

What you can do:

Call, write and fax Acting Department of Corrections Commissioner Ed Cohen. Demand that the charges against the six prisoners be dropped and that no further disciplinary action be taken against them.

Commissioner Ed Cohen
E 334 Indiana Government Center South
302 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: 317-232-5715
FAX: 317-232-6798

Contact members of the Indiana Congressional Black Caucus and urge them to call for an investigation into the racial nature of the charges against these prisoners and the executions of Ziyon Yisrayah and Ajamu Nassor.

BLACK LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS
c/o Indiana House of Representatives
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Write to the charged prisoners to show your support and offer what help you can

Kopano Muhammad (s/n Vincent Hatchett) #25800
Shaka Shakur #28443

Sekou B. Majekodunmi (s/n Michael Ford) #855831

Akono G. Olatunji (s/n David Bellemey) #862113

Idrix Malik (s/n Kevin Holifield) #22275

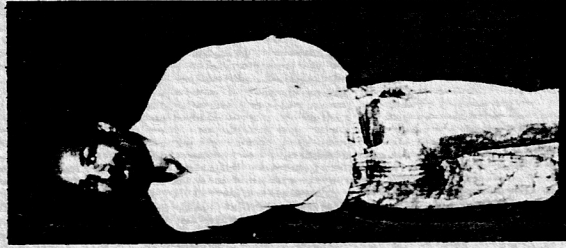
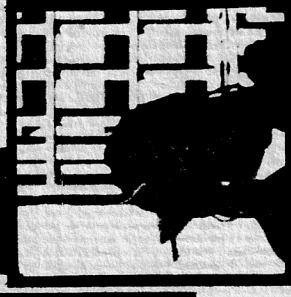
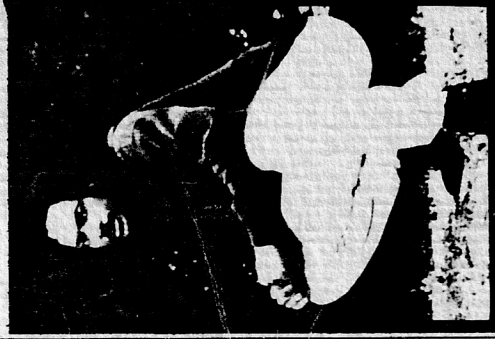
Anane Baye Camara (s/n Armen Sylvester) #16091

They have all been shipped to various control units in Indiana call the I.D.O.C. to find their location: (317) 232-5715

For More Information Contact:

BCAC • P.O. Box 93312 • Milwaukee, WI 53203
blast@csd.uwm.edu

who are the INDIANA SIX



"IN DE STORM"

July 18th, 1996, 12:00 midnight

There came a storm. A storm that rocked de tombs of Michigan City Prisons disciplinary segregation unit and "X-Row" (death row) that was so profound and so heartfelt that mere words are too inadequate to express de electricity that flowed throughout de dark cave.

Convicts, particularly Afrikan men, expressed our Blak rage in solidarity against de racist murder of our Brotha and comrad Ziyon Yisrayah by de neokolonialist state. As it stormed inside de tombs, so too did it storm outside. For de Blak Motha called "Universe", was also found meaning de murder of her souljah. With every kick and pounding We gave to de rusty bars before Us, came thunder from de universe; with every spark of Blak rage from our hearts, came deep flashes of lightning from Motha - then came de rain.

As We grieved de best way We knew how, de whole earth seemed to shake. Soon you could not tell de difference between our grief and de universes! Her pain was our pain! Her rain and our tears were inseparable. We had all become one-verse (uni-verse).

I recall wondering as I kicked and shook de bars, if Ziyon could hear or feel us. Diz made me put all my energy into it, b'cuz I wanted him to hear and feel us, inspite of distance between Us and de murder room. I remembered comrad Ajamu Nasser, Ziyon's rapy, whom de fascist pigs had murdered in December of 94, and de storm grew. You could feel de pain from de westside of sep. and even from beneath us in X-Row. It was as if We were trying to send a message out to Ziyon and We were all writing with de same pen. De message read: "We lov you Bro, and We will continue to struggle for liberation. Your blood and de blood of those before you will not go unavenged! For diz is de day of de guerrilla - de final call!"

Ziyon was pronounced dead at 1:21 A.M. by de imperialist state, but de people pronounce him forever alive. There is no doubt in my mind that Ziyon got our message or felt our lov for him. Nope, no doubt at all.....for it was written in de storm.

