Good evening and welcome to Nothing is More Precious Than.... A major part of tonight's program is dedicated to the memory of Joanthan Jackson, William Christmas, and James McClain, murdered on August 7th 1970 at the Marin County Courthouse. That memorial will come later on in tonight's show... News first a number of reports...beginning with another anniversary, this one in Northern Ireland....
4 years ago today, the British government instituted the internment policy, imprisonment without trial, as part of repression against Irish freedom fighters. Several hundred men and women in Northern Ireland remain imprisoned without trial in concentration camps. Keith Bradley of the Irish Republican Club of the Bay Area, told us about internment.

Large demonstrations and street fighting are reported in Northern Ireland today, during protests of the internment policy. One Irish Republican told a crowd, "if there must be war, may your hand be steady and your aim be true." Police clashed with demonstrators in Belfast. British soldiers fired rubber bullets, people responded with bricks and bottles. Several people were killed by gunfire in incidents during the night. A large march and rally was held in Belfast today.

Meanwhile, in the Irish Republic to the South, prisoners near Dublin went on a hunger strike to protest the internment policy. Their statement said the hunger strike, "is a gesture of solidarity with the internees and political prisoners of Northern Ireland."
three members of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party have been sentenced to 30 years at hard labor by a military tribunal in the Dominican Republic. The arrest of three, who are citizens, has been protested by the Puerto Rican Socialist Party as an attack on the independence movement. Insert........
A memorial service was held today in Nagasaki, Japan, on this, the 30th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb by the United States on the people of Nagasaki. Two international peace conferences are also going on in Japan, with about 16,000 people taking part. 30 years... Nagasaki... Hiroshima... atomic genocide...
It was revealed this week that the US Army has been testing deadly nerve gas on humans, both on Army members, and on prisoners from Ohio State Penitentiary. The Army claims the people were volunteers, but also admits that many of the people subjected to the experiments were not told what was being done to them. The Army also claims that the amounts of nerve gas used were very small and that no one was killed. The experiments involving nerve gas and humans have been going on for at least 15 years.
In Angola, heavy fighting between rival groups in Angola is taking place, with battles now spreading into the capital city, Luanda. Many have been killed in battles over the last months. Meanwhile in Portugal the situation again is extremely tense, with changes in government and demonstrations both for and against the Armed Forces Movement.
300 guerrillas attacked a district police station in southern Thailand today. This was the second major attack by guerrillas in Thailand this week. A large group of guerrillas fought with Thai government soldiers in northern Thailand on Tuesday.
music
Three leaders of the American Indian Movement, Dennis Banks, Carter Camp, and Stan Holder, did not show up for sentencing in a South Dakota trial this week, and have been named as fugitives by the FBI. The three faced many years in prison after conviction on charges related to Wounded Knee and Native American protest in Custer, South Dakota. Vernon Bellecourt of AIM issued a statement in full support of the decision by the three AIM leaders to refuse to appear in court. "Nothing has changed since Geronimo, Chief Joseph, and Sitting Bull were made exiles in their own land. We must defend our sovereignty. That is why our brothers have chosen political exile."

Meanwhile, the US government siege of the Pine Ridge reservation as well as two bombings continues. A demonstration and mass march in protest of repression at Pine Ridge took place this week in the state of Washington.

insert....(roger lipmann)
The trial of Joanne Little continued in Raleigh, North Carolina this week. Attorney William Kunstler was denied the right to represent her and was jailed for contempt for commenting on the injustice in North Carolina courts. Kunstler offered his previous services after one of the defense attorneys was removed from the case by the judge. Joanne Little is being defended by six lawyers who this week began the case for the defense, calling black women...
Jack and Micki Scott held a press conference this week to discuss their subpoenas to appear before a Federal Grand Jury in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The subpoenas are part of a search for Tania Heaslt, Emily and Bill Harris. The Scotts and their family and friends have been the subject of FBI harassment over the last months. They earlier refused to testify before a Federal Grand Jury, taking a position of non-cooperation. Micki has been subpoenaed to appear first, but defense lawyers have succeeded in delaying the date for 10 days. In her press conference statement she said,

(take from copy of statement)

