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July 15, 2016

Re: Solitary Confinement, Mental Torture  
& Psychological Warfare

My Greetings:

After many months of neglecting my blog due to actually being consumed with protecting myself from an onslaught of psychological abuse in the form of classical, and aversive, conditioning, employing many forms of noxious stimuli, and manipulation of the environment, by my wardens here at the Waupun Correctional Institution's Restrictive Housing Unit (RHU/Seg Unit) in an effort to psychologically lash (punish) and coerce and otherwise torture me into some broken shell of a human being that they whimsically would have me be. But I am well and have withstood all.

Enclosed I am submitting a 4 pp. article, The Mental Torture of American Prisoners: Cheaper Than Lab Rats, Part II, and a 35 pp. research paper compiled by a group of U.S. prisoners about the genocide being waged through low-intensity psychological warfare, entitled Genocide Waged Against The Black Nation Through Behavior Modification Orchestrated By Counterinsurgency And Low-Intensity Warfare In The U.S. Penal System.

This mental abuse and warfare in the American penal system is one of this country's dirty little decades old secrets, and one

of the primary reasons why mental illness is so prevalent among prisoners; prison officials actually seek and target certain prisoners to attempt through various measures, further set out in the above papers, to drive them mad as a means of control.

The use of these illicit measures in the prisons may feel like another conspiracy theorist allegation. I personally have been targeted with many of these insidious methods for at least 10 continuous years. "At least" because that was when I became conscious that I was being placed by my wardens in intentional situational placement or designed situations for purposes of carrying out the various tactics and underlying psychological techniques.

It is important for the public to know and understand that the solitary confinement facilities variously referred to as Supermax, management control units, special housing units, restrictive housing units, etc., each being constructed on a sensory deprivation design, are de facto experimental chambers and labs. They are an evil scientist's, more accurately an evil penologist and psychologist's, dream and playground to test every theory and psychological experiment imaginable, and a fluid supply of largely unwitting prisoners as human guinea pigs are available.

I, and Cesar De Leon, and Norman "Uhuru" Green, have been Dying To Live hunger strikers in protest of long-term solitary confinement in Wisconsin, called "AC" or Administrative Confinement, and the psychological torture and mind control programs practiced by this state. We have been on the hunger strike for 28 days now and the officials have been force-feeding us via nasal-gastro tube. It

is an invalid response by a state and DOJ officials who are unable to reconcile humane treatment and the dignity of all humans and all life against the cruel, inhumane, and degrading treatment of solitary confinement. Please stand with us in this cause.

In the coming weeks I will be posting more and will set out the specifics of the coercive psychological system and procedures and tactics that the officials in this DOJ system have been targeting me with.

In peace and love,

I remain

A. McKinley Bey  
Hunger Striker

## The Mental Torture of American Prisoners Cheaper Than Lab Rats, Part II

by Hans Sherrer

written in March 1999

Prison Legal News cover article April 1999

The use of prisoners in medical experiments didn't begin or end with the radiation experiments conducted on them from the 1940's to the 1970's. [See: Part I - Can Prisoner's Glow in the Dark?,

PLN, March 1999]

As thinly disguised psychological laboratories, supermax prisons and other forms of isolating prisoners from the outside world continue the tradition of using prisoners as "lab rats."

Psychological experimentation on prisoners raises serious cultural, legal, political, and ethical questions for the same reasons that human radiation and biochemical experiments on them did. Also, just as the radiation experiments conducted on prisoners was for the purpose of understanding the effects of radiation on military personnel and the general population, psychological experiments conducted on prisoners have a larger purpose than finding more effective ways to torment them. One of those purposes is to determine how political authorities can affect, manipulate, and/or control the behavior and responses of people in the general population under various conditions.

One of the fathers of today's mental experimentation on prisoners is M.L.T. psychology professor Dr. Edgar Schein. He became one of the western world's foremost authorities on psychological coercion by studying the methods used by the Communist Chinese and North Koreans on American prisoners during the Korean War.

