

AMANDLA!

Nelson Mandela is Free! When he visited Detroit, we cheered him, we gave him our love and support, we were there for him. Now we must be there for one of our own.

geronimo ji Jaga Pratt

is one of America's longest held Political Prisoners. Since 1970, he has been held hostage by the U.S. government, a victim of the F.B.I.'s war on Black leadership in the 1960's and 1970's. A Vietnam Veteran and Black Panther leader, he was framed for an unsolved murder in California. The F.B.I.'s illegal and immoral counter-intelligence program (COINTELPRO) was the downfall of many Black Liberation leaders, including Dhoruba Bin-Wahad, Assata Shakur, Fred Hampton, Geronimo Pratt, and many others. Despite overwhelming evidence of his innocence, geronimo remains in prison because the U.S. government refuses to right this tremendous wrong. So it is up to the people.

Write to:

Free geronimo Pratt
43422 West Oaks Dr.
Suite 214
Novi, MI 48377



Geronimo Pratt, Black Prisoner of War

Chronology of Injustice

1947: Geronimo Pratt born in Morgan-town, Louisiana.

1965: Graduated from high school and enlisted in US army.

1965-68: Served three years in Vietnam, was highly decorated and discharged with honors.

1966: Black Panther Party for Self-Defense formed in Oakland, CA by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale to defend the Black community against police violence. By 1969, 40 chapters were established across the country, monitoring police activity, serving free breakfasts to 10,000 poor Black children every month and building free health clinics in several cities. In 1969 Time Magazine reported the circulation of the Black Panther Party newspaper to be 100,000 per week.

1968: Pratt returned from Vietnam, enrolled at UCLA. He witnessed ravaging poverty and constant police brutality against the Black community. He worked in many projects in the Black community and joined the Black Panther Party. He soon became a respected leader of the Los Angeles Chapter.

December 18, 1968: Geronimo attended a Panther Party leadership meeting in Oakland, CA. At that time the activities of the Panthers were under constant FBI surveillance.

December 18, 1968: Caroline Olson was shot and killed and her husband wounded, on a tennis court in Santa Monica, CA by two Black men.

1969: Julio Butler, suspected of being an FBI informant, was expelled from the Los Angeles chapter of the BPP by Geronimo Pratt.

December 9, 1969: 300 LA police armed with shotguns, high-powered rifles, tear-gas grenades, satchel charges, a helicopter, bulletproof vans, an armored personnel carrier and a fire department jet ax, attacked the office of the LA Panthers. After a four-hour gun battle police arrested several Panthers including Geronimo Pratt. A 72-count indictment was brought against Pratt.

1970: Although he had no prior police record, Pratt was placed in solitary confinement for two years while awaiting trial.

In January, 1972: Geronimo was acquitted of all 72 counts stemming from the shoot-out except unlawful possession of weapons. He was sentenced to the maximum 1-5 years.

1970: While in prison, Geronimo was charged with the unsolved murder of Caroline Olson.

December 1971: The body of Pratt's wife, Sandra Pratt, was found stuffed into a sleeping bag on an LA Freeway. Eight months pregnant, she had been tortured and shot to death.

July 1972: Geronimo Pratt was convicted of the murder of Caroline Olson, assault, and two counts of robbery. At trial the main witness against him was Julio Butler, who denied being an FBI informant. Butler testified that Pratt had confessed to him personally to killing Caroline Olson. Jurors later said it was Butler's perjured testimony that convinced them to vote for conviction.

1970-1976: After six consecutive years in isolation Geronimo won a suit to be released from the hole. The court acknowledged that his political beliefs were the basis for his lengthy solitary confinement.

1976-1978: Prison officials delayed two more years in complying with the court order to place him in general population.

1977-1979: The Freedom of Information Act forced the FBI to release documents relating to Pratt; 7,000 heavily censored documents were turned over; more were withheld. New information was uncovered:

1) an FBI document dated 6 months prior to Pratt's indictment stating that the FBI intended to use counterintelligence measures "to neutralize Pratt as an effective BPP functionary;"

2) a document indicating that Julio Butler, was an FBI informant (which Butler had denied under oath);

3) a document indicating that Kenneth Olson, the victim's husband, who had identified Pratt as the murderer two years after the crime, had earlier made a different identification. (This information had been withheld from the defense at the time of the trial);

4) a document indicating surveillance of Pratt's key alibi witness Kathleen Cleaver (also withheld).