A large number of people from all over the country have expressed their support for the stand of Micki and Jack Scott. In a statement at the press conference, the parents of Jack Scott, who have also been hounded by the FBI and offered bribes by them, said that Bill Janesen, a Las Vegas FBI agent, told them, "we would prefer to bring in Patty Heaslt full if bullets holes rather than alive for it would make things easier all around. When they asked him if he really meant that he said, "You heard me correctly." The parents of Jack Scott said, We are both 66 years old and have never been accused or convicted of a crime in our lives. We have no intention of being bribed or intimidated into collaborating in any manner with a criminal organization such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation."
Like John Henry of old, who laid down his hammer and died, Julian Cannonball Adderly, the great saxophone player, will play no more, but his music will survive, will live on..... Just before his death, Cannonball Adderly completed work on a musical about the legendary black ΦΑΚ hero-worker John Henry........

insert eslie saar
Sam Quentin

6
White Thunder
Aretna
Makeba

"Your gifted,
Living in the city
Aretna
Letter"
august 7th memorial

The place is the Marin County Courthouse. The date is August 7th 1970. Five years ago last Thursday. Five years ago....
music first two stanzas of
white rock Jonathan Jackson song...
On August 7th, 1970, Jonathan Jackson, who had just turned seventeen, the younger brother of Black revolutionary prison leader George Jackson, entered the Marin County Courthouse, with a satchel of handguns, an assault rifle, and a shotgun hidden under his raincoat. The immediate object was to free three Black prisoners in the courtroom: William Christmas, James McClain, and Ruchell Magee. Prison guards opened fire on a van containing the rebels and their hostages. Jonathan Jackson, James McClain, William Christmas, and Judge Harold Haley were killed....
About his younger brother George Jackson wrote — I want people to wonder at what forces created him... black manchild, courage in one hand, the machine gun in the other..... I want people to wonder at what forces created him.....
Joanthan... he walked into a courtroom in Marin... said
tarabu:

all right gentlemen...I'm taking over now....

Aretha freedom freedom
Jonathan Jackson

What forces directed him...?
what was it like poem (lincoln)
What was it like
When you were a child
What was it like Jonathan?

When you were a child
Did you laugh did you play
Did you shout happy songs on the run
Now that you're seventeen Jonathan
What do you think should be done?

When you were a child
Did you laugh did you play
What was it like
On that red August day?

What was it like
As you rose with your gun?
What was it like
As you walked out in the sun?
What was it like
When the shooting was done?
Death has not won Jonathan.
music
Makeba
How did it all begin?
In Africa
How did it all begin?
In slavery
That was how it came to be.

What strong and beautiful
Mother of your mother of her mother
Of her mother of her mother of her mother
Way back in history
Was raped by white men, bound, transported
Sold into slavery?

What strong and beautiful
Father of your father of his father
Of his father of his father of his father
Way back in history
Was whipped by white men, bound, transported
Sold into slavery?

They came with guns
Bullets
Packed with inhumanity
Grasped by greed
Triggered by terror
Pulled by property
White hands held the guns
Mouths spewed forth
What they call Christianity.

How did it all begin?
In Africa
Traditions and Tribes
Land and Freedom
Ceremonies of Life
Drums against the Night.

How did it all begin?
In Africa
How did it all begin?
In slavery
That was how it came to be.
Music

Makéba
Jonathan Jackson grew to young manhood during a time of great change for Black people in the United States... the civil rights movement, Black rebellions in Watts, Newark, Detroit, and many other cities... He was a new generation coming up, even as Africa began to make great strides toward independence.

Jonathan Jackson grew to young manhood with examples of many courageous figures in the Black past, of Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth... with the example of his brother George, imprisoned since Jonathan was a child. He grew to young manhood accompanied by the voices of Black pride, protest, and resistance... of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X...
insert malcolm X
music young gifted and black
Jonathan Jackson wrote many letters to his brother in prison, filled with political analysis and revolutionary spirit. In one of them Jonathan wrote:
Tarabu...first letter...

(if he were your brother)
If George Jackson were your brother, what would you have done?
Jonathan Jackson grew to young manhood at a time when resistance to racism was reaching a high point, when around the world the US Empire was in decline, and had been characterized by Mao Tse-tung as a Paper Tiger. In another of his letters to George Jonathan wrote:
In another letter to George, Jonathan spoke of Vietnam...
This Vietnam adventure on the part of the fascist has vastly changed the whole relationship between the masses and the ruling class. Can you detect the changes? The really ugly side of imperialism is being demonstrated for not just the people who suffer its effects abroad, but also to the little sleepy guy here inside the US. People are starting now to make the link between foreign wars and foreign businesses.

