

# LINKS WITHOUT CHAINS

Dear Open Road,

Greetings of solidarity. Thank you for sending me Open Road. My name is Susan Rosenberg and I am an anti-imperialist political prisoner. I have spent the last 20 months in the high-security unit of the Lexington Federal Prison, the small group isolation unit for political prisoners. In May of this year as the struggle for human rights in the US has grown, and we are beginning to thaw out as the Reagan administration takes its last gasp -- I and 5 other revolutionary anti-imperialists were indicted in a conspiracy and bombing case. We are charged with bombing the US capitol in response to the US invasion of Grenada.

I am enclosing a brief statement from us. We will send you more materials as they become available. Please send me your paper. I don't have any money to pay for a subscription but when I do I will send some.

Venceremos,  
Susan Rosenberg  
anti-imperialist  
political prisoner  
233-412  
CD Facility  
1901 D Street SE  
Washington, DC 20003

## Statement from "Resistance Conspiracy Case" Defendants July 1988

On May 11, 1988 we were indicted for seeking "to influence, change and protest policies and practices of the United States government concerning various international and domestic matters through the use of violent and illegal means." The indictment charges us with conspiracy and with aiding and abetting the bombings of a number of military and governmental buildings -- resulting in property damage, but no injuries to anyone.

What are the policies and practices referred to?

-- The US practice of slaughtering thousands of Nicaraguan civilians through the proxy contra army.

-- The US invasion of Grenada, the first Black socialist non-aligned nation in this hemisphere.

-- The US policy of establishing brutal dictatorships in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Chile that murder their own people to make their countries safe for US investment.

-- 90 years of US colonization of Puerto Rico.

-- The US policy of aiding and abetting the racist governments of Israel and South Africa.

-- The centuries-old practice of racial genocide and oppression of Black, Puerto Rican, Mexican, Asian and Native American peoples here, and of promoting racism and racist violence.

-- The US government's denial that Prisoners of War and political prisoners are held in US jails, targeted for isolation and destruction.

Do we want to change these policies and practices?

Wholeheartedly. They violate every tenet of international law and human decency. They cause death, destruction, poverty and suffering for millions. It is a disgrace that we, the people of the US, allow our government to pursue them. To do nothing is to become tacit accomplices in these crimes and practices.

Each of us charged in this indictment has committed our life to fighting for social justice here and to extending solidarity to national liberation movements around the world. Each one of us has been involved in supporting the just struggle of the Vietnamese people, in fighting against the Ku Klux Klan and racist violence, in supporting the struggle for Black liberation/New Afrikan independence and for Puerto Rican independence. We have participated in and supported the movement for women's liberation, and sought an end to gay and lesbian oppression. We have been anti-imperialist activists and organizers for many years.

This has been our life's work,

and it has brought us into continuing conflict with the US government. It has also linked us with the millions of people around the world who struggle for freedom and against exploitation. Fighting against poverty and oppression, and inspired by a vision of collective and personal liberation, people from South Africa to Palestine to Central America to the ghettos of the US are struggling to change the conditions of their lives. With them we say, "No Justice, No Peace."

The US government fears the growth of the anti-imperialist movement that we've helped to build over the past 20 years. We have been targeted by the FBI for continuing harassment, surveillance, and imprisonment.

Each of us has been an anti-imperialist political prisoner for more than three years. We have been condemned to sentences as long as 58 years. Laura Whitehorn is now the longest-held political prisoner in "preventive detention." We have battled cancer, psychological torture, and isolation, buried in the worst prisons in the US along with hundreds of Black/New Afrikan, Puerto Rican, Native American and Northamerican political prisoners and Prisoners of War.

We are neither terrorists nor

behind a bullet-proof plexiglass partition. North and Poindexter, whose actions merit a trial for war crimes and crimes against humanity, are called heroes by politicians, and come to court draped in the blessings of Ronald Reagan and with the benefit of millions of dollars from right-wing backers.

The government is relentless in its pursuit of those whose love and concern extend across national and racial barriers, and whose commitment leads them to active resistance. That is why the Sanctuary and Plowshares movements have been targeted by the Reagan administration. That is why a group of Puerto Rican *independentistas* are now facing charges in Hartford, Connecticut. That is why a group of working class anti-imperialist activists currently face sedition charges in Springfield, Massachusetts. That is why a New Afrika Freedom Fighter, Dr Mutulu Shakur, and one of us, Marilyn Buck, were recently tried in New York.

If political prisoners can be treated as less than human -- as outside the bounds of human decency -- how will other sectors of the political community be treated when their voices become too loud?



criminals. We are guilty of no criminal activity.

Now we face these new charges. They were brought more than three years and 14 prosecutions after the last of us was arrested. The charges are couched in language that targets our politics and association. The government makes no claim to know who actually did the bombings. The Reagan administration wants to stage a show trial that will not only have a chilling effect on activists here, but will also divert attention from the North/Poindexter trials going on down the hall from ours.

We will fight this politically-motivated indictment, but we expect no justice. We are each held in solitary confinement, unable to meet together or with our lawyers to prepare a defense. We, accused of acts of resistance against state terrorism by the US government, acts which themselves caused no casualties, are labeled "terrorists," forced to come to court draped in shackles, and displayed

The Reagan administration wants our prosecution to serve as a warning to those who demand justice and human rights.

We say as long as this government tramples on the rights, the lives, and the dignity of human beings here or anywhere else in the world, there will always be resistance. That is not a criminal conspiracy -- it is a movement of solidarity and resistance, of love and hope.

*the state can have no case  
there is no case  
against freedom*  
-- Thulani Davis

from anti-imperialist  
political prisoners:  
Alan Berkman  
Timothy Blunk  
Marilyn Buck  
Linda Evans  
Susan Rosenberg  
Laura Whitehorn

