvd.**  
**Los Angeles CA 90057**  
**213-388-8693 x 301**  
**FAX: 213-386-9484**  
**www.centerforhumanrights.org**

Your petition and signatures will then be attached to the UN petitions and submitted to the working group. Your assistance is needed and appreciated!

### 2) Support the May 1 General Strike called by the Occupy Movement.

On May 1, the Occupy Movement is calling for a General Strike, and of course we support this as we have from the beginning. However, the continued decimation of the Occupy camps, marginalization by corporate mass media, and the lack of outcry by the people, the 99% whom the movement represents, make it clear the insight that’s been offered has not been disseminated or adopted broadly or quickly enough to prevent the encirclement campaign we should’ve seen coming and is being employed.

It’s the lack of adoption of an articulate national platform, and implementation of a strategic approach that allow media like *USA Today* to run op eds titled, “Lacking clear goals and leaders, Occupy Movement Fizzles.” Because of the essential democratic imperative it represents to the most disenfranchised, unrepresented and underdeveloped, the Occupy movement **must** survive, and to do so it must evolve, organize and build to win!

We urge people to consider our contributions to developing a strategic approach, unified platform and organizational base, as articulated in two recent pieces, “California Prisoner Hunger Strikers Propose 10 Core Demands for National Occupy Movement,” and “A Discussion on Strategy for the National Occupy Movement from Behind Enemy Lines,” both published in the San Francisco Bay View newspaper (www.sfbayview.com). Please disseminate them as broadly as possible to Occupy activists and organizers and all who would support these demands. [Editor’s note: Both pieces are excerpted in this issue of *TTT* and have also been forwarded to Occupy Philly, which is trying to put together a democratic, transparent, horizontal, participatory national Occupy gathering in Philadelphia in July.—*Ed.*] We urge you to embrace these demands, and the approach of uniting the Occupy movement and Occupy the Hood with grassroots community work among the most oppressed and exploited. This would instantly silence our critics and give the broad masses goals around which to be educated, organized and mobilized.

We encourage all who read these words to strike, or call in sick, or go out in the streets on May 1, or if you can’t, find some other means to support the General Strike. It is only through sacrifice that victories are realized, mutual interests are solidified, and unity of purpose forged.

**Michael Zaharibu Dorrough, #D83611, J. Heshima Denham, #J-38283,**  
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**ALL OUT MAY 1 GENERAL STRIKE!**  
**NO WORK! NO SCHOOL! NO CORPORATE COMMERCE!**  
**TO THE STREETS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, PEACE, EQUITY & JUSTICE!**  
**JOIN THE FOUR WINDS PEOPLES POWER CARAVANS!**



Updated:

# The US Government War Against the Black Riders

by the Black Riders, the new generation Black Panther Party for Self-Defense

For Black youth throughout the US, especially in Watts and South Central LA, Wolverine Shakur, AKA General T.A.C.O. of the militant Black Riders Liberation Party is a leader, a strong father and husband, a bold warrior, a ghetto hero and a down brother. Black people identify with the battle he has fought against the evil forces of white racism and reaction. They identify with this principled revolutionary struggle against the capitalist system that inevitably spells misery, suffering, and genocide for the mass of Black people held captive in Amerikkka. The Black Riders played a pivotal early part in unleashing the new wave of Black militancy that’s been taking place. In 1996, General T.A.C.O. (Taking All Capitalists Out, AKA Wolverine Shakur) came together with other former Bloods and Crips in unity and created the groundwork for the resurrection of the Black Panthers, under the official name Black Riders Liberation Party. We are the new generation, and we consider ourselves to be faster, stronger, smarter and upgraded. They formulated a basic Black Commune program while in YTS prison (calling for many points as in the original 10-point program of the BPP for Self Defense, like full employment, housing, education and an end to police terrorism, and some new points, such as demanding proper medical care for AIDS victims and an immediate end to white capitalist smuggling crack cocaine into the Black community). They were eventually released to the streets and took action. Their first step was an attempt to deal with one of the most immediate and injurious symptoms of oppression – police brutality!

Armed with law booklets, video cameras, camouflage fatigues and Black karate skills, bats, knives and any other legal weapons, they created the Watch-a-Pig program and began to patrol Watts and South Central L.A.’s poor Black community -- monitoring the police, observing arrests and educating brothers and sisters of their armed self-defense rights. Their determined resistance to police terrorism produced a decrease in police harassment in areas they patrolled. Panther Power to the Black Riders!

The increasing influence of the Black Riders in the poor Black neo-colony and our fierce defense of the human rights of our people caused hysterical reactions in the police forces and government. Gov. Schwarzenegger and Brown, LAPD chiefs Bratton the Butcher and Charlie Beck, and buster ass homeland security overseers like Tom Ridge made no secret of their hostility toward the Black Riders. They see our efforts to change brothers’ and sisters’ criminal mentality into a positive revolutionary mentality as a threat to their capitalist system. Black unity has always been seen by pigs and racist politicians as a threat to their control.

In April 2002, our National Spokesman Comrade Bulldog delivered a strong speech in front of San Francisco City Hall and denounced Pres. Bush’s USA PATRIOT Act as racist. In his speech, he urged Blacks to defend themselves and oppose the imperialist so-called War on Terrorism. 45,000 anti-war demonstrators were present. Six months after the speech, Comrade Bulldog was assassinated by a mysterious undercover hit squad. Nobody was ever charged with his execution-style murder, despite appeals by his family to the so-called authorities. He was only 20 years old.

In this paper, it’s impossible to even scratch the surface of the legally sanctioned paramilitary police attacks on the Black Riders Liberation Party. A simple catalog of all the martyrs of the movement, or those wounded or presently incarcerated on trumped-up charges as political prisoners or prisoners of war would take volumes. We will focus here on attacks against one leader of the BRLP, General T.A.C.O.

As General of the Black Riders, T.A.C.O. has delivered many fiery analytical speeches in Black ’hoods (communities) throughout the US and internationally on the Internet on the period in which intense urban rebellions occurred in major cities throughout the nation mainly because of some form of police brutality and oppression. Even though 30 years ago, the government’s own Kerner Commission affirmed that white racism had to be held responsible for the rebellions, General T.A.C.O. was singled out as inciting Black people to revolt. His life has been disrupted by recurring official attempts to silence him forever. Despite many death threats on his life by racist pigs, this “Weapon of Allah (God)” has refused to give up on the new Black Power struggle. He will continue to “bang on the pigs” for life.

In Feb. 1998, LA County sheriff’s deputies from the Lennox station and FBI agents raided General T.A.C.O.’s home. He was arrested for allegedly having a legally registered SKS assault rifle. Even though the charge was dismissed, he spent a year in prison on a parole violation. His wife, comrade Aryana Shakur, also was arrested for allegedly assaulting a police officer. During the raid, Comrade Aryana was slightly wounded, but recovered quickly. She was released two weeks after the raid.

