

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS FEDERATION UPDATE

\$1



April 2001

Any movement that do not support their political internees is a sham movement! -O. Lutalo

ISSUE #34

Introduction

"Crucially important to maintaining the anarchist integrity of this organization is the fact that Branch Groups and Support Groups are freely autonomous to take on whatever initiatives they can further the Unity of Purpose of the ABCF. So long as these initiatives do not contradict any preexisting agreements (Tactical Unity) that have been made by the ABCF, it is not necessary for all groups to approve of and/or agree with programs, projects or work of other ABCF collectives." [from the ABCF Constitution and Structure]

The following definitions are used to describe the below terms whenever they appear in the ABCF Update or any other ABCF literature.

Political Prisoner: A person incarcerated for actions carried out in support of legitimate struggles for self determination or for opposing the illegal policies of the government and/or its political subdivisions. [Special International Tribunal on the Violation of Human Rights of PP/POWs in US Prisons and Jails, Dec.'90]

Prisoner of War: Those combatants struggling against colonial and alien domination and racist regimes captured as prisoners are to be accorded the status of prisoner of war and their treatment should be in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Conventions Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War of 12 August, 1949 (General Assembly resolution 3103 {XXVIII})

Work Reports:

Jax Report - *Jacksonville Report ABC-BG*

New Address

For some time we have been meaning to get a new PO Box. The Herschel St address was a 30 min drive each way from where we now live. After having problems getting mail to this address, we were prompted to get a new address closer to home and with hopes of resolving any problems we were having. In any case, the Herschel St address will remain open, but in the future, please direct all correspondence to us at the following address

Jax ABCF
PO Box 350392
Jacksonville, FL 32235-0392

Email

After having our computer broken for some months, we are now back online and receiving/answering emails. We apologize to those of you who sent us emails that went unanswered while we were off line. We look forward to corresponding with you again and apologize for our absence. The email address is jaxabcf@se.mediaone.net

Onward

A new issue of Onward has just been released. Articles in the ABCF page include a fellow ABC member in Spain being arrested for his ABC

The ABCF is: PRISONER'S COMMITTEE

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135 State St.	Trenton, NJ 08625
Auburn C.F.	
Auburn, NY 13024	Alvaro Luna Hernandez
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BRANCH GROUPS

Kent ABC-BG	Jacksonville ABC-BG
PO Box 942	PO BOX 350392
Kent, OH 44240	Jacksonville, FL
	32235-0392
Northeast ABC-BG	
New Jersey- PO	Winnipeg ABC-BG
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NJ 07508-8532	RPO Morse PI
Lancaster- PO Box	Winnipeg, MB
891,Lancaster, PA	Canada, R2k 4k2
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SUPPORT GROUPS

Philly ABC-SG	LA ABC-SG
4722 Baltimore Ave.	PO Box 3671
Philadelphia, PA 19143	Anaheim, CA 92803
Houston ABC-SG	
PO BOX 667233	
Houston, TX	
77266-7233	

activity, an article about the ABCF's Anarchist Subsistence Program, Sundiata's new booklet mentioned in the last issue of the Update, and a brief article about the FBI seeking to question Neil of Jax ABCF. We

Check out the ABCF homepage at: www.abcf.net or call 1-877-673-2658

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think Onward is getting better and better with each issue and we are glad to see other ABCF members contributing to its contents and distributing the paper nationally.

Movies

We sadly had to cancel our January movie evening at Gainesville Civic Media Center (sorry!). But we rescheduled and presented the 1970's classic "The Spook Who Sat by the Door" in mid February. We will return to the CMC in early April to present "The Double Life of Ernesto Gomez Gomez". This film is about the life of Guillermo Morales whose father is a Puerto Rican, exiled in Cuba from the US and Puerto Rico, and whose mother is [was] a Puerto Rican Prisoner of War held in the US. When his mother, Dylcia Pagan, was captured in 1980, Guillermo was only a year old. Fearing the state would use her child to get even with

her, she sent Guillermo to live with comrades in Mexico. In Mexico he grew up as Ernesto Gomez Gomez, believing he was Mexican and that the couple he was living with were his parents. At 10 years old he was told the truth and at 16 he went to visit his mother for the first time in prison. The bulk of the film focuses on Guillermo getting to know his parents, their struggle to free Puerto Rico from US colonialism, and learning to understand why his parents made the sacrifices they did. This 1-hour film aired on PBS in 1999, just months before former President Clinton pardoned Dylcia Pagan and 10 other Puerto Rican PP/POWs. It is an excellent film and we suggest you see it if you have not already. Contact us for info on getting a copy.

TDC

The TDC gave what we feel was a very good class at the conclusion of

the 2001 ABCF conference in PA. Though severely pressed for time, we hope all who attended learned a lot and enjoyed themselves. Learning to use firearms for self-defense is extremely challenging, difficult and rewarding. We tried to make it a pleasurable experience for all. TDC in Jacksonville offer 3 levels of training in Heavy Duty Pistol, Combat Shotgun and Urban Rifle. We are gearing up to give our first class of 2001 in April. Get in touch with us for more info.

Our zine as mentioned in the last Update, Condition Red Quarterly (CRQ), was severely delayed by the above mentioned computer problems. The first issue of the zine is done and will be released in April. Copies are \$2 each; get in touch with us for more.

Kent Report - Kent ABC-BG

Kent ABC-BG has been working hard to keep on track in accomplishing goals we set for ourselves at the conference.

