



Fight ICE, Not Oligarchs

by MIM(Prisons)
July 2025

Immigrant detention centers are packed with a record 59,000 people according to data from June 23 reported to *CBS News*, with over 100,000 people being arrested by ICE since Trump retook office.(1) Many of them are actually in local jails, as ICE cannot hold all 59,000. Of those sent elsewhere, 54 people from China, Jamaica, Liberia and the United Kingdom have been sent to Guantanamo Bay in Cuba, the infamous prison used for alleged "enemy combatants" captured from other countries.(2) On 1 July 2025, Trump attended the opening of his so-called "Alligator Alcatraz," where they have turned an airport runway into a tent city to imprison 5,000 migrants deep in the Florida Everglades, surrounded by alligators and pythons. There have been no reports of deportations to CE-COT in El Salvador since our last issue (see *ULK* 89, "Deportations Target Those Protesting Genocide and Fleeing Imperialist Violence"). At least 13 people have died in ICE jails since the beginning of this year.(3)

The newly-passed federal budget addresses this surge in detentions by giving ICE \$45 billion for detention centers, an increase from their previous budget for detentions of \$3.5 billion. This puts

their budget above the Federal Bureau of Prisons. ICE will become the most funded federal agency, tripling its staff and overall fund-

"From Palestine to Mexico, Border Walls have got to go!" being dissipated by chants like, "Money for jobs and education, not for



Art by a Missouri prisoner whose eye was destroyed by MODOC pigs in an unprovoked beating. We thought this art also captured what so many oppressed people are going through under U.\$. rule today.

ing. We'll see a massive expansion of immigration detention centers in the next couple years.(4)

Today, hundreds continue to protest at the entrance of The Miami-Dade Collier Training Facility, the new tent city in Florida. This is weeks after thousands clashed with police in Los Angeles exchanging projectiles and even paint balls with police, smashing and burning some of their vehicles. Meanwhile, smaller attempts to obstruct ICE kidnappings continue across the country, as reports grow of the innocent people being chased down, brutalized and disappeared.

Following the week of anti-ICE demonstrations, there was a "No Kings" protest against Trump, which is reported to be the largest mass protest in U.\$. history. Despite the huge numbers, these protests were mostly a display of petty bourgeois individualism. More of a competition for who can make the funniest joke about Trump than an effort to organize resistance that was displayed at ICE rallies. The latter also proved much more interested in reading *Under Lock & Key*. Even at the anti-ICE rallies though, the contradiction between internationalism and social-fascism was on full display with slogans such as,

mass deportation!"

As we've said about the "Schools Not Jails" slogan:

"This battle is real, and it is a battle between different public service unions of the labor aristocracy. The "Schools not Jails" slogan is the rallying cry of one side of that battle among the labor aristocrats."(5)

Right now imperialism is facing a real economic crisis. The drive to segregate or deport "non-whites" is, and always has been, driven by the inability to share the spoils of empire with too many people. Trump's new budget bill is also attempting to shore up funds to keep profits flowing. His bombing of Iran and forcing NATO countries to buy more Amerikan weapons all feed the U.\$. economy through militarism. Of course Trump doesn't care about the labor aristocracy, but he does need support. One of Trump's big campaign pledges was bringing industrial jobs back to the United States. So it should be clear that this "Money for Jobs" demand is leading us straight to fascism. Steve Bannon and Bernie Sanders are both raising the alarm bells against the oligarchs, representing the right and left wings of white nationalism respectively. The "No

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Palestine Shows the Way, But Will We Listen?

by MIM(Prisons)
July 2025

Over 29,000 people have signed an Anti-Genocide Pledge online (see <https://www.antigenocidepledge.com/> for more), pledging to stand with Palestinian liberation in action. In the last month and a half, United Struggle from Within (USW) comrades have collected an additional 165 signatures among U.\$. prisoners.

The initial response has been promising, and we hope to reach many more people in the coming months. But many comrades are struggling to get signatures and a few people we sent the petition to even pushed back. One wrote:

"The Jews did not put me here and the Muslims didn't either. So why should I be indoctrinated into propaganda? It is not my job to educate the inept. Can ya'll at MIM please remind me again, what will I be getting out of all this political activism stuff again? We do **not** like being indoctrinated into you or somebody else's supposed revolution... Please send us more books :)"

This persyn did say they would complete get petition signatures there, but was clear eir top priorities were how we could help prove eir innocence and get em a girlfriend, neither of which are things that our organization does.

This story and those that follow below highlight both the backwardsness of our liberation movement here and how much we still need to learn from Palestine. To speak to comrades' self-interest in getting released from prison, the resistance movement has freed hundreds of their people from Israeli prisons in the last year through negotiations and prisoner exchanges. This may be far off given the stage of the movement we are at strategically. But it is strategically different than spending a lot of resources fighting piecemeal battles in U.\$. courts and occasionally getting someone out of prison while the system just keeps on as it is. Our movement will never advance with the latter approach.

As the U.\$./Israel alliance starves the whole population of Gaza, many to death, they offer a pittance of aid to some who jump through hoops and then shoot dead in the street those very same people desperately seeking aid (See our article "Israeli Pirates..." on page 4 of this issue for more on this). So when the writer asks, "Why don't we focus on the genocide that's happening right here at High Desert State Prison?" the answer is because probably well over 100,000 people have died in the last two years in Palestine, dozens die every day, and millions of lives remain threatened. One USW comrade questioned whether it was even appropriate to talk about New Afrikan genocide when this is happening in Palestine, however we believe that a true internationalist would recognize that the two nations' genocides are inseparably connected and this is the time to talk about the protracted struggle for self-

determination more than ever.

In the face of mass starvation and suffering, the Palestinian liberation movement, which consists primarily of Hamas and their Al-Qassam Brigades, continues their demands for Israel to end the occupation of Gaza. Israel could have had all their hostages released immediately if they'd been willing to stop trying to seize the land and control the lives of the people of Gaza.

The principles of not laying down arms and demanding a complete exit of imperialism from oppressed nations are much more defined tenets in Maoism than in political Islam. Yet, we saw leaders coming out of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement who dissolved their People's Army to engage in electoral politics and power sharing with the bourgeoisie in Nepal. While there are communists in the armed resistance in Palestine, the primary forces today are Islamic, and it's these Islamic forces who are demonstrating a more principled commitment to the national liberation struggle in practice than some who have called themselves "Maoists."

Our political line is that the bourgeoisie, the imperialists, will not give up their grip on the oppressed nations unless they are forced to. Palestine is proving that line true and demonstrating in practice what liberation takes.

Pledge Reports

- Signatories so far include:
- 42 prisoners across Wisconsin
 - 28 prisoners in Wende CF in New York
 - 20 prisoners at Oak Park Heights in Minnesota
 - 15 prisoners at Eastern Oregon CI
 - 12 prisoners at Green Rock CC in Virginia
 - 8 prisoners at Thumbs Correctional Facility in Michigan signed the pledge (no Palestinians)
 - 5 prisoners at FCI Seagoville in Texas
 - 5 prisoners at Saguro Correctional Center in Arizona, at least some of which are Hawaiians
 - 3 prisoners at Ferguson Unit and 1 at Bill Clements in Texas
 - 2 prisoners in SCI Frackville in Pennsylvania
 - 1 comrade in Pendleton Correctional Facility in Indiana signed

As many activists in U.\$. prisons face conditions of torture in long-term isolation cells, some comrades were only able to get signatures from those they share a cell with.

A comrade in Allred Unit in Texas submitted a pledge with two signatures from emself and eir celly, as they live in isolation from other prisoners.

A comrade in lockup in McConnell Unit in Texas could only sign for emself, and wrote, "Free the Palestinians and the minorities in the U.S."

Four prisoners in Telfair Prison in Georgia signed the pledge. The organizer wrote:

"I am against all forms of oppression, no matter whom the oppressors may be; imperialism, capitalism, colonialism, mass incarceration, fascism, genocide, etc."

"As regards to the genocide datz being waged, of course I'm totally against it. As a self-proclaimed

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What is Under Lock & Key?

Under Lock & Key (ULK) is the voice of the anti-imperialist movement within prisons in the United States. It serves as a forum to develop and promote agitational campaigns led by MIM(Prisons) and United Struggle from Within (USW). It is a free newsletter for prisoners in the United States, edited and published by MIM(Prisons). It is mostly written and illustrated by USW and United Front for Peace in Prisons comrades behind bars.

Fighting the injustice system is just one part of the anti-imperialist struggle, and it is important that comrades do not lose sight of the connections to the larger battle. We welcome support and collaboration from those who are focused only on prison issues, but we also challenge them to see the importance of carrying out their work as part of a larger anti-imperialist strategy.

Our current battles in the United States are legally permitted. We encourage prisoners to join these battles while explicitly discouraging them from engaging in any violence or illegal acts. MIM(Prisons) and its publications explicitly oppose the use of armed struggle at this time in the imperialist countries (including the United States).

What is United Struggle from Within?

United Struggle from Within (USW) is a MIM(Prisons)-led mass organization for former and current U.S. prisoners. USW is explicitly anti-imperialist in leading campaigns on behalf of U.S. prisoners in alliance with national liberation struggles in the United States and around the world. USW won't champion struggles which are not in the interests of the international proletariat. It will also not choose one nation's struggles over other oppressed nations' struggles. USW should work independently, but under the guidance of MIM(Prisons), to build public opinion and independent institutions of the oppressed in order to obtain state power independent of imperialism. Members don't have to agree with MIM(Prisons)'s six cardinal points, but they can't consciously disagree with any of them. See page 12 for campaign info.

What is Anti-Imperialist Prisoner Support?

Launched in 2020, Anti-Imperialist Prisoner Support (AIPS) is a MIM(Prisons)-led mass organization for those on the outside who want to support anti-imperialist prisoner organizing. Specifically, AIPS members and chapters will provide support for existing MIM(Prisons)/USW projects and help develop and support local campaigns to meet the needs of organizers inside.

What is MIM(Prisons)?

The Maoist Internationalist Ministry of Prisons, or MIM(Prisons), is a cell of revolutionaries serving the oppressed masses inside U.S. prisons. We uphold the revolutionary communist ideology of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism and work from the vantage point of the Third World proletariat.

Imperialism is the number one enemy of the majority of the world's people; we cannot achieve our goal of ending all oppression without overthrowing imperialism. History has shown that the imperialists will wage war before they will allow an end to oppression.

As revolutionary internationalists, we support the self-determination of all nations and peoples. We support nations which choose to delink from the imperialist economy, including the right of the internal semi-colonies to secede from the United States. Today, the U.S. prison system is a major part of the imperialist state used to prevent the self-determination of oppressed nations. It is for this reason that we see prisoners in this country as being at the forefront of any anti-imperialist and revolutionary movement.

While our organization focuses on prisoner support, we believe that there

is a dire need for Maoists to do organizing and educational work in many areas in the United States. We hope people are inspired by our example around prisons and apply it to their own work to create more Maoist cells and broaden the Maoist movement behind enemy lines.

MIM(Prisons) expresses general unity with all other groups and outbreaks against imperialism; mass movements against oppression have as many forms as forms of power. In this spirit, we insist on telling the uncompromised truth and discussing and criticizing the strategy and tactics of any given action. MIM(Prisons) encourages everyone, communist or not, to be involved in the struggle against imperialism. MIM(Prisons) distinguishes itself from other groups on the six points below. We consider other organizations actively upholding these points to be fraternal.

1. **Communism is our goal.** Communism is a society where no group has power over any other group.

2. **Dictatorship of the proletariat is necessary.** In a dictatorship of the proletariat the formerly exploited majority dictates to the minority (who promoted exploitation) how society is to be run. In the case of imperialist nations, a Joint Dictatorship of the Proletariat of the Oppressed Nations (JDPON) must play this role where there is no internal proletariat or significant mass base that favors communism.

3. **We promote a united front with all who oppose imperialism.** The road to the JDPON over the imperialist nations involves uniting all who can be united against imperialism. We cannot fight imperialism and fight others who are engaged in life-and-death conflicts with imperialism at the same time. Even imperialist nation classes can be allies in the united front under certain conditions.

4. **A parasitic class dominates the first World countries.** As Marx, Engels and Lenin formulated and MIM Thought has expanded through materialist analysis, imperialism extracts super-profits from the Third World and in part uses this wealth to buy off whole populations of so-called workers. These so-called workers bought off by imperialism form a new sector of the petty-bourgeoisie called the labor aristocracy; they are not a vehicle for Maoism. Those who work in the economic interests of the First World labor aristocracy form the mass base for imperialism's tightening death-grip on the Third World.

5. **New bourgeoisies will form under socialism.** Mao led the charge to expose the bourgeoisie that developed within the communist party in the Soviet Union and the campaign to bombard the headquarters in his own country of China. Those experiences demonstrated the necessity of continuous revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. The class struggle does not end until the state has been abolished and communism is reached.

6. **The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in China was the furthest advancement toward communism in history.** We uphold the Soviet Union until the death of Stalin in 1953, followed by the People's Republic of China through 1976, as the best examples of modern socialism in practice. The arrest of the "Gang of Four" in China and the rise of Khrushchev in the Soviet Union marked the restoration of capitalism in those countries. Other experiments in developing socialism in the 20th century failed to surpass the Soviet model (i.e. Albania), or worse, stayed within the capitalist mode of production, generally due to a failure to break with the Theory of Productive Forces.

On Prisons & Prisoners

MIM(Prisons) seeks to build public opinion against Amerika's criminal injustice system with proletarian justice. The bourgeois injustice system imprisons and executes a disproportionately large and growing number of oppressed people while letting the biggest mass murderers – the imperialists – roam free. Imperialism is not opposed to murder or theft. It only insists that these crimes be committed in the inter-

est of the bourgeoisie.

ALL U.S. citizens are criminals – accomplices and accessories to the crimes of U.S. oppression globally until the day U.S. imperialism is overcome. All U.S. citizens should start from the point of view that they are reforming criminals.

MIM(Prisons) does not advocate that all prisoners go free today; we have a more effective program for fighting crime as was demonstrated in China prior to the restoration of capitalism there in 1976. We say that all prisoners are political prisoners because under the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie, all imprisonment is substantively political. It is our responsibility to exert revolutionary leadership and conduct political agitation and organization among prisoners – whose material conditions make them an overwhelmingly revolutionary group. Some prisoners should and will work on self-criticism under a future dictatorship of the proletariat in those cases in which prisoners really did do something wrong by proletarian standards.

Free Political Books for Prisoners

Our Free Political Books for Prisoners Program is a Serve the People (STP) program founded on the model of the Black Panther Party's Breakfast for Schoolchildren and other STP programs, and on the basis of Mao's emphasis that communists should serve the people in everything we do. The purpose of the Free Books for Prisoners program is to help prisoners turn their time under lock and key into a time to develop their politics and build with us toward the beginnings of a more just and productive society. We collect and send out political, legal and historical books primarily (we also have some dictionaries and other reference items that are useful for writers and jailhouse lawyers). The materials we distribute are selected to help people study the conditions under which they are living and to turn their knowledge into political organizing.

We know that many of our subscribers lack financial resources, and this should not be a barrier to education. Because our purpose is to organize, we expect that comrades will exchange work for the books we send. You should write articles for ULK, create revolutionary art, form study groups with other comrades and work through the study group to educate and organize, share our literature and expand our mailing list, lead campaigns against local examples of oppression, or come up with other ways to contribute to the struggle. If you can afford to send donations, and if your facility rules allow, sending us stamps is the best way to donate. We can always use them to get you more books or to help other comrades who cannot afford to pay for their books.

We can send you a list of specific titles that we currently have available, but it is better to request general topic areas or include substitutions because our stock is constantly changing. The literature list also lists prices for the books we send in if you want to purchase them, but again, lack of funds will not keep you from getting literature, but lack of political work will. We ask you to help us build MIM(Prisons) and United Struggle from Within through your own work in exchange for the books. If you would like to receive books from MIM(Prisons)'s Free Books for Prisoners program, please let us know the subject areas you are interested in, and the work you are doing in exchange.

Fight Censorship

Under Lock & Key, *MIM Theory*, study materials, letters, and even books like dictionaries have been censored by the state. If your MIM(Prisons) correspondence is censored, the first thing you need to know is that you are not alone in struggling to get your mail and reading materials. You will need to be prepared to do the work yourself (making copies of rejection notices, filing grievances, sending copies of these documents to us), but we can send instructions on how to do this. In some cases, we can support your appeals with letters of our own.

These are some basic steps we recommend to everyone in prison:

1. Find out now what the prison rules say about your right to receive mail and reading materials. You should read this policy carefully and get a copy for your file if possible. You can also send us copies of the rules to post on our website as a resource for the public.

2. Find out what the prison's implementation of these policies is like. Many times the policy looks reasonable on paper, but the prison staff behaves totally out of line. Ask around.

3. To keep our correspondence going, write to us every 6 months. If you're writing us regularly and are not getting any mail from us, there's a problem with your mail delivery. Do not assume we are ignoring you.

4. If your correspondence with us is censored, it is very important that you keep copies of all the paperwork, (rejection notices, grievances, etc.) and send us copies of these as well. Often this is the only way we find out that our mail has been censored. Once we know of the censorship, we can work with you to fight it.

Spread ULK

Let others read the literature we send you. Talk to potential comrades about our politics and work, and have them write in to get put on our mailing list. Our subscribers (you) play a vital role in the growth of our mailing list. Remember, a subscription is free to U.S. prisoners!

Administrative Details

Your subscription will be active for 6 months after each time you write to us. If we do not hear from you for 6 months, you will be automatically removed from the mailing list. We recommend writing to us regularly so you don't lose track of when to update your subscription. For people outside of prison, all issues of *ULK*, plus additional reports from within U.S. prisons, are available on the website www.pris-encensorship.info. If you would like to become a *ULK* distributor, get in touch.

Your address: Please send us as detailed an address as possible, including your full legal name, prison and unit name, prison ID #, street address and P.O. Box, city, state, and 9-digit zip code. Please check with the mailroom to make sure you have the correct information.

Releases: Let us know if you are looking at a (possible) release date in the next two years. We recently beefed up our release support, and it includes a lot of set-up while you're still locked up. Also let us know your expected address post-release if you have one. Even if it is only the address of a relative who you think will be in the same place for a while, this could be the difference between losing contact and staying in touch and politically active after you are released.

Your persynal papers: Do not send us legal papers that pertain to your case unless you have checked with us first. In general, we cannot do anything with your legal papers as we do not have the resources to get involved in individuals' cases. We also cannot return them to you. Rather than focus on only your case, we strongly encourage comrades to write articles about the political implications of their situation, and work on cases that will positively impact the ability for prisoners to organize against imperialism and capitalism.

Please do not send us your only copies of artwork, articles or other writings unless you are certain that you will not need them in the future. Comrades have requested that we make copies of their work and send these copies back. Doing this takes up time and money that would otherwise go to filling book requests, fighting censorship and answering letters.

Other Resources

PARC provides a free resource guide for prisoners. Tell them you heard about them from MIM(Prisons):
Prison Activist Resource Center
PO Box 70447 Oakland, CA 94612

Inside Books Project sends free books and a resource guide to prisoners in Texas. Inside Books Projects, 3106 E. 14 1/2 Street Austin, Texas 78702
insidebooksproject@gmail.com

United front for Peace in Prisons - Statement of Principles

The basis of any real unity comes from an agreement on certain key ideas. This statement does not grant authority to any party over any other party. We are mutually accountable to each other to uphold these points in order to remain active participants in this united front.

PEACE: WE organize to end the need-less conflicts and violence within the U.S. prison environment. The oppressors use divide and conquer strategies so that we fight each other instead of them. We will stand together and defend ourselves from oppression.

UNITY: WE strive to unite with those facing the same struggles as us for our common interests. To maintain unity we have to keep an open line of networking and communication, and ensure we address any situation with true facts. This is needed because of how the pigs utilize tactics such as rumors, snitches and fake communications to divide and keep division among the oppressed. The pigs see the end of their control within our unity.

GROWTH: WE recognize the importance of education and freedom to grow in order to build real unity. We support members within our organization who leave and embrace other political organizations and concepts that are within the anti-imperialist struggle. Everyone should get in where they fit in. Similarly, we recognize the right of comrades to leave our organization if we fail to live up to the principles and purpose of the United Front for Peace in Prisons.

INTERNATIONALISM: WE struggle for the liberation of all oppressed people. While we are often referred to as "minorities" in this country, and we often find those who are in the same boat as us opposing us, our confidence in achieving our mission comes from our unity with all oppressed nations who represent the vast majority globally. We cannot liberate ourselves when participating in the oppression of other nations.