In January 2000, after a major raid at our headquarters in Watts, General T.A.C.O. and 20 Black Rider warriors marched inside the 108th Precinct at 10:00 PM at night. He was arrested for allegedly assaulting two police officers. The case against him was dismissed after just four days, but he spent six months in prison on a parole violation resulting from the incident. This confrontation left General T.A.C.O. severely wounded, but he emerged

out of political imprisonment stronger and put forth a renewed call for the release of all political prisoners of war. If there is no conflict, there will be no progress!

In August 2002, General T.A.C.O.’s home was raided by the Lennox sheriff’s deputies on a search and destroy mission, but he was not home. After a six-hour armed stand-off with the pigs, three comrades were detained for an hour in pig cars. The Party’s chief legal counsel James Simmons was called to the tense scene and forced the pigs to abide by the law during the standoff. Therefore, no bloodshed occurred. Comrade Aryana Shakur was arrested for allegedly possessing an M-1 carbine assault rifle. After a year of legal battles, the case was dismissed.

In August 2003, General T.A.C.O. was arrested for allegedly assaulting a Lennox sheriff’s deputy, after the officer tried to brutalize a 16-year-old comrade. The trumped-up charges were later dismissed. In late August, General T.A.C.O., Minister of Public Relations Aryana Shakur, Chief of Security Nur Bey and Captain Nadia Shakur were all arrested. This clash happened after two white male deputies from the Lennox sheriff’s station jumped out of their car and began to frisk Aryana Shakur.



Gen. T.A.C.O. (ctr.) at Tookie Williams funeral.

This aggressive search led them to fondle her private parts in clear view of her husband, General T.A.C.O. The officers repeatedly refused to bring a female officer to do the pat down. The trumped up charges this time were inciting a riot, assault on a police officer, and interfering with an officer’s duty. This confrontation also left Capt. Nadia Shakur wounded. All four were released on their own recognizance three days later, and the frame-up charges were drastically reduced to a single misdemeanor. Aryana and Nadia Shakur’s cases were both dismissed by the judge. The police responded with hostility, and stepped up helicopter surveillance and harassment of all Black Riders. We also had to pay an excessive fee for our impounded vehicle.

In February 2004, after helping Daude Sherills successfully organize the 100,000 Man March to call for an end to Black on Black violence between Bloods, Crips, Muslims, and Christians, General T.A.C.O. and four other comrades were arrested, for allegedly possessing two bulletproof vests and a box of 9 MM bullets.

This case was dismissed within three days because of an illegal search and seizure and lack of evidence, because of the criminal tactics the police used to capture us.

We are proud that none of these arrests were made due to infiltration or informants snitching inside the organization.

Despite these attacks, the Black Riders began to increase in size, membership and influence, and to spearhead more survival programs to meet the needs and desires of the people. These included the Kourt Watch program with free legal aid, the BOSS Black on Black violence prevention and intervention program, a petition for community control of the police, a Black Power Cultural Mountain boot camp, gang truce football games, the Squeeze the Slumlord project, and free food giveaways to homeless children and adults. The Watch-a-Pig program is still being implemented regularly because it is perfectly legal and necessary. The Black Commune is the vehicle for the ultimate drive-by against the fascist state. We must continue to confront the real enemy, educate the people about the nature of the system, and take the struggle to a higher level.

August, 2007, the FBI, LAPD and sheriff’s deputies launched a military-style raid on Black Riders HQ in the Inland Empire with armored vehicles, with intentions to assassinate General T.A.C.O., but he wasn’t there. He was arrested 3 hours later on traffic violations and held three days before being released.

Nov. 2007, General T.A.C.O., Mecca Shakur and comrade Stress were arrested in separate coordinated raids in northern and southern CA, for allegedly conspiring to possess machine guns, part of a supposed plot – never formally charged – to shoot up four police stations. After a massive campaign to “Free the BR3”, the Black Riders defeated, by a judge’s order, a prosecution attempt to impose a gang injunction and enhancements on the Riders. General T.A.C.O. sacrificed himself to gain his comrades’ release, and he was sent to Corcoran State Prison for 1.5 years. He was released May 12, 2009. In June, the state strapped a GPS tracking device on his ankle.

July 2010, parole officers and police raided Gen. T.A.C.O.’s home. He was arrested for associating with other Black Riders, and told he was being arrested for ordering them to go to support Oscar Grant’s family when killer cop Mehserle was on trial (the day before the verdict was expected). Released after two weeks, he was told he hadn’t violated parole.

Sept. 15, 2011, Gen. T.A.C.O. was arrested again for associating with other Black Riders while driving down Crenshaw. LAPD Chief Charlie Beck issued a memo to the head of the Parole Board in Sacramento to try to stop his release. In the memo, Beck stated that Gen. T.A.C.O.’s “leadership of the party has caused numerous assaults on police officers and is an organized attempt to kill, harass or injure police officers.” Meanwhile Occupy LA, Occupy the Hood and others mobilized to the court to demand T.A.C.O.’s release. Beck’s memo failed because he sent it in too late, and T.A.C.O. was again released, with strict stipulations against political speech and association, shackled with the GPS modern day slave shackle. We consider this racist memo a shocking reminder and exposure, akin to the J. Edgar Hoover memo describing the Black Panther Party as the greatest threat to internal security. We have become racist Amerikkka’s worst nightmare!

The court system in this country is increasingly becoming an important tool of repression on behalf of the exploiters. It’s being used to try to crush the struggle for liberation of peace-loving poor oppressed people, not only to crush the conscious revolutionary, but to attempt to break the rebellious spirit of Black people, Chicano/Mexicanos and Puerto Ricans in general. This foul system of government is designed to oppress, exploit and intimidate all people who are not from the white Anglo-Saxon ruling class. From the violent responses of the police forces, systematic and undoubtedly calculated, it can easily be understood that the Black Riders, as opponents of this rotten system, are victims of an official conspiracy to destroy our leadership and organization. The oppressor must be harassed until his doom! He must have no peace by day or night! Free all political prisoners of war! When the prison doors are opened, the true dragon will fly out!

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# Excerpts from: CA Prison Hunger Strikers Propose ‘10 Core Demands’ for Occupy Wall Street

by Heshima Denham, Zaharibu Dorrough and Kambui Robinson  
<http://sfbayview.com/2011/california-prison-hunger-strikers-propose-10-core-demands-for-the-national-occupy-wall-street-movement/>

“The Constitution illustrates the complexity of this American system: it serves the interests of a wealthy elite, but also does enough for small property owners, for middle-income mechanics and farmers to build a broad base of support. The slightly prosperous people who make up this base of support are buffers against the Blacks, the Natives, the very poor Whites. They enable the elite to keep control with a minimum of coercion, a maximum of law – all made palatable by this fanfare of patriotism and unity.” – Howard Zinn

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters:

A firm, warm and solid embrace of revolutionary love is extended to you all. These words by Brother Howard Zinn are particularly relevant to the survival of the evolving Occupy Wall Street Movement.

