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|----------------------------|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Series Id: | LNS14000006 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Seasonal Adjusted | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Series title: | (Seas) Unemployment Rate - Black or African American | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Labor force status: | Unemployment rate | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Type of data: | Percent | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Age: | 16 years and over | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Race: | Black or African American | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Year | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Annual |
| 1998 | 9.4 | 9.3 | 9.2 | 9.1 | 8.9 | 8.8 | 9.5 | 8.8 | 9.1 | 8.6 | 8.6 | 7.7 | |
| 1999 | 7.8 | 8.2 | 8.0 | 7.8 | 7.4 | 7.7 | 8.7 | 7.7 | 8.5 | 8.4 | 8.0 | 7.8 | |
| 2000 | 8.2 | 8.1 | 7.4 | 7.0 | 7.7 | 7.8 | 7.7 | 7.9 | 7.3 | 7.3 | 7.3 | 7.4 | |
| 2001 | 8.2 | 7.7 | 8.3 | 8.0 | 7.9 | 8.3 | 8.0 | 9.1 | 8.9 | 9.5 | 9.8 | 10.1 | |
| 2002 | 10.0 | 9.9 | 10.5 | 10.7 | 10.2 | 10.5 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 9.7 | 9.8 | 10.7 | 11.3 | |
| 2003 | 10.5 | 10.7 | 10.3 | 10.9 | 10.9 | 11.5 | 10.9 | 10.9 | 11.1 | 11.4 | 10.2 | 10.1 | |
| 2004 | 10.4 | 9.7 | 10.3 | 9.7 | 10.1 | 10.1 | 11.0 | 10.5 | 10.3 | 10.8 | 10.7 | 10.7 | |
| 2005 | 10.6 | 10.8 | 10.4 | 10.2 | 10.1 | 10.2 | 9.3 | 9.7 | 9.4 | 9.1 | 10.6 | 9.2 | |
| 2006 | 8.9 | 9.4 | 9.4 | 9.3 | 8.8 | 8.8 | 9.6 | 8.8 | 9.1 | 8.5 | 8.5 | 8.3 | |
| 2007 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 8.3 | 8.2 | 8.4 | 8.4 | 8.1 | 7.7 | 8.2 | 8.5 | 8.4 | 9.0 | |
| 2008 | 9.2 | 8.3 | 9.0 | 8.6 | 9.7 | 9.2 | 9.7 | 10.6 | 11.4 | 11.1 | | | |

U.S. Dept. of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics

Black unemployment nearly double white rate

November 8, 2008

Staff Reporter, The Daily Voice

-The nation's unemployment rate climbed to 6.5 percent last month, the Labor Department reported on

Friday. But the black unemployment rate remained substantially higher at 11.1 percent, nearly double the rate for whites.

The 6.5 percent overall rate marked a 14-year high in joblessness and was creating a huge impact on ordinary Americans as 240,000 jobs

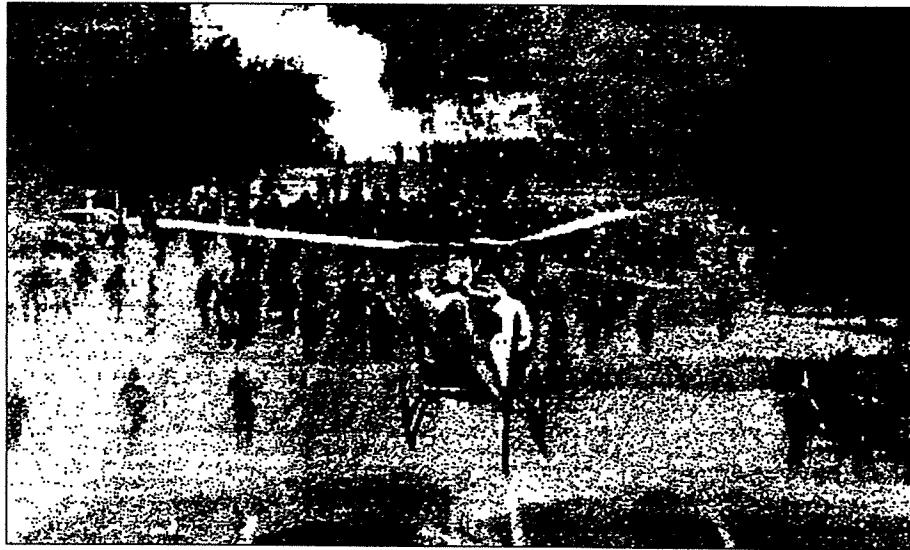
were cut in October, far worse than economists expected, according to the Associated Press.