Abolish de death penalty
Free all P.P./P.O.W.'s

Uhuru Sasali
Mangwiro A. Sadiki



'In remembrance of Ziyon Yisrayah'

Let his last words forever be written upon our hearts:

"All that is necessary for evil to prevail, is for man to do nothing"

We the undersigned demand that all charges be dropped against those targeted by the Indiana Department of Corrections on frame-up charges of conspiracy to riot and threatening. These charges stem from the panic and paranoia of the Indiana Department of Corrections officials preparing to execute Ziyon Yisrayah and are not based on any factual evidence.

DROP THE CHARGES!!

A Job is a Right Campaign, Antifa Info-Bulletin, Big Sky Software, Blacks United to Save the Hood, The Blast, Brew City Anti-Authoritarian Collective, Campaign to End the Death Penalty - Madison, Claustrophobia ABC, Crossroad, Equal Justice USA, Friends of MOVE, Gary Peoples Justice Committee, The HIV/AIDS in Prison Project of Catholic Charities, Fred Chase - General Secretary Treasurer Industrial Workers of the World, Let Mumia Live Coalition - Madison, Minneapolis ABC, MOVE, National Prisoners Legal Front, Hal Pepinsky Professor of Criminal Justice - Indiana University, Prison Justice Project, Prison News Service, RASH Indiana, Settlers In Support of Indigenous Sovereignty, Shaka Shakur Defense Committee, Sisters By Choice, Spear & Shield Support Network, Texas Coalition Against the Death Penalty, Wisconsin CURE, Bob Witaneck - New Jersey Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty*, Workers World Party, and more....

* org for id purpose



Mangwiro Sadiki (s/n James Malone) #913752: Received one year segregation sentence after initial Indiana 10 investigation. Also lost 90 days good time and was dropped in time class further post-poning his release.



Bobby Peck #865349: Received one year disciplinary segregation sentence for possession of a supposed weapon after being cleared of conspiracy to riot and threatening charges.



Malik Umoja "Fíraun": Received a one year segregation sentence after initial investigation for possessing a supposed mask.



Lorenzo L. Stone-Bey #10006: transferred to Indiana Reformatory predator unit after being found not guilty. P.O. Box 30 • Pendleton, IN 46064

Herman Averhart #900086: transferred to Indiana Reformatory predator unit after being found not guilty. (photo n/a) P.O. Box 30 • Pendleton, IN 46064

Kuumba (s/n Robert Carrington) #875749: Being transferred to Wabash Correctional Institution after being found not guilty. (photo n/a)

NO RIGHT TO SPEAK!

Political repression in Indiana knows no bounds

On 5-27-96, Memorial Day, the top half of D-Cell House (D-CH), approximately 150 prisoners of all nationalities ate their afternoon meal in complete silence to protest the planned premeditated murder of an innocent man, Ziyon Yisrayah (s/n Tommie Smith), that was initially scheduled for June 14, 1996.

The following day I was kidnapped out of D-CH and brothers Baye and Akono were kidnapped out of C-CH. All three of Us were placed in the hole under investigation for "encouraging others to demonstrate". All of Our personal property was seized and taken to the investigators office where all Our personal letters, papers, etc. were read, copied etc. and the state thus began its conspiracy to arrest over 15 New African (Black) men and charge 10 of them on trumped up charges of conspiracy to disrupt the scheduled murder/execution of Ziyon.

On 6-6-96 in the wee hours of the morning 10 New African prisoners from all over this maximum security prison were snatched out of their beds by Nazi style D.O.C. SWAT teams, made to wait 4 hours, some handcuffed behind their backs, then stripped searched, placed in bright red jumpsuits and draped in chains. As We were being placed into single file under the threat of kkkops in black fatigues, combat boots, with UZI machine guns, Glock 9mms, stun guns and pepper spray mace We were told We were being moved to the maximum control complex (supermax) in order to "keep the peace".

As We were made to march single file through the administration building at the height of roll call the D.O.C. propaganda campaign was set in motion and the attempt to kkkriminalize and dehumanize Us had begun. As 10 African men were marched in chains single file, 6 of Us with lengthy dreadlocks, We ran into the fearful and hateful stares and gawking by secretaries, rows of more kkkops, counselors, etc. only to step outside into a full military operation of K-9s, visitors and employees cordoned off to the side walks by UZI and Glock carrying kkkops. As traffic was blocked while We were thrown into two vans under the watchful eyes of the overseer/warden, the message to be conveyed was that these 10 shackled and chained Black men are dangerous animals. We must protect you from these kind of people. The D.O.C. played upon and manipulated the racist fears of people and fed into the racist images that every major news broadcast projects of African people in society. Black men are dangerous and it must take Us white men to control them!

