



ARM THE SPIRIT

"Settle your quarrels, come together, understand the reality of our situation, understand that fascism is already here, that people are already dying who could be saved, that generations more will die or live poor butchered half-lives if you fail to act. Do what must be done, discover your humanity and your love in revolution. Pass on the torch. Join us, give up your life for the people." —George Jackson, prison organizer/revolutionary, assassinated by San Quentin guards August 21, 1971.

REGIONAL YOUNG ADULT PROJECT

50¢

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers:

We wish to extend our regrets for the lateness of this edition of our newsletter. The delay is due solely to the intensification of fascist and neofascist reaction occurring at San Quentin during the past month.

Included in this edition is a summary report for the month of January which provides an account of recent developments here. As a result of several recent clashes a large number of Black prisoners have either been placed in segregation units or transferred to other prisons throughout the state. Among those locked up or transferred were several brothers who were on our editorial staff.

In the months ahead we also intend to introduce to our readers, especially other prisoners in and outside of San Quentin, a clear and comprehensive program which we hope will serve as an important contribution towards the revolutionary direction of the prison movement on a local, state, and national level.

Meanwhile, we are attempting to establish dialogue with prisoners throughout the country, particularly those in California, and progressive/revolutionary

elements outside the walls. If this newsletter is to become an effective organizing tool we need to hear from each of you. We would like to hear about the struggles occurring in your area and receive feedback regarding the information and views contained in our newsletters.

Our newsletter is offered free to all prisoners. And in order to speed the process of developing an effective communication network we are requesting that a list of the names and body numbers of other prisoners in your kamp who would like to receive our newsletter be forwarded to us.

We have also changed the name of our newsletter. This was done as a consequence of VOICES FROM WITHIN being suppressed by the San Quentin prison administration. Since that time we have contacted lawyers who are assisting us in challenging this move and fully intend to keep our press rolling in the meantime.

ARM THE SPIRIT is the new name of our newsletter.

Our contributions are expressions of our love and dedication to all who suffer under the yoke of capitalism/imperialism throughout the world. Join us, arm the spirit.

THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE POLITICAL PRISONERS UNIT A.K.A. MANAGEMENT CONTROL UNIT AT CALIFORNIA STATE PRISON AT SAN QUENTIN

The "Political Prisoners Unit" (hereinafter referred to as the P.P.U.) here at San Quentin (a.k.a., the Management Control Unit and as Max B) is an administrative behavioral control mechanism which the existing prison administration utilizes as a vehicle to lawfully (if perceived from a Bourgeois perspective) persecute, maim, and murder prisoners whose political practice is revolutionary in nature and to callously persecute, maim, and murder prisoners whose political and religious views and practice are antithetical to the goals and objectives of the prison administration and their staff.

Generally, the P.P.U. is inundated with:

- (a) revolutionary Brothers who are totally involved in changing the status quo here;
- (b) progressive Brothers who have been mistakenly labeled as Black Guerilla Family (B.G.F.) or who have been perceived by staff and the administrators here at San Quentin as too strong to be kept on the mainline with prison personnel;
- (c) a small number of backward Brothers who have been placed in the P.P.U. because of disciplinarys and because the administrators here and staff, believe that these Brothers are violence prone;
- (d) Muslim Brothers who asserted their right to self defense (on the mainline) subsequent to being viciously attacked by white supremacists; consequently, there was, up until one month ago, an unusually large number of Muslim Brothers (approximately ninety) in the P.P.U.; the existing prison administration has been persecuting the hell out of the Muslims for approximately nine months now;
- (e) white supremacist segments of the white prisoner community at San Quentin, i.e., The Aryan Brotherhood (A.B.) and the Nazis;
- (f) white racist bikers who have drawn the ire of

prison administrators and staff;

(g) a small number of white prisoners who have been mistakenly labeled as members of the Aryan Brotherhood or as members of the Nazis;

(h) a reactionary group of Third World People, i.e., Chicanos, who have organized themselves here as the Mexican Mafia (E.M.E.); the Mexican Mafia cruelly "dog" and kill progressive members of the Chicano community here at San Quentin; presently, the Mexican Mafia has linked arms with the Aryan Brotherhood, the Nazis, and other white supremacist and racist elements here in order to effectively assist the prison administration implement its goals and objectives, to wit, the total neutralization of the Black revolutionary forces here at San Quentin, the Dynamic Muslim Brothers here at San Quentin, the progressive Brothers here at San Quentin, the general Black community here, and the diminutive number of progressive white and chicano prisoners here at the California State Prison at San Quentin; and

(i) a small number of chicanos who have been mistakenly labeled as members of the Mexican Mafia or who are here as a result of a disciplinary or disciplinarys.

There has been and will continue to be a great number of problems within the P.P.U. of San Quentin. Over sixty per cent of the prisoners housed in the P.P.U. were placed here for alleged association and affiliation with gangs or revolutionaries; thus they are now (as far as the prison administration is concerned), acknowledged affiliates and associates with gang members and revolutionaries. As far as the racist prison administration was concerned, the above mentioned labels were rendered valid due to the substantial amount of evidence which purportedly corroborated (See POLITICAL PRISONERS UNIT, page 7)

LEWISBURG POLITICAL PRISONERS MADE SCAPEGOAT FOR PRISON FIRES

On December 22, 1977 and January 13, 1978, two mysterious fires broke out in the prison industries building at the Lewisburg Federal Prison (Pennsylvania). The reason that the word "mysterious" has been used here is because it is not really known how these fires were caused: electrical, chemical combustion, accidental or arson. But this did not stop the notorious warden Charles Fenton (from the infamous Marion Control Unit in Illinois) from arbitrarily deciding that "arson" was the cause and that a "small, terrorist group" of prisoners were behind the planning and setting of these fires.

We (the scapegoats) had been promised that the S. I.S. (Special Investigation Supervisor) and F.B.I. would investigate our alibis, which we know would prove beyond a doubt that we could not have set any fires. But as it turned out, the FBI withdrew from the case because it was not able to find any evidence to be able to charge us, and the prison officials simply gave some of their "most reliable" inmate sources a script to memorize to falsely implicate innocent but political prisoners. The script actor(s) suddenly

are "witnesses", all eyes and ears, claiming that such-and-such persons are members of a "terrorist group" who committed the acts of arson and that they even told the script actors (inmate sources) that they planned such. Coupled to "substantiate" this, the S.I.S. has confiscated political literature belonging to some of the accused, claiming that this, too, is evidence of guilt. Sound familiar?

Now we go before the kamp kangaroo kourt, formerly known as the "Institutional Disciplinary Committee"- which affords us nothing: no rights to have legal counsel present, no rights to cross-examine witnesses and challenge the evidence, no constitutional rights, period. The seriousness of the matter demands that we be given these elementary rights, but as we are commonly told- "This is not a kourt of law!"

Why, when the damage of the first fire was estimated to be \$100-125,000 and the second-\$5,000, have we not been given federal charges with the benefit of a jury trial on the street? Simply because it would definitely be to our benefit. The Fenton Administration knows that this frame-up could not as easily - or at all- be pulled off in an open, public trial, knowing that the political prisoner is very much up on the corruption and violence and policy-abuses in this kamp.

We have been chosen to be the scapegoats. Notice the selection and see the design: Muslim "militants"- Marxist- prison rights activists- alleged BLA and NWLF members, and potential anti-administration leaders. We are deemed as that unwanted element in the population and now we're being made to pay for "crimes" it is known that we have not committed. Instead of investigating the worsening and explosive conditions Warden Fenton has been engineering in this prison for the last two (2) years, since the political prisoners (the Marion Brothers) "ran" him out of Marion (New Alcatraz) with lawsuits galore, they have decided to use these fires as a front in order to rid the prison population of consciousness-raising and "stand-up" element. Also some official elements will profit off of this from insurance monies.

But we're not going for it! Transfers (exile) to kamps more remote from our families, great loss of "good time earned", and the possibility (almost assured) of at least one brother losing a recently received parole date- are what this holds for us immediately. So it is necessary for us to be our own spearhead in fighting back. But we cannot fight back in hopes of winning-alone! So far, a dozen chosen scapegoats stand accused. Approximately 90% of these have already been framed- the others still rot here in segregation, waiting for the inevitable. We are: Marvin Harris, Pedro Bennett, Oscar Washington, Michael Alston, Joseph Gerald, Jaan Laaman, John Fackleman, Richard Picariello, Edward Guillian, Joseph R. Johnson, Jr., and David Bryant. Those who wish to support us can:

1. give us media attention-spread the news.
2. write to the office of the Director- Bureau of Prison, - U.S. Dept. of Justice- Washington D.C., demanding that the frame-ups stop and that we be given fair trials in a public court.
3. write letters of support to the political prisoners. We especially direct this to community groups (religious and political) who do work around prisoner- rights, legal aid groups and concerned individuals.

SUPPORT THE PRISON MOVEMENT. BUILD GREATER INSIDE/
OUT UNITY. DARE TO WIN!

In struggle,
Michael Alston
Lewisburg Prison

Write prisoners at:

Box 1000
Lewisburg, Pa.
17837

SISTERS STRUGGLE IN C.I.W.

As we all know, there is a general suppression of news about prison struggles and rebellions by the media. This holds true for both men and women's prisons.

The California Institute for Women like many other women's prisons has a long history of struggle and resistance to the oppressive conditions set down by the State.

In March, 1971, over 600 women had a work stoppage and general sit down strike in protest of destructive searches by 35 employees (cooks, typists, clerks, etc.) searching for contraband resulting in the destruction and confiscation of non-contraband material such as family photos. These women stayed united and strong despite strong reprisals.

In February 1972, women smashed windows of buildings and vehicles when the building tension was ignited by the search of all women in the dining room for "contraband", in the form of tacos.

Again in 1972, a major struggle was fought by the women in CIW against the implementation of a Behavior Modification program. The struggle culminated in a 13 hour pitched battle between the women and the guards. The women who had been designated and forced into the Behavior Modification unit used all available weapons to fight. At that time they were able to prevent the program from continuing. A new push is on by the CDC to reinstitute the program.

Recently in February 1978, 400 women, half the population, struck demanding an end to forced sterilization, inadequate medical care, maggot ridden food, arbitrary assignment to solitary confinement, misuse of prisoner funds and high price hikes in the canteen.

When women returned to their cells under an agreement with the warden for no reprisal, 199 women were locked down with no hot food or exercise for one month. Sixteen leaders remain under lockdown indefinitely having been charged with and found "guilty" of inciting to riot, the remaining 183 women were charged with and found "guilty" of refusing to work and verbally threatening violence and destruction. Further consequences to the 183 women are 15 days revocation of good time and 10 days solitary. All the women are appealing.

Their spirit is strong and the sisters continue to struggle.

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--Proposals for San Quentin: Release of Prisoners from Segregation. Contact

Visits for Special Housing Units, Petition to Enomoto
--Proposal for California: Unemployment Benefits for Ex-Prisoners
--National Proposals: U.S. Prisoners Petition to the U.N., Proposals for a National African Prisoners Organization/ Black Coalition Against Repression
Lorenzo Komboa Ervin; Letter from Yaki Herman Bell: The Story of an African POW
--And More

A DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR A NATIONAL AFRIKAN PRISONER ORGANIZATION/ BLACK COALITION AGAINST REPRESSION

INTRODUCTORY LETTER FROM LAWRENCE KOMBOA ERVIN

I am a Black political prisoner at the U.S. P. Marion, Illinois. Enclosed is a draft proposal for a National AFRIKAN PRISONERS' ORGANIZATION/BLACK COALITION AGAINST REPRESSION. It is my hope that the entire Black movement will study this proposal, and more importantly, implement it! We owe it to ourselves.

Prison support groups, political prisoner defense organizations, Black community groups, National Black social, political, and religious organizations, and last but not least, prisoners inside, must unite into a powerful force and confront the government over its repression of the Black Movement, and fight for the enactment of a Prisoners' Bill of Rights and General Amnesty for all Black political prisoners and frame-up victims.

We must make this proposal widely known: publish it in Black newspapers, magazines, newsletters, professional and theoretical journals, and even in pamphlet form. Duplicate the proposal and send copies to Black groups, institutions, and individuals all over the country. Get this paper before as many Black people as possible! Lorenzo Komboa Ervin #18759-175 P.O. Box 1000, Marion, Illinois 62959

I. BLACK COALITION AGAINST REPRESSION

The Black Liberation Movement of the 1960's was decimated by U.S. government repression. In fact, the activities of the government resembled (and in fact was) a secret war against Black leaders, activists, and organizations. Bugging and wiretapping, spying and entrapment, interception and theft of mail, burglary and sabotage, writing and sending "poison pen" letters, infiltration and disruption of group meetings by police agents and informers, frame-up and railroading of political activists through the courts, false imprisonment, character assassination by agents in the news media; all this and more -- even murder -- was committed by U.S. government secret police agencies against the Black Liberation Movement. Hundreds were killed, fired from their jobs, and imprisoned as a result of these government crimes. The Black Panther Party, the leading Black revolutionary organization of the 1960's, was seriously crippled and discredited.

