

PART's Perspective:

End the Genocide Against Palestine! End the Settler-Colonial Occupation!

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

War crimes and crimes against humanity are being carried out daily by Israel, not only in Gaza, but in denying the right to return to those displaced in 1948 and in 1967, and in the West Bank, where land theft and settler violence, supported and reinforced by the Israeli military, is taking place. The Zionist apartheid Israeli state occupies not only all the territory of historic Palestine “from the river to the sea”, but has occupied and claims to have incorporated into Israel part of the territory of Syria (an illegal action recognized by the US under Trump).

Israeli government officials in the ultra-right Netanyahu regime have openly called for the absorption by “greater Israel” of not only the West Bank and Gaza, but also Jordan and Lebanon as well. They have sought the expulsion of all Palestinians from Gaza into the Sinai desert peninsula that is part of Egypt (which Israel had at one point invaded and conquered but eventually returned to Egypt as part of a ‘peace’ settlement that incorporated Egypt’s autocratic government into a US-led effort to control and contain the Palestinian struggle). Israel has previously invaded (but withdrawn from) Lebanon as well as Egypt (twice; the first time jointly with England and France to try to seize the Suez Canal).

Anti-Zionism is NOT antisemitism, as Israel and its pro-Zionist supporters in the US and other Western imperialist governments and countries loudly and forcefully proclaim. Rather, as the naked realities of Israel’s genocidal attacks and cut-off of food, water and medicine to Gaza make clear, anti-Zionism is the only principled position to take. It is a position of de-colonization as a path toward human liberation, justice and equality for all, including Jewish people residing in Palestine. Historically, in fact, there is abundant evidence that it is Zionism that is antisemitic and contrary to Jewish values, teachings and ethics.

It is Zionists who hate and oppress Jews who do not accept their ideology, Zionists who collaborated with the Nazi regime to try to populate Palestine, Zionists who labeled European or other Jews as weak and blamed them for their oppression, Zionists who claim falsely to speak for all Jews or the Jewish people. It’s Christian Zionists who support Israel as a step towards the conversion of all Jews into worshipers of Jesus Christ as god. Zionism is not the “national liberation movement of the Jewish people,” but a settler colonial project allied to and integrated within capitalist Western imperialism led by the US. Israel was created by stealing a land already fertile and filled with people struggling for independence, in a perverse effort at settler-colonial “nation-building.” That’s why white nationalists who hate Jews and see them as alien threats to their racial purity perversely support Israel as an example of the kind of ethno-state they want to build.

The UN-sanctioned “partition” of Palestine that led to the Nakba, the catastrophe of massacres and expulsions of Palestinians, was part of the post-WWII Cold War division of societies globally designed to contain the threat of anti-colonial and other revolutionary struggles through the age-old tactic of “divide and conquer”. East Germany and South Vietnam are no more, but imperialism has made the division of India between Hindus and Muslims stick, just like the division between Arabs and Jews in

John Parker Returns Safely to L.A. after Detention in Egypt

Parker was one of the #Cairo4, an international delegation of activists who traveled to Egypt for the Global Conscience Convoy initiated by the Egyptian Syndicate of Journalists, a grassroots effort to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza. For demanding that aid be allowed in to Gaza from the Egyptian side, they were detained by the dictatorial Sisi government of Egypt, which is subsidized by the US in its collaboration with Israel in enforcing a blockade on the Palestinians.

After 37 hours of detainment by Egyptian authorities, John Parker and the rest of the #Cairo4 were deported by Egypt and traveled safely home.

The mass movement made it happen. Forces from around the world, already united for Palestine, united against repression and for our right to stand with Palestine.

As of today, John is home safe in Los Angeles. That same day, he launched his socialist candidacy for CA’s 37th congressional district seat. His campaign will stand in unwavering solidarity with Palestine.

Information from Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice – LA, Struggle-La Lucha, Peoples Power Assembly. The Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice – LA is a member organization of the Hands Off Uhuru! Fightback Coalition.



historic Palestine. US imperialism has since used the same techniques to turn socialist Yugoslavia into warring ethnic mini-states by dividing Catholic Croats, Orthodox Serbs and Muslim Bosnians or Kosovans.

The creation of Western-oriented Israel is in the tradition of the European division and map creation in North and Sub-Saharan Africa based on the colonizers’ needs or areas over which they held sway, like Anglophone or Francophone colonies, or so-called “German South West Africa” or the “Belgian Congo,” where earlier displacements and genocides of Indigenous peoples took place. The creation and steady diminution of the “occupied territories” is similar to the genocidal US creation of “reservations” for Indigenous peoples and nations, or the South African creation of “Bantustans” to confine the Black African population during the days of apartheid. Israel is no more legitimate than the claim that Algeria was a part of France, or that Puerto Rico “belongs to but is not part of” the United States.

We must oppose US arms, financial aid and other support to Israel, including the training of US police forces in colonial control of populations. We must oppose Israeli arms sales, surveillance and espionage tech, and training for various reactionary regimes (including for Azerbaijan’s recent genocidal attack on Armenians in Artsakh (AKA Nagorno-Karabakh)). We must also halt US arms sales to and support for reactionary Arab regimes that oppress their own people and collaborate with Zionist Israel.

This includes Egypt and Saudi Arabia, as well as the Palestinian Authority, which has become an enforcer for the Israeli occupation. It’s no wonder that many Palestinians turned to Hamas -- especially since part of Israel’s (and the US) divide and conquer strategy was always to promote and support Hamas and similar formations like Iran’s mullahs, Al Qaeda and the Taliban, or reactionary and militarist Muslim forces in Indonesia.

Israel and the US ran the risk of “blowback,” of the anti-

socialist political Islamist forces they backed “biting the hand that fed them”, and that has come true in Palestine as it did in Iran and Afghanistan. If there have been atrocities committed by those forces, part of the blame lies with the US and Israeli officials like Netanyahu and the late unlamented Henry Kissinger or Zbigniew Brzezinski, who funded and encouraged their formation to block social liberatory and/or Islamic “liberation theology” forces.

ARA-LA/PART advocates for, not a one-state or a two-state solution, but a “no-state” solution -- a revolutionary inter-communal direct democratic alliance of anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist Christians, Jews, Muslims, those of other or no faiths and humanists into a joint effort at decolonization. We must strive to create an egalitarian multicultural secular society based on solidarity and the free association of the working people and land and water protectors regardless of religion, ethnicity or language.

This will require Jews of conscience within current Israel and globally to abandon the goal of a “Jewish state” based on ethnic cleansing and apartheid. It means ending the state imposed and enforced barriers to the right of return and the free migration of people. It means ending US support for Zionism and for dictatorial, reactionary Arab or Muslim regimes. Ultimately it is a step towards the dismantling of the settler colonial US empire state itself. This is the true meaning and example of the Intifada -- Uprising -- of the indomitable Palestinian people, and the lesson and example they provide for all oppressed, colonized, exploited and struggling people and people of conscience in the US and elsewhere.

Responses and feedback on this, as all of PART’s Perspectives, is welcome. We hope to print further dialogue on these issues, and on how to build the growing direct action resistance to the US-back Israeli war crimes. Email responses to antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com.

Free, free Palestine! Free us all!

Casa de Luz:

Queer Migrants Find Shelter and Community in Tijuana Collective House

By Ryan Fatica, <https://unicomriot.ninja/2023/queer-migrants-find-shelter-and-community-in-tijuana-collective-house/>

Tijuana, Mexico — As the Biden administration continues in Trump’s footsteps — constructing a 30-foot-tall border wall along the Tijuana/San Diego border and imposing new barriers to seeking asylum in the United States — many activists in Tijuana have continued the quiet, daily work of welcoming migrants.