After reaching Our destination We experienced no better treatment then what Our ancestors received upon their arrival to amerika. Instead of racists with whips, it was racist kkkops in fatigues with foot long clubs with steel tips itching to crush Our skulls. Instead of an auction block, it was an empty cell stripped of its furniture where We were forced to spread Our buttocks, lift and pull out Our bottom & top lips, stick Our tongues out, lift Our scrotums and raise Our arms and show the bottoms of Our feet. Those with dreadlocks told to fold and bend them as you were thrown into a shower and given cups of disinfectant and told to make sure you put some in your hair. Of course any racist can tell you that dreadlocks are nasty, dirty and have bugs in them! Refuse any of these commands and you risk being attacked by 5 kkkops dressed in hockey gear with bullet proof vests and clubs.

Why were We all being subjected to this? Because We dared speak out against the premeditated murder of an innocent man. Because We as New African men dared reclaim Our humanity and transform Our kkkriminal mentality and reject the

kkkriminal attempts by this sick system and society to have Us mentally deranged, morally depraved and socially backwards.

Do prisoners have a right to express outrage at a decision made by the state to kill an innocent man? Do we as human beings suppose to be denied of all human emotion and feelings because we are prisoners? Do we not have the right to be critical of the state when it plans to take one of us into a cold sterile room, strap us to a gurney and stab us all over our bodies with needles so they can inject us with their poison cocktail? That is how they did Ziyon Yisrayah on 7-18-96 as they stood cold and heartless behind curtains with clip boards in hand taking notes of every twitch and last gasp of breath. Genocidal murder made into an art form!

On 6-18-96 the state of Indiana informed the 10 of us that we have no right to speak and they did so by charging all 10 of us with "attempts to riot" and "threatening". Seeing that it was insufficient to keep us from speaking out to expose the criminal conspiracy of the state and its agency, the D.O.C., they dropped those charges and moved to cover up their attempts to frame us and conceal the political nature of this repression. Returning two weeks later to charge us with "Conspiracy to Riot" and "Threatening". Moving to kkkriminalize us by labeling us as gang leaders and members. Charging us with being spokespersons of revolutionary groups opposed to premeditated murder.

After being moved back to the Indiana State Prison on 7-3-96 and given a few punches and shoves on the way up in the elevator to the lock up unit, the D.O.C. launched a full scale attack to convict us. To send a message to the other 1,600 prisoners here. You have no right to speak! Stand up and we shall knock you down with trumped up charges! Refuse to be terrorized into silence, refuse to be terrorized into complicity with premeditated murder and we will brutalize and torture you.

As we uncovered evidence and documentation that the investigator outright hid in his report and manufactured evidence. Our staff witnesses who were to testify on our behalf were threatened and brought up on charges by the Internal Affairs Dept. for "breaking security" and "fraternizing with inmates". As we tried to prepare a defense the D.O.C. refused to give us our personal property and legal materials. As we tried to alert people on the streets to the repressive and unethical conduct of the D.O.C. all our incoming and outgoing mail started being delayed for weeks at a time. As we persisted and still uncovered more evidence that the charges were false and evidence manufactured. As we continued to collect statements from staff who outright contradicted or refuted the lies the investigator attributed to them the D.O.C. moved to remove our lay advocate (prison type lawyer) off our cases and rush us to disciplinary hearings.

Beginning on 7-22-96 to 7-24-96, less than a week after they returned Ziyon for approximately 80 minutes before putting him to death. We went to court and they carried out another execution. As we introduced our evidence, poked holes in the states case, we were told "I have to find you guilty" and that he did. Convicting six of us and finding four not guilty of all charges. Now how can 10 people be conspiring to riot and six be guilty and four not? I'll tell you how. Because the six convicted are the same politically developed and outspoken of the ten. The six have a rich history of organizing and educating other prisoners. And 5 out of the 6 have lengthy dreadlocks.

i was given a total of 4 years, Akono 5 years, Baye 3 years, Idris 1 year, Kopano 1 year, and Sekou 3 years. All to be served in a supermax torture chamber. Why? For daring to speak out. For daring to raise our voices against the death merchants of Indiana. For taking a stance against inhumanity for the next several years we