Yet the agencies responsible, the CIA, FBI, and the "Red Squads" of the major metropolitan police departments, have never been brought to justice, and it merely serves to prove that we cannot depend upon the white Capitalist government to police itself. Therefore it becomes the responsibility for the Black movement to raise and assert these issues. We need and must build a Black anti-repression coalition to confront the government over these crimes, and to educate our people about how the government operates, (and has operated in the past), to crush the Black Liberation Movement and kill its leaders. Further, we as revolutionary political activists, need to deeply study these repressive techniques so that we can defend ourselves and our movement in the future. We should never again be caught ignorant of government repressive tactics, and our main task now is to fight back! We must show the people who the real criminals are, and in the process reestablish our credibility and respect in the Black community, now filled with cynicism and defeatism. And we must protect our future leadership and organizations from attack.

Such a coalition should fight to end the death penalty (which is genocidal and discriminatory toward Black people), as well as against the racist judicial railroading of Black victims to savage sentences of 30 - 100 years of life imprisonment. It should demand the abolition of all political police organizations and an end to government political and racial repression as well as the exposure and expulsion of all secret police informers and agent provocateurs in Black organizations, and the financial compensation, immediate release from imprisonment, and professional rehabilitation of all victims of government crimes. Such a coalition should also work against the passage of reactionary legislation like S. 1437, which is a further threat to Black civil liberties, and should fight for the rights of Black workers and students, whose rights

to equal employment and education are under attack by the Bakke court case and other racist methods. Finally, one of the most important functions of such a Coalition will be educational, therefore a permanent Investigating Committee should be established, made up of Black community leaders, organizations, and residents to investigate the deaths of Black political leaders like Malcom X, Dr. Martin Luther King, George Jackson, and Fred Hampton, among others, and also investigate police crimes and official corruption in the Black community; the Attica massacre, the violent suppression of the Black Panther Party, and other incidents as they may occur. Such an investigating committee would hold public hearings in the Black community, and will distribute a report and its verdict to major Black organizations, the Black and white newsmedia,



This card and others, designed by Stateville prisoners, are available from New Afrikan Prisoners Organization, Box 6020, Chicago IL 60680 for 50 cents each. Bulk rates are available on request.

the Black community-at-large, and to public officials, with the demand that the criminals be prosecuted by the government or that they will be put under Black Citizen's Arrest and given revolutionary justice by a Black People's court. Further, in the future, we must exercise armed self-defense to retaliate against such attacks.

One of our most important tasks is to free all Black political prisoners and victims of racial injustice, who are languishing in prison cells all across the country: the Wilmington 10, Gary Tyler, Dessie Woods, Charles Merritt, Assata Shakur, Dhoruba Moore, Elmer "Geronimo" Pratt, Sundiata Acoli, and so many others. They desperately need our help. We must build a Black mass movement to expose and counter government crimes, and to free all Black political prisoners and victims of racial injustice. We must call for general amnesty (complete and unconditional) for all political prisoners and racial frame-up victims. We must write protest letters, circulate petitions, demonstrate in the thousands, take armed support actions, lead strikes, everything (!); everything that we can possibly do to free our people and stop this oppression. Hopefully, through tying this issue with the overall Black social and economic plight, we will be able to revitalize and rekindle the tremendous momentum of the Black Liberation Movement of the 1960's and take it to its final conclusion: freedom and Socialism.

Finally, it must be said that the entire capitalist judicial and penal system is racist and biased to the core, and only serves as an instrument for racial and economic class oppression, and state slavery. Therefore it is the bounden duty of the Black Liberation Movement to support Black prisoners; to expose and struggle against Capitalist economic and political servitude (which causes crimes of survival, i.e., "hustling", and also Black-on-Black attacks), as well as to fight government repression. The repression has fallen most heavily on the Black movement, but also the criminal "justice" system victimizes young Blacks more than

(See N.A.P.O., page 4, bottom)

LETTER FROM YAKI

Rev. Greetings Brother:

We hope these lines find you all in good health & spirits. Got your kite & it was good to hear from you. It caught us in the middle of writing to you, and came right on time.

As you pointed out, it is good & necessary to reflect on the issues before jumping off into deep communications. We have done this since we last wrote, and become more clear ourselves. We've also heard from several groups & individuals from the east and west coasts, and read the recent proposal by Bro. Ervin on a black coalition against repression and a national Afrikan prisoner org.

It seems to us at the moment, that when folks began to discuss and build the u.n.-prisoner petition campaign, they saw this campaign as being an instrument in the building of an anti-imperialist, non-sectarian, mass movement. The conception was an ALLIANCE of oppressed nations, classes, sectors and groups, and those who supported these. We think the POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE OF THE U.N. PETITION PROPOSAL, written by Sundiata and dated April 12, 1977, does a good job of making this perspective clear.

Thus, when people began to talk about an "NPO", this is the kind of NPO that most (or some) folks had in mind. Another name or set of alphabets used to refer to this type of NPO is "PPRSM"--but the same structure is being referred to.

As the work around the u.n. campaign and the promotion & building of NPO/PPRSM gained momentum, first on the west coast & later nation-wide, questions and ideological struggle began around the use of the term "genocide" & a general emphasis & distinction given to Afrikans & other oppressed nations; questions also around the scope of the NPO & its activities (e.g., could a revolutionary, M-L based grouping realistically work w/"non-revolutionary" folks, etc.). Questions on increasing the emphasis toward Afrikan/Third World forms of oppression and the goals of national liberation as opposed to a simple "anti-imperialism".

All-in-all, many people & forces in the country inside and out, came to relate to the idea of an "NPO" in different ways. There are many reasons for this, and we think the main one has been the lack of strong and principled center for coordinating all

work & spreading all information. We also think that many forces outside have shown a conscious or unconscious tendency to avoid better coordination of their work with comrades inside.

This is the third year in which Bro. T.B. has been consistent in his work to build an NPO & push the on-going u.n. petitions. Other folks have since begun to issue calls & proposals & seek support for an "NPO", without even contacting T.B.

There has been much too much confusion in all areas of the country; too much duplication of efforts, scattering of resources, lack of communication, and reluctance on the part of many folks to discuss ideas, share information, and combine skills and resources; a seeming reluctance to simply work TOGETHER, coordinate efforts, form a centralized body, etc.

If there are those who are pushing "independent" ideas & proposals, we think we should search for ways in which everyone can work TOGETHER. There seem to be several forces who are building or endorsing an "NPO", but there are different conceptions of this "NPO", and each force seems to be pushing & endorsing their own "independent" proposals, rather than work toward a combination of all similar proposals and joint work toward making the ideas become reality.

Now, besides the proposal for this first type of NPO--"anti-imperialist", an ALLIANCE of the various progressive & revolutionary forces in the oppressor nation with the various oppressed nations--there are also proposals for a national AFRICAN prisoner organization.

We think that some people have confused these two proposals. Again, we think there are many reasons for this confusion. And we think it will help us all if we begin looking for answers within the context of the overall struggles in the oppressor and oppressed nations, and not simply from the perspective of the "prison movement."

We think that all of the organizational forms utilized by us (Afrikans) and other oppressed nations, as well as those used by folks in the oppressor nation, must conform to the strategic visions/objectives we have as to how our struggle will & should develop.

For instance, if we see & move on our struggle

(See YAKI, page 5, top)



(N.A.P.O., from page 3)

any other category of offenders. Black youth are most likely to be arrested by racist cops, railroaded in the racist courts, and sent to prison or given the death penalty. Once put in prison they are likely to serve a much longer sentence because of the racist parole boards, and if sentenced to death, are more likely to be executed. Therefore inside the prisons, Black prisoners suffer under a double yoke of racism and repression, from both white racist prisoners and guards. Every year hundreds of Black prisoners are killed in a vicious, racist fashion by either white prisoners and/or guards. Racist organizations, such as the Ku Klux Klan, American Nazis, John Birch Society, National States Rights Party, and others, have strong support among white guards and prisoners, and further, have organized branches in the prisons. All this adds up to genocide (!), and we must stop it if we are to further survive.

II. NATIONAL AFRICAN PRISONERS ORGANIZATION

We, as Black revolutionaries, must demand and struggle for an end to phoney arrests, judicial frame-ups and railroadings of Black people, as well as for the abolition of prisons. The struggle for justice is never-ending, and since we know that prisons are an essential instrument of white capitalist rule, we must demand that prisoners be given a "BILL OF RIGHTS" to protect their humanity while they are in prison and to secure their early release. A Bill of Rights would contain such things as:

*The elimination of the racist and bureaucratic parole board, and the mandatory release of all prisoners at the end of the service of 1/3 of their sentence or after 5 years imprisonment, whichever is less;

* A mandatory and uniform sentencing policy, which would eliminate sentence disparity, and thus favoritism based on race and class;

* The immediate release of all prisoners who have served 10 years or more of continuous prison confinement; thus putting an end to perpetual imprisonment,

"sealed" life, natural life, and other forms of life-long slavery;

* That all prisoners who have served their sentences be given a Certificate of Rehabilitation, which would act as an expungement order of the conviction, pardon, and would restore all their civil and human rights;

* An end to probation and parole supervision/spying, and the odious practice of "violation" and thus return to jail or prison on "technical grounds." A released prisoner could only be returned to prison for the commission of another offense.

*The immediate release of all prisoners over the age of 55; any prisoner who has a serious, life threatening, terminal, or permanently disabling mental or physical disease or injury;

*The right to immediate and competent medical attention for any injured or sick prisoner, and to have access to medical personnel 24 hours-a-day. The right to full medical and dental treatment, including the right to choose and consult with a personal physician.

*The right to full religious and political freedom, including the right to hold unhindered, unsupervised group meetings. An end to harassment of Muslims, Church of the New Song, Black Culture programs, revolutionary collectives, communist study groups and others. An end to using a prisoner's religious or political beliefs as a basis of denying parole.

*The abolition of all prison censorship of literature, unless it is determined by court order to be a clear and present danger to prison security. End censorship of newspapers, magazines, letters, and other publications coming from the publisher.

*The abolition of all organized racist groups among white guards and prisoners, an end to racist attacks on Black prisoners, and the investigation of such attacks and deaths by an independent community investigating committee.

*Provide adequate (and properly cooked) food, clothing, and shelter for all prisoners.

(See N.A.P.O., page 5, bottom)

(YAKI, from page 4)

as one for national liberation, then this informs our overall political strategy, tactics, and forms of organization(s), as well as our strategical & tactical alliances & participation in coalitions with other oppressed nations and those in the oppressor nation.

As Afrikans, we have our own organizations, and we form coalitions, united fronts, etc., among ourselves. Just as there are & will be organizations of various types among Afrikan students, organizations of Afrikan women, organizations of Afrikan steel workers, health workers, legal workers, educators, professionals, etc., etc., there will also be organizations of/among Afrikans who happen to be held in camps at any particular point in time.

Just as there will be coalitions, united fronts, etc., among & exclusive to Afrikans who may happen to attend schools & universities, or who happen to work in one field or another, or who happen not to work, there will also be coalitions & united fronts among Afrikans who happen to be in amerikkkan prisons.

So whenever we talk about all Afrikan people being agitated, educated, organized, mobilized for national liberation, we automatically include in our minds & plans those Afrikans in camps. When we talk about Black United Fronts & NLF's for ALL Afrikan people, then we understand that Afrikans in u.s. prisons must be included in these.

When we talk about ALLIANCES between Afrikan organizations/parties and Puerto Rican or white groups; when we talk about ALLIANCES between the BLM & other national liberation movements, the same basic perspective & organizational form & method applies to those Afrikans in camps.

Therefore, from the perspective of anti-imperialist struggle--inside or out--we think that Afrikan people form ALLIANCES with others. These alliances can also be coalitions, long or short range, over any & all issues.

But from the perspective of the BLM, the struggle we wage for independence & land, we form organizations, BUF's & NLF's. We can then enter our organizations & our fronts into alliances with others. (Our own experience here has reminded us that it's still good policy to form alliances from a position of (relative) strength.)

The organization of Afrikan prisoners can take place on a "non-sectarian" basis--within the context of national liberation--in the sense that BUF's are formed. But it's our (NAPO) position that Afrikans --in prison or out--must first organize themselves, around our objectives. Our struggle for independence is of itself a part of the "anti-imperialist" struggle. But there is a fundamental difference between

struggling for national liberation, and struggling simply "against imperialism".

We think that imprisoned Afrikans are Afrikans first, and prisoners second. Our primary concern is Afrikan independence, and prison reform, or the "prison movement" achieves its primary importance only in -as-much as our struggles behind the walls contribute to the liberation of the nation and its socialist development....

Just as we, as Afrikan people, may decide that we need allies, & that some or all of the issues of interest to us are also of interest to others, whatever we do outside the walls, we do inside the walls as well.