One such group is Casa de Luz (House of Light), which runs a collective house located just a few hundred meters from the Pacific Ocean. Casa de Luz houses migrants and asylum seekers who are LGBTQIA+ or part of other marginalized communities.

“Casa de Luz is a collective house built for and by the LGBT community,” Areli Palomo, co-founder of Casa de Luz, told Unicorn Riot. “We receive here asylum seekers and migrants in transit that want to get to the US. It’s mostly for LGBT community but we do accept women with children, or men with special cases that we consider and then we just let them in.”

As of June 2023, there were 67 people living at Casa de Luz, including children. Many of the migrants come from Central America as well as Chechnya, Columbia, Russia and Haiti. In addition to individual migrants, the house also welcomes diverse families.

The house provides residents with food and clothing and other necessities as well workshops on navigating the U.S. asylum process. The house also offers meditation workshops once a week.

Casa de Luz began in 2018, as the migrant caravan traveling north from Chiapas, Mexico, landed, in part, in Tijuana. Irving Mondragón, one of the house’s founders, moved to Tijuana to support the caravan and squatted an abandoned building in Playas de Tijuana, where the western tip of the city meets the Pacific. “It was a dark place. It was hard times,” said Palomo. “It was very hard at the beginning.”

After that, the house rented an abandoned gym and then an abandoned discotheque. Palomo said migrants just pitched tents inside the large, open space, using tents as bedrooms. “It was a hard place to live in but it was somewhere that people could be in and stay.”

Eventually, Casa de Luz San Diego, a sister organization that raises money in the US, gave the group a beautiful, multi-story house to use as its base of operations. The house is still in Playas de Tijuana, and the group has transformed the building with colorful decorations, murals and piñatas made by the migrants themselves.

According to Palomo and Casa de Luz residents, LGBTQIA+ couples are frequently banned from other shelters or discriminated against if they are accepted. “In general, the city is closed to LGBT community, for trans-women, trans-men, gay women and men and diverse families. It’s a closed society and, well, they’re also discriminated [against] on the street.”

Residents said that, for them, Casa de Luz is a refuge from the kinds of discrimination they faced at other shelters. “To be in another [shelter] that isn’t like this one, there’s a lot of discrimination,” said Jacqui, a resident who has two children. “I was in a shelter where there were couples, man and woman, and the parents told their kids, ‘don’t hang out with them, they’re the daughter of a lesbian.’”

But Palomo isn’t satisfied with just helping migrants once they arrive, frequently in a state of desperation, in Tijuana. Palomo has also made it her mission to understand why people are leaving their countries of origin in the first place. “I’ve visited Honduras many times because I have this will to see what’s going on. And why things happen the way that they happen.”

ARE YOU READY FOR WORLD WAR? by Kevin "Rashid" Johnson



Self-portrait by Kevin "Rashid" Johnson,
Minister of Defense of the
Revolutionary Inter-communal
Black Panther Party

The dollar is crashing
the Amerikan economy is rupturing
So now she's lashing
out at the Chinese and Russians

Fearing the advances
of these imperial rivals
The U.S. ready to wage war
for its own survival

But not from danger
to its territory
Rather from being torn
from its roost of glory

Since the last World War
this empire has ruled
Over the entire globe
every land's wealth it's pooled

And hoarded
while stockpiling doomsday arms
Threatening to bring
every living thing to harm

Should any defy its order
and other threats did fail
Subjecting everyone
to nuclear blackmail

During all this time
fear and chaos has reigned
Under an empire ruled by
the self-centered insane

Worshippers of wealth
spreading suffering and strife
Caring not a whit
about human life

Every continent encircled
by its military bases
Its claimed right to rule
white supremacist faces

The coded language they use
calling themselves "The West"
Praising themselves as the best
a thinly veiled skin contest

But there must come a time
when rivals would rise
And seek its demise
a contest of lies

Shattering the lie of democracy
we've never been free
Escalating a world kept at war
to World War 3

Kevin "Rashid" Johnson is a political prisoner, facing state-sanctioned murder by medical neglect during lengthy incarceration being moved from state to state under a "compact" among state prison systems.

Updates from The Electronic Intifada

<https://electronicintifada.net/updates>

The Electronic Intifada is the indispensable daily source for news and information from the ground about the genocidal Israeli attacks on Gaza and other Palestinians, and on the Palestinian resistance. Here are a few recent update excerpts:

The Israeli airstrike that killed The Electronic Intifada contributor Refaat Alareer and several members of his family was "apparently deliberate," according to a human rights group.

"Why does white America hate us?" asks Gaza writer Haidar Eid: "Palestinians have obviously joined Black and Indigenous people in the 'political unconscious' of mainstream America."

Sahar Qeshta, writing from Gaza, pays tribute to her teacher Refaat Alareer and two cherished friends killed in Israeli strikes: **"I cannot see how I will live following their deaths."**

Since 7 October, Israel has attacked a series of historical and cultural marvels in the besieged Gaza Strip. **"The targeting of our heritage indicates that Israel is intent on erasing it,"** writes Eman Alhaj Ali from Gaza.

The Biden administration vetoed a UN Security Council resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza while the State Department is pushing for expedited sale of 45,000 tank shells to Israel.

"If we must live": **Ghada Hania's tribute to Refaat Alareer**, whose poem "If I must die" has been widely shared and translated after his assassination by Israel.

The writer Refaat Alareer, killed in an Israeli airstrike in Gaza City, "was no spectator," writes Louis Allday. Until the end of his life, he fought as a combatant in his own way against the monstrosities and lies of Zionism.



Since 7 October, writes Aseel Mousa, "whenever I've been interviewed by Western media outlets, I am always asked one question: Do you condemn Hamas' attacks against Israel? **It's as if the conflict between Israel and Palestine began on 7 October, not 75 years ago.**"

Khuloud Rabah Sulaiman tells the story of her cousin Shaima, who sustained critical injuries in an Israeli strike that massacred her family, including her two young children. **Shaima now "fills her hours watching videos of Oday and Huda on her phone."**

To honor Refaat Alareer, "I will fight with my pencil and my poems," writes Mahmoud Alyazji, one of the assassinated English literature professor's beloved students.

A child died after his supply of oxygen was cut when Israel attacked al-Nasr pediatric hospital in northern Gaza. "This child was Yahia Shabet, a patient with muscular dystrophy," writes Sewar Elejla, who had helped care for the boy earlier this year.

War Against the Fleas

© 2023 by Mumia Abu-Jamal

Perhaps Israel's most respected statesman, former diplomat, Abba Eban, once said, "Nobody does Israel any service by proclaiming its right to exist." That was then, in 1981. The now is a new age, a new era. A time of Israel's swing to the far right wing. It is once again a time of war, but to say it's a war of Hamas versus Israel is somewhat disingenuous.

For there has been a war between Palestine and Israel for, at the very least, 75 years, and at most, a century. And this is not a war around religion or between faiths or gods. It's a war for that which is no longer being produced — land. Kudos to the authors of the 'Except for Palestine' text, *The Limits of Progressive Politics*, Mark Lamont Hill and Mitchell Plitnick. The book, using history instead of myths, shows how the Palestinians received exceptions to the rules while Zionists got every break. They showed the emergence of the rightist Likud party and the ideas proposed by Ze'ev Jabotinsky.

They led right to this moment in Israeli history of war and iron walls. The book, *Except for Palestine*, shows how U.S. foreign policy was driven by domestic policy. And how both major parties played bipartisan footsies to make Israel a regional superpower in the Middle East. And while Hamas may have used a few low tech hang gliders, have you ever seen one engage with an F-14? I don't think so.

What most US news agencies are loath to address is the realm of international law, especially when one considers the law of occupied territories and the right of the occupied to resist their occupation by any necessary means. The



Palestinians are the indigenous people of the region.