INDEPENDENCE: WE build our own institutions and programs independent of the United States government and all its branches, right down to the local police, because this system does not serve us. By developing independent power through these institutions we do not need to compromise our goals.

How to join the United Front?

- Study and uphold the five principles above.

- Send your organization's name and a statement of unity to MIM(Prisons). Your statement can explain what the united front principles mean to your organization, how they relate to your work, why they are important, etc.

- Develop peace and unity between factions where you are at on the basis of opposing oppression of all prisoners and oppressed people in general. Campaign around the September 9 Day of Peace and Solidarity.

- Send reports on your progress to Under Lock & Key. Did you develop a peace treaty or protocol that is working? Send it in for others to study. Is your unity based on actions? Send us reports on the organizing you are doing.

- Keep educating your members. The more educated your members are, the more unity you can develop, and the stronger your organization can become. Unity comes from the inside out. By uniting internally, we can better unite with others as well. Contact MIM(Prisons) if you need additional materials to educate your members in history, politics and economics.

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... Fight ICE

Kings" rally echoed this cry against oligarchs. As we said in *ULK 88*, there is no ending oligarchy without ending capitalism (see *ULK 88*, "4 People Own \$1 Trillion Dollars - Should We Tax Them?"). Those who try to have both capitalism and fewer oligarchs force the imperialists to extract more superprofits abroad, while pushing oppressed nations within U.\$. borders out to limit the pool of wealth redistribution.

There's actually a good base of opposition among teachers, at least in urban areas in California, for opposing the ICE raids already because they don't want to see their students ripped from their families. When it comes to allocating money, there needs to be a redistribution of money to the people south of the border and a removal of funding for U\$. trained death squads so that people can live secure lives in their homeland. That's a real solution to the so-called "border crisis."

Of course, ICE is also capturing, and seemingly posed to deport, people who are from north of the border as well. They are aggressively pursuing naturalized citizens to find reasons to take their citizenship away. And as Trump said on 1 July 2025:

"We also have a lot of bad people that have been here for a long time ... many of them were born in our country. I think we ought to get them the hell out of here too, if you want to know the truth. So maybe that'll be the next job that we'll work on together."

While Trump mentions people bashing you in the head and stabbing you as examples of such bad people, we know only 8% of those detained by ICE have been charged with violent crimes.(1) The fear-mongering is a feeble attempt to maintain support for the round ups from Americans. We need to keep agitating against ICE kidnappings, and pull progressive forces out of the social fascist camp focused on getting money and into the camp of internationalists trying to end exploitation, war and oppression. ■

Notes:
1. Julia Ingram, 30 June 2025, ICE detentions of non-criminal immigrants spike; about 8% have violent convictions, analysis of new data shows, CBS News.
2. Camilo Montoya-Galvez, 1 July 2025, U.S. holding detainees from Asia, Africa and Europe at Guantanamo Bay immigration facilities, CBS News.
3. Democracy Now!, 3 July 2025, KPFA.
4. Daniel Costa, 3 July 2025, UpFront on KPFA.
5. MIM(Prisons), July 2012, The Myth of the "Prison Industrial Complex", *ULK 27*

ON "OBJECTIVE" REPORTING

ULK relies on our comrades behind bars to report on conditions and events inside prisons. We track the history and reliability of our writers and, when possible, we double check facts in the articles. But there will always be some facts we cannot verify before printing. Our readers are encouraged to let us know if they have information that contradicts what they see in ULK. Yet, recognize that no matter how much the bourgeoisie tries to pretend, reporting is never completely objective or devoid of political content. MIM(Prisons) will always report from the perspective of the international proletariat and on the issues that best serve their interests.

Free Elias Rodriguez!

by a comrade
June 2025

On 22 May 2025, two staffers from the Israeli embassy in Washington, D.C. were shot and killed as they left an event at the Capitol Jewish Museum where many political and diplomatic officials were in attendance. The alleged shooter, Elias Rodriguez, remained at the scene and peacefully turned emself in shortly after police arrived to collect witness statements by announcing "I did it. I did it for Gaza." As Rodriguez was led away in handcuffs, ey repeatedly shouted "Free Palestine!" These details alone should make it clear that this targeted shooting of embassy staff was in no way motivated by racial hatred against Jewish people, but rather an act of armed protest for the ongoing genocide in Palestine.

However, the bourgeois press and Zionist propaganda machine immediately began stirring up great outrage about the assassinations, calling the attack "anti-semitic," "inhuman," and other such vitriolic slander. This kind of absurd and distorted language about anti-semitism also appears in the U.S. "Justice" Department's official press release and criminal complaint. Rodriguez is now facing a litany of charges, which will almost certainly result in a show trial where ey is found guilty and sentenced to a lifetime of imprisonment or possibly even execution (D.C.'s attorney general has called the case "death penalty eligible").

The bourgeois propaganda machine has also been spilling crocodile tears over the "tragic" death of two staffers – Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Milgrim – placing a great deal of focus on how they were set to be engaged soon with photos of their young, white, expensively-dressed selves at galas decorated with yellow ribbons (a symbol used by Zionists to commemorate their hostages). Unsurprisingly, little attention has been given to inconvenient details that do not fit the narrative of this being an act of senseless anti-semitic violence. Yaron Lischinsky was not even Jewish but was in fact a "Messianic Christian" (a protestant religious movement originating in 1960s USA from assimilated Jews and reactionary Christians who believe that Jesus is the messiah) from Germany who migrated to Israel and began working for the settler regime as a teenager. Sarah Milgram was an American Jew from Kansas who was working at the Israeli embassy in the public diplomacy department, coordinating and overseeing local delegations to Israel. Lischinsky was employed as a "researcher" in the embassy's political directorate. Another detail that has been conveniently brushed under the rug in bourgeois propaganda about their engagement is that their marriage would not have been legally recognized in Israel due to its Jewish supremacist apartheid laws forbidding interfaith marriage between Jews and non-Jews.

The event the two had been attending is being branded as a gala dedicated to "humanitarian aid" in the Middle East. The event's theme was, according to its organizers, "turning pain into purpose"; which ironically works better as a description for how Rodriguez interprets eir own ac-

tions than anything a gala for fascists could possibly achieve. We recognize, as savvy readers should, that the kind of "humanitarian aid" the imperialists love talking about is itself a weapon of control that is currently being used to massacre starving Palestinians who attempt to access the meager supply convoys that Israel and Amerika decide to allow into Gaza.(1)

Rodriguez's explanation

Thankfully, we can readily expose any implications of this event being "anti-semitic violence" as fascist slander. Rodriguez had prepared a written "explication" where ey explain the political nature of this targeted shooting was a response to the ongoing Israeli genocide in Gaza and offers eir own interpretation of how such an act ought to be understood.

In this manifesto, which was published online by an independent journalist shortly after the shooting (resulting in an FBI visit to eir home), Rodriguez describes eir "armed action" as being a matter of "theater and spectacle, a quality it shares with many unarmed actions." (2) This is contrasted with a "military action", which is (presumably) defined by its relationship to concrete tactical and strategic objectives of an armed and organized political force. Ey draws a comparison to an assassination attempt against Robert McNamara in 1972, where an individual similarly outraged by the "impunity and arrogance he saw in that butcher of Vietnam as he sat in the ferry's lounge laughing with friends" tried to throw the former U.S. Secretary of Defense and architect of the Vietnam War into the sea from the catwalk of the ferry to Martha's Vineyard. We could also draw a comparison between Rodriguez's action and the 1938 assassination of Nazi German Foreign Office diplomat Ernst vom Rath in Paris by a Jewish teenager, an act of protest against the forced deportation of Jews from Germany.

Rodriguez concludes eir explanation with "a word about the morality of armed demonstration," which argues that eir action "would have been morally justified [if] taken 11 years ago during Protective Edge" (Protective Edge is the title given to the 2014 war between Israel and Gaza) even if it would have been "illegible" and "seem insane" to most Americans at the time. This is contrasted with eir hope that many today will understand eir action as being "highly legible and, in some funny way, the only sane thing to do." While we can understand and perhaps even share in this hope, we ultimately do not care what is legible or acceptable to a majority of the oppressor. We care about what actually moves humynity toward communism. What we can say for certain is that the action is legible to the masses, even though it does not concretely advance the revolutionary struggle.

More details about Elias Rodriguez's political views and personal life have since emerged from leaked chat messages and journalists interviewing eir acquaintances.(3) There is, yet again, no indication whatsoever from anything ey ever wrote that would corroborate bourgeois slanders about "anti-semitism" being a factor at all. Anybody



who actually knew em said the same, with one acquaintance stating clearly that "everything I know about Elias leads me to believe he acted in protest of the Israeli State and Zionist ideology, not Judaism" and another remarking that ey "never, ever said anything remotely racist about Jews or anyone, not even in a joking way." (3)

Unlike the bourgeois press, we have little interest in publishing salacious details about what people say in private conversations or spreading idle gossip about the lifestyles of individuals. On that note, we will simply say we agree with Rodriguez's sentiment that "PSL [Party for Socialism and Liberation] sucks shit" (we will add, FRSO is not any better, as noted in the article "Against Settler Revisionism" which can be accessed online at prisoncensorship.info) and hope to see em continue studying Marxism-Leninism-Maoism from the perspective of the Third World proletariat while being held in enemy captivity.

Put the settler regime on trial!

From both the right and the "left," Rodriguez's actions are being condemned in the bourgeois press and on social media in the harshest terms; being smeared as insane, motivated by racial hatred or just senselessly violent. As we can see from eir manifesto, that could not be further from the truth. The pig regime and its news outlets, along with their cronies and lap dogs among the revisionist "left," need to peddle this image because it hides the truth: Israel and Amerika are guilty of perpetuating more violence, racial hatred, and cold-blooded murder than any regime since Nazi Germany. The average American is complicit with causing far more death and destruction globally than merely two fatalities. In November 2023, one month into the current genocide, the WHO reported that a child in Gaza was being killed every 10 minutes. Current estimates from UNICEF place the number of children who have been killed or injured by

Israel's genocide in Gaza at over 50,000 since October 2023, approximately 82 children per day. (4)

This country purports its legal and penal system to be instruments of democratic justice, punishing everyone equally for crimes of equal measure. If that were the case, every Israeli official, Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) war criminal, and American politician with Palestinian blood on their hands would be on trial along with the large majority of American journalists, military contractors, business leaders and other warmongers who whitewashed and profited from Israel's genocidal crimes against humynity. These are the kinds of people who should be worrying about facing imprisonment or death row, not somebody like Rodriguez! As long as the United States continues to aid and abet the genocide in Palestine, in material aid or in rhetoric, there is not a judge or jury in the country who is fit to judge eir action. When this country as a whole is sentenced to some form of justice, when settler imperialism is ended; only then could the bourgeoisie and their running dogs talk about "senseless violence" without indicting themselves.

Much like we understand cops killed during struggles against New Afrikans (see *ULK 85*, "On New Afrikan Victimization") to be enemies of the people, casualties of the low-level war enacted upon oppressed nations, we can see Rodriguez's act through the same lens.(5) Rodriguez did not force any Palestinian families from their homes, nor did ey sit around a table and sign off on more checks for more bombs for Israel. As is the case when any agent of imperialism, whether it's a cop, an IOF soldier, or a staffer of the embassy to a genocidal nation, is killed in their line of work, "this is a classic case of the chickens coming home to roost." (6)

In the days since Rodriguez's act, according to the United Na-

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... Free Elias

tions, 100 percent of Gazans are now "on the brink of famine", (7) and the last functioning hospital in north Gaza has been forced to close by I\$rael (8) under threats of total extermination of its doctors and patients. Compare that to two settler lives lost and say more about "senseless violence." The obsessive focus by the media on Elias Rodriguez and two deceased embassy staffers is simultaneously an attempt to shift the growing sympathies of the semi-conscientious sections of the Amerikan people away from Palestine, as well as an attempt to justify further criminalization of dissent, such as the still-in-development Project Esther, Trump's plan to crack down on the broader solidarity movement. It is a continuation of a double standard dating back as far as this country's existence: to kill a settler is to deprive an innocent humyn being of a life in a deplorable act; to kill an oppressed persyn is just the way the world works.

Dare to struggle! Dare to win!

While we do not think acts of individualized violence are an effective tactic in defeating imperialism, we refuse to join in the enemy's chorus of denouncement and slander against Elias Rodriguez. Our duty as communists at this time is to guide the masses with scientific leadership and a correct political line that conforms with revolutionary practice. Rodriguez's action highlights the importance of carrying out our central task of building independent institutions that can absorb this kind of spontaneous individual anger and refine it into disciplined collective action that truly serves the oppressed. In the present moment, it is imperative to understand that line is decisive and there is no place for vacillation in the revolutionary movement. As Mao remarked:

"When the Party's line is correct, then everything will come its way. If it has no followers, then it can have followers; if it has no guns, then it can have guns; if it has no political power, then it can have political power. If its line is not correct, even what it has it may lose. The line is a net rope. When it is pulled, the whole net opens out." (9)

We are disappointed (although not surprised) to see how many other so-called "communist" groups are pathetically bowing down to the oppressor by parroting their pearl-clutching about this disruption to the false

Document Prison Abuses

We receive many reports about terrible conditions, abuse and neglect in prisons across the country. While most of these don't make it onto the pages of ULK, we do type these up for publication on our website (www.prisoncensorship.info).

Documenting and monitoring the abusive conditions in Amerikan prisons is an important part of our work. Keep sending in these reports! Online readers can search by state and facility to find your reports.

Israeli Pirates Kidnap Humanitarians Bringing Aid to Starving Palestinians

by MIM(Prisons)
June 2025

Recently, we've received letters from some of our readers who say things like, "i'm white, what should i do, leave the country? kill myself?" This article is in part an answer to those readers.

In a polemical response to some popular bourgeois ideologues of the 1840s, Marx argues that the conditions of "having" and "not having" demand to be understood as the concrete, visceral things they really are, rather than abstract philosophical categories to muse about idly. In doing so, ey describes the kind of

peace and making lazy statements about "adventurism" while the genocide of Palestinians continues with no end in sight. Without a cohesive and principled revolutionary movement, we can expect to see similar incidents in the future. Our view of this incident is that it is essentially a consequence of the anti-imperialist movement being underdeveloped relative to the consciousness of the more advanced masses who are understandably frustrated by the lack of any meaningful outlet for their revolutionary energy.

Until Palestine is liberated and those responsible for the genocide are held to account for their crimes, any talk about "justice" in this case is just hot air. ■

Free Elias Rodriguez!

- Notes:
1. Al-Jazeera, 3 June 2025, "Israel kills 24 Palestinians at aid site in southern Gaza's Rafah"
 2. Klippenstein, 22 May 2025, The Israel Embassy Shooter's Manifesto
 3. Klippenstein, 27 May 2025, Read Elias Rodriguez's Leaked Chats
 4. Reuters, 10 November 2023, A child killed on average every 10 minutes in Gaza, says WHO chief
 5. Triumphant, January 2024, On New Afrikan Victimization, Under Lock & Key 85
 6. cipactli of Brown Berets - Prison Chapter, March 2013, Chris Dornier Demonstrates Contradictions Between Amerika and Oppressed Nations, Under Lock & Key 31
 7. Al-Jazeera, 30 May 2025, UN: '100 percent' of Gazans on brink of famine
 8. Al-Jazeera, 29 May 2025, Israel orders closure of al-Awda Hospital, a 'lifeline' in north Gaza
 9. Mao, 1971, Talks With Responsible Comrades At Various Places During Provincial Tour

SUBMIT WORK REPORTS

All USW cells are encouraged to submit monthly work reports to the USW council. Work reports should be one to two paragraphs. Use these questions as guides for your report:

- What types of activities did your cell participate in that contributed to USWs mission?
- What campaigns did your cell participate in/promote last month?
- What Serve the People programs did your cell operate?
- What were the responses from the masses and USW recruits to this work?
- What questions came up? How did you answer them? Or do you need help answering them?
- What lessons did you learn in the last month?
- What are the most pressing issues that are of concern to the masses in your location?
- What organizations/services have you recently found useful in your work (include contact info)?
- What successes have you achieved in the last month?

profoundly dehumanizing conditions that I\$rael and the United States have forcibly imposed upon the entire surviving population of Gaza.

"But not having is not a mere category, it is a most dismal reality; today the man who has nothing is nothing, for he is cut off from existence in general, and still more from a human existence, for the condition of not having is the condition of the complete separation of man from his objectivity ... Not having is the most despairing spiritualism, a complete unreality of the human being, a complete reality of the dehumanized being, a very positive having, a having of hunger, of cold, of disease, of crime, of debasement, of hebetude, of all inhumanity and abnormality." (1)

Palestinians in Gaza are being forced into an extreme and entirely avoidable state of "not having" through forced displacement, starvation and disease. This alone is enough to make I\$rael's genocidal campaign in Gaza one of the most horrific crimes against humanity the world has yet seen. But the depravity of the zionist settler regime knows no bounds. At the time of writing, scarcely a day has gone by without a massacre of starving Palestinians waiting to receive a bag of flour.

The Freedom Flotilla Coalition

This is the backdrop against which Greta Thunberg, alongside 11 other volunteers, set sail on 1 June from Catania, Italy to deliver aid to the people of Gaza.(2) The ship they were on, the Madleen, was intercepted by I\$raeli forces on 9 June. Subsequently, all 12 activists were illegally kidnapped by I\$rael before being subjected to deportation proceedings to their countries of origin. As of today, all 12 volunteers have been freed from I\$rael's unlawful detention.(3)

The mission of the Madleen is only one initiative carried out by the Freedom Flotilla Coalition (FFC). Many similar undertakings by the FFC set out to deliver aid to Gaza before have, like the Madleen, been hijacked by I\$raeli forces. Their group seeks to highlight the brutal and violent nature of the zionist regime when their forces block the aid being sent to Gaza and, in so doing, enforce the dehumanizing "not having" of the Palestinians in Gaza.(4)

Only a month before the Madleen set off, another vessel organized by the FFC was targeted by an I\$raeli drone strike while anchored off the coast of Malta. After two missiles were dropped on it by an I\$raeli C-130, the ship suffered severe damage which required an emergency response from the Maltese government to extinguish fires and prevent the ship from sinking. Even after this attack, the Maltese authorities refused to allow the FFC ship to dock at their ports in order to wade off further attacks from I\$rael, signifying the lengths European governments will go to to avoid even a semblance of conflict with the zionists.(5)

But this brazen act of military violence is still far from the worst act committed by I\$raeli war criminals against flotillas en route to Gaza. On 31 May 2010, I\$raeli



soldiers boarded the Mavi Marmara and subsequently murdered 10 of the volunteers who were accompanying thousands of tons of aid to Gaza.(6) Autopsies following this raid of the Mavi Marmara revealed that as many as six of the deaths were the result of summary executions.(7) This attack underscores both the depths I\$rael will sink to in order to prevent aid from being delivered to Gaza as well as the sheer duration of I\$rael's targeted deprivation of the people of Gaza.

Organizing in the Belly of the Beast

People like Greta Thunberg demonstrate one of many possible roles people from the oppressor nations can play in the anti-imperialist movement. So back to our reader who wrote, "i'm white, what should i do, leave the country? kill myself?" Well, we would recommend suicide — national suicide. And that starts with recognizing that you're not "white," that's just a made up idea by racists. But by national suicide, we mean to go farther than that and to work against the oppressor nation that you were born into.

If we read through the list of things we ask people to do in the USW Campaigns box (on p.16) in the last issue, there is not one thing in that box that a Euro-Amerikan can't contribute to. If Greta Thunberg can ride a small boat, unarmed, in a defiant act against one of the most brutal militaries on the planet today, we think you can manage to organize a study group, pass around a petition, or stand up for fellow prisoners.

Besides the latest flotilla, June 2025 brought many righteous attempts by the people of the First World to interfere with the ongoing genocide. A week after the flotilla, 4,000 activists attempted to reach Gaza by foot from the Sinai Peninsula in Egypt. They were also prevented from reaching Gaza, not by I\$raelis, but by the U.\$ puppet regime of Egypt. Hundreds of people from around the world rounded up, beaten, detained, and deported from Egypt. Activists report that their embassies in Egypt did nothing to

protect them.(8)

On 20 June 2025, members of Palestine Action in the United Kingdom entered an air force base RAF Brize Norton and sprayed two military planes with red spray paint. Three days later the UK announced it was banning Palestine Action under anti-terrorism laws, making it a crime to be a part of the organization. This ban went into effect 5 July 2025. The next day, 29 people were arrested in London for holding up signs say "I Oppose Genocide: I Support Palestine Action."