Tabling

In March Kent ABC tabled at the Propaghandi show in Cleveland. We had some good responses from those at the show and distributed a decent amount of information. We greatly appreciate Propaghandi letting the ABCF table at their shows. We encourage everyone to buy their newest album to support a great band.

Anti-Sexist Work

We continue to do local work around sexism. All the mem-

bers of Kent worked on a workshop on sexism and sexual assault called "Consent is Sexy." The workshop was divided into men and women's sections and was attended by about 25 and 120 participants respectively. The workshop is currently in review to be tweaked and honed and will be available in a curriculum format soon. Participants in the workshop were also given packets of information including ways to support survivors, increasing personal safety against rape, and where survivors can go to get assistance. This packet is also available for anyone who wants it.

Mumia Abu-Jamal

We are in the process of re-invigorating our work around Mumia Abu-Jamal's case. We have been tabling weekly on the KSU campus, and a benefit show is being planned with Kent ARA.

Warchest Ad

Kent placed an ad about the Warchest in the Critical Resistance Conference program.

TDC

Kent has continued TDC work and is looking into training in armed self-defense more regularly. We have recently gained access to a private range, which allows for regular use without interference from other people. A new all women's martial

arts class has just started at the Young Dragon Wing Chung Athletic Association where Justin and Kris have trained for over a year. Now all members of Kent ABC are engaged in regular unarmed self-defense training.

*Join the Emergency Response Network!
Stay informed on how you can support political prisoners by subscribing to the ABCF-ERN!*

- To subscribe e-mail abcf-ern-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
- To send an alert, mail abcf-ern@yahoogroups.com

Wpg Report - Winnipeg ABC-BG

Warmest Greetings ABCF Comrades,

Winnipeg ABC has been shaking off the winter blahs with an increased level of activity over the last month or two. Having recovered from fall-time burnout, our collective is taking on some new initiatives and pushing for an exciting spring and summer.

Munyiga Nosakhene's Visit

We were happy to host our brother Munyiga Nosakhene for the weekend of February 9-11, 2001. Munyiga is a member of the Black Autonomy Network of Community Organizers who lives in Regina, Sask, and he came to town to raise awareness of the Chattanooga 3 case, which was still undecided. 'Yigs (as we affectionately call him) spoke at the University of Winnipeg on the history of Black struggle and his personal life. The next day he did a radio interview to be republished in a local anarchist 'zine Action Locale. That night he spoke at the Mondragon Bookstore and Coffeehouse about the plight of the Chat 3 and the necessity of grassroots organizing rather than Woodstock-style politics. On his final day Munyiga delivered a workshop on police brutality and planted a solid seed for the emergence of a Copwatch collective in Winnipeg. As always, it was great

to have this comrade around and share his rich life experiences. Thanks Munyiga.

Propagandhi Show

Winnipeg ABC was happy to table at Propagandhi's first show in Winnipeg in three years. The CD release party for their new CD Today's Empires, Tomorrow's Ashes was a huge success. Sadly, interest in the political groups tabling was a little lackluster, but we sold a decent amount of literature and had a good time rocking out.

Fantastic Vegan Breakfast

On March 4, 2001 we hosted our second annual Fantastic Vegan Breakfast. The Mondragon Bookstore & Coffeehouse allowed us to use their space for a beautiful Sunday morning while we served up multiple varieties of waffles, pancakes, fruit salads, hash browns, tofu scrambler and other delicious treats to local supporters. The event was once again a huge success with \$750 raised in a mere 5 hours! This allowed us to pay our office rent for a year and to catch up on all of our donations to the Warchest, Subsistence Fund and our sundry to the Emma Goldman Grassroots Centre. We hope to make the breakfasts a seasonal event because they are so quick to pull off

and popular. Huge thanks go out to Wpg ABC member Ria for co-coordinating this event with expertise as well as to all volunteers who helped serve, prepare food and clean up.

International Day of Action Against Police Brutality

On March 15, 2001 Members of Winnipeg ABC marched with 70 other activists through the streets of downtown Winnipeg to express outrage at the ongoing abuses of authority exhibited by Winnipeg's finest. The march featured speeches from members of the Okijida (Ojibway Warrior) Society, the Bear Clan Peacemakers and Ria of the WPG ABC. The march lead the police escort on a usual game of cat and mouse through the one-way streets of Winnipeg's historic downtown amidst cries of "No Justice, No Peace, Stop the Police" and "Fuck the Cops, Bring them Down". The march concluded at the Public "safety" Building where participants shared stories of brutality and congregated for a half hour. Police surveillance of the event was very high, with numerous camera-toting officers positioning themselves in a building across the street from the cop shop and "undercovers" mingling with protesters.

New Collective Member

We are proud to welcome a new collective member to WPG ABC. Ethan Osland has been a friend of ours for a while now and we wel-

come his interest in our activities. Ethan wants to spend the next little while getting up to speed on ABCF history and programs and we look forward to his input.

in solidarity,
Patrick
for Winnipeg ABC-BG

Houston Report - *Houston ABC-BG*

Greetings! We hope this finds all our comrades in good health and spirits. The following is a short list of our local work.

Anarchist Reading Group

We recently decided to start a weekly anarchist study and discussion group, which will hopefully give us an opportunity to talk and network with others. Our first reading was Jacksonville ABCF's "The Revolutionary Politics of Self-Defense" and we expect to get into a wide variety of political and anarchist writings. More as it develops!