Most of you are familiar with the NARN Collective Think Tank (NCTT) from the programs and ideas that have come out of this body from both Pelican Bay SHU and here in Corcoran SHU, most recently our work in the Prisoner Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition. Like the Arab Spring, and our own struggle to abolish indefinite confinement in sensory deprivation SHU torture units, the Occupy Wall Street Movement expresses a fundamental rule of materialist dialectics, the transformation of quantity into quality, expressed eloquently by the Honorable Comrade George Lester Jackson some 40 years ago: “(C)onsciousness is directly proportional to oppression.”

The ruling 1% will never concede anything without struggle, which requires unity of purpose, broad-based organization, fluid strategy and effective tactics. Progressive movements in this nation have succeeded or failed based on how effectively they understood this reality. Following the Civil War, Reconstruction gains were repealed and Jim Crow was introduced. The Civil Rights Movement taught us the necessity of broad-based organization and accurate agreement of the opposition’s center of gravity: their point of weakness. We learned not to underestimate the power of the ruling 1% and its state tools, when the Counter-Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO) dismantled the Black Liberation Movement, and ushered in the world of greed, corruption, inequality and mass incarceration you have inherited.

As we watched the Day of Action unfold, witnessing the predictable brutal response of the tools of the 1%, with great effort we detached from our rage and analyzed the comments and responses of various pundits, common people, agents of the state and protestors. As you read this analysis, consider where the men who wrote it live: Here, in Corcoran State Prison, labeled the “worst of the worst,” they’ve survived decades in solitary confinement in the SHU (security housing unit), one of the worst hell holes on earth. Out of despair and unimaginable cruelty and brutality, they forge hope for the beloved community. These men were leaders in the hunger strikes [last] summer and fall that involved over 12,000 California prisoners.

Three things immediately became obvious from that analysis:

- 1) The mass media and pundits were counting on the national Occupy movements to peter out and fizzle. Those who own the mass media want that message to be disseminated to undermine support for the movement.
- 2) Though most in this nation not involved directly in the occupations agree with our opposition to corporate greed and institutional inequality, there were no clearly articulated demands around which the movement could organize the broader masses.
- 3) This lack of clear demands and coherent strategic and tactical organization by the national Occupy Movement was undermining its intent, diluting its potential, and degrading its motive force.

The first step in defeating an enemy as powerful and organized as the ruling 1% is understanding the basis of their power. When you analyze opponents, you must see beyond the superficial to the point of vulnerability on which their power is based. Striking this point will inflict disproportionate damage.

It must be understood that radical social change is no different than warfare, and warfare is a form of power. Power systems share the same basic structures. The most visible thing about them is their appearance, what is seen and felt. The outward display of repressive power is a deceptive fabrication, a manifestation of insecurity, since power dares not expose its weaknesses. The key lies in determining what their point of vulnerability is, and to do so you must understand the structure of the power system and the culture in which it operates. We began this discussion with a concise analysis of just this point by Howard Zinn.

The real point of vulnerability in American democracy is the social and political support of its citizens. The key factor thus far in failing to harness mass support is the lack of broad-based demands around which people who may support our message but not our movement can be educated, organized and mobilized to join the movement and transform not only the nature and structure of U.S. society, but the WORLD.

To that end the NCTT Corcoran SHU has made a comprehensive analysis of statements from participants of all the national Occupy movements and some of those abroad and compiled these ideas into 10 core demands of the Occupy Wall Street Movement. We call on you to disseminate these 10 core demands to all the Occupy movements across the nation and the world. We call on all the Occupy movements to convene a national forum – online or at a national convention – to discuss the adoption of these 10 core demands as the definitive goals and organizing points around which the movement is based and the next level of our struggle is to be waged. These 10 core demands can be augmented or amended to take into account the broadest cross-section of the 99% possible and the collective will of the movement:

### The 10 Core Demands of the Occupy Wall Street Movement National Coalition

1. We want full employment with a living wage for all people who will work. The US Declaration of Independence states in part “that all men ... are endowed ... with certain inalienable Rights; that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among Men,

deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.” Life is a right and thus the means to live – work, making a living wage – must be equally guaranteed. If corporate business will not provide full employment even as they sit on trillions of dollars fleeced from the surplus value of labor, then the means of production should be taken from them and placed in the community.

2. We want an end to institutional racism and race- and class-based disparities in access to, and quality of, labor, education, health care, criminal defense, political empowerment, technology and healthy food. Structural features of US capitalism prevent broad cooperation between the 99% from various racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds. We will no longer allow this divide and rule arrangement to govern our relationships.

3. We want decent and affordable housing for all people. Housing is a fundamental necessity. But government has consistently sided with Wall Street, who are responsible for the single greatest loss of housing in the nation’s history[. F]ederal, state and local officials criminalize homelessness and poverty. The government should mandate a readjustment of home equity debt on all US homes so what people owe reflects what the properties are now worth. Empty Federal Housing Authority properties should be made into co-ops so communities can create decent housing for all.

4. We want affordable, equal access to higher education for all. We need education that teaches the true history of colonialism, chattel slavery, repression of organized labor, police repression and imprisonment as tools of capitalist exploitation, and the perpetuation of imperialism in US power systems and corporate financial markets. Speculative profiteering drives up tuition, leaving most in debt and pricing higher education out of reach for communities of color and the poor. Usurious student debt should be forgiven in full.

5. We want an immediate end to police brutality and the murder of oppressed people in the U.S., particularly in the New Afrikan (Black), “Latino,” immigrant and underclass communities and among those protesting in this nation. We recognize the police and other state paramilitary agencies are, and have always been, the enforcement army of the ruling 1%. We recognize such brutal and unwarranted treatment is the daily existence of New Afrikan (Black), Latino, immigrant and underclass communities and people in this nation. Self-defense is a human right. Community organized oversight and self-defense forces should be organized to monitor and record police and defend the people. We will suffer no more attacks like those at UC Davis, no more Scott Olsens or Oscar Grants to be injured or killed by the tools of the 1%.

6. We want an end to the prison industrial complex as a profit base – from our tax dollars – for the disposal of surplus labor and the poor. We want an end to indefinite solitary confinement torture units in the US. Mass incarceration of people of color and the poor will no longer be tolerated. The prison population in the U.S. has exploded 600% since 1981. The continued indefinite confinement of human beings in SHUs and other supermax torture units must be abolished. True rehabilitation, such as vocational programs, access to higher education and community-based parole boards must become the new order of the day.

7. We want an end to all corporate and financial influences in the political process in the U.S. The nature of U.S. society has been of the rich, for the rich and by the rich[. This] marginaliz[es] the people. The U.S. will finally become a nation of the people, for the people and by the people, where only individual citizens have influence in the democratic process. Ban all lobbyists, donors and special interest groups from local, state and federal electoral and legislative processes.

8. We want an end to imperialist wars of aggression and sending our youth off to kill and die to enforce the economic interests of big oil and other corporate concerns and as an impetus to keep from addressing domestic ills.

9. We want a bottoms-up approach to economic development and labor-capital relations in the US. The state has aligned itself so intimately for so long with the interest of the ruling 1% that it has become enamored exclusively to a top-down approach. This has resulted in a 281% increase in the growth of wealth in the top 1% of this nation, while the bottom 90% have seen their incomes flat over 20 years. We must now uplift the quality of life from the bottom rung up – empowering the disenfranchised, and directing bailouts and subsidies to the people, not banks and billionaires.

