

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

**P. O. Box 1184
Harlem, N.Y. 10027
864-8951**

August 2, 1972

Power

The National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners is a collective of concerned Brothers and Sisters from a variety of organizations (N.Y. Consulate of The Republic of New Africa, El Comite, Black Liberation Party, Black Panther Party, Lincoln DeTox, OPO) and community People genuinely concerned about the plight of our Brothers and Sisters incarcerated in amerikkka's concentration camps (prisons).

The purpose of this communication is to seek out some answers to some criticisms we have for the defense committee's, groups, and individuals, etc; allegedly working with political prisoners and prisoners of war. These criticisms entail your failure to organize support around Comrade Elmer "Geronimo" Pratt, Comrade Ruchelle Magee, and other prisoners of war especially on the west coast.

It has come to our attention that you have taken a slipshod attitude insofar as supporting P.O.W in the courts, by not visibly supporting these Brothers at their trials. The banning of respective memberships to attend trials by members in leadership capacities, failure to follow through with commitments after making them, a reluctance to organize demonstrations, speaking engagements, rallies, etc; in the Brothers behalf. These positions you have taken are very productive, reactionary and counter-revolutionary. It also illustrates a lack of enthusiasm for revolutionary struggle.

If your failure to support these P.O.W are a product of the split within the Black Panther Party, provoked by opportunist-revisionist Huey Percy Newton and the Peralta St. gang; how are you going to deal with the pig's if you cant deal with babylons edition of Magsaysay of the Phillipines?

The truth of the matter seems to lie in your fear of getting involved based upon personality, stardom, celebrityism, and evaluation. We suggest that you begin to deal with these problems with a more revolutionary view, or relinquish your role as political blockers in the oppressed Black and Third World communities.

**"Freedom for all Political Prisoners
and P.O.W"**

Cadre of the N.C.D.P.P

P.S We're receptive to criticism, and re-evaluation, based on practice, and revolutionary principles.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE COURTS?

Except for the celebrated cases like Angela Davis...Continuous frameups, railroading, wild charges, flimsy testimonies, denial of motions, refusal of appeals and skyrocketing bails.

Let's remember that thousands of unheralded, unknown brothers and sisters who cannot afford lawyers are being sent to concentration camps everyday and forgotten. We cannot let this happen to:

RUCHELL MAGEE--(Prisoner of War) " You(America) are playing dangerously sick games at the wrong time with human lives, and you are not and cannot hide this case no longer". Ruchell Magee.

The case of Ruchell Magee dates back to 1963. He was convicted and sentenced to life in prison for supposedly stealing \$10. The story of Ruchell's life was one of going to jail and getting out. A life lived in and out of jail from the time he was 13 years old. It is with this knowledge that it is very easy to understand why on Aug. 7th, 1970 when Jonathan Jackson came into the courtroom and made a bid for the freedom of his brother, George Jackson, and the other members of the Soledad Brothers, Ruchell Magee took this opportunity to try to liberate himself.

Ruchell Magee, along with James McClain, William Christmas and Jonathan Jackson - took hostages (Judge Haley and the Asst. D.A. and others) out to a van in the parking lot! The pigs were only concerned with stopping the brothers. When the shooting stopped, three of the brothers were dead plus the judge...RUCHELL SURVIVED...

After the pigs had shot and killed Jonathan Jackson, William Christmas and James McClain along with Judge Haley, they had to have someone to put the blame on. Ruchell was the only survivor so he became the scapegoat.

Ruchell is scheduled to start trial on this case on August 1st. He needs your support. He is defending himself on the same charges that Angela Davis was just acquitted of.

Some of the brothers and sisters that are behind these bars are political prisoners and others are prisoners of war.

POLITICAL PRISONERS are all Black and Third World people who because of racism and capitalism are oppressed and thereby commit acts of survival. Some examples are:

George Harrison U3S19 Raiford, Florida

Richard Allen 17092 Stormville, New York

Bennie Anderson B15552 Susanville Concentration Camp Susanville, California

Harlem 6 -- Donald Hamm, Robert Rice, Ronald Felder, Wallace Baker, William Craig,

Tombs 7-- Herbert Blyden, Ricardo De Leon, Nathaniel Ragsdale, Curtis Brown, Stanley King
Louis Cabrera, Frankie Myers

James Beatty 7LB2 125 White St.

Eric Benson 5N33U Bronx House of Detention

Clemon Blanchey P.O. Box 520 Washington, State Prison Walla, Walla, Washington

Daniel Johnson 835 Morgan St. Raleigh, North Carolina

John Clutchette San Quentin Prison, California

Fleeta Drumgo San Quentin Prison, California

Louisville 7 -- Darryle Blakemore, Larry Baines, Gary "G" Gaynor, Benjamin Simmons, George T. Alexander, John Herbert Jones, Jacqueline Howard

PRISONER OF WAR are all those brothers and sisters who recognize the fact that they are prisoners within the system and that the system is perpetrating miseducation, indecent housing, unemployment, drugs etc. etc;

These brothers and sisters take the struggle to another level, they actively declare war and move on their declaration. Those brothers and sisters pose the greatest threat to the system so they are most sought after and when they are captured they are prisoners of war.

Ironically, people support political prisoners, but they do not support Prisoners of War. This must be changed.... Some Prisoners of War are:

St. Louis 2 --Henry "Sasha" Brown and Thomas MacCreary

Louisville 7 --Darryle Blakemore, Larry Baines, Gary "G" Gaynor, Benjamin Simmons, George T. Alexander, John Herbert Jones, Jacqueline Howard

RNA 11 --Pres. Imari Abubakari Obadele, 1; Vice Pres. Hekima Ana, Aisha Salim, Offagga Quaddua, Addis Ababa, Chumaimari Fela, Karim Hekima Oman Wadu Njabafudi, Tamu Ana Spade de Mau Mau, Tawwab Nkrumah, Njeri Quaddus

Queens Panther 4--Irving "Butch" Mason, Eddie "Jamal" Josephs, Richard "Dharuba" Moore, Micheal D. Hill

Elmer "Geronimo" Pratt--Los Angeles County Jail

John Thomas--Federal Penitentiary

Mark Holder-- Federal House of Detention, New York

North Carolina 4-- Robert Brown, Daniel Johnson, William Owens, etc.