1979: Republican Congressman Paul McCloskey wrote to FBI Director Webster expressing his interest in the Pratt case and asking for an internal investigation.

November 1979: Based on the new evidence, Geronimo filed writs of habeas corpus in California State Court requesting a new trial.

January 1980: Reviewing the facts from the trial at which she presided, Superior Court Judge Kathleen Parker denied Geronimo's motion. She said the FBI's COINTELPRO efforts "would not extend

January 1980: New documents were received, these indicating that Butler had met at least 33 times with FBI agents, providing them with information about Pratt and the Panther organization.

July 1980: FBI officials admitted that at least two informants spied on defense strategy meetings during Pratt's murder trial.

December 1980: Court of Appeals panel rejected Pratt's plea for an evidentiary hearing.

1980: Congressman Don Edwards asked FBI to expand its investigation into the Pratt case and interview five named FBI agents who were originally involved.

1980: Retired FBI special agent Wesley Swearingen wrote to FBI Director Webster requesting a full scale investigation of the FBI's role in the Pratt case.

1981: Amnesty International declared Pratt a victim of government repression. Amnesty International urged President Reagan to set up an independent commission to investigate FBI misconduct under COINTELPRO.

July 1981: Geronimo took his plea for an evidentiary hearing on the new evidence to the US District Court.

March 1984: The District Court ordered an evidentiary hearing to review validity of the evidence used to convict Pratt. Seven former and active FBI agents were ordered to testify. However, the Court denied the request that Julio Butler be ordered to testify.

January 1985: The hearing from the District Court's 1984 decision was finally held. Judge Kronenberg promised a decision within two weeks.

January 1986: One year later Judge Kronenberg denied Pratt's appeal.

May 1987: Parole Board refused to grant Pratt parole, citing 300 letters of support as proof of his extensive revolutionary network.

June 1987: Appeal filed in 9th Circuit Court.

January 1988: Arguments heard in Los Angeles before panel of two Reagan appointees and one Nixon appointee.

March 1988: Citing a minute technical error made by the District Court, the 9th Circuit delayed ruling, indicating they may decide not to rule at all. This would end all courtroom avenues for justice for Geronimo Pratt. □

Is this Justice?



Ahmad Abdur-Rahman
has spent 19 years in prison on a life sentence for first-degree murder. He never killed anyone. His crime was trying to rid Detroit's Black community of heroin. The courts know this. The parole board knows this. The Governor knows this. Yet because of a law that has since been changed, he cannot be paroled without a commutation from the Governor.

FREE AHMAD!

5. AIDS has nothing to do with homosexuals. A group of promiscuous homosexual men were tricked into receiving Hepatitis B vaccinations which had been deliberately infected with the AIDS virus. This took place in the spring of 1978 in New York City Blood Center under the direction of Wolf Szmuness. All of the men died of AIDS within ten years. Homosexual men were infected with AIDS to draw attention away from the true objective which is to wipe out the black, brown and yellow races of the world.

READ: AIDS U.S. Germs Warfare At Its Best
by Jack Felder

Black Men Obsolete, Single and Dangerous?
by Haki R. Madhubuti pp. 51-58

6. White people have used biological weapons against us in the past. They deliberately gave blankets infected with smallpox to Native Americans. They also conducted Nazi type syphilis experiments on unsuspecting Black men and their families.

READ: No Fire, No Thunder: The Threat of Chemical and Biological Warfare
by Sean Murphy p. 27

Bad Blood
by James Jones

7. White people have been working on ethnic bombs since the 1950's.

READ: No Fire, No Thunder
by Sean Murphy p. 95

8. White people are very conscious of the fact that they are outnumbered by the black, brown and yellow races of the world. They are scared of the fact that their ability to control the other races of the world is rapidly declining.

READ: The Cress Theory of Racism and Color Confrontation
by Frances Cress Welsing, M.D.

Global 2000

"America's Changing Color"
Time Magazine, April 9, 1990

9. Condoms won't protect you. The AIDS Virus is so small it passes right through the condoms.

READ: The Strecker Memorandum
by Robert Strecker

10. Mosquitos can carry the AIDS Virus.

READ: The Strecker Memorandum
by Robert Strecker

*James
white*