There is a need for an ALLIANCE--an NPO in the form of an alliance--which would include individuals & groups from various national & class backgrounds, who can agree to points of unity basically defined as anti-imperialist, anti-capitalist, etc. This NPO (alliance) would push the "prisoners' bill of rights," etc., and contribute & be an intimate part of the mass movement in the u.s., anti-imperialist in character. For instance, NAPO would participate in such an alliance, but our prime concern of Afrikan independence would not be subordinated.

The camps constitute our day-to-day, most immediate and concrete reality. We struggle for the prisoners' bill of rights, but we emphasize national independence, the building of revolutionary nationalist consciousness and organizations, black united fronts, an Afrikan national liberation front, etc.

NAPO is an organization of Afrikans--of Afrikan revolutionary nationalists--we're not simply an organization of "prisoners." We simply happen to have been in prison when we made this particular commitment to organize ourselves--as Afrikans--while in prison, and for national liberation of our people. But our struggle against oppression didn't begin with our arrest, conviction and imprisonment, and it won't end with our release from the camps.

So, while there's a need for an "anti-imperialist" NPO, there's also a more urgent need for work to be done toward agitating, educating, and organizing Afrikans in prison--not simply to change prison conditions, and not simply to combat imperialism--but to liberate New Afrika.

Now, we think that "prison reform/movement" work can & should be done primarily within the anti-imperialist NPO structure. The struggles for general betterment of conditions, change in sentence structures, etc., can & should be concentrated within this framework.

Some of the issues are bound to overlap, but we think the Afrikan "NPO" should concentrate on our
(See YAKI, page 6)

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*Allow unhindered access to the press, through both personal uncensored interviews and written articles.

*An end to guard brutality, i.e., torture, beatings, forced rectal examinations, murder, etc.;

*Regular opportunity for conjugal visitation by the granting of home furloughs.

*The absolute right to funeral trips or sick bedside visits whenever the family member of any prisoner is seriously ill or has died. Such trip or visit would be totally at government expense.

*An end to solitary confinement; and isolation for no more than 30 days, unless by court order.

*The right to be present during all security searches (shake-downs) of cells.

*Unrestricted ability to petition for a redress of grievances. The creation of an independent non-governmental agency, the National Grievance Commission to investigate prisoner's complaints against guards or prison conditions. The employment of a team of Ombudsmen to investigate, resolve, and fully settle complaints, who would be empowered to file a civil service complaint against prison personnel and secure disciplinary action, including dismissal of employment.

*Full rights of communication, including the right to unhindered, unrestricted phone calls at own expense; the right to visit anyone in the free society (unless it can be proven that such person's visit is for criminal activity); the right to send and receive mail from anyone.

*An end to medical experimentation and behavior modification in prisons. The immediate closing of all coercive behavior modification units, full financial compensation to the victims, and their immediate release from custody. Criminal prosecution of all prison officials responsible for the management of such units for violating the civil rights of prisoners, 18 U.S. Code, Section 241, and the Eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

*An end to mail censorship. Prisoners must be allowed the right to correspond with anyone without restriction.

*The right to organize Unions (and other workers' associations), and to receive the minimum wage for all prison labor performed, workmen's compensation, social

security, unemployment assistance. End slave labor!

*These are just some of the demands for a Prisoners' Bill of Rights. This would amount to a "human rights" program for American prisoners-of-war in America! But even the most progressive program would only constitute a mass of words on paper as long as the prison movement does not act to enforce it and demand change. Whether the courts give favorable rulings for prisoner's rights, whether Congress or the state legislatures pass favorable legislation improving prison conditions and safeguarding prisoner's rights, and whether the President orders any political prisoners released is entirely dependent upon the strength of the prison movement. Prison support groups, prisoners inside, and their families outside, must unite into a powerful force and fight for the enactment of the Bill of Rights and general amnesty. Rights for prisoners are not ends in themselves, but once established, should be tools prisoners can use in influencing public policy about the penal system and in defending themselves against an oppressive bureaucratic system. To that end we must furiously work!

(See N.A.P.O., page 15)

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U.S. PRISONERS PETITION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The following letter is being printed in "Arm the Spirit" for the purpose of providing our readers, especially other prisoners, with an idea of what some of us are doing at San Quentin regarding the U.S. Prisoners' Petition to the U.N. Copies of this petition were circulated among prisoners here and elsewhere several months ago for signatures following months of critical review and alterations before it was finalized and steps taken to present it to the U.N.

Recently the Join Hands Inside/Outside Collective sent prisoners throughout the U.S. a report concerning the progress made since these petitions were sent outside. Briefly, the progress-report was broken down into two sections. The first section dealt with the need for prisoners to build a National Prisoners Organization and contained excerpts from letters written by prisoners across the country describing conditions and the treatment to which we are being subjected. The second section of the report provided valuable information concerning what procedures and steps had been/will need to be taken in order to introduce our petition to the U.N.

At this point, the future plans regarding putting our case before the U.N. beyond the meeting this February, depends on the response we get to this newsletter. What we really need are people on the outside to continue the work that can only be done on the outside. The overwhelming response so far from prisoners has built the foundation and the core of this project. We say we need people on the outside to help because there is work out there that needs to be done - correspondence, gathering information, lobbying, and mailings. Any comments, questions, criticisms, suggestions can be sent to: U.S. Prisoners' Petition
944 Market St. #508
San Francisco, Ca. 94102

Members of the U.N. Human Rights Commission:

The below listed prisoners are presently confined at San Quentin State Prison in northern California. We have read the U.S. Prisoners' Petition to the U.N. and fully support this document and the suggestions made therein.

We want the U.N. Human Rights Commission to conduct a thorough investigation of the conditions and treatment to which U.S. prisoners are presently being subjected - conditions and treatment which flows from a long history of degradation and abuse that would put a nation of savages to shame.

At this very moment there are hundreds of thousands of people confined in U.S. prisons who feel starved and cheated of everything meaningful and worthwhile in life. The overwhelming majority of us are poor, with a grossly disproportionate ratio of Black and Third World peoples in comparison to their overall population in this society. Our only real crime is that of having been born under a capitalist system robbed of the power to determine our own destiny.

(YAKI, from page 5)

independence struggle. There will be issues we'll address that others will not; issues others will address or concentrate on, that we will not; there will be issues that we'll all address, but our emphasis will differ.

For our part (NAPO), and for my own, we'll be more conscious of our responsibilities on all levels & fronts, and will move to be less liberal and more principled in our relations. We will increase our communications, be open and frank in our opinions, and always promote the interests of the struggle and the people.

We'd like to make the following suggestions:

- 1) That all persons & groups make a sincere effort to increase communications;
- 2) That all those working towards an "NPO" of the type proposed by T.B. and Lorenzo Ervin, seek to combine their efforts, and work under a unified, coordinated body;
- 3) That there be one (1) outside central address for all communications, info, national mailings, etc., for this NPO;
- 4) That the NPO be built on the foundations already established by T.B.;
- 5) That outside forces make a sincere effort to be

Those who control the economic arrangement in this country are the very same people who through their capitalist bureaucracies control every traditional social institution which serves to maintain the existing order of things. All attempts, heretofore, to expose the many atrocities that are part of our daily lives have been distorted and isolated through the U.S. monopoly-controlled news media. This is a forced-fed process that has the effect of rendering the public at large almost totally ignorant of what actually occurs behind the walls.

It is for these reasons that prisoners view the need for international exposure and support concerning our plight as victims of bitter class suppression and racial genocide.

In the final analysis, we who are most victimized by this ruthless system are met with the responsibility of transforming it. However, we believe that deep exposure of the gross violations of our human rights via the U.N. will provide tremendous assistance to us and to peace and freedom-loving peoples of the world in the protracted struggle to rid ourselves of such blatant injustices.

We feel that it would be best to start an international study of prisons with the example of U.S. because:

(1) The US has a huge growing prison population and its prisoners serve longer sentences than anywhere else in the world, so the US obviously has a lot of experience with prisons;

(2) The US is one of the wealthiest countries in the world, and it should have no material obstacles to solving prison problems (compare poorer countries like Indonesia or Mauritania);

(3) There is more information about US prisons and prisoners than about most other countries;

(4) There are many people and groups in the US with expert information and knowledge of what should be done, and they believe some international support will help them;

(5) The US has admitted in the UN that it has human rights violations in its prisons, so the UN should follow up and help the US to implement its human rights campaign at home;

(6) Most importantly, because the US has a very serious prison situation that needs immediate attention and an international review. Such things as: the subjugation of prisoners to forced slave labor, the use of prisons as tools of genocide and racism, the stereotyped roles forced onto women in prison, punishment of people who threaten traditional sex roles, subjugation of politically active prisoners to abusive treatment and harassment.

On behalf of the entire US prisoner class we wish to challenge the members of the U.N. Human Rights Commission. If you are truly worthy of your positions as representatives of the world tribunal, then how can you possibly refuse to join hands with us in this just cause?

Concerned Prisoners at San Quentin

more principled, and to accept the contributions of inside forces, and COORDINATE their efforts with inside forces, accepting the principle that the building of the NPO be done--at this stage--primarily from the inside-out, rather than from the outside-in;

6) That the anti-imperialist NPO be hereafter referred to by all as "NPA" (national prisoners alliance), or as "NPC" (national prisoners coalition), or as "PPRSM" (political prisoners revolutionary solidarity movement);

7) That everyone move to agree on the difference in structure and content between the proposed NPA and the proposed national Afrikan prisoner organization;

8) That speedy & earnest efforts be made by the east coast forces (Muntu, APP, Karamoto, etc.), to contact & coordinate with T.B., as well as with Lorenzo Ervin, the west coast (PFOC, UPU, Aug. 21st Coalition, etc.), and that the views, positions & proposals of all be represented at ANY outside conferences; and that all energies be directed toward consolidating all forces as a first step in any future work toward building an NPA, and a NAPA.

Pamoja Tutashinda!

Build To Win!

For N.A.P.O.
yaki

(POLITICAL PRISONERS UNIT, from page 1)

orated allegations of gang affiliation, association and revolutionary affiliation, association. Essentially, the nature of the evidence comprised "notes" dropped by staff and administrators by so-called "reliable and/or confidential sources" (prisoners, some of whom have a permanent job working with the prison administration and who have obtained job security here, and a diminutive number of notes were dropped by the racist prison staff).

As far as gang affiliations and associations are concerned, in order to facilitate the persecution of the Muslims here, Warden Sumner cleverly labeled the Muslims as a functioning "gang". Warden Sumner discerns the Muslims as a dynamic progressive force here which will not do his bidding and he is angered at the fact that the Muslims will not submit to absolute administrative control. Warden Sumner has reckoned with the Muslims here (utilizing his cunning racist discretion) by subjecting the Muslim Brothers to the following treatment:

(a) placing nearly 90% of the Muslim Brothers, who were previously on the mainline, in the P.P.U.;
(b) transferring a great many Muslim Brothers, who were previously in the P.P.U., to other prisons;
(c) cleverly setting up the Muslim Minister, Brother Mujabid Shabazz (popularly known as Brother Larry), to be killed, by using members of the Aryan Brotherhood to do his bidding (although viciously stabbed by the A.B., Brother Larry is fine now and has fully recovered from the wounds inflicted on him by developmentally disabled (mentally) white supremacists;
(d) refusing to allow a Muslim Minister from the outside to come into San Quentin to instruct the Muslim Brothers here; and
(e) allowing an outside Muslim Minister to come into San Quentin when Warden Sumner gets good and ready for him to come in; Warden Sumner's decision was based upon whether or not the outside Minister would prove to be pliant and compromising; Warden Sumner wanted the outside Minister to tell the Muslim Minister here at San Quentin to cease functioning as a Muslim Minister; Warden Sumner was cleverly trying (by "using" the outside Muslim Minister) to implement the time-heralded tactic and strategy of "killing the head" (the Muslim Minister here at San Quentin) so that the "body" (the Muslim Brothers here at San Quentin) would "die" (yield to racist administrative control and would therefore become administrative instruments, tools, and pawns, via which the racist administration and staff could attain their nefarious goals and objectives, viz., the neutralization of the Black community and of the progressive forces here at San Quentin, and the neutralization of Black revolutionaries here at San Quentin).

The overwhelming majority of the prisoners in the P.P.U. are Black. Black prisoners in the P.P.U. have their backs pressed tightly to the wall as a result of fighting on two fronts, i.e., on one front Brothers are battling inordinately racist prison administrators and their extremely racist staff; on the other front Brothers are battling white supremacist prisoners and racist white prisoners here who fight side-by-side with their racist and reactionary cohorts, i.e., the Mexican Mafia. The "fronts" must not be perceived as being fixed and rigidly separated (the perspective of the metaphysician); essentially, the relationship between the two fronts is dialectical in nature, the fronts are interrelated, and are distinguished by perpetual "Motion" (evolution, quantitative change, and negation), the only "Absolute" discerned here.