They are thus equivalent to the Navajo, Apache, and Seminoles of the West, subjected to the settler colonialism of the invaders. It is they who have a right to exist. Is that not so? The indigenous of the U.S. were sent to the worst lands available, so called "reservations". The Palestinians have been ghettoized, walled off by walls that violate international law, humiliated, and subjected to a century of dispossession and military repression.

Their decades of negotiations have led to nothing but more of the same. They want what all people want, freedom.

With love, not fear. This is Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Note on the title: This reference was used in the '60s to describe guerrilla war against powerful, capitalist states; say, in Vietnam. The NLF (Viet Minh) were fleas against the colonialist/imperialist powers—until they won. — MAJ

BALA Statement on the Passing of Our Brother and Comrade Jitu Sadiki

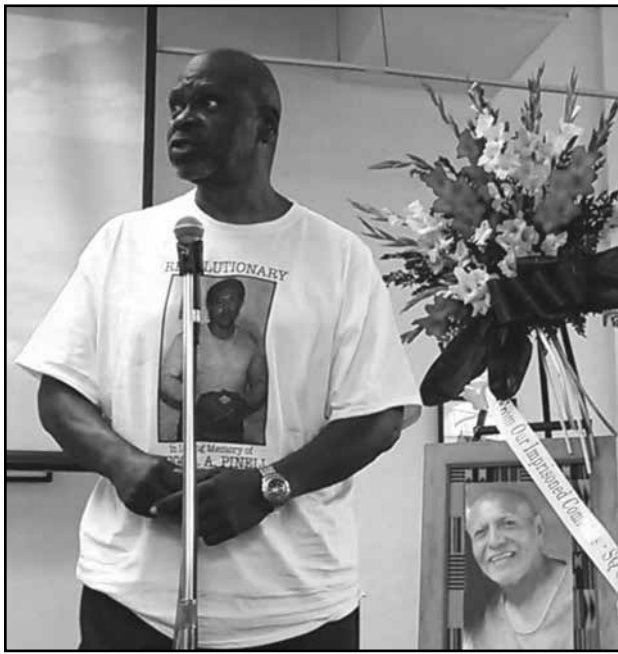
Black August Los Angeles (BALA) mourns the loss of our brother, friend, and comrade Jitu Sadiki.

At the time Jitu made his transition on September 4, 2023, he was 67 years old and had been struggling with several health challenges that took a devastating toll on him from the early part of this year to his last day.

Ever the organizer, thinker, and worker towards unity, in the Spring of this year Jitu began the process of formally bringing together the many threads of his life for us all to carry forward the work of building a better world in his absence, including: his Think Outside The Cage/KPFK family and all those comrades behind the walls; his Comrades in the creation and maintenance of Black August; his Gang Intervention and peace work, especially the builders of Black/Brown unity; and, his friends and associates in the lowrider community as a founder of the Super-Naturals Car Club.

Jitu epitomized the “upright man” that Ancestor Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso talked about: an honest man, a soldier with political ideological training, not one who preyed upon the people or chose violence for corrupt, emotional, or mercenary reasons.

Black August Los Angeles (BALA) was founded to carry on the tradition of honoring the sacrifices and contributions of those behind the walls of California’s prisons, as well as those on the outside, to the struggle of resistance and rebellion against white supremacist



Jitu Sadiki, a founder of BACDO and Black August LA (BALA) memorializing Hugo ‘Yogi’ Pinell, who was killed in prison.

terror and repression and the ongoing work towards self-determination and total liberation. It was in this tradition that we approached Jitu Sadiki in 2009 and asked that he lend his energy and talents to our collective efforts. Jitu jumped in with both feet and was a rock upon which we could depend.

Loyal, Committed, Analytical, and Fearless best describe our comrade Jitu. He was the physical manifestation of the Warrior Spirit, moving from calmly diplomatic to implacably committed to destroying injustice and its root causes. He could speak gently or roar like a force of nature when necessary.

Two more qualities that are equally true of our brother are Loving and Humorous, with a sometimes dry wit. While we are saddened that he has left this physical plane, we take comfort in the knowledge that we have gained a powerful new Ancestor, specific to us here in Los Angeles.

To his dutiful and indefatigable daughter Assata Sadiki and her siblings, his extended family of sisters, nieces, nephews and his comrades in arms behind the walls, you have our Love and Appreciation for sharing him with us.

Jitu Sadiki, Salute!

Clockwork Crew Nazis Get Chased Out of Downtown Ventura

by Abner Hauge

<https://leftcoastrightwatch.org/articles/clockwork-crew-nazis-get-chased-out-of-downtown-ventura/>

On September 8th “Dr. Jones” (alias for anonymity) and some friends were in downtown Ventura to see the band Eyehategod. They were eating some pizza and drinking some beer as one does. Jones looked up and saw a strange group of people marching through the beer garden they were enjoying their time at.

“I saw a bunch of dorks in matching outfits, but the red face coverings are what really got my attention, then I noticed the giant eagle on the back of their shirt,” Jones told LCRW.

“Are those fucking Nazis?” Jones shouted.

The Nazis seig heiled at them.

Another patron ran up and pushed the Nazis. Jones jumped in to intervene, throwing some punches at the fascists.

“Before I knew it a whole grip of other people showed up to confront these nerds too,” Jones recalls.

The Nazis, as per usual, had GoPro cameras and their phones out for filming any inevitable confrontations. But once they were outnumbered, they weren’t so eager to pick fights. They retreated the long way around the block. About ten people, Jones included, followed them back towards the beer garden.

“It was really only about 10-12 people chasing them but there were plenty of other people on the street yelling at them throughout the incident,” Jones said.



Clockwork Crew getting run out. Bystanders blurred at request of source.

The Nazis had a banner with them, but likely never got an opportunity to unfurl it during their retreat. At the beer garden, police intervened. Police detained the Nazis for about 15-20 minutes but didn’t make them take off their face coverings or identify themselves.

“We dipped out when we heard [the police] let them go and said we started the altercation,” Jones recounts.

The Nazis themselves were part of Clockwork Crew, an “active club” that was formerly called Crew 562 (the area code for Long Beach.) Members sometimes participate in stunts with in the neo-Nazi Jackass-wannabe livestreamers Goyim Defense League. Its leader and another member were recently identified as US military members. The

group also has ties to the “Church of Aryanity” cult. “Active clubs” are modeled after Rise Above Movement (RAM), a Southern California-based neo-Nazi gang that focuses on fitness and street fighting—or, rather, filming and selectively editing themselves working out and brawling as a recruitment tool.

“Their goal of marching down the length Main Street was stopped one half of a block in,” Jones concluded.

Abner Hauge (they/them) is a journalist and you can’t say they’re not because they got a Master’s from UC Berkeley’s Journalism School. After better journalist @desertborder texted them a hilarious screenshot of a Fox News segment, they spent all night memeing ‘ATTACK AND DETHRONE GOD’ and it became their catchphrase.

SAN DIEGO ACTIVISTS BLOCK CONSTRUCTION OF BORDER WALL

By Joe Orellana <https://leftcoastrightwatch.org/articles/san-diego-activists-block-construction-of-border-wall/>

Left Coast Right Watch received an anonymous tip regarding an action at the southern border in San Diego. On the morning of September 21st, individuals blocked access to heavy equipment and building materials being used to build thirty-foot walls between the US and Mexico on Kumeyaay land.

Those involved arrived on site before dawn. They tethered themselves to one another with rope and surrounded the resource site. The site itself was demarcated by a chain-link fence. Shortly after the start of the blockade, a private security employee within the site closed the fences from inside. He was free to leave, and a protester explicitly communicated that later on.

