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BLACK AUGUST
ORIGINS, HISTORY, AND SIGNIFICANCE
REQUIRED READING

1. Blood in My Eye By George Jackson
2. Live from Death Row By Mumia Abu Jamal
3. Assata: An Autobiography By Assata Shakur
4. In the Country of the Black Skull By Mary Jo Taylor
5. A People's History of the United States By Howard Zinn
6. Revolutionary Suicide By George P. Nathan
8. My Heart Is a Black Hole By Anusha Dandekar
9. Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West By Dee Brown
10. The Other America: I Am an American By James W. Loewen
11. Look to the Land With Blood: A Biography of John Brown
12. The FBI's Secret War Against the Black Panther Party & the American Indian Movement By William H. html
13. A Day in the Life of REA By Peter Matthiessen
14. The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution By Candace B. Bickerdike and Jon Weiner
15. Hauling Up the Morning by J. Michael Strachey
16. We Are Our Own Librarians By TinaBlank & Ray Levesque
17. A Lifetime in the Struggle By David Gilbert
18. Black Boy and Native Son Both by Richard Wright
19. Wretched of the Earth By Frantz Fanon
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Black August Begins August 1969
Compiled and Published by The Books 4 Prisoners Crew

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10.
WHEN THE SMOKE CLEAR S
-- Where the imprisoned spirit.. has yet to be broken by state oppression,
Can be sustained and revived...
By you and I. And by SOLIDARITY.
By everyone here. We urged You on...
By OUR Common Revolutionary Beliefs...
IF YOU DIE YOU DIE ... But never Surrender ...
Never make the enemy stronger.. Who oppresses us all...
Never give up. Never Retreat.
Never roll-over. Never Debrief.
WHEN THE SMOKE CLEAR S...
We Will Be There...
We will be there..
For those... Who no longer are...
WHEN THE SMOKE CLEAR S...
To Each.. His own contribution ... His own Conscience...
Never give up.. Never back down.
Make your personal contribution ... to the struggle.. Your life's work.
And Stay strong.
WHEN THE SMOKE CLEAR S...
WHEN THE SMOKE CLEAR S...
when the smoke clears ...

Black August originated in the California penal system in the 1970s. Many significant events in the New African Nation's struggle for justice and liberation have occurred in August. The commemoration of Black August particularly hails the advances and sacrifices of Black Freedom Fighters.
Following are several pages of authentic information on Black August provided by Doc Holiday, an original comrade of George Jackson and a longtime figure in the Black Liberation and prison struggle. Doc is presently in prison in Marion, Illinois.
The month of August gained special significance and importance in the Black Liberation Movement beginning with a courageous attempt by Jonathan Jackson to demand the freedom of political prisoners/prisoners of war which the Soledad Brothers’ case were the center of attention.
On August 7, 1970 Jonathan Jackson, William Christmas, James McClain, and Ruchell Magee were gunned down outside the Marin County Courthouse.
Amendment

When the smoke clears...
access the land.

PHRASE I: PATRIOTIC COMRADES

VENCEREMOS

The struggle is never over! Never done! Never lost.

and from our homes...

VENCEREMOS

when the smoke clears...

PHRASE I: PATRIOTIC COMRADES

VENCEREMOS

right together... never give up the struggle...

right now... decide what... about whom?... for whom?

VENCEREMOS

No matter our personal beliefs, names, race, color or

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relationship of position to oppressed and colonized peoples.
and moving toward a better understanding of the unique and
peculiarities of these situations, we come to the conclusion
that the anti-imperialist people have a responsibility to
contribute to the various struggles throughout the world.
and not be limited to our situation, but provide that as

PHRASE I: PATRIOTIC COMRADES

VENCEREMOS

right together... never give up the struggle...

right now... decide what... about whom?... for whom?

VENCEREMOS

No matter our personal beliefs, names, race, color or

Page 8

Amendment

 Movements;

VENCEREMOS

OLMOS STRUGGLE! VENCEREMOS!