The prison administration calls the shots here and white supremacist and racist elements in the P.P.U., diligently do their Masta's bidding. One can duly perceive that the white and chicano prisoners in the P.P.U. have consciously and unconsciously (only a minute few) allowed themselves to be used as tools of the prison administration. Extremely racist white and chicano prisoners are the instruments by which the racist prison administration executes its Machiavellian tactical maneuvers. By utilizing the elements of force and fear (distinguished from time to time by note dropping on the part of the white racist guards and their allies, i.e., the white supremacist prisoners and other extremely racist white and chicano prisoners), white supremacist and racist elements in the P.P.U. zealously strive to keep the Black community here effectively neutralized, viz., divided, paranoid, and fearful for their lives; yet, the bigoted prison administration and their racist and white supremacist allies have been unsuccessful at neutralizing the general Black community and the revolutionary forces here in Max B.

The Black community here in the P.P.U. comprises Brothers representing diverse political ideologies and philosophies and Brothers representing multifarious religious ideologies and philosophies; yet, the Brothers have decided to put all their different approaches and tactical objectives aside, in relation to freeing themselves from racist oppression and persecution, and focused on the common denominator among them, viz., a common Black heritage of resistance to racist oppres-

sion and persecution, a common desire to see all of the Black convicts free from racist oppression and persecution, and a shared trust and relentless quest for freedom; thus a climate of reason, logic, and common sense has prevailed and is prevailing in the Black community here in the P.P.U. The bond of Unity has been strengthened via the conception, formulation, and implementation of a United Front against the irrational white supremacists (A.B.s, Nazis, prison administrators, staff, and prison personnel) and mentally developmentally disabled racist elements (Bikers, Mexican Mafia, some prison administrators, some of prison staff, and some of the prison personnel) who have dared to systematically implement a campaign of mayhem and murder, in relation to the Black community here.

Approximately three weeks ago from today, March 15, 1978, prison administrators, staff, white supremacists, and other racist and benighted elements here in the P.P.U. initiated a racist campaign designed to sow confusion and fear in the Black Community. Tactically, the above mentioned reactionary elements began the process of "note dropping." So-called notes or kites were passed to and given to prison staff. The so-called notes embodied messages similar to the following examples (all of the Principals are Black):

- (a) Inmate Lewis is going to kill inmate Jackson on Friday;
- (b) Inmate Johnson was stabbed by inmate Ferguson; and
- (c) Inmate Phillips ordered inmate Jones, Lee and Blue to kill inmate Lewis, and so on and so on.

Transitorily, violence erupted on the segregated prison yard (on the small portion that Black prisoners in the P.P.U. are allowed the privilege of exercising on). Before the Black-on-Black violence subsided, one Black prisoner had been stabbed on the prison yard and another Black prisoner (a Black fratricide artist) was stabbed on a tier in the Political Prisoners Unit. Prison administrators and staff used the stabbings as a diabolical pretext for placing many revolutionary and progressive Brothers in the Adjustment Center (a.k.a. the Security Housing Unit and as The Hole). Below are the names and B-numbers of some of the Brothers who are gaffled up and thrown into the Adjustment Center without being subjected to any kind of a hearing:

- (a) Wyvonne Conner, B-28548
- (b) Wally J. Williams (a.k.a. "Grasshopper"), B-46694-A
- (c) Kermit Burleson, B-45932
- (d) Ed Stover (B-number unknown), et. al.

As notes continued to "drop", transitorily, the Black community was torn apart by division, confusion, and fear. As long as the racist prison administrators continued to use the notes as a basis for placing Black Men in the Adjustment Center, the Black community panicked at the thought of being charged with a criminal offense and at the thought of being administratively segregated on the basis of purportedly "objective" information inscribed on a piece of paper. Surprisingly enough, not one member of the Black community ever got a chance to scrutinize any of the so-called notes, yet, racist prison administrators and staff gleefully pointed out the existence of a great many "incriminating" notes.

Representatives from the revolutionary, Muslim, and Progressive members of the Black community held, conducted, and chaired meetings on the prison yard in a successful attempt to bring the Black community back together as a harmonious and cohesive unit. The Black community cried out for the return of the Brothers who had been placed in the Adjustment Center. Suddenly, a spate of so-called notes inundated the racist prison staff; but, the Black community was hip to the worn out, but devious tactic delineated above. In a most indomitable and vociferous fashion, the Black community demanded the return of its most popular and most widely loved members. On or about the second week of March, 1978, the racist prison administration allowed a few of the people they had administratively segregated without probable cause, to be placed back in the P.P.U. We would like to depose and cite the names of a few of those Black Men whom the racist administration here placed back in the P.P.U.:

- (a) Wyvonne Conner, B-28548
- (b) Wally J. Williams, (a.k.a. "Grasshopper"), B-46694A
- (c) Kermit Burleson, B-45932

The Black community here in the P.P.U. continues, to this day, to have everyone who was subject to administrative segregation without probable cause, returned back to the P.P.U.

The Black community here in the P.P.U. has become apprised of the fact that the public is unable to understand the essence of the strife in the P.P.U. and that the public mistakenly believes that the principal contradiction here at San Quentin is between the prison administrators, staff, and prison personnel on one hand and on the other hand we have the general

(See POLITICAL PRISONERS UNIT, page 8)

SAN QUENTIN PRISONERS' PETITION TO ENOMOTO

The men housed in the Management Control Unit (MCU) here at San Quentin Prison are petitioning Jerry Enomoto, Director of Corrections, and George Summer, Warden of San Quentin Prison for the restoration of all prison benefits.

Our main theme being that the administration is aware that we are being housed in MCU without any infraction of institutional rules. Yet, we are labeled as a "threat to institutional security." What we want to know from the administration is what is the foundation for this allegation.

To separate us from the general population without us breaking any institutional rules or state and federal laws is a complete denial to us of due process.

Therefore, we demand the reinstatement of the following:

1. Elimination of the MCU as it now exists and the return to general population those who have violated no institution rules;
2. Three hot meals a day for the MCU and SHU. No longer do we want those cold sandwiches we have been receiving at night for our "third" meal, nor the unsanitary soup;
3. Removal of the restricted area in the visiting room that is reserved for MCU. We should be allowed to visit with our visitors in a more relaxed atmosphere;
4. Installation of a glass enclosure around the outdoor showers so we are not exposed to the elements when we shower;
5. Access to North Dining Hall for handicraft and recreational facilities, plus immediate installation of the long-promised legal library;
6. Access to pre-release, Mens Advisory Council, Chapel and all other institutional organizations; and
7. Inclusion of MCU and SHU into the conjugal visiting program as it is done in 4-A at Folsom State Prison.

SUPPORT CONTACT VISITS FOR SHU

By the time this reaches print a campaign to secure contact visiting rights for prisoners in the Special Housing Units (SHU) and First Tier Yardside in North Block will have begun.

Why support prisoners in SHU? The primary reason is that it is criminal and inhuman to disallow contact with one's loved ones.

Some of them have been locked up for several years (we know of at least one who has been in the hole for as much as 10 years!). As inhuman as the mere fact of imprisonment is, those in SHU have it much worse, as anyone who has been there can easily verify.

The second reason we should support SHU prisoners in their effort to have contact visits is any one of us, at any time, without having done anything and without warning, all the way from Max B to West Block to the Ranch, can be there now and fifteen minutes later unceremoniously dumped in one of the holes.

We know there will be some prisoners around who will support officials in claiming that they have nothing coming in SHU, but we hope that the majority will see through that and look at it like they are the ones who are allowed to "see but don't touch" their parents, relatives, friends, or their wives and children and do what you would want other prisoners to do for you in such a case.

Equally as unrealistic is the argument that they have done some kind of "wrong" or they wouldn't be in the situation they are in. During the past year, for those of you who haven't been down long enough to know it is common practice, you will still have had the opportunity to see that you don't really have to do anything to have the axe dropped on you, just like it happened to the Muslims recently, how they all got fucked around and labeled as a "prison gang" instead of a religious institution simply because they were determined not to become everybody's pincushion. But you don't have to get sent to the hole like that. There are hundreds of reasons a high or low employee can use.

That may be a little beside the point. The thing is, we have an issue here that all prisoners can rally around to support, not only for the benefit of those who are being denied basic human rights (even more so

see SHU, p.12

(POLITICAL PRISONERS UNIT, from page 7)

prison community. Much of the news the public receives has been cut, censored, and rendered fallacious by a devious man known to the public and the general prisoner community here as the so-called "prison spokesman." The so-called prison spokesman keeps the public misinformed and ignorant in relation to the actual happenings and goings on occurring within any given institution which is part and parcel of the California Department of Corrections. Every institution (prison) in the state of California has a designated con artist known as a so-called spokesman.

We, the Black Community here in the P.P.U., would like to categorically depose and state that the Principal Contradiction at San Quentin is between the racist prison administration, racist staff, racist prison personnel, white supremacist prisoners, and reactionary and racist prisoners who work for the racist prison administration on one hand, and on the other side of the coin we have the much persecuted Black community and its allies, to wit, the remarkably few progressive white and chicano prisoners. All other contradictions which exist at San Quentin are subordinate to the highly antagonistic relationship reflected by the struggle of the two major forces listed above. One cannot understand the essence of the strife, turmoil, and turbulent happenings at San Quentin in general and within the P.P.U. in particular if one is unable to grasp the nature of the Principal Contradiction here at San Quentin.

Presently, a surface calm pervades the P.P.U. The Black community is well aware of the fact that the racist administration, the racist staff, white supremacist elements, and other racist and reactionary elements here (acting in concert), are plotting out new moves. Strategically, the Black community is on the defensive, but, the Black community will not drop its guard again.

We, the revolutionaries and progressive prisoners presently languishing within the P.P.U. poignantly appeal to you, the Public, to endeavor to aid us (morally and materially) in whatever way you can. We need all of the help and support we can get if we are going to survive the "Nightmare" which is Reality for us. At present, we live a tortured existence in an Absolutist setting, a Totalitarian environment composed primarily of "Nothingness", despair, and frustration. We are Men who refuse to be driven and treated like beasts by keepers who can rationally be discerned as Neanderthal Men; yet, we continue to remain in possession of an enlightened perspective which encompasses and entails a plethora of optimism. We hope that the hearts and minds of you, the People, will be warm enough to embrace us as fellow human beings who are in need of serious help. End part one.

This is the second publication of "Voices From Within" and officials have banned it already!! But that was to be expected. They have said that if the San Quentin News (an inmate newspaper censored by the prison administration) can't be censored, there will be no San Quentin News. Now they are banning our little newsletter, which doesn't rely on the state for writing, printing or distribution. We view this move as yet another repressive action designed to keep the REAL San Quentin from being exposed, though we've not yet really began to say anything. It is the potential for which an organ such as our newsletter has on being informative at several levels, along with its capacity for organizing on a statewide basis, that causes them to lay down the heavy hand again.

But this is our newsletter. The law is very specific about what material can and cannot come in through the mail and our newsletter passes that test, which is: "If it is acceptable in the U.S. Mail, does not advocate prison violence nor tend to disrupt prison discipline, nor contain material showing how to make weapons and/or explosives."

The only problem we see is that part about disrupting prison discipline, which is anything the man says it is from one day to the next. It is a catch-all phrase that is going to face a court challenge such as they have never had thrown at them before.

Still, in order for us to develop our newsletter, which is in the very early developmental stages, we need the support of people both inside and outside. We do not see "prison discipline" as something that suppresses the truth as we see it, nor as being quiet about something like Senate Bill 224 (provides unemployment compensation for ex-prisoners) such as our Brother in Max B wrote. Just because we are on mainline status today does not mean we will be here tomorrow. We realise though, that there will be some who do not want to receive it because the administration says to receive it is a no-no. So those WANTING to continue getting it should write the address on the outside and get put on the mailing list.

JANUARY SUMMARY REPORT

Following is a summary report for the month of January concerning the stabbing incidents that occurred at San Quentin.

Friday, January 6 - One white prisoner received superficial stab wounds by another white prisoner. The incident took place in north block. That same evening another white prisoner was stabbed eleven times in the abdomen by another white prisoner while attending a movie in the north dining hall.

Sunday, January 8 - One white prisoner received superficial stab wounds inflicted by either another white or a Chicano prisoner in west block. The west block unit was temporarily placed on lockdown status but returned to "normal" that same day.

Tuesday, January 17 - This morning as two Muslim brothers were on their way to breakfast from the yard-side of east block one of the brothers, Larry Green, was stabbed three times by two white supremacist gang members. The brother who was stabbed, one of the alleged Zebra killers, walked to the hospital on his own accord with his right hand severely cut after attempting to disarm his attackers.

Following this incident the yardside of east block was placed on lockdown status by the prison administration. A total of eleven white prisoners, including the two who launched the attack, reported to have been members of a "new" white supremacist (paramilitary) gang were locked up.

Shortly afterwards Muslim leaders inside were contacted by the warden and warned that they (all Muslims) would be rounded up in the event of any retaliatory move being made. The Muslim leaders refused to promise that such a move would not occur.