criminal colonial mentality into a revolutionary mentality, I have always been the target of one or another of the colonialist states machines of repression. So I was not surprised or shocked when this latest attack occurred, psychologically and physically I was prepared to undergo the sensory deprivation I knew was coming when I made the firm commitment to challenge the ill-legitimacy of the colonialist-imperialist u.s.a. and all of its manifestations, so as a revolutionary New African Muslim I am not a stranger to colonial state violence under the disguise of "keeping the peace" Amerika has a history of concealing its evil wicked crimes against humanity an non humanity by always blaming the victims as being the criminals. Thus, it is very important that we recognize this as a struggling and oppressed Nation. The trickery used by the oppressors to justify their continued domination + subjugation of the oppressed people of the world, and the exploitation of the worlds resource, and the murdering of our freedom fighters, I say that to say this: the daily resistance of our oppressed and colonized people in every field of our struggle is a result of colonialism and in each encounter, whether it be peaceful or military, our beautiful strong courageous brothers/sisters have been criminalized by the criminals/the u.s. government, and assassinated by the same. After being brought up on trumped up charges and shipped off to some remote laboratory called M.C.C. or death row as with the case of Ziyon - who is innocent and the evidence proves this fact. We have not accepted these lies without questioning its quarters, so in continuation of those who represent a historical contradiction with amerikas foreign and alien domination and subjugation of people of color in general and New Africans in particular, in the spirit of their voice I still say to wicked amerika: you are illegal, you have no right to continue to kill innocent people or try anyone in your racist and evil courts, you have no right to apply any laws, and no right to make any because you are not a government that governs by consent, but rather a one that reigns by murder, lies and more murder

"We must continue to struggle together, because if there is no struggle, there is no progress, if there is no resistance to oppression there will be no progress towards revolution to overthrow it."

your brother in struggle
Kopano Fard Muhammad #25800

IT DOESN'T STOP AT SIX

Along with the profiles of the six men facing repression by the Indiana D.O.C. in connection with the states execution/murder of Ziyon Yisrayah - more are under investigation, charged and found not guilty yet still facing disciplinary action, or remaining locked down. While the six men that you just read about received the initial blows from the state it is important that we support all of the men implicated in this frame-up.

If you're still asking yourself why you should support any of these men consider this: all of them have histories within the Indiana prison system, histories of standing up for human dignity histories of fighting for the basic human rights that should be given to all but are routinely denied to those locked up in america's prisons. They have histories of helping to transform others from criminal lifestyles to progressive ones. They are men who have committed such criminal act behind the bars as studying to better themselves, struggling to find ways to heal and reconstruct their lives in an atmosphere that does its best to try and kill their spirit and will. They are facing this repression for these reasons - not because of any conspiracy to riot. The conspiracy is amongs those in the I.D.O.C.

prison administration at Indiana State Prison have targeted myself and others for isolation and disciplinary action. This is a cowardly attempt to hold back the growing emergence of a responsible, progressive minded prisoners in general, and a self-determining African prisoner in particular. Why? You may ask! Well in the interest of portraying our brother Ziyon Yisrayah (Tommie Smith) as a sadistic cop killer they feel the need to criminalize, invalidate, and taint any support that he may have, and the thought of youthful African prisoners acknowledging the commonality of their plight with Bro Ziyon was more than they could bear. So in motion went the conspiracy to hold back this tide by snatching ten of us and forcing us into the Maximum Control Complex. This was followed by locking down the prison and instituting mass reclassification that brought about honor dorms and harsher treatment for any prisoner sensitive to the need to organize around conditions etc. This is a subtle if not brazen attempt to establish classism in the prison and foster divisions along personal interests. But I stand committed to the ideals of self-determination, liberation and the developing of a new man that's responsible to his community and its needs.

So here I sit forever conscious of the need to keep struggling, sacrificing, and teaching no matter the cost, keenly aware that the task is now, inside and outside. It must be said that the silence of the black community on the issue of prison conditions and the treatment of prisoners should be a concern of priority. And I ask for the extended community at large to hold accountable those that are hired, elected, etc. as administrators.

The snatching of ten African prisoners and the conspiracy of state prison officials to assassinate our character is a part of the systematic oppression of black people everywhere. This personal profile is an appeal to whom ever reads it to "come in from the cold" of indifference and let your voices be heard.

The "state sanctioned murder" of Ziyon Yisrayah has been carried out but there must not be any turning back of the collective efforts of the many prisoners committed to breaking free of the mental, emotional and physical slavery that was ordained upon them by a society of genocidal oppressors.

Not one step backward. Anane Baye Camara - Rev. Afrikan Internationalist

UHURU:

My name is Kopano Fard Muhammad. I was born and raised in colonialist Amerika under the colonial name Vincent Hatchett.

On June 6, 1996 under the cover of darkness, while I was in my rest, several colonialist agents dressed in nazi clothing snatched me from my assigned cage, made me strip butt naked, forced me to wear a red death row jumpsuit, handcuffed and shackled me along with 9 other freedom loving New Afrikan prisoners was marched in military fashion before some 20 bystanders under heavy armed guards showcasing an array of weapons of human destruction.