In total, 1.2 millions jobs were lost this year, making October the tenth consecutive month in which the economy reported job losses. But blacks have been particularly hard hit by the troubled economy.

African Americans posted the highest unemployment rate of any racial or ethnic group in the survey, according to the Labor Department. The October unemployment rate, not seasonally adjusted, for whites was 5.9 percent, for Hispanics 8.8 percent and for Asians 3.8 percent, but for blacks it was 11.1 percent. □

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Series Id: | LNS14000009 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Seasonal Adjusted | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Series title: | (Seas) Unemployment Rate - Hispanic or Latino | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Labor force status: | Unemployment rate | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Type of data: | Percent | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Age: | 16 years and over | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ethnic origin: | Hispanic or Latino | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Year | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Annual |
| 1998 | 7.1 | 6.9 | 6.9 | 6.7 | 6.9 | 7.4 | 7.3 | 7.4 | 7.3 | 7.2 | 7.1 | 7.7 | |
| 1999 | 6.7 | 6.7 | 5.8 | 7.0 | 6.7 | 6.6 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.7 | 6.4 | 6.0 | 5.8 | |
| 2000 | 5.6 | 5.7 | 6.1 | 5.5 | 5.8 | 5.6 | 5.8 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 5.1 | 6.0 | 5.7 | |
| 2001 | 5.8 | 6.1 | 6.2 | 6.4 | 6.3 | 6.6 | 6.2 | 6.5 | 6.7 | 7.1 | 7.3 | 7.7 | |
| 2002 | 7.8 | 7.0 | 7.5 | 8.0 | 7.1 | 7.4 | 7.4 | 7.5 | 7.4 | 7.9 | 7.8 | 7.9 | |
| 2003 | 7.9 | 7.6 | 7.8 | 7.6 | 8.1 | 8.4 | 8.1 | 7.7 | 7.3 | 7.4 | 7.5 | 6.6 | |
| 2004 | 7.4 | 7.4 | 7.6 | 7.1 | 6.9 | 6.7 | 6.8 | 6.8 | 6.8 | 6.7 | 6.7 | 6.5 | |
| 2005 | 6.2 | 6.4 | 5.9 | 6.4 | 5.9 | 5.7 | 5.5 | 5.8 | 6.4 | 5.9 | 6.1 | 6.0 | |
| 2006 | 5.7 | 5.5 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 4.9 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 5.4 | 5.4 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 4.9 | |
| 2007 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 5.5 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 5.9 | 5.5 | 5.7 | 5.6 | 5.7 | 6.3 | |
| 2008 | 6.3 | 6.2 | 6.9 | 6.9 | 6.9 | 7.7 | 7.4 | 8.0 | 7.8 | 8.8 | | | |