Wednesday, January 18 - Shortly after breakfast this morning two Nazis were stabbed on the upper yard by two Muslims. One Muslim, Milton Earl, who was standing in the general vicinity, exchanged punches with the warden after being ordered to lock up. A massive round-up of Black prisoners (including all Muslims) proceeded as the entire prison was locked down.

Friday, January 20 - The prison was unlocked this morning. Brother Earl, who was beaten by guards after exchanging punches with Sumner, was transferred to Folsom.

Supposedly a meeting took place between prison officials and Muslim leaders from Oakland and Los Angeles concerning administrative actions taken against Muslim brothers inside. Outside Muslim leaders allegedly agreed that administrative actions taken against the brothers inside were appropriate considering the circumstances as conveyed by prison authorities. It was decided that Muslim leaders inside would be transferred to other prisons within the state and the remaining Muslims would eventually be declassified, though not allowed to continue with an inside minister. It was stated that a Muslim minister from the streets would be provided in the future.

Saturday, January 21 - Black prisoners become increasingly discontent with the racist practices of prison officials and begin to suggest ways to correct existing situation.

Sunday, January 22 - A group of Black prisoners gather on the lower yard to discuss possible ways of dealing with the prison administration and white supremacist prisoner groups. Suggestions were put forward of dealing with the situation on two levels: (1) a physical retaliation against white supremacist gang members and (2) a call for a work stoppage by Black prisoners. A majority of those present decided

to use the tactic of a work stoppage in protest of the massive number of Blacks locked up in comparison to the eleven whites and the apparent set-up stabbing attack on Jan. 17 against the Muslim brother. A two-day work stoppage was called.

Monday, January 23 - Members of the August 21st Coalition were contacted on Sunday and asked to support the protest by holding a demonstration in San Francisco. Black prisoners met on the lower yard to further discuss protest plans and to exchange information. Several brothers in attendance were in opposition to the protest and expressed opposition to the work stoppage, seeing it as erroneous because of the obvious spontaneity and lack of participation involved, but failed to organize any alternate tactics. Brothers were asked to volunteer to meet with the warden to present a list of grievances. Five brothers agreed to meet with the warden. Prior to this meeting these brothers, plus about four others, met with Associate Wardens Smith and Stagner to discuss the development of the recent stabbing incidents.

Tuesday, January 24 - Approximately 60 Black prisoners gathered on the lower yard to discuss/draft specific grievances to be presented to the warden later that day and to discuss future plans of preventing such situations from recurring. Suggestions were made in reference to extending the duration of the two-day work stoppage but no decision was made to do this.

Four brothers met with Warden Sumner and Deputy Warden Pulley (who is Black) to discuss the list of grievances. All of the grievances were agreed to be met with the exception of two. The warden refused to submit his resignation; he also refused to allow Black prisoners to hold a meeting with members of the Black community, news media and top prison officials to discuss all issues relevant to our list of grievances. Concessions were made with regards to taking immediate measures to release all non-Muslims not directly involved in the recent incidents. It was also promised that in the future prisoners will have access to administrative lists of alleged gang/group affiliation so that the necessary procedures can be taken to remove their names from such lists. One list of alleged BGF members/affiliates contained the names, nick names, B number and cell number of approximately 100 Black prisoners. It was promised that more Black and other Third World prisoners would be placed into skilled positions presently dominated by whites; more Black and Third World people would be placed into high ranking staff positions. The warden also promised at the request of the prisoner representatives to issue a memo to the effect that his hitting the Muslim brother should not be taken as an example condoning increased physical attacks against Black prisoners by guards.

Earlier during the day one Black prisoner was taken into custody for being armed with a knife and throwing it over the fence of the Max B exercise yard in an apparent attempt to get rid of it.

A Nazi received superficial stab wounds by an unknown assailant in east block (bayside) during the 6:20 p.m. unlock. Both prisoners entered their respective cells to avoid detection.

Wednesday, January 25 - At approximately 2 a.m. this morning the Special Security Squad (goon squad) conducted a search in which each prisoner on bayside of east block was awakened and ordered to show his body for inspection.

Bayside of east block was placed on lockdown status until the noon meal. Shortly after 10 a.m. each prisoner was ordered out of his cell naked for inspection. Two Nazis were taken into custody, one of them the victim of the stabbing which took place yesterday.

Tuesday, January 31 - A Chicano prisoner received superficial stab wounds by a white prisoner in north block. It was reported that these two prisoners had a fist fight earlier during the week and that the stabbing incident resulted from this.

ABOUT THE

AUGUST 21ST COALITION

The August 21st Coalition is an anti-imperialist organization committed to giving political and material support to the Revolutionary Prisoner's Movement (RPM). We came together in August, 1977 on the 6th anniversary of the assassination of George Jackson to demonstrate at San Quentin. This was in response to the escalation of violent racist attacks against Black prisoners by white supremacist groups (e.g. the Nazis and the Aryan Brotherhood) who operate inside in collaboration with the administration.

The Coalition recognizes that prisons are primarily a tool of genocide, aimed at containing the liberation struggles of Black, Puerto Rican, Mexican/Chicano, Native American and Asian peoples. We also recognize that prisons are used to oppress the white working class. We support Third World prisoners in their fight against colonial conditions, from the death penalty to the existence of white supremacist groups such as the Nazis. We

support progressive white prisoners who act in solidarity with Third World people. We are committed to freeing political prisoners and prisoners of war.

The Coalition supports women who resist the attacks made on them by the criminal justice system by fighting for national liberation and the liberation of women. We support lesbians and gay men who fight back against the state's attempts to isolate them and demand adherence to white and male supremacist roles.

We are working to build a strong solidarity movement on the outside by following the leadership given by the RPM on the inside. One form of this is the distribution of this newsletter. We want to learn about other prison struggles and make contact with prison groups, both inside and out. Please write:

August 21st Coalition
P.O. Box 5548
Berkeley, Ca. 94705

STATEMENT SENT FROM INSIDE S.Q. TO THE AUG. 21ST COALITION

An Event of Solidarity with the Revolutionary Prisoners Movement

Comrade Brothers and Sisters,

We, the prisoners kept within Maximum confinement at gunpoint in this koncentration kamp called san quentin, extend to you revolutionary greetings of love and solidarity....

In 1969, when the infamous criminal, John Mitchell was appointed u.s. attorney general, he made the statement, "This kountry is going to turn so far to the right you won't be able to recognize it." His prediction not only is coming true but shows no signs of being turned around, even though he was stripped of his power.

Most of you are aware of the racial violence that has exploded in the past nine months in kalifornia's prisons. This is due to the intensified fascist administration of the system, which has made it a haven for the development and organization of white supremacist groups such as the aryan brotherhood (a.b.), neo-nazis, ku klux klans and some of the many "bike rider" groups. All of these are being organized into a united front to carry out their savage policies of racial domination through violence....

But we would like to say that what is happening inside the koncentration kamps is only one aspect of the intensification of fascist violence in the whole kountry and directly inter-related with the deaths and atrocities of south africa (i.e., Steven Biko), iran (i.e., the shah's savak), palestine, w. germany, s. amerika, etc....

To us, it is the same expression of violence that imperialism has fostered throughout the third world... To us, what is happening inside kalifornia koncentration kamps is the same expression of violence that occurred in kamp pendleton where the u.s. marine korps gave license to the kkk on the base and then attempted to deny its existence when it exploded into public attention after 14 black marines courageously responded to the harassment and terrorism to which they had been subjected-- and to which marine brass were hiding inside the security of its fences and its monopoly access to the media. Some of the 14 have already been convicted of assault against the same klanish aggression we find ourselves confronted with.

To us, what is happening here is the same as the nazi/klan who shot up a church picnic gathering last year and killed a little child; the same as the nazi who shot and killed 5 or 6 Blacks at a job location in New Jersey (or New York) last year; the same as the three klansmen recently convicted of conspiracy to commit first degree murder against the west coast head of the Jewish Defense League in Los Angeles; it is the same as the murderous assaults on isolated Blacks by huge racist mobs in Marquette Park near Chicago and at Belle Isle in Detroit last year; the same as the nazi attacks on Jewish people in Skokie, Illinois and San Francisco last year; the same as the combined kkk/nazi intimidation efforts at the International Women's Year Conference in Houston last November; the same as the klan border patrol to keep Mexicans from crossing the border into the u.s.; the same as forced sterilizations against third world men and women...and the same as numerous other right-wing fascist crimes committed against us the world over....

Yes, People, all of this and more is part of the political process gaining acceptance in the amerikkkan society. We do not see the racial violence that is developing to higher and higher levels in koncentration kamps as being isolated from what is going on elsewhere in the u.s. and around the world. Nor do we see it as mere flukes or just racial violence in prisons as officials try to make it appear. No! It is much too organized and with too much visible support from authorities, and with too much "I don't want to look" from elected state officials.

It has been reported that after the nazis demonstrated outside quentin gates last July, some guard who works here was later seen amongst a group of nazis being interviewed by a news media agent.

We know for a fact that some guards working here do belong to right-wing, racist organizations. Getting documentary evidence to support us on this is virtually impossible, but we know who some of these pigs are.

They present a special problem of their own, because working here, they can help with the transporting and concealment of weapons that have been used against us, bring in literature, and keep their convict counterparts informed as to what's going down in quentin and in other kamps around the state.

With all the organizational efforts going on now with white supremacist groups, we recognize the difficulties we will have unless we do some organizing ourselves. This is what we are attempting to do. However, we don't have any guards or other employees to assist us in some of the most crucial areas where support is vital.

For example, kamp quentin is divided into several small mini-prisons that are cut off from each other and we have little or virtually no communications between these mini-prisons. This is particularly true when one or more parts of the prison is put on lockdown status. We must correct that situation immediately so we can develop a cohesive, united front.

We must develop a communication network that will enable us to be in contact with each mini-prison at kamp quentin, other kamps around the state and with comrades outside. We are asking our true friends outside to supply us with people to visit key prisoners so such a network can be established. We believe this project will help the development of a stronger prison movement outside as well as assist us with the struggle within.

We also need real material and political support in other areas. One of these areas is to keep the public informed about the nature of our struggle.

We have neither the desire nor the intent to be dominated by the double yoke of the prison administration and neo-nazi violence.

The whole purpose behind their intensified organizational effort lies in the fact the under the protection and guidance of racist authorities, the kamp becomes fertile ground for developing storm troops to eventually be used outside. But in order to achieve this they first must crush the revolutionary fervor that officials, despite all their efforts over the years, simply could not do.

And since they cannot stamp out revolutionary spirit through repressive measures, what is next? Physical assassinations. We are not the least bit ignorant of this.

We have not only the duty to protect ourselves, but as revolutionaries, are committed to the struggle against imperialism. White supremacist organizations within the kalifornia koncentration kamps refuse to acknowledge the fact that we are not their oppressors. Hence, they voluntarily choose to become unpaid, though oppressed, agents of imperialists and prison officials. Consequently, they must be dealt with according to their actions.

We hope that our white anti-imperialist comrades who are even more thoroughly smothered by prison authorities and white supremacist groups than we are will begin to emerge and join the struggle.

One of their first acts of support might be the process of education of other white prisoners concerning the true nature of our struggle so that they will not be afraid of us.

We expect officials to attempt to portray what is happening here publicly as "gang activity" or "racial war" or both. It is no such thing, and this is where our outside friends and white revolutionaries inside can help dispel the myth that has been so successfully perpetrated in the past.

We have not lost nor abandoned our commitment to developing unity among prisoners to combat the system, but we are not blind to the fact that a cancerous growth in our midst must be removed before there is any hope of prisoners unity in kamp quentin on a multi-national level.

We are not struggling against white prisoners, but the neo-nazi factions and we would like for you to make this fact well known for us because we have no media access to the people because our main enemy monopolizes it.

Another area of support from the outside may rest on at least neutralization of certain pigs who are not only members of white supremacist organizations themselves, but give active support to their convict counterparts.

What we want to stress here is that we are people, anti-imperialist, revolutionary people, caught up in a bind between a racist prison administration and neo-nazi type organizations bent upon our destruction and the destruction of freedom-loving peoples everywhere. We are people with a mission, an historic mission, and we intend to carry it out. We hope for your full support as we come more and more to the realization that to win, we must consolidate our forces. Thank you.

BUILD TO WIN

TENTATIVE PROPOSAL FOR MATERIAL AND POLITICAL SUPPORT FROM AUGUST 21ST COALITION FOR RELEASE OF PRISONERS FROM SEGREGATION

We (prisoners in Max B) have just moments ago received copies of attached judgement in Wright, et. al. v. Enomoto, et. al., case No. C-73-1422-SAW and there has been no time to consult with anyone if this is to reach the Coalition in time for its March 24 meeting, which is why the proposal is both tentative and hastily drawn.

Since there were Black, Brown, and White prisoners who brought the suit and the judgement was favorable, we may call it a multi-national prisoners' victory within the state of kalifornia.