After the oppressors auctioning off their false perceived power of control over the oppressed, we were all shipped to M.C.C., one of many of the colonialist state neutralizing chambers. All this was done to "keep the peace" in connect to the contract murder that was to be carried out against brother Ziyon Yisrayah.

Since coming into the knowledge of self, kind and others, and transforming my

shall be buried alive in a supermax prison. Denied all human contact with other prisoners, subjected to social isolation and sensory deprivation. Locked down in an all white cage with a 24 hours shining light for 23 hours a day.

People of Indiana is allowed to single out New Afrikan prisoners who are politically conscious and active because they spoke out. If the D.O.C. is allowed to frame Us on bogus charges with no outcry from the public and the political community it will set an ugly and dangerous precedent. It will send the signal to the D.O.C. that you can single out Afrikan men for torture and brutalization whenever they dare question the barbarity of the state. It will signal to the thousands of politically conscious and active prisoners that if you take a stance and are attacked We will not support you. We will not show solidarity with you. We took a stance because Our consciousness dictated that We do so. We are not slaves to be shackled, beaten, strapped to gurneys and be pumped full of poison and say nothing! We are not beasts to be strapped to electric chairs to be fried until Our eyes pop from Our heads as the D.O.C. did to Ajamu Nassor on 12-8-94.

We refuse to allow a racist and genocidal system to systematically destroy and murder Us and say nothing! We got a right to speak! To shout! and if necessary to scream!

Support Us because tomorrow it could be you or someone you love strapped to that gurney or electric chair. It could be you who speak out only to be terrorized and tortured. The D.O.C. must not be allowed to use Us as examples to the thousands of other prisoners, must not be allowed to carry on its racist tradition of singling out New Afrikan prisoners for persecution because they are political. They must not be allowed to terrorize into silence the hundreds of young New Afrikan men who are slowly throwing off the chains of a slave and parasitical kkkriminal mentality to reclaim their humanity. Take a stance on Our behalf and the countless others. Take a stance because We did! Demand that these charges be dropped! Demand an investigation into why 10 New Afrikan men were snatched out of 1,600 prisoners and not one white prisoner was placed under investigation! Demand an investigation into the racially stereotypical comments of warden Al Parke that he is targeting "Black Gangs" and revolutionary leadership. Don't white gangs exist at ISP?!

Demand an investigation into why Ziyon Yisrayah was tortured for 80 minutes before being murdered and why did the D.O.C. try to cover up such torture by sending his body to a local funeral home to be embalmed against the wishes of his family.

Give Us Freedom or Give Us Death!
Shaka Shakur on behalf of the Indiana Six



Greetings:

My name is Shaka Shakur. I am a politically active and inclined prisoner confined within the Indiana Department of Corrections (I.D.O.C.). I am serving a 30 year sentence for attempted robbery. I was first arrested when I was 16 years old and have since served approximately 14 years.

In the 14 years of my captivity I have taken the responsibility of educating myself and heightening my social consciousness. As a result of the development of such consciousness I have embarked upon the mission of helping to educate many of my fellow prisoners, many of whom are youth.

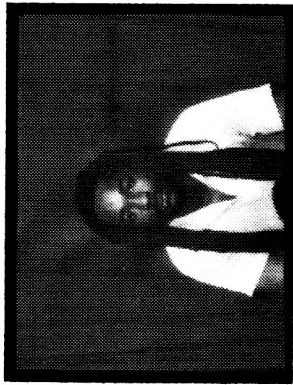
Since my development I have been responsible for working with a multitude of outside political, cultural and human rights organizations including Amnesty International. I have worked with several outside progressive attorneys to expose and challenge the inhumane conditions we are held in and the racist practices and policies of the I.D.O.C. that are primarily aimed at African prisoners.

I sincerely believe that the above political activities led to my targeting by the I.D.O.C. and subsequent charging of "Conspiracy to Riot" and "Threatening" along with nine other African prisoners. In Indiana it is a crime for African prisoners to take responsibility for themselves, to attempt to transform their criminal and predatorial mentalities. The I.D.O.C. would have us remain ignorant and a liability to our communities. To break out of that tradition is to set yourself up to be framed, murdered or generally persecuted. It is the proverbial "upity ni—er stay in your place" syndrome that the I.D.O.C. employs.

I have never participated in any forms of rioting, take overs, etc. in the 14 years I have been imprisoned.

Is it a crime in Amerika to be political? Apparently it is within the I.D.O.C. We seek your assistance and support.