10. We want a more equitable distribution of wealth, justice and opportunity at every level of society. There is enough food that no one need be hungry. There are enough unoccupied structures that no one need be homeless. We have enough educators, institutions, knowledge and technology that no one need be without a degree or skilled trade. There’s enough work to be done that no one needs to be without a job. Only the stranglehold of the super-rich 1% on every institution and apparatus of this nation’s infrastructure ensures that their opulence and privilege are maintained at the expense of the 99%.

Please send this proposal to each Occupy Movement. In addition, we call on each individual Occupy Movement to begin organizing in and with the underclass communities in your city or town. We call for all my brothers and sisters in the ghettos, projects, barrios and trailer parks across this nation to begin organizing with Occupy around collective programs that can serve to begin realizing these 10 core demands by our unity and contributions alone. The NCTT, both here in Corcoran SHU and Pelican Bay SHU are committed to making meaningful contributions to the development of such community action programs, which we will outline in our next communication.

There are some 47 million people in Amerika living below the poverty line, another 150 million or so barely getting by – almost two thirds of this nation’s population, all of them part of the 99%. It is here that we will find our most lasting support, and thus it is here that you must begin forging meaningful ties. These are overwhelmingly New Afrikan (Black), Latino, immigrant and poor communities.

You champion us all with your ideas and the courage of your convictions, just as we continue to support you with our sacrifices and insight. It is now time to take the movement to its next evolution and ultimately to its inevitable conclusion: victorious revolutionary change.

Your greatest power lies in your unity and cooperation and ultimately your organizational ability. The power of the people far surpasses all the repressive violence attacking you/us, surpasses the wealth of the 1%, who will stop at nothing to silence us all.

This is a protracted struggle; there will be no 90-day revolution here. Victory will require sacrifice, tenacity and competent strategic insight. The question you must ask is: Are you prepared to do what is necessary to win this struggle? If you answer in the affirmative, commit to victory and accept no other alternative. The people, as we are, are with you. Until we win, our love and solidarity to all those who love freedom and fear only failures.

**Send our brothers some love and light: See names and addresses on page 1.**



# Free Jeremy Hammond

Jeremy Hammond (born December 1985) is a political activist from Chicago charged in a criminal complaint with crimes relating to the December 2011 hack of Strategic Forecasting, Inc. (Stratfor). He is the founder of the computer security training website HackThisSite, created in 2003 following his graduation from Glenbard East High School. A genuinely conscious web developer, Jeremy Hammond is accused of using his computer savvy to attack conservative groups and State operators. He is being charged with providing Wikileaks the documents for their latest Stratfor release.

## Arrest

On March 5, 2012, Hammond was arrested by FBI agents in the Bridgeport neighborhood of Chicago IL, ahead of an indictment unsealed the following day in the Lower Manhattan federal district court. He is one of six individuals from the US, England and Ireland indicted, due to testimony from a cooperating witness known online as Sabu.

Fox News in Manhattan was first to break the story based on “access to Sabu’s handlers” of three arrests “on two continents,” a sealed federal indictment for six, and a “separate indictment” for Hammond. The story was later confirmed by other news agencies when the court papers were unsealed.

The case is being prosecuted by the office of Preet Bharara, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York. Hammond is represented by Elizabeth Fink, “a firebrand attorney” with the National Lawyers Guild. She won a settlement of \$8 million against the Government of New York for ex-inmates of the Attica Commune prison rebellion.

Local profiles of Hammond by the Chicago press describe him as “connected to anarchist groups planning G8 and NATO protests.” Another called him “a lanky 27-year-old poster boy for anti-capitalist ‘hacktivists’” and “a rock star to anarchists and cyberterrorists worldwide.” Supporters describe him as “one of the few true electronic Robin Hoods” in reference to a phrase by Hammond from a 2007 profile.

Note from Editor: Benton Harbor MI is a mostly Black city, home to the Whirlpool Corporation, that was taken over by the state of Michigan and an appointed emergency manager to impose austerity and quash resistance to corporate domination. The Black Autonomy Network of Community Organizers recently sent out the following invitation:

## Occupy the PGA Benton Harbor, Mich. Senior PGA Golf Tournament

It’s our honor and privilege to invite you on behalf of BANCO to an event scheduled for May 23-27,2012. We are committed to escalating the Occupy Movement to support human rights in housing in addition to the push back against bailouts for fraudulent banks. They are stealing our home and our lives.

Democracy is non-existent here in Benton Harbor. Joseph Harris, the Emergency Manager, must go. We have a dictator in Benton Harbor, Michigan!

The PGA will be played on a 750-million dollar, 530-acre resort near Lakeshore with a Jack Nicklaus Signature designer Golf Course, and with \$500,000 condominiums. We can not forget three golf holes in the stolen land inside Jean Klock Park.

If your schedule permits, attend on May 26, 2012; alternative action dates are May 23-25. Please let us know if you can accept the invitation to Occupy The PGA in Benton Harbor.

We will meet at Benton Harbor City Hall, 200 Wall St at 10:00 am every day. Then we will march our death march to the Golf Course. We will have speakers and food.

**For more information contact Rev. Edward Pinkney, 269-925-0001**

## Chicago Grants Permit for May 20 NATO Protest

Once again bowing to public pressure, on April 4 the city of Chicago granted permits for a rally and march against the NATO summit planned here in May. The Coalition Against NATO/G8 War and Poverty Agenda (CANG8) also demanded the city waive the nearly \$40,000 in fees to use a public park, and give a more favorable march route as well.

The permit is for a rally at noon on Sunday, May 20 at the Petrillo Bandshell in Grant Park - without the onerous fees and with the changes to the march route that the protesters insisted on.

Joe Iosbaker of CANG8 stated that the group was again victorious and warned the mayor and the Secret Service to respect the right to protest. “NATO is responsible for the deaths of tens of thousands in Afghanistan and Libya. These generals are spattered with the blood of the Arab and Muslim people, including those killed in Pakistan by U.S. drone strikes. And in Afghanistan, 250 children die every day from malnutrition.” Iosbaker continued, “We have the right to march against these masters of war.”

CANG8 has called for the Secret Service to respect the march route granted by the city. “Declaring the summit a National Security Event doesn’t allow them to suspend the constitution,” Iosbaker said.

CANG8 also calls on the mayor and the Chicago police to stop threatening mass arrests and to stop painting protestors as dangerous.

**<http://cang8.wordpress.com/>**

## Previous Sentences

On November 29, 2010, Hammond was sentenced to 18 months probation and 130 hours of community service for mob action, by Cook County Judge Joseph Kazmierski. Hammond along with five others had been arrested on September 29, 2009 for tearing down a Chicago 2016 banner at Daley Plaza and burning it to protest the Chicago bid for the 2016 Summer Olympics. The state attorney for Cook County pressed charges for felony mob action, misdemeanor criminal damage to property, and misdemeanor resisting a police officer.