But currently, it is a paper victory only, for as you can see, prison officials still are left free to define who they will lockup for administrative purposes and for how long, provided they make certain procedural "safeguards." The order in no way prohibits officials from locking prisoners up because of political or religious beliefs, or from conducting mass roundups of prisoners and attaching "prison gang" labels as a justification for segregating them from the main prison population.

What is needed is a clear-cut prisoners' definition of the issues dealing with administrative segregation to be utilized as a general position by which prisoners can protect themselves from being trampled over in matters concerning administrative segregation.

Since the original lawsuit was filed by a multi-national group of prisoners from several prisons around the state, the campaign to make the court victory a real one should also be a multi-national and statewide effort.

Now, I have some thoughts about what some of the things the project should be pushing. As I stated earlier, we just got the judgement and I'm coming off the top of my head, so none of this has been thought through and I haven't had time to consult with anyone about the points raised or even the desirability of trying to deal with it as a united force.

How we can find these things out can best be accomplished by:

1. Each joint establishing its own multi-national committee from segregation units to work out programs to combat use of ad seg as punishment unit, based upon objective conditions of that joint.
2. Each joint put its program together and all the joints get together and formulate statewide position to be used as general guide from which to operate.

My specific proposal at this time for the August 21st Coalition is:

1. Distribute copies of this to each seg unit in each prison listed in the judgement as defendants. I can put it to PPU (Max B) myself here in quentin. This would be for their input -- criticisms, ideas, questions, etc.
2. Provide persons to work on this project if acceptable to prisoners inside. Such work to consist of, but not limited to the following:

- a. communication liason between prisons working on project;
- b. print leaflets, communiques and other material as needed;
- c. utilize media outlets to inform public of our efforts; and
- d. support demonstrations, etc.

I do not expect it will be easy to get all the

people who are being fucked around out of segregation. In fact, I KNOW that to make the court victory real, there is difficult work ahead. That is why I'm suggesting that seg units all over the state pitch in and fight for the right of themselves and others to protect all prisoners from the often arbitrary and excessive punishment.

These thoughts have to do with areas we need to work on and push as a collective prisoners position.

* We define what "genuine" emergencies are from our viewpoint and not just accept administration's.

* Demand that all prisoners in administrative segregation be given immediate reclassification for mainline status.

* All those locked up for membership in "prison gangs" or affiliates or associates be released forthwith, unless they have been duly convicted of an assault.

* Those convicted of assault have their time set for segregation status in a sensible manner (i.e., 2-3 years on assault in which prisoner died, 1-2 years where assault inflicted serious injury, and 6 mo-1 year for minor assault (with deadly weapon). Those who have already served more time than that in segregation for the applicable category, to be released forthwith, unless they state in writing the preference to remain segregated.

* All prisoners currently in seg units for assaults as outlined above to be considered "first term offenders" (on in-prison assaults) and given a fresh start. Subsequent assaults by the same prisoner to receive one year aggravation of base term for the applicable category.

* All those locked up for political and/or religious beliefs to be released immediately unless preference to remain segregated is stated in writing.

* All those committed to segregation status for convictions received from the streets to be released immediately unless preference to remain segregated is stated in writing.

* All prisoners convicted in court for offenses committed in prisons to be released immediately without regard to time outline shown above. Double jeopardy involved where conviction resulted in additional sentence to original commitment and being put in segregation. One or the other (conviction or segregation) MUST go immediately.

* All prisoners locked up for what could constitute felony to have outside trial if they desire. Prison disciplinary system too rigged for any hope of fairness in determining guilt or innocence.

* All prisoners in segregation units be permitted to have contact visits and family visiting program to be established without delay.

* Administration arguments that staff and other inmates are afraid for certain prisoners to be in general population invalid. In the case of staff, those frightened to be near prisoners should do like people on other jobs and quit if they are too timid. No prisoner should suffer punishment to satisfy whims of staff personnel at ANY level.

This can be considered an initial working program from San Quentin. It is expected that it will be added to, modified and more perfectly drawn through input by other prisoners in segregation.

I.Q. TESTS AND CLASSES FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED

The state of kalifornia, through attorney general evelle j. younger's office, officially took an outright racist position against Blacks during a trial in the san francisco u.s. district court.

A Black woman challenged the right of the school system to place her son in classes for the mentally retarded on the basis of IQ test scores.

The attorney general said the school system in kalifornia does have that right, although it has never been shown IQ tests actually have anything to do with intelligence.

Over the years, probably thousands of Black boys and girls have been put in such classes without the knowledge of their parents. Perhaps some of us in these concentration camps are products of mentally retarded classes or some of our own sons and daughters may be in them right now.

Being put in such classes doesn't mean the child is mentally retarded at all. But it does mean that child will have an even harder time making it in this racist u.s. society than the rest of us are having. A psychologist testified at the trial that the boy in question definitely was not mentally retarded. Yet, he had been placed in those classes for years, doing 20 minutes of reading and arithmetic with the rest of the time drawing pictures and going on field trips - many of them to the teacher's house. In short, he was being taught not to learn anything that would benefit. The same miseducation takes place regularly in the "normal" classes, but this represents the height of educating one not to learn.

The mother was deceived about her son's education
(See I.Q. TESTS, page 12)

(I.Q. TESTS, from page 11)

in school. She was told only that he was being placed in a special class that would assist him in his reading. Except for being a slow reader, he apparently was alright in other areas. 1/

The IQ test is nothing more than a psychological test designed to record "general intelligence," and there are many professionals who even dispute that claim. The test results are recorded in numbers. The higher the number, the more "intelligent" one is considered to be and the better educational doors that person will have opened up for him. That is according to traditional u.s. standards, which does not include Blacks in its basic structure.

The tests were designed by middle class whites around their own value system to determine the so-called intelligence factor. The testing/scoring criteria rejects the inclusion of material appropriate to the conditions of the Black community, conditions which white america imposed, shut Blacks off from reaching their level of opportunity, and at the same time required Blacks to meet the standards of what test designers consider intelligence.

It is racist in every aspect because of its systematic incorporation into the testing/scoring expectation levels only the white society values, while rejecting that of other major nationalities. Naturally, this places the white child at a big advantage over Black and other oppressed nationalities.

The IQ testing procedures, although just one of the many forces of institutionalized racism in the u.s., has a devastating effect on Blacks in the educational system.

If there are still those among us who have the belief that this issue of mental retardation placement based on IQ tests in schools is a minor problem or doesn't apply to you or your children we suggest you give it a little more thought before dismissing it from your mind because it touches us in many ways.

If the same type test for measuring the IQ were drawn up, but based solely on the Black learning experience (again we emphasize it was FORCED upon us by a racist society) inside the Black community, we believe that the test scores of Blacks would rise dramatically, while that of whites would drop sharply.

But would such a scheme prove Blacks intellectually superior to whites? Of course not. By that same token, Blacks are not intellectually inferior to whites and we want our people to get a firm understanding of that because many of us still believe it based upon what the white ruling class says, even though we say differently. Some still believe it because they have given legitimacy to the system that controls us. And if we give the controlling interest legitimacy, especially when it downgrades and exploits us, we help render ourselves illegitimate in our own minds.

Just as a testing formula based upon the sole learning experience of Blacks, but imposed upon the whole of the u.s. would not prove Black intellectual superiority, so it is with the IQ tests that have been used all these years. It is precisely the one-way testing currently being used that renders the IQ test system totally invalid and blatantly racist.

What it has done is produced a negative social impact so huge we may never understand its total extent.

We have already pointed out how IQ test scores are now being used to place Black children into classes for the mentally retarded and how the state of kalifornia is pushing to keep it that way, even though with the current trial going on, at least one psychologist has testified that the low test scores do not mean the children are mentally retarded.

Sometimes children spend years in these classes without the consent or knowledge of the parents. On the basis of this arbitrary selection, they are effectively denied the same education as other children who have scored a little higher number. This means if they weren't retarded when they went into such classes, they could be made very close to it by the time they get out because of what they are taught. 2/

What we see is not only little children being ruined on the basis of IQ test scores, but huge numbers of Blacks whose ability to land certain kinds of jobs, or who, between an experienced Black and an inexperienced white "qualifies" for higher positions in various jobs, or even the ability to land a job at all. We see it as playing a role in the government's racism - though it claims equality and justice.

The move by kalifornia's attorney general which says Black children in the san francisco and kalifornia school system can be placed in classes for the mentally retarded on the basis of IQ test scores is not an isolated case of high government officials displaying racism. In fact, that is where racism having the worst effect upon us comes from. Look at what goes down in San Quentin and you can see it visibly, from the top down. A recent u.s. secretary of agriculture, which is a very high position within the president's cabinet, made the statement that all nig-

gas want "is a warm bed, some tight pussy and loose shoes." That was some "behind-the-scenes" conversation that wan't supposed to get out, but did, and it reflects both the fun-making against Blacks in this kountry as well as the actual thinking that goes into the making of official policy.

We could go on and on with examples of cases where government on various levels in the u.s. is itself the vehicle by which racism is carried, but that would take pages. Besides, we are all capable of recognizing the events that take place in our lives. What we have to become capable of doing is doing something about it.

There should be so much hell being raised in support of the challenge being made in judge peckham's san francisco u.s. district courtroom about IQ tests and classes for the mentally retarded that the whole world will hear it. But for the most part, all we hear is the lonely voice of the mother, with a very few witnesses and friends standing up to the might of the state, fighting not only the crime committed against her son, but what amounts to a battle for us all to tear down one of the decadent walls of institutional racism. Must she wage it virtually alone?

1/ Had she not been misled concerning what the class really was, she would have been in a position to challenge the placement through her knowledge that her son was not mentally retarded. This, along with sterilization of young Black and other Third World women, drugs for "hyperactive" children (selected as arbitrarily as those for mentally retarded classes), paying prisoners to become human guinea pigs, building new jails and prisons, behavior modification programs, drug overflow in Black communities and many other projects supported by government are all "small" parts of a whole program of genocide. Alone, none of them appear to amount to much. Together, they constitute a horrible picture, and they are all in operation at the same time. Already there is a noticeable serious shortage of Black men in our communities. The trend shows the situation will be getting much worse, not better, until we start taking charge of our own lives and communities.

2/ It is possible for a child to be taught for years almost as if he were in the kindergarten, playing with blocks and putty, never really getting an opportunity to learn anything. A related matter to the placement of our children in classes for the mentally retarded is the issue of putting them on drugs because someone at the school can classify them as "hyperactive." We apologize for not being able to say whether or not the bill passed, but just a few years ago senator cranston and then-senator tunney both voted yes on a bill that in effect gave local school systems across the kountry the right to administer drugs to children the schools thought were hyperactive. We know these "hyperactives" are mostly Black, but the worst feature of the bill was that it specifically stated the drugs could be administered without either the consent or knowledge of the parents. This program was actually initiated to destroy the consciousness and struggle that was developing in Black communities around the u.s. Whether or not the bill was passed, it is known that drugs have been given to children. How many of our children have been destroyed or turned into highways to hard dope and the consequent behavior necessary to support government-produced habits? The children probably have no idea what is being done to them other than they are getting medicine or maybe even a piece of candy.

SHU, from A 8

than the rest of us), but as a protection against that same denial for us one day.

We can see a potential argument advanced by officials to the effect that there would be violence if they allowed enemies in the same visiting room with each other, but not only has that not been shown to be the case, it overlooks the fact that the so-called "enemies" of each other in Max B get together in the same visiting room all the time ... and there have not been any problems ... so such arguments as that are really nothing but excuses for them to continue with the inhuman punishment, squeezing out every drop they can.

In its early stages this support can take the form of petitions signed by the whole prison population and by getting the inmate activity groups and MAC to voice their support, and by talking to officials, urging them to change their thinking. Those who have been in SHU and know what the visiting situation is like can be especially useful in educating other prisoners.

This is something we can all get behind and all benefit from. SUPPORT THE SHU CONTACT VISITING!!!

CALIFORNIA TO BUILD MORE PRISONS

It looks like the California Department of Corrections has won its long battle to build "new, more secure" prisons. Not just prisons, but modern dungeons more vicious than even AC.

Governor Brown got weak-kneed in this election year, anticipating pressure from Evelle Younger and Ed Davis and appropriated \$96 million to build four new 600-cell prisons, claiming they would be urgently needed in the early 1980's to accommodate an "expected" rapid rise in the prison population.

Or maybe it was his keeping a political pledge he made some time ago to powerful forces in the CDC and just waited til this year, election year, to get the biggest political benefit he can out of the deal.

Anyway, the California Senate upped the ante to \$130 million and added two more such dungeons to the bargain. \$130,000,000.00 for 3,600 cells that do nothing but strip away all semblances of human spirit and dignity.

That is enough to give every man, woman and child \$5,800.00 in the state of Kalifornia! And the \$130 million only covers the cost of building these dungeons. It does not include the supposed \$10,000.00 per year for the "maintenance" of each prisoner or the salaries of employees.

