

our people, but believe it must be demystified and made into a culture of resistance, rather than personality cults or escapism from the reality of racism.

Further, we do not believe in a "race nationalism", we are not xenophobic, do not entertain any racial mythology about Europeans, and are not seeking to build a Black state as the answer to our problems. In many respects, we know that Black nation-state-ism will defeat our ability to obtain full freedom and has a limited program for social revolution. We are not immune from the laws of social nature. We believe the class politics which will show itself within any Black state, whether an Islamic, secular "new African" or otherwise, will result in an extreme class differential and economic injustice. We believe that a bourgeois class and political dictatorship is inevitable, and that revolution will ensue even under such a Black state, which calls itself "African Socialist".

We also believe that historically, Black nationalism has asserted itself most forcefully as a defensive doctrine to white racism, not as an anti-racist movement, but as a counter-power movement, that is, to organize an interest group which can battle for political power inside this system. This is what happened to the seemingly revolutionary "Black Power" current produced by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee during the 1960's; it was usurped by the Black petit bourgeoisie.

In addition, those who argue for a state never tell how it will be obtained, and many of those arguments made are vague and fanciful. Who really believes that America will just grant an Islamic state or give up five southern states to Africans just because a small faction calling itself a "government in-exile" or even the the majority of us want it. Why, it would require years of

a bloody struggle, and a major organizing campaign. In addition, the only group which even talked about conducting a plebiscite to find out what form African people believe our independence should take was the Panthers. Even though we have good relations with many of these organizations, we have a hard time taking these people on this issue seriously and have always considered this wishful thinking or a flight of fancy. But then it is not up to us, but to the Black masses themselves.

So far, we have made little more than the arguments that many socialists and Anarchists have made for years against certain kinds of nationalism. However, it would be extremely unfair to not point out that groups like the Black Panther Party, League of Revolutionary Workers, (and even the SNCC in the late 1960's), though calling themselves "revolutionary black nationalists", in fact did not call for or actually struggle to obtain a nation state in Africa or on the existing land-territory of the United States. It appears that they had adopted some variant of socialist doctrine, and had as their primary motivation the toppling of the existing capitalist state/empire. Their position radically differed from the Cultural (Afrocentric), Religious, and other variant of nationalist tendencies.

The BPP especially was an advanced political formation which did much pioneering theoretical and organizing work on race and class issues, and although we have many disagreements with their vanguardist and authoritarian political structures, we have much in common philosophically.

We too believe in armed self-defense, but we believe it is the people at large, not a political party which must be organized in self-defense units. We too believe in armed struggle, but believe the

masses extending an insurrection to a social revolution will be the likely unfolding scenario, not a vanguard party seizing power "in the name of the people" or a small secret army. But, in common with the Black Panthers, the Black autonomists believe that even before capitalism is defeated, we can begin to turn our communities into dual power communes, from which we can wage a protracted struggle with capitalism and its agents. We believe in common with the Panthers and the League of Revolutionary Black Workers that the Black working class will be the decisive factor in any such struggle, not the middle class. And in common with SNCC, we think the role of the organizer is not to lead people, but to empower them and let them take over their own local struggles. We also believe that our communities are colonies or semi-colonies which are totally under the control of the state. But we do not believe in politics or electoralism in any form, and reject coalitions with Liberals or social democrats.

Finally, like the Panthers, and contrary to today's Nation of Islam and its spokesmen, we believe that there were historical, socio-economic factors which accounted for both slavery and racism, not because whites are "ice-people", "devils", or other such nonsense. This system produces racism/white supremacy, and it is this capitalist system which must be destroyed to get rid of it!

So this is who we are fighters for human rights, self-determination, and freedom for our people and our class.

The Panthers proved how dangerous Black revolutionaries can be to this system, now we will finish the job!

links 124 million workers in 195 organizations across 137 countries, said the onslaught on labor rights took institutional as well as violent forms. Women especially suffered, it said, because under global market reforms public sector enterprises, where many employees are female, were being decimated "and because sweatshops and export processing zones are being set up in countries where multinational companies can find cheap, non-unionized workers."

In the United States, the report declared, "the right to strike and the right of workers to organize trade unions are not adequately protected in the labor legislation."

At least one in 10 union supporters campaigning to form a union is illegally fired by the employer.

News: from page 14.

bor group said Friday that workers' rights are under fierce assault around the world as employers drive to exploit free markets and economic globalization to push up profits.

Although a report from the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) pointed to China, Colombia and Indonesia as among the worst offenders, it also said that abuse was frequent in the United States.

The annual survey, issued by the Brussels-based ICFTU at the conference of the United Nations' International Labor Organization (ILO), said women in particular were suffering from an assault on unions by governments and big companies.

"Governments' thirst for investment is compounded by the insatiable appetite of employers for new markets and a 'competitive' labor force, by which they mean cheap and endlessly exploitable," an introduction to the report said.

"As governments dismantle their public services and multinational companies look for the cheapest workers, women are increasingly in the front line of anti-union repression," the ICFTU said.

In its annual report issued on Thursday, the UN's Development Program (UNDP) also drew a stark picture of poor countries and poor people in rich countries dropping deeper into poverty under globalization.

The report by the ICFTU, which

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Philadelphia.

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Australia.

Racist government attempts to silence Black Autonomy activist.

AND MORE!

Black Autonomy.

323 Broadway Ave. E #914 Seattle, WA. 98102 USA. voice mail: (206) 680-8916.

email: bd982@scn.org website: <http://www.webcom.com/nattyreb/black.autonomy/>

Fighting Back!

Actions and analysis from the activists of Black Autonomy International.

A Tale of Two Festivals:

One Black, One Blue.

By Black Autonomy International;
Seattle, WA.

After years of delays and tribulations, the African-American Museum and Cultural Center is now a reality. On July 23, the Seattle Public Schools voted to sell the old Colman School building to the museum to house the exhibits and community programs.

The struggle started 12 years ago when a group of Black activists took over and occupied the abandoned Colman School site; an occupation which slowly evolved into the longest running building occupation in U.S. history (eight years). After the city and U.S. Justice Department negotiated with the occupiers a board was created to oversee the funding of the project.

Struggle ensued around the direction of the project and the two major class interests represented on the board and amongst the volunteers: on one side the grassroots, working class people; on the other, the salaried professionals, nergrosic wanna-be politicians, and other uncle toms who wanted the museum project to die a slow death if they couldn't have exclusive control over it.

Progressive board members and volunteers have drawn up a document describing in brief some of the programs to be initiated as the funds and full-time staff become available (see page 4).

On July 24-26 the Central District Festival kicked off, organized by Seattle Police officers Rodney Stokes and Vic Minor with assistance from Seattle's "Weed and Seed" program (also run by the Seattle Police Department). Initially, the festival, in the past known as the Black Community Festival, wasn't going to take place

since one of its key organizers, Michael Taylor, decided not to do it. In light of the fact that he had angered so many around him (from arguments with the city on who owed what on past permits to personality clashes with other local negrosic poverty-pimp types), no one would work with him, including city bureaucrats and the police.

At a meeting in late May, lieutenant Harry Bailey and officer Rodney Stokes met with a handful of community people at the new Community-Policing Center; downstairs from the Nation of Islam's mosque (!).

To begin with, the announcement of this meeting wasn't very well publicized, thus the small turn-out. Second, officer Stokes was caught several occasions contradicting his own statements and lying about who was actually sponsoring the festival. Indeed, who really believes that one officer can put on a festival in a public park with live music out of his own pocket? This lie was made even more obvious by the attendance of Bailey, the local "Weed and Seed" coordinator at the meeting: why is he there if officer Stokes is funding the whole thing himself, as he first claimed?

To add insult to injury, the local mainstream media, along with negrosic media, gave virtually unlimited coverage of the police-sponsored festival. The only newspaper coverage of the Umoja (Unity) Fest '97 (sponsored by the African-American Heritage Museum and Cultural Center) came from *The Facts* newspaper and an inaccurate, biased editorial done by professional poverty pimp Charlie James, that claimed that the two festivals came about simply because "It was erroneously believed that the Central Area Festival was not really a Black function".

Besides what's been shown so far, there is and was many more reasons for op-

See page 3, first column.

Black Drivers More Likely to Be Searched. Orlando, Fl.

6/9/97. Black drivers stopped on Florida's Turnpike by a central Florida sheriff's drug squad are 6 1/2 times more likely to be searched than white motorists, the Orlando Sentinel reported on Sunday.

Blacks constitute only 16.3 percent of drivers stopped by Sheriff Kevin Beary's Criminal Patrol Unit, but they account for more than half of the searches and more than 70 percent of searches involving dogs, the newspaper said.

The Sentinel said it reviewed records on more than 3,800 stops and nearly 500 searches by Beary's squad, which recently has been involved in two nationally televised events. One was the angry arrest of a black police major from the Miami area in April, and the other was a 100-mile chase in May of a black drug suspect who was wounded by deputies. Beary denied race played a role. "We are not out there targeting any specific race," he told the Sentinel. "It's a case-by-case basis."

The study came at a time when many African-Americans protest what is known as the police practice of pulling over motorists for "Driving While Black."

The Sentinel said records of traffic stops by Beary's squad from January 1996 through April 1997 showed that 39.6 percent of black motorists were searched, compared with 6.2 percent of white motorists. Drivers listed as Asian, Hispanic or other ethnicities were searched 17.9 percent of the time.

More than 80 percent of the searches did not find any drugs, as with other highway drug units across the country, the newspaper said.

Court: Police liable for endangerment San Francisco, CA.,

6/6/97. A federal court of appeals has ruled that two police officers who canceled a call for paramedics and left an ill man alone can be subjected to a suit claiming

See page 3, third column.



position and hostility to the Central District Festival. Indeed, what Black man or woman in their right mind would willingly invite the police department to participate in a community event (let alone organize it and fund it) after that same department killed two of the community's residents: Edward Anderson in January, 1995 and Andre Stapleton in September, 1995. The officers were found not liable in each case. In the case of Stapleton, no inquest was held at all, since King County Prosecutor Norm Maleng refused to hold one.

The SPD has killed many more brothers (along with poor Asians, Latinos, and a small handful of whites) in the recent past, without any kind of punishment to the officer(s) or compensation to the families of the victims (see last issue).

It's one thing to have them present since the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department requires them to be there, it's quite another to allow the police to set the tone of the festival through direct control. Meanwhile, the harassment, intimidation, and assaults of Black people and other people of color by the SPD continue on as usual.

Thankfully, the Umoja Fest '97 (the REAL Black community festival: Aug. 1, 2, 3 at Judkin's Park) organizers made sure to buy commercial air time on television station KTZZ, ch.22, got radio exposure on KCMU's (90.3 fm) "Rap Attack" program, and handed out hundreds of small handbills all over Seattle and the surrounding areas, from the clubs to the churches, and everywhere else in between: it was even announced on the internet. So, once again, the grassroots show and prove that the uncle toms are pretty much unnecessary as far as making things happen.

But the worst was yet to come: in addition to the two festivals in Seattle, two more "Black" festivals were happening in Western Washington, one in Tacoma and one

in Everett, took place that same weekend.