In Struggle,
Shaka Shakur



To whom it may concern,

My name is Sekou B. Majekodunmi #855831 and I'm presently being housed on the eastside of IDU 1E2 at the Indiana State Prison. This is due to the fact that I've been charged along with nine other convicts with charges of conspiring to riot and threatening.

These charges are really not due to any conspiracy theory which this investigation leads one to believe, it's really based on who's who at this prison. One only has to look at the charges to see that they're outrageous and for this investigator to try and place one in this so-called conspiracy only goes to show that his office is the once that's been conspiring in this case. Just take a look at the way I've been charged in this case for instance, I've been charged with the



historical practice of singling out and isolating potential leadership, by harassing me and eventually classifying me to be placed on the Maximum Restraint Unit (M.R.U.). It was on this unit that I experienced the low-intensity warfare and behavior modification technique to destroy my political consciousness, however; when you become politically conscious there is no other alternative behavior, treatment or pacification method acceptable to change you or the object reality of oppression, but revolution... and that is uncompromising drastic change. To punish me for my political work and resistance to state violence the prisonrats used an agent provocateur to file charges of CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT MURDER and ATTEMPTED MURDER on myself and three other inspiring revolutionaries against the agent provocateur who is responsible for the contract hit put on Ndugu Ziyyon and the state sponsor murder of Ndugu Ajamu Nassor on December 8 of 1994 which is not forgotten. We were found guilty by an all white jury, receiving sentences of thirty years and one received eighty, and the struggle continues... UMKHONTO WE SIZWE (Born of the people).

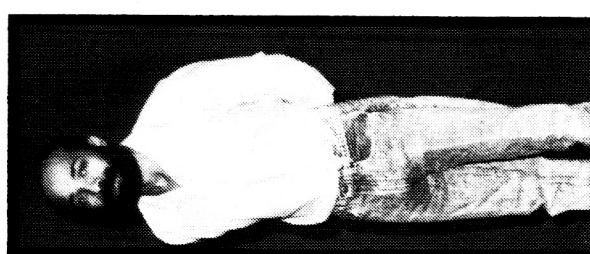
My resistance to the state sponsor murder of Ndugu Ziyyon is rooted in Historical Consciousness. We must understand that the state of Indiana is an illegitimate colonialist state as is the much larger base upon which it stands - THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. In 1816 when Indiana became a state of America, We Africans was slaves; In 1851 when it (Indiana) formed its constitution, We Africans was SLAVES and considered by its parent constitution as 3/5 human beings! America has made no attempt to DECOLONIALIZE its borders. We are still engaged in an anti-colonialist anti-imperialist war and do not have a right to control our own destiny, nor do we have any real or meaning authority in the LAW, POLICY or DECISIONS concerning our lives. This government was not founded on the principles of JUSTICE and EQUALITY, but rather GENOCIDE! I do not apologize for the struggle I am a part of because it is the only legitimate war that is being waged.

This attack by the petty paid assassins of the white ruling class is only a continuation of the counterinsurgency of the 60s against all African people and oppressed people. In the words of Ndugu George Jackson "If I AM GUILTY OF ANYTHING, IT IS OF NOT BEING HARDER ON THE ENEMY." POWER TO THE PEOPLE!
Idrix Abdul Malik

Uhuru!

My name is Anane Baye Camara (Armen Sylvester). I'm a conscious African prisoner and also one of the ten brothers the state of Indiana has sought to attack in what they call a move to "keep the peace". I'm 36 years old, raised on the ugly streets of the ghetto colony known as Chicago, IL. I came to prison at the age of 18, serving a total of 92 years. Through the support of family and revolutionary comrades I have been able to arrest a reactionary attitude of exploitation, drug use, and misguided frustration. All of which characterize the plight of many oppressed youth throughout this capitalist country and representative of a colonial mentality.

My 18 years of imprisonment has seen me make the qualitative leap from confusion to that of an African man committed to reversing the destruction that has many if not all prisoners within its clutches. Because of these efforts the



outrage concerning our plight.

As prisoners we realize that our civil rights are not as extensive as non-prisoners, however, it is my belief that when taking a position on an issue as emotional and controversial as the death penalty can literally lead to one being corralled from his bed in the middle of the night by paramilitary special teams brigades, and then chained and shackled and shipped to the infamous Maximum Control Complex, as was done in our case, represents blatant repression of human rights. Then to add insult to injury I was charged with two Class A and a Class B conduct report in an effort to justify their aggression against us - this is something that any and all truth-seeking, non-biased parties should be concerned with.