New Activists

Houston welcomes Taylor and John to the group. Both are enjoyable folks, and we hope to be working together for a long time to come.

Alvaro Luna Hernandez National Freedom Coalition

Ernesto is currently working on consolidating work with the Barrio Defense Committees in Waco, Tex. and San Jose, Calif., as well as other forces to launch the Alvaro Luna Hernandez National Freedom Coalition, a grassroots organization dedicated to focusing attention on longtime Chicano Mexicano organizer, POW, camarada and PC member Alvaro Luna Hernandez. Many formations have gotten behind Alvaro's struggle, and the work looks promising. As this develops, we'll

keep everyone posted. Write Houston's address if you want to get involved with the coalition.

Online Petition for Sundiata Acoli

The Houston chapter launched an online petition to support the Call to Release Sundiata Acoli at <http://www.petitiononline.com/sundiata/petition.html>. All concerned people are encouraged to sign the online petition.

The Sundiata Acoli Freedom Campaign initiated the Call to Release Sundiata Acoli in 2001. You can read it at <http://afrikan.identity.com/sundiata/messages/28.html>.

Barrio Liberation Army CD

Houston DJ crew Barrio Liberation Army composed and released a nine-song CD called More Than MCs. All profits from *More Than MCs* will be donated to the ABCF and its programs.

Songs are now available online for free download or disc purchase. All proceeds of the \$6.99 CD will go to benefit the ABCF and its Warchest Program and Emergency Fund, which offers funds to PP/POWs in financial need. Through its agreement with MP3.com, the Barrio Liberation Army also earns "playback earnings" for every song downloaded or listened to online. These

funds will also be donated to ABCF. The Federation is expending no funds for this project.

More Than MCs came together as a result of the group getting literature from Ernesto of the Houston group. This literature covered cases of Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War, and the group was inspired enough to contribute its music to benefit the cause. It's certainly an exciting endeavor!

Of most interest are songs and dedications to several Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War. "Freedom Train" is dedicated to Sundiata Acoli, and has info on his freedom campaign; "Human Rights" is dedicated to Marshall Eddie Conway; "Stand Up" is dedicated to Ojore Lutalo; "Dragon and Serpent" is dedicated to Jalil A. Muntaqim, "Walk With Honor" is dedicated to Sekou Odinga; "100 Years Later" is dedicated to the Ohio 7 and Resistance Conspiracy defendants; and "Victoria" is dedicated to Alvaro Luna Hernandez. The group also used text about each of the prisoners on the ABCF website to describe the PP/POWs.

You can get a copy of *More Than MCs*, and listen to tracks at <http://www.mp3.com/barrioliberation>

Chattanooga 3

As many are aware, the Chattanooga 3 were sentenced to

community service and court fees for their protest, which had drawn a great deal of support. These revolutionaries expected the maximum sentence, but felt the global protests helped avoid this fate. While there was a guilty verdict, we can learn from the lessons of this campaign, some of which were covered by Ernesto, who took a role in the organizing, in a piece for *Onward*. Lorenzo Komboa Ervin conveys his thanks for everyone's hard work.

Libertad Poster Series

Houston's released the first in a series of posters to raise awareness of Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War.

The "Libertad" posters are four 11-by-17-inch black-and-white posters intended to reach out to people about PP/POWs. They are being provided online for those concerned about PP/POWs to print and distribute in their areas.

To get your free posters, visit the Anarchist Black Cross Federation website at <http://www.abcf.net> and check our Downloads area.

Chain Reaction and Captive Voices

Prison organizers Kevin Glover and Carl Horne are putting out two wonderful publications from prisoners' perspectives. Glover's *Chain Reaction* and Horne's *Captive Voices* come from the sharp political minds of the two compañeros and other captives in Texas. Houston's been in touch with both men, who are very open to working with a broad section of people, and will be offering some support in their efforts. Those interested in touching base with either

prisoner should write: Kevin Glover, #526379, Huntsville Unit, P.O. Box 32, Huntsville, TX 77348-0001 regarding *Chain Reaction* and Carl Horne, #418860, 3060 FM 3514, Beaumont, TX 77705-7635 regarding *Captive Voices*.

Emergency Response Network Grows

The ERN continues to grow. As noted last issue, Houston re-launched the ERN to address prisoner issues. The reasons prisoners and prison activists need an ERN are obvious. We're dealing with an increasingly repressive prison system, and immediate communication is a must. The scope of the ERN itself (from hungerstrikes, lockdowns, punitive transfers where regular contact with a prisoner is lost up to and including major incidents like hostage-taking or take-overs, as well as action on behalf of Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War, political trials/prosecutions, criminal justice issues and more, with a global focus) is broader than the focus of ABCF, but, as everyone in the Federation has said all along, these struggles are important and need to be supported. The ERN is just one critical way to do that.

To join the ERN email list (currently, it's primarily email), drop a line to abcf-ern-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or to send an alert, mail abcf-ern@yahoogroups.com. We're officially well north of 100 subscribers and growing.

B.R.O.W.N.S.