When employees of Spencer Construction attempted to open the opposite side of the site by cutting through the fencing, individuals on the ground carried rope along the outside of the fence until they stood between the employees and the site. After this, workers had to hop the fence to retrieve scant materials, and enlist the aid of the lone private security operative to move material over the fence.

Arizona-based Spencer Construction has built segments of the border wall at multiple California sites—at the behest of former president Donald Trump, and now with the tacit approval of president Joe Biden.

Border Patrol presence varied. At times, the site was flanked by two cruisers. At other times, it was flanked by four—and sometimes even more. At 9 AM, State Park Peace Officers were called down to assess the scene and confer with Border Patrol agents. Those rangers asked individuals on site to identify an organizer, and they did not reply. This was the only attempt at interaction made by



law enforcement.

State Park Rangers are just one of the agencies who responded to the scene—including a State Park Lifeguard clad in black.

At 10:50 AM, Federal Protective Service officers parked on the trail used by protesters to enter the area. They had conferred with Border Patrol on a distant hilltop fifteen minutes earlier. They did not interact with protesters. But, a Customs and Border Protection helicopter buzzed the site. It flew overhead, low to the ground, several times. It took sharp turns over the site. No announcement was made by the pilot beforehand. Another helicopter went over the site just before noon.

Around noon, protesters started to pack up their belongings. I’m told a protester heard workers being dismissed for the day as a result of the action, and that this motivated the draw down. Workers were ferried out in a Spencer construction van, and one allegedly thanked the protesters. Another source with eyes on the construction site near the beach said that construction did not resume that day. LCRW received a communique from an individual who partook in the action:

“On September 21, several individuals blockaded the

construction of 30 ft border walls on Kumeyaay Land at Friendship Park. The blockade brought a near-complete halt to the day’s planned construction activities. One protester had this message for Joe Biden: Your walls kill. Your walls are grotesque monuments to American imperialism. Border Patrol uses your walls as open air prisons. Stop construction now. This action is taken in solidarity with ongoing efforts to resist imperialism and militarization everywhere: Block Cop City, Free Palestine, Stop the Wall, Build Friendship Park”.

Protesters maintained blocks on either side of the site for just over six hours. Law enforcement vehicles occasionally rolled by.

Over the past weeks, Border Patrol has used the space between the walls as an ad-hoc detention facility. Families, including small children, have been all but detained in that space. On September 15th, a woman died after falling from the border wall in San Diego. Hundreds of migrants were held on the federal land between the border walls on September 13th. Groups of hundreds of migrants have been dropped there almost daily since the 18th.

Joe Orellana is a San Diego-based photojournalist. You can find his work on his website, joeorellana.com.

The Raza Killings Database Project

<https://www.csusb.edu/lead/raza-database-project>

The Raza Killings Database is a collaborative project that seeks to accurately count the list of killings of Raza by those in law enforcement in the US. Although Congress instructed the Attorney General in 1994 to compile and publish annual statistics on police use of excessive force, this was never carried out, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation does not collect these data either. Simply, there is no good official data.

In its place are multiple and incomplete lists published by various non-governmental organizations and agencies, but most often the numbers show how many total killings per year are recorded in the lists, not the actual number of people killed by law enforcement. Although many current listings document the occurrence of a death, they make no implications regarding wrongdoing or justification on the part of the person killed or officer involved. The data is extremely flawed with respect to age, race-ethnicity, and sex. There's no standardization of how people are labeled and there's no centralization.

There is neither any law enforcement accountability nor is there any justice for the families that have experienced these horrors. This is further compounded by the fact that Raza are rarely mentioned when discussing violent police treatment.

This national coalition is made up of families of the deceased, survivors of law enforcement brutality, community leaders and social justice advocates, researchers and academics, data analysts and demographers, and multiple national-level collaborative partners - all committed to build power against systemic violence in all its forms.

Latino Education and Advocacy Days (LEAD) serves as a leading national-level project collaborator for this meta-analytical research on Police Shootings/Killings. We hope that our new LEAD Media Studios can serve as the national touch-point for media programming and so forth. Our strategy will absolutely put the focus on Raza deaths because the data has always been there, but most often, these killings do not ever sufficiently rise to the level of a national conversation nor command the necessary media or governmental attention.

Our preliminary analysis shows that People of Color killed by Law Enforcement are undercounted! The number of Latinos and Black people killed while in police custody is likely much higher than reported by the media and national lists - perhaps by more than double.

Data on Latinos killed by police or while in police custody remain scarce. We estimate that over 2,600 Latinos have died at the hands of police since 2014, more than double what had previously been known. Plus, a Latino ethnicity is not plainly visible since "Hispanics" can be of any race, and often get lumped into "other" or "unknown" categories.

This analysis permits several other conclusions. People of color, who together constitute less than 40% of the U.S. population, comprise more than 60% of all people killed by or who died in the custody of the police. By comparison, Whites, who constitute more than 60% of the population, comprise less than 40% of all deaths over the 2014-2021 period.

We dug into the undercounting of Latino victims by also looking at a person's last name and other characteristics. Even the adjusted numbers likely understate the disparity, since significant numbers of Latinos have "European" surnames not captured by the surname match and would not be identified by this analysis.

Finally, in the absence of an official government database, additional research is required to produce a more accurate identification of Latinos and others not identified by existing datasets.

In addition - there is still some 6,000 people "unidentified", and for the final report, we still need to work out the Border Patrol & Immigration Killings and also murdered & missing indigenous, African American, and migrant women.

We need to understand that the police have near impunity and are so rarely held

First Person Personal:

I was sent to Federal prison by Dianne Feinstein

by Sherman Austin

20 years ago I was the first person convicted and sentenced to a year in federal prison under a statute sponsored by Senator Feinstein under Clinton's 1997 anti terrorism bill. It was this statute and the USA PATRIOT Act that led to the FBI joint terrorism task force raiding my house in Jan. 2002 and later arresting me in NY just after 9/11.

When I was convicted Feinstein released a press statement and met with John Ashcroft (Bush administration AG) discussing how happy they were that I, a young anarchist kid, was going to prison for having a link on my web site, put there by somebody else.

When I was arrested by the FBI in New York I was put into a 24 hour lockdown max security cell. I was on the same cell block with 2 members of the Taliban convicted for the USS Cole bombing attack and the bombing on the US embassy in Kenya.

Feinstein personally made sure every single FBI field office in the country was on board with her agenda and knew about my case. For some time after my release I couldn't go anywhere without being followed, tailed, surveilled, even harassed and threatened, etc

At the time of my sentencing there was a price on my head and I was supposed to be killed at San Bernardino detention center by the Aryan Brotherhood en route to FCI Tucson. (my location in BOP went off the radar for 2 weeks)

Thankfully I had an enormous amount of support and people organizing on the outside; otherwise I probably wouldn't be here today.



accountable for killings - all they have to say is that they feared for their life. The problem is that these killings are way out of proportion in relation to any other forms of death. Because of the unknown and hidden. Then after a killing, we as a society just move on to other things. But neither the victims nor the families are able to move on.

In addition, while most of those killed by law-enforcement are male, there is an equal crisis, involving the deaths and disappearances of Native, African-American and migrant women, which cases are rarely investigated, thus more impunity. Killings by immigration officers or people who die in their custody (more than 100 in the past 10 years) - are also high; the commonality with law enforcement killings is the near 100% impunity. No immigration agent has ever been convicted for the death of a migrant, many of whom are also native.

Unjustified violence in the US, whether carried out by law enforcement, the military, immigration agents or by vigilantes, especially against people of color, has been endemic and can be traced to even before the nation's founding, to the arrival of Columbus to this hemisphere. In the US, racial conflict has largely played out in black and white. Americans tend to not know the extensive history of Mexicans, Chicanos, Raza in the United States and our struggle for civil rights.