Palestinian Youth Movement has been waging the "Mask Off Maersk" campaign for a year now, that has included letter writing, protests and humyn blockades of the shipping company in many different countries. They won a partial victory last week when Maersk announced it was halting the transportation of any cargo for companies linked to settlements in the West Bank.

Weaponizing Aid

This surge in international outrage is in response to the surge in brutality by the I\$raeli occupation.

Since the onset of the most recent siege on Gaza in October 2023, I\$rael has tightly controlled what is allowed into or out of Gaza. Then, on 2 March of this year, the zionist state instituted a complete blockade on all humanitarian aid and supplies being delivered to Gaza. That means, as of the time of this article being written, the people of Gaza have been without food, medicine, and water for 117 days. There is no way to characterize this other than as a weaponization of the inflow of aid to Gaza in an attempt to further I\$rael's genocidal plans to wipe out the population of Palestine.(9)

As it so often is, however, reality is even more sinister than what has been described so far. I\$rael does actually allow a trickle of aid into Gaza through the so-called Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF). The GHF is an I\$rael and U.\$ backed organization which, on its surface,

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... Israeli Pirates

serves to disperse aid to the people of Gaza. In truth, however, the GHF acts to concentrate the sites where Gazans can get food to just a handful of aid distribution points which are managed by private U.\$. military contractors. In fact, I\$rael has only established four such distribution points which are supposed to serve more than two million Gazans. The end result is, as anybody could guess from the outset, mass chaos, looting and violence which, in one case, resulted in children watching their mother fall dead from a gunshot to the head after walking six hours to receive aid.(10) To nobody's surprise, the leadership of the GHF also have ties to former CIA employees and affiliates like Blackwater mercenaries (see next page, "Haitians Continue to Fight CIA Drug Gangs as U.\$. Mercenaries Enter").(11)

The desperation of the Gazan people can be seen plain as day in the following quote from a Palestinian man who attended a GHF aid distribution in which three Palestinians were subsequently murdered.

"Hunger brought me here. No one cares about us. Everyone steals for oneself and for those around them. I came here because I want to feed my children and I have ten people to feed. I stayed hungry for eighty days and no one even gave me a loaf of bread, so I came here."(12)

This desperation is the mechanism by which I\$rael aims to fulfill two of its goals. First, they want to force Gazans to relocate to areas closer to the distribution points which are predominantly in Central and Southern Gaza, thus clearing out Northern Gaza for a future offensive operation. Second, I\$rael seeks to further militarize the region by smuggling in military contractors with their so-called "aid distribution."

The endgame here is clear. I\$rael wants to exterminate all who remain in the open air prison they have created. While every government besides Ansar Allah in Yemen watches idly, an insufficient but growing number of people around the world are putting their bodies on the line to stop genocide. Let the suffering of the people of Gaza wake you from the stupor of First World individualism and rouse the revolutionary potential within you. Elevate the struggle to a new level, no matter what the struggle entails. This, and only this, is the path we must take if we have any hope of ending the terror of national oppression. ■

Notes:
1. Marx, 1845, *The Holy Family*, Ch. 4
2. BBC, 10 June 2025, "Greta Thunberg deported, Israel says, after Gaza aid boat intercepted"
3. Freedom Flotilla Coalition, 16 June 2025, "All Madleen Volunteers Out of Prison and Headed Home After Unlawful Detention by Israel"
4. Freedom Flotilla Coalition, "Our Approach"
5. Freedom Flotilla Coalition, 4 May 2025, "Freedom Flotilla Coalition's Ship Conscience Blocked After Drone Attack; Maltese Authorities Impeding Access"
6. Al Jazeera, 9 June 2025, "Freedom Flotillas: A history of attempts to break Israel's siege of Gaza"
7. United Nations Radio, 27 September 2010, "Some of Gaza flotilla victims were summarily executed: fact finding mission"
8. Katherine Hearst, 17 June 2025, "Beaten, detained, deported: How Egypt treated foreigners trying to break Gaza siege", *Middle East Eye*
9. Rachel Muller-Heyndyk, 6 July 2025, "29 arrests after protest in support of Palestine Action, police say", *BBC News*
10. The Guardian, 7 June 2025, "'These are traps set for the people': the story of a mother shot dead searching for food in Gaza"
11. The Palestine Chronicle, 30 May 2025, "ISIS, CIA and the GHF: Israel's New Frontier of Control through Hunger"
12. The Palestine Chronicle, 28 May 2025, "Netanyahu Denies Starvation in Gaza, despite 'Aid Center' Overrun by Starving Crowds"

United \$tates and I\$rael Strike Iran, Iran Bites Back

by a comrade of Anti-Imperialist Prisoner Support
July 2025

On the night of 21 June 2025, the United States dropped multiple bombs targeting Iran's most prominent nuclear sites. This marks the first time that the U.\$. has directly attacked Iranian soil in nearly four decades. How did we get here? And where will this situation take us next?

The United States and Iran: From the Beginning

Iran has been a longtime enemy of the United States empire. Tensions between the two countries have been high strung ever since the United Kingdom and the U.\$. collaborated to orchestrate the Iranian coup d'état of 1953 in which Mohammed Reza Pahlavi rose to power as a puppet of U.-led imperialism. The imperialists pushed for the 1953 coup largely because the UK did not want to lose control over the Iranian oil industry, which the Iranian parliament had previously voted to nationalize in 1951. (1) From the time of this coup until the Iranian revolution in 1979, U.\$. imperialism enjoyed the economic spoils that came with their de facto political, cultural, and military control over the country. In the 1979 revolution, Islamic leader Ayatollah Khomeini took control of the country. Since then Iran has consistently positioned itself to oppose and disrupt the objectives of Amerikan imperialism in the Middle East.

Iran's anti-Amerikan sentiment, both a general position of its government and a point of cultural unity among its population, only strengthened during the war between Iran and Iraq in the 1980s. As Iraq invaded Iran, the United States offered tacit, under-the-table support to Iraq by way of sharing intelligence, offering favorable economic deals, and routing weapons to Iraq through third parties. One of the most heinous ways the United States supported Iraq in this was through the sale of dual-use chemicals which were understood by all parties to be primarily used to conduct chemical attacks against Iranian combatants and civilians alike. A conservative estimate for the cumulative death toll from these chemical weapons is 25,000 Iranian casualties.(2) During this same period, a U.\$. naval ship shot down Iran Air Flight 655 which was carrying 290 passengers, including 65 children. Shortly thereafter, then U.S. Vice President George H.W. Bush, while campaigning for the Presidential election of 1988, said the following:

"I will never apologize for the United States — I don't care what the facts are ... I'm not an apologize-for-America kind of guy."(3)

Three months following this quote, Bush would go on to win the Presidency in a landslide victory.

Given these abhorrent facts, how can anybody be surprised at Iran's complete and total opposition to the United States?

I\$rael: An Outpost for U.\$. Imperialism

If the United States can be said to be the sheriff of the current dominant capitalist-imperialist world system, then it directly follows that I\$rael is one of its top deputies. I\$rael helps the United States to carry out its imperialist aims under the framework of Lenin's *Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism*. Here we consider a couple of ways that is true.

In *Imperialism*, Lenin identifies the export of capital as "one of the most essential economic bases of imperialism."(4) I\$rael receives an average of \$3.8 billion dollars from the U.\$. each year, completely free of charge.(5) Of this, \$3.3 billion is designated as "Foreign Military Financing" in which I\$rael's only obligation is that these funds must be spent on weapons and services from the U.\$. military-industrial sector.(5) In effect, the United States gives money to I\$rael for the sole purpose of I\$rael buying weapons from U.\$. manufacturers which, beyond the initial purchases, help to generate future profits for these manufacturers. Looking beyond the military sector, we find that, from 2020 to 2023, over \$40 billion dollars of direct investment was funneled from the U. \$. to I\$rael. This amount peaked in 2023 at just shy of \$46 billion USD. (6) This financial aspect of U.-I\$raeli imperialist relations is something we've touched on before in *ULK* 87.(7) Since publishing that article, total U.\$. aid to I\$rael during the Gaza War has increased from \$8.7 billion to \$12.6 billion. (8, Table 2)

The second feature of imperialism we will highlight here is its tendency to enact "the division of the world among the international trusts [...] in the form of colonies and spheres of influence."(9) Given the wealth of resources, namely oil, that the Middle East possesses, it is natural for any imperialist power to take aim at bringing this region under its particular "sphere of influence." I\$rael, as a heavily defended fortress with the power of both U.S. capital and the U.\$. military behind it, serves precisely this purpose. I\$rael is, in a sense, the eyes and ears and, when necessary, the sword and shield, of the U.\$. imperialists as they seek to exert power and influence over the Middle East, with the ultimate goal of creating fissures for U.\$. capital to flow into.

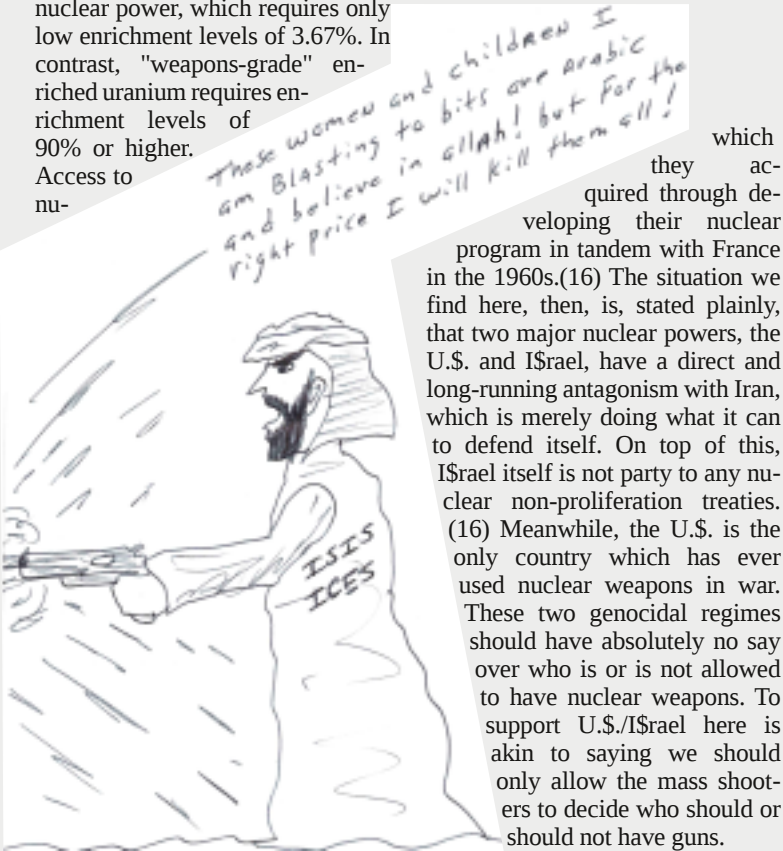
With all of this considered, it is clear that I\$rael is entirely an extension of U.\$. imperialism. This gets to a crucial point completely overlooked by U.\$. social fascists who argue that the "aid" sent to I\$rael should instead go towards funding social programs or towards raising wages for labor aristocrats. The cushy life of the labor aristocracy is only possible *because* of U. \$. imperialism, not in spite of it. This is a fact that even the most pro-I\$rael pundits acknowledge, yet U. \$. "workers" continually fail to grasp it.(10) And without support from its imperialist overseer, the U. \$., I\$rael would crumble within months, if not weeks. In fact, during the June 2025 I\$rael-Iran conflict, I\$rael depended on the U.\$. expending hundreds of millions of dollars to survive even a short term war. To suggest I\$rael stands on equal footing with the U.\$., or worse, that they lead the relationship, is every bit as ludicrous as insisting it is actually the cart that is hauling the horse. It is obvious why the people of Iran refer to the United States and I\$rael, respectively, as "Great Satan" and "Little Satan."

Iran's Nuclear Capabilities

Despite claiming that Iran has been weeks away from developing nuclear weapons for decades, I\$raeli Prime Minister Netanyahu once again used this claim to justify attacking Iran last month. U.\$. Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard disagreed with this assessment, but Trump backed Netanyahu's claim. How does the possible development of Iran as a nuclear power on the world stage

interface with the U. \$. and I\$rael as already existing nuclear powers?

In the early 2000s, it was revealed in a shocking report that Iran had built underground facilities designed for the mass production of enriched uranium, a necessary step towards both nuclear power and nuclear weapons. Iran has maintained its aim in enriching uranium is solely to pursue nuclear power, which requires only low enrichment levels of 3.67%. In contrast, "weapons-grade" enriched uranium requires enrichment levels of 90% or higher. Access to nu-



which they acquired through developing their nuclear program in tandem with France in the 1960s.(16) The situation we find here, then, is, stated plainly, that two major nuclear powers, the U.S. and I\$rael, have a direct and long-running antagonism with Iran, which is merely doing what it can to defend itself. On top of this, I\$rael itself is not party to any nuclear non-proliferation treaties. (16) Meanwhile, the U.S. is the only country which has ever used nuclear weapons in war. These two genocidal regimes should have absolutely no say over who is or is not allowed to have nuclear weapons. To support U.\$./I\$rael here is akin to saying we should only allow the mass shooters to decide who should or should not have guns.

Current Events

Everything discussed hitherto culminated this last month in I\$rael's unprovoked attack on Iran on 13 June 2025. The stated aim of this attack, which killed 974 Iranians and injured 3,458 more, most of them being civilians, is that I\$rael is acting in "self-defense."(17, 18) The broader aim of I\$rael's attack is to hinder Iran's nuclear program through military force. As part of this aim, I\$rael's attacks included the assassination of several prominent Iranian nuclear scientists.(19) In *Al Jazeera's* paraphrase, Iranian officials said the attack amounted to "the most direct act of war in the countries' decades-long shadow conflict."(20)

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ISIS & ICE's Neo-Colonialism

by XT369 of United Struggle from Within
July 2025

First the Native Americans: the european caucasians exterminated tens of millions of indigenous people, who were on this side of the world for tens of thousands of years, to steal their lands and resources. The greedy murderous caucasians described the peaceful indigenous people as savages like they were wild dangerous animals.

Now they are doing the same to the indigenous Palestinians to steal all their land and whatever else they can benefit from. There is **no** difference. They murder the women and children to sever their existence. They force the remaining population to scatter and disperse. They hire other Arabs to kill the Palestinians for them. They hire raza to round up other raza in concentration camps. Amerikkka?! Are you fucking blind?! OH! That's right! You don't fucking care!! ■

Haitians Continue to Fight CIA Drug Gangs as U\$. Mercenaries Enter

by MIM(Prisons)
June 2025

On 2 April 2025, thousands of Haitians marched on the capital in Port au Prince demanding action be taken against the gangs controlling most of the city. Some protestors were armed. As the comprador state has been recognized to serve against the people's needs, the Haitian people have formed citizen brigades. Some local police have begun arming certain brigades with weapons seized from the gangs. While other brigades have been disarmed by the state. The comprador government responded to

tralize these gangs, with a number of leaders being shot dead in the street by sniper fire. While El Salvador, Kenya, Guatamala and the Bahamas all have troops working with the Haitian puppet government to try to clear death squads so people can return to their neighborhoods, it was more recently revealed that Erik Prince of Blackwater infamy has been operating in Haiti since March 2025. (3) Prince is a close associate of Donald Trump. Trump pardoned Blackwater mercenaries behind a 2007 massacre in Iraq. Now Trump and Prince seem to be working to reign in the gangs the

Trans Care Ban Halted; More Reports on its Impact

by Federal Prisoners
July 2025

On 3 June 2025, a federal judge granted an injunction to resume hormone therapy, hair removal products and clothing used by trans prisoners in federal prisons. This injunction is part of an ongoing lawsuit by three trans prisoners against Trump's executive order to stop such services provided by the Bureau of Prisons (BOP). This suit has been certified as a class-action lawsuit to include all trans prisoners held by the Feds. The judge ruled that there was no evidence the administration made any factual analysis before implementing Trump's directive.

Prior to the injunction we received more responses to our survey on the topic printed below. Please write in with your updates since the injunction has been imposed.

A prisoner at USP Terre

Haute, 12 May 2025: I was on track to be transferred to a female facility and get gender-affirming surgery. But since the new administration, all that has been shelved. They even took the Transgender Executive Council off the computer, so we can no longer message them electronically with our issues. Bras and panties have been taken and blood testing for hormone levels has been delayed indefinitely. It's only a matter of time before our hormones are denied altogether. Per your recommendation, I have also written the Transgender Law Center.

One imperfect solution to this mess would be to transfer us to state custody. The 9th Circuit, for example, is more gender-affirming than the Feds. Unfortunately, with this near universal push to eliminate us, it doesn't seem like anywhere in the U.S. is safe for trans people. Thanks for listening.

MIM(Prisons): Two comrades held in Federal Correctional Institution Butner wrote us, where they report there are 7 trans prisoners in total as of April 2025. Both of them report being denied access to medical care following Trump's Executive Order. Here are their stories.

A prisoner at FCI Butner 19 April 2025: My hormone therapy was discontinued while in-transit at USP Atlanta as a result of Trump's Executive Order 14168 in late February 2025. I was placed into "The Annex" at FCI Butner. The Annex is a segregation unit for civilly committed sexually dangerous predators who cannot go home at the expiration of their sentence. Due to FCI Butner #1 having no SHU, when an inmate is put in segrega-

tion, such as me, they go to the SHU at FCI Butner #2 or The Annex depending on bed space at FCI #2. I am not a sex offender, I am here due to bed space.

I was transferred to FCI Butner #1 because staff at FCI El Reno, OK were extremely transphobic and hateful. I have suffered verbal, physical, and sexual abuse and I have witnessed and filed upon abuse of other trans prisoners as well. I recently sued the United States and won \$95,000 in federal court in Jan. 2025 due to the environment the Trump Administration has created.

Staff members are gleeful about Trump's EO 14168 and treat it as a license to harass and abuse trans individuals with statements like "we don't have to do the tranny stuff no more, thank God." I have discussed EO 14168 with my trans peers and the prevailing attitudes are anger and fear.

A second prisoner at FCI Butner 20 April 2025: Following the EO, I was transferred from Fairton, Medium in New Jersey and placed in S.H.U., because of my Transfemale gender identity.

I have recently experienced and witnessed an increase and abuse towards gay and transgender prisoners. When I was transferred out of FCI Medium, Fairton, NJ on February 11th, 2025, and was in-transit at USP Lewisburg, PA, I experienced abuse and misgendering on the bus ride to and the entire time I was at USP Lewisburg.

I have heard prison staff discussing the executive orders. They're saying they like what he has done, and it's about time they silence and stop this tranny-thang! And that it was always fake, about male-to-female transgenders, because it was imaginary, and does not exist, it's impossible, because we are biological males. And God never made the male body to transition into a female. And that estrogen will actually kill me and others and it's not morally right for men to want to be females!

I still have never been shown that FBOP memoranda of 21 February 2025. Despite requesting the medical officials, H.S.A. nurses, doctors, at FCI Fairton to allow me to inspect and read what it stated, versus just them telling me what they "believed" it said.

The prevailing attitudes among prisoners is that everyone is sad and troubled by it! Especially myself, because on January 30th, 2025, Chief Psychologist Redondo was given the duty of personally telling each transgender female, to their face, that FCI Fairton Medium was stopping my estrogen injections, spironolactone, finasteride, and I could no longer purchase makeup, female hygienes, nor female undergarments. Plus, we'd be subjected to male only pat searches, strip searches, and forced into cells with males!

My 8th Amendment Rights were severely, blatantly, and deliberately violated by both Fairton Medium and USP Lewisburg, because those facilities H.S.A.'s acted prematurely without any implementing memorandum in

effect, period! Chief Psychologist Redondo, H.S.A., and the Warden (Kelly) stopped me and several other transgender sisters from receiving our estrogen therapy and accommodations because they themselves were so zealous of destroying transgender people's lives and inflicting pain, agony, torment upon us for a very long time.

Once I arrived here at FCI Medium Butner #1 it took over a month to restart my estrogen injections. That was 10 days ago. It was by the Grace of God, that this medical facility has decided to ignore EO 14168, section 4(a), and the two memoranda implementing EO 14168, first issued on February 21, 2025, entitled "Compliance with Executive Order Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government," which prohibited my purchase of "any items that align with transgender ideology," prohibited granting requests for other accommodations to address gender dysphoria such as "undergarments that do not align with an inmate's biological sex", and mandates that BOP staff members "must refer to individuals with 'pronouns' that correspond to their biological sex."

Currently I am "stuck" between a male medium, and earning my right to be finally transferred to a female prison, for the primary reason of finally receiving my "neo-vagina" surgery! I was pre-approved by the now non-existent T.E.C. (Transgender Executive Council) in B.O.P. Central Office, that Trump fired! ■

Notes:
1. UltraViolet, Volume XXXVII, No. 1, Summer 2025, p.4. Newsletter of LAGAI — Queer Insurrection, 3543 18th Street #26, San Francisco, CA 94110
2. Also see our previous reporting on this topic ULK 89, "Rollbacks of Transgender Rights: What Is To Be Done?"