Kevin Glover referred David "D-Cho" Camacho to Ernesto, who has done past work

with Chicano Mexicano rights groups, for solidarity in D-Cho's attempts to build a group to unify Latino prisoners and help them dialogue with the outside world. Ernesto has since passed D-Cho info on various groups and hopes to give D-Cho's soon-to-be-released carmaradas assistance in organizing around such issues. The group is tentatively called BROWNS (Barrio Revolutionaries Organizing Wide Natural Strength) and D-Cho is trying to connect with as many Latino organizations, magazines, newspapers, etc. as possible. Those who might be able to give D-Cho a hand in making such contacts are encouraged to contact him: David Camacho, #771178, 2101 FM 369 N., Iowa Park, TX 76367.

More on Addressing Criticism

Activist Jamal Hannah submitted several questions to ABCF regarding the nature of ABCF support, the federation's politics and various allegations made against ABCF, including claims ABCF is a Maoist organization, has Maoist members and distributed Maoist literature; and that ABCF "uncritically" supports PP/POWs. In truth, we owe Jamal a lot for being honest enough to bring these questions to us directly. After the answers, Jamal wrote a thoughtful reply and indicated he'd be interested in supporting ABCF in the future.

Thanks to April in Philadelphia, Tim in Lancaster, Neil and Matt in Binghamton, among others, we have a very thoughtful response, which is available on the www.abcf.net website. We'll hopefully get a pamphlet together with this text shortly; send a SASE for a copy.

ABCF Ads

An ABCF ad, initiated and designed from Houston, appeared in the recent edition of the *Barricada* publication. You can request copies of the pub by writing: *Barricada*, P.O. Box 73, Boston, MA 02133, USA. Houston has also secured an ad in the Chicago anarchist paper *The Overwhelmer*, and it may be out by the time you read this.

ABCF.net Overhaul

The Federation website had a major overhaul recently, with many additions, downloads, profiles, updates and information added. We've

News & Updates:

Long Live the Revolutionary Spirit of Teddy "Jah" Heath! 1943-2001

-From The Jericho Movement
www.jerichomovement.com

Biography
Family Life

Teddy Jah Heath was born on September 16, 1943 in the West Indies. He has two sisters in New York and a mother in St. Kitts, Virgin Island. In 1966 he came to New York City where he was confronted with the same oppressive conditions that he had left in the West Indies. In 1968 Jah joined the Black Panther Party.

Political History

He was a member of the Black Panther Party in New York at the time when the entire New York leadership was arrested and charged with numerous counts of

also set up federation mail, so those who mail to kent@abcf.net or Lancaster@abcf.net, for instance, get the proper folks.

Propagandhi Tabling

We tabled at the Houston performance of Propagandhi, who were kind enough to invite us to the show. We signed up several people, as well as passed out much literature.

May Day Coalition

Houston ABCF has lent support to the anarchist May Day Coalition that has formed in the area,

as we build toward a local event celebrating May Day.

Thaxton

Robert Thaxton ("Rob Los Ricos") replied in January to Houston's request for clarification on his status, stating he does not want support from or contact with anyone in ABCF. I would encourage people to honor his request.

And that's about all from here. Stay strong!

conspiracy. This case was known as the New York Panther 21. The Panther 21 spent 26 months in jail and were acquitted of all charges, but they came home to an organization split and shattered by overt and covert attacks by the Federal, state and local government. Due to these attacks Jah and others decided to go underground and function clandestinely with the Black Liberation Army (BLA).

Arrest

The government sought out former Black Panthers who had gone underground with search and destroy tactics. Many, like Harold Russell, Twymon Myers, Frank 'Heavy' Fields, Woodie 'Changa' Green and Anthony 'Kimu' White were killed and others incarcerated. On May 2, 1973, one day before the capture of Sundiata

Acoli and Assata Shakur on the New Jersey Turnpike, Teddy 'Jah' Heath, along with his co-defendant and former Panther 21 defendant Baba Odinga, was arrested and charged with the politically motivated kidnapping of an organized crime figure from Westchester County.

Legal Case

The case stemmed from the attempt to remove drugs from the Black community. The kidnapping ended peacefully with no injuries to anyone.

He was charged with:
Kidnapping in the 1st Degree;
Conspiracy; Attempted grand larceny; and Possession of a weapon.

Jah's trial occurred in Westchester County before an all-white jury during the time of massive wide spread hysteria by

the government about the BLA. He was denied the attorney of his choice. Due to this and other racist rulings by the judge Jah refused to participate in the trial.

Jah was convicted on all counts and sentenced to 25 years to life. He was eligible for parole in 1998. He has been before the parole board two times and both times

was denied parole. He is scheduled to go up again in 2002.

Human Rights Violation

Since the beginning of his time in prison Jah has been confined to maximum security prisons. He has been transferred numerous times due to his political activity behind the walls. He has spent his time

teaching Black history and doing political education classes. He has spent years in solitary confinement under conditions of extreme brutality. Other than educating others, Jah has posed not security threat.

January 21, 2001 - Passed away in prison from cancer.

Marshall Eddie Conway Awareness Week

April 22-28

There is a growing awareness that the case against Marshall Eddie Conway is a travesty of justice. The issues bound up in the case are many, including the punishment of political dissent and racial bias in the United States criminal justice system.

Marshall Eddie Conway has been unjustly incarcerated since April of 1970 for a crime he did not commit. He has been victimized by a covert government operation called COINTELPRO and targeted for his political beliefs while in the Black Panther Party -Baltimore Chapter.

Along with documented lies manufactured by police and paid informants and denied his constitutional

rights to the counsel of his choice, Eddie was railroaded. **NO** eyewitnesses or physical evidence linked him to any wrongdoing.