The one in Everett was sponsored in part by the U.S. Navy, the one in Tacoma in conjunction with the U.S. Army. Chris Bennet, Sr., owner of radio station KRIZ (am 1420) and The Seattle Medium newspaper decided to throw the Tacoma festival with help from the Army when he learned that he wouldn't be in control of neither festival in Seattle.

The people openly criticised the Central District Festival due to the overwhelming police and army presense. One brother told me that he saw hundreds of police cars in the surrounding neighborhood crusing the area. At the festival site they had the mobile precinct and army vehicles on display. They came prepared for a riot, yet they still attempted to maintain this image of "officer friendly". At any one time there was only 200+ people in attendance. Of those who did go, people made comments like "This is horrible. It's worse the old Black Community Festival. They only have one Black drill team.", describing the poorly attended parade that happened on Saturday, the 26th. Others pointed to the massive police presense as reasons why they weren't going to the festival or parade.

An interesting side note, Charlie Chong, the city councilman who won last year by playing upon the cynicism of the voters and his record as a "community organizer" and businessman, is now running for mayor. Due to his relationship with Charlie James and the local white political establishment, he has pulled out of making an appearance in the Umoja Fest '97 parade.

It's probably just as well. For too long City Hall has imposed its racist, pro-[white-owned] business, iron-fisted will over Black people in the Central District

See page 4, first column.

from page 4.

they were responsible for the man's death.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco held that when an officer's conduct places someone in peril in deliberate indifference to the safety, that conduct creates a constitutional claim. In May, 1994 Juan Penilla became seriously ill on the porch of his home in Huntington Park, California. His neighbors and a passerby called 911 and tried to help him until paramedics arrived.

Police officers Joseph Settles and Ioane Tua got there first. The officers examined Penilla and found that he was in grave need of medical care. But the officers canceled the call for paramedics, broke the lock and door jam on the front door, moved the man into the house, locked the door and left.

The next day, family members found Penilla dead on the floor in the house. He died as a result of respiratory failure.

Penilla's family sued the city, its police department and the officers. The officers claimed they were immune from suit because there is no clear constitutional right to emergency medical care for persons not in custody. The officers also claimed they were not required to obtain a warrant before helping the collapsed man into his home.

The court ruled that the officers lost their qualified immunity by significantly increasing the risk Penilla faced.

A spokesman for the Huntington Park Police Department said both officers are still employed by the department.

Officers accused of beating man cleared of misconduct. Conroe, TX.

6/10/97. Two police officers accused of beating a handcuffed prisoner were cleared of misconduct after the purported victim told grand jurors he was not harmed, authorities said.

A Montgomery County grand jury did not indict Officers Rodney Ludrick and Robert Engel in connection with allegations that they repeatedly slammed 18-year-old Jesus Zamora Mendoza of Conroe on a car hood when they arrested him for a parole violation the night of April 10.

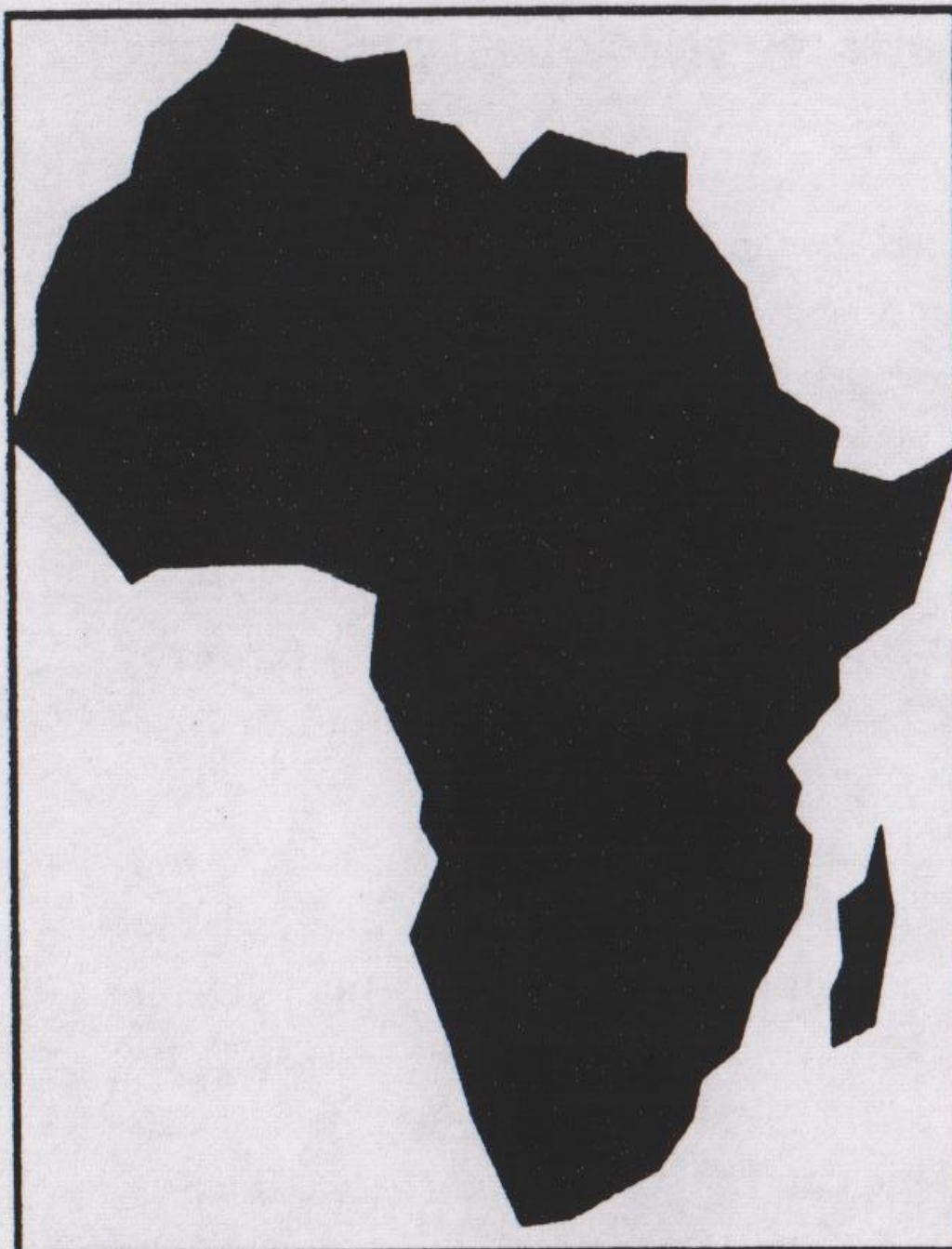
Kyle Waters, a 29-year-old rookie officer alleged that Ludrick and Engel, both

See next page, third column.

Black Autonomy. 3

Note: Not everything in this paper represents the view point(s) or political line of the Black Autonomy Collective. Articles that do can be found in the "Fighting Back!" section (page 3), on page 15, or are otherwise clearly marked. Feel free to copy & distribute our newspaper, just give us props.

continued from page 3.



and Rainier Valley (and in fact, all over Seattle). For too long the police have harassed, beaten, and killed Black people in the Central District and Rainier Valley under various city administrations.

Enough of the "dark faces in high places" who in practice are just as bad or ineffective as the white politicians; it's time to make the African-American Heritage Museum and Cultural Center the center of revolutionary Black culture, community, organization, and worker's power; otherwise the things that plague the community, the drugs, the crime, the police harassment, gentrification, underfunded public schools, etc will continue.

African-American Heritage Museum and Cultural Center 12 Point Program. July, 1997.

1.) We are going to teach the true history of humanity's birthplace: AFRICA. We are also going to teach the history of contributions to the world made by Africa and African people throughout the world, including Europe, Asia, South America, and North America.

2.) We are going to provide a state-of-the-art community-owned and operated mass media network, including recording studio, radio station, visual/graphic arts studio, television station, newspaper, and internet services.

3.) We are going to provide quality vocational training. Programs will include: a.) construction, carpentry, brick masonry, and architecture. b.) agriculture and environmental sciences. c.) clothing design, manufacturing, and marketing.

4. Black Autonomy.

4.) We are going to provide a first class, affordable community-owned and operated restaurant.

5.) We are going to provide a community safety committee to insure the safety of all residents and their property.

6.) We are going to provide FREE childcare that includes:

- a.) three square meals a day. b.) reading, writing, math, science, art, music, and more.
- c.) cultural awareness/knowledge of self.

7.) We are going to provide a FREE health care clinic that includes:

- a.) naturopathic medicine. b.) acupuncture.
- c.) on-site doctors and nurses to deal with immediate medical needs and emergencies.

8.) We are going to start a world-wide exchange student program.

9.) We will have sports and health programs including football, baseball, tennis, golf, track and field, martial arts, and sports from the continent of Africa. We will also sponsor tournaments and team sports activities for everyone from little league to senior citizens' leagues.

10.) We will provide afterschool tutoring and recreational programs for all students, from kindergarten through college.

11.) We will also have a state-of-the-art movie theater and gift shop; owned and operated by the community.

12.) We seek to create and assist in regular community events: a.) Martin Luther King, Jr. Rally b.) African Heritage Festival c.) The Bubbling Brown Sugar Celebration f.) Black History Month Celebration. g.) African Liberation Day h.) The City-Wide Black Formal for Graduating Seniors.

1.) African Community Development Month.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER - 2306 East Madison #119, Seattle, Wa. 98122 (206) 320-9321.

Real Stories of Copwatch 206.

By Greg Jackson; BAI, Seattle, WA. July 5.

Supporters of animal liberation organizations and other groups invited us to patrol their march in the u-district. This particular march was part of a series of national protests against the use of animals for experiments. Across the country dem-

See next page, first column.

from page 3.

32, abused Mendoza while fellow Officers Jeff Bradford, 24, and Jeff Christy, 27, stood by and watched.

District Attorney Mike McDougal said Mendoza, Ludrick, Bradford and Christy gave grand jurors consistent testimony that sharply differed from what Waters said in his testimony.

McDougal said Ludrick testified that he jokingly made a bet with Engel that he could not lift the 5-foot-2-inch, 140 pound suspect onto the hood of a car in the parking lot outside the Conroe tavern where they arrested Mendoza.

The officers testified that Engel did lift Mendoza and put him on the hood, but they — and Mendoza himself — said Mendoza was not harmed and that no harm was intended in what they described as a joke, McDougal said.

Waters, who waited six weeks to report the alleged abuse to McDougal because he said he didn't trust anyone in the police department, also said that unidentified officers later described the episode involving Mendoza, who is Latino, as a game of "Mexican Toss."

Police Chief John Lindon said Ludrick and Engel, along with Christy and Bradford, have been re-assigned pending the outcome of an internal investigation into possible policy violations.

Waters, who had been placed on administrative leave because of low performance ratings from the officers he accused of abusing Mendoza, will remain on leave pending the internal probe, Lindon said.