"Strength in Unity" is the motto of Haiti, which won its independence from France in 1804 after 13 years of revolutionary struggle. Because the slave population came from many regions of Africa, this motto signified the importance of uniting across different language and cultural backgrounds to overthrow the oppressor.

the protest with massive tear gas attacks and firing live rounds into the air.(1)

For some time, paramilitary gangs have controlled over 80% of the capital, where most Haitians live, displacing over a million people. Viv Ansanm (Living Together) is a coalition formed of smaller gangs that once served to back different political parties. Today, Viv Ansanm is ensuring that Haiti serve as a major transport hub for Colombian cocaine.

The current government took power in November with help from the U\$. imperialists, the latest in a series of comprador states since the overthrow of popular president Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 2004. At that time Aristide could safely walk through the streets of the poorest neighborhoods. Today those neighborhoods are being emptied of people by rampant violence. Aristide was replaced by a U.N. occupation run by USAID, as well as French and Canadian NGOs. After 13 years of "sending aid" to Haiti, no real rebuilding has been done, and people infamously starved while USAID warehouses sat full of bags of rice. Early last century that same U\$. rice was used to undermine the development of native food production to serve Haitians.

The 2004 coup was the second to overthrow Aristide. The first was in 1991, it was led by people on the CIA payroll for over a decade that were also working with the Cali drug cartel in Colombia.(2) This marked the beginning of what Haiti has now become — a major drug transport hub run by heavily armed death squads.

Since the mobilization of the people in early April, the government has begun to step up to neu-

CIA helped bring to power in Haiti.

On 5 June 2025, Trump ended Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for immigrants from Haiti and 11 other countries, including Iran, Afghanistan, Republic of Congo, Sudan, Libya and Yemen — all countries with recent Amerikan-involved wars. Meanwhile, Haitians in the U\$. have been swept up in ICE raids in recent weeks (see page 10, "Freedom..." for more on these raids). Clearly Trump's plans involve keeping Haitians out of the United States. Part of the plan to "whiten" the United States, this also puts added pressure on Haiti to appease the Trump regime. As with all these countries, the people would not be fleeing if not for imperialist conflicts being waged in their homelands.

Since being the first victorious slave revolution in 1804, and a bastion of anti-slavery in the 1800s, Haiti has been a target of the European imperialists. This imperialist meddling has created the conditions of the current failed state.

Some liberals have lamented the end of USAID programs in Haiti that were working to support the gender oppressed and girls who are sexually assaulted by the gangs.(4) We say to our readers that this horrific gender oppression is just one symptom of the repeated CIA backed coups in Haiti. USAID served as a band-aid to justify continued Amerikan meddling in a country that it has raped for decades (see ULK 89, "Trade war Replaces U\$. Soft Power").(5)

Besides the lucrative drug trade, there has been talk of alter-

Continued on next page...

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PO BOX 40799
San Francisco, CA
94140

CT Ombudsman Stops Taking Complaints

by a comrade of Anti-Imperialist Prisoner Support
July 2025

With 200+ cases awaiting review, as of June 18th, the Connecticut Department of Corrections Ombudsman has stopped accepting complaints from incarcerated people.(1) This office was allegedly established to "promote fairness, accountability, and transparency in the state's correctional system."(2) Ombudsman DeVaugn Ward is the only staff member in the office, and hopes to have complaints being reviewed again in the third or fourth quarter of 2025.

According to bourgeois sources, the bulk of complaints in the previous year came from MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution where the chief concern cited was health. This is unsurprising as seven prisoners there underwent a hunger strike in 2024 which even involved prisoners meeting to negotiate with Ward.(3) The strike began with six prisoners, a seventh joining, and finally five ceasing their activities after being threatened with transfer or move to segregation from the Connecticut Department of Corrections (CTDOC).(4)

The hunger strike in question sought some political and some personal demands, including personal transfers and accommodations, alongside demands for improved communication with the outside world and improved access to (mental) health resources for the entire prison. The dispute was settled in the following way after a series of negotiations between the two remaining strikers and Ward:

"Ward provided the men with written agreements to only their personal requests. DOC Commissioner Angel Quiros approved Robinson's transfer to Ohio, which Robinson thinks will be carried out in the next few weeks. Though Myers' single cell has not yet been confirmed, Ward has requested Myers' medical records to ensure he qualifies for the cell."(3)

Not knowing if Ward's promises were kept, we can say CT-DOC successfully intimidated a widespread strike until it was small enough to negotiate away through individual privileges rather than concessions to the entire prisoner class. This speaks to the need for organization prior to confrontation with enemies. Further, if comrades are going to fight they should do so on principle, not in combination with personal demands where the administration can easily single them out. In this case, the only two remaining strikers could voluntarily end their efforts, but were other comrades still involved, backing out individually in exchange for personal concessions would be an act of treason against the others involved.

Ward cites funding delays, low staffing, privacy laws, and poor record management in the office's difficulty addressing complaints. We would be foolish to pin the prison system's failure to address grievances on one individual, as much as they are benefiting from the oppression through their white collar job and salary. The prison system inher-

ently directs insufficient resources towards social services and programs as the function of prison in the United States is national oppression and social control. Providing for a high quality of life would go against the interest of the oppressor nation and their comprador allies who would then share fewer resources between themselves. For example, see our discussion of the NY Correctional Pig Strike in *ULK* 89, where the pigs complained of insufficient wages and staffing even as prisoners face neglect and murder (see *ULK* 89, "Update on NY Lockdowns and Wildcat Pig Strike").(5)

In other events on which the Ombudsman is unable to accept complaints, a man with ALS was recently admitted to Bridgeport Correctional Facility and died within 24 hours because he was not provided medical care. A lawsuit asserts his ALS-driven dietary needs were not met and staff delayed resuscitation for 20 minutes after finding him in ongoing opiate withdrawal.(6) Further, a recent CT Inspector General report determined a woman died from an overdose in East Lyme last August but there was no information on how she acquired her drugs.(7) As of June 12, Osborn Correctional Institute has made 127 ambulance calls in 2025, up from 78 the same time the previous year, and there were 47 overdoses at Osborn in the past 12 months at the facility.(8)

If sending complaints to the Ombudsman is not going to solve

state grievances in CT or other state prisons, what will? The answer is study and organization. By joining with others facing oppression as the hunger strikers at MacDougall-Walker did, we increase our odds of success through numbers. And by learning from the history of the struggles of the oppressed we develop a method to understand the world and the strategy to implement it in our conditions. To get started request our Introductory Study Group course and begin talking with fellow prisoners about conditions around you. If you are in a facility struggling with drug abuse the best course of action is to request our Revolutionary 12 Step zine and talk with other inmates about their struggles with substance use.(9)

Please write us with reports of your complaints, organizing, and conditions in your facility. ■

Notes:
1. Lovato, Beatrice. "CT Prison Ombudsman stops taking complaints after large backlog" WSHU, Jun 18 2025
2. CT.Gov Ombudsman Informational Page
3. Nehme, Maia. "CT Prisoners set to end 28 day hunger strike," Yale Daily News, Oct 8 2024
4. Nehme, Maia. "Incarcerated Hunger Strikers call for Connecticut Prison Reform Yale Daily News," Sep 23 2024
5. Anti-Imperialist Prisoner Support. "Update on NY Lockdowns and Wildcat Pig Strike" April 2025, Under Lock & Key 89
6. "Family of man with ALS who died within 24 hours of incarceration sues CT DOC" Connecticut Mirror, Jun 24, 2025
7. Muzsynski, Justin. "A woman in a CT prison died of an overdose. An investigation failed to ID who supplied the drugs," Hartford Courant, Jun 25, 2025
8. Levy, Jason. "Connecticut prison overdoses are 'A more systemic issue,'" WTNH Hartford, Jun 20, 2025
9. MIM(Prisons). Why we need a Proletarian Revolutionary 12 Steps June 2025

... Continued from page 1

... Palestine Shows the Way

"Hebrew Yisraelite" I ovastand the motive bibbically and historically. However, those that's claiming to be Jews (descendents of Esau) are not the real Jews (descendants of Jacob). (Revelation 2:9-10) As a spiritual Israelite, a real true seed of my ancestor Abraham (read Romans 9:2-8), I oppose the conflict/genocidal warfare against the Palestinians, so my roommates and I are the first to sign."

"I will be getting more pledgers once I explain the situation in terms of revolution. At the moment, we're kind of isolated from each other due to we being on the tier program (23hr lockup) at a level 5 close security prison. But have patience and know I'm workin for the overall goal... Freedom!"

"Revolution is not a an event; It's a process." - Mao Zedong

In other prisons, the ability to get signatures was limited by the consciousness of the population.

One comrade in Turbeville Correctional Institution in South Carolina signed the pledge, writing: "It's impossible to get these brothers to sign this pledge, Brothers don't stand for nothing. However, you know I do... Peace."

The Virginia comrade reported:

"I AM SORRY. Out of hundreds of people I approached and asked to sign this is all I got to receive the truth about things. The rest are too high on strip and K2. The "Muslims" were not even interested, for they too are high."

And as always, censorship is a major limitation in getting materials like the Anti-Genocide Pledge to comrades locked up in U.S. prisons. Pledges sent to Arkansas' Tucker Max Unit were returned with the note "Too many pages",

despite there only being three one-sided pages per their draconian mail rules. However, a comrade there informed us it was "unauthorized" because it was asking em to get signatures. So petitions are now illegal in Arkansas prisons. Readers in Arkansas can write us directly if you want to join the pledge against genocide in Palestine.

One Oregon comrade echoed that there too such organizing was forbidden. Ey wrote:

"Of 36 people in the unit, I only asked 28, and 15 of them signed. Only three of the people who I asked to sign are slightly familiar with Palestine's modern-day history, since WWII. Most people just thought it was b/s what Israel's doing, without knowing the full story."

"Only two guys said that they're riding with Israel, because Israel is Amerika's long-term ally (including one of the Christians). I could not get the messianic Jew to sign, who said ey can't support anything against God's chosen people. Two of the dudes just said they don't sign things like this without indicating their position on the topic."

"Most of these people don't even know what imperialism means. They are glued to televisions, or Nintendo switches, so they don't take time out to read. I think ya'll would do good to do an anti-imperialist pledge, in order to find out, who supports imperialism, or not, amongst the lumpen."

Oregon had the only Palestinian signature we've seen so far.

A comrade in Franklin CF New York reported:

"I generated 14 signatures out of a 54 man dorm, me being the 15th. I stopped for the following reasons:

1) Some people were respectfully not interested or had no political view

2) many were confused with Trump's immigrant agenda going on nationwide, especially the ICE and California clash/protesting.

3) most latinx/chican@ prisoners thought it was that also and then said why ain't one being done for their issue

*4) black prisoners felt the same way and said "Fuck em" "N*****s ain't doing shit for me" and many other expletives*

5) people didn't care

6) white prisoners also had a variety of the same things to say as well

7) Muslims were split

8) I myself was starting to get frustrated with some of the negative responses and paused before I ended up cracking someone in the mouth or busting eir snot box

9) p.96 VI. Lenin On Imperialism & Opportunism "The question of Peace 1924" last paragraph: "To Continue: can the socialists of different countries be united on definite terms of peace? If so, such terms must undoubtedly include the recognition of the right to self-determination for all nations, and also renunciation of all "annexations" i.e. infringements of that right. If, however, that right is recognized only for some nations, then you are defending the privileges of certain nations, i.e. you are a "nationalist" and imperialist not a socialist. If, however, that right is recognized for all nations, then you "cannot" single out [Palestine] alone, for instance, you must take all the oppressed peoples..."

Another Pledge Push

To those who just signed the pledge and sent it back, or said there's no point in talking to the brothers here, we say that we must not succumb to the weakness of arrogance and impatience when we are working with the masses. As our campaign letter explained

Small Victory for TX Heat Respite

by a Texas prisoner
June 2025

Legal minds here at Ferguson Unit in Texas have been focusing on big and small questions like toxic water and out-of-cell time. There has been a pattern here of certain administrators exercising collective punishments, arbitrary sanctions, and setting up prisoners in direct authority positions over other prisoners.

Because of the heat this summer, there has been a lot of attention paid towards heat mitigation issues: an issue that has plagued Texas prisons for years despite the legal settlements around heat respite in recent years. Things really kicked off after an individual fell out, busted his head wide open and needed six stitches after going into a seizure. We believe the heat and lack of proper mitigation played a part.

i sent an outside supporter an e-message reporting what happened to the guy. The staff read my mail and pulled me out for an investigation. i explained and wrote a statement concerning the lack of heat mitigation. For the next three days in a row the same brother fell out and had seizures without them doing much of anything as usual. They blame it on K2.

So i continued to report this episode, and outside support continued to alert higher administrators who now seek to investigate this unit's practices of heat mitigation. The effect has been experienced in the last handful of days, wherein for the first time in the few years i have been here people are being allowed to go to respite areas.

Even this recent change to enforce existing rules has resulted in protest from staff who are not used to having to do this sort of thing. We have to make a stand and get supervisors who give us our request because it is in accordance with policy. However, each incident is really a psychological battle for the minds and influence of the captives. A big step in any future organizing is getting people to not fear nor be intimidated by administration and its employees: to be able to stand up in an intelligent and effective way and be victorious – to see that is breaking down mental walls. ■

"We saw this pledge as a way to engage people" and we asked you

"How many people did you reach out to about this pledge, vs. how many actually signed? What reasons did people give for signing or not? If people are afraid to put their real names on there, that's fine, just use an alias, as long as they are making the pledge that is all that matters to us. Were there patterns as to what types of people would and wouldn't sign? Did people pledge to take any specific actions?"

Signing a piece of paper does nothing for Palestinians. In fact if that's all you did, then we'd say that signature was a lie if you're not even willing to talk to people around you then how can you sign a pledge that reads in part:

"I commit to raising my voice, taking action, and holding governments, corporations, and institutions accountable for their role in supporting Israeli genocide, occupation and colonization against Palestinians."

But it's not too late! And if you don't have the petition yet, write in

Continued on page 10...

Notes:
1. Kevin Pina, 2 April 2025, Flashpoints on KPFA.
2. Kevin Pina, 29 April 2025, Flashpoints on KPFA.
3. Kevin Pina, 29 May 2025, Flashpoints on KPFA.
4. Democracy Now!, 13 June 2025.
5. see Communist Party of Aztlán, April 2025, Trade War Replaces U.S. Soft Power, ULK 89.

The United States is a Fascist Country

by Liran of MIM(Prisons)
July 2025

Fascism was conceived, in its beginning, as a reaction against the growing workers' movement, chiefly in Italy and Germany in the early-mid 20th century. This understanding of fascism grasped one of its aspects, one of the sides of the process which began to unfold at that time. But lurking behind this violent repression of the workers' movement was the fact that fascism tended also towards the repression of one or more sects of the population, and for the elevation of another; this phenomenon is the alliance of a *nation*, bourgeoisie and proletariat together, for the imperialist plunder of the world, and the elevation of that proletariat into a labor aristocracy, a working class which has become entirely bourgeois.

Today, this aspect of fascism has become dominant and striking in the United States, a country with a vanishingly small proletariat and significant population of oppressed nations (also known as internal semi-colonies, owing to their geographic coincidence with the oppressor nation). The labor aristocracy of the dominant nation and its bourgeoisie forms a stronger alliance than that between the oppressed nations and either of the former two. In times of crisis, such as ours today, this alliance inevitably seeks to throw off its most disposable component, the oppressed nations. During its times of prosperity, the dominant nation had the possibility of assimilating these oppressed nations, and, in so doing, eliminating the threat of their resistance. This tumultuous process always rocked back and forth, as both the dominant and oppressed nations questioned whether such assimilation was economically and superstructurally possible. In the current moment, it has been more strongly advocated than at any other time in recent history that the United States throw off the oppressed nations to survive (see *ULK 89*, "Amerika Don't Want Us No More").(1)

The CPU\$A, on 21 April 2024, published an article titled, "The United States is not a fascist country," which embodies many of the fundamental arguments against the United States as fascist at this time.

"Biden knew that he could only be elected by winning over the class forces in this country that despise fascism and everything it stands for. His electoral success was not a working class embrace of neoliberalism, zionism, or imperialism. It was a unified struggle by the many millions of Americans who organized against the Trump administration and against everything that it stood for. Even Covid-era stimulus money (recall that some of the checks were signed by Trump himself) could not sway our class from its desire for peace, economic and social justice, and democracy."(2)

The so-called "working class" in this country, far from being opposed to fascism, is the *social base of fascism*.(3) The empire is united along one line: the mutual share of super-profits derived from the export of finance capital. As this pool is drained, the contradictions between the sects involved come to the fore. The bourgeoisie is functionally unable to cut away the enormous labor aristocracy (the vast majority of U.S. society) from the pool of resources, as the high wages of the U.S. labor aristocracy

are not due to a conscious choice of the imperialist class, but due rather to the necessary and unconsciously active economics of unequal exchange. If Amerika is re proletarianized, it will be due to factors outside the control of the leaders of this country. No Democrat can prevent the inevitable death of the decaying empire. The oppressed nations, who have always had a tenuous connection to Amerikan nationhood, are therefore the first group excised from the Amerikan nation in its time of crisis, as their existence is in fact conditional on the will of the ruling class to allow their integration or extirpation. The New Afrikan and First Nations, being prevented from educational and employment opportunities, are forced into the lumpen class, distancing it from the wages accessed through Amerikan jobs. The Chicane nation, suffering to an ever greater extent from lack of citizenship protections and now deportations, is allowed to occupy those jobs which offer a semi-proletarian existence in the grey areas of legality, such as agriculture and construction.

This, however, only brings the revolutionary capacity of the oppressed nations out into the open, for all to see with pure clarity. Unable to see a future in the United States, it becomes ever more apparent that revolutionary anti-imperialism is the only salvation for us. This goal, however, is a worldwide struggle of great proportions. Contrary to the gospel of liberal media, the only true ally the oppressed nations of the United States have is the Third World. It is the only true ally, for only the oppressed nations of the world form a consistent and thorough opposition to imperialism, and only the oppressed nations contain a consistently revolutionary proletariat able to build socialism in its place. The Third World, forming the vast majority of the nations on this planet, is the revolutionary majority against the reactionary, ruling minority. In the United States, integration is falling away as imperialism fails to provide the necessary prosperity for a united "Great Melting Pot" of nationalities. Fascism, once principally a response to the growing proletarian movement, is now a result of this country's inability to maintain a harmonic balance between the various class and national forces at work. Unable to rule in the old Amerikan way, the way of the ever idealized melting pot, Amerika must extirpate some of its component sects in order to preserve its way of life. The labor aristocracy and bourgeoisie will do away with the oppressed nations in order to guarantee their own future.

On the other hand, the contradictions between the labor aristocracy and bourgeoisie are also brought to a pitch. Here we have the standard divide between social-democracy on the part of the labor aristocracy and neoliberalism on the part of the bourgeoisie. It is for this reason that the CPU\$A article says:

"In a fascist state, the labor movement would not be making such incredible gains."

The delusion of an Amerikan proletariat leads one to this proposition. If there is a significant Amerikan proletariat, and if fascism is a reaction against the revolutionary activity of the proletariat, then fascism should mean a violent repression of the proletariat, a decline in the forward march of the

working class.

But if the labor aristocracy is in fact the mass base of fascism, then this "analysis," which we must note is, in reality, nothing more than a mere ideological reflection of class interest, an apology for fascism through an unbreakable and constant state of denial. We draw the magic cap over our eyes so we can make believe that there are no monsters. Both the social-democratic interests of the labor aristocracy and the neoliberal interests of the bourgeoisie are fascist tendencies, insofar as they seek to remove the oppressed nations from the United States. Objectively, social democracy is the moderate wing of fascism.

The CPU\$A continues:

"Above all else, the CPUSA would not be allowed to exist under a fascist regime."

The Black Panther Party (BPP) was not allowed to exist. Fascism does not oppose the labor aristocracy in the United States, it opposes the oppressed nations. But the BPP was repressed for its revolutionary tendency towards self-determination, and this can be approached from two angles: either from an interest in integrating the oppressed nations on the one hand, or from a final solution on the other. In the days of the BPP, integration was firmly on the table. Today, the Amerikan nation pulls ever further towards the elimination of the oppressed nations. The genocide in Gaza sounds the tocsin, the alarm bell, for the oppressed nations in the United States.