The case of Marshall Eddie Conway is still in the Maryland State courts. We want to make this a year of decision. Hence we call for a Marshall Eddie Conway Awareness Week April 22-28th to promote an end to this unjust punishment of political dissent.

We call on all people and organizations concerned with justice and human rights to make plans to take this issue to their communities and constituencies during the Marshall Eddie Conway Awareness Week.

This week will include a wide variety of local, national and international activities around Eddie's case and that of other political prisoners/prisoners of war, culminating on Saturday, April 28th, in a Town Hall Meeting inquiring into the case of Marshall Eddie Conway.

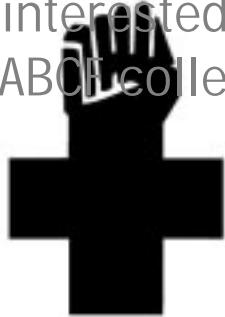
We must make Eddie's name into a household word and make his case into a political dividing line in the United States and around the world.

Contact:

*Ameejill Whitlock
719 S. Bond St.
Baltimore, MD 21231
(410) 815-2298*

ameejill@hotmail.com

Are you interested in starting
an ABCF collective?



Order an Anarchist Black
Cross Federation
Starter Package Today!

The ABCF Starter Package includes:

1. ABCF Guide to PP/POW Support
2. ABCF Constitution and Structure
3. PP/POWs Supported by the ABCF
4. What is the ABCF? flyer
5. Building PP/POW Subsistence Programs flyer
6. Notes of past ABCF conferences
7. Set of ABCF Updates #1-33

*Order your Starter Package today by
sending \$10 (checks to Neil Batelli) to
Jacksonville ABCF-BG.*

Is the Chattanooga 3 Case Over?

The trial and sentencing phase of the Chattanooga 3 case is over, and there was a partial victory when we were not sentenced to jail time, or so it would seem. But don't believe that they have done us any favors either. Things are not as simple as they seem, we could still go to jail on these charges and others. First, although there was no jail time rendered, as a result of the worldwide protest campaign, the state did order a fine and court costs for each defendant [around \$500-1000]. We refuse to pay this, [in fact cannot pay it], and have already been told by letters from the Criminal Court Clerk to each of us, [or will be], that our cases have been resubmitted to the District Attorney and we will soon be hauled into court to face re-sentencing. I do not really think they will be successful, I merely mention the fact that they might try to "take back" the sentences to pressure us to drop the appeals.

For Damon McGee he will still face the question of what effect the sentencing will have on his future ability to go to law school and then practice law. He has always wanted to be an activist "people's lawyer" in the Black community, the kind that existed in the 1960's in support of the civil rights and Black power movements. Although he has no criminal record, he is still being criminalized for protests against police brutality in Chattanooga. In his recent court appearance, he defiantly demanded the right to put into the court record that the reason for the protests and his arrest was because of the police murders of numerous persons in Chattanooga, and began to read the names of about 40 persons who have died in custody. He was prevented by the judge, but his written documentary testimony *was* placed in the record. The same happened to myself [Lorenzo], who complained about the denial of our right to speak before sentencing, and thus all of this was introduced, and each spoke of why we de-

served no sentence at all. Mikail was especially effective at presenting his case before the judge, and this time we followed his lead.

We still do not know if the Hamilton County District Attorney's office will bring conspiracy charges against us for "conspiring" with an undercover operative to bring a gun and ammunition into court during the trial. The government has an entire year before they have to indict us on these charges, which is a much more serious *felony*. We do not know at which stage this is still developing, whether just a local police investigation or before a grand jury, but it hangs there over our heads like the Sword of Damocles to lop off our heads. We need for you to send letters of protest to the District Attorney demanding that he drop his frame-up plans and arrest the one who actually brought the gun into the court himself.

We intend to appeal the case, but we need to obtain new counsel. It is clear that the court-appointed trial attorneys do not want us to appeal the convictions and further challenge the constitutionality of the statutes, so they must be replaced. We are working on that now, but it costs money, so we must conduct a fundraising drive.

Well, here is where we are now with all this:

(1). NEW TRIAL: The attorneys are supposed to be filing a motion for new trial within the next few days to get Judge Stern to rescind her previous ruling and the jury verdict. Then there should be a hearing on the matter, usually they are not granted, but sometimes who knows?

Let her hear from you. Please send letters to Judge Rebecca Stern, via her Criminal Court Clerk, Gwen Tidwell, at: CriminalClerk@exch.hamiltontn.gov, urging her to grant a new trial and protesting the January criminal trial.

(2)E-MAIL PROTESTS: Please continue to write letters to Bill Cox (and his D.A.'s who prosecuted the case), expressing your outrage over the frame-up trial

where our rights were systematically violated], and that he drop all further criminal charges. Bill_cox@hcdatn.org, and also to: Dean_Ferraro@hcdatn.org, and Mary_moore@hcdatn.org

(3). MONEY: We need funds to continue to fight this case, for printing of brochures, to hire an appeals specialist attorney to argue before the Criminal Court of Appeals and Supreme Court, to continue to post bond, and to pay these fines [if there is no other way!], So please send whatever money you can to: Account #7515108434, Old Kent Bank, 4705 W. Main street, Kalamazoo, MI. 49006.