2 Ex-Officers Plead Guilty in Beatings; both face fines and prison time. Los Angeles, CA.

6/11/97. Two former Adelanto police officers accused of trying to beat a confession out of one man and forcing another to lick his own blood off a booking room floor pleaded guilty to federal civil rights violations. Thomas Boyd Chandler, 40, and Kenneth Eugene Gailey, 32, each entered two guilty pleas U.S. District Court in Los Angeles in connection with the two excessive force cases. Chandler, who also admitted obstructing justice, faces up to 46 months in prison. Gailey faces a maximum

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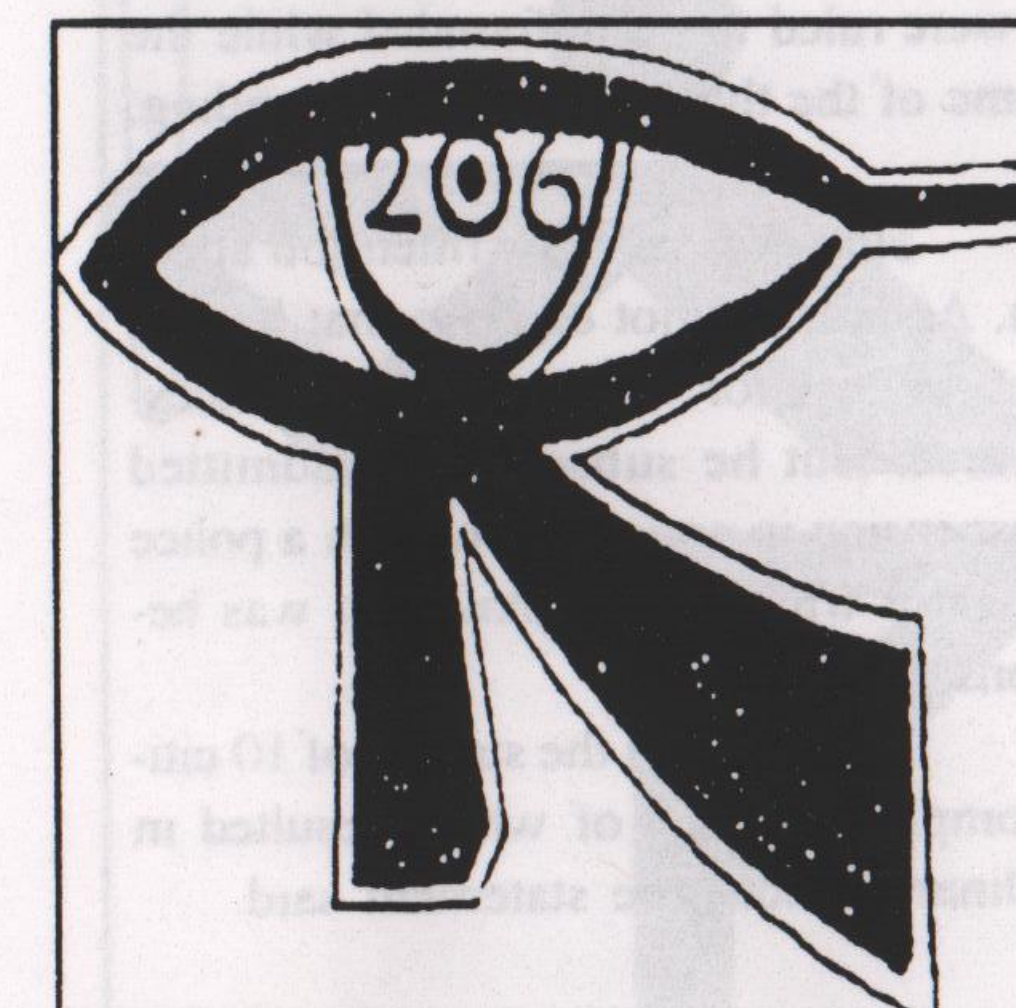
onstrators had been arrested and/or put before grand juries due the confrontations with police at demonstrations or because the underground activities of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF).

We chased off one undercover officer (by getting in his face with the camcorder and letting him know we saw him talking into the radio hidden in his hooded sweatshirt) and one possible provocateur (this guy looked like has was mental case; he would stop and stand in a "fighting stance" in front police officers at the back of the march at every intersection the whole length of the march). Both types hate to be on camera. We also took pictures and video of officers taking pictures and video of the demonstrators. We told organizers that they could get that footage and film upon request.

July 19.

Today was the one-year anniversary of the first patrol of Copwatch 206. To "celebrate", we went back to where it all began: The Bite of Seattle.

This year was just as exciting as last year. We got an assortment of "f—k you's" from one Black officer (C.S. Powell; badge# 1863;) who got into an argument with one of the brothers we had with us



from page 4, left column.

when he criticized the way the officer conducted himself with the people. The brother involved in the incident has vowed to sue the department.

We also witnessed and filmed huge piles of horse sh— left all over where people were walking, spaced about 10 to 15 feet apart from each other. Each pile, after being stomped by Bite go-ers, measured approximately 2-3 feet across. We saw people step in it, slip on it, and drop their belongings in it. Yet, neither the police or Seattle Center staff would clean up after the horse patrols stationed there.

The police also used the horse's bodies to push crowds gathered at different points who were not engaged in anything illegal, except for maybe that unwritten law against "loitering while Black".

After the Bite closed at 12:00, we made our way over to a party at the RCKNDY, being thrown by Teezy Entertainment. Despite adequate numbers of security and police, crowds who arrived at 1:30 were told that the club was full and that if people didn't leave the parking lot, they would be sprayed with mace. We later found out that there was room in the 800+ capacity club and that it was the security hired by the club owner, and not the promoter, who told police to chase off half the crowd.

Copwatch 206
(206) 680-8916
Watch206@aol.com

See next page, left column.

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(206) 680-8916
Watch206@aol.com

continued from page 4; right.

of 36 months, according to the plea agreements. Sentencing is set for Aug. 18.

Prosecutors said the two officers in May 1994 took turns beating a man they suspected of abusing his young daughter in an attempt to get him to confess.

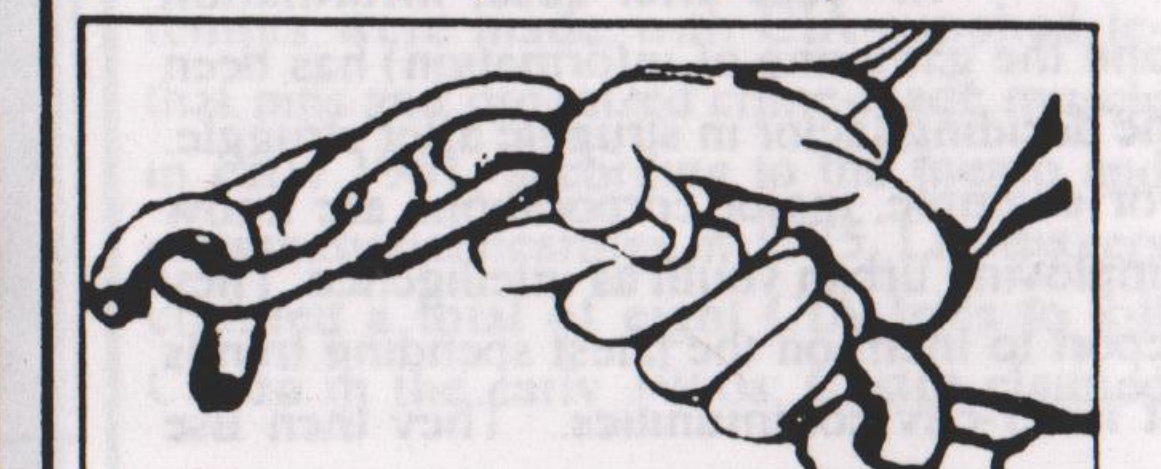
Joseph Valdes was beaten as he sat in an interview room at the police station in Adelanto, which is near Victorville in San Bernardino County. As he was beating Valdes, prosecutors claim that Chandler said: "Are you going to tell us what we want to hear?" When Valdes did not, the officers beat and kicked him and twisted his limbs, prosecutors said. Shapiro said the officers pleaded guilty, in part, because the government discovered that there was an audio recording of the incident that officers did not know about at the time.

In the other incident, which occurred in October 1994, the officers were accused of beating a man in the police station who had been detained on drug-related allegations. The pair beat Henry Easley in retaliation for his spitting on a fellow police officer, prosecutors alleged Easley was hit so hard on the head that he started to bleed, prosecutors said. Chandler ordered Easley to lick his blood off the floor, according to the federal grand jury indictment, which was handed down in April.

According to court documents, Chandler then showed Easley bullet and threatened to shoot him and leave his body in the desert if he reported the beating. "This bullet has your name on it," court documents quoted Chandler as saying.

The two officers initially were charged in state court with assaulting Easley, but the case was dismissed because of prosecutorial misconduct. The San Bernardino County district attorney's office appealed the matter but will now drop the action because of the officers' guilty pleas. Chandler and Gailey were fired from the Adelanto Police Department, but later received \$65,000 settlements from the city as a result of wrongful termination claims. The fines they face as part of the plea agreement are about the same amount, attorneys said.

After being fired from Adelanto, Gailey moved to Arkansas and worked as a police officer until the federal indictment was issued, according to his attorney.



See next page, right column.

The Need for Intelligence.

By Nuru Shukuza. BAI; Seattle, WA.

Through out the years, people have conflicted over power. During these struggles, all participants discovered, whether through research or direct experience, that certain methods and objectives have produced greater gains. The constant gathering of vital information eliminated mistakes and frivolous pursuits. The modern era is no different, in fact, this principle is even more relevant.

The majority of oppressive acts and illegal activity have cultivated under a veil of popular ignorance. However, This veil shows its weaknesses with the presentation of facts to the community and constant activist involvement with all elements of society. These two components are the cornerstones of intelligence, and the back bone of any revolutionary movement. Personal, professional, and historical experiences with repressive authoritarian regimes have shown that a large portion of their power comes from what others do not know or are too paralyzed by fear to inquire about. Although, intelligence is not the only element of the struggle, it is the beginning and it is indispensable.

There are many ways to describe intelligence. It could be having the skill to figure out a foreign situation or the product of investigative work. Whenever you have an opponent, one must first know the ways and actions of whomever they go against. The best example, is to see this as a game of chess, to win one must know the moves of both players. We must also employ this philosophy. We must be able to logically predict the moves of our opponents. Reactionary emotional responses will never defeat a disciplined group whether that group is fascist or not. The situation must be judged objectively, and acted upon the needs of the people and a collectively chosen goal.

In this modern era, information has become one of the most vital commodity. In ancient times, those with the most military ruled and in most recent times, those with the most wealth have had the edge. Today, we are rapidly moving into an age where power is acquired by those who have the knowledge to obtain it.