On March 25, 2010, Hammond was sentenced to four days in the Cook County Department of Corrections, for taking part in a confrontation with the controversial Holocaust denial writer and nazi sympathizer David Irving. Five Chicago residents, Hammond included, pleaded guilty to one count each of disorderly conduct on March 24, 2010 at Rolling Meadows Court House before Judge Edward Pietrucha. The five had been accused of wearing black masks, storming the Edelweiss restaurant in Norridge, Illinois, and allegedly “threw glasses and kicked over chairs” to drive out Irving’s guests. During the melee, another restaurant patron was struck by a bottle.

On December 7, 2006, Hammond was sentenced to two years in federal prison and three years’ probation after pleading guilty to charges of breaking into a computer system “and obtaining information.” Based on information and chat logs provided by cooperating witnesses, Hammond was indicted on June 26, 2006 for “hacking into a politically conservative website and stealing its computer database including credit card information.” At his sentencing hearing, the court heard that he was motivated by politics and not personal gain. Prosecutor Assistant U.S. attorney Brandon D. Fox said, “While Jeremy Hammond tried to make this about politics, we wanted to make this about what actually occurred, that he stole credit cards.” Charges of 2.5 million dollars in damages was assessed based on \$500 per credit card, for each of the 5000 credit card numbers in Hammond’s possession. Prosecutors had sought up to the maximum 5-year prison term (Title 18 Section 1030 Computer Fraud and Abuse Act) and said

they wanted Hammond immediately jailed for violating bail by failing two recent drug tests and being arrested on disorderly conduct charges. U.S. District Judge James B. Zagel disagreed with the prosecutors’ recommendations, instead allowing Hammond to surrender to prison on January 3, 2007 for a two-year term. He also ordered a payment of \$5,250 in fines and restitution; and imposed a three-year probation agreement prohibiting Hammond’s involvement with hacker and anarchist groups until 2011. Hammond served his prison term at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) of Greenville, Illinois, a medium-security facility.

In 2005, Hammond was sentenced to one year’s probation for misdemeanor battery to a police officer. Three Chicago residents, Hammond included, accepted a plea agreement where one count each of aggravated battery was reduced, while charges for resisting arrest and misdemeanor reckless conduct were dropped. Prosecutor Assistant US State’s Attorney Erin Antonietti had told Circuit Judge Colleen Hyland that during a protest melee, police intervened when Hammond threw a bottle of “red liquid” (later identified as a plastic Gatorade bottle) at an officer. Defense lawyer Melinda Power attributed the melee to “anti-gay protesters” who “attacked her three clients and other members of Chicagoland Anarchist Network” at the annual Chicago Pride Parade on June 28, 2004.

## Background

Originally from Glendale Heights, DuPage County, Hammond’s political activism began at Glenbard East High School, where he persuaded school administrators to allow a 100-person student march in protest of the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

Hammond was first arrested in 2003 while at the University of Illinois, “for spray painting BRING THE WAR TO UIC on a campus wall.” His second arrest was in 2004, for possession of marijuana. Hammond’s third arrest, at the 2004 Chicago Pride Parade, led to his first court sentence.

During the 2004 DEF CON event in Las Vegas, Hammond delivered a talk that encouraged “electronic civil disobedience” as a means of protest against the annual Republican National Convention and its supporters.

During the 2004 Republican National Convention protest activity in New York, Hammond was arrested for the fourth time “during a drum-banging protest.”

During a march initiated by University of Illinois students on September 12, 2005, Hammond was arrested when police intervened after twenty marchers occupied Wicker Park’s Damen and Milwaukee traffic intersection.

En route to the National Socialist Movement’s December 10, 2005 rally in Toledo, Ohio, Hammond and two other Chicago protesters were arrested for contempt of court and detained at Lucas County Jail pending arraignment at the Toledo Municipal Court. A total of 25 people were arrested for violations relating to a court injunction that barred public gatherings. The injunction, signed by Lucas County Common Pleas Judge Thomas J. Osowik on December 9, 2005, was intended to prevent a recurrence of the October 2005 Toledo OH anti-nazi rebellion.

Between 2003 and his 2007 incarceration, Hammond was arrested ten times on charges of disorderly conduct and property damage during protests.

Elizabeth Fink, along with others from the New York National Lawyers Guild, (NY NLG) have taken up Jeremy’s case in his defense. Their website and contact info can be found at <http://fkolaw.com/>. Jeremy has been transferred to MCC New York, where he will likely be for the duration of the trial or until a bond is posted. But for the meantime, Jeremy has already happily received letters and can be written to at this address; unfortunately, all the books that has been mailed have been returned, except for the ones purchased through Amazon or the publisher.

**Jeremy Hammond 18729-424  
Metropolitan Correctional Center  
150 Park Row  
New York, New York, 10007**

There is also a Jeremy Hammond Defense Committee that has been set up which can be contacted at [jason@freehammond.com](mailto:jason@freehammond.com). The committee involves immediate members of Jeremy’s family. The donations that have been made so far have been helpful and are very appreciated, and all the money that as been donated will be used for either his defense fund or commissary.



# On the New Prison Movement

By the Central Committee of the Black Riders

**Revolutionary Greetings! All Power to the People! Black Power to Black People!**

Due to the hard work and determination of the Black Riders nationwide prison chapter, new prison recruits have soared to the thousands. We are proud to know that we are finally making gigantic leaps to defend our people against the racist US Empire’s preemptive attack to cage and silence those of us who were bound to become revolutionaries on the streets. Now Black prisoners have linked up to the party to fight back and destroy the prison-industrial complex. Black Power salutes!

We must show the masses that the first wave of nationwide prison strikes was primarily an educational tool to build awareness and shine light on the oppressor’s hidden actions. Now we must regroup and prepare sterner resistance to keep up the pressure with new generation Black Panther ideas, creativity and initiative. Attack as defense must be the rule of engagement for a people who face the urgency of extermination and genocide by being buried alive under concrete and steel.

Comrades inside behind enemy lines must build up the Black Riders with any available educational tools while comrades on the streets build up the support and resources to funnel large amounts of literature and books to those inside.

Action must be our greatest educational tool. We must have patience and revolutionary faith as we proceed from one stage to another. Comrades inside must remove the blinders of romanticism and realize the enormous damage done by the neo-colonial attacks on the overall community and “movement.” We must be able to build new links of unity and support that will be able to withstand the new repression.

The enemy has attacked our lines of communication on many different levels, like returning letters we sent to people, blocking letters by accusing our party of being a security threat group, or just throwing away letters we have sent to comrades inside. Wardens and captains in different camps have jumped in to sabotage our revolutionary efforts. Sekou Toure teaches us that, “If the enemy isn’t doing anything against you, you aren’t doing anything.” Remember that communication and information is power, and is 9/10 of war. Our party has proved time and again that there’s always more than one way around a trap.... Added to this, the capitalist crisis has pushed the price of postage to high levels.