At a 1962 M.L.T. seminar attended by psychologists and prison wardens from around the country, Dr. Schein explained how physical, psychological, and chemical techniques of coercion inflicted on American prisoners of war, could be used on prisoners of law in American prisons. Dr. Schein told his audience that they shouldn't be squeamish about using mind control techniques on American prisoners perfected by the Russians and Communist Chinese because:

"These same techniques in the service of different goals may be quite acceptable to us. ... I would like to have you think of brainwashing not in terms of politics, ethics, and morals, but in terms of the deliberate changing of human behavior and attitudes by a group of men who have relatively complete control over the environment in which the captive population lives."

The centerpiece of Dr. Schein's techniques of coercive manipulation is the psychological isolation of prisoners by the fraying or outright destruction of social bonds and their emotional support structure. This includes relationships between prisoners on the inside, as well as their family and friends on the outside. The reason he keyed on this as a powerful coercive mechanism, is that to, varying

degrees we all perceive our existence as human beings from what is reflected back to us by those living beings we come into contact with. Psychologist Nathaniel Branden named this phenomenon the Muttnik Principle. In the 1960's he realized from his response to his dog Muttnik, that all living beings contribute to our mental health who make us feel real by accurately reflecting our treatment of them back to us.

Dr. Schein learned from studying, the successful techniques of totalitarian regimes, that isolation and other forms of sensory deprivation, psychological disorientation, and pervasive surveillance have a significantly negative effect on the human psyche. BY reducing the sensory feedback that Dr. Branden identified as vital to someone's well-being, they can be Used-as a weapon to induce cracks in that person's mental defense system. Dr. Schein\* believed this predictable human response to sensory deprivation could be utilized for purposes of affecting the of behavior of men and women in America's prisons. He thought these mental cracks could be filled With Ideas of the government's own choosing.

some of Dr. Schein's colleagues went beyond him by identifying the use of powerful psychoactive drugs as a practical way to biochemically isolate prisoners from their normal influences, without the expense of physically isolating them.

Beginning in the late 1960s, Dr. Schein's ideas on human experimentation were put into action and overseen by federal prison psychiatrist Dr. Martin Groder. He was instrumental in the transfer of "agitators, suspected militants, writ-writers, and other troublemakers" to remote prisons in an effort to sever family ties by making visits difficult. After being moved, these prisoners were put in isolation and deprived of mail and other sensory stimulations. Every effort was made to weaken their internal defenses and heighten their susceptibility to influences controlled by prison authorities. If a prisoner responded by abandoning his attitude of individuality, he was granted privileges. If not, his psychological torture continued indefinitely.

University of Michigan psychologist Dr. James V McConnell was an enthusiastic supporter of Dr. Groder's work. In an April 1970 Psychology Today article entitled "Criminals Can Be Brainwashed-Now", Dr. McConnell favorably compared the human psyche to that of rats and flatworms. He even thought people could be manipulated with behavioral techniques he perfected while training flatworms to navigate-a- maze. Harvard psychologist B. F. Skinner tried to resolve the ethical concerns that arose from the scientific treatment of the human mind like a pliable blob of Play-Doh in his 1971 book -Beyond Freedom and Dignity. However, he chose to do so in a book with a title that neatly sums up the twisted Orwellian attitude of everyone involved in experimenting on prisoners and other human beings.

Make no mistake about it, the millions of prisoners who have been subject in various ways to sensory deprivation and isolation techniques are viewed by the

scientific and correctional community as human guinea pigs. They are "lab rats" who only differ in the type of experiments they are subjected to, from the inmates poked, prodded, and zapped during the radiation and hormone experiments that occurred from the 1940's until the 1970's.