As I always point out, this is not about the period of time we face, or our actual sentence, it is about the danger of a government statute that can punish activists with six months in prison and \$500 fine for *each instance* of protest that they don't like, by merely labeling it a "disruption". Even the Ku Klux Klan can have us arrested for a counter-demonstration. We said, and it has come to pass, that if they could do it to us and get away with it, then the other states would begin to use it as a tool to put down political protests, and lo and behold, throughout the year 2000, several hundred activists have been charged with such offenses as a result of protests at the Democratic and Republican national political conventions, and other protests all over the USA. The arrests for illegal assembly* are supposedly in violation of the national constitution, but like all governments do, are used in a pinch to silence political critics. These are *thought control* crimes.

We need your help. Over the course of the last 30 months, many thousands have heard of our case, and sent letters on our behalf, now we need you to keep it up, and even to let others know about the case. For updated information, please contact:

<http://sf.indymedia.org/lke.php3>
Love and struggle,
Lorenzo Komboa Ervin
for the Chattanooga 3

Medical Support Needed for BLA POW Robert Seth Hayes

Black Liberation Army POW Robert Seth Hayes is currently not receiving proper medical attention for his diabetes and hepatitis c. An endocrinologist who reviewed the records described the medical care as "poor" and "third class." Support is urgently needed to encourage the Department of Corrections (DOCS) to attend the Seth's medical conditions. Please write and demand that immediate and proper medical care be given to Robert Seth Hayes in order to avoid any serious long term complications that will re-

sult from improper or negligent care.

Write:

Lester N. Wright, M.D.
Deputy Commissioner
Department of Correctional Services
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12226

Albert Paolano, M.D.
Medical Director
Great Meadow Corr. Facility
P.O. Box 51
Comstock, NY 12821

Seth was a member of the Black Panther Party, a target of the FBI's COINTELPRO program and a Vietnam veteran. He has been in prison for over 28 years. He has devoted his entire adult life to the cause of Black liberation and human rights and dignity for all people. Kent ABC members were able to visit Seth last summer and he was complaining of mistreatment back then. Working to insure that he receives quality medical care is something that we can all support.

Upcoming Events for Mumia Abu-Jamal

March 24th

Youth 4 Mumia national conference Philadelphia Pennsylvania TENTATIVELY AT TEMPLE UNIVERSITY MORE INFO TO COME CONTACT LESLIE OR JASON AT (607) 327-0735 OR E-MAIL TO youth4mumia@hotmail.com

March 30/31

National conference for Mumia Washington D.C. FOR INFO ABOUT WHERE, AND WHEN AND HOW YOU CAN HELP PLAN FOR THIS CONTACT: Allison Cook (202) 547 6847. **April**

1st

Labor 4 Mumia national Conference Washington D.C. FOR MORE INFO

ABOUT THE PLACE AND TIME, AND ABOUT HOW TO HELP
CONTACT BILL BACHMANN
AT (212) 690-1049

April 23/24

Mumia Internet Web-a-thon Everywhere and all at once HELP NEEDED NOW TO ORGANISE AND CREATE 24 HOURS OF MULTIMEDIA MUMIA BROADCAST LIVE OVER THE INTERNET submissions of materials (video, poetry, hip-hop, etc.) are being accepted

May 11th

Youth 4 Mumia hip-hop spoken word event in philadelphia TIME AND PLACE TO BE ANNOUNCED

more details to come

May 12th

International day of support for Mumia and for move one day before the anniversary of Philadelphia's bombing of the MOVE organization protests around the world FROM PHILADELPHIA TO SAN FRANCISCO CUBA, SOUTH AFRICA, GERMANY, FRANCE, PUERTO RICO, CANADA AND MORE ARE BEING PLANNED EVERY DAY specific details on local actions will be coming soon.

Contact an ABCF collective in your area to get involved in more Mumia support work.

Political Prisoner

Marilyn Buck, long-time activist and political prisoner, has been awarded PEN's prize for poetry in their prison writing awards. For those in the WBAI listening area (New York), the awards ceremony will be broadcast on April 30 at 10:00 pm.

Also, last month a short collection of her poems, "Rescue the Word," was published by Friends of Marilyn Buck (address below). It is available in the Bay Area at City Lights, Mod-

Marilyn Buck Wins PEN Prize

ern Times, Diesel, and other progressive bookstores. AK Press is distributing it. The book includes drawings by Jane Norling, Miranda Bergman, and Marilyn. More info at <http://www.prisonactivist.org/pps+pows/marilynbuck/rescuetheword.html>

There is also a poster of another of her poems, "Wild Poppies." You can order the book or the poster for \$5.00/ea. Add \$5.00 postage for each order of 1-5 copies. Checks can be writ-

ten to "LSPC/MB").

Friends of Marilyn Buck, c/o
Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
100 McAllister Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
<http://prisonactivist.org/pps+pows/marilynbuck>

Anarchist Black Cross Federation Update is now a Quarterly Publication.

Recently the Federation Council of the ABCF voted to reduce the frequency of the ABCF's Update publication from every other month to four times a year. The Update will still be published by Kent ABCF-BG.

The **deadline** for the next issue of the ABCF Update is **June 15th**. Please send all news, info, reports, pictures, etc. to Kent ABCF, PO BOX 942, Kent, OH 44240 or abckent@yahoo.com.

The ABCF is badly in need of some help with publication costs. If you have any ideas on how we can cheaply produce this publication please get in touch. Any financial help would also be appreciated.