In every position; in every situation, hope...

PHRASE I: PATRIOTIC COMRADES

VENCEREMOS

right together... never give up the struggle...

right now... decide what... about whom?... for whom?

VENCEREMOS

No matter our personal beliefs, names, race, color or
So it should be clearly understood that Black August is a reflection and commemoration of history; of those heroic partisans and leaders that realistically made it possible for us to survive and advance to our present level of liberation struggle. People such as: Nat Turner, Harriet Tubman, Gabriil Prosser, Frederick Douglas, W.E. DuBois, Marcus Garvey, Paul Roberson, Rosa Parks, M.L. King, Malcolm X, and numerous others in our more contemporary period. It must be further clarified that when we speak of “Culture Development,” we are not advocating Cultural Nationalism and/or merely talking about adopting African names, jewellery, dashikis, etc. Our primary interest lies not only in where we came from, but the nature of “WHY” we were forcefully brought here, understanding the character of “CONTINUOUS” struggle with the recognition that it is a Protracted struggle and developing the necessary lifestyles to guarantee its success.

August 20, 1619—First born Afrikan captives were brought to England’s North Amerikan colony of Jamestown, Virginia.

August 16, 1768—Charlestown, South Carolina rebellious Afrikan slaves (known as maroons) engaged British military forces in bloody battle defending their camp which was a haven for fugitive slaves.

August 21, 1791—Haiti slave uprising for independence.

August 30, 1800—Day set for launching Gabriil Prossers revolt. On this day over 1000 armed slaves gathered to endeavor to secure their liberty, however bad weather forced them to postpone the revolt and betrayal ultimately led to the crushing of their physical force.

August 21, 1831—Slave revolt launched under the leadership of Nat Turner which lasted four days and resulted in fifty-one slaveholders and their loved ones being subjected to revolutionary People’s justice.

August 29, 1841—Street skirmish took place in Cincinnati between Afrikan and Euro-Amerikan, wherein for five days Afrikans waged valiant struggle in defense of their women, children and property against brutal racist terror campaigns.

August 14, 1842—There were at least three Seminole US wars and one of them ended on August 14, 1842. Though some will ask, what does an Indian American war have to do with Black August? Well that’s because the nature of the Seminole’s and the real reasons behind their raging wars with the Americans is hidden beneath the mists of history. The very name Seminole derives from the American Spanish term for
contribution to the American cause of Africa and Porto-Amerikan co-

Freedom — Freedom (1860) — Freedom (1860) — Freedom

North Carolina: Here a black, Bried between two a

22. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

21. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

20. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

19. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

18. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

17. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

16. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

15. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

14. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

13. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

12. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

11. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

10. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

9. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

8. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

7. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

6. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

5. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

4. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

3. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

2. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

1. 1839 — Henry Highland Garnet called a General Slave

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contributions in Tlucoctet County, Vt., America.
-- Tries, defeating us at every turn...
-- And as explained .. In "Blood in my Eye."
Blood in My Eye. Written in the blood of Comrade G.

6.
WHEN... THE... SMOKE... CLEARS...
Our recent.. collective-loss.. of Brother Nate --
Is still.. fresh in mind.

X-Prisoner and People's lawyer--
Fighting for Justice here.. in the Bay Area.

His loyalties and sympathy were always --
With the oppressed masses, everywhere...
With Prisoners, everywhere--
With You and I.

WHEN... THE... SMOKE.. CLEARS...

FROM US: From Myself: Sundialta, David, Dorsey, Thuh,
Michael, M'jumbe, Bill,
From Others... Un-mentioned here -- But unforgotten...
Who grasped your hand.. one last time at the end ... 
In Final Solidarity...
Solidarity Forever...

WHEN... THE... SMOKE... CLEARS...

" Rock-on " is remembered: This forgotten prison-brother... Was there, with us --
At San Quentin.. that fatal August day when "Comrade G" was
Assassinated.