Repression in Morelos



Photos of Repression in Morelos

by AWK

Thursday, Oct 16th, 2008 2:53 PM

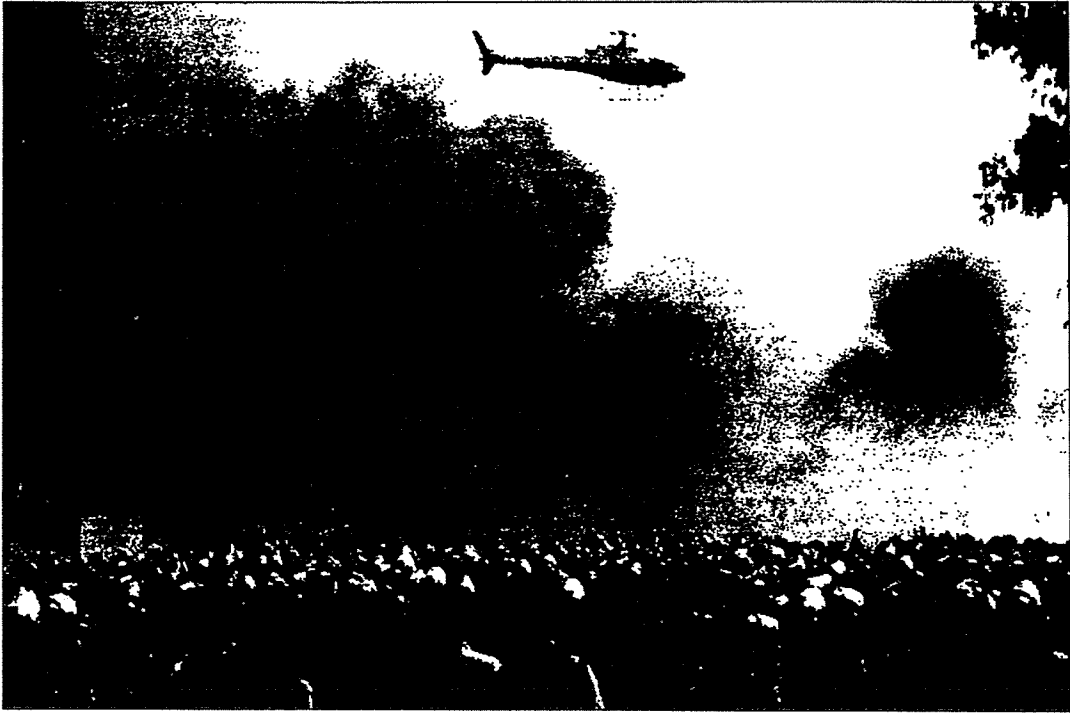
On Oct. 7, 8, and 9, the army and state and federal paramilitary police were sent in to brutally smash the movement. This model is a mirror of the crackdown that occurred in Oaxaca in 2006 and has enraged teachers and the public across Mexico.

For almost two months, the teachers union in the Mexican state of Morelos rose up against the "Alliance for Quality Education", a neo-liberal plan akin to "No Child Left Behind" that would pave the way to the privatization of education, among other things.

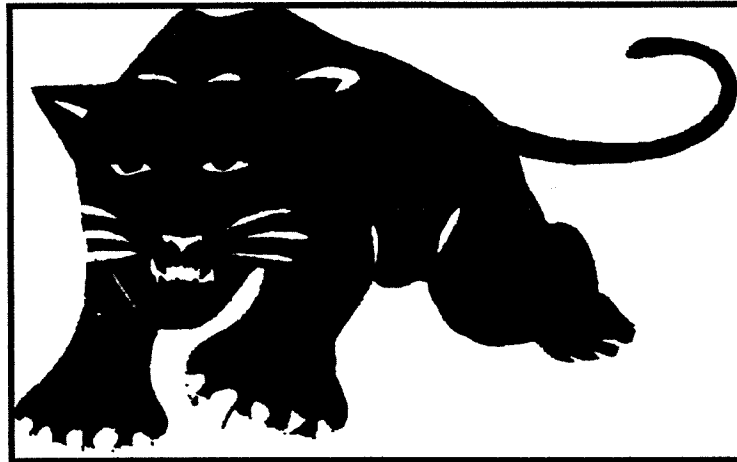
They were supported by the people of Morelos in their marches, encampments in public plazas, and blockades of interstate highways. On Oct. 7, 8, and 9, the army and state and federal paramilitary police were sent in to brutally smash the movement. This model is a mirror of the crackdown that occurred in Oaxaca in 2006 and has enraged teachers and the public across Mexico.