Dr. James V Bennett, who was then the director of the U. S. Bureau of Prisons, made this crystal clear at the same 1962 conference where Dr. Schein made his presentation. He made the observation that the federal prison system presented "a tremendous opportunity to carry on some of the experimenting to which the various panelists have alluded." He wasn't idly talking. In July 1972, prisoners at Marion Federal Penitentiary smuggled out details to U. N. emissaries of psychological experiments that were being conducted on them. The use of psychological torture techniques in prisons was already widespread enough in the early 1970's, that Jessica Mitford wrote about them in a remarkable August 1973, Harers Magazine article entitled: **The Torture Cure: In Some, American Prisons, It is already 1984.** Among other things, the revelations in that article are credited with contributing to the end of the radiation and hormone experiments on prisoners in Oregon. However, Ms. Mitford's main thrust was exposing the use of prisoners as "lab rats" testing the effectiveness of sophisticated forms of mental coercion and powerful psychoactive drugs. In her article she wrote about the results of a laboratory experiment designed to test the effects of isolation on the human mind: "The exciting potential of sensory deprivation as a behavior modifier was revealed through an experiment in which students were paid \$20 a day to live in tiny, solitary cubicles with nothing to do. The experiment was supposed to last at least six weeks, but none of the students could take it for more than a few days: Many experienced vivid hallucinations - one student in particular insisted that a tiny spaceship had got into the chamber and was buzzing around shooting pellets at him. While they were in this condition, the experimenter fed the students propaganda messages: No matter how poorly it was presented or how illogical it sounded, the propaganda had a marked effect on the students' attitudes - an effect that lasted for at least a year after they came out of the deprivation chambers."

Ms. Mitford expanded on her Hamer's article in "Kind and Usual Punishment: the Prison Business" (1973) In the chapter detailing psychological experiments on prisoners, she quotes a 1970 prophecy Dr. Bennett made about prisons in the year 2000 AD: "In my judgment the prison system will increasingly be valued, and used, as a laboratory and workshop of social change."

Supermax prisons and other experimental forms of mind control exercised on prisoners are a part of today's reality that Dr. Bennett envisioned almost thirty years ago. Remarkably, authorities in the federal government recently let the cat out of the bag they are aware of their potential liability for conducting psychological experiments on prisoners. This was revealed in The Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA) enacted in 1996. Its provisions contribute to the legal disenfranchisement of prisoners by effectively limiting their ability to redress wrongs and grievances through the federal court system. One of its provisions specifically prevents

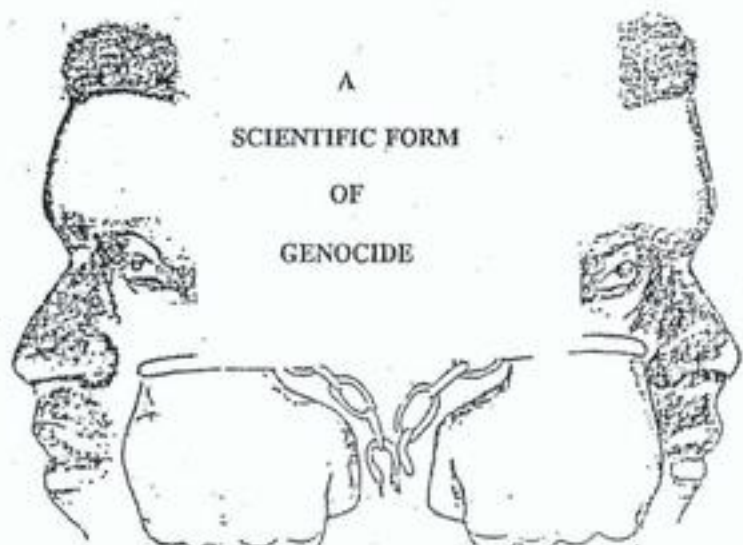
prisoners from successfully suing prison officials for "mental or emotional harm unless they can also prove physical injury." Almost diabolical in its design, this provision of the PLRA effectively prohibits lawsuits stemming from the psychological torture rampant in America's prisons.