I've been down going on 10 years and I have yet to realize MY share of that \$10,000 they say they spend on me a year. A lot of dogs eat better food than me and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals would have a fit if you confine a little puppy to the space you got me locked in most of the time. Gotta fight like hell to get proper medical treatment (which I still don't have) and can't even get clean clothes to put on my back, get talked to and treated like I am a three-year-old child, have my mail tampered with, visitors harassed and ready to be shot dead 'cause I don't like the services provided. Give me my \$10 thousand every year and put me back out in the "other" rat race where my chances of survival as a human will be a lot better and at a lot less expense to the public.

What I'm really saying is there really is no need

for more prisons. The amount of money put into their construction and our maintenance per year could be used to upgrade the quality of life in the community.

Who is going to benefit from the new prisons? Certainly not us and the general public. Prisons are a proven failure. The primary product of the prison system is human failure returned to the community a bigger burden than when it originally left, and to permit the spending of \$130 million to produce more of what CDC has been turning out does not seem like a public benefit to me.

The ones who benefit will be the construction companies, the politicians and some CDC people sitting crowded around their offices in Sacramento in a bureaucratic maze figuring out the next step in fooling the public into allowing even more to be built. The prison business is just like the weapons manufacturing business for the military. A whole lot of production with no possible benefit except big business, politicians and bureaucrats ... and the bigger the business becomes, the more it seeks to grow.

And the more the state or national economies are built upon such non-useful enterprises, the more necessary they become to stabilize that economy because when they don't add to the real means of sustaining the ability of people to have adequate food, clothing, and shelter, medical and educational services, the more will have to be built to contain those who have to find other means of survival.

We might say the prison business is being modeled after the military-industrial complex, which has just about seen its glory days and because people are waking up to it, another, similarly profitable venture must be found and prisons are it.

There is even the possibility that this past year of violence and racial turmoil, which we have consistently stated was in large part due to officials working hand-in-hand with white supremacist groups, was a carefully orchestrated manipulation of prisoners to get Brown to see the "need" for appropriating dollars for new prisons.

Whatever the reason, there is no need for new prisons.

GRINNING JIMMY & HUMAN RIGHTS

The following article by Mary McGrory, a white syndicated columnist, was taken from the San Francisco Chronicle. It is a seething indictment against Grinning Jimmy Carter's so-called "human rights" campaign around the world.

Make no mistake about it. She is definitely not a radical or "leftist". She believes the u.s. has the best system of government there is. Her discussion of the Wilmington Ten political prisoners case comes about because grinning jimmy is so obviously hypocritical about his politics something had to be written to make him understand he is about to make a 100% fool of himself, but mostly of the u.s.

She seems to be telling him he ought to at least make a gesture toward cleaning up some of the slop in his own pig pen before going off to other lands where people are aware of the Wilmington Ten, telling them what they must do about human rights and political prisoners.

The Wilmington Ten should be freed. Right now. But they are only a few of the thousands of political prisoners in the u.s. That case just happens to be the most widely known, but Amnesty International has a list of people whose cases they are investigating, some here in kalifornia, and at least one in san quentin.

We do not agree with everything she wrote. For example, her implication that all things come out right in the end. Too many people have rotted in u.s. prisons or were executed for crimes they did not commit. Recalling the u.s. supreme court ruling in the Dred Scott case stating Blacks "have no rights the white man is bound to respect," a phenomena still holding true in North Carolina and all around the u.s. today, we disagree that things necessarily come out alright in the end. If they were released today, it wouldn't mean it came out alright in the end. They never should have been imprisoned in the first place. It might come out alright if those who perpetrated the false imprisonment, up to and including the judge, were made to serve the time they sentenced innocent people to serve.

We thought we'd print McGrory's entire article so we can get a brief, closeup glimpse of the man our people voted into office. Not that Reagan would have been better, because we know he wouldn't, but to view people's lives and the politics that are being played with them.

A CARTER HAND-WASHING--by Mary McGrory

Jimmy Carter will press the subject of human rights abroad--but not at home.

He will press in Poland, when he goes there Thursday, and in Iran two days later.

But not in North Carolina.

The president opened his press conference with a long, prideful Human Rights Week homily. He has "worked day and night to make sure that a concern for human rights is woven through everything our government does, both at home and abroad. We stand with the tortured and the unjustly imprisoned."

At a post-press conference huddle, he was asked if he stood with the "unjustly imprisoned" Wilmington Ten.

The Ten--actually nine, now-- are serving sentences of up to 34 years for the 1971 firebombing of a North Carolina grocery store during civil rights disturbances.

They were convicted on the subsequently recanted testimony of three witnesses. Amnesty International, the Nobel Prize-winning group which calls the world's attention to human rights violations, has taken up the case as if the Ten were political prisoners in Iran, South Africa or Chile.

But Jimmy Carter who wrote to human rights activist Andrei Sakharov, who authorized a searing statement on the death of Steven Biko, does not think it is "proper" to say anything about oppression in his own backyard.

"It is a state matter, I would have no jurisdiction."

Minutes earlier, he had boasted, "In the past year, human rights has become an issue that no government on earth can now afford to ignore."

But he thinks he can ignore the Ten, just like the governor of North Carolina, James Hunt, who will not pardon them.

These unjustly imprisoned must have faith in the judicial system. Carter does. He has observed that "The ultimate decision is the right one." The Ten are appealing a lower court rejection of their request for a new trial.

But Mr. Human Rights said he had not read the transcript or the testimony of the trial. He said it smugly, as if to demonstrate he is no meddler, although he had recently been bragging that he was.

He has no intention of calling up Governor Hunt to urge "compassion." Politically, both he and Hunt

(See GRINNING JIMMY, page 16)

HERMAN BELL SPEAKS

The Story of an African Prisoner of War

(NOTE: Herman Bell is a 30 year old Black political prisoner-of-war, at the Marion Federal Penitentiary in Marion, Illinois. He is serving what amounts to a Life term in prison for his activities in the Black Liberation Movement. The story he has to tell is most indicative of how the U.S. Government engaged in the most heinous crimes to repress the Black Liberation Movement, and especially the Black Panther Party. Those of us fortunate enough to have met him have found him to be the very epitome of the Black Liberation fighter: serious, dedicated, and determined to struggle for the freedom of the people..... and against their enemies. But you be the judge as Herman Bell speaks.... MARION POLITICAL PRISONERS COLLECTIVE, Marion Federal Penitentiary.)

"To begin, firstly, I am a member of the Black Liberation Army, and due to the violent repression of the Black Panther Party, brought on by the concerted efforts of State and federal Government officials, well, for all practical purposes and intent the Black Panther Party was destroyed, and in consequence the Black Liberation Army emerged as an offshoot of the B.P.P.; you might say that the old Panthers were re-born again. The Black Liberation Army's political line is much like that of the old Panther Party. Characteristically the BLA is a military and political front. We are military in the sense of practicing community self-defense against racist or colonial police attack against Black people, and in addition, we recognize armed struggle to be the sole means whereby Black and poor people in general throughout the world can attain their liberty. Black people in the U.S.A. seek political and economic independence, and thus once and for all to rid themselves of U.S. imperialism in the form of colonial domination of the Black nation."

"Again, like the old Panthers, we seek community control of our neighborhoods, and at the same time to rid ourselves of the parasites who grow sleek and fat off the exploitation of our people, the capitalist merchant who takes everything of value from our communities and gives back nothing in return, and thus reducing our people to beggars and our community to an unfit and undesirable place to live. Moreover, this warped economic relationship is the source of unbearable misery and hardship for Black people, of which results most noticeably in Black-on-Black crimes and the prostitution of our women. Other prominent features of this warped colonial economy is: substandard housing, poor health care, inadequate educational facilities, coupled with chronic unemployment, etc., which creates unsafe, undesirable, and unacceptable conditions of life in the Black colony. But the most dangerous element in our community is the colonial police force, who patrol our community in the name of white capitalist "law-and-order". Due to their particular function and brutal conduct in our community, the name "Pig" aptly characterizes them. We perceive them to be an occupying army in our community, and the Black community to be a Colony. They are garrisoned in the Black colony to suppress rebellion, protect the colonizer's property, and to intimidate Black and poor people in general. The police and the American criminal (in)justice system functions to maintain existing unjust societal arrangements between the "haves" and "have nots", the ruling class capitalists and the working class."

"In this light, the charge of Federal Bank Robbery against me takes on a wider and deeper meaning, for we of the Black Liberation Army are determined to rid our community of all parasites and "gobbling elements" who live off the people and produce nothing, by any means necessary, including the armed seizure and expropriation of their illegally gotten capital. The Black Liberation Army waged war against the Capitalist state, using urban guerilla warfare. During this war many comrades were killed or captured as a result of the government counter-insurgency campaign. Many other comrades were forced to go underground."

"I was captured in New Orleans, Louisiana on September 2, 1973, based upon a fugitive warrant charging me with Bank Robbery and the assassination of two New York City colonial policemen. I had been underground, and it was only as a result of the most brutal torture inflicted upon three of my captured comrades in the New Orleans police headquarters, that led to my capture. The New Orleans Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), New York Police Department and The San Francisco Police Department all had taken part in the capture and torture of

my comrades, and thus learned of my whereabouts. Let me tell you something: physical torture is a painful thing in itself, but more so when a "cattle prod" is introduced to your genitals to give them an electrical shock, and to have your penis pricked with a sewing needle time and again, is truly inhuman. And then can you imagine a slimy sack being put over your head and tied around your neck, and on top of that, having a foreign object forcibly stuck down your throat to induce vomiting, coupled with brutal beatings for a solid week? Well, this is just part of what "law enforcement" officials subjected my comrades to in the police headquarters in New Orleans, just to find out where I was staying."

"Upon my capture, I was rushed to police headquarters for interrogation; it's pointless and would be repetitious to repeat what happened to me there, but I'll just say that my torture even exceeded that of my comrades in its savagery. How thrilled they were to put their hands on me!"

"Eventually I was kidnapped from the New Orleans jail and brought to New York City by federal Marshalls, in blatant defiance of my so-called Constitutional right to an extradition hearing. In New York, I was indicted for the assassination of patrolmen Waverly Jones and Joseph Piagentini, two brutal colonial policemen assigned to the Black community. The Prosecution was in its glory. It seems that while the cops were out looking for me, the Prosecutor had been given a blank check to set up in grand style his three star witnesses--paid informers, who, incidentally has been on his payroll for over three years. They were professional witnesses, and the bill for their services, even the prosecutor will admit, was in excess of \$400,000.00. With such high-priced witnesses, a stacked jury selection box, and a judge in the Prosecutor's corner, it wasn't the question of whether there would be a conviction, but rather how soon it was to be done! But, fortunately, on the jury sat a few brave, honest, souls who refused to be swayed by the crocodile tears and fake lament of the police department, or be deceived by their high-priced liars, even though the Prosecutor had a silver tongue and his informants gave the impression of having been "born to the job". Thanks to our jurors' courage and sense of honesty, we had a hung jury (mistrial); they simply refused to convict, and therefore "Round 2" was in the making. Meanwhile I was shipped to San Francisco, California to face a Bank Robbery charge there."

"Upon my appearance in federal court for Bank Robbery, I was offered a 15 year guilty plea "bargain" by the U.S Attorney, who threatened me with the maximum of 25 years in prison if I didn't accept. My reply was for him to "get 12 jurors and come on with it". They did, and went one further by installing a "Black" juror in the box to "show" they were not being racist; the remaining jurors being White and of middle class background. The Prosecutor also bent over double to give the appearance of being "fair". But after three years of eluding my captors, facts and faces about the case had become bleary to the government witnesses, therefore upon my appearance in the courtroom, the Prosecutor had all of his witnesses sitting in the back row of the courtroom, thus making absolutely sure that they would identify me as the robber. Naturally I was convicted and sentenced to 25 years in federal prison after such a "fair trial". By the time this railroading in federal court was over, the new York City authorities were awaiting my presence to start anew with more "courtroom roulette".

"Along with my two BLA comrades, Albert Washington and Anthony Bottom, we were convicted of assassinating Patrolmen Jones and Piagentini, and each sentenced to two 25-to-Life prison terms, with the added stipulation that we were not to be eligible for parole until we had fully served 20 calendar years in prison! We had been convicted amid a lynch mob atmosphere in New York; the Rockefeller-controlled press screamed for the "death of the BLA" and eternal imprisonment for all us "mad dog cop killers" and "terrorists". They hoped to make the people, and especially Black people, think that we would just attack anyone blindly, rather than just the Pigs who are in control of our oppression and those who do their dirty work as soldiers like Jones and Piagentini."

"I think that there is no question in the minds of most Black people that we are perpetual victims of a national conspiracy to deprive us of our constitutional and human rights, and our rights to political

ON UNITY

The October issue of a prison newsletter produced by prisoners enslaved at Marion Federal Penitentiary revealed a photograph of prisoners, Black, Chicano, Native American, Puerto Rican, and white standing side by side together in unity. It inspired such a magnanimous effect that I immediately cut it out and attached it to my wall.