The national focus on Brown issues is too limited. It often revolves solely around immigration, particularly undocumented immigrants. The Indigenous Based peoples are viewed and treated as less than human. This racialized violence in its current forms includes torture, false imprisonment, mass incarceration, shootings, vicious beatings, harassment, kidnappings and rape.

Historically, this violence has generally been carried out for purposes of social control, especially within the past generation in which tens of thousands of people have been killed or have died at the hands of these State Sponsored criminals. This also includes the rising vigilante violence against Asians and violence against Native, African American and migrant women.

La Raza Database Research Project, founded and Directed by the late Roberto "Dr. Cintli" Rodriguez (†), is a volunteer based collaborative project with the Latino Education and Advocacy Days Organization (LEAD) at Cal State San Bernardino.

I spent a lot of time in my 20s finding ways to not dwell on this entire situation and sort of put it behind me so I could continue moving forward in life as a positive and capable person, especially for my kids. But it's still there, and most of the people responsible are still here. But today there's one less.

20 years later, on the exact same month I was sentenced, Dianne Feinstein, one who was instrumental in piecing this ordeal together, has passed away.

No, I'm not celebrating her death. I'm celebrating my life and the life of everyone else who stood up to these fascist two-faced snakes who only cared about advancing their own political career at the expense of lying and harming others with their bullshit policies.

In the end fascists die and revolutionaries multiply.

(Editor's note: At the time of his persecution, Sherman had been working with a collective effort at an infoshop in Long Beach that was serving as headquarters for a Copwatch project that ARA-LA was also involved with. There was intense and disruptive repression directed against it and at local anarchists, including other felony arrests, intense surveillance and shining of lights into the infoshop by LBPD, and physical abuse at protest rallies in Long Beach. The project, which grew out of a statewide conference attempting to unify anti-authoritarians and anti-imperialists in the anti-globalization movement, was stamped out in this "post-9/11" repression.)

100X100 Campaign to Increase Publication Frequency of Turning the Tide

Over its 30+ 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. To restore bi-monthly publication, we launched a fund-raising campaign we've dubbed "100X100."

We are still 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 about 1700 copies of each issue into the prisons. You can donate online at <http://gofundme.com/eugzgg>. Help it go viral!

Turning the Tide doesn't print itself, or mail itself. Some prisoners who get the paper contribute a few stamps. 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 \$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. Everything helps. Nobody makes a dime from working on *TTT*.

If the campaign is successful, we will resume publishing every other month in 2024. 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 who subscribe once a year or so. Right now, we are at about 10% of our goal. LA area 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:

https://ko-fi.com/anti_racist_action_la and donate, or use paypal to antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com if you prefer. 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* is 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.

Which Way Forward for Pacifica Radio?

by Michael Novick

The Pacifica Foundation, license holder for five stations in many of the largest metropolitan areas in the US -- WBAI in NY, WPFW in DC, KPFT in Houston, KPFA in Berkeley and KPFC in Los Angeles (where I am interim unpaid General Manager -- is facing a possibly existential crisis. Audiences and membership at all five stations has steadily since the early 2000s, and dropped precipitously at KPFC in 2021. Most of the stations are not covering the full costs of their operation; KPFC has not done so for about a decade. The Foundation is in debt and has fallen into default on two major multi-million dollar loans; many of the stations and the foundation itself also a substantial amount of money in "aged payables," -- unpaid bills to vendors for services rendered, goods or utilities -- and in unfulfilled "thank-you" premiums owed to donors.

As a stopgap measure, the Foundation is selling the building that houses KPFC, the Pacifica Radio Archives (PRA), and the national office, with the expectation that the new owners will renovate the building and then the station and PRA can move back (in 12-18 months) into a smaller space as tenants, rent free for 10 years. This will require the station to find temporary quarters and set up broadcast operations with a duplicate studio and control room before the existing facilities must be vacated.

This may buy some time with the creditors, but doesn't solve the underlying problem -- how does non-profit, non-commercial educational Pacifica attract the listeners and donors necessary to sustain itself? How can the stations rebuild their capacity to meet community needs and their impact on the political and cultural discourse? Can Pacifica maintain its independence and regain its cutting edge critical anti-war, anti-oppression and free speech programming, or will it fall victim to forces inside and outside Pacifica who would like it function in 2024 as a platform or vehicle for the Biden-Harris re-election campaign?

Since at least the Clinton administration, there have been those who want to position the stations within the "consensus" of cold war liberalism, who have supported so-called "humanitarian wars," and US efforts to maintain its global hegemony. From its birth in the early cold war era, Pacifica has been targeted by politicians and the intelligence community, who fear its independence from corporate domination and its willingness to air voices questioning and challenging capitalism, militarism, neo-colonialism, and environmental degradation.

Pacifica aired Communists at the height of McCarthyism

and the Red Scare, voices from Africa, Asia and Latin America that the US was fighting wars to suppress, creative cultural expression and incisive political analysis arising out of the movements and struggle of Black, Indigenous, Raza, and AAPI people and the ranks of labor. Pacifica aired the first LGBTQ+ content arising from within that community and expressing its concerns; has programmed for language justice, particularly at KPFT and at KPFC, where there is still a significant block of Spanish language programming; Pacifica has aired communiques from clandestine groups and the exposes of whistleblowers like Philip Agee, Edward Snowden, Chelsea Manning and Julian Assange. Pacifica transformed itself into a membership organization with democratically-elected delegates of its listener and staff members forming the governance of the stations and the whole national Foundation.

The example and threat of Pacifica in the midst of what one FCC Commissioner termed a "vast wasteland" of commercial broadcasting created the space that allowed for the development of so-called public broadcasting, subsidized radio and TV, most of whose content is tightly controlled and scripted nationally and has come under increasing corporate domination. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting rewrote its rules in 1999 to consider corporate underwriting (advertising) as being "community support", and around the same time, a US Senator wrote to all commercial radio broadcasters asking them identify who on their staff were or had been associated with Pacifica. Independent media are seen as a threat in a system and society where the CIA subsidized or infiltrated academia, journalism, organized labor, book publishing and the print and broadcast media to use as propagandists and agents for US strategies and goals.

Under the Clinton administration, after his deregulation of banking and broadcasting led to a massive wave of centralization and concentration of finance and the media into the hands of a few monopolies, agents of his political machine tried to take over Pacifica directly. This led to a series of struggles, lawsuits, and boycotts, and -- after Bush stole the 2000 election -- a settlement that created the current elected board model and a kind of federal governance system, where locally elected delegates have limited oversight powers but choose members of the more powerful, fiduciary national board from their own ranks.

There has been a tug of war at each station and within the whole organization nationally about the direction for Pacifica and its stations. Some wanted predominantly national programming controlled from the center and provided to affiliates as NPR does. Those same forces

tended to back "humanitarian wars" despite Pacifica's origins from war-resisting pacifists at its launch during the Cold War. Opposing that are those who uphold the foundation's express commitment to peace and justice as well as freedom of speech and of the press; who seek space for international content that challenge US militarism and domination, and grassroots voices from local communities that are grappling with issues of poverty, exploitation, and oppression.

Pacifica's membership and listenership declined steadily during the Obama years, did not recover during Trump's term when it imagined it would reap a harvest of memberships from the so-called "resistance", but did not attract a new generation of listeners from the science marches, women's marches, protests of the Muslim ban or separation and incarceration of families at the border or the reckoning with racism after the police murder of George Floyd. Pacifica has done no better during the Biden years, as the Democrats are reluctant to support media to their left, and would like to see Pacifica and its affiliated stations become de facto mechanisms to spread the gospel of the Biden-Harris re-election campaign.