It is significant that isolation experiments involving prisoners at Dachau were among the vivisection experiments conducted by Nazi doctors. Needless to say, the work of these discredited Nazi doctors is being continued daily in the laboratories of physical and mental torture masquerading as American prisons. Non-consenting prisoners are experimented on in many dehumanizing ways. Yet their systematic mistreatment is openly condoned by political, judicial, and bureaucratic authorities in the United States who view them in the same way the Nazis viewed the inmates at Dachau and Auschwitz. They don't believe they are really people.

**GENOCIDE WAGED AGAINST THE BLACK NATION  
THROUGH BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION/ORCHESTRATED BY  
COUNTERINSURGENCY AND LOW-INTENSITY WARFARE  
IN THE U.S. PENAL SYSTEM**

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PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE  
RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL LAW  
AND BLACK FREEDOM FIGHTERS IN THE UNITED STATES



**INTRODUCTION**

This is a research paper on genocide waged against the Black Nation through behavior modification in the United States penal system. It was initially drafted in December, 1988, and distributed to several political prisoners in the states and federal prisons to encourage support and participation for an in-depth development of this issue for the Research Committee on International Law and Black Freedom Fighters in the United States for input to the human rights campaign.

This paper was developed by a team of Black prisoners who experienced behavior modification inside the prisons and who desire to expose the immediate but prolonged and historical effects of this government's efforts to control the Black Nation. We do not suggest that the techniques employed are exclusively implemented on the Black Nation, but there is no denying that the Black nation is the government's paramount target.

Before going on we want to extend our thanks to our supporters and to those who have contributed to this paper because this paper was especially developed to bring about a broader unity on this issue so that we might collectively expose these human rights violations to the world through the human rights conference of non-governmental organizations in Zurich, Switzerland.

We specifically charge that the government of the United States is practicing genocide through behavior modification and counterinsurgency and low intensity warfare techniques in its penal system, i.e., the state and federal prisons.

We submit that behavior modification as practiced in United States prisons incorporates techniques from both counterinsurgency - low intensity warfare, and the science of psychology in the interest of political and military objectives. The implementation of this strategy in the United States penal system is the result of research conducted by government scientists and counterinsurgency agents who studied the theories and works of past experts in the distinct fields of behavior therapy (synonymous with behavior modification), insurgency, and low intensity warfare.

Every aspect of this behavior modification program violates the human rights of those persons subjected to it and it is this treatment that is vehemently complained about by political prisoners and POWs. This program involves a scientific approach in targeting special-prisoners with the aim of achieving political objectives. Each targeted-prisoner is observed to determine his or her leadership potential, religious beliefs, aspirations, and most importantly, to record his or her reaction to the experiments being implemented. The sole purpose of the program is for government agents to learn lessons from experimenting with political prisoners, how they suffered and reacted, then use those findings to formulate a broad plan to be implemented against the people in society at large who are the ultimate targets.

The oppressive conditions and the experiments conducted in the United States penal system, as implemented by this government through prison officials, are the evidence of a psychological war being waged against political prisoners<sup>1</sup> who come from a people who are

<sup>1</sup> When the term "political prisoner" is used in this paper it is not limited to those who are incarcerated as a result of their political beliefs, actions, or affiliations. The term includes persons in prison for social crimes who became politicized inside prison walls and who oriented their lives around the struggle for social justice and national liberation. Such persons as MALCOLM X, GEORGE JACKSON, THE ATTICA WARRIORS, and the many other men and women of yesterday and today's struggle would be and are encompassed in the term.

involved in a struggle of resistance against oppression in all forms. When the behavior modification program conducted by the government is viewed in the light of the mandates contained in the "Geneva Accord" one can only conclude that the United States Government's actions are criminal and specifically violate the international laws concerning the rights of human beings. Accordingly, the United States Government's acts should be regarded as war crimes.