Neither myself nor the other nine prisoners have committed any of the offenses we've been charged with in relation to this case, but without your help we will all suffer a grave injustice - say no to political persecution for both you & us.

Akono G. Olatunji

Uhuru Sasa;

My name is Idris Malik, however, the prison officials like to maintain that colonial relation by referring to my slave name Kevin Hollifield.

On June 6, 1996 in a pre-dawn, paramilitary nazi style raid, I was removed from my assigned cage, handcuffed and shackled along with nine other ndugu's, we were paraded before various people under heavy armed corruption officials to two awaiting vans, our destination to one of America's torture chambers Maximum Control Complex (M.C.C.). This kidnapping was the result of an elaborate scheme by prisonocrats to silence and alienate us from the growing support and work being done to stop the state sponsor murder of ndugu Ziyon Yisrayah.

I was snatched from the ghet-colony of Indiana in 1980 at the age of sixteen, put in prison with a lumpen mentality; This is a mentality that has no loyalty to self or others. Instead it strives for money and materialistic opportunities advertised by the oppressor. In 1982 I took a progressive step in my own education and began to study comparative history, African history about pre-colonial civilizations, destruction wrought by kidnapping, forcible dispersal and enslavement by; as well, imperialism and colonialism. I studied the contemporary resistance represented by Malcolm X, the Black Panther Party, the Black Liberation Army, the Republic of New Afrika, and the Black Liberation Movement in general. Through my studies, I came to understand that all Black people are African people and are a part of a single national entity, and that we were colonized and enslaved and forced under domestic colonialism to live in America where our labor is exploited for economical purposes and political advantages. It was inside the colonialist Indiana prison system, I began my contribution in fighting imperialist and colonialist ideology. I adopted the revolutionary ideology and began to fight theoretically and practically in raising the consciousness of other prisoners about their history and most of all prison conditions and confinement. Due to my political work, the prisonocrats following a



nickname I came to prison with over eleven years ago. The name I was committed under is not "Mickey", it's Michael and yet I've been charged under that name. It's because it ties me in as being a gang leader. However, they make no reference to my becoming Muslim and legally changing my name on July 20, 1994. This is done to make officers and others at this institution fear me because of past assaults that I've had on officers seven years ago. Plus, they wish to use my past history of being involved in gangs as to say that I'm a known leader. But I realize it's not about me being involved in any gang, it's about me being capable of leading ones that has them so afraid. It's about me becoming conscious and speaking out against the injustice that's taking place at this prison. No it's far more of a threat to them that I'm no longer criminal minded, but that I'm striving to make conscious decisions not just for myself but for all oppressed people as a whole.

You see, as long as I was gang related they realized that I was assisting in their cause because I saw my brother's as the enemy instead of who the true enemy was. Now if they choose to charge me with this case and attempt to find me guilty for being associated with comrades such as Shaka, Baye, Akono and many others, then so be it. These brother's have been an inspiration as well they helped me in my development of consciousness. If that association makes them or anyone else out to be guilty or a threat, then those that feel that way need to ask themselves what they are doing to make brother's speak out against the injustice of ones action.

Therefore, shipping us to prisons all over Indiana won't stop ones from speaking out against the murdering of innocent comrade such as Ziyon. It just makes our voice that much louder.

Continue to Build,
Sekou B. Majekodunmi #855831

JUST SAY NO!!!

My name is Akono G. Olatunji. I'm 29 years old, Black, and in prison - an all too common profile for many young Black males in Amerikkka. But while this unfortunate truth is readily available to Amerikkka's public, what is not so readily available is the truth as it relates to the pressures, persecutions, and sometimes prosecutions of Black prisoners who dare to undertake the task (neglected by the state) of rehabilitating ourselves.

As strange as it may sound to some the fact is that the very institutions designated to correct the anti-social thought pattern and likewise behavior, is in fact punishing those of us who have opted to change our criminal disposition to one of responsible, up-right Black men.

One such situation has arose here at the Indiana State Prison involving myself and nine other Black prisoners. We have been singled out for persecution for merely having an opinion about the death penalty and it is unjustly being applied in the case to Tommie 'Ziyon' Smith. On 5/20/96 I.S.P. administrators launched a full scale 'COINTELPRO' like investigation that has since led to such unprecedented, harsh and punitive treatment of myself and the other nine prisoners that communities and progressive organizations nation-wide have been compelled to call, fax, and send letters to voice their

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Reflections

12:37 PM 7-17-96

Today is the day that a comrade, a brother and friend name Ziyon Yisrayah is scheduled to be murdered. As i sit at my make ship desk of cardboard, sitting a top a folded mattress drafting motion after motion in an attempt to defeat the bogus charges of conspiracy to riot and threatening, my head is filled with thoughts of my brother, friend and comrade.