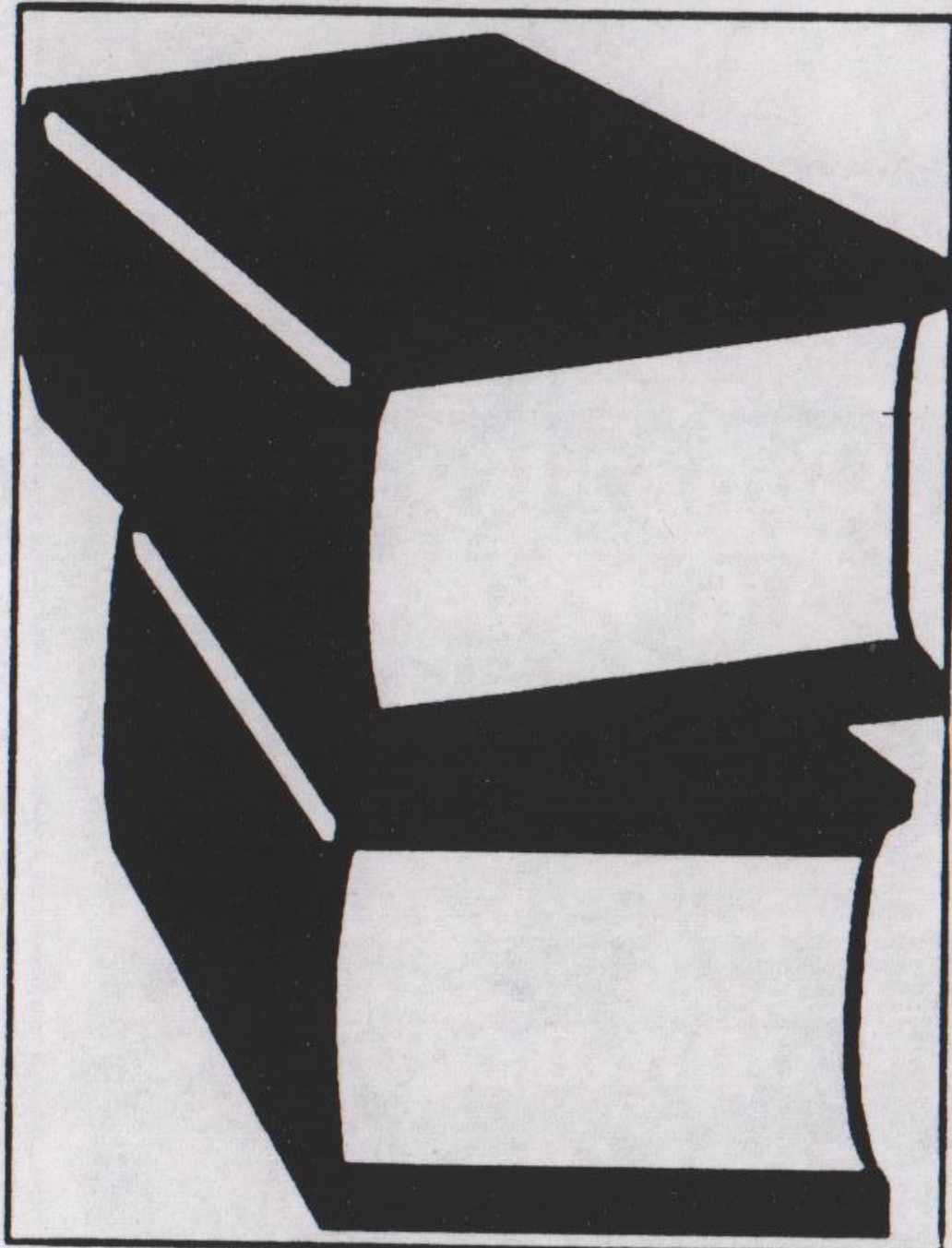
In case after case, information (and the gathering of information) has been the deciding factor in struggle after struggle. For example, major corporations are now employing urban youth as intelligence. They report to them on the latest spending trends of inner-city communities. They then use



this information to market the idea to the same community for a price, usually too high for the original innovators can afford. This what can happen when information falls into the hands of opportunists and not the masses themselves.

On the other hand, certain community activist groups have discovered the trends and tactics of cops that abuse their power. These groups have used this power to avoid them or expose their corruption. When knowledge is obtained, practical tactics soon follow.

Gathering of information encompasses a vast array of methods. Intelligence gathering can be any thing from getting a badge number to compiling a profile on certain individual or group. These tactics do not have to be complex, just effective. The object should not be to reactively rush out and attack oppression after its emergence, but rather destroy it from its roots intelligently and strategically; adding methods of prevention so it never repeats itself.



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6 Black Autonomy.

from page 5, right column.

Protesters Demand Firing of Killer KKKop. San Francisco, CA.

6/19/97. For the second time in three weeks, an overflow crowd jammed the San Francisco Police Commission meeting last night to demand the dismissal of officer Marc Andaya.

The commission took no action on Andaya. Andaya was also charged by the commission that he lied in his 1994 employment application about lawsuits, absences and citizen complaints while employed as an Oakland police officer.

Andaya, 35, is the central figure in the controversial June 4, 1995, arrest of Aaron Williams, [yet another Black man] who died in police custody. The medical examiner determined that Williams died of a cocaine-related heart attack, but Andaya was brought up on disciplinary charges of using excessive force for kicking Williams repeatedly in the head as he lay on the ground.

The police commission was unable to reach a verdict on the issue of excessive force, but the panel later sustained charges that he failed to get medical treatment for Williams. He was suspended without pay for 90 days, although department brass recommended he be fired.

According to charges filed by the department, Andaya conceded in his application—signed under penalty of perjury—that he was a defendant in only one lawsuit, which he won. But he was named in four other lawsuits charging him with misconduct.

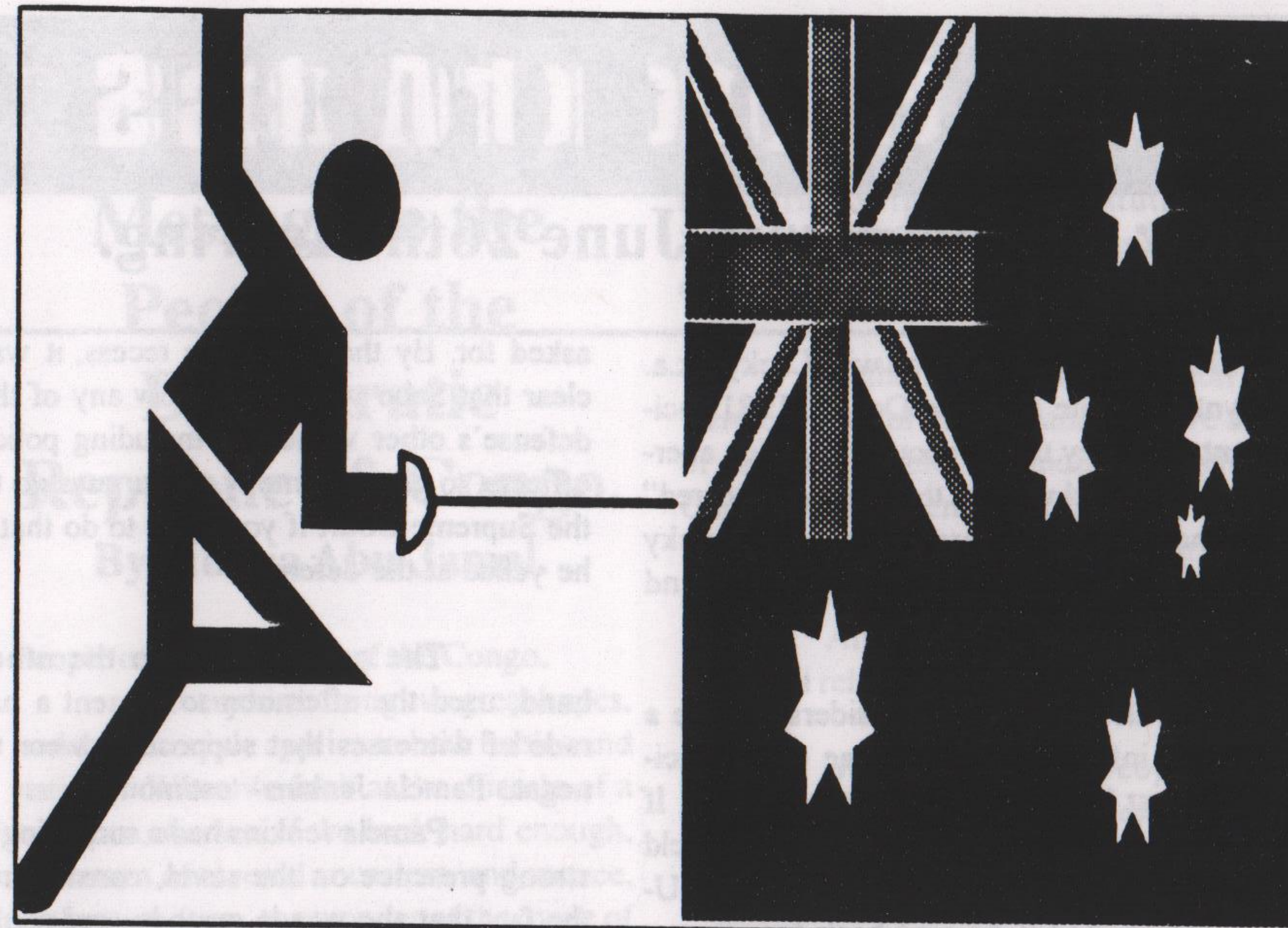
He also is charged with failing to disclose four extended absences totaling 148 days due to injuries between May 1984 and April 1986.

In addition, Andaya reported being the subject of three internal affairs investigations. In two of the cases the allegations were ruled to be unfounded while the outcome of the third incident was pending.

However, in his written job application, Andaya did not disclose that he had been suspended for 30 days for using excessive force. But he subsequently admitted the suspension in an interview with a police investigator while his employment was being considered.

Also, he was the subject of 10 citizen complaints, none of which resulted in disciplinary action, the statement said.

See next page, right column.



Black thunder in "the Land Down Under": Black Autonomy activist jailed; deported.

by Lorenzo Komboa Ervin.

[What follows is the transcript of the Press Conference given by Lorenzo Komboa Ervin on Thursday, July 24; the day before leaving Australia.

On July 8, Ervin was arrested and detained by Australian immigration authorities (and held in solitary confinement) while on a speaking tour of the country (as part of his worldwide tour as an international spokesperson for Black Autonomy International. —ed]

I want to make a statement before I leave this country to explain where we are right now in terms of this process but also in terms of explaining what I think about what's happened, including being exposed to police brutality, illegal arrest and having my rights stripped in a fashion that I haven't had done since the days of the old racist south.

What's happened to me is what happens routinely to blacks and other peoples of color in this country. I've spoken to black Americans who have been arrested, thrown in jail, tried in courts. I've talked to the families of Aboriginal people who have had family members die while in police custody. I've talked to Aboriginal leaders in all the cities I've been to and a lot of people have expressed that this is a racist country, a violent country and that they have no rights.

So I walked into a situation in this country that has been a debate - Pauline Hanson, an issue that has been a great source

of distress. So what happened to me was almost foredoomed to happen because of the political instability of this country.