If you want a Pacifica that lives up to its credo and its best moments, that opposes US militarism, war-mongering and arms sales; that maintains its independence from corporate political parties and the corporations that finance them; that provides a platform for the creative cultural expressions and incisive political insights of poor and working people, migrants, freedom struggles and liberation movement, it may be now or never to step up -- to help recruit new members, to help provide fresh content, to bring Pacifica stations into the 21st Century realities of AI and audio visual social media where people can become content providers without gatekeepers, to engage in investigative journalism that exposes malfeasance but that also seeks out the solutions and visions of the future arising from grassroots struggles, now is the time to step up -- become a member yourself and help get others to do the same.

You can learn more at <https://pacificafightback.org>, a national coalition of listeners and programmers committed to an anti-racist, anti-war, anti-oppression Pacifica. As far as KPFC, we are currently in an on-air member drive -- go to <https://kpfk.org> and click on donate. Follow and share the station's social media and links to the programming which is archived on-line. It's now or never -- a critical time to prevent Pacifica being gutted and reduced to a shadow of its former self.

INFORMATIVO PACIFICA NEEDS YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

by Norma A. Martínez

For the past 18 years a diverse group of volunteers has produced the daily newscast founded by Fernando Velazquez and Norma Martinez, which the Pacifica National Board approved to fund and distribute to the 5 Pacifica stations in 2005.

The objective was for it to become the first Spanish-language newscast of the Pacifica Network.

However, for different ideological and political reasons, and in view of the financial challenges the Pacifica Network itself has faced, the allocation of economic resources to the national project never materialized, but the production of the newscast continued nonetheless.

Our team of volunteers has worked diligently for 18 years to offer our audience a daily newscast that reports on social movements in the region and the struggles of our communities in the United States and beyond.

Our work has been recognized by alternative media in the United States, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Venezuela and Colombia, where Informativo Pacifica is broadcast regularly on community and university radio.

The effort has not been easy, but we have done it with great pride and enthusiasm.

Now we find ourselves with the urgent need to appeal to you for your financial support to continue producing Informativo Pacifica in these difficult and critical times in which the pandemic and bad political decisions have not only caused the death of hundreds of thousands of people but also millions of unemployed and families who do the impossible to survive.

If you appreciate the effort we have made during the last 18 years in Informativo Pacifica and are in a position to make a monetary, monthly or annual contribution, we ask you to do so.

This is the first time we turn to our listeners to ask for your monetary support specifically for the team that produces the newscast, because without you, we could not continue our work.

Thanks to you, our listeners, for your loyalty, as well

as your communications through our struggles to stay on the air over these past years. We hope that this appeal to you will enable us to continue producing the newscast on Pacifica Radio, and thus avoid cancellation of our program, which has been in danger of being cancelled at different times.

Our commitment and passion to provide relevant and up to the moment global news is as strong as ever, but

lacking resources, it is impossible to continue to devote hours of work on a daily basis to this noble and essential mission.

Any amount is welcome, and if you can commit to a monthly contribution, we would appreciate it from the bottom of our hearts.

Donations can be sent via Venmo to the following account: @Angelina-Carrasco-5

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Colonialism has shaped scientific plant collections around the world – here's why that matters

by Daniel Park

<https://theconversation.com/colonialism-has-shaped-scientific-plant-collections-around-the-world-heres-why-that-matters-207375>

Some of the world's most popular museums are natural history collections: Think of dinosaur fossils, gemstones and preserved animals. Herbaria – collections of pressed, dried plant specimens – are a less-known but important type of natural history collection. There are some 400 million botanical specimens stored across over 3,500 herbaria around the world, but most are not widely publicized and rarely host public exhibits.

I study biodiversity and global change, and these collections have fueled my work. My collaborators and I have used herbarium collections to study how flowering times respond to changes in climate, how dispersal traits and environmental preferences affect the likelihood that plants will become invasive, and how fires affect tropical biodiversity.

I have had easy access to specimens from every corner of the world, but most researchers are not as lucky. This is partly because herbaria as we know them today are largely a European creation. And like other natural history collections, many of them grew as imperial powers expanded their colonial empires and amassed all kinds of resources from their colonies. Today, over 60% of herbaria and 70% of specimens are located in developed countries with colonial histories.

My colleagues and I wanted to understand how many herbarium specimens are not where the plants originated and are housed in former colonizing countries instead. Our international team of researchers from herbaria on every continent analyzed over 85 million plant specimen records from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, the largest online repository of biodiversity data, and also surveyed physical herbarium collections across the world.

We found that many former colonial powers have more plant diversity in their herbarium cabinets than they do in

nature. Our data suggest that this is not the case, however, for former colonies, whose herbaria often house fewer plant species in their collections than are found naturally in the region. This disparity can limit former colonies' capacity for botanical research.

A persistent colonial legacy

Herbaria are centers of botanical discovery and research, and are critical for understanding the diversity of plants and fungi around the world. The specimens they hold were originally collected to document and classify species. Today scientists use them for additional purposes, such as reconstructing plant evolutionary history, tracking pollution trends and identifying potential new drugs.

Researchers at the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh explain how the collection supports biodiversity research and conservation projects around the world.

Botany was the science par excellence of colonial empires. Botanists moved numerous living and preserved plant specimens to institutions in colonizing nations which sought to exploit their colonies' biological resources.

For instance, physician and naturalist Hans Sloane, often credited as the inventor of chocolate milk, acquired numerous plant specimens from overseas colonies via his connections with the slave trade. His collections formed the basis of Britain's Natural History Museum. Well-known scientists, including Charles Darwin and Carl Linnaeus and their disciples, relocated large numbers of plants from across the globe to European museums and collections.

Our analyses of online specimen records suggest that botanical collection trends over the past four centuries have been shaped by colonialism. Even though overt colonialism ended after World War II, specimens have largely continued to move from Africa, Asia and South

America to institutions in Europe and North America, with a few exceptions.

Similarly, when we examined physical herbarium collections, we found that those in developed nations in the Global North that were former colonizers housed a higher proportion of internationally collected specimens on average. Herbaria in the U.S. and several European nations house specimens of over twice the number of species that naturally occur in these nations.

In nature, plant diversity is typically greatest in regions near the equator and decreases northward and southward toward the poles. Our data suggest that centuries of colonialism had the opposite effect: Plant specimens were moved away from countries with high natural plant diversity to collections in countries where fewer plant species occur naturally.

The digital divide

As herbaria digitize their specimens and share data online, they are becoming somewhat more decentralized and democratic. Open-access data repositories, such as the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, allow researchers from around the world to query aggregated specimen metadata and images over the internet. This reduces the need to ship fragile specimens over long distances, and to take extensive and costly research trips.

But digitization requires large investments in equipment and personnel, which small institutions and developing countries often can't afford. Stable internet connections are not always widely available in developing countries either. Further, our survey of herbaria indicates that digitization still has a long way to go.

We estimated that in general, fewer than 30% of physical collections have information online that at least describes when and where specimens were collected, and fewer than 10% have digital images available online. Most herbaria that responded to our inquiries were located in developed countries, so these figures probably overestimate the state of specimen digitization. The disparity in access to herbarium collections exists in the digital realm as well.

Making global plant collections more inclusive

Many natural history museums and other cultural institutions are working now to address their colonial legacies. This often includes acknowledging items in their collections that were acquired unethically or illegally, and sometimes returning them to their original sources. But botanical collections have received less attention, maybe because few of them offer public displays.

Our study shows that there is a large disparity between where plant diversity naturally exists and where it is artificially housed and cataloged. As a result, many countries rely on botanical knowledge and resources housed outside of their own borders.

My colleagues and I believe that herbaria should be part of the ongoing movement to decolonize cultural institutions, natural history museums and related scientific practices. Key steps would include:

– Openly acknowledging the colonial legacy of herbarium collections, and communicating their history;

– Improving access to the vast information held in herbaria worldwide; and

– Building capacity in previously colonized countries by sharing knowledge and resources for contributing to research. These could include, for instance, supporting the local collection and study of plant diversity by providing training for local scientists.