There is little to no information in English about the situation in Morelos, but there are photos that don't require translation. Below are some that have been widely sent around. Please continue sending them around and spreading the word of the Morelos rebellion - which may have been brutally repressed but has not been extinguished. □









The Panther New Wind Manifesto

November, 2008

For the first time since 1968, the political pendulum is swinging to the left. Over the past 40 years, there has been an eightfold increase in the number of incarcerated people in the U.S., which now has the world's highest incarceration rate amounting to 1% of the U.S. population. With only 5% of the world's population, it has incarcerated 25% of the world's 9.25 million prisoners. The majority of America's over 2.3 million prisoners are due to the racist "War on Drugs" initiated by President Nixon. At midyear 2005, nearly 4.7% of Black males were in prison, compared to 1.9% of non-Hispanic white males. According to a 2006 report by the American Civil Liberties Union, "African Americans make up an estimated 15% of drug users, but they account for 37% of those arrested on drug charges, 59% of those convicted and 74% of all drug offenders sentenced to prison." The U.S. has 260,000 people in state prisons on nonviolent drug charges; 183,200 (more than 70%) of them are Black or Latino.

As recently pointed out by Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor:

"In the 1968 election for president, Republican Richard Nixon crafted the so-called 'Southern Strategy' of making coded racist appeals to win white votes.

"The 'Southern Strategy' was an acknowledgement that open anti-Black racism would no longer be tolerated, now that African Americans' right to vote was firmly established. But with the Democratic Party falling apart because of its inability to contain the contradictions of being both the formal party of civil rights in the North and the party of 'Jim Crow' in the South, the 'Southern Strategy' was, above all, about winning the rural, white Southern vote into the Republican sphere.

"Attacking the Black movement as 'criminal' became the centerpiece of this strategy. Black political struggles, from civil rights to urban rebellions, were accused of creating a growing sense of chaos, disorder and crime in American cities. This was conveyed through perpetual references to 'urban crime' or 'urban disorder.' There were more banal appeals around 'urban problems,' but the inference was clear—Blacks were the cause."

This strategy was continued by Reagan, Clinton and the Bush Dynasty in their appeals to white racism with phrases like "welfare queens" (used by Reagan to justify cuts in social services) and the scare tactics used to pass a slew of Draconian laws aimed at urban Black and other youth of color like the "Three Strikes" laws and mandatory sentencing. In the 50 year period from 1919-1969 the rate of incarceration in the U.S. was remarkably stable at about 110 per 100,000. Then in April of 1970 the all white U.S. Congress passed the C.S.A. (Controlled Substance Act) which has turned out to be the greatest triumph of "Jim Crow" since the "Black Codes" of the Reconstruction Period. Not surprisingly, Nixon's "War on Drugs" came on the heels of COINTELPRO, the FBI's "Secret War" on the Black Panther Party and other leftist community-based liberation movements.

Since 1968, we have witnessed the militarization of the police, expanded powers of search and seizure, the reinstatement of the racist death penalty, gassings and mass arrests of demonstrators, widespread wiretapping and high-tech eavesdropping, "racial profiling," and the gross manipulation of the mass media. Police have adopted the black militarized uniforms reminiscent of the Nazi SS, created a massive network of "snitches," coerced witnesses and paid informers in every community, and regularly shoot down people in the street and use torture on those in custody with impunity.

Meanwhile, the gap between rich and poor has widened to pre-World War I levels. Social welfare programs have been cut and slashed to the bone, real wages have declined and so has the quality of public education and health care. The "Swing to the Right," has had devastating effects - not just on the Black community but on the country as a whole. Now we are in the grip of the worst economic crisis since the "Great Depression." In desperation Amerikan voters have turned to the most outspoken liberal in the U.S. Senate and elected him to be Amerika's first Black President. But all we hear voiced are promises to help out the "Middle Class" while bailing out Wall Street and the blood-sucking capitalist class and not a word about the poor or the imprisoned masses.