As i sit here with my ear phones in listening to soft melodies of jazz drifting through my brain, as i sit in this sweltering cage on lock up in 90 degree weather trying to catch a breeze from the window, my thoughts are filled with thoughts of my brother, friend and comrade.

Thoughts such as damn man i wonder what you thinking right now. What are you feeling? What's your state of mind? People, how does a person prepare for a certain death? Tell me, for i would like to know. Have you ever been in that kind of situation before? Can you imagine what it is like to know beyond a doubt that in so many hours or days that you were going to be murdered and it wasn't a damn thing you could do about it? What would you do? How would you handle it? Most of all, could you handle it? Yes, think about it.

As i sit here i gaze through the bars at the many filled sack lunches strewn across the floor, thrown and rejected by approximately 104 men of all nationalities housed on this lock up unit, who refused to eat for the next 2 days in protest of premeditated murder. i think about the sacrifice these men are making who have been on total lockdown for 47 days only receiving two cold sack lunches a day. i think about the sacrifice they have made knowing that many are hungry after being subjected to a starvation diet for over 40 days. i think about the sacrifice they have made. And then any thoughts return back to my/Our brother, friend and Comrade Ziyon and the larger sacrifice he has made. A sacrifice no greater.

Because he chose to fight for his people, because he chose principle over compromise and opportunism, because he was born New Afrikan in a sick and racist society he will be murdered tonight. Could you make such a sacrifice?

As i sit here reflecting with simmering rage i listen to the silence of the unit and the whisper of oppression. Quiet because approximately 104 men refuse to speak for the next 2 days in protest of premeditated murder. Hearing nothing but an occasional shout/ alarm of "One time!" warning others that a kop, a potential murderer is in the area on patrol.

As i sit here thinking and observing this New Afrikan womyn kop who goes out of her way to be liberal rationing out toilet paper, she seems so far removed from today's scheduled events. As she leans over with a smile to place two rolls of toilet paper in the cell door, her eyes show she does not overstand why i do not acknowledge her, do not acknowledge her smile. In my mind i ask her what if it was your brother, friend and comrade who just two floors below was scheduled to be murdered? Would you be so quick to smile, to flirt? Would you be so far removed from this reality in which you find yourself?

i often think about the kops who try to befriend Us and yet are a part of the death squad/execution team and you never knowing it. Imagine being on death row and befriend a kop who secretly belonged to the death squad, who was secretly conspiring to help murder you and you never know it until the last night of your life when he approaches the cage you in with handcuffs in hand and says "It's time". How would that make you feel And yet they charge me and my brothers with conspiring to riot! Conspiracy to stop a premeditated murder!

As i sit here i think about the last time i got a chance to see and talk with Ziyon. The last day i got a chance to reach out and firmly grasped the brothers hand and say "Man We love you" "All the Comrades send their love", as the fascist negro pig cherry stood beside him smirking with a glint of laughter in his eyes.

i think about this saturday on July 13th as i sat in a 2 by 3 foot sweltering non-contact visiting booth, visiting with a comrade from BCAC through bullet proof glass with thick steel bars across the front of it. This sweltering booth with the solid steel door with slit window and 6 by 6 inch hole set in the middle of it and red telephone. In my minds eye i see the symbolism of this day as 40 to 50 friends, comrades, allies and supporters demonstrated at the front prison gate demanding the reopening of Ziyon's case and the dismissal of the bogus charges filed against myself and a total of 12 others. i reflect on the quiet strength of Comrade Ziyon as i looked into his eyes. The facial expression of quiet determination and yet showing traces of the tremendous pressure he was facing. i remember struggling for the right words to say, struggling over my words and immediately feeling stupid and self-critical when i asked "brother how are you doing?" Trying to catch the words too late and trying to change in mid-sentence to "brother how are you holding up?" But as always the brothers was understanding and came back with a reply of strength.

Damn!

People the price of our lives must increase. Burning candles have never saved any of Us and burning candles over Our corpses have never stopped the next one from being murdered. As you sit in the comfort of your homes and return back to you "normal" lives, put yourself in Ziyon's place and ask yourself if it was you what would you want someone on the streets to do for you?

Just as comrade Ajamu Nassor's, murdered by the state on 12-8-94, spirit continues to live and inspire Us so shall comrade Ziyon's. Brother, friend and Comrade from those of Us who cared and gave a damn may you rest in peace.

The Struggle Continues!!
Shaka Shakur



(above photo is of Ziyon Ishwa Yisrayah)