The CPU\$A admits:

"To assume that January 6th was a hyped-up myth, or to belittle its gravity, is a dereliction of our most solemn duty as Communists and workers in the belly of the beast."

If Donald Trump's insurrection on 6 January 2021 was a great threat, an attempt at retaking power, what are we to say of Trump's reelection, which was an actual retaking of power? The victory of the Republican over the Democratic party is a victory of the line of extirpation over integration, caused by the economic crisis of imperialism. We have already begun to see that the pathway for the oppressed nations to pursue integration into the United States empire is beginning to close.

Bourgeois democracy, in the period preceding imperialism, was the form in which capitalism best expressed itself, as in that state-form the whole society appears as democratically united on basic principles — capitalist principles — as an organic whole. The class struggle appears to be mediated and resolved through the state: the peace-keeping expression of the will of the people. When the class struggle reached a sufficient level of tension, however, this form had to be replaced by open terrorist dictatorship of finance capital, as the necessary measures for the preservation of the system could not be kept in the guise of bourgeois democracy. This basic structure is reflected by the United States, save only that the proletariat and bourgeoisie are replaced by the oppressed and oppressor nations. The Democrats represent, in general, the tendency towards integration, which corresponds to bourgeois democracy. But as this



form becomes impossible due to the growing crisis of imperialism in economic matters, the open terrorist dictatorship of the oppressor nation, embodied in the Republican party, must replace the integrationist fantasy.

CPUSA claims:

"To call the environment this happened within "fascist" is to deny reality and remove ourselves from the class struggle and sit on the sidelines."

To recognize fascism in the United States does indeed remove ourselves from the class struggle, because it forces us to recognize the national struggle as principal. That Marxism recognizes the possibility of the class struggle occupying a secondary position is proved by Engels' statement that British colonialism tended towards forging an alliance between the proletariat and bourgeoisie, it was briefly put in practice by the BPP, and its actuality is proved by MIM's economic works showing that the United States lacks a significant proletariat, but retains an antagonistic contradiction between its nations.

Further tightening its blindfold, the CPU\$A published an article on 2 April 2024 titled, "Labor is taking on US foreign policy," in which the author argues as follows:

"A remarkable development of the past six months has been the mobilization of organized labor in the movement for a ceasefire

in Gaza. Days into Israel's retaliatory war on Gaza, union locals were already pressing for peace."(4)

Support for peace in Gaza has many possible motives. Based on the particular geopolitical strategy to which one subscribes, peace in Gaza is an acceptable and even a desirable outcome for the United States as an empire. Support for Israel is a monetary and optical burden on the United States, and these negative sides will have their representatives and advocates. It should be no surprise to anyone that the labor aristocrats which make up the AFL-CIO would rather see that money serve their class directly.

The only revolutionary position with regard to Palestine is the complete destruction of Israel, and, in fact, of the United States. It is Amerikan and Israeli settlers that must be integrated — integrated, that is, into a socialist world, where national self-determination is a living reality. Until Amerikan labor unions wholeheartedly support the destruction of the U.S. and Israeli states, their half-measure support for Gaza is not indicative of proletarian internationalism. ■

Notes:

1. MIM(Prisons), April 2025, "Amerika Don't Want Us No More," Under Lock & Key 89
2. Communist Party of the USA, 21 April 2025, "The United States is not a fascist country"
3. MIM Congress, 2005, "The Labor Aristocracy Is the Main Force of Fascism"
4. Communist Party of the USA, 2 April 2025, "Labor is taking on US foreign policy"

"Stop Snitching" Response: Part II



by Alien of United Struggle from Within
May 2025

Welcome to the Revolution! This is Alien, back with Part II to my last article from *ULK #86*: "Response to "Stop Snitching: Stop Collaborating."

I disagree with this California prisoner's definition of snitching, in the 2nd paragraph of the "Stop Snitching on Pigs" (also in *ULK 86*). Not all snitching is done to a "higher authority." To snitch is to incriminate an ally, or should-be ally, through written/verbal statements made to *anyone* who could be a pig/rat/enemy, in general. If I take incriminating info/intel to a rat, or to somebody who views the pigs as "allies," through gossip/rumors/incriminating raps (AKA rhyming witness statements), then this is snitching. It's well-known that this type of gossip/rumors often finds its way to the higher authorities. The problem is that this form of snitching, via gossip/rumors/raps, happens so routinely that *everybody* is typically guilty of doing it, which means that nobody's trying to enforce anti-gossip/anti-rumors/anti-incriminating rap. You never know if you're gossiping to a MFer on 60-days-in, or a fuckin' pig dressed up/tatted up like a convict. I've seen many rats feed all kinds of gossip to the enemy. Convicts gossiping about other

convicts is just as bad as convicts writing grievances on other convicts, snitch-wise, it's just that grievances are documented on paper while gossip isn't always documented. However, just because an incriminating statement isn't documented on paper doesn't mean it's not what it is — snitching. Gossip, rumors, and incriminating raps aren't silence, and thus, violate the code of silence.

Why would you gossip about somebody who you claim to be loyal to, when that "somebody" is somebody you claim you'd never snitch on? Some say "a man's only as good as eir word," but if you're using your word behind somebody's back, it means your words can't be trusted. If your word can't be trusted, it's no good. How am I supposed to be loyal to people who I can't trust? Besides, if you're gossiping about everybody else, then why can't they be gossiping about you? What they'll do to you, they'll do to me. An organization plagued by gossip is a ship that'll sink at the words of loose lips. (Mao discussed this in part in eir essay *Combat Liberalism*). Plus infiltrators can weaponize gossip to keep everybody against each other. The revolution demands open confrontation. In a time of war, as prison is war (see *ULK 83*) gossiping to *any* enemy about an ally is disloyalty/snitching. Don't be scared to pull MFer's up and en-

courage confrontation.

Gossip/rumors, as an aspect of communication, are a contradiction within the masses that stirs up all kinds of dramatic manipulation/schemes/disorganization/confusion/division/etc. If we're to wage a campaign against gossip/rumors/incriminating rap. Criticism/self-criticism is not to be conducted behind comrades' backs. We need our organizations gossip/rumor-free, if we're to succeed in our number-one goal.

Time, for a Revolutionary, is more than just money; Time, for a Revolutionary, is waging Revolution — with emphasis placed on the word "wage"/"waging." You wage Revolution *against* the enemy, not *with* the enemy. Don't waste much time loosening one's lips with the enemy, if it's not words spoken in the name of the Revolution.

Seeing as how Communism is a society where no group has power over any other group, I'd like our next articles to discuss how we can change individuals, who collaborate with our powerful enemies and view them as allies, into viewing the *powerless* as allies, who aren't to be collaborated against, or snitched on — a shift in loyalties, through dialectical materialism's resolution of contradictions.

In y'all's experience, what strategies/tactics have y'all applied behind bars, in order to internally change other prisoners' loyalties, in favor of Revolution? What new strategies can we come up with? How do we get people to start caring about people who need help, instead of \$, drugs, sex, and power?

Can a communist society exist with individuals abusing powerful words against each other, through snitching, gossiping, rumors, incriminating raps, etc., or with collaboration against one another? (I personally don't see a communist society tolerating bullshit like that). What will communication, on/off the internet, look like in a communist society and how will it be organized? Remember, communication rules the nation(s), so it's very important to address this in our campaigns, if we're to succeed. The problem is that it's hard enough for many of us to control our own mouths, let alone the mouths of an entire society. How do we organize our communications leading up to socialist Revolution?

It's time to put the Revolution where your mouth is.

NOTE: This is why MIM said that, under the dictatorship of the proletariat, party members will be paid the rate of the lowest paid workers in society. ■

Lumpen and Religious Orgs Used to Control Prisoners in Texas

by a Texas prisoner
May 2025

Thank you for the *Under Lock & Key 87* and *88*. I just finished reading through *ULK 87* and Grim is right Christianity is being forced on every individual in the Texas

Department of Criminal Justice (see *ULK 88*, "Victory Getting Zionists Off Tablets ..."). This violates all Texans' rights to religious practice through the tablets in prison.

On the other hand I'm over here on the McConnell Unit where I see religious people who are supposed to be for the people work in the place as the oppressor with the same pigs whom practice oppression. When we look at the capitalist here in American prisons we see the state abuse their authority by placing power and control in the peoples' hands. Half of the time we can't get nothing done because every time we stand up for what's right here come the gang members and religious folks taking up for the pigs and it's your fellow inmate brother whom is putting you farther in oppression. I myself experience this a lot.

The staff here, these officers rather, let the prisoners deal with the prisoners, in return the officers look the other way when the workers are dealing drugs. Just the other day a crip wanted to go on a hunger strike for the pod going on a 15 day lock down because several individuals got caught smoking. These same officers know the prisoners who are bringing the smoke over here. All these individuals are working together with a handful of gang members and religious folks. The real revolutionary prisoners are basically stuck in the cell all day.

My question is when are we gonna connect with people who can do something about the situation. We write grievances and file complaints and we still can't get anything done. I know for a fact we sent out every letter of 35 griev-

ances. I pack my stuff up and went to the front desk and told them to move me back [because an L.O. runs this block that I have a documented conflict with] and they threatening me with physical harm and told me to go back to my pod.

The people in Israel are evil people who hide behind the Christian religion. They want the rest of the world to follow in the Christian faith but they can't follow in their own faith. Israel needs to stop oppressing Palestinians especially the women and children. America is supposed to stand against that kind of crime. R.I.P to Marcellus Khalifa Williams (see *ULK 87*, "Let Marcellus Khaliifah Williams's Life Guide Us To Action"). May the brother reach the heavens and dwell in the window of God. The injustice system can still kill innocent Black men in America no matter what the people do, no matter how hard the people fight. His death did not go without a learned message. Once I'm free I'mma keep in mind that that could be me.

MIM(Prisons) adds: Yes, people inside must connect with people on the outside to build a real movement to stop this oppression. We can look to the national liberation struggle in Palestine and the connection to the prison movement there as an example. We once had stronger movements here in occupied Turtle Island. And as we build them up again, we must build that crucial link between the inside and outside. ■

Black and White Hands Join Together to Abuse Prisoners in Florida

by LeninII of United Struggle from Within
June 2025

I am currently finishing up a 12-year sentence in the Florida Department of Plantations. Captain Trip, the biggest buffoon on the compound who cannot stop shucking and jiving for these pale faced prisoncrats, keeps harassing B-dorm — the kitchen dorm for no apparent reason except for what seems like, to me, his need to act out his inexorable nature as the "Uncle Tom" overseer on the plantation — a role he seems to revel in.

I wrote a piece last year called "The White Shirt Thesis," which I sent to the Florida prisoner advocacy group Florida CARES, that exposes and clarifies the definitive role "White Shirts" like him play in the plantation ambience that permeates this so sadly counterproductive agency.

This sad case of a turncoat nigger who disgraces himself every single day he wakes up from his nightmare into his misery and puts on his mon-

key uniform and matching monkey hat and struts through this plantation with a false pep in his step because no matter the strength of the attempt at self-delusion, the subconscious mind can NEVER fully convince itself 100%.

In these parts of the Florida plantation system, the spirit of white supremacy is alive, well and alert and no matter how high a sell-out jumps for his Master, the Master will NEVER let him come in through the front door and dine at the table as a guest. He will have to get his off the floor because like any of us, humyns can only operate within the laws of the world we are born into. The slave dynamics of the plantation infrastructure CANNOT defy the laws of physics, in other words it is no exception.

Ms. Taylor, another confused black officer, is actively shucking and jiving for the same Master while trying to juggle a personal/sexual relationship with a likewise confused black prisoner. She will fumble horribly and be superlatively disciplined be-

cause once again, like any of us, humyns can only operate within the laws of the world we are born into. Ms. Taylor also inappropriately gropes prisoners' genitals during her pat downs when we leave the kitchen in the morning. It is sexually inappropriate behavior she exhibits as part of her sensually-infused power complex. Please see to it she is deprived of this responsibility. This is no different than a "gunning" allegation she would level at one of us in a heartbeat.

P.S. S. Blakely, a euro-amerikan officer, sprayed a New Afrikan prisoner for no good reason at all during one of their harassment shake downs two weeks ago. I grieved that incident and am still waiting on a response and reported her to Florida CARES, please see to it she is properly exposed online and immediately terminated upon conclusion of your fact-checking investigation. Thank you. ■

Chican@ Power Today

by Communist Party of Aztlán
May 2025

The Chican@ Movement continues to grow and evolve as it reacts and responds to the social reality that we encounter today. For this we need to put our goals in perspective so that we may build today and guide our future guerrier@s who will continue the struggle for liberation and self-determination for the nation. Today we delve into our predecessors' actions and previous lessons and ideas that shaped our political line and which guide us into the future. For these reasons it's crucial that we define what our true objectives are today in our movement that we hope outlines how our movement has evolved and continues to grow into the future.

In the 1960s many within the Chican@ movement of that period sought Chican@ power in the form of better schools, of an end to abuse or the murder of our people in the imperialist wars like in Vietnam. For many others Chican@ Power meant to have community control in some form, of having our own teachers and schools or even a parcel of land. Many Chican@ organizations did not study political theory, even today political education is not promoted in the nation on the level that it should at this stage in the decaying of capitalism.

A true classification today of Chican@ power should push the boundaries and transcend generations in ways that cut the path for our future cadre. For these reasons Chican@ Power today can only be seen as based in a socialist revolution and a communist future less it be reduced to simply a defective label. Seeking more jobs or "funding" for our community which is ultimately strangled out of the Third World by imperialism no longer quenches the thirst we have for justice and liberation.

The pairing of Chican@ power with revolution is the natural cause of development if we are to take a materialist approach. We know that the capitalist State will not hand over power, it will not unseat itself, on the contrary the natural cycle of imperialism demands that it "eats more," it must in order to continue to exist. In the initial stages of revolution a joint dictatorship of the oppressed nations will ensure the U. \$. capitalist state and all of its imperialist lechers are thoroughly stomped out for good, thereby cutting a path for Aztlán and other oppressed nations to finally exercise people's power in their liberated nations where socialism can blossom.

Today's Chican@ movement is in agreement for the most part that we the Chican@ Nation are a people who should be free from oppression and who deserve to be free to organize in our own fashion and even our own government. Where the road becomes blurry for some is what Chican@ power should look like as the term Chican@ power can fill many different buckets.

One challenge we have today, to be quite honest, is the rise of the petty bourgeoisie within

Aztlán, and as a result, the dominance of bourgeois ideology is taken for granted. Taking a materialist approach was rarely done in the past where our concrete reality and the ever changing conditions, very material conditions in which we exist as an oppressed nation highlight the terrain in which we are up against. Another challenge is the strong pull towards integration with the oppressor nation and what these two challenges mean or how they affect the activity of the Chican@ nation and its vision for power or what power even looks like to Aztlán especially for those under the influence of Amerikkka or capitalism more broadly. As communists we know that humyn activity and how they



move through life affects their production and one's mode of production. How and what we as Chican@s produce defines how we are developing as people and as a nation. Production is key to assess a people or productive forces but here in the U.S. the "productive forces" are for the most part bourgeoisified.

For Aztlán the most revolutionary elements that push for power would be the lumpen and migrants. The Chican@ lumpen exist in a tribal type of structure within these false U.S. borders with a definite class formation and antagonism between lumpen and the capitalist state. At the same time some of the petty bourgeoisie will ride with the revolution and we should understand these social forces collectively and build with this in mind. All socialist revolutions proved this to be true, including Mao's Chinese revolution.

Chican@ Power at this stage will not come from a gun. We have much work ahead, mental work, theoretical production to get our gente where they need to be theoretically or ideologically. But consciousness raising cannot elevate a nation if this effort is devoid of practice, and correct practice does not arrive without error in which to learn from. So practice is necessary for us to propel Aztlán onto the stage where Chican@ power is finally realized as without practice we are left with what Marx called "dead facts." Within U.S. prisons I read of a lot of resistance and theory including new Chican@ revolutionaries and others. Some of this writing is very good but without practice and putting some of these ideas into reality the U.S. prisons can degenerate into warehouses of dead facts. Likewise the semi-colonies can end up as prison houses of dead facts.

Our hystorical conditions as a

semi-colony will compel us to obtain national liberation. Our ideology will streamline this process. Our colonizers today control the dominant ideology taken up by the majority of the masses here in the occupied territories, even among the most oppressed we can see and hear them parroting ruling class propaganda. The capitalist state spends a lot of money and time from its many agencies in order to spread its brainwashing on a mass scale. It's our job to counter this as best we can. Chican@ power relies on how effective we are at this.

We should know and understand that Chican@ Power will be realized in a world led by the Third World. What's more is the Chican@ Movement is also part of the International Communist Movement (ICM) and millions of people around the world who are a part of the ICM are also currently fighting for national liberation just like us. They fight against class and gender oppression just like us. We are not alone, on the contrary we are with the majority of the world's people in our fight for justice.

Today Chican@ organizations should be building Barrio Committees in a hood near you. The Barrio Committee will be the cultural center and political laboratory for Aztlán at a regional level. The Barrio Committee is but the seed for the Chican@ Communes. These are the steps towards dual power and community control. This is the path towards Chican@ Power that needs to be utilized in order to guide the nation towards a society that is free from oppression. ■

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... Palestine Shows the Way

to get one. We'll be collecting signatures through the end of September and report the final results in *ULK 91*. Talking to people about what is going on in Palestine, connecting it to the larger struggle, using it as an example for us to aspire to here in this country, that is what we call agitational work. Even if no one signs the pledge, if you talk to people about it that will have an effect on shifting public opinion. People will remember things that you say even if they're putting on an act of not caring.

The other piece of this is social investigation. MIM(Prisons) can only communicate with prisoners who write us. We have no way of assessing the ideas of the non-politicized masses in U.S. prisons without USW. If you tell us no one there cares but you didn't even try talking to them, then you're giving us false information. The scientific method requires repeated testing of our ideas in practical reality.

As always, *ULK* stands with the liberation struggles of all oppressed nations. And it is only in unity of those nations that anti-imperialism can ultimately succeed. ■

Freedom is the Right to Secession

by MIM(Prisons)
June 2025

Amerikans are real upset to see raza waving flags of their homeland as they stand up to fascist ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) raids in Aztlán in recent weeks. Aztlán is the Chicane homeland, stolen by the U.\$ from Mexico in 1848. The people living in Aztlán, of various nationalities, have been battling in the streets from San Antonio to Los Angeles. These street confrontations with ICE kidnappers have been waged by brave people all the way up the West Coast, to Minneapolis, across to New York City.

These events are demonstrating the divisions in the population of this not so united country. Some of the same Liberals who led the charge of "fascism" against Trump are now criticizing people for confronting ICE. ICE is serving as the first wave of a militarized fascist force here in occupied Turtle Island. That is because the regime believes ICE cannot be held accountable in the courts. If you're not okay with people trying to stop them, you are allowing the very fascism you claimed to be against.

Meanwhile there is a whole range of people from outright fascists, to supporters of the protests in Los Angeles who want the protestors to replace their flags with Amerikan flags. The latter don't get it that it is people who identify least with the Amerikan nation that are the targets and the resistance to this repression.

The bourgeois press has asked U.\$ Attorney General Pam Bondi why the protestors in L.A. warrant military response when those who violently stormed the Capitol on January 6 were all pardoned and freed by eir administration. Bondi gave a non-answer, because the answer is politics. Of course those insurrectionists waved U.\$ and Confederate flags, and they were all euro-Amerikan supporters of Trump. The U.\$ and Confederate flags have always represented two sides of the euro-Amerikan nation. As scholar Gerald Horne says, this divide was between those who wanted to enslave Africans and those who wanted a "white-only" country. Today slavery is off the table, so far, and the division is between integration and exclusion. The Trump regime is trying to deport "non-whites," following an era that was the closest this country has come to integration so far.

The Trump regime has also been verbally sparring with California Governor Gavin Newsom, who has publicly opposed and condemned the deployment of National Guard and now Marines troops in Los Angeles. But we are seeing the toothlessness of these so-called "sanctuary cities" where LAPD is operating alongside ICE and San Francisco police have arrested around 240 people — about the same as Los Angeles, where there was a lot more property destruction. While it is doubtful that Newsom has the will, or the ability, to mobilize any real opposition

to Trump, the dialogue is shifting.