We don't invest on Wall Street, and we don't do business on Main Street. We live on the "Mean Streets," or get our mail via a prison post office box. A switch from "Neo-Cons" to "Neo-Liberals" in the White House and Congress does not improve our worsening situation. We need change alright, but putting "black faces in high places" doesn't alter the reality that poor Black people - and poor people generally - face in this country. What we need is socialist revolution to get this racist, militarist, capitalist-imperialist system off our backs.

Prisoners have a right to be treated with respect for their humanity. The causes of crime are rooted in the political-economic system, and who goes to prison under this system is primarily based on their class and race rather than their guilt or innocence. It has to do with how many workers are needed in production, the military and the service industries. The politicians pay lip service to the issue of "rehabilitation" and call their gulags a "correctional" system, but the reality is they are warehouses for surplus labor and plantations for the exploitation of slave labor, and if we don't do anything to prevent it, this depression will see a big increase in the imprisoned population - and mostly of Black and other people of color - not that we aren't just as concerned about the poor whites who get swept into the slave pens.

Immediately, we need to formulate a strategy and rally to build our unity and community-based people's power based on a program of "Survival Pending Revolution" and institute our own "Serve The People" survival programs. We need to unite to fight for our basic human and democratic civil rights – including rolling back the fascist police state legislation that has piled up over the past 40 years – and extend voting rights to all our people – including prisoners and others who have been convicted of a crime. We need to "End Slavery Now!"

The New Afrikan Black Panther Party & White Panther Organization (NABPP-WPO) prison chapters are putting forward the following demands and call upon all revolutionary, progressive and democratic peoples' organizations, collectives and individuals to join us in campaigning to press for their realization in this period:

1. **End the racist "War on Drugs"** - Legalize marijuana and adopt the "Dutch Program" for dealing with the drug problem.
2. **Amnesty for the POWs of the "Drug War"** - Free the people imprisoned for possession and drug-related offences, including those with non-related offences whose paroles were violated because of drug issues.
3. **End the racist death penalty and the sentence of "Life Imprisonment Without the Possibility of Parole."**
4. **Stop sentencing juveniles as adults** - and stop putting juvenile offenders in adult prisons.
5. **Abolish "Three Strikes" laws and end mandatory sentencing.**
6. **Ban "Super Max" prisons** - End special housing units based on sense deprivation and psychological torture.
7. **End physical, psychological and sexual abuse of prisoners** - Prosecute cases of misconduct by guards and staff that violate prisoner's human and democratic civil rights.
8. **End compulsory convict labor** - Extend full protection of minimum wage and occupational health and safety laws to prisoners.
9. **Stop censorship of prisoner's mail** - Prisoners have a right to communicate with each other and with political groups and to participate in political life without restriction.
10. **Abolish all restrictions on voting rights based on criminal convictions** - No incarceration without representation!
11. **Amend the 13th Amendment** - Strike the clause that perpetuates the status of "slave" to those convicted of a crime.
12. **Prisoners have a right to receive decent health care, nutritious food, and healthful exercise and to be housed in a clean and healthy environment. They have a right to receive rehabilitative services, to pursue educational goals, to practice their chosen religion and to work and receive useful vocational training. They have a right to personal safety and to be protected from assault, harassment and sexual exploitation by guards, staff or other inmates. They have a right to cultural and artistic expression, to conjugal visits and in general to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness within the context of the limitations imposed by their status as incarcerated citizens. The primary goal of incarceration should be positive resocialization and rehabilitation to effect successful reintegration into society.**



The Wind From Amerika

"It is my opinion that the international situation has now reached a new turning point. There are two winds in the world today, the East Wind and the West Wind. There is a Chinese saying, "Either the East Wind prevails over the West Wind or the West Wind prevails over the East Wind." I believe it is characteristic of the situation today that the East Wind is prevailing over the West Wind. That is to say, the forces of socialism have become overwhelmingly superior to the forces of imperialism."

Mao Tse-tung - Speech at the Moscow Meeting of Communist and Workers' Parties (November 18, 1957).