Marion Penitentiary, one of Amerika's most atrocious maximum concentration camps. With its Behavior Modification Units; with its sophisticated closed circuit monitors and recording devices that film and record a prisoner's every action and word; with its soundproof, steel-front, tiger-tomb cages that house prisoners for indefinite periods of time. Marion Penitentiary, where prisoners are used as guinea pigs for mind experiments; where prisoners are brutally attacked and have buckets of human excrement hurled upon them by fascist pigs. Yet in light of these dehumanizing conditions, prisoners of all races, creed and color are struggling together in unity against their oppressors. Consequently these Brothers have grasped the true significance of unity and applied it as a defensive weapon against their captors.

The question that I wish to pose now is this: If prisoners can come together in unity at Marion, then why can prisoners not come together here at San Quentin??? We must attempt to set aside our differences and dislikes for each other on the basis of skin-tone or for any other reasons that may be and begin building a strong, unified front (resistance) against our chief nemesis, fascist Summer and his gestapos.

What is there to be gained from the shedding of our own blood? It only serves to fatten the pockets of the pigs who will be rewarded with overtime pay for tightening security on us; it only serves to bring in more sophisticated weapons to maim and kill us with...and to justify their reasons to ransack our quarters at random; feed us from filthy trays, and delay our visitors hours on end before releasing us

(HERMAN BELL, from page 14)

and economic self-determination. Since employment, or at least the hope of it is an essential element in regulating the behavior of most of the population, and since Black people are exploited with the present socio-economic structure in America, their response to this glaring injustice makes it necessary for a standing colonial army in our communities, in the form of the police department, to control and contain the Black Colony. But not even the most powerful army with the most sophisticated weapons, nor the most repressive laws legislated can deter us from our long sought after goal of freedom....total political and economic independence. It would be an understatement to say that there is no love lost between the colonial police department and Black people."

"In conclusion, I'd like to quote from James Baldwin's book "The Fire Next Time":

"....In any case, White people, who had robbed Black people of their liberty and who profited by this theft every hour that they lived, had no moral ground.....on which to stand. They had the judges, the juries, the shotguns, the law.....in a word, Power! But it was a criminal power, to be feared but not respected, and to be outwitted in any way whatever".

AN APPEAL FOR THE PEOPLE TO STRUGGLE FOR THE FREEDOM OF HERMAN BELL AND ALL BIA PRISONERS-OF-WAR!!

There is no doubt that Herman Bell is a Black political prisoner-of-war. U.S. Government political repression programs like the FBI's "COINTELPRO" (Counter-Intelligence Program) and the CIA's "Operation CHAOS" were used to infiltrate, disrupt, entrap, frame-up, imprison--and murder--Black activists and destroy Black organizations all during the 1960's. The Black Panther Party was especially targeted for such criminal actions by U.S. government secret police agencies. Herman Bell, Albert Washington, and Anthony Bottom were only three victims of this fascist search-and-destroy campaign. When they and the Black Panther Party was driven underground and fought back as the Black Liberation Army, they were then branded "criminals", instead of victims, and railroaded to prison. They must be freed, and deserve our support; it is not necessary that you agree with their position on armed struggle, but that you recognize justice and fair play. All across the country the prisons are full of Black Liberation Army fighters; it is the responsibility of the Black Liberation Movement and all Progressive, fair-minded persons to help free these Brothers and Sisters. There should be prisoner amnesty committees formed all over the country,

from our cells.

A strong unified prisoners' front would deal a crucial blow to the fascist Summer administration. No longer would they be able to manipulate and pit one race of prisoners against another. No longer would they be able to snatch a prisoner off of the mainline and isolate him because of racial motives. Eventually Max B would become non-existent since the majority of the prisoners confined there are proposed to be affiliated with gangs or sympathizers of such. With all prisoners coming together in unity there would be just one BIG GANG!!

We are able to see the merits of unity in practice by observing certain progressive elements within the walls of San Quentin. The Muslim Brothers are a perfect example in this regard. Because they are a unified force, they are able to conduct successful pie sales; they are permitted to enter certain areas of the institution where other prisoners' can not; their concerns and grievances are listened to more attentively by the prison officials because it is not just one voice speaking but many voices. Of course we may have different concerns than those of the Muslim Brothers, however, they will never be heard as long as we are divided.

The Muslims are not that great in numbers, yet they are able to be heard because they are unified. It is unity that gives them strength. Can you conceive how powerful our voices would be if we prison-Black, Brown, Red and white would UNITE?!!

A New Year has emerged Brothers. Let us stand together as one strong force against this common oppressor and enslaver of our lives. Let this mark the beginning of international solidarity between all prisoners held captive in concentration camps throughout Amerika. Let us fashion ourselves after our beautiful Brothers/Comrades at Marion and BUILD TO WIN!!

IN COMRADESHIP, BROTHERHOOD,
& STRUGGLE

and the Left should mount a national campaign to secure General Amnesty for all political prisoners and force the government to unconditionally pardon such prisoners.

If you would like to help or would like more information, write to:

Audrey A. Myers, Director
NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SUPPORT
THE MARION BROTHERS (NCSMB)
4556A Oakland
St. Louis, Mo. 63110

Yuri Kochiyama
NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE
OF POLITICAL PRISONERS (NCDDP)
P.O. Box 1184
Harlem, N.Y. 10027

Letters of support can be sent to:

Herman Bell
#2483-131
P.O. Box 1000
Marion, Illinois 62959

(N.A.P.O., from page 5)

CONCLUSION

As has been previously pointed out, it was the Black Liberation Movement which has borne the brunt of government repression. But the Black movement of today has lain dormant instead of challenging the U.S. government about its crimes, and as a result white socialist groups like the Socialist Workers Party, and the Communist Party-led "National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression" are the ones raising the issue. They are fighting the fight that we should be fighting! We cannot therefore complain about our struggle being "coopted" if we do not seriously assert our right to leadership; we must struggle! We (Blacks) are the ones who have been killed, beaten, framed-up and imprisoned, not the white socialist groups; they were merely spied on and had "dirty tricks" played on them; in our case the intent was to crush the life out of our movement altogether. We suffered the most, so we should scream the loudest!

An opportunity exists now to turn our setbacks into victories. The disclosures since the Watergate scandal about secret police crimes and government corruption have caused the capitalist government to be on the defensive, and provides a perfect opportunity to further weaken its credibility and moral authority to such an extent that it may never recover. We must act now, however, as we may never get another opportunity!

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FOR EX-PRISONERS

The Friends Committee on Legislation has been pushing a bill in the kalifornia legislature for several years that would provide unemployment insurance benefits for prisoners unable to find a job when they are released. Senate Bill 224, providing for such benefits was finally passed this year. (1977). Effective July 1, 1978, prisoners coming out can qualify.

In order to qualify for the benefits, the prisoner must have worked a minimum of 22 weeks during the last year of imprisonment. This creates a problem for those released from the holes because there is no way for them to do any working that would allow them to qualify.

Brothas and Sistas in holes throughout kkk (kalifornia koncentration kamps) who either have release dates or anticipate getting a release date of a year or less at CRB should start pressing HARD ... RIGHT NOW to get back to general population in order to qualify by getting back to classification and filing 602 appeal forms. Most of us haven't done anything to be in the hole in the first place, but everybody should have the chance to qualify for unemployment insurance when he or she is paroled.

Officials will scream about the security of their kamps, but OUR concern lies with the ability of persons having at least some income without having to resort to ripping someone off to fill an empty stomach.

The employment situation on the streets is in a state of acute crisis. More than 40% of Black youth ... not to mention the 17-22% of Black adults out of work. We know it is going to be very hard for Brothas and Sistas coming out of these kamps to find legal employment to support themselves.

Bacons who run kamp quentin already anticipating the SB224 employment problem have stated those who are in lockup units may consider it their job assignments, but this is not so. People who are put in

these small concrete cages that SPCA says are twice as small as the minimum amount a dog should have, are there for punishment into submission to fascist demands and not to work. We should be opposed to allowing them to use us to perpetuate the lie we are doing something we aren't.

What they are doing is setting us up to make fraudulent claims. At best, it could cause us to get cut off from any benefits because the law is very specific in requiring a minimum of 22 weeks of work withing the year prior to release... productive work.

Now we all know the warden has declared the hole as a job assignment but we also know we aren't working productively. We are being punished instead. Sooner or later the unemployment insurance people will find that out and WE are the ones who will have to suffer the consequences because the warden won't get one day in jail for his part in setting us up to make the fraudulent claims.

We will be the ones who sign the application papers and be considered committing a fraud. All he will have done is showed us how to "break the law"; unknown to us, and true to the u.s. code, we become victimized at both ends.

We are not suggesting the unemployment insurance program is any sort of solution to any of our problems because they run much deeper than that. Here, we are only addressing ourselves to the plight of prisoners locked in kkk holes who are being denied the right to qualify for unemployment benefits "legitimately" according to the requirements of Senate Bill 224.

We call upon prisoners in the holes of each kamp to begin to deal with this problem by setting up committees and outside support, submit ideas to other kamps for organizing at the state level, etc. More on this later.

THE PRISONERS IN MAX B

The prisoners in Max B are still trying to get their family visiting program in operation, but say all they have gotten so far is a lot of promises and phoney excuses for breaking them. The money has been appropriated and the quarters could have been operating some time ago. Also, we hear there are two visiting trailers here that are not being used, and officials could give them to Max B til their quarters are installed. We here on the mainline should be giving Max B our support on this and every other way we can.

Brothers Eugene Allen and Ernest Graham and all the other prisoners illegally held under a continuing sentence of death in the gas chamber should be released from that yoke very soon. The sick and diseased mind of attorney general evelle younger, who hoped to ride on their backs to the governor's office in this year's elections by giving them "a second chance to die" (in his own words) by refusing to honor the abolition of the death penalty two years ago

for some prisoners who had been sentenced to death. Since it was abolished in kourt, the kalifornia legislature voted it back into existence, and although those kept under sentence of death were already on the row when it was abolished, younger attempted to make the new death penalty law apply to them. The kourt slapped his argument back in his face as ridiculous, so now he will have to find other people's backs to ride into the governor's chair. He has ridden death, racist or anti-poor issues all the way from being a judge, to los angeles district attorney to kalifornia attorney general and will be the same way if he makes it to the governor's office. This is not meant to give support to the coward now in office. This is not meant to give support to the coward now in office. He (jerry brown) claimed to be opposed to the death penalty but was too afraid to stand up and fight for his "beliefs" when showdown time came.

(GRINNING JIMMY, from page 13)

can justify their handwashing. The nine prisoners have more friends abroad than at home. Besides, Hunt is the same kind of law and order governor as Carter.

There was the case, in 1974, of an 18-year-old Georgia student named Eve Pearson, who was sentenced to two years for stealing a rocking chair from a farmhouse porch. It was her first offense, but amid considerable public outcry, then-Governor Carter declined to pardon her.

Later the Georgia Supreme Court reduced her sentence.

So he's right in a way. It all comes out right in the end, but the question is how much longer a man who works "night and day" for the oppressed in Cambodia, South Africa and Uganda, can ignore domestic victims of official vindictiveness on the grounds that their problem is none of his business?

Grinning Jimmy's politics will be catching up with him and possibly blow up like a big bomb in his face. The human rights question Carter is pushing is the "stand with the tortured and unjustly imprisoned," but that doesn't even begin to scratch the surface of human rights.

One of these days some country is going to blast him with something like: You have told us of your human rights, now let me tell you about mine. We are not the richest nation in the world like the u.s., but we have no hungry people; we have no illiterate people; all of our people are working; we do not allow landlords who evict people because they cannot

work to pay their rent; all of our people have free dental and medical care; we do not allow our elderly to suffer; we do not allow utility companies to cut off the gas and electricity and cause people to starve or freeze to death as in the u.s. last winter; we do not allow our intelligence and police agencies to go out among the people to get them fighting each other, encourage criminal actions and then imprison or kill them because they acted like our agents tricked them into doing; we do not have people who are super rich. Nor do we have people so poor that we can't provide the basic needs of every man, woman and child; we do not have nearly the number of mental institutions as you, nor one-tenth the number of prisons; we do not have people jumping out of windows or off bridges the way they do in the u.s. because our social system isn't so pressurized that it makes life unbearable; we do not permit political scandals and crimes and allow these politicians to go free while we punish others severely; we don't have the rapes, high crime and dope problems as in the u.s., which are symptoms of a frustrated, poverty stricken people such as the u.s. These are SOME of the things we mean by human rights. Mr. Carter, what have you to say to that?

And Jimmy isn't grinning any more when he hears that because his country's human rights cannot begin to compare. Instead of answering the question, he calls his army, navy and air force to full alert, rattles his saber for all the world to hear and shouts, "STOP MEDDLING IN U.S. AFFAIRS!"