Louie Lopez.. Stood at the door of the AC --
Along with Yog, Suni ... and others --
While Comrade's blood ran out-- Ran Out ...
Ran out ... Onto the prison's asphalt.. On a Saturday afternoon...

" Rock-on " passed away.. in prison.. Last Father's Day.
And When-- in remembering... I was late to his funeral... 
But .. You had my solidarity... always.. You too this day are re-
membered.

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August 2, 1865 — Virginia a statewide conference of forty African delegates met to demand that Afrikans in Virginia be granted legal title to land occupied during the Civil War. Numerous off-putch battles ensued during this same month as terrorist mobs moved to evict Afrikans from the land and were met with resistance.

August 8, 1879 — Emiliano Zapata is born. Zapata later went on to become the rebel leader who said "It is better to die on your feet than to live on your knees." A former sharecropper, he organized and led peasants during the battles of the Mexican Revolution, joining forces with Pancho Villa and others to fight the government of Porfirio Diaz. Zapata supported agrarian reform and land redistribution; his rallying cry was "Land and freedom!"

August 17, 1887 — Honorable Marcus Garvey, father of contemporary Afrikan Nationalism was born.

August 15, 1900 — Race riots erupt in NYC after a white NYC policeman is killed during a fight with a black man of Afrikan heritage.

August 1906 — Afrikans soldiers (in service of Babylon) enraged behind racial slurs and discrimination struck out and wrecked the town of Brownville, Texas.

August 1906 — Niagara Movement met at Harpers Ferry, Virginia and issued W.E. Marcus Garvey DuBois’ historic manifesto against racial discrimination in Babylon against Afrikans.

August 1, 1914 — Garvey founds Universal Negro Improvement Association, advancing the call for Land, Freedom, and Independence for Afrikans people.

August 23, 1917 — Afrikans soldiers in Huston engaged in street skirmishes that left more than seventeen Euro-American racists dead.

August 1, 1920 — Gandhi launches the anti-colonial no cooperation movement in India.

August 1920 — Over two thousand delegates representing Afrikan from the four corners of the earth gathered in New York for the International Convention of the Negro People of the World, sponsored by UNIA convention issue a bill of rights for Afrikans.

August 10, 1942 — The first Japanese American prisoners arrive at a concentration camp in Minidoka, Idaho.

August 1943 — Slave revolt took place in Harlem as result of a K-9 shooting a brother defending the honor of Afrikan womanhood. More than 16,000 military and police personnel was required to quell the rebellion.

August 24, 1943 — Birth of Russell "Maroon" Shoatz
State Power... Which Equals "Uncontrollable Strength" over us."

"Take us in easy strides."

"Bred our lives, in them we flayed our numbers--and boxes."

"State Power... Which has drained our blood--broken our heads..."

"That has already killed us 1,400 much."

"Correct State Power."

RIGH'Akek! RIGH'Akek! Baca."

"What do we say?"

To our mutual, and latter defeating, and State Power... the greater has grown too much."

"State Power... We need..."

"State Power... We scholarship..."

For not... Fighting back--back--back--back--back."

"Def not... For having remained silent too long..."

"Def at the hands of the common oppressor..."

"Land in prison... Never see the light of day..."

"Least we too begin..."

"Through... those of us who carry on--stragglers to move..."

Your memory in the printed word, we read and write today..."

When "The Smoke" Clears...

Greetings... To you. From our Hearts and Soul..."

Greetings... From our world to your world..."

We express you all. Every single one of you..."

To our imprisoned comrades / past and present--"

Don't Go There...

From Places nobody knows the names of--Nor where they are...

"From Atilla. From other times..."

Remember... All of them...Command from that time..."

The FBI and Mississippi Police..."
We urge you on... by any means — at your disposal.

VENCEREMOS... Overcome... So we can declare --
With Revolutionary — Sincerity,
That We will Overcome.. some day... Venceremos...