And they're better able to make the comparisons and conclusions. Ho Chi Minh as compared to Ky, for example. People are starting to say such things as "Some form of socialism is the answer;"

Time to move - we must show them that resistance is possible, and that there is a hard left cadre willing to lead it. Conditions are right now, for the beginning, at least of a revolutionary culture........

A show of organizational skill and valid anti-establishmentism will ALWAYS bring on violence from the fascist. The people know this, so they must also know what this violence can be countered before they'll believe and respond. "let the ruling class tremble at a communist Revolution -- That's my favorite line from Marx and Engels... from Fanon its "the time for talking has ended the time for acting has begun... long live the guerrilla
By the time Jonathan was 16, the US government attacks on the Black Panther Party had resulted in the murder of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark in Chicago, in the assault on the Los Angeles headquarters of the Panthers, and many others. Jonathan believed that resistance had to make itself known, and that the conditions in the United States justified revolutionary action. About unemployment he wrote........
The issue of employment is still the same...we do 30 to 40 percent of the nation's work for one percent of the returns, and a huge pool of us is always kept unemployed to reduce the value of the labor of those who are employed, just like ten years ago, just like 1864-5 when we were thrown on the labor market—hungry, ragged, crowded into clapboards, and unhappy.
In addition to racism and unemployment, for Joanthan there was the overwhelming consciousness of the oppression of the prison system, of the reality of black life in the United States, the arrests and beatings by police, livin in the city....
In a prison interview after the rebellion at the Marin County courthouse, George Jackson said that he too believed conditions were ripe for revolution, especially in the black colony, and urged that his brothers example should not be buried....
insert 1 george
The attack on the courthouse in Marin County on August 7th, 1970 did not succeed. Prison guards proved that they would stop an escape by any means even if it meant murder, not only of the prisoners but also of a judge. Joanathan Jackson's shout "Free the Soledad Brothers by 12:30" did not come to pass, although two Sole ad were acquitted in court. The Third Soledad was George Jackson. He was murdered in prison. George Jackson saw the Marin Rebellion as an attempt to liberate prisoners, expose prison conditions, and destroy the prestige of the unjust court system. He compared it to the Moncada attack during the Cuban Revolution, which also failed, but was an inspiration for the guerrilla struggle that was to follow.

George Jackson...
george jackson 2
At the funeral for Jonathan Jackson and William Christman, held in Oakland, Huey Newton, who had been released from prison a week before the Marin rebellion, made this tribute to those who had taken part....
The soul surviving prisoner, Ruchell Magee, has been railroaded through court case after court case in the five years since the Marin Rebellion, just as he has been through all of his life. It was Ruchell who called it a Slave Rebellion, who fought and still fights for the right to defend himself, and who argues on the basis of human rights that to rebel against slavery is justified...Ruchell Magee....

Both Angela Davis and Ruchell Magee were charged in connection with the Marin attack. Angela was acquitted.
ruchell insert
freedom reedom aretha
So when we think
Of Jonathan Jackson James McClain
William Christmas slain
Another long night in San Quentin
For revolutionaries Rushall Magee
Prison and the trial of Angelita P.
The Soledad Brothers and so many more
Of all that's happened
And still is happening
Of leaders and rebellions through the years
And on the city streets today
Of lynchings, beatings, racist inhumanities
Broken promises, rip off of creativities
When we hear Lady Day, hear Coltrane play
Or listen to the music of the peoples of the world
Or see the smile of Madame Binh
When we think about the courtroom in Marin
We also think of Harriet Tubman
And a scene more than one hundred years ago
Part of our untold history
Many years ago, but it still was news to me.

VII

What was it like
When you were a child
What was it like Jonathan?

When you were a child
Did you laugh did you play
Did you shout happy songs on the run
Now that you're seventeen Jonathan
What do you think should be done?

When you were a child
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What was it like
On that red August day?

What was it like
As you rose with your gun?
What was it like
As you walked out in the sun?
What was it like
When the shooting was done?

Death has not won Jonathan.
You've been listening to Nothing is More Precious Than......
Thanks tonight to Kathy Streem and Mark Schwartz.....special thanks to Tarabu for help with the section on the Marin August 7th Marin rebellion.....If you have any comments on tonights show, we'd like to hear from you. You can call us at 848-6767.....With Lincoln Bergman, this is Claude Marks.....thanks for listening