Specifically, the U.S. Government is in violation of Article I of the Geneva Convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide which was approved by the United Nation General Assembly on December 9, 1948, and the U.S. Government is in violation of resolution 260, III, which entered into force on January 12, 1951. In this resolution "the contracting parties confirmed that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war, is a crime under international law which they undertake to prevent and punish." According to Article II genocide is defined as any of the following acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group; such as:

- A. KILLING MEMBERS OF THE GROUP;
- B. CAUSING SERIOUS BODILY OR MENTAL HARM TO MEMBERS OF THE GROUP;
- C. DELIBERATELY INFLECTING ON THE GROUP'S CONDITIONS OF LIFE CALCULATED TO BRING ABOUT ITS DESTRUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART;
- D. IMPOSING MEASURES INTENDED TO PREVENT BIRTHS WITHIN THE GROUP;

E. FORCIBLY TRANSFERRING CHILDREN OF THE GROUP TO ANOTHER GROUP.

(cited from "THE LAW OF NATIONS," by Herbert W. Briggs)

Subsequent to having reviewed the above list of acts that constitute the crime of genocide, as set forth by the Geneva Convention, we submit that the behavior modification program being carried out in the United States penal system is a scientific form of genocide waged against the Black Nation, and it is a continuance of the nefarious tactics employed by the government over the years to keep the Black Nation subjugated.

On learning of the use of behavior modification techniques in furtherance of counterinsurgency and low intensity warfare objectives, especially in light of the government's intended broad application, all caring people in any society should be shocked.

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION

Behavior modification is a highly complex science composed of information from various sciences such as psychology, sociology, philosophy, anthropology, and even some aspects of biology. By definition "Behavior Modification" broadly refers to the systematic manipulation of one's environment for the purpose of creating a change in the individual's behavior.

It involves a systematic effort to influence the frequency, intensity, and duration of specified target behavior." (From notes of Michael S. Rubin that appeared in the Arizona Law Review, Vol. 18).

During our research we discovered that the behavior scientists and counterinsurgency agents of the government learned many of their tactics from studying the

works of John B. Watson and B.F. Skinner, two United States psychologists who are leading authorities in the field of behavior modification.<sup>2</sup> We have also learned that there are three basic types of behavior modification techniques recognized today - operant conditioning, classical conditioning, and aversion therapy.

OPERANT CONDITIONING

Operant conditioning is based largely on the work of B.F. Skinner and involves the presentation of a reinforcer, usually called a reward, upon the production of a desirable behavior in order to increase the probability that the particular behavior will be repeated. A classic example of operant conditioning is that of a rat being trained to depress a lever in his cage which releases food pellets. A reinforcer, such as the food pellet is something that increases the rate of the behavior. (See Durland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary 25th Edition 1938).

CLASSICAL CONDITIONING

Classical conditioning utilizes a stimulus to elicit an involuntary response or a reflex. At the beginning of the program an "unconditioned" stimulus, such as food, is employed to elicit the reflex, such as salivation. A second stimulus which by itself would not produce the involuntary or unconditioned response, is paired with the unconditioned stimulus. After continued pairing of unconditioned and conditioned stimuli, the same response is obtained from the presentation of the neutral stimulus - as was produced by the unconditioned stimulus. Thus, Pavlov in his now famous experiments was able to elicit a dog's salivation

<sup>2</sup> John B. Watson was the founder of behaviorism in the United States in the 1900s. He rejected intuitionism, and introspection and advocated a purely objective psychology... B.F. Skinner was a pivotal figure in psychological behaviorism. Much of his work has centered on the process of operant conditioning.



upon the hearing of a bell by the repeated pairing of the sound of the bell - conditioned stimulus with the presentation of food - unconditioned stimulus. (See G. Kimble and N. Garnezy, principles of general psychology (1968)).