-- Already Knowing, in our locked-up hearts..
That many Inside / Will forever remain / Inside —
Will not survive... and cannot continue to live .. much longer --

Comrades who remain Lost in a tomb. Who cannot escape —
Whose cries are blotted-out.

-- Prisoners .. Never again .. to see the light of day ---
Nor the stars at night ... See you ... nor I.............Don't Go
There.

It is a very dark place.

WHEN ... THE... SMOKE... CLEARS...

Attica Is there. It has not gone away —

26 years late.. If you were not born yet...
-- Bless Your Heart.

ATTICA Looms up... On the horizon of our collective minds
-- The state-massacre, that took place there............... Only
yesterday..

And Which / We must not.. ever forget.

The Attica Comrades --
Who were beaten, tortured, shot and slain on National TV --
As we watched the horror-show ... of Life in America, during the
70's.

ATTICA Lives this moment.. within our minds.
The Attica families... Feel the same pain today --
-- Same as When.. this State-atrocity.. Occurred.. And
Rockefeller said:
--So What ! And we say: Fuck You Back.

WHEN... THE... SMOKE.. CLEARS ...
WHILE IN CAPTIVITY
WHILE IN FREE

RIGHT ON! UNLESS, YOU DE INNOCENT DE OF ALL AGE 
AND IN THE NAME OF COMRADE C... AND OTHER HEROES... ELLAH.

NEVER SUBMIT!! NEVER GIVE UP!

PROFESSORS -- FOR WHOM WE MUST SPEAK WE SAY:
BEGIN / BASH-WIRE OF THEIR PRETENDED-EXTERNAL IMPRISONMENT.

DON'T GO THERE.

BEHIND BARS AND BATTLES OF TWO DEFEATED WORLDS
STRUGGLE BEHIND WARS OF INSULAR-NATIONAL HATE AND VIOLENCE.

ACROSS THE NATION... WHO IS STRONG TO STAY ALIVE...

PROFESSORS, EVERYDAY...

COMRADES, SPIRIT LIVES -- INSPIRING TUNS-OF-THOUSANDS OF
TO COMRADE C... WHO TODAY WE RE-VERIFY IN OUR HEARTS.
TO REMEMBER: AND PAY OUR RESOLUTIONS-RESPECTS...

WE ARE HERE... TODAY... SEPTEMBER 20TH, 1997

WHEN... THE SMOKE CLEAR...

AND SAN QUENTIN PRISON GARDENS... AUGUST 21ST, 1971

KILLED-SHIP BY THE SHORES OF CALIFORNIA
OUR REDEDICATION. COMRADE E... O.
WE DEDICATE... 26 YEARS AGO.

WHEN... THE SMOKE CLEAR...

THEIR HEROEIC MEMORY... LIVES ON...

AND ONE... 17-YEAR-OLD... MAN-CHILD JONATHAN...

JAMES McGREGOR"

TWO OF THEM MURDERED FROM SAN QUENTIN... "BILLY AFRICAN" AND
LITERATION... ARE THE 3 SHAM PROPOSALS--

WHEN... THE SMOKE CLEAR...

SOL SURVIVED... OF THE MARIN SHOOTOUT... 27 YEARS AGO...

FOR A MUCH-NEEDED CHANGE... FROM PRISON-SWAT-HAPPY...

2

WHO / ONLY RECENTLY / EOT HIMSELF INTO THE PRISON MATRIX...

Spanish translation follows:

DURANTE EL AÑO AGRARIO, AMENAZA LA CONVIVENCIA de las FAZUL y sus aliados. En este contexto, hay que abordar la importancia de las fuerzas de la resistencia africanas en la lucha contra el colonialismo. Es importante que los africanos que luchan por su libertad no olviden sus raíces culturales y luchen por su identidad. La lucha de los africanos en el extranjero es parte de la lucha por la libertad de los africanos en todo el mundo. Las luchas de los africanos en el extranjero son ejemplos de la resistencia africana a nivel internacional.