Amidst the battles with ICE, Trump claimed he would "liberate Los Angeles from the Migrant Invasion." A 2022 Ipsos poll found that the majority of Amerikans had been convinced that there is an "invasion" of immigrants crossing the U.\$ border.(1) The poll also found that most Amerikans had all the facts wrong about what was going on at the border. Not surprising when the current President is saying things on TV like the protestors in L.A. are paid actors. While the term "invasion" can be used as a metaphor, Trump is actually trying to argue that laws for times of invasion by a foreign military apply to the current situation. Aztlán does not have a military, nor have any military forces from countries to the south been involved whatsoever in the southwest states. In the last few months we have seen maps carving up the United States and Kanada in ways that used to be reserved for niche Maoist discussion groups make their way into mainstream forums. And the CalExit ballot measure to create a commission to study secession claims it has hundreds of thousands of signatures to get it on the next state ballot. (2) But this is currently at the stage of being a meme, with no oppositional military in the region to stop ICE.

Los Angeles, the second largest city in the United States, is majority Raza. Trump claims they are sending troops there to "liberate" the city. And many Amerikans see the foreign flags waving in demonstrations validating this call.

On page 2 of every issue of *ULK* we cite Lenin's position on the right of nations to secede. This is a right that must be recognized if the U.\$ claims to be a "free country." The reality is, that integration was largely a response to the Soviet Union's support for true national self-determination. The communist world offered a better alternative to the capitalist status quo, which forced the hand of the Amerikan imperialists during the Civil Rights struggles of the 1960s.

Today, the imperialists have little competition but each other, and the oppressed nations are being targeted for removal again, from Palestine to occupied Turtle Island. But sending the oppressed to El Salvador and Guantanamo Bay isn't going to work. First Nations, Chicanes and New Afrikans need the ability to determine their own destinies free of this inhumane treatment and tyranny. ■

Fuck Your Flag
Free Aztlán

Notes:
1. Methodology should be considered as this was an opt-in poll, Ipsos, 18 August 2022, On immigration, most buying into idea of "invasion" at southern border
2. ABC10, California secession: LA protests help movement's momentum

... Continued from page 5

... Iran

Iran responded in kind, firing over 550 ballistic missiles and more than 1,000 military drones towards various targets in I\$rael. (21) During this time, the U.\$ provided intelligence and defensive support to I\$rael to the detriment of its own military inventory, in particular by using up to "[20%] of its global THAAD [Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense] missile interceptor stockpile, incurring unprecedented costs exceeding \$800 million." (22) On top of this, it's been reported that the Trump administration "gave tacit approval for a limited Israeli strike." (20) Clearly, the U.\$ plays an intimate role in the strategic decisions of the Zionist entity. The downplaying of this fact in pro-U.\$ media demonstrates the desire of U.\$ imperialists to publicly display a more formal separation of itself and I\$rael, thus allowing the United States to distance itself in words from I\$rael's war crimes and genocidal ambitions while simultaneously enabling I\$rael's actions through its material support. But as tensions have risen, culminating in the outbreak of this most recent conflict, the U.\$ government continues to show less and less regard for this distinction.

Then, on 21 June 2025, the U.\$ itself went on the offensive. Seven B-2 bombers, armed with fourteen 30,000 pounds bombs, targeted Iranian nuclear sites at Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan. (23) These bombs, termed Massive Ordnance Penetrators, or MOPs, were developed by the U.\$ over the last 21 years in order to specifically target sites such as Fordow. (24) Seeing as Fordow is buried under a mountain with 300 feet of rock separating it from the surface, the MOPs must first penetrate deep into the Earth before detonating their payload. However, it's been previously reported that ability of the MOP to even reach Fordow is disputed, with some reports stating that they are only able to penetrate 200 feet before detonating. (25) Following the attack, the U.\$ proclaimed its operation to be an overwhelming success, despite a leaked internal report that the bombs did not severely damage any of the internal structures at the nuclear sites. (26) Contrary to this leak, though, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi admitted that the sites sustained "significant and serious damages." (27) Beyond the damage to the sites themselves, Iranian sources also stated that the nuclear material stockpiled at these sites had been moved prior to the strikes. (28) United States Vice President JD Vance later admitted that they in fact have no idea where the enriched uranium stockpiles are at. (29) In retaliation, Iran launched a series of missiles at the U.\$ military Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar. However, this attack was mostly symbolic as Iran had notified both Qatar and the U.\$ hours before launching the missiles, signaling Iran's hesitance to escalate the conflict further. (30)

On 24 June 2025, a ceasefire between Iran and I\$rael was agreed to, formally ending what some are calling the "12 Day War." As with several past ceasefires, I\$rael immediately violated the agreement by launching another barrage of missiles. This led to a series of small scale skirmishes between the countries, but the ceasefire has held since 25 June. (31)

One week later, on 2 July 2025, the Iranian parliament passed a law suspending all cooperation with United Nations nuclear watchdog group IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) which it has been

working with since 1970 when Iran ratified the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. (32, 33) Simultaneously, Iran has declared that it will continue to enrich uranium for its peaceful nuclear program. With these attacks by the U.\$ imperialists and their I\$raeli lackeys, the most public and long-standing source of information on Iran's nuclear activities has been lost.

Axis of Evil or Axis of Resistance?

In the 2002 State of the Union Address, U.\$ President George W. Bush referred to Iran, Iraq, and North Korea as the "axis of evil," clearly a callback to the Axis powers of World War II. (34) Iran turned this epithet on its head and began calling its sphere of influence, which has existed dating back to the 1979 Islamic Revolution, the "Axis of Resistance." The axis of resistance encompasses various states, factions, and militias in the Middle East such as Iran itself, Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas in Palestine, and Ansar Allah ("the Houthis") in Yemen, among others. (35) Iran, in its role of leading this axis of resistance, is a bulwark to U.\$ imperialism. Iran here stands as one of the most significant obstacles the imperialists must overcome if they wish to continually expand as the logic of capital requires. If U.\$ capital can no longer expand, however, then the imperialists will enter a mode of crisis in which they scramble to secure the profits they need to survive. And this is precisely what we are observing today.

In the past months, we have seen the U.\$ government and much of its population embrace fascism wholeheartedly as national contradictions between the Euro-Americans and the internal oppressed nations continue to intensify. (36) The worsening of conditions at home and the escalation of the conflict between U.\$ and I\$rael against Iran are not simply coinciding by chance. The United States' unique flavor of fascism has come home to roost, and we are seeing the effects of this both domestically and internationally. We do not know what will happen next, but we know that the U.\$ imperialist machine is vulnerable. As the U.\$ military continues to extend itself, as exemplified by its support of I\$rael and Ukraine, this vulnerability will continue to grow. The only solution is to continue our work in paving the path forward to foment and develop genuine revolutionary potential within the United States while simultaneously opposing the rise in militarism from within the heart of empire. ■

Notes:
Please write in or visit our website at prisoncensorship.info for the notes section for this article.

Libertad es el Derecho a la Secesion

traducido por Anti-Imperialist Prisoner Support
July 2025
original article in english por MIM(Prisons)

Les amerikanos están encabronados al ver miembros de la raza volando sus banderas de patria mientras se enfrentan a la redadas fascistas de la migra (Servicio de Control de Inmigración y Aduanas, ICE por sus siglas en ingles) estas ultimas semanas en Aztlán. Aztlán es la patria de Chicanos, robado de México por los Estados Unidos en 1848. Las personas que viven en Aztlán, de nacionalidades vareadas, están luchando en las calles desde San Antonio hasta Los Ángeles. Estas confrontaciones en la calle con los secuestradores de la migra han llevado a cabo de gente valiente desde la costa oeste, hasta Minneapolis, y a través de Nueva York.

Estos eventos demuestran la división en la población de este país no muy unido. Algunos de esos mismos liberales que dirigieron la carga del "fascismo" contra Trump son los mismos criticando la gente enfrentadose con la migra. La migra es la primera parte de una fuerza fascista militarizada aquí en la Isla Tortuga ocupada. Es así porque el régimen piensa que la migra no puede ser responsable por sus acciones en la corte. Si no estas de acuerdo con la gente intentando a detenerlos, estas permitiendo que ocurra el mismo fascismo que supuestamente estas en contra.

Mientras hay una ola de personas de fascistas en pleno día, a partidarios de las protestas en Los Ángeles que quieren que los protestantes que reemplazan sus banderas con banderas de los Estados Unidos. Lo que ellos no captan es que las personas que son acosadas y forman la resistencia contra esta represión terminan siendo los que menos se identifican con la nación amerikane.

La prensa burguesa ha preguntado al fiscal de los Estados Unidos General Pam Bondi porque fue necesario a responder con un ejercito militar a los protestantes mientras los que invadieron el Capitolio en el 6 de enero fueron perdonados y liberados por su administración. Bondi no dio una respuesta directa, porque la respuesta real es la política. Pues claro que esos

participando en el insurrecto volaban alto las banderas amerikanas y confederadas, y todos eran fanáticos euro-americanos de Trump. Las banderas amerikanas y confederadas siempre han representado los dos lados de la nación euro-amerikane. Como lo dice el académico Gerald Horne, esta división era entre los que querían esclavizar los Africanos y los que querían un país con "puro blance." Por ahora, la esclavitud esta fuera de la mesa de negocios y la división queda entre el proceso de integración y exclusión. El régimen de Trump esta tratando de deportar "personas no blancos," siguiendo una etapa donde el país ha llegado tan cerca a la integración.

El régimen de Trump ha estado peleando verbalmente con el gobernador de California Gavin Newsom, que ha declarado públicamente que esta en contra de y condenando el despliegue de la Guardia Nacional y ahora la Infantería de Marina en Los Ángeles. Pero estamos viendo la cobardía de estas "ciudades santuarios" donde la policía de Los Ángeles (LAPD, por sus siglas en ingles) esta trabando a lado de la migra y la policía de San Francisco ha detenido alrededor de 240 personas – casi igual a la cantidad de Los Ángeles, donde había mas destrucción de propiedades. Aunque tengamos dudas que Newsom tiene la voluntad, o la habilidad, para movilizar algo de oposición actual en contra de Trump, estamos viendo un cambio en el dialogo.

En medio de las batallas con la migra, Trump ha dicho que el va a "liberar Los Ángeles de la invasión de migrantes." Una encuesta de Ipsos en el 2022 descubrió que la mayoría de amerikanos fueron convencidos que en serio estaba ocurriendo una invasión de inmigrantes cruzando la frontera. (1) También descubrieron que la mayoría de amerikanos tuvieron información incorrecta sobre lo que estaba pasando en la frontera. No le cae de sorpresa a nadie cuando el presidente anda diciendo cosas por la tele como que lo protestantes en Los Ángeles son actores pagados. Mientras la palabra "invasión" se pueda usar como una metáfora, Trump en realidad esta tratando de demostrar que las leyes hechas en los tiempos cuando habían invasiones por fuerzas militares extranjeras se pueden aplicar a la situación de

hoy en día. Aztlán no tiene un ejercito militar, y tampoco se han involucrado ejércitos militares de los países que quedan al sur de los estados suroestes. En estos últimos meses hemos visto mapas que dividen los Estados Unidos y Kanada en maneras que solo se veían en grupos de discurso maoistas ahora saliendo en los foros convencionales. Y la boleta CalExit para crear una comisión a estudiar la secesión dice que tienen miles de firmas para ponerlo en la próxima boleta estatal. (2) Pero por ahora, solo existe como un meme sin una fuerza militar opositorista en la región para poder poner un fin a la migra.

Los Ángeles, la segunda ciudad mas grande en los Estados Unidos, es mayoría raza. Trump dice que esta enviando soldados para "liberar" la ciudad. Y muchos amerikanos ven las banderas extranjeras en estas demostraciones como dándole validez a esta llamada.

En la segunda pagina de cada edición de ULK incluimos la posición de Lenin sobre el derecho de naciones a la secesión. Este es un derecho que los Estados Unidos debería de reconocer si reclama ser un país "libre". Pero en realidad, el acto de integración fue por la mayor parte una respuesta al apoyo de la unión soviética para autodeterminación nacional. El mundo comunista ofreció una mejor alternativa al statu quo capitalista, que forzaron la mano de los imperialistas amerikanos durante la lucha de los derechos civiles de los 1960s.

Hoy, a los imperialistas les queda poco de competencia ademas que ellos mismos, y están acosando a las naciones oprimidas para sacarlos de nuevo, desde Palestina hasta la Isla Tortuga ocupada. Pero no les va a servir mandando los oprimidos a el salvador y Guantánamo Bay. Las Primeras Naciones, Chicanos, y Nuevo Afrikanos necesitan poseer la habilidad de determinar sus propios destinos libres de este tratamiento y tiranía inhumana. ■

Chinga tu Bandera

Viva Aztlán

Notes:
1. Methodology should be considered as this was an opt-in poll, Ipsos, 18 August 2022, On immigration, most buying into idea of "invasion" at southern border
2. ABC10, California secession: LA protests help movement's momentum



Larry Hoover's Federal Sentence Commuted by Trump

by MIM(Prisons)
June 2025

29 May 2025 — U.S. President Trump pardoned Larry Hoover, co-founder of the Gangster Disciples in Chicago, IL. Comrades in the pages of *ULK* have called for Hoover's release, and drawn lessons from Hoover's transformation (see *ULK* 75, "Forever Protecting The Community: We Are Our Own Liberators") over the years. Hoover had many supporters in the hip hop industry, most famously Ye, FKA Kanye West. Ye, also a New Afrikan from Chicago, is now a self-proclaimed Nazi, with connections to a President who surrounds himself with fascists and continues to enact policies to make the country "whiter" again.

Ye advocated strongly for Hoover in a 2018 meeting with Trump in the oval office, wearing a red MAGA hat. In 2021, Ye hosted a "Free Hoover" benefit concert with Drake, who Ye thanked for "helping to bring Hoover home" on X.(1)

Hoover will still be serving a life sentence in the state of Illi-

nois after being released from the Feds. So the commutation is mostly symbolic at this point. It is likely, however, that ey will enjoy greater freedoms in Illinois than ey did in the ADX Supermax, where ey has been languishing since a 1997 conviction for running a massive drug operation from within the Illinois DOC since being imprisoned in 1973.

In honor of this unusual turn of events, we republished an update/preface to the pamphlet "Let's 'Gang-Up' on Oppression" by Atiba Shanna on our website. The article addresses Larry Hoover's transformation, and the criminal lumpen path in general, exposing the targeting of New Afrikans by imperialism with a critical eye to gangsterism. Unfortunately it did not fit in this issue with all the news happening, but we do distribute "Let's 'Gang Up' on Oppression" through our Free Political Books to Prisoners Program. ■

Notes:
1. Courtney Shea, 2 June 2025, *Why did Kanye just thank Drake for getting Trump to pardon a convicted gang leader?*, Toronto Life.

Self Destruction

byc SKS HeruGlyphx of United Struggle from Within
June 2025

K2, Molly, Suboxone, ice (meth),etc, you name it, even cigarettes, weed, and buck (wine), can all be linked to economic desperation and CIPWS (capitalist imperialist, patriarchist, white supremacist) miseducation. We are all addicted to something, like in society, Prisoners sell drugs to each other for profit, Drugs would not be available if no one would buy it. We blame each other, and everything; but the root cause, i.e., Capitalism. Capitalism gives rise to the miseducation that makes us believe that selling and/or using drugs is our only hope. If our lives are based on the choices we make, what kind of choices can we make being CIPWS miseducated, in any scope. All or most of our thinking is instilled through CIPWS miseducation. Our parents place us in CIPWS schools giving the capitalists access to our brains turning us into parasites, via assimilation. filling our minds with individualist, opportunist competition; which gives rise to this mindless division, add money and drugs to the equation. We'll care less who we sell to we will sell drugs to our

momma if she falls victim to drug addiction. She's addicted to drugs and we are addicted to money. But can we use or sell drugs we don't have? Will we bring drugs in, if no one will buy or use? No one is forcing us to use drugs, we say, no one is putting a gun to our heads, is our excuse and explanation reasons and justification oh, if I don't sell it to them they will get it from somebody else, self-destruction. Black-on-Black crime is racism too, like poor-on-poor crime is oppression. What we see most about drugs, is only the effect, result, symptoms, never the primary or root cause of the problem. like crime, we don't see selling and using drugs as a miseducated, reactionary, survivalist response to living conditions created and perpetuated by plutocrat policies and legislation. The CIPWS miseducation is designed, to keep us feeling free, and not oppressed; Keep us blaming ourselves and each other as if we created the conditions rather than the CIPWS. Our decisions are not even ours once the needles get in our veins. Like the donkey, following the carrot on the stick, The dealer is holding the reins. All self-love is lost, and addiction becomes the chains. ■

Why We Need a Proletarian Revolutionary 12 Steps

by MIM(Prisons)
June 2025

"The country's main mental health agency, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, commonly known as SAMHSA, is in the process of being dissolved. It has lost more than a third of its staff of about 900 this year as part of recent reductions in the federal workforce. President Trump's budget bill cuts \$1 billion from the agency's operating budget, and its mission is being folded into a new entity shaped by Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr."(1)

The programs at risk include providing free Naloxone which has successfully reduced overdose deaths, opioid treatment (see *ULK* 76, "Suboxone: Chemical Warfare on the Oppressed") which has reduced addiction, and funding, training, and expertise for local addiction services across the country.(1)

Everything has a class content to it. This is especially true for the state, which always represents the power of one class above all others. In our bourgeois state, there are conflicting interests around reducing drug addiction that lead to agencies like SAMHSA being created and later dismantled.

Even the best of what SAMHSA has done, or even the best they possibly could do under bourgeois rule, will never compare to the need of the people that a proletarian state will address. A quick comparison of capitalist societies and socialist societies proves this. See *ULK* 59 - *The Drug Issue*, where we document the ability of people to quickly overcome addiction from socialist China to the Black Panther Party in the United States.(2)

Many bourgeois doctors argue that the humyn brain is not well-adapted to modern living conditions. But it isn't "modern society" or technology that is the problem, it is the system that profits by taking advantage of the humyn brain while promoting a culture of isolated individualism. This is why fighting addiction and fighting capitalism go hand-in-hand, and, furthermore, why no U.S. government program, no matter how expansive, will ever solve the problem of addiction.

The Alternative

We need a revolutionary transformation of the economic and social relations of society to effectively combat, and end, drug addiction in society. Our Revolutionary 12 Step program is one small attempt to build a Serve the People program that can help us move towards that ultimate solution. The Revolutionary 12 Step zine is a guide to developing the program where you are. Not only has it been our most widely distributed zine in prisons in recent years, many have read it online as well. Here is a comment from one such reader:

"I have been studying the Revolutionary 12 Step program from MIM that floats around here and have found it extremely useful. To have any hope of being honest

with 'the people', I have to first be honest with myself. I have family history of alcoholism, and my addiction manifests primarily in the form of binge drinking. Even though it's not the same severity as some of my family, I have to acknowledge that I've harmed people in my life through my addiction and reactionary habits. And it doesn't serve me either.

"The program includes the step 4 inventory which had me write down lists of 1. the good I've done in my life, 2. the wrongs I've done, and 3. the resentments I hold. This step led me to reconnect with a good friend I hadn't spoken with in four years. Otherwise I have to remember the goal is progress, not perfection. I'm looking to better myself everyday, confront my insecurities and character defects, and still be gentle with myself."(3)

The step of truth-telling in the 12 steps has proven effective. According to Dr. Anna Lembke, telling the truth has effects on the wiring of the brain that helps with managing addiction, in addition to building close social bonds with other humyns, which we know is crucial to overcoming addiction.(4)

Another thing that Lembke talks about being integral to the recovery process is boredom. People who are used to seeking out highs will find abstaining to bring on a boredom, which creates an itch to go out and get high again. Dr. Lembke says for most people this will get easier after 2 weeks and after a month your brain will return to a more balanced state.(4)

All of this clearly presents unique challenges to those in prison. In prison your activities are so limited that boredom is regularly induced on you by your material conditions, contributing to the drug problem. Telling the truth is also hard in prison where the pigs will use anything you say against you, and you may be surrounded by other prisoners you don't trust either. Finally, there is the challenge that your captors are trafficking drugs into prisons (see *ULK* 73, "TDCJ: Your Staff are Bringing in the Drugs, and it Must Stop") across this country and providing incentives for their pawns among the prison population to distribute them. (5) The success of the traditional 12 Step program is based in community and sponsors who are there for you any time of day. Many people do make close bonds with those they are forced to live with day in and day out in the dungeons. But, for other prisoners, the widespread use of lockdowns and long-term isolation make these bonds impossible.