Let's start from the beginning. I was only here for a day or so before I was labeled as this "terrorist" who has hijacked not one but several planes, a person who had brought guns and violence to the Aboriginal people and that I was inciting terrorism, racial ferment, etc. by the conservative politicians in Queensland and also by the media. This whole affair has been driven by the media; certainly the Sunday Mail and Channel 7 which irresponsibly editorialized what I said and contributed wholly false statements to me, which led us down the road to where we were in terms of a major crisis for this government and to some extent myself because I was imprisoned in this process. What had happened to me proved to be a blessing in disguise because it showed the rest of the world how intolerant this country is. How in fact its human rights record is no better and in my opinion even worse than the country it defeated to get the Olympic Games - China. How it doesn't have a democratic process to the degree that it postulates to the world. So my coming here, my having been arrested and subjected to this has shown millions of people but also the government that in fact when they arrested me and threw me into prison that there were people all over the world who had heard me speak, had been touched by me and who took action - 17 countries - to demand that I be released, that I be allowed to continue my tour. And we have gone ahead with this tour and against all odds. I'm most thankful of Angry People [an Australian-based revolutionary anarchist

See page 10, left column.

from page 6.

Coroner rules in-custody death of hogtied man a homicide.

Los Angeles, CA.

7/4/97. The LA county coroner's office has ruled that the death of Ken Callis, 44, a Black man arrested for possession of cocaine paraphenalia by Culver City Police, was homicide.

Callis stopped breathing while hogtied in the back seat of a police car. "Positional asphyxiation" was listed as the primary cause of death with a low level of cocaine and a heart condition listed as contributing factors.

Although there was evidence of blunt force trauma to both his head and trunk, as well as his extremities, police claimed that they had struck him with their batons only on his legs when he resisted arrest and assaulted an officer and that there was no criminal culpability on their part. Despite the finding of a homicide, the Culver City PD has no investigation of the death and no plans to open one unless the family sues them.

A spokesman for the CCPD said, "We're pretty satisfied with the way the officers handled themselves."

Modern Slave Patrols: Curfew arrests anger Black community. Fayette MO.

7/3/97. Tension is simmering in this mid-Missouri town, where a weekend confrontation between residents and police over curfew enforcement wazzu resulted in 11 arrests and several minor injuries. Nine adults and two juveniles were arrested Saturday night in two separate clashes with police and Black residents.

According to the police, it started when an officer asked a group of youths to leave the town square. An officer tried to arrest a 16-year-old, who they claim "became belligerent". Two Fayette police officers reported being surrounded by crowds that grew to about 100. Highway Patrol officers and police from surrounding areas were called in. Bottles were thrown and a civilian car blocked the path of a police

See page 10, right column.

Black Autonomy. 7

We Support OUR Troops!

On The Move for Mumia: Report From June 26th Hearing.

By Jahfree I Kupendua, Afrikan Frontline Network.

Despite the sweltering heat, it was strengthening today to see the hundreds that came out to support Mumia Abu-Jamal, who returned to Philadelphia from a western Pennsylvania dungeon to confront Hanging Judge Sabo one more time.

There were hundreds occupying the west courtyard of City Hall as early as 9:30 a.m., and many more jammed the hallways of the Criminal Justice Center at Juniper and Filbert. The east coast was in full effect, with folks from Boston, New York, Pennsylvania, D.C., Virginia and North Carolina. Other national and international observers were there, and the combined effect was hotter than the weather.

Mumia has been amassing tremendous legal ammunition lately, and the overflowing crowd of supporters at his hearing recognized the need for relentless street work, to keep pressure on the system. Despite there being only 20 seats available for observers, the selection of those allowed in went relatively smoothly. Observers included Dr. Khalid Muhammad, Dr. Ishakamusa Barashango and his wife Lydia (Mumia's sister), and many others. Those remaining in the hallway eagerly followed the call to clear the hallways and head for Council President John Street's office for an impromptu demonstration there.

Pamela Jenkins took the witness stand before the hostile glare and grumblings of Judge [Albert] Sabo, and the arrogant questioning of a Marsha Clark-like advocate for the Commonwealth. Based on her testimony, here is what we know about Pamela Jenkins:

- * During the hearing, she was in the custody of the Philadelphia Prison System.

- * She first met Officer Tomas Ryan when he was her truant officer in high school. She alleged he had sex with her when she was 15, which probably constitutes statutory rape.

- * She was a prostitute working the streets in 1981 when Mumia was shot, and Officer Faulkner was killed. Though she wasn't at the scene of the shooting, Officer Thomas Ryan nevertheless tried to force her to testify against Mumia.

- * She recalls a conversation with Lucky a.k.a. Cynthia White after the Dec. 9, 1981 incident, and they talked about this police coercion, and Lucky stated that she was "scared" of the police pressure. Eventually Lucky told the lie the police had approved, and Jenkins did not.

- * She also apparently considers White a "police informant" at the time of the incident, just like Jenkins' admits she was. If this is true, and since this fact was withheld from the defense, then the case should AUTOMATICALLY be sent back for a new trial!

- * She revealed that Ryan had prevailed in using her as early as a year before the Dec. 9 incident, as one of their so-called "informants", that large pool of "street people" (prostitutes, drug dealers and addicts, etc.) that this and other police departments use to railroad people to jail.

This system routinely uses false testimony by those most susceptible to coercion, and the lesson of the 39th District Scandal is that this practice is extremely widespread, and the only remedy is to immediately FREE the accused.

- * Revealing she was addicted to crack cocaine since 1987. There was a marked increase in her false testimony for Ryan and others. She used the blood money passed on by Ryan, et al, to buy drugs and get high.

- * She said that she originally was sought out by Mumia's lawyers while she was in jail. She gave and signed her statements while incarcerated.

- * She says the government has retaliated against her for speaking up for Mumia, and because of her role as a Federal witness in the ongoing corruption scandal. As for Sabo, I could almost see the old wrinkled gheezer getting younger on the bench, as if his Satanic Pact for eternal youth requires him to make arrogant outbursts and illegal rulings.

His devilish eyes sparkled with a mischievous twinkle as he barked out "objection overruled" to all defense motions. He even lashed out at Marsha Clark's evil twin, just to get some extra pep, but concluded one tirade by allowing everything she

asked for. By the lunchtime recess, it was clear that Sabo would not allow any of the defense's other witnesses, including police officers, to give testimony. "You guys go to the Supreme Court if you want to do that," he yelled at the defense.

The prosecution, on the other hand, used the afternoon to present a parade of witnesses that supposedly were to negate Pamela Jenkins' testimony.

Pamela Jenkins had a surprisingly strong presence on the stand, considering the fact that she was in custody, and could not walk out of there as a Free Woman. She was arrested immediately after she came forward to tell the truth about Mumia, which she considers "retaliation". She confessed that she feels scared for her life, and for her family's welfare. Her young daughter lives in the 39th District; mom is forced to endure more time locked down. We raised over \$1,500 cash outside during the break towards her bail, which is complicated by the fact that two states are trying to get money from her.

Most importantly, Pamela Jenkins stood strong. She not only upheld the information given in her earlier affidavit, but provided a new bombshell. Ms. Jenkins testified that on March 5 of this year, she not only ran into the missing witness Cynthia White, but saw White flee from her and hop into a pickup truck driven by former Philadelphia police officers known to her.

This corroborates the contention of the defense that the Philly police have been hiding Cynthia White to prevent her being called to testify by Mumia's legal team. The prosecutors, amazingly enough, claimed they had proof that Cynthia White has been dead since 1992.

Pamela Jenkins is called an "admitted perjurer" by the local papers, who are taking the lead in trying to minimize the importance of this testimony. They don't tell you that her admitting to her misdeeds (lying under oath for crooked cops, or as they say, "perjury") have helped free hundreds of falsely convicted Philadelphians, and sent 4 cops to jail.

Free Mumia!

Black Autonomy Prisoner Support Pages.

Message to the People of the Democratic Republic of Congo. By Mumia Abu-Jamal.

People of the Republic of the Congo,

Every birth brings us great hopes, and this principle applies to both babies and nations. When we look at the miracle of a newborn, we see, if we look hard enough, the return of revered ancestors, and we see, in that tiny form, the wonder of the cycle of life.

We now witness the birth of a new nation, and like that baby, we see, if we look hard enough, the reflection of those that come before, all the way back to the martyred Patrice Lumumba, and beyond. The spirit of Lumumba is with us at this hour, with the hopes that this newborn will bring us some of the luster of that ancestor. Similarly, the spirit of the illustrious Ghanaian leader, Kwame Nkrumah, is with us at this birth, the majestic sparkle of his eyes mirrored in the gleam of the mighty Congo River. Lastly, Dr. Franz Fanon, a son of the African Diaspora, joins us to hail this birth, and

his spirit, so rich with the truths of the Wretched Of The Earth, visits us with words of wisdom like the ancient nganga.

Lumumba, Nkrumah, Fanon — all were enemies of capital; and all were allies of African people. Lumumba fought for Congolese Independence; Nkrumah fought for a United States of Africa, and Dr. Fanon warned of the wiles of European neocolonialism. All three lessons remain invaluable, and relevant.

We wish for the people of the Congo Republic a true independence that frees it from the snare of US and European interests, for, as Dr. Nkrumah once said, "Capitalism is but the gentleman's form of slavery."

We wish, for the people of this vast land (the ancient birthplace of some of the scattered millions of the African Diaspora) that the vast wealth and resources of the Congo be used to feed her people, strengthen her communities, and serve African interests. We wish for this new nation a rebirth of hope, of peace and of justice. We wish for her to shine throughout the world as a seed of promise for all Africa, and her millions of children abroad.