Unfortunately, even as Mao spoke these words to the delegates assembled in Moscow, the "Socialist Camp" was about to transform into its opposite, and in a few years he would be leading a life and death struggle to prevent capitalist restoration in People's China that would end with the overthrow of his comrades and supporters following his death. This great reversal has caused many good comrades to lose faith in Marxism

and the cause of world socialist revolution -- to surrender to and accommodate with imperialist neo-liberalism or trip off into Anarchism -- or just quit politics altogether.

The truth of the matter is that the international communist movement suffered from a cancer of subjective idealism regarding the nature of class struggle under socialism and how to go about waging it. This is not so surprising considering that they were breaking new ground and -- as it turned out -- the first socialist revolutions took place where capitalism's hold was weakest. We should be impressed at what they did accomplish and grateful for the advantage this gives us in building the next wave of socialist revolution.

Capitalist-imperialism was not as weak as Mao surmised in 1957, and still had a bag of tricks up its sleeve. Colonialism was dying, but neo-colonialism -- which primarily benefited the U.S. imperialists at the expense of the European colonial powers -- had a relatively easy time suckering in the newly emerging, socialist-leaning republics in the Third World with "Dollar Diplomacy" and loans they couldn't afford to refuse. "Keynesian economics" and its various revisions gave the capitalists more flexibility in staving off economic crisis and exporting it to the Third World countries. Neo-liberal strategies served to postpone the deathbed crisis of capitalism Marx and Lenin predicted while setting the stage for greater crisis to come. Globalization of the world economy -- at the same time -- is hastening the decline of the U.S. Empire.

We have reached a point now where -- according to the U.N. and the World Bank -- more than half the people on the planet are reduced to trying to live on less than \$2 a day, and the cost of food is rising along with the cost of fossil fuels as food crops are being diverted to produce government subsidized bio-fuels. Even before the stock market crash of 2008 hunger riots were sweeping across the Third World.

What stands out sharply and more clearly now than ever before -- for those who take the time and make the effort to investigate it -- is that we already have the advanced technological know-how and advanced productive forces to provide everyone on the planet with a decent standard of living, advanced health care and educational opportunities -- to wipe out hunger and people dying from preventable diseases -- and forever put an end to war by eliminating its causes. And the only thing preventing us from doing it -- making it impossible to do it -- is the capitalist-imperialist system.

This dysfunctional system based upon greed and the selfish interests of a small class of social parasites must be swept away in the interests of humanity. The capitalist-imperialist ruling class has brought forth Obama because they need to rally us to save their system and keep it going a little longer. The fundamental question we must ask ourselves is: "Why would we want to do that?" We can do humanity and our posterity a much greater service by ending it and replacing it with a political-economic system that is not based upon making profits for a few but upon meeting the needs of and providing a decent standard of living for all.

We can -- and must -- be our own liberators. We can -- and must -- take history into our own hands. Those of us who are on the bottom of this society, who are marginalized from this economy, for whom every day is a struggle for survival, can -- through our Panther Party and Movement -- act as a catalyst to the whole working class and oppressed people everywhere. By organizing ourselves within our communities -- and within our prisons -- and building our intercommunal unity and solidarity, by speaking truth to power, by standing up tall and defending our human and democratic civil rights and setting an example of socialist people's power, we can change the world.

Every journey begins with a single step. Every revolution begins with a determined few.

Dare to Struggle Dare to Win!

All Power to the People!

Let's Get the Party Started!

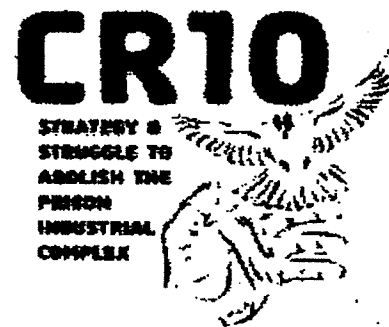


Black Panther Leader Goes On Hunger Strike

From breakfast Oct. 3rd until breakfast Oct. 24th, NABPP-PC Minister of Defense Kevin "Rashid" Johnson staged a hunger strike in protest of systematic violations of his human and democratic civil rights -- and most particularly interference with his mail. Comrade Rashid, who in an inmate at Virginia's notorious Red Onion State Prison, a "Super Max" facility, has been facing repeated delays in his federal law suit against the prison officials, who have obtained repeated postponements from the court.