To defend ourselves against attacks on our lines of communication, we are requesting every comrade and supporter to send 2 stamps a month to the BRLP, PO Box 8297, L.A. CA 90008, in order to bolster our communications to maximum level. If you can send more, please do so because there are extremely poor comrades who need help. We must have discipline and build the revolution with whatever meager resources are available. As Frantz Fanon points out, “Each generation must, out of relative obscurity, discover its mission, and fulfill it or betray it.”

If you are a prisoner in communication with the BRLP, and you have answered all seven questions to be a member, you are now a Black Rider comrade. You should report in immediately by writing a letter of confirmation

to the Central Committee, stating exactly what you intend to contribute to the organization, so that you can be assigned a rank in the overall chain of command. If your letter is intercepted and confiscated, keep trying other avenues, like calls or having relatives on the street contact us. Push the party forward by educating others to the struggle until you can break through the repressive net. This will help defeat the enemy’s evil machinations.

*“The idea is to isolate, eliminate and liquidate the dynamic sectors of the overall movement, the protagonist ... What we’ve got to do is prove this won’t work. We’ve got to organize our resistance once we’re inside. Give them no peace. Turn the prison into another front of the struggle. Tear it down from the inside. Understand!”*  
—BPP Field Marshall George Jackson

Every comrade in a position to do so must develop study circles that will double as a ‘think tank’ for fresh tactics to be employed inside and outside. We must accelerate the contradictions created out of our resistance. Strike out at the prison-industrial complex that’s the last weak legs that capitalism needs to survive. Our goal is to guarantee that our most oppressed comrades’ voices are heard loud and clear on the streets of fascist Amerikkka to educate our people. Expose the monster then move on him with unparalleled Black rage.

We must also link to other races and groups of like mind. We can maintain strong unity when we focus on the

common enemy of all oppressed people. We should also strive to focus on BRLP Rule of Discipline #34: “Always remember that bulletproof Black love and unity is our goal to create revolution in fascist Amerika.”

We must develop strong, productive lines of communication with many Africans trapped in Amerikkka’s various institutions. When we begin to communicate (council), we can formulate a national agenda for the new prison movement. We can consider such tools as a one-page flyer with a small picture of Mumia, and a couple of paragraphs describing the injustice of his conviction, and how this same process is repeated over and over again on Black men and women throughout this country. Then we push a demand that all Black men and women held in concentration camps be free! Free all of them!

What this shows our brothers and sisters on the inside is that we are not just struggling for the liberation of well-known political prisoners, but we seek justice and liberation for all! And we must develop programs around this concept.

As the new prison movement develops, we can consider creating other flyers demanding that police brutality, corruption and racism (white supremacy) cease behind the walls. There are brothers and sisters being set up, wrongfully validated, visits denied, mail discarded, food being spat on, sentences extended and a host of other injustices. But we can’t do too much too soon without proper security in place, so it’s best to take it one step at a time. Comrades inside need comrades on the outside to maintain constant security, because those in prison are in a very vulnerable position in the hands of our enemies. Comrades on the outside are also a link to the outer society, information and an educational base of support.

There are new Black Rider comrades in prisons in the following locations: Lancaster, Soledad, Tehachapi, Vacaville, Crescent City and Corcoran CA, Licking MO, Windsor and Taylorville NC, Iowa Park, Rosharon, Woodville and Lovelady TX, Comstock, NY, Canon City and Olney Springs CO, Lebanon and London OH, Woodville MS, Shirley MA, McAlester OK, and Madras OR. If you are a prisoner who has applied and completed the answers to all seven questions to become a member, again, please communicate immediately with the Black Riders confirming your commitment and practice.

**All Power to the People!**

## ‘If You Don’t Know, You Better Ask Somebody...Who Does’

By The Conductor, the cyber-ground railroad, Mar. 24, 2012

<http://www.cybergroundrr.com/2012/03/24/if-you-dont-know-you-better-ask-somebody-who-does/>

***“Where is the concern for Blacks when they are killed by other Blacks?”***

It’s a question that gets a lot of play, usually, when a racist murder has been committed against a Black person by law enforcement or private citizens who aren’t African American.

Black people are just as hurt and concerned and angry when Black men die from gang violence, drive-by shootings and “being caught up” every single day, as we are when white racist representatives of governmental institutions (that are supposed to protect and serve us) and ordinary white racist citizens murder us in cold blood.

Black people are just as hurt and concerned and angry when Black women die from domestic violence – murdered by those who say they love us – AND gang violence AND driveby shootings AND “being caught up” as we are when white racist representatives of governmental institutions (that are supposed to protect and serve us) – like Mitrice Richardson and the L.A. County Sheriff’s Department – and ordinary white racist citizens murder us in cold blood.

**BUT:**

1. If you are dependent on the mainstream media to tell you that, you will not see it; they have no stake in that.
2. If you are dependent on Black media, you may not see it there either; they may not have the resources to do it consistently.
3. If you are not in close proximity to Black institutions or Black people – in other words, if you don’t know the folks that know – you are OOL – Out Of Luck.

Therefore, in answer to the question “Where is the concern for Blacks when they are killed by other Blacks” I say this: ”Where is YOUR concern?” It appears that this question ONLY gets raised when Black people vent their RIGHTEOUS indignation and anger over unjustified, racist murders.

If YOU really cared, then you would know about the organizations that exist to stop the senseless, every day murders of Black people by Black people in your city:

1. You would know the names of these organizations

2. You would know when their meetings are
3. You would know where their meetings are
4. You would know the people who are a part of these organizations by sight
5. You would know the people who are a part of these organizations by name
6. You would go to their meetings
7. You would ask them, “What can I do to help you?”
8. You would ask your Black and mainstream media, “Why don’t you cover these organizations on a REGULAR basis?”
9. You would give them much needed money
10. You would give them much needed money

Here in Los Angeles, California, a few of the organizations are as follows:

**Southern California Cease Fire Committee; 2nd Call; Unity One; Unity Two; Professional Community Intervention Training Institute; Project Cry No More; Mothers of the Community; Unity in the Community; Peace in the Streets**

Do you know the names of the organizations that exist in your city? Why not? I can just about pretty much guarantee you that there is at least one organization that does the nitty gritty, away-from-the-glare-of-the-camera work to stop Black-on-Black-violence.

I would also be willing to bet that these same people are in attendance at rallies and demonstrations protesting the racist murders of Black people by others.

For those of you who ask the question, “Where is the concern for Blacks when they are killed by other Blacks?” I ask you another question: What are you doing now? I mean, other than reading this?

That’s what I thought.

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Excerpts from:

# Discussion on Strategy for the Occupy Movement from Behind Enemy Lines

by J. Heshima Denham, Zaharibu Dorrough and Kambui Robinson, the NCTT, Corcoran Security Housing Unit SHU

*“Beneath this conventional enthusiasm and ingratiating ritual toward the dominant power, you can easily perceive in the wealthy a deep distaste for the democratic institutions of their country. The people are a power they both fear and despise.”*  
– Alexis De Tocqueville, “Democracy in America”

Greetings, brothers and sisters. A firm, warm and solid embrace of revolutionary love is extended to you all.