While reading history is not as immediately exciting as smoking K2, we can adapt and learn to find great pleasure in such things, especially when it connects us to a purpose and a greater community. *Under Lock & Key* is one place to find community with like-minded individuals. And we have a great purpose, which is the ending of oppression by some groups of people over other groups of people. You can become an active participant in *ULK* by submitting your own

experiences of recovery. How have some of the ideas above played into your own struggles with addiction? Better yet, we want to hear from people who have begun to implement the Revolutionary 12 Steps in a group setting. Anyone who is doing this important work qualifies for our Serve the People Free Political Literature to Prisoners Program, to get more than *ULK*. Join our study groups, create local study groups, get free inspiring books, help make this newsletter better, and join the movement for change. ■

Notes:
1. Rhitu Chatterjee, 6 June 2025, *RFK Jr. is shrinking the agency that works on mental illness and addiction*, NPR
2. *Under Lock & Key* 59, November 2017
3. Reddit, https://old.reddit.com/r/communism/comments/1k8qu1j/biweekly_discussion_thread_april_27/
4. Dr. Anna Lembke is a psychiatrist practicing in addiction medicine and author of the book *Dopamine Nation*, www.annalembke.com
5. A Texas Prisoner, March 2021, *TDCJ: Your Staff are Bringing in the Drugs, and it Must Stop*, *Under Lock & Key* 73.

Hustlers

by SKS Heruglyphx of United Struggle from Within
June 2025

I'm trying to talk prisoners into not selling drugs to each other
But when I look at the trays I see what's turning us into hustlers.
They're feeding us just enough
to last us till the next meal;
like they pay our parents and workers
just enough to last till the next check
leaving us without choice
but to be parasites on street corners.
Turning us into dealers and robbers
while making strippers and strumpets
of our sisters, daughters and mothers.
Sounds like I'm making up excuses
but if you peel the onion to the core
you will see that all we have is chances
no choices
Victims of forced choices coercion
even in the courtroom
all you got is forced decisions
Psychologically defeated by conditions
How many of us are self disciplined
enough to not fall into temptation
victims of metaphysical thinking
and CIPWS indoctrination.
A robot doesn't know it's a robot
that it is programmed only for production and consumption.
Nothing about selling drugs is natural
It is warranted by conditions
no different than all other reactionary reactions. ■

Ideas on Reaching Those Stuck on Drugs

by Orko of United Struggle from Within
June 2025

First I would like to describe what an addiction is. Addiction is any behavior that someone does continuously despite the fact that it brings negative consequences into eir life. It is not just drugs and alcohol, but food, people, co-dependency, sex, making and spending money, technology. Then we have four more addictions in the realm of thought, which are negative thinking, self-doubt, procrastination, and resentment. These addictions are covering up that persyn's pain, shame, insecurities or fulfilling a void in eir life.

What needs to be done to reach the addict is to look upon em with compassion. Try to identify with em, find a resemblance of understanding with em. Earn eir trust by opening up to learn because you will either be surprised how much you have in common or understand more what it is ey're going through that lead em to addiction.

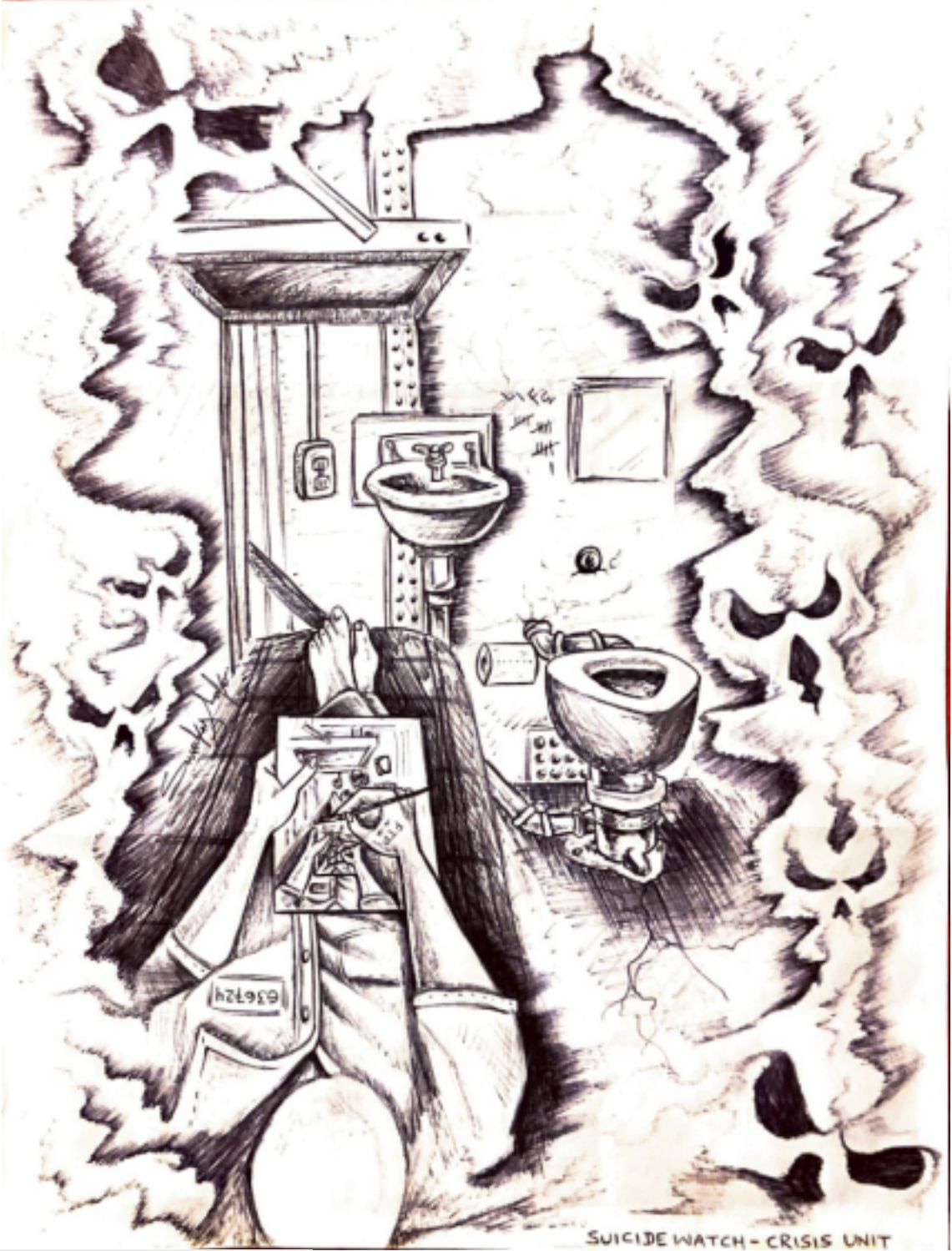
Be careful though because an addict will lie to you, cheat you and steal from you. Ey will absolutely manipulate you. With that said bring a persyn or two with you when you confront an addict. The worst thing to do when doing this is to judge 'em. You do not want to judge the persyn because it will accomplish nothing. You want to help 'em set up a mirror of 'emselves so ey can see 'emselves and decide ey needs recovery. Then help guide 'em.

Remember, compassion is common suffering. We all handle our suffering in different ways. So find a common ground that can work for everyone involved. It is not going to be easy because we cannot change the place we are in but we can change the people we are around, the spaces within this place we are in where we spend our time and the things as well.

Recovery is not just an individual thing, it is a community thing. The Revolutionary 12 Steps program should be used as a pathway to a person's own truth. To the truth that is in a persyn's own heart/mind. It becomes a spiritual experience in the sense that the persyn becomes

enlightened about eir condition and truth. That the persyn accepts this truth and decides to do something about it. From this point is where the guidance of the Revolutionary 12 Step program transforms the persyn and provides the substitution(s) for a changed behavior and outlook or world-

view on eir life. It enables em to see a more vivid vision of eir present circumstances and plan for a future that can be looked forward to. I believe this is what can be done to shift eir reality and reach those in need. ■



\$ober up \$ouljas

by Me\$\$iyah
June 2025

Lonely, cold, dejected, rejected, abandoned, miserable, lost, etc; was the reality that became mine when I had that voracious monkey (addiction) on my back.

Every waking hour was spent, isolated, searching for ways to feed this addictive hunger. Whom I hurt to get that craving attended to didn't matter. I became a monster caged. I became my own worst enemy.

It all started when I lost my Queen (moms) back in 2022 while already serving out Life plus 50 years for felony murder on a confidential informant. The news was unbearable. Cigarettes and weed weren't strong enough anymore. I needed something more intense. Well at least I thought I did. I found my escape in a pill. I was popping Xanax back to back just to denounce such misery.

I've always been bout revolution since my teenage years. Militancy was a part of my culture growing up in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Nation of Islam and the Black Panther Party were

deeply rooted in our heritage. However, the loss of moms was devastating, which overshadowed my conscious moldings. Xannies became my number one priority. No longer fighting for my freedom like a tru soulja, no longer the Lion King I always prided myself as. Drugs and the gang life were a vehicle in which I projected my pain.

But in the midst of all the drugging and socio-pathical bearings, I've always maintained a sense of self-will.

My revolutionary spirit wouldn't allow such destruction. Far from a coward, I had to man up and take back the respect and dignity I so easily gave up to my addiction. My moms wouldn't have approved of such cowardice. My ancestors wouldn't dare tolerate it. I had to find motive. I had to clean myself up or die in such a pitiful state.

That's when motivation came. That's when the spirit of Malcom X and George Jackson reached out and engulfed my whole existence. Being oppressed in these penal colonies was motive. Seeing our comrades battling this imperialistic system was motive.

Murders at California State Prison, Los Angeles County

by a California prisoner
May 2025

On 27 April 2025 another murder occurred here in California State Prison - Los Angeles County (CSP-LAC). The alarm took place late in the evening so i took little notice of it as yard is on 'modified program', which is essentially just a 'lock down', however, the next day We learned someone was killed in another building's dayroom. We initially thought this would be used to justify a complete lock down. We haven't been up now for even an entire month from the mass lock down where CDCr was forced to pretend:

1. It just learned about the excessive amounts of death (allegedly, over 60)
2. It intended to take said deaths seriously.

It soon became clear that both CDCr and the media would chalk Having people who need me, depending on me is motivation. I have money in my pocket now. I have an army. I'm ready for war. ■

Power 2 da People!

Drugs are for \$crubs!!!

this one up as par for the course. On the tier word spread that it was a power play for control of which criminal-lumpen group would be allowed or not allowed on yard. It is what's going on throughout CDCr's level 4 institutions, both SNY and G.P. The faction that took credit for it hooped and hollered about it and made sure everyone turned to the news when it came on the following day. "A convicted rapist was killed in LAC"... by a convicted murderer. Besides showing the mug shots of each it said nothing else. This is telling because the so-called 60 murders received scant media attention, even the death in the family visiting room was only on the ticker tape the day after, on this same news feed. And, as stated, this did not extend Our lockdown any further... if it's not clear from the above there is an attempt being made to obfuscate and omit the internal contradictions via external aspects such as the power of the pigs, state, and CDCr's own aims and desires here. It has dialectics turned upside down!

The entire yard is being converted into both an NDF ("Non Designated Facility") and a level 3 (lower security than level 4). Addi-

Continued on page 16...

A Poem About Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress

by Crow Flaming Heart
May 2025

Everyday I try to wash away the loneliness, but it doesn't come off,
I have no choice but to surrender to its pain, to its scoff,
the agony that runs through my veins,
and through the chains locked around my hands and feet,
leaves me incomplete.
I am the outcome of corruption, the tragedy that feeds the trauma that stains
my soul, devours me whole.
I ask for empathy, but my own feelings are empty,
slowly I fade out, due to a shattered life,
feeding what kills me inside, they refuse what keeps me alive,
I refuse... my own right to remain silent,
but all they care about is confinement.
They display my mugshot like it's a Michelangelo or a Donatello,
they will never admit fault, they will never let me go.
And why should it matter, I will always be hated by the ignorant.
My incarceration was deliberate, part of a plan to violate and amputate.
My life is now a concrete cemetery,
each moment is a cold day in January.
Wrongfully persecuted, this system is polluted.
Its tools for change is a mockery to rehab and reform,
while the world revolves, I stand frozen in a hailstorm.
Justice for all is a sick joke, who cares I was used as a scapegoat?

or the misconduct that was overlooked?
My back and shoulders ache from the weight I carry everyday,
how dare you not wear my shoes and tell me it will all be okay!
Who actually cares I'm surrounded by sadism and hate,
when agony and suffering is my fate?

The only thing I fear is the night, that's when the demons come out to fight.
I wish you were the fly in my cell, so you can see the truth I tell.
My life has been unjustly twisted, hollowed out, a sheep heading to slaughter.

When will the truth be seen, when I die a martyr?
Still, I must traverse through this maze,
even on days I can't see through the haze and wish for better days.
This is a poem to show I'm still here, I have not yet disappeared.

Please let me know I'm not forgotten, I am not who they declare "rotten"
I'm still here all alone, this is not where I belong, I need help to get back home. ■

Book Review: Carceral Apartheid

by Zulu Black of United Struggle from Within
July 2025

Brittany Friedman's *Carceral Apartheid: How Lies and White Supremacists Run Our Prisons* is but the latest iteration in a long genre of works detailing state sanctioned violence in the constellation of U.S. prisons. Her work shows how two intersecting entities, U.S. imperialism's racial repression of Black political expression, and Black resistance to racist repression from a revolutionary perspective, collide within the framework of white supremacy for the maintenance of life. The culminating effect of *Carceral Apartheid* is perfectly pictured in Orisanmi Burton's *Tip Of The Spear: Black Radicalism, Prison Repression, and the Long Attica Revolt* (see our review of Orisanmi's book in *ULK* 84). Orisanmi said the primary aim of *Tip of the Spear*, "has been to show that US prisons are a site of war." (p. 224, Orisanmi, 2023, also see our article "Prison is War" in *ULK* 83) This theme is seconded by Brittany's statement that "Carceral apartheid ... manifests domestically and internationally as warfare against populations deemed problematic and in need of social adjustment." (p. 13) The overlapping effects of this war was in fact the blooming of an offensive of Black radical counter-war that was cultivated into a display of open revolt in the garden of Attica State Prison. The seeds of this war, however, were planted on the opposite coast of the country throughout four California state prisons: Tracy, Folsom, Soledad and San Quentin. The history that Brittany Friedman collects in *Carceral Apartheid* makes it a text that could unofficially serve as a post-dated prequel to *Tip of the Spear*. It contributes a wealth of firsthand knowledge extracted from direct survivors of carceral apartheid, making the thesis epistemologically sound.

Brittany's brilliant usage of the term "carceral apartheid" makes clear she references various styles of warfare deployed by state-actors through apparatuses whose goal is "to achieve the imperial management, division, and decimation of racialized, target populations." (p. 5) She positions carceral apartheid as a global white supremacist order whose designed objective is "the maintenance of sovereignty over how all populations live and die," (p. 6) as the text says, "at all costs." (p. 9) This places carceral apartheid within a context functioning on a world-scale not delimited to prisons, which is nonetheless the scope of *Carceral Apartheid*. And while prisons certainly operate as a tentacle of an apparatus emanating from what bell hooks would call a white supremacist imperialist patriarchal structure, it would be a fatal mistake to allow potentially passive minds to tacitly develop a mindset that dislodges prisons from their parent company of U.S. imperialism.

I find this particularly important as present day prison abolition rhetoric tends to be divorced from overall revolutionary internationalist ideation and, as such, cannot be an effective method by which to challenge carceral apartheid. To deal with prison as if it's a branch in isolation from the tree distorts the reality that "Imperialism is total: it has economic, political, military, cultural, and psychological consequences for the people of the world today." (p. 2, Ngugi Wa Thiong'o,

1986) This fact has to be made part of what Brittany calls "Truth-Telling As Method" in her Appendix. There, Brittany says "The work of sociologists is to aid in the reckoning that occurs as a result of truth-telling." (p. 165) She goes further in adding that sociological research "could and should facilitate social action." (p. 166) I argue this social action must speak to the actual actions taken by the actors on the frontlines resisting carceral apartheid and not just social theo-

cliques and founded the organization as the prison arm of the Black Power Movement in 1970 in San Quentin. In society, the Black Panther Party was the face of the movement, and the Black Liberation Army was the underground militia." (p. 94) Propelling the prison movement to officially take its qualitative leap into all out war against the prison apparatus of carceral apartheid was the successive murders of W.L. Nolen, the manchild, Jonathan Jackson, and the Dragon, George Jackson. It was George's murder that was the drop spilling the glass, where proponents of the prison movement, in military-like fashion, took hold of and occupied the carceral appara-

tion to carceral structures and thus did not disagree with the maintenance of prisons. It only sought to ameliorate its component parts.

In the end, reform lends legitimacy to carceral apartheid where the prison movement called into question that very legitimacy as an underpinning principle of its opposition to the system. To be sure, supporters of the prison movement generally viewed reform as a form of repression in-and-of-itself. In its final analysis, reform was a tactic used by the state to ultimately retain its status quo, as reformist concessions ensured the preservation of normalcy. Reform was statecraft, or war by other means. Michel Foucault reasoned politics

vide mutual aid in the destruction of carcerality as the life force of apartheid. Truth-Telling As Method, "Carceral Apartheid" showcases that the ideological ground from which Black militants launched counter-war was revolutionary, rejecting reformist models of struggle. For instance, Brittany recounts the perspective of "Anthony," a co-founder of the Black Guerilla Family who she interviewed as part of producing her work. As a result of lessons learned in his experience engaging carceral apartheid, "Anthony" and the Black Guerilla Family "decided that revolution rather than reform was the only solution that would bring about significant, permanent change." (p. 122)

A revolutionary approach makes sense when considering the question of how do you reform carceral apartheid? We must remember, as Brittany informs us, that carceral apartheid is "governance to maintain white supremacy" (p. 9) as an "intentionally racist process rather than a collateral consequence." (p. 77) Therefore, to say we can reform carceral apartheid seems as silly as saying Nazism or chattel slavery could have been reformed as a practical, humane fighting strategy. [Editor: or Zionism] On the contrary, the Black Guerilla Family adopted a model in alignment with *Carceral Apartheid's* Chapter 5 heading, "Live Free or Die Trying." After all, "Death is an inevitable outcome" (p. 24) of carceral apartheid, and this fate is visited upon Black people by "simply being present in white majority-dominated environments, [...] even if Black people were not overtly protesting anything." (p. 77) Accordingly, "Revolution became the only way to survive, and it meant orchestrating a coordinated rebellion against carceral apartheid and the organized white supremacy that supported it." (p. 108)

It is under these circumstances we locate the Black Guerilla Family as protagonist within the geography of prison violence instituted by the state. It is at these designations, prisons, that we find the Black Guerilla Family subjected to myriad forms of performative justice as symbolic policing of the carceral apartheid order for offending the sensibility of white supremacy by refusing to capitulate to it. I could categorically list the ways this carceral violence plays out in Michigan prisons, but I have no interest in sensationalizing or romanticizing state violence. It should suffice to say performative justice in both its quasi-legal and extralegal forms are universal to U.S. prisons as articulated through the *Carceral Apartheid* text. Its various forms and extremes aim to produce fear, yield, surrender, and self-adjustment and adaptation to white control mechanisms. However, soldiers of the prison movement elected to consciously combat it instead. So reprisal meant the California Department of Corrections "targeted anyone who read or taught political ideology to other prisoners." (p. 143) Consciousness precedes action and by raising the consciousness of Black captives into a collective political force, they would push back against racial repression and reject carcerality in its entirety, making them a threat to white supremacy. And for this reason, "Black militants as the most dangerous problem inmates" (p. 51) required adjusting, a eu-

Continued on next page...



ries flowing out of the cognitive processes of university-based intellectuals.

Carceral Apartheid does answer the question of who these frontline actors resisting carceral apartheid within prisons are, so we must be sure the methodology of truth-telling elicits a response reminiscent of the political line utilized by these actors. Brittany categorizes these actors as Black militants and catalogs their collective ideological efforts as they were consolidated into a revolutionary formation called the Black Guerilla Family, who spearheaded what would become known as the prison movement.

The "prison movement" marked a specific moment in time where a qualitative shift occurred, transforming issue-based prison struggles centered primarily around conditions of confinement, or reformist politics, into a movement that was influenced by and married itself to the anti-colonial, national liberation struggles being waged beyond the concrete walls. "The Black Guerilla Family consolidated earlier Black militant

tus called Attica, turning it for a time into an autonomous, or what Bantus likes to call a semi-semi-liberated zone in a war for sovereignty from U.S. imperialism.