The ABCF also has a toll-free number for voicemail as well. Feel free to call for updates, reports, emergencies, or to get involved with the ABCF.
1-877-673-2658.

Anarchist Subsistence Program

Stamp Rotation Schedule

March Northeast
April LA

Send a check or money order to **Lancaster ABC-SG** made out to **Tim Fasnacht** for forty \$.34 stamps in the last week of the month before the month you are responsible for.

FREQUENTLY USED Acronyms / Terms

ABCF: Anarchist Black Cross Federation, federation of ABC groups who support and defend PP/POWs.

ABC-BG: Branch Group, ABCF group with more responsibilities than a Support Group (SG)

ABC-SG: Support Group, ABCF group with less responsibilities than a BG.

AIM: American Indian Movement, above ground revolutionary organization of Native Americans.

BLA: Black Liberation Army, revolutionary Black clandestine formation formed to defend Black community and defend BPP, dormant since the 1980s.

BPP: Black Panther Party, above ground Black revolutionary group seeking Black political power, disbanded mid-70s.

FALN: Fuerzas Armadas de Liberacion Nacional. English translation- Armed Forces of National Liberation, revolutionary clandestine group fighting for Puerto Rican Independence.

FC: Federation Council, decision making body of the ABCF.

MOVE: Not an acronym, name of organization based in Philadelphia who are committed to the teachings of John Africa. Their belief is in "life."

PC: Prisoner's Committee, rotating body of 5 PP/POWs on the ABCF's FC.

PP/POW: Political Prisoner and/or Prisoner of War. See page 1.

Self Defense: The legal act of protecting ones life or the life of another with

the idea/purpose of self determination and independence. Armed self defense is relative to the ABCF, specifically in the U.S., in that as the organization grows, so too grows the need to protect ourselves from the armed aggressors of the state, right-wing, and other ideological opponents. (Firearms training as preparation for self defense is legal activity within the confines of America.)

Self Determination: The right by virtue of which all peoples are entitled freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development. All peoples may, for their own ends, freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international economic cooperation, based upon the principle of mutual benefit and international law. In no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence.

SDS: Students for a Democratic Society, leftist student group founded in 1960s.

Update: This is it, the bimonthly publication of the ABCF.

WUO: Weather Underground Organization, first the Weathermen, and later known as WUO, evolved out of SDS as an underground formation of primarily anti-imperialist revolutionaries from the student movement.

(from the ABCF Revolutionary Dictionary, available for \$1 or two \$.33 stamps.)

	97	98	99	00	January	February	March
Jax ABC	20	60	60	60	5	5	5
NorthEast BG					40	20	20
NE-NJ ABC	40	120	120	75	n/a	n/a	n/a
NE-Lanc ABC	40	145	145	200	n/a	n/a	n/a
NE-Bing ABC	10	110	105	75	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wpg ABC	40	85	110	130	0	24	0
Kent ABC		88	203	205	25	24	22
Moncton ABC	5	60	25	5			
Los Angeles				50	20	20	20
Josh			15				
TOTALS	160	773	788	31			

All Inquiries to:
Lancaster ABC-SG * Box 891 * Lancaster, PA 17608



Sekou Odinga
05228-054 / Box 1000
Marion, IL 62959
Receives \$60 per month



Ruchel Cinque Magee
Box 7500 / A2-205 / #A92051
Crescent City, CA 95531
Receives \$60 per month



Herman Bell
79C0262 / Box 2001
Dannemora, NY 12929-2001
Receives \$60 every other month



Ricardo Jiménez
88967-024 / Box 33
Terre Haute, IN 47808
Receives \$60 per month



Richard Williams 10377-016
3701 Klein Blvd.
Lompoc, CA 93436
Receives \$60 per month



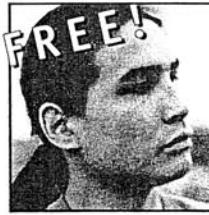
Dylcia Pagán 88971-024
5701 8th St. Camp Parks
Dublin, CA 94568
Receives \$30 per month



Haniff Shabazz Bey (Gereau)
96544-131 / Box 8500 ADX
Florence, CO 81226
Receives \$60 every other month



W.J. "Wolverine" Ignace
RRAC Matsqui / Box 4000
Abtsfrd., BC V2S 5X8 Canada
Receives \$30 every 3rd month



James OJ Pitawanakwat
Mission Inst. / Box 60
Mission, BC V2V 4L8 Canada
Receives \$30 every 3rd month



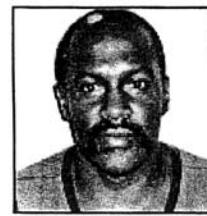
Russell Shoats / AF-3855
175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370-8090
Receives \$30 per month



Sekou Kambui (W. Turk)
113058 / Box 56 SCC (B1-21)
Elmore, AL 36025-0056
Receives \$60 per month



Joseph Bowen
AM4272 / 1 Kelly Drive
Coal Township, PA 17866
Receives \$30 per month



Ojore N. Lutalo #59860
SIB 0000901548 / PO-861
Trenton, NJ 08625
Received Emergency Funds



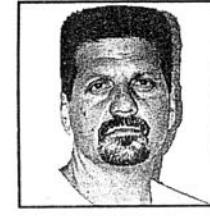
A. Bottom (Jalil Muntaqim)
77A4283 / Box 618
135 State St. / Auburn, NY 13024
Received Emergency Funds