In our view, the science that comes from botanical collections is globally relevant, so access to these resources should be within reach of the global community. Herbarium collections are critical to modern understanding of the world's plants, and they have played key roles in numerous scientific discoveries and advances. Imagine how much more would be possible if these invaluable resources were available to all.

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THE RED NATION RESPONDS TO RACIST ATTACK ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLE SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 RIO ARRIBA COUNTY New Mexico ANNEX BUILDING

CALLING ON ALL NATIONAL, STATE, TRIBAL, COUNTY, AND CITY OFFICIALS, AND MOVEMENT ALLIES, TO CONDEMN THIS RACIST ATTACK AND DEMAND THE PROTECTION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

An agitator opened fire on a prayerful celebration in Tewa Territory (Española, New Mexico) shortly after 12PM local time on Thursday, September 28. This was a premeditated act of violence. The agitator shot Jacob Johns (Hopi and Akimel O'odham) in the torso. Johns was protecting a peaceful group of community members assembled at the Rio Arriba County Annex Building, along with half a dozen community peacekeepers. The gunman was heard saying "let's do this" to a small group of men immediately before opening fire. At the time of the shooting, community members were celebrating a postponement of the reinstallation of a Juan de Oñate statue that was previously removed from Alcalde, New Mexico on June 15, 2020. Rio Arriba County officials planned to reinstall the statue on Thursday morning in its new location in front of the county annex building, but postponed the reinstallation after community members and activists mounted pressure earlier in the week. News of the postponement came as a relief to organizers, who turned the planned peaceful protest into an impromptu peaceful celebration with speeches and a community feed.

Before the shooting, the agitator was seen antagonizing the crowd, saying racist remarks, referring to attendees as "Indians," and at one point proclaimed himself to be a follower of QAnon. The agitator also made a point to introduce himself to the media present and requested to be photographed and filmed. In the moments leading up to the shooting, the agitator attempted to approach the small crowd of mostly Indigenous women and children congregating around the event's speakers in front of the building's main entrance. Video evidence shows that Jacob Johns and other community peacekeepers successfully stopped the agitator from approaching the crowd. Eyewitnesses speculate that the shooter was trying to break through the crowd to shoot the speaker, or to jump on the cement pedestal to get a vantage point with the intent of carrying out a mass shooting. Video footage also shows that community peacekeepers did not pursue the agitator once they had successfully removed him to the other side of a wall separating the sidewalk from the complex. Despite this, the agitator reached under his sweatshirt with his right hand, drew a pistol, pointed, and shot one round into the crowd, hitting Johns

in the torso. Additional ammo was seen tucked into his belt by eyewitnesses and on camera. Eyewitnesses have confirmed that the agitator quickly adjusted his aim after shooting Johns and pulled the trigger a second time with the intention of shooting Malaya Peixinho, one of the attendees, but the gun jammed, preventing the release of further rounds. Upon realizing he could go no further with his planned attack, the shooter turned and fled into the complex's parking lot, got into a white Tesla, and sped off. Additionally, eyewitnesses report the shooter attempted to unjam his gun as he fled. The shooter was later apprehended eleven miles away by New Mexico State Police in Pojoaque, New Mexico.

Despite Rio Arriba County citing concerns for "public safety" as the rationale for postponing the reinstallation, the county offered no protection for Indigenous community members on Thursday. In fact Rio Arriba county and leaders at all levels of government were made well aware of the high possibility of gun violence. Denise Williams, mother of shooting victim Scott Williams, who was targeted at a 2020 Oñate protest, said prior to Thursday's event she called Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham's office, the office of U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich, New Mexico State Police, the office of the New Mexico Attorney General, all members of U.S. Congress representing Valencia County in New Mexico, and all New Mexico state representatives and senators from Valencia County, to warn them of the high chance of gun violence directed at attendees. State senator Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics was the only one to respond. Immediately after the shooting Scott Williams' father, Dan Williams, called the governor's office again to tell her that she "had blood on her hands" for failing to properly respond to both shootings.

Immediately after the shooting, two Rio Arriba County Annex employees denied children seeking shelter from the shooter entry into the building. They proceeded to come out, yelling at people to leave, and made disparaging comments about attendees and Jacob as he fought for his life feet away from them. The cops did not show up in a timely manner despite the shooter being in the same parking lot as the Rio Arriba County Sheriff's office, and it took several more minutes for an ambulance to arrive.

Eyewitnesses report the complete absence of police intervention. The event's organizers assembled a community peacekeeping team to provide the only public safety measures present on the ground. Without hesitation, Johns and half a dozen other Indigenous men and allies volunteered. When Johns was shot, it was attendees who provided the first medical response, saving Johns' life.

The first law enforcement officer on the scene ordered the community members providing medical assistance to move away, but they refused because the officer did not identify himself as a medic and made no other attempts to provide assistance.

On-Line Resources for *Turning the Tide* & ARA-LA/PART:

You can find archives of *Turning the Tide* and other anti-racist work at www.antiracist.org that go back more than 35 years. In addition, there are several Facebook pages, such as facebook.com/tideturning, and facebook.com/intercommunalsolidarity. You can follow @ara_losangeles on Twitter, @antiracistaction_la on IG, and the De-Colonize LA! blog at ara-la.tumblr.com.

Antifa Art Show in San Bernardino

<https://itsgoingdown.org/antifascist-art-show-in-san-bernardino-is-a-huge-success-despite-proud-boy-threats/>

On Saturday, September 30th, antifascist artist and mutual aid organizer @eyerollsandbloodlust put on an art show at Creative Grounds studio in downtown San Bernardino. The event was the culmination of years of work by local antifascists combating Proud Boy activity and fascist and transphobic propaganda in Southern California, and the



featured exhibit was a collection of freeway banners with hateful messages that had been hung out by Proud Boys around the Inland Empire California.

The banners, which had all been captured by a dedicated rapid response network of antifascists and queer activists, were displayed on the walls of the alley behind the studio alongside crates of multi colored spray paint cans, and the community was invited to redecorate them. The main gallery of Creative Grounds studio featured a timeline of fascist activity in the Inland Empire and surrounding region leading up to the event, and a statement from the artist. The back patio featured tables of antifascist art, zines, and radical books, along with delicious vegan Mexican food from local pop up Marysol's Kitchen and performances by local Inland Empire band Porkboii and a DJ sets by DJ Rose and DJ La Toxica.

In addition to all of the art displays, tables and performances, there was a dedicated security team of antifascists and queer activists on site to protect the event and the attendees from the multiple fascist threats that had been made online leading up to the event. Working together in clearly visible pink vests, with radios and teams at both corners outside the gallery and all entry and exit points, the security volunteers successfully deterred any interference from local Proud Boys and other such hateful types, who instead took to social media to whine about the event and beg their friends to call the cops on the gallery. Volunteer medics were also on site, and due to the fortunate lack of need for their services, had a lovely time eating vegan tacos and enjoying the live music.

Hours before the event opened, local Proud Boys Louie Flores and Adam Kiefer showed up at the gallery to hassle

volunteers and demand they hand over the banners. They were told no. They then attempted an odd bargain for half of the banners, and were also told no and to fuck off. With their very well thought out plan foiled, they proceeded to call the cops and claim that a knife had been brandished at them and that the banners were their stolen property. (no knife was ever present, least of all brandished, and the banners were litter at best) The police who responded to the call left without incident and the event set up was not interrupted further. On social media, several local fascists including Adam Kiefer, Sylvie Arujo, Candy Olsen, and many others posted begging for more people to call the police on the event, which they claimed was full of violent antifas and surrounded by militant leftists. Several of them later deleted their posts, possibly because in their whining they were tacitly claiming responsibility for the freeway banners they so desperately wanted back.