Comrade Rashid has also been denied the right to meet with counsel of his choosing. The prison officials, who resorted to force-feeding Rashid through an intravenous tube, have agreed to resolve some of the issues -- including interference with his mail. You can show support and send the brother some love by writing him at:

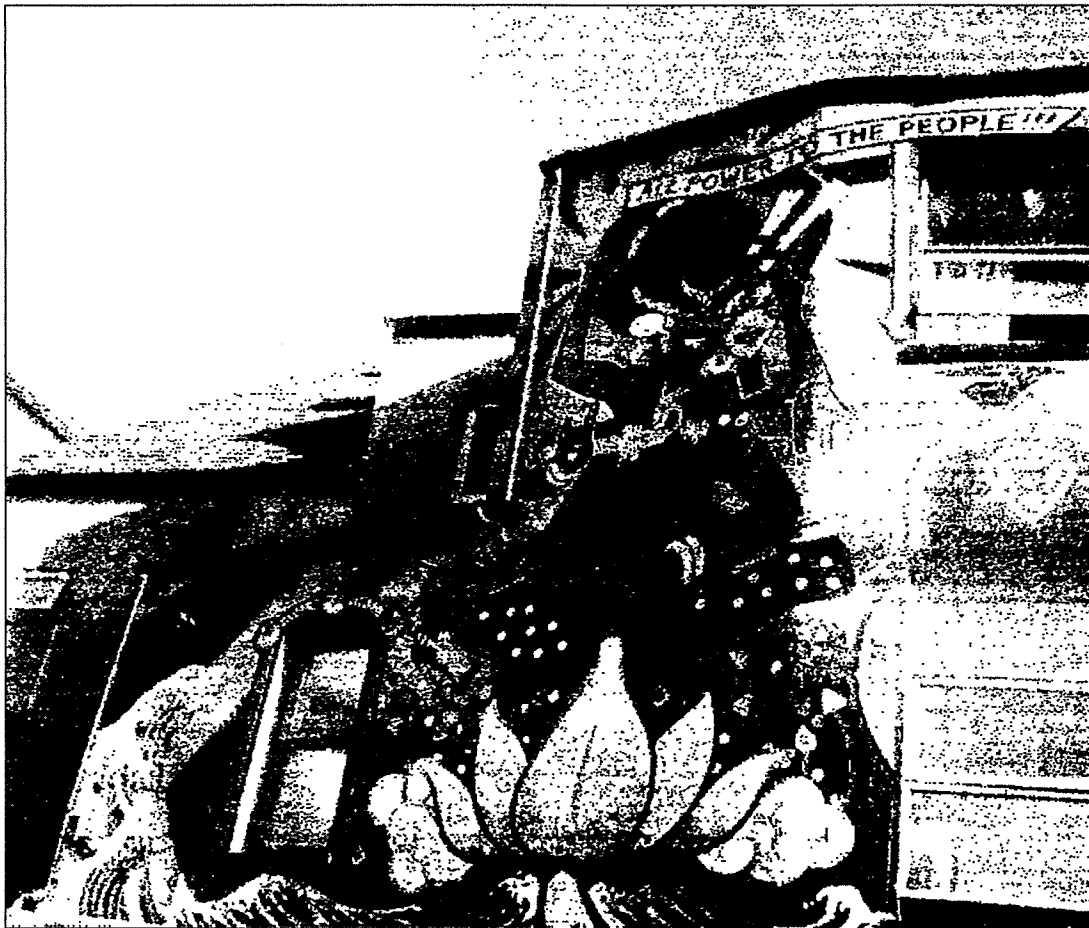
Kevin Johnson #185492
Red Onion State Prison
PO Box 1900
Pound, VA 24279