Sundiata Acoli (Squire)
39794-066 / Box 3000
White Deer, PA 19887
Received Emergency Funds



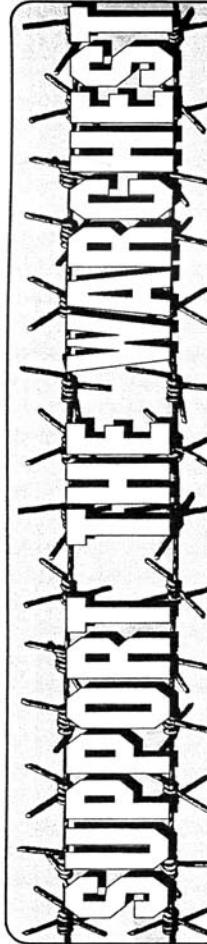
Carmen Valentín 88974-024
5701 8th St. Camp Parks
Dublin, CA 94568
Received Emergency Funds



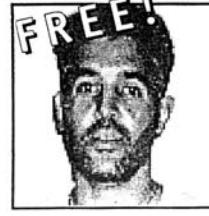
Jaan K. Laaman
W41514 / Box 100
South Walpole, MA 02071
Received Emergency Funds



Thomas Manning
10373-016 / Box 4000
Springfield, MO 65801, MCFP
Received Emergency Funds



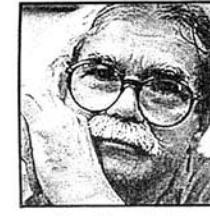
Yu Kikumura
09008-050 / Box 8500
Florence, CO 81226-8500
Received Emergency Funds



Edwin Cortés
92153-024 / Box 1000
Lewisburg, PA 17837
Received Emergency Funds



Adolfo Matos 88968-024
3701 Klein Blvd.
Lompoc, CA 93436
Received Emergency Funds



Oscar López Rivera
87651-024 / Box 33
Terre Haute, IN 47808
Received Emergency Funds



Jihad Abdul Mumit
32379-138 / Box 1000
Lewisburg, PA 17837
Received Emergency Funds

The ABCF has initiated a program designed to send monthly checks into those PP/POWs who have been receiving insufficient, little, or no financial support during their imprisonment. PP/POW's requesting funds complete an application of financial questions. When the ABCF has collected sufficient funds to send out another monthly check, the applications are reviewed by a rotating body of PP/POW's called the Prisoners Committee, who makes a judgement on which applicant is in the most financial need. There is also an Emergency Fund designed to immediately send checks to those PP/POW's in need of one time or emergency assistance. Founded in 1994, the Warchest has provided consistent and reliable financial aid, serving a much neglected comrade function. As Sekou Odinga (a POW currently receiving a monthly check) writes, *"Thanks much for the support you've been organizing, I really appreciate it. After not having any or very little support for so long, it now seems like (people) have all of a sudden realized that I am alive."* Endorse this program by giving any monthly or one time donation to increase the number of prisoners being supported monthly. A financial report is published that documents all money received and the prisoners it was sent to. The prisoners addresses are also printed so that endorsers may write and hold us accountable.

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

ONE TIME DONATION MONTHLY SUPPORTER

If you'll be a monthly supporter, please check one of the following:

I'll Commit to 6 Months I'll Commit to 1 Year Amount \$ _____

Send concealed cash,
checks or m.o.s made to
NEIL BATELLI to;

Jax ABCF
4204 Herschel #20

Jax, FL 32210

jaxabcf@se.mediaone.net

ANARCHIST SUBSISTENCE PROGRAM

The Anarchist Subsistence Program, in contrast to the Warchest Program that provides nonpartisan support for revolutionary Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War in the greatest need, seeks to provide material aid to PP/POW's who come from our own anarchist/antiauthoritarian community.

The functions of this support campaign include a monthly check and forty .34¢ postage stamps per month. Supporters of the Anarchist Subsistence Program send whatever funds they can to Northeast ABC-BG (the collective facilitating the program) which, in turn, sends the total amount from all supporters to anarchist PP/POWs monthly. All U.S. supporters also take turns in a rotation schedule sending the stamps directly to anarchist PP/POWs.

Ojore Lutalo is the focus of the first campaign by the Anarchist Subsistence Program. Ojore was imprisoned for his street struggles and work in support of the revolutionary movement. This, combined with the fact that Ojore has provided an immeasurable amount of time, guidance and focus to the collectives that make up the ABCF, has made Ojore the focus of our first subsistence support campaign.

If you want to support this important program, contact Northeast ABC-BG. Make checks or money orders out only to *Tim Fasnacht*. Funds should be sent in the last week of the month before the month the funds will be used (i.e; send March funds in the 3rd week of February).

I WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ANARCHIST SUBSISTENCE PROGRAM!

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

one-time contribution regular contributor 40 34¢ stamps enclosed

Make checks or money orders out only to *Tim Fasnacht*.
Send any and all inquiries about the Anarchist Subsistence Program to:
Northeast ABC-BG, P.O. Box 891, Lancaster, PA 17608, lancaster@abcf.net

The Anarchist
Subsistence Program
seeks to provide aid to
PP/POW's who come
from our own anarchist/
antiauthoritarian
community.



**"ABC
Federation
has one of the
few programs
in the country
that is
providing
direct support
for Political
Prisoners and
Prisoners
of War."**

-Ojore Lutalo