Brittany lets us in on how important the Black Guerilla Family and overall prison movement ideology and structure was as "their first objective was to solidify a clear ideological formation." (p. 124) "Their rebellion was a revolution against all of it — a Pan African Liberation that supported all revolutionary struggles against carceral apartheid worldwide — and not solely the manifestation occurring in California and US prisons." (p. 96) And for clarification purposes, to take up reformist arms in the prison movement could only be beneficial if they contributed to a revolutionary end, considering they "take incremental steps — a screw here, a cog there — and make it so the system cannot continue — so it ceases to exist — rather than improving its efficiency." (Rachel Herzing, 2016) Otherwise, reform was antithetical to the prison movement's revolution, as reform was not in opposi-

tion to war by other means, with war being "an act of force to compel our enemy to do our will." (Carl Von Clausewitz, *On War*) During the carceral war at the site of Attica, "carceral planners exploited the tension, cynically co-opting the ameliorative demands in order to marginalize more radical aspirations for social transformation." (p. 152, Orisanmi, 2023) As Dr. Lora Lempert, sociologist emeritus of University of Michigan-Dearborn would say, as we continue to "push the log where we're at" in contestation of carceral apartheid, we'd be wise to remember and heed these historical lessons from the prison movement.

Accompanying the central theme of Brittany's work that U.S. prisons operate as a white supremacist strategy to deploy warfare against Black militants, and Black people in general, "Carceral Apartheid" essentially highlights prisons as "domains of militant contestation, where captive populations reject these white supremacist systems of power" (p. 3, Orisanmi, 2023) by deploying their very own war tactics in attempts to resist, survive, and pro-

Revolutionary Spirit in Los Angeles EOP

by USW39 of United Struggle from Within
July 2025

Revolutionary greetings to you as always. Here is a brief report on conditions and events taking place here on California State Prison - Los Angeles County (LAC), D Yard. Previously, I've seen these Enhanced Outpatients Program (EOP) facilities/yards get the stigma that the people in it are somewhat disabled or mentally challenged, or that there are no homies organizing within those kamps. To the contrary, I've never seen the level of resistance, disobedience and flat out direct action towards the oppressors as a whole and individual level the way that I see here on LAC, D yard.

Many people who end up here start in general population (G.P.) trying to organize and hold a revolutionary line against the L.O.'s that often, more than not, hold a capitalistic anti-people politrickal line. These people come to the realization that the same L.O's they seek to rewire and mobilize are more willing to kill a rad on behalf of the administration and call it "People's Politik." So rads go from yard to yard, prison to prison, organizing for years/months at a time as much as possible on some real organizing against the oppressors before hits get sanctioned or they finally give in and join an L.O. that's closest to their line yet not fully a revolutionary one.

[Editor's Note: As documented in the recent book *Carceral Apartheid* (see our review on the previous page), the BGF was founded on a revolutionary line. But after a couple years of isolating positive leadership in the Adjustment Center

and promoting economically motivated drug dealers, the CDCr had transformed its mass membership. Founders struggled for years against this turn, leading to the deaths of many newer claimants of the name. The difference between what it was and what it is leads many to attempt what the author describes above.]

So just like on the streets, people get pushed to the outskirts of society, to the tent cities, to the river banks, etc. In prison people get pushed to these EOP yards because they refused to align and practice anti-people practices: the gang-banging/pro-cop mentality that pollutes the prison system — you find many rebels, dissenters, angry homies at the mobs and rest of oppressors that once they come to an EOP yard realize that there are no gangs with stronghold; only members of those gangs or renounced gang members who can only be kept alive on these EOP yards. So you see people that once were ordered to kill each other due to affiliation now walking the yard, living in the cell, and smashing oppressors together. You get that in EVERY EOP yard.

The gangs and the mobs call it "hiding out" simply because they no longer practice their line of the capitalistic gangster mentality. You see a lot of rads and rebels in the SNY yards as well but they still fall prey to the administration via lap-dog gangsters. It is in the EOP yards especially D-Yard that I've seen, connected and participated in disrupting daily "normal" operations of CDCR. There is no centralized body telling others what and how to think "or else" here. Here all know that the mob mentality and pro-cop

politrick is ALL THE WAY OUT. Anybody that shows up trying to enforce or preach that line, it doesn't matter what letters and colors you came from, the community smashes you out.

Each building organizes and builds their building/community as the people within it wish to do so. On any given day you have all kind of rads, rebels, and regular homies turning up on the oppressors all together. From the less conscious one, to the one that is influencing each other, rewiring each other, and teaching each other by example first and then through word of mouth. D-Yard in LAC is the only yard where we have ex-surenos, ex-nortenos, ex25'ers, ex-independent riders, ex-crips, ex-bloods, ex-GBG's, ex-zapatistas, etc. etc. all the STG's in California functioning together.

The ways homies get to these yards are through suicidal and homicidal acts. Think about that for a second. It tells you the caliber of people within these EOP yards: str8 up homies that ain't afraid to put their lives on the line knowing that in order to stay in the EOP program they have to do something crazy or lose their EOP status and get sent back to the lap dogs and lap dog-infested yards where C/O pigs can pretty much do as they wish.

CDCR created this monster and they have been trying to keep it under wraps. But there's a reason why no C/O pig wants to do overtime or even come work on this yard. There's a reason as to why the "community resource manager" refuses to give us rehabilitative programs and more activities for the yard. Why we don't get the "food drive" privileges as much as (A) and (B) yard. For one A-Yard runs a

In summary, while the Dragon's dance may have ended, if we are serious about defeating carceral apartheid, we must reanimate the spirit of the Dragon by planning and prosecuting protracted war against carceral brutality and inhumanity. We must continue dancing with the darkness of carceral death, fully aware our lights may be extinguished in the process, an extinguishing we're willing to sacrifice to ensure the apprehension of light for the future life of oppressed people. And for those sociologists looking to honor the memory of the prison movement and wondering whether a battle against carceral apartheid could actually be won, I invite you to awaken to the words of the Dragon himself:

"A good deal of this has to do with our ability to communicate to the people on the street. The nature of the function of the prison within the police state has to be continuously explained, elucidated to the people on the street because we can't fight alone in here. Oh yeah, we can fight, but if we're isolated, if the state is successful in accomplishing that, the results are usually not constructive in terms of proving our point. We fight and we die, but that's not the point, although it may be admirable from some sort of purely moral point of view. The point is, however, in the face of what we confront, to fight and win. That's the real objective: not just to make statements, no matter how noble, but to destroy the system that oppresses us. By any means available to us. And to do this, we must be connected, in contact and communication with those in struggle on the outside. We must be mutually supporting because we're all in this together. It's all one struggle at base." (George Jackson, 1971)

I invite you all to answer the call.

puppy program — literally — it's a level 3 full of obedience and people that are too scared to even catch a rule violation of fear or not being able to pet their dog, which 5 times out of 5, these are lawyers, judges, lobbyists, D.A's daughters' pets and what not... a bunch of lames.

Then we got B-Yard which many still refuse to call those gang structures pro-cop capitalistic orgs. Lying to themselves that they are part of a revolutionary movement — it's a joke. You can't even resist a pig when they exercise power and basic control like telling you don't go anywhere but from your cell to the shower and back or else without getting "your own homeboys" to put you back in line. Those lap dogs are called "MAC Pops," "blockers,"

CA Statewide Lockdowns Continue

by Mwamba of New Afrikan Independence Movement
July 2025

23 June 2025 — Currently on "HS." Can't be complacent here, too much to gain and too much on the line. Another "statewide" level 3 and 4 lockdown, same ol' tired excuses. They can't control their own prisons, can't rehabilitate Us and simply don't know what to do but blame prisoners.

Saw on the news "ticker tape" a few hundred prisoners are on it as well. That was a week ago and haven't heard anything since then [Editor: Neither has MIM(Prisons)]. Here there's much discontent but very little stand-up about the actions of the men here. As far as i know i'm the only one on it here.

We Are Our Own Liberators!

Dare To Struggle, Dare To Win!

MIM(Prisons) adds: After killing George Jackson and locking other founders away in the Adjustment Center, CDC banned all 99 books from Jackson's persynal library. By cutting off the masses from educated leaders and books to educate themselves, the state effectively created the drug gang that evolved.

The absolute censorship of anything mentioning George Jackson, etc. expanded to a blanket ban of MIM Distributors in 2006. For many years, we could not even get letters into prisoners in the CDCr due to this illegal ban (see prison-censorship.info for more on this). Thanks to a lawsuit carried out by Prison Legal News, and the resistance of comrades inside and our outside volunteers, this censorship was overcome. Today our mail in California is fairly smooth. However, after appealing a recent censorship notice from CDCr for *ULK 89*, for the first time in years we got a response indicating the censorship was for "an interview with an individual with ties to the Black Panther Party and the Black Guerilla Family, a recognized STG..." They failed to cite specific content where this occurred, or to substantiate their claim, even if this was a legal justification. Anyone held in CDCr who had *ULK 89* censored should let us know, and help us pursue this issue.

Carceral Apartheid is very stark in its presentation of the explicitly racialized structures of California prisons. Friedman describes it as a system that uses lower status whites. Yet today, we don't hear complaints of pigs using Aryans against the movement as much as we do about certain Mex-

"sectioners," "llaveros" or so-called "big homies." But those same "big homies" are the ones meeting with the captains, Lt's, Sgt's, and pig administration and figuring out how to maintain the fellas in check.

Statewide Lockdowns

Just recently during this new and latest statewide CA level 3 - level 4 yard lockdowns they found a shit load of metal weapons over on B Yard (G.P. - Level 4). How many you think have, were, and was gonna be used against the other prisoners? EVERY SINGLE ONE! All for people that didn't fall under the cop program and who refuse to pay their taxes. There's nothing revolutionary about that.

Continued on next page...

...Doubt if i'll

be able to collect many signatures for the Pledge Against Genocide in Palestine. Though that was a good way to test out the waters. Crazy thing is many men here, especially New Afrikans, can see the general contradictions taking place with this Trump regime. But the need for self-transformation and accountability is lacking. I see this as due to idealism and a failure to grapple with the scientific method and methodology. ...i can't get them to study and can't sit them down long enough to bring real revolutionary consciousness to most. They can't break from imperialism's neo-colonial mentality.

UPDATE 9 July 2025: After the push back and scattered H.S.'s, in at least 3 prisons, after 3 weeks they simply let us up, no routine search, no new policies, no mass transfers, nothing. ■

ican L.O.s in Aztlán or Black L.O.s in the south, where staff also skew those ways. We'd suggest we are in an era of carceral neo-colonialism (see "ISIS and ICEs neo-colonialism" on page 5 of this issue). Certainly, we hear of plenty of racial abuse coming from staff still. And just 10 years ago aryan were implicated in the murder of BGF founder Hugo Yogi Pinnell (see "CDCR Lackeys Assassinate..." in *ULK 46*). But overall there is a blurring of those once stark lines. During this Black August we'd welcome comrades to study, think and write on the role of racial divisions in prisons today. And as the march of fascism continues across the United States, we'll be relying on our supporters to keep us updated on future shifts in the application of apartheid inside the walls.

The overall thesis of *Carceral Apartheid* makes strong connections to race as a tool invented for the pursuit of imperialist plunder. Where we obviously disagree with Friedman is in the conclusion where ey condemns "The old world, which is based on the illusion of freedom ... under the guise of both democratic capitalism and communism."(p.163) We believe socialism, a dictatorship of the proletariat, is the only path to communism. And it is true that the few successful attempts at building socialism so far "decayed into totalitarianism, violence, and greed." But that is true because those projects restored capitalist practices. To dismiss the decades of unprecedented transformation and progress in socialist countries like the Soviet Union and China because they later failed is to throw out some of the most important humyn history to guide us to a better future and allow us to do even better next time. ■

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phemism for being violently put in the place white supremacy demands Black people exist in.

Carceral Apartheid does an excellent job documenting the details and circumstances which seeded the prison movement, and it adequately labels the antagonist with a recognizable tag that warns of war as "carceral apartheid never sleeps."(p. 163) For this reason, Brittany issues a call to action, "an invitation to awaken"(p. 164) as we find ourselves at a precipice after many rounds of dancing with the death of carceral apartheid, placing the onus of responsibility at our doorstep to reckon with this war. Brittany's "invitation to awaken demands an end to the heteropatriarchy, criminalization, racism, and surveillance that creates the conditions upon which carceral apartheid thrives domestically and globally."(p. 164) Brittany's demands cut at the very core of carceral apartheid, a call for fundamental change whose method of materializing can only be manufactured through revolution. The call must be for the employment of a tangible political action for "we are not going to eliminate imperialism by shouting insults against it. For us, the best or worst shout against imperialism, whatever its form, is to take up arms and fight."(Amilcar Cabral, Tricontinental)

The severity of the situation that "An entire people in real time are being wiped from the earth to uphold carceral apartheid"(p. 12) breathes truth to Amilcar Cabral's statement. We have to develop new fighting styles, and political education will prove a formidable catalyst. Part of the prison war project requires guerilla warfare, the life of

... Carceral Apartheid

which itself is grounded in political education, which was also the "main tool to remodel 'criminals into revolutionaries.'"(p. 125) Thus, we speak of a praxis which requires a "quality of courage in the face of impending brutality" by what Orisanmi calls the state's "carceral death machine."(p. 5, Orisanmi, 2023) Brittany is readily aware of this truth as she laments "Lasting Black freedom could only come to pass across the world if liberation movements challenge what I term in this book as carceral apartheid."(p. 5)

This begs the question whether Brittany Friedman's "invitation to awaken" is a call in line with the revolutionary ideology that powered the warriors of the prison movement? If not, I'm curious how Brittany proposes the process of sociologists' work to reckon with the deep state could possibly lay siege to carcerality? Brittany's "invitation to awaken" those inside the orbit of sociology must be a call to this field of activists to rethink their politics in accordance with the concrete reality of the past, present, and the foreseeable future and to actively engage in war against U.S. imperialism at the levels of subversion and insurgency. As she herself writes, the Black Guerilla Family "founders relied on these outside connections [...] Without these cross racial alliances in society, they felt their movement would not be able to gain nationwide traction."(p. 125) This truth has been recognized by carceral apartheid, as its "correctional professionals are coming to realize that the battle is won or lost not inside the prison, but out on the sidewalks."(p. 175, Orisanmi, 2023)

ANTI-GENOCIDE PLEDGE

USW comrades have joined the worldwide effort to get signatories for the anti-genocide pledge in support of Palestinian liberation (see p.1). We are asking that all signatures and outreach reports be submitted by the end of September. If you still need a pledge, write in to get copies today!

UFPP 9/9 DAY OF PEACE

The annual Day of Peace & Solidarity is going back to the streets this year. Comrades will be fasting, studying and organizing this September 9th in solidarity with those locked in U. \$. prisons and in commemoration of the Attica rebellion. There will be at least a couple local gatherings on the streets on or around 9/9. On September 8th we'll be holding an online united front meeting to plan the expansion of our movement and to kick off the fast that comrades will be conducting for 1 to 3 days in various cities across the country.

The Day of Peace and Solidarity was built around the principles of the United Front for Peace in Prisons outlined on page 2. The purpose of the UFPP is to bring prison-based organizations together for the common interests of all prisoners. We hope our outside organizing encourages more comrades inside to recognize 9/9 this year. Report the results of your local 9/9 organizing for the next issue of ULK. Reports are due by the end of September.

WE DEMAND OUR GRIEVANCES ARE ADDRESSED

If you are experiencing problems with your grievance process, such as delays, unanswered grievances, or harassment, you should join this campaign.

Petitions are available for AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, KS, LA, MS, MT, NV, NY, NC, OK, OR, PA, SC, and TX. If the state-level petition doesn't bring relief, we have a follow-up petition written to hold states accountable to federal requirements.

Write in to get the petition for your state. If your prison's policies allow, give stamps or envelopes to your comrades inside to mail out the petition. Remember, you need to send them out to the administrators and politicians yourself.

MIM(Prisons) does not have the resources to mail out the petitions for



CAMPAIGNS

you. If your state is not currently covered by the grievance campaign,

volunteer to rewrite the petition to work for your state. Update this campaign - If you participated in this campaign in the past, send us a report on what happened. Tell us how you used it to help organize others and build group consciousness or how it didn't work.

ADDICTION &

RECOVERY

STORIES

Are you organizing a Revolutionary 12 Step group? If so, submit stories of recovery for future issues. (see p.12-13) Stories of recovery are part of building the community needed for successful recovery. We hope to feature these stories in each future issue of ULK.

Don't have our Revolutionary 12 Step pamphlet yet? Get a copy.

And send in your feedback

and reports on successes and failures.

SPANISH OUTREACH

With the return of our (small) Spanish section, we need your help to reach comrades inside who have been missing out because of their limited English knowledge. Share these articles with Spanish-speakers in your area. This is part of our effort to better reach those in migrant facilities as well. If you are in a migrant facility we want to hear from you -- send in your reports and interview others for ULK. And if you're fluent in English and Spanish, become a ULK translator to help us keep the Spanish content coming.

We are officially launching our Intro Study Course in Spanish this summer. So write in if language has been a barrier for you joining our study programs. We also have a lot of old ULK articles in Spanish, and other books as well.

PRISON BANNED BOOKS

WEEK 2025

October 19th-25th: This year's focus is on questioning the rise of "approved vendor" policies. We've also seen a rise in the disallowing of all magazines or all newspapers. If your prison or state has enacted such rules please send us your reports. What is the rule(s)? When was it enacted? What has been its impact? What efforts have been made to change it? Please submit by end of September.

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... Revolutionary Spirit

Anyhow, during the first 12 hours of this statewide lockdown where LAC, again, to inflict as much suffering as possible, turned off our tablets, all the way off, no communications, etc. There were 40+ alarms and 6 fires set of cells, offices, etc. All across LAC, D-Yard alone to the point that they sent the lap dog C/O around to tell us all to please stop and that they promised to turn the fucking tablets back on. They did with full access to phones, etc. Regardless of Sacramento's PSR (Program Status Report) stating otherwise. It just shows and highlights the power within the masses when we don't fall in line with cop ideologies — we got the fellas over on Salinas Valley State Prison hunger striking and protesting this statewide lockdown/group punishment that goes against the courts and CDCR's own laws (see the "CA Statewide Lockdowns..." article on this page for more). See: *Madrid v. Gomez* 889 F. Supp 1146

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tionally, CDCr is now less and less showing favoritism to any one specific criminal-lumpen faction. No need to when the last thing on any "Criminal" lumpen faction's mind is even prisoner class unity let alone rev consciousness and class solidarity on those terms. So CDCr is letting them fight it out, justifying its existence (class rule) and even though it may not seem like it now, its class/nation/gender oppression of those it holds captive. But today CDCr is sitting pretty, unchallenged on its throne. Far too many men here are simply walking to their slaughter like sheep.

If there was a viable prison movement, one not so heavily influenced by external forces and definitely not CDCr itself, these (N.D. CAL. 1995). But we all at MIM know that those laws are only good on papers not on practice and they're only used to lock us away and fuck us into misery and disappearing us. ■

... Murders at CSP-LAC

contradictions could be used to expose the untenability of mass-incarceration police (c/o) reform, the bankruptcy of criminal-lumpen leadership, and show how serious the state's counterinsurgency is and how it can not survive without mass buy-in from both a petty bourgeois public and a pacified non-revolutionary oppressed population.

Although there is no really cherished criminal-lumpen group now, the group that takes responsibility for killing a "rapist" is the de facto prison liaison (kings of the collaboration between the state and the criminal-lumpen formations). This indeed should be a very easy contradiction to unravel. CDCr responded to the demands of mass program (rehabilitation) with its own call of mass anarchy. I say much of this leeway is to control the narrative, indoctrinate the public, and ensure we do not break out of these contradictions with Our Own forward development (i.e not just recognizing their counterinsur-

gency against Us but developing Our Own "against" them). Won't go too far afield here as my main point is how blatant CDCr and its propaganda networks are at thwarting its own rehabilitation narrative on the one hand and empowering as many reactionary elements as will sign up to collab with it.

Developing the rough contours of a cell here and trying to seize Our Own forward development. Right now the priority must be on the unity We have "against" this reactionary front between CDCr and the criminal-lumpen.

Although the tools We'll need here will be unique to Us, these problems themselves are not new at all and with Our Own forward-development are not even all that complicated or complex. This also speaks to the failures of Our old guard at "educating" revolution. Gotta dip... N.A. Struggle ■

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www.prisoncensorship.info

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If you have any doubt you should consult your agency's legal counsel. We are prepared to exercise our Constitutional rights and appeal censorship which does not adhere to applicable law. Such exercise of our rights may include legal action seeking declaratory and injunctive relief as well as monetary damages and legal fees. Failure to adhere to federal law, your state's administrative regulations and your agency's policies and procedures is evidence of malicious intent to violate our rights. See generally *Pell v. Procunier*, 417 U.S. 817 (1974); *Turner v. Safley*, 482 U.S. 78 (1987).

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FREE SUBSCRIPTION FOR PRISONERS:
You must write to us every 6 months to stay on our mailing list.
Tell us what mail you've received from us since the last time you wrote.