We are all representative of a single socio-political and historic motive force. Yet those in opposition to our democratic aspirations are the very same political, social and economic powers that this nation has relied on to allegedly ensure the integrity of democracy, social justice and economic equality. This is a contradiction. Substantive change will only be realized through a comprehensive strategic approach, coordinated and conducted by us all. Simply put, we are a single movement, and for us to have the social impact necessary to compel progress we must proceed with this realization as out guiding ethos. We of the NCTT (New Afrikan Collective Think Tank) in the Corcoran SHU (Security Housing Unit) have a proposal on effective strategic organizing we’d like to share with you.

What’s occurring today as it relates to protest (i.e., Occupy Wall Street, Prisoner Hunger Strike Solidarity etc.) is the unfinished legacy of the struggle for social justice necessary for the US to fulfill its democratic potential. This struggle is part of the rich and courageous legacy of abolitionists, women’s rights activists, organized labor, populists, human and civil rights activists and other democratic struggles of the nation’s past. Social revolution has always been imperative to this type of substantive change. This calls for the coming together of people – from different cultural,

economic and ideological backgrounds – realizing the common interest inherent in this truth: that we all inhabit the same planet, breathe the same air, are part of the human family.

We began with a quote from De Tocqueville to illustrate the disdain in which the power structure in this society holds the people’s democratic expression and the fear and resentment they hold towards those who challenge the status quo in capitalist Amerika. We represent nothing more to these overseers than billions in potential profit to be extracted from our misery. Our hunger strikes were the only way to resist the assault on our humanity that’s the inevitable consequence of burying us indefinitely in these sensory deprivation torture units. The success of the Occupy Movement, like the hunger strikes, requires sacrifice and strategic insight. The kind of sacrifices being exemplified by courageous nationalists and activists like you – we love it, we love you and we stand with you.

**Seizing the reins of history**

Only when the people, the 99%, seize the reigns of history has the democratic destiny of humanity – unity, equality, self-determination, cooperation, freedom, justice and human rights – been advanced to any degree. Each step forward – from the Suffrage Movement, which established a woman’s right to vote, to the nonviolent protests of the Civil Rights Movement that repealed segregation, to the empowerment and self-defense tactics of the national liberation movements that followed – was punctuated by a coherent strategic approach. Its relative success or failure has been equal to the resonance it found in the nation’s mass psychology.

What’s needed is the unified might of the 99%, most if not all of us speaking with one voice, animated by this same spirit throughout. We can’t expect paths to social change to be laid by the forces of oppression, which means we must pursue self-determination and self-sufficiency, demonstrating the validity of our vision of society through social practice. We possess all the tools necessary to transform our occupations into practice programs that address the core inequities in the capitalist arrangement oppose by imbedding them in the most underdeveloped and disenfranchised communities of the 99%, where the effects of corporate greed and institutional inequality are most visible.

Who has done most of the work, most of the dying, most of the time in prison or on the unemployment line? Who has little or no interest in the maintenance of the current status quo? Who’s been disproportionately affected by the sub-prime mortgage fiasco, corporate greed and political corruption? Invariably we must answer it is the underclass communities, ghettos, hoods, barrios, trailer parks and projects. Their unfortunate position and desperate historical relationship to the productive system forces this segment of society to the forefront of any revolutionary scheme.

**Three pilot programs**

We propose organizing an entirely new front for the struggle. Occupy Wall Street, Occupy the Hood and the underclass communities, each working in coordination, could prove an unstoppable force if organized and mobilized with unity of purpose. Each segment of this broader organizing force possesses mutually beneficial qualities whose impact far exceeds the sum of its individual parts. We want to urge all our brothers and sisters in lumpen organizations within these communities, no matter what set you claim, what nation you ride – Sureño or Norteño – no matter what hood you represent or crew you roll with, to support and

defend these brothers and sisters from all aspects of the Occupy Movement as they enter your/our communities. Equally we want to urge all our brothers and sisters in the Occupy Movement to learn from the people as you enter and work with them. For some of you, it will be a new and sobering reality, completely outside of your experience, and should provide an uncensored view of the human misery and inequality in Amerika. Look upon the interests of the movement and those communities as your very own; the survival of the movement and hope for substantive change may well depend on it.

The three pilot programs we are proposing will require some structural organization among you. We suggest you adopt a democratic centralist structure which will allow everyone to air their opinions and suggestions in discussions on policy decisions. Those with the greatest knowledge and insight on the subject should have the greatest influence on the policy adopted.

Brothers and sisters doing vital work in Occupy the Hood chapters, we ask you to expand your relationship with the Occupy Wall Street Movement beyond the people of color working group. Enter a broader phase of community development and social organization, which will see a union of all of our social forces in the practical work of building a new basis for relating to the productive system. Occupy the Hood is the natural bridge between all aspects of the 99%. Only through a union such as this can our movement be transformed into a true social revolution. Those who’ve engaged in support for the five core demands in opposition to these sensory deprivation torture units, if you retain any influence in your hood, barrio, trailer park or community, we urge you to have those on the streets from your community, get involved.

The three pilot programs we propose are: 1) the closed circuit economic initiative; 2) the sustainable community agricultural commons; 3) the block vote democratic initiative. We will explain each here in basic terms and should you need detailed program formats or other help, you need only contact us directly.

**The Closed Circuit Economic Initiative**

The Closed Circuit Economic Initiative (CCE Initiative) is a cooperative economic venture designed to amplify local wealth by re-circulating it in the community in which it originated, while providing collective ownership of the venture to the community and movement. It’s possible to increase the economic capacity of a community by circulating its wealth in that community for a longer period, especially if the community controls the economic circuit in which exchange flows.

Prepare fliers outlining this initiative in clear, easy-to-understand terms. Produce a survey that asks each individual in that community the three top goods or services they most frequently spend most of their money on. Once these surveys compiled, we’ll have the basis for our first economic venture based on the No. 1 pick. For example, let’s say food is the area where the most money is spent. The first venture in this community’s CCE Initiative would be a grocery store. A true community meeting can elect economic trustees for the CCE Fund: one from Occupy the Hood, one from Occupy Wall Street, and two from the community in which the venture is based. These four will collectively oversee the CCE Fund for that community, allowing those funds raised to be accepted only by those four persons together – no single individual will have access to the fund – and only for the CCE Initiative venture agreed to via the democratic will of all involved. This will ensure checks and balances are maintained and trust is assured.

Individuals in that community to contribute \$1-\$2 bi-monthly, along with their names, addresses and phone numbers to the CCE Initiative for a six-month period. Funds will be deposited in the CCE Fund’s account. We will hire only people from that community or from the local Occupy who are unemployed. Occupy Wall Street activists with accounting, business, tax, zoning, law, real estate, grocery or other related expertise should provide that expertise to ensure the success of these ventures. Once established, we need not worry about patronage because those who own the venture – the community itself – will, of course, shop in their own grocery store and encourage others to. All the profits, minus overhead, will go back to the CCE Fund with 60% being paid out monthly to all CCE Initiative registrants – those with a CCE certificate of contribution – in the form of a dividend check, the other 40% gaining interest in the CCE fund. In the next six months, we purchase a support venture, one that contributes directly to the initial venture; let’s say a bakery. The grocery store will purchase its baked goods inventory exclusively from the CCE Initiative bakery. Again, the bakery will hire only people from that community or local movement without a job.