#### AVERSION THERAPY

Aversion therapy has been defined as an attempt to associate an undesirable behavior pattern with unpleasant stimulation or to make the unpleasant stimulation a consequence of the undesirable behavior. In either case it is hoped that an acquired connection between the behavior and the unpleasantness will develop. There is further hope that the development of such a connection will be followed by a cessation of the target behavior. (See S. Rachman and Teasdale, *Aversion Therapy and Behavior Disorders*).

Even though all three of the above techniques are used by prison officials in the United States penal system, aversion therapy seems to be the most preferred technique used in connection with counterinsurgency and low intensity warfare. Many behavior therapists have confirmed that there are many adverse side effects associated with aversion therapy, e.g., pain, frustration, increased aggressiveness, arousal, general and specific anxieties, somatic and physiological malfunctions, and development of various unexpected and often pathological operant behaviors. (See F. Kanfer and J. Phillips, *Learning foundation of Behavior Therapy*).

For the most part, we should not overlook the fact that all behavior modification techniques are intrusive to the individual whether the effects of the behavior modification experiment are felt physically or psychologically. In short, individuals in the experiment are subjected to the tampering with their mind, or their body or both.

As history shows us, behavior modification is no new phenomenon in the United States penal system. However, in earlier years prison officials used more of a "hands-on" approach in manipulating prisoners behavior. During our investigation of the past experiences of many prisoners and ex-prisoners we learned that in earlier years those persons who resisted the oppressive measures perpetrated by prison officials; or those persons who complained of oppressive conditions; or those persons who were labeled incorrigibles, were arbitrarily confined to mental wards inside the prison, or transferred to mental institutions for the criminally insane where they experienced the severe effects of mind altering drugs, electric shock treatment, or psychosurgery, which were the ultimate weapons used by prison officials in carrying out their behavior modification strategy.

However, these measures had proved to be virtually ineffective in the United States penal system by the end of the 60s or early 70s as prison demonstrations and uprisings occurred in rapid succession throughout the United States and coincided with the liberation movement happening outside prison walls. Accordingly, the government became concerned about group control inside the prisons, and to address this concern the government resorted to the use of psychological warfare. Consequently, prisoners of strong religious and cultural beliefs who had organized prisoners to resist and those prisoners who put up independent resistance were singled out and met with extreme oppression as the targets of experimental behavior modification.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> We want to emphasize that prisoners who resist outside of an organization framework are expressing dissatisfaction with the social situation although their expressed reason for having done so does not include the use of terms commonly articulated by a conscious resister. As one writer stated while addressing this issue, "criminality itself is a form of unconscious protest, reflecting the distortions of an imperfect society, and in a revolutionary situation, the criminal, the psychopath, may become as good a revolutionary as the idealist. (See *War of the Flea*, p.113, by R. Tebor).

We submit that Black people were in fact the first experimental targets of group behavior modification. Furthermore, current data and statistics on the prison situation support our contention that Black people inside the states and federal prisons today remain the prime targets of the government's program.

Moreover, we discovered during our research that the psychological warfare being waged in the U.S. penal system was planned as far back as the early 60s because the government foresaw that Black people would revolt against being oppressed, even in prison. Black people's conduct, like that of many people throughout history, validates the axiom that "oppression breeds resistance."

Significantly, in 1961 a social scientist named Dr. Edward Schein presented his ideas on brainwashing at a meeting held in Washington, D.C., that was convened by James V. Bennett, then director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons Systems, and was attended by numerous social scientists and prison wardens.<sup>4</sup> Dr. Schein suggested to the wardens that brainwashing techniques were natural for use in their institutions. In his address on the topic "Man Against Man" he explained that in order to produce marked changes of behavior and/or attitude it is necessary to weaken, undermine or remove the supports of old patterns of behavior and old attitudes. "Because most of these supports are the face-to-face confirmation of present behavior and attitudes, which are provided by those with whom close emotional ties exist. This can be done by either removing the individual physically and preventing any communication with those whom he cares about, or by proving to him that those whom he