Well over a hundred community members showed up to repaint the Proud Boy banners, including families, children, elders, local artists, trans and queer organizers and every type of person imaginable. By the end of the night the banners had all been completely covered with new art, the hateful messages replaced with loving images and slogans of resilience and resistance to hate. The joy in the space was radiating and exhilarating.

It should be noted that Proud Boy freeway banner activity in the area seems to have stopped since the announcement of this event.

Congratulations to @eyerollsandbloodlust on the huge success of your MFA Thesis Show! Congratulations to the community for their dedication to fighting back against fascism in the Inland Empire.

Nick Fuentes is just the latest white supremacist embraced by Defend Texas Liberty

While Fuentes' unapologetic hate mongering has made him one of the nation's best-known white supremacists, he was merely the latest in a long line of people who have been embraced by Defend Texas Liberty and its close allies.

BY ROBERT DOWNEN, Texas Tribune [Excerpt]

<https://www.texastribune.org/2023/10/23/defend-texas-liberty-nick-fuentes-jonathan-stickland/>

In recent weeks, allies of the deep-pocketed conservative PAC Defend Texas Liberty have sought to downplay a meeting between the group's former leader, Jonathan Stickland, and prominent white supremacist Nick Fuentes. They've cast the visit as a one-off mistake — and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick said he accepted an explanation that it was a “serious blunder.”

Responding to calls for him to return the \$3 million he received from Defend Texas Liberty this summer, Patrick initially said he would not do so because there was “no hint of any links” between the group and any “antisemitic organizations or other hate groups” when he took the funds in June.

There were, however, ample links. While Fuentes' unapologetic hate mongering has made him perhaps the nation's best-known white supremacist, he was merely the latest in a line of people who have been embraced by Defend Texas Liberty and its close allies despite publicly espousing antisemitic views or partnering with extremists. That includes, among others, Ella Maulding, a social media coordinator for Stickland's consulting firm who has praised Fuentes as the “greatest civil rights leader in history”; and Shelby Griesinger, the treasurer for Defend Texas Liberty who has claimed on social media that Jews worship a false god and shared memes that depict them as the enemy of Republicans.

“Patriot” Sheriff faces probe over jail deaths. wins award from right-wing think tank
From The Guardian

The rightwing Claremont Institute will present its 2023 Sheriff Award to the California sheriff Chad Bianco, a former member of two far-right “patriot movement” groups, and whose Riverside county department (RCSA) has been branded a “disaster” by local media amid criminal allegations and a state investigation into death rates in its jail.

Bianco's award will be presented by the former attorney general Jeff Sessions, who served in the Trump administration, just before the commencement of Claremont's 2023 Sheriff's Fellowship — a secretive annual program that experts say coaches law enforcement officers in far-right “constitutional sheriff” ideology, which posits that their authority overrides that of the federal US government.

Sessions' involvement shows the increasing merger of far-right groups and thought with the Republican party under the influence of Donald Trump, who remains the overwhelming favorite to win its 2024 presidential nomination.

Devin Burghart, the executive director of the Institute for Research and Education on Human Rights, which monitors and researches extremist groups, said that Bianco was one of many sheriffs who “use the far-right ‘constitutional sheriff’ mythology to paper over law enforcement abuses of power”.

UHURU 3

The Uhuru 3, along with First Amendment and social justice advocates from throughout the U.S., ridicule as baseless the government's accusation that 50+ years of work by Chairman Omali Yeshitela and the Uhuru Movement to win reparations for Black people and to oppose U.S. unjust wars was carried out at the behest of the Russian government.

Supporters from around the Bay Area, Florida and beyond — including representatives from Students for a Democratic Society, the Party for Liberation and Socialism, Socialist Workers Party and the Hernando Green Party — converged on the Tampa Middle District Federal Courthouse to stand with the Uhuru 3.

The Uhuru 3 and their attorneys spoke with the press on the steps of the courthouse when the session concluded. They also appeared at a public program later that evening at the Uhuru House, 1245 18th Avenue S. in St. Petersburg, FL, to mobilize community members to “get on the bus” to attend the November 4th Black People's March on the White House demanding “Drop the Charges against the Uhuru 3!” and opposing expanding political repression in the U.S.

For more information, contact info@handsoffuhuru.org or call 813-906-9274.

Alabama Prisoners Sue State Over ‘Modern-Day Slavery’ Work Programs

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/alabama-prisoners-sue-state-modern-day-slavery_n_6578b23ee4b0db9d2ab74317

The lawsuit alleges that fast food companies and local governments benefit from an illegal “labor trafficking scheme.”

Current and former prisoners in Alabama filed a lawsuit in federal court Tuesday arguing that the state's prison labor system amounts to a “modern-day form of slavery” that violates the U.S. and Alabama constitutions.

The complaint, brought with the support of labor unions, alleges that Alabama profits to the tune of more than \$450 million a year through coerced work, and that fast food companies and other private corporations benefit from an unlawful “labor trafficking scheme.”

The proposed class action lawsuit seeks to abolish a “captive labor source” for the state and award current and past prisoners with damages. The defendants include the state's Republican governor, Kay Ivey, and its Republican attorney general, Steve Marshall, along with Alabama corrections and parole officials.

Janet Herold, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, said in a press conference Tuesday that the prison work programs are “the modern reincarnation of the notorious convict-leasing system that replaced slavery after the Civil War.”

“We are not talking here today about a new Jim Crow,” said Herold, legal director of the legal aid group Justice Catalyst Law. “We're talking here about the old Jim Crow.”

Ivey's office did not immediately comment on the lawsuit Tuesday.

The plaintiffs — which include two labor groups, the Union of Southern Service Workers and the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union — argue that the state's parole system has disproportionately trapped Black prisoners in jobs working for little or no pay.

“We are not talking here today about a new Jim Crow. We're talking here about the old Jim Crow.”

— Attorney Janet Herold

The state takes 40% from prisoners' gross earnings in work-release jobs, while prisoners face other deductions for transportation and uniform cleaning, pushing pay rates well below the Alabama minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour, according to the complaint.

The lawsuit states that hundreds of prisoners work in the state's “correctional industries” program, producing clothing, license plates and other goods that government agencies purchase, with workers starting at a pay rate of “25 cents per hour or less.”

Prisoners working for state and local government agencies are paid \$2 per day, the complaint states, calling it “remarkably the same daily wage rate that the State of Alabama set for incarcerated labor in 1927.”

Lakiera Walker, one of the plaintiffs, said she served 15 years in the prison system starting in 2007, including stints working on a county road crew for \$2 a day and in the warehouse of a private meat company. She said that prisoners who refused to work ended up “in segregation.”

“You did what you had to do to survive,” Walker, who was released earlier this year, said at the press conference. “I'm out, but my heart is still there with my friends and family who have to suffer that.”

She added: “They can say, ‘Oh, we don't have forced labor,’ but you have so many women on the inside right now who are afraid to speak out for the fear of retaliation.”

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TURNING THE TIDE

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ★ Through 12/22: KPFFK On-air drive 818-985-5735 press 2 or kpffk.org
- ★ Sat. Jan 20, 1-3, KPFFK benefit w/ Conga Poet, M. Novick, Culver-Palms Utd. Meth.
- ★ Sat. Feb 3, 1-3, Gerald Horne speaks, tix \$25 @ kpffk.org, 3423 W.43 Pl.
- ★ Feb 6-19 Pan African Film & Arts Festival, at Baldwin Hills-Crenshaw Mall
- ★ Feb. 9, location TBA - TTT Benefit marking Michael Novick's 77th birthday
- ★ March 8 - International Women's Day - Global Women's Strike

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