The CCE Fund can then turn its attention to establishing a local credit commons, where the community can invest in its own people’s interests, to promote community prosperity and meet human needs. Here, people from the community and local movement can get micro-loans, home and auto financing, and standard banking services. In this way, the underclass community becomes independent of the competitive capitalist economy through unity, cooperative economics and collective work, distribution of wealth and ownership. Regardless if you contributed \$1 or \$2 or your specialized knowledge and insight, you’ll receive an equal share of dividends. By means of the CCE Initiative, we can clearly demonstrate cooperation serves the interests of the 99% where competition has clearly been unequal to the task.

**The Sustainable Community Agricultural Commune**

Chronic poverty and underemployment – the legacy of corporate greed and political corruption in Amerika – can be directly linked to chronic disease, high obesity rates and the plethora of health problems that accompany them. Of equal concern is the ecological impact of multinational corporate agribusiness, from the exploitation of the Third World to environmental damage from transport. Yet it’s within our power to change this dynamic by embracing sustainable urban farming as a viable alternative. Throughout the underclass communities of Amerika, there are vacant lots that we can reclaim and transform into urban gardens. These will feed the communities healthy and nutritious food, and provide a significant source of revenue.

Less than 2% of the food consumed in metropolitan areas in the U.S. is grown there. Urban areas consume billions of dollars of food each year, including junk food, sodas, fast food and processed snacks that, unfortunately, are staples of many poor folks’ diets because the stuff is cheap and filling. But if our food was locally produced, it would be healthier and cheaper than if you bought it at your supermarket. It would be a source of revenue for the community by selling the surplus to local chefs, restaurants and our own farmers markets, while relying on organic and other agricultural advances to increase both quality and yields.

We call on Occupy Wall Street and Occupy the Hood to link with local underclass community organizers and pool their assets, expertise and labor to educate, organize and mobilize the community’s residents for the sustainable community agricultural commune (SCA commune). Our first step will be in canvassing the community, distributing fliers to everyone, about our intention of building the SCA commune. Then go through the process of cataloging each square yard of land, no matter how large or small the plot – who owns it, and what it will take to get it zoned and secured for community use.

We encourage the movement to reach out to conscious businesses like ***Greenaid***, an L.A.-based guerilla gardening company that makes clay, compost and seed balls that can be tossed in derelict urban areas to make them green spaces. Our urban farms will provide a safe place of peace and prosperity for our people, our children and our youth to fellowship as they build a brighter future for themselves, their communities and this world, all from the power of their hands, heads and hearts.

**The Block-Vote Democratic Initiative**

The ruling 1% has successfully hijacked the political process in Amerika. Few people vote in underclass communities because the disparities that are responsible for the human misery in these communities are institutional and systemic to U.S. capitalist economics. No matter whom they vote into office, their plight does not change. Before the sleeping giant of underclass democratic power – the poor man and woman’s vote – can be strategically harnessed, there must be some assurance that their interests will be realized. What we propose in the Block-Vote Democratic Initiative (BVD Initiative) is to do just that by bypassing these corrupt politicians altogether. Put the policies we, the 99%, support on the ballots of local, state and national elections via petition with a simultaneous voter registration “block” comprised of Occupy Movement activists and entire underclass communities, so the sheer number of affirmative votes passes the policy measures outright.

There are three possible measures reflective of our 10 core







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Stop Sweeps, Raids, Vehicle Confiscation, Detentions and Mass Deportation!

**FOR ECONOMIC, SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & LABOR RIGHTS:**

Stop Budget Cutsbacks on the Social Safety Net – Tax the Rich, End Corporate Personhood!  
Create Living-wage Jobs and Guarantee the Right to Organize! Repeal NAFTA & CAFTA!  
Reverse Global Warming and End Pollution of Air, Water and Soil!

**FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE:**

End all Overt and Covert U.S. Wars and Military Intervention!  
Bring the Troops Home - Fulfill Promises to Veterans!  
Respect Indigenous Sovereignty! End Racism and Colonialism!

**FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES -- END THE POLICE STATE:**

Repeal NDAA, Homeland Security and the USA PATRIOT Act!  
End the Drug War! Stop Mass Incarceration and the New Jim Crow!  
Stop Police Brutality and Prison Isolation! Free All Political Prisoners!  
Abolish the Death Penalty!

**FOR HOUSING, EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE**

**AS HUMAN RIGHTS:**

Stop Foreclosures and Evictions- Principal Reduction Now! End Homelessness!  
Free Quality Public Education for All! Forgive Crushing Student Debt!  
Protect Food and Water Sovereignty! Single Payer Health Care for All Now!

**FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS, LGBTQ RIGHTS  
& GENDER EQUITY:**

Equal Pay for Equal Work and Compensation for Unwaged Housework!  
Equal Rights for All without Regard to Gender or Sexual Orientation!  
Protect Reproductive Rights and Personal Privacy!

ARA-LA/PART endorses the call: No Work-No School-No Corporate Commerce!  
All Out in the Streets!

Join the Four Winds Peoples Power Caravans & convergence  
May 1, 2012, 7:30pm General Assembly, Pershing Square, L.A.

**Remember the victims of Capitalism...**

**MAY 1**

**Call in sick. Don't work or shop.**

**Together we win. INSURGENCY**

**Web Store**

<http://www.zazzle.com/insurgency>



**Journal of Anti-Racist Action, Research & Education**  
**TURNING THE TIDE**  
**All out in the Streets! May 1 General Strike!**



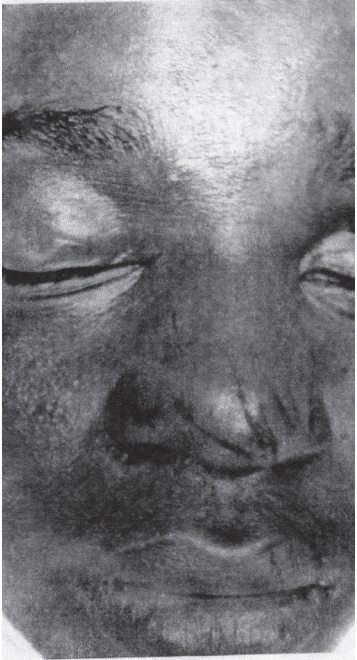
**Trayvon Martin, killed by racist vigilante in Sanford, FL, February 2012.**



**Kendrec McDade, killed by racist cops in Pasadena, CA, March 2012**



**Gerardo Perez-Ruiz, killed by paramilitary border vigilantes in Eloy, AZ, April 2012**



**Jason Smith, beaten dead by racists in Louisiana, July 2011**

**NO MORE! - NO MAS!**

**GENERAL HUELGA  
STRIKE GENERAL**

for human rights para derechos humanos  
for peace para la paz  
for justice and equality para justicia e igualdad!



**Christian Gomez, died on prison hunger strike in California, February 2012**

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