<sup>4</sup> Information concerning this historical meeting was found in the "Mind Manipulators" by Alan W. Scheffin. (See Library of Congress cataloging in publication data); additional information was found in a pamphlet on "Breaking Men Minds" behavior control in Marion, Illinois.

respects are not worthy of it, and indeed should be actively mistrusted." Dr. Schein then provided the group with a list of specific examples such as:

1. PHYSICAL REMOVAL OF PRISONERS TO AREAS SUFFICIENTLY ISOLATED TO EFFECTIVELY BREAK OR SERIOUSLY WEAKEN CLOSE EMOTIONAL TIES.
2. SEGREGATION OF ALL NATURAL LEADERS.
3. USE OF COOPERATIVE PRISONERS AS LEADERS.
4. PROHIBITION OF GROUP ACTIVITIES NOT IN THE LINE WITH BRAINWASHING OBJECTIVES.
5. SPYING ON THE PRISONERS AND REPORTING BACK PRIVATE MATERIAL.
6. TRICKING MEN INTO WRITTEN STATEMENTS WHICH ARE THEN SHOWN TO OTHERS.
7. EXPLOITATION OF OPPORTUNISTS AND INFORMERS.
8. CONVINCING THE PRISONERS THAT THEY CAN TRUST NO ONE.
9. TREATING THOSE WHO ARE WILLING TO COLLABORATE IN FAR MORE LENIENT WAYS THAN THOSE WHICH ARE NOT.
10. PUNISHING THOSE WHO SHOW UNCOOPERATIVE ATTITUDES.
11. SYSTEMATIC WITH HOLDING OF MAIL.
12. PREVENTING CONTACT WITH ANYONE NON-SYMPATHETIC TO THE METHOD OF TREATMENT AND REGIMEN OF THE CAPTIVE POPULACE.
13. BUILDING A GROUP CONVICTING AMONG THE PRISONERS THAT THEY HAVE BEEN

ABANDONED BY AND TOTALLY ISOLATED FROM THE SOCIAL ORDER.

14. DISORGANIZATION OF ALL GROUP STANDARDS AMONG THE PRISONERS.
15. UNDERMINING OF ALL EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS.
16. PREVENTING PRISONERS FROM WRITING HOME OR TO FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY REGARDING THE CONDITIONS OF THEIR CONFINEMENT.
17. MAKING AVAILABLE AND PERMITTING ACCESS TO ONLY THOSE PUBLICATIONS AND BOOKS THAT CONTAIN MATERIALS WHICH ARE NEUTRAL TO OR SUPPORTIVE OF THE DESIRED NEW ATTITUDES.
18. PLACING INDIVIDUALS INTO NEW AND AMBIGUOUS SITUATIONS FOR WHICH THE STANDARDS ARE KEPT DELIBERATELY UNCLEAR AND THEN PUTTING PRESSURE ON THEM TO CONFORM TO WHAT IS DESIRED IN ORDER TO WIN FAVOR AND A REPRIEVE FROM THE PRESSURE.
19. PLACING INDIVIDUALS WHOSE WILLPOWER HAS BEEN SEVERELY WEAKENED OR ERODED INTO A LIVING SITUATION WITH SEVERAL OTHERS WHO ARE MORE ADVANCED IN THEIR THOUGHT REFORM AND WHOSE JOB IT IS TO FURTHER THE UNDERMINING OF THE INDIVIDUALS' EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS WHICH WERE BEGUN BY ISOLATING THEM FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS.
20. USING TECHNIQUES OF CHARACTER INVALIDATION, E.G., HUMILIATIONS, REVILEMENT, SHOUTING TO INDUCE FEELINGS OF GUILT, FEAR AND SUGGESTIBILITY, COUPLED WITH SLEEPLESSNESS, AND EXACTING PRISON REGIMEN AND PERIODIC INTERROGATIONAL INTERVIEWS.