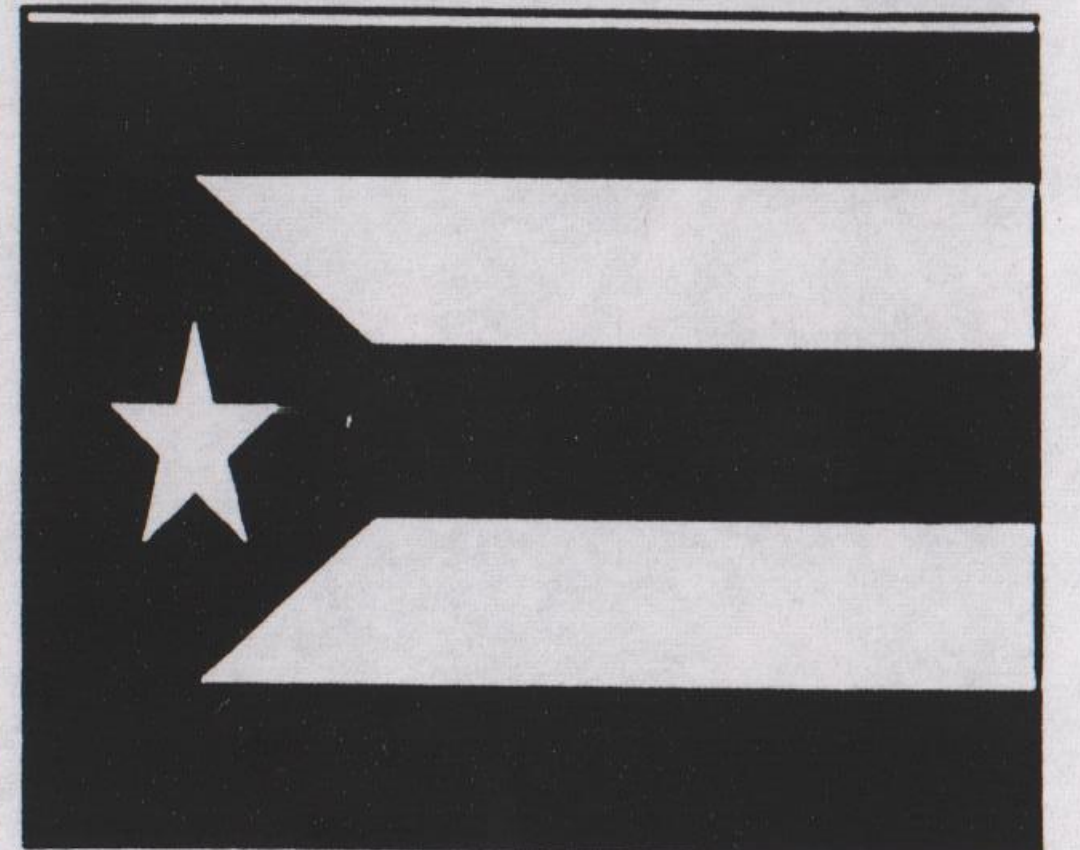
Mumia Abu-Jamal is an award-winning journalist. He is also a father, grandfather, and former Black Panther who was convicted in 1982 of shooting and killing Philadelphia Police officer William Faulkner.

Despite contradicting eyewitness accounts, police intimidation of witnesses, and an unfair trial, he was sentenced to death.

In 1995, a death warrant was signed by Governor Tom Ridge. Due to international pressure, the order was not carried out. Not yet, anyway...

To Find out more and what you can do contact:

International Concerned Friends and Family of Mumia-Abu-Jamal.
PO Box 19709,
Philadelphia, PA. 191143
(215) 476-8812
<Mumia@aol.com>



Facts About Puerto Rican Political Prisoners and Prisoners Of War.

by Juan Marcos Vilar.

There are 15 Puerto Rican women and men in United States prisons today for their activities to end the U.S. colonial control over Puerto Rico.

Ten of these prisoners are serving terms of 55 to 90 years. Their disproportionate sentences punish them for who they are—anti colonial combatants—rather than for what they did. Most were convicted of seditious conspiracy and related charges. **NO ONE WAS HURT OR KILLED IN THE ACTS LEADING TO THEIR CONVICTIONS.**

To learn more about the Puerto Rican POWs and Political Prisoners contact the National Committee to Free Puerto Rican Prisoners of War and Political Prisoners in one of the following cities or email us at <prpowpp@aol.com>

The National Committee to Free Puerto Rican Prisoners of War and Political Prisoners.

Boston, MA 617/296-4512. Chicago, IL (773)278-0885. New York, NY (212)427-3874 Orlando, FL (407)647-1754 San Francisco, CA (415)285-4452.

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organization—ed.] who sponsored the tour in Australia. Now, where we are now is that the government has brought back Mr. Rud-dock to take over the Immigration Department and handle my affairs and an ultimatum has been issued to me in that if I stay in this country beyond the two week period of reply, I would then most likely be arrested and then deported outright or put in prison.

I have no desire to leave before the period of which my visa stated but the reality is that a gun has been put to my head and I will leave, but I'll leave under protest and saying that the original action/prosecution brought against me was politically motivated and the evidence is that the government knew months in advance that I was coming and that complaints were made by Australians Against Further Immigration to the Immigration Department about my coming.

So how does it then become an issue that I had framed or falsified documents? That never happened. I've been a scapegoat in this affair from the beginning. I don't think it was an accident. What I didn't think anyone considered was that we would fight back and I promised that I would go to the High Court and fight it to the fullest and I kept my word. But I can't in realistic fashion prevent my further incarceration and although I feel I've got my rights, the reality is that the power of the state amassed against me as an individual has stripped me of whatever remaining rights I have to remain here to speak.

I would have liked to meet with the Nvungah Circle of Elders in Western Australia who had invited me, and with many other Aboriginal peoples I have been in contact with since my arrival here. I have also been prevented from visiting one of my brothers, Dennis Walker, one of your own

political prisoners, incarcerated in Cessnock Prison. They don't want to issue a formal deportation order to seize me because of the international furor that would erupt. But they can accomplish the same thing by utilizing it behind the scenes so that they don't have to file a formal complaint, but they can pressure me nevertheless to leave. And that's what's happening. I'm being forced out, I don't have a choice.

Legally, I've been advised by my attorneys that we do have issues about the original detention but as far as the government's attempt now to claim natural justice, we could argue that, but we may argue that with me being in a jail cell and I don't see any reason why I should continue to be a martyr in this country just so that some racist, self-satisfied politician like Pauline Hanson or John Howard can take comfort in me being in jail.

I think this matter was motivated by racism to a large degree. There's no question about that. I think that the officials from the beginning have looked at this as a case of a black man first of all, and a person who'd been a member of an organization, the Black Panthers, which they obviously know very little about. I've never shot and killed whites but I've certainly fought the KKK and I don't apologize for that. I think the KKK is a racist, terrorist organization and I also see the KKK has now come here to Australia and the irresponsible government officials continue to deny they're doing anything wrong and that they are just a group of kids out on a prank. But they are here!

When I came here one of my main missions was to talk to the indigenous people and learn their condition. I had been approached by people in England about a boycott of the Olympic Games. I was one of the primary organizers of the protest in

See page 11, left column.

from page 7, right column.

car. Several officers and one resident were treated for minor injuries. The crowds eventually dispersed, but less than two hours later police responded to a noise disturbance at the town's public housing area.

Maurice Bentley said he was standing beside his truck when Kunze told them to disperse. He said he and his friends were in the truck when officers blocked the street. Bentley said he was hit with a baton through the open window of the truck.

"I was scared for my life," Bentley said. "When they reached in my car, I thought they were going to beat me to death. I saw so much anger." Bentley, who said he suffered a broken nose, was cited for failure to disperse, resisting arrest, damage to county property and assault of an officer.

Estelle McKee said she was arrested on her front porch after police told her to go home. When she tried to explain that she lived there, McKee said, an officer shot Mace into her mouth and arrested her. "I got a ticket for failure to disperse," McKee said. "But how can I disperse from my own house?" Jeff Lanza, FBI spokesman in Kansas City, said Kunze has turned over police reports to the agency. He said the bureau would review them, but it is not conducting an official investigation.

U.S. Marines Cleared in Border Shooting, Presidio, TX.

7/3/97. Marines involved in a fatal shooting along the Texas-Mexico border believe they were following military rules allowing them to use deadly force, the Pentagon said Thursday.

"Our standard rules of engagement allow the use of deadly force in self-defense," Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said.

Bacon was asked about the May 20 incident in which 18-year-old Ezequiel Hernandez Jr. allegedly shot at a military anti-drug surveillance team. The team was part of "Joint Task Force 6", a team of not only marines, but Border Patrol and other federal agencies.

The four-man Marine unit was watching a suspected drug route at the request of the Border Patrol. Military officials have said the teen-ager had shot twice at the Marines and had raised his 22-caliber rifle for a third shot when the Marines opened fire, killing him.

Asked whether the Marines properly followed the rules of engagement, or

See page 11, right column.

Atlanta. The issue of that was that the state flag of Georgia was essentially the KKK flag and it was being denounced over the state, and it split the state along black and white lines. We burned the state flag and as a result of that there were people who heard about this and contacted me. So I came here to find out about what people wanted to do and also to have the speaking tour. I've been to 75 cities before coming to Australia, 20 countries. There's never been any doubt what I've been speaking about, who I was etc.

Where does that leave us? I intend to take legal action against the Australian government. I don't know if they are talking of suing the Prime Minister for slander or libel, I can't say. I do know the incarceration will be addressed in court. Other matters, such as the challenge of the nebulous regulations for "persons of character", that is up in the air, but I think it should be challenged. We should challenge the Australian government's attempts to prevent persons from having access to the High Court or any other court outside of the regulatory authority of the Immigration Department. I think that should be challenged. And I am one of those working on the boycott that is starting to be organized.

Boycott of the 2000 Olympic games in Sydney!

The Olympic Games were awarded to Australia over China because of a better human rights record. But is this so? You be the judge. Here is a list of crimes by the white racist regime:

- mass murder of millions of Aborigines and continued theft of their lands.

- the rise of Pauline Hanson - the white racist politician who is against Asian immigration, the rights of Aborigines and who is

for the return of a 'white Australia' restricted immigration policy which discriminates against non-whites. The rise of her One Nation party, a white supremacist electoral movement is a serious development.

- the imprisonment of Black activist, Lorenzo Kom'Boa Ervin, when he was attempting to speak to Aborigines; who's tour was cut short by being forced out of the country.

- the deaths in police custody of numerous Aboriginal persons, yet criminal prosecution or impartial inquest which would establish their deaths as homicide instead of suicide.

- one of the highest levels of police shootings of civilians in the world and a reputation for police brutality - no policies for civil rights or liberties including lack of tolerance for freedom of speech or unpopular/controversial persons. The government routinely spies on and represses activists.