"Critical Resistance" to the Prison Industrial Complex

CR10 Conference Organizes to Abolish Prisons
From Sep 26 thru Sep 28, 2008

A national conference organized by Critical Resistance took place at Laney College. Critical Resistance seeks to build an international movement to end the Prison Industrial Complex by challenging the belief that caging and controlling people makes us safe. Critical Resistance's vision is the creation of genuinely safe, healthy communities that respond to harm without relying on prisons and punishment. Prisons and policing are destroying us. In the past two decades, the number of people in prison in the U.S. has risen 400%. The system is filled with 68% people of color. One in three Black males born today will end up in a cage. And an additional 4 million former prisoners in the U.S. are left without hope or resources - barred employment opportunities, disenfranchised, and often prohibited from getting federal loans, applying for public housing, or getting services. □



FORTY FOOT MOSAIC FOR INCARCERATED BLACK PANTHERS

Indybay Monday Aug. 25th, 2008

By Carrie Reichardt

A spectacular mosaic has been unveiled on the outside wall of a house in the West London suburb of Chiswick to raise awareness of African American men confined in the notorious Angola prison, Louisiana. The artwork, which took four months to create by a dedicated group of activist artists, decorates the home of street artist Carrie Richards, aka "The Barroness," and her partner.

The mosaic depicts the so-called Angola 3 - Herman Wallace, Albert Woodfox and Robert King - wrongfully convicted of murder at Angola prison in the 1970s and who subsequently spent decades in solitary confinement. Though Woodfox's conviction has been overturned, and Wallace's reconsidered, both men remain behind bars.

The extensive work is also dedicated to Kenny 'Zulu' Whitmore, who has similarly spent 33 years in confinement at Angola, where the majority of inmates are black and will die inside its walls.

"Zulu is a true warrior, Panther, a servant of the people. Like Herman, and I, he has fought for so long, unrecognized, unsupported! This must stop, just as all of the many freedom fighters, just to breathe, without any support, this must stop now!!! So many political prisoners, prisoners of war and prisoners of conscious, have sacrificed their lives, and freedoms, because they believed in the somehow, the people have stopped believing in them!" - Albert Woodfox

July 9th 2008 - The only freed member of the Angola 3, Robert King - released in 2001 after his murder conviction was overturned - attended the unveiling on June 21. One of the purposes of his stay in London was to promote the Free Zulu campaign. He spoke to a crowd of 150 artists and activists from the UK, Europe and US who have rallied around the causes of the Angola 3 and Zulu.

Robert King spoke to Zulu after the unveiling and Zulu said he now had hope in his heart. He received pictures of the unveiling and is overjoyed by the support reaching him from the UK."

Zulu is at a critical point in his legal case, but is currently without a lawyer. Those wanting to help him can go to his new website for information and you could always simply write to him;

Kenny Zulu Whitmore
86468 CCR, Upper C# 11
LA State Prison
Angola
LA 70712
USA



Comrade King



ICE Raids More Than a Dozen Bay Area Homes

On Wednesday, Oct. 22, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Office of Homeland Security raided more than a dozen homes in the San Francisco Bay Area sparking massive protests. Protestors surrounded the ICE building on Sansome. Several people locked down with weighted 55-gallon drums blocking both ends of the buildings driveway where detainees are unloaded.

Some 400 protesters were prevented from attending when BART police shut down the Fruitval Station in Oakland. Others were stopped by the shutdown of subway stations in Richmond and Coliseum – at least three protesters were arrested in Richmond. Some trains were delayed while others bypassed the closed stations.

San Francisco is a declared "sanctuary city" for undocumented immigrants, and many citizens were outraged by the actions of the federal enforcement agencies. The struggle will undoubtedly continue. □

Dare To Struggle! Dare To Win!

**NSC/NASO
Rising Sun Press
PO Box 4362
Allentown, PA 18105**