21. MEETING ALL INSINCERE ATTEMPTS TO COMPLY WITH CELLMATES' PRESSURES WITH RENEWED HOSTILITY.
22. REPEATED POINTING OUT TO PRISONER BY CELLMATES OF WHERE HE WAS IN THE PAST, OR IS IN THE PRESENT, NOT EVEN LIVING UP TO HIS OWN STANDARDS OR VALUES.
23. REWARDING OF SUBMISSION AND SUBSERVIENCE TO THE ATTITUDES ENCOMPASSING THE BRAINWASHING OBJECTIVE WITH A LIFTING OF PRESSURE AND ACCEPTANCE AS A HUMAN BEING.
24. PROVIDING SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS WHICH REINFORCE THE NEW ATTITUDES.

Following Dr. Schein's address, James Bennett commented, "We can perhaps undertake some of the techniques Dr. Schein discussed and do things on your own.

Undertake a little experiment with what you can do with the Muslims. There is a lot of research to do. Do it as groups and let us know the results."

Approximately eleven years after that historical meeting, it was confirmed that Dr. Schein's ideas and objectives were in fact being implemented inside the prisons. In July 1972, the Federal Prisoner's Coalition, in a petition to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, asserted that the Asklepieion program conducted at the Marion, Illinois, federal penitentiary was directly modeled on Chinese methods of thought reform. The petition contains a point-by-point comparison between Dr. Schein's address, and the written description of the goals and structure of the Asklepieion program. (See the Mind Manipulators by Alan W. Scheflin).

Although the tactics introduced by Dr. Schein when viewed individually may not necessarily shock the conscience of society, the tactics, when executed singularly, or in total are nevertheless very deleterious to those persons subjected to them. We charge that the execution of the tactics are a violation of the prisoner-victim's human rights, violations which are prohibited under international law.

Many writers today who have done articles on prison behavior modification usually leave their readers with the inaccurate impression that the experiments are only implemented in isolated units of a prison. The writers usually mention the infamous control unit at the U.S. Penitentiary located at Marion, Illinois, as a prime example. However, we want to make it very clear that the experiments are conducted nationwide and that there is close collaboration between the state and federal prison systems. Moreover, the results obtained from having conducted these experiments are used by government agents to formulate a broader plan that will be implemented against people in society at large. One of the objectives of the broader plan is altering the behavior of young people by creating conditions and situations that incline them in the direction of deviant and self-destructive behavior and that derail them from a course which would incline them to resist being oppressed.<sup>9</sup>

Subsequent to having examined B.F. Skinner's analysis of behavior one would readily conclude that United States penologists heavily borrowed information from Skinner's works in formulating their behavior modification program and in devising its specific

<sup>9</sup> Many behavior scientists will attest to the fact that situations can be contrived in such a manner that they will influence people to engage in self-destructive behavior. Therefore, the United States government must be held accountable for contributing to the behavior of the oppressed.

techniques. In his book, *Beyond Freedom and Dignity*, Skinner explains that "a culture is very much like the experimental space used in the analysis of behavior. Both are sets of contingencies reinforcement. A child is born into a culture as an organism is placed in an experimental space. Designing a culture is like designing an experiment; contingencies are arranged and effects noted. In an experiment we are interested in what happens, in designing a culture with whether it will work. This is the difference between science and technology."

In unequivocal terms, Skinner's theory relates to a prison environment and society at large. If we imagine a prisoner replacing the child in the situations spoken of above and imagine a prison as the experimental space, then one can clearly see that the experiments carried out inside prisons is done with the experimenters having in mind the ultimate objective of altering the culture of an entire people. The placing of a person in a designed situation for the purpose of tearing him or her down then rebuilding him or her according to the specification of an alien group is a clear act of genocide.

As Black psychologist Bobby E. Wright perfectly stated in his view of Skinner's theory, "any Black with a cursory knowledge of B.F. Skinner's experimental analysis of behavior