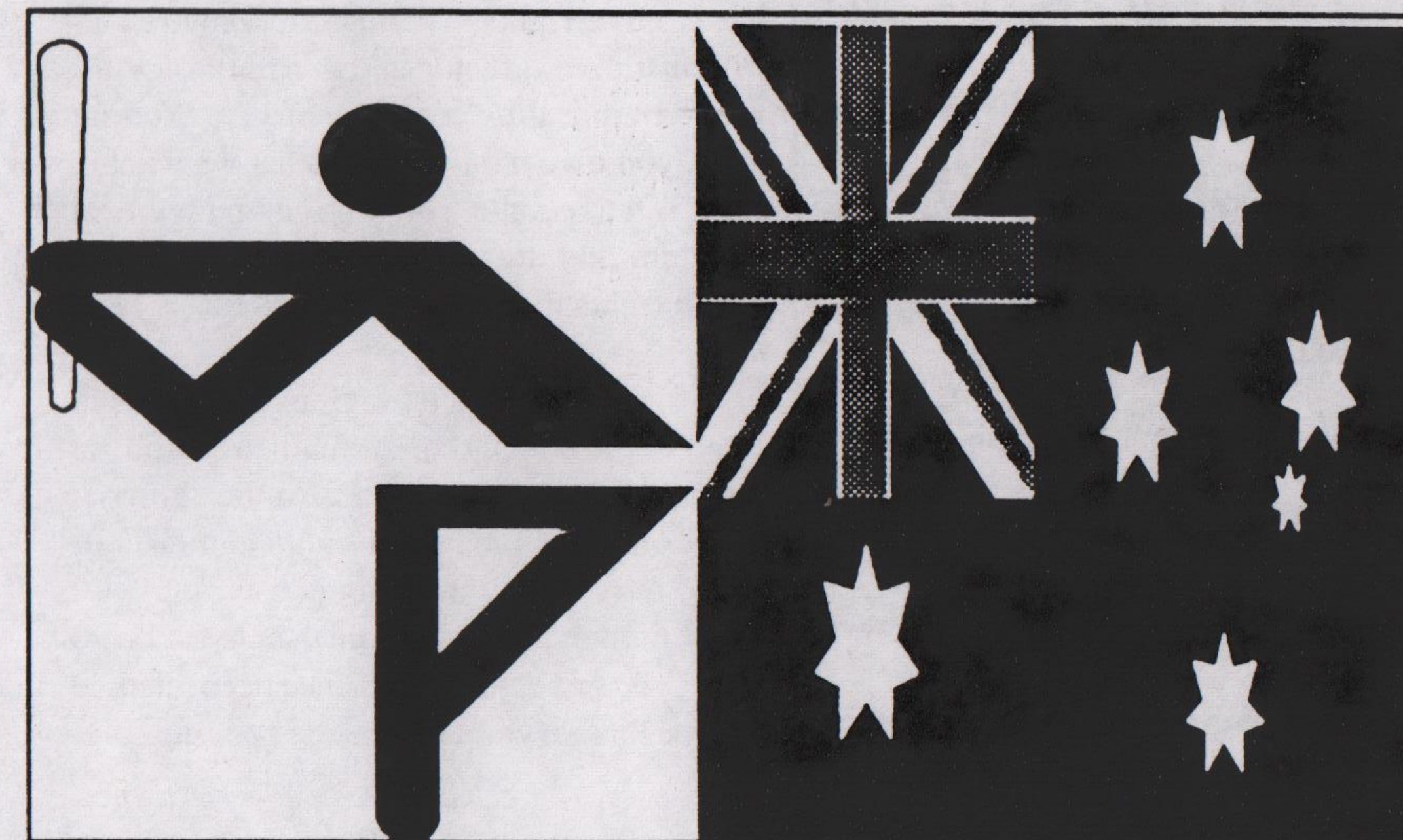
- immigration policies which allow the political banning of speakers out of favor with the government in violation of international law.

- engaged in military and political intervention in Papua New Guinea which cost the lives of over 10 000 in the recent civil war [for national liberation—ed.] in Bougainville.

Because of these and other actions by the Australian government we call for the creation of a Boycott 2000 Coalition to create a world-wide protest against the Sydney Games and especially an economic boycott.

Australia is an outlaw nation whose racial policies are little different from apartheid South Africa. We call on all per-

See page 12, left column.



from page 10, right column.

whether the rules themselves were improper. Bacon replied that it was "premature" to attempt to judge the Marines' intentions. Bacon noted that the Marines were in radio contact with their superiors at the time of the shooting.

Bank Robber "Serves the People". Seattle, WA.

7/21/97. A 39-year old man was arrested after walking into a downtown bank, robbing it, and then re-distributing the money to people passing by. When police arrived, they say there was a crowd around him and 50 and 100 dollar bills flying everywhere.

When asked if he'd won the lottery, he replied, "No, I'm Rich.", according to eyewitnesses.

CIA offered mafia \$150,000 to kill Fidel Castro.

Washington, DC

7/1/97. The CIA offered \$150,000 to have Cuban leader Fidel Castro assassinated in the early 1960s, but the mob insisted on taking the job for free, according to a newly declassified document.

The underworld murder-for-hire contract was detailed in a summary of a May 1962 CIA briefing for then-Attorney General Robert Kennedy. By then, the Kennedy White House had launched its unsuccessful Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba and several assassination attempts against Castro had failed.

The memo is among 450 documents, nearly all newly declassified, that are included in a soon-to-be released State Department volume, "Cuba, 1960-61." Only two copies of the three-page memo were made, one each for the attorney general and CIA headquarters.

In the memo, then-CIA director of security Sheffield Edwards writes that senior agency officials approved plots to kill Castro between August 1960 and May 1961. The White House isn't mentioned. "Knowledge of this project ... was kept to a total of six persons," Edwards wrote.

At least two assassination attempts were made with CIA-supplied lethal pills and organized crime-made muscle in early 1961, according to the memo and congressional hearings in 1975. Lawmakers counted a total of eight CIA tries to kill Castro in the early 1960s; Castro claimed

See page 12, right column.

apartheid South Africa. We call on all persons who believe in human rights and oppose racism to join us in this protest. We must expose the racist Australian state to the world and tarnish their false image of democracy and tolerance.

Umoja Fest '97: "The Youth Did It..."

by Greg Jackson; BAI—Seattle, WA

Sun, fun, and Black community unity. Umoja ("Unity" in Swahili) Fest '97 in Judkin's Park was a complete success. We had over 1,000 people in attendance on Saturday alone. Guests included (but were not limited to) hip-hop groups Black Anger and a speaker from local the Nation of Islam mosque. We had businesses and community groups from all over Western Washington out there in the 80 degree heat (yes, for once it didn't rain).

As one of the coordinators of festival security (along with Merciful Allah of the Nation of Gods and Earths), I can report that we only had three minor fights the entire weekend, a fire that destroyed a dumpster next to the middle school near the park, and one of our security people was almost run down by an angry driver who was mad because a street near the park was blocked off.

Unfortunately, our happy little festival also had a tragedy. On Friday, day one of the festival, six year old Leah Turner, the daughter of one of our vendors, died from complications related to heatstroke. Adding to the situation was the fact that the young sister had cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and was confined to a wheelchair. Her mother had been carrying her to the concession stand to get her some water when she stopped breathing. When I arrived on the scene, I opened her airway, but her skin was already cold. A firefighter came in right behind me and began leading her mother in CPR. Despite the best efforts of this brother, the little girl's mother, and the paramedics of Medic One, they were unable to revive her. On the behalf of the Seattle chapter of Black Autonomy International, I'd like to extend condolences to her family.

The following weekday morning (August 4), callers to radio station KRIZ AM 1420 had nothing but praise for the organizers of the festival and the well attended parade on Saturday, put together by sister Gwen Norwood. I'm sure this angered Chris Bennet, station owner and publisher of The Seattle Medium, who (as was reported on page 2) allied himself with the US Army, instead of the people, when he did his festival in Tacoma the previous weekend.

12 Black Autonomy.

This whole festival experience provided several important lessons about what it takes to work with people, to build real unity through activity, instead of rhetoric, dogma, and authoritarian "[mis]leadership".

First, when one is involved in building something as big as this (or even something smaller) it is important that all participants are sure of who is going to do what and that whoever volunteers to perform certain tasks actually does what he or she says they are going to do. Because several individuals involved with the African-American Heritage Museum didn't hold fast to what they said they would do, the security team assembled by Merciful and myself wound up doing more than was intended, which just added to the stress and pressure all of us were under, in addition to the discomforts and health issues associated with the heat.

Second, another individual panicked and began yelling at both us and the police during the emergency on August 1 with little Leah, causing much confusion and anger amongst all involved. It is important to remain calm during these kind of situations; it could mean the difference between life or death for whoever needs the help!

Third, this same person added to even more confusion by contradicting the instructions given over the walkie-talkies from the security coordinators to the security personnel.

Besides all that, the festival went on with few problems that couldn't be solved with a little common sense and effort. I'd like to say "peace" and give props to all who helped with this. I look forward to doing all again, bigger and better, next year.



from page 11, right column.

the number was two dozen.

The memo said Maheu contacted John Rosselli, a top Giancana lieutenant, to arrange the hits on Castro. "A figure of \$150,000 was set by the agency as a payment to be made on completion of the operation," the memo said. Rosselli and Giancana "emphatically stated that they wished no part of any payment," it added. Still, \$11,000 in expenses were paid.

Rosselli and Giancana, both later victims of mob hits, weren't told the U.S. government put the contract out on Castro, but they "guessed or assumed that CIA was behind the project," the memo concludes. After the Bay of Pigs invasion failed to oust Castro in April 1961, President Kennedy and his brother, the attorney general, tacitly approved a renewed CIA effort to kill the Cuban leader. The first plans to oust Castro began before Kennedy took office.

20 INS detainees file lawsuit over abuses at Esmor facility. Sarasota, FL.

6/19/97. 20 immigrants have filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and Esmor Correctional Services Inc., the private company that detained them.

The suit, filed Tuesday on their behalf by lawyers with the Constitutional Litigation Clinic at Rutgers Law School, accuses the INS and Esmor of "unremitting physical and psychological abuse, including beatings, sexual abuse, and racial hatred." The lawsuit seeks money — and something more.

"Our interest is here to have a court acknowledge that people like my clients have rights," Penny M. Venetis, administrative director and staff attorney for the clinic, said. "It's easy to say, 'You hit me, you owe me money.' What we want to say is that people who are seeking political asylum and are detained by the INS have civil rights that must be respected."

Yet, Venetis says, even now about half of the 20 plaintiffs remain in custody at a county facility in York, Pa. Some, she says, still suffer inhuman abuses. In contrast, after President Clinton stepped in, the Chinese immigrants who risked their lives aboard the Golden Venture have since been released while their asylum claims are pending.

See page 13.

**The Case of
Leonard
Peltier**

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BAD BREATH!

YOUR BASIC FORTUNE

CANCER!

Through I could be without in electronic technology

**REMEMBER
WE'RE STILL HERE**

**National Coordinator
Jericho March '98
Safiya A. Bukhan
P.O. Box 650
NY, NY 10009
212-928-4349 ext. 2**

AT THE CONGRESSIONAL CHRISTMAS DINNER:

How the welfare reform will
thrive if million-and-a-half kids
live in poverty, we have to do
something about abortion

Yes, what the hell do we care
what happens to babies AFTER
they're born?

from page 12, right column.

INS detainees rebelled at the Esmor facility on June 18, 1995, in protest of inhuman treatment from the facility's guards. The INS later acknowledged that the uprising had been caused by inhumane treatment by guards at the center, canceled its contract with Esmor, and closed the Elizabeth facility. The facility reopened in January under the direction of a new private company, Corrections Corporation of America.

Esmor changed its name last August to Correctional Services Corporation and relocated its headquarters to Sarasota, Fla. The company's stock, which plummeted to a 52-week low of 6 9/32 after the Esmor riots, has since climbed to a recent 52-week high of 18.

3 Students Say They Were Searched at Gunpoint on Watts Campus.

Los Angeles, CA.
6/13/97. Three Watts middle school students said they were forced at gunpoint to lie on the ground outside a classroom while school police shouted obscenities at them and searched them for a gun. None of the boys, who attend Markham Middle School, had a gun, and school officials would not comment on the search.

Markham Principal John Miller said he could not recall the incident. "I can't remember anything out of the ordinary," he said. Assistant Principal Lee Byrd declined to be interviewed. But Los Angeles Unified School Police confirmed that an armed search occurred. They said details were sketchy because officers involved had not written a report and could not be reached.

Several students and staff members said the scene outside a classroom shocked the students involved and staff members who witnessed it.

The boys and two staffers who witnessed the incident said it occurred June 13 as the students were headed to their third-period classes. The boys' parents said they were outraged that their children were subjected to an armed search on campus and that officials at Markham failed to notify them.

"I was upset," said Tanya Morgan, whose son was searched. "Nobody called me. You know they didn't have to pull a gun on a little child."

Larry Hutchens, assistant chief of school police, said officers are not obligated to inform parents when children are subjected to an armed search. Hutchens said

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Black Autonomy. 13

Letters.

Letter to Copwatch 206.

Salutations my brothers!!

Just wanted to drop a quick line to say keep on keepin on! I was at the benefit in Olympia a few weeks back, with Phat Sidy Smokehouse. I, like so many am sincerely disheartened with the system. Seeing the video simply reminded me how wrong it is.

Anyhow, as informal as this message is I would like to volunteer my services to help the cause. I am an organized, articulate, computer literate individual. I welcome the opportunity to put my skills to work for you guys though I do have a full time job, working from 9-6 Monday through Friday. If ever you need an extra body or typing skills or envelope lickens or whatever, give me a ring. I'd absolutely LOVE to see this thing go. I'll be sending a donation but feel it takes more than money to get something this important going.

Anyhow, hope things are moving and look forward to hearing back from you at your convenience. I'm reachable at XXX-XXX-XXXX. Thanks again for all your efforts, what you're doing isn't easy but it MUST be done.

Power to the people,
Tina Hernandez.

Even some white folks bear witness to the truth: 'Reverse Discrimination' is a myth.

I am in total agreement with Brother Komboa Ervin's piece titled "Affirmative Inaction". The next time I hear a white person scream, "reverse discrimination", I swear somebody should kick him where it hurts to remind him that his perpetuating this deluded image of himself and of the white race is not only ignorant, it's downright blasphemy.

The sweat and blood and pain experienced by Africans the world over at the hands of the white race is reality; an awful reality, yes, but it need not be trivialized by whining white folks.

As a white man, it makes me so angry and sick to my stomach whenever I hear about Prop 201, or whatever it's called, in California. It's as if 400+ years of genocide and torture have never happened; it's as if the Black man is considered a first-class citizen in this country. It's despicable to hear white folks cry that they're discriminated against. Much love to Brother Komboa Ervin for his intelligent piece.

14 Black Autonomy.

Let's hope we never have to hear the words "reverse discrimination" again in our lifetimes, although I'm sure we will. But the Black Holocaust continues to this day, and I for one am intolerant of those who spit on the pain of thousands of years. Isn't it a crime to defame a people?

Anonymous.

A Special thanks to the Black Movement.

[This letter originally appeared on the Blackpower email list—ed.]

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I just arrived back home early this morning (Saturday, July 26). I'm sick (from bronchitis contracted in the "cold room" in prison), have not had any sleep for two days, been on a plane for 30 hours, and I am adjusting my body to hot weather again after the trip to Australia in the dead of winter [It's currently winter in the southern hemisphere—ed.]

I did want to say how much I thank you for your loving support and warrior mentality on my behalf. You literally saved my life, not just my rights to speak to our people in Australia as a representative of Africans in America. I shall not ever forget this, and it is this spirit which is what we need more of in our daily practice and struggles. With this unity, even when we disagree on political issues, we can accomplish anything.

You must understand this, we have made history, and made both the American and Australian governments tremble, and deliver me from the jaws of evil.

Don't worry, I have gotten herbs and other treatments from native herbalists in Australia to treat this bronchitis and I will see my physician on Monday. Mentally I am still strong and defiant, I may be older now, but I ain't weak. My spirit is still strong, as the damn white government found out. But your support undeniably strengthened me, and terrified the secret police; they could not beat, jail, or kill me as they do so many of our people there.

I love you all, and will be willing to do the same for any of you if you ever need my help. My unconditional love is my best payment I can give. Good work, now let's celebrate, and then move on to the next stage...economic warfare by trade and tourist embargo against the white government in Australia, including the Sydney Olympic Games. Well done, Black people. Family of Harambee indeed! Be proud, you just won a big one.

Lorenzo Komboa Ervin.

News: from page 13.

the search was apparently initiated by a report that a child on campus had a gun.

"The assistant principal and the officers then went looking for someone who fit the description," Hutchens said.

13-year-old Joseph Morgan, said he had just completed an errand for a teacher and was returning to class when he encountered two officers with guns drawn and three boys already lying on the ground. Tonessa Moss, an aide in the class that Joseph had left seconds earlier, said she heard officers shouting orders and obscenities.

Joseph said he tried to explain to the officers that he had permission to be out of class. "They just told me to shut up," he said. Moss said Joseph was petrified. "He burst into tears," she said. "The officer says, 'If you don't shut up I'm going to slam you against the wall. Just do what I say, I don't care about your pass.' " The other boys attempted to quiet Joseph, telling him to obey the officers' commands, she said.

Finally, one of the officers "put the gun to my head and he grabbed my neck and he slammed me to the ground," Joseph said. "I thought he was gonna shoot me when he had the gun and he told me to lay down."

William Welch, 15, said he was stopped by officers and ordered to the ground. Rodney Laird said he was walking to class when officers ordered him to freeze and get down. "I got down," he said. "They had the gun close to my head and put handcuffs on me." At least two school administrators were present but said nothing, Rodney said. Neither of the boys' parents said had been informed of the incident by school police or administrators.

Betty Shabazz Dies.

New York City, NY.

6/27/97. Widow of slain Black revolutionary Malcolm X died in a New York hospital from burns suffered in a fire allegedly set by her 12-year-old grandson. Betty Shabazz had five surgical procedures to remove and replace about 85 percent of her charred skin after her body was set on fire in her Yonkers, New York, apartment on June 1. [Our heartfelt condolences to the Shabazz family. R.I.P.—ed.]

Labor Group Says Markets Take Toll on Workers.

Geneva, Switzerland.

6/13/97. The world's largest la-

Cont. on page 16.

Anarchism + Black Revolution = New Black Autonomous Politics.

Statement of the activists of Black Autonomy International.

The new autonomous politics is made up of the anti-authoritarian core of Anarchism and many of the tenets of revolutionary Black nationalism. This combination of all elements makes up something so new it has not been fully defined before now. We will attempt now to more sharply define what has been talked about for the last fifteen years, and also to place it within a historical context so that it can no longer be dismissed as an eclectic mish-mash, or "corruption" of (both) ideals as the purists would claim.

And yet, it should not alarm Anarchist ideological "purists" when we speak of a Black anarchist politics. First, the early Anarchist movement in America always reflected the cultural, social and political ideal of the community that produced it. Thus we had a Germanic-dominated Anarchist syndicalist tendency during the 1880's called the International Working People's Association which was strong in Chicago, Pittsburgh and other industrial cities; a Jewish Anarchist movement in New York and other cities during the 1900's, where in some whole newspapers were printed in Yiddish; an Italian movement in New York, New Jersey and other areas in the 1920-30's and so on. One ethnic group after another produced a unique, though no less valid, American Anarchist-social movement.

So the question then becomes, why should anyone even be surprised to learn that there will be Anarchist movements which culturally and politically reflect those communities of Africans or Hispanics. In talking about Anarchist ideals, we are not talking about "orthodoxy" which cannot be revised, we are talking about ideas which will be picked up, used by millions of oppressed peoples, and adapted to their purpose and circumstances.

Anarchist purists and other Eurocentric ideologues will just have to shut their mouths, because it is happening now and there is nothing that anybody can do to stop it. Even as we are talking, the first slow steps toward building a core tendency of Black anarchists is a reality. Several men and women have been influenced by the ideas raised in pamphlets by former BPP and SNCC member Lorenzo Komboa Ervin in the 1970's, but they have taken those ideas, made them into a class weapon reflecting the African experience on this continent, and are taking the first step to free our people and our class.

It is important that we define our-

selves, since we realize we are our own liberators. We demand that Africans be subjects of history, and not mere objects that Europeans decide what to do with.

This great Black sector of humanity has said "enough!" and has now started to find its own voice. There will be no condescending saviors out of the mother country, we must begin to do this ourselves, although we know the revolutionary project to defeat the system of capitalism and enslavement requires millions of other allies who will help us. We will decide the agenda, the timetable, and the tactics of obtaining our freedom.

The new Black autonomous politics differs from European Anarchism in that we know that we are oppressed both as a distinct people and workers for our labor power. But Anarchism places its greatest contradiction with the state and its ability to hold back a free lifestyle, and this is exactly what we cannot omit our critique to. This is a white world-view based on their privileged place in this society. We realize that historically constructed "race" have been created under this system, which determine both the manner of life and death under this system, and that the State upholds this racial/class system. It is no accident, and it's true that racism has not been commissioned by individual white workers, but they have been the beneficiaries of our oppression, and whites are part of the social control mechanism of the state. It is nonsense to say something otherwise, like "we are all in the same boat" or all just workers like the American socialist and communist have done. We say this is a lie and part of a myth about the white working class as a vanguard and "working class heroes."

In addition, we say that people are super-oppressed because of their race under this system, not just their class. Anarchism's limitations to critique this type of oppression are quite obvious, and is what has resulted in an all-white movement, which is confused about how to intervene in struggles that involve people of other than European nationalities and how to analyse the nationalism of the oppressed. It has always been my project to extend the Anarchist ideals to cover new contingencies and other areas of struggle not foreseen by the initiators of the doctrine.

The Black autonomists also disagree with many Anarchists and other white radicals because we know that the battle is not just against "racism", or fascist vanguard

elements like the Nazis or Klan, rather it is the system which produces fascism which must be destroyed. The capitalist system literally came into existence based on the enslavement and forced labor of African, Asian, and other oppressed peoples; the genocide of the Native Americans, and the brutal theft of the lands of the Hispanic peoples are other examples of this oppression. But Europeans of all classes benefitted from this super-exploitation, and capital has created the hierarchical structure of race and class oppression we live under. It is extremely important to understand that this kind of racial stratification is not some deliberate ideological nonsense that people of color have created themselves, so-called "identity movements" as some vulgar socialists call them, but has been a function of the state from inception, with one's place in society and class privileges riding on the outcome. If you are non-white, you will be treated one way, if you are white, another. So "racism" is a class doctrine used by the state for super-exploitation of certain workers and peoples; in fact, we contend that it is the actual class relations in North American society.

So-called "white" people are a super-contrived nationality designed to help the capitalists keep workers of color in their place and safeguard the status quo. So rather than see the "white" industrial working class as a potentially revolutionary class, instead we see it as an opportunistic, collaborationist body which must be redefined and reorganized if it is to constitute a reliable ally and have any ability of fighting in its own interest as a new class.

As Black autonomists, we of course disagree with Marxists and other "radicals" who claim that an authoritarian party and strong leadership cultism is necessary to produce a social revolution. But we go further and say that neither they or the Anarchists can lead us as a people of color (or even themselves) to freedom, even though they have been conditioned as Europeans to command and rule over people of color. We can work with them on certain projects or in action on a campaign, but they will not determine the agenda or outcome of our struggles.

However, we differ with the Black Nationalists, although we share many basic ideas with them. We also believe in and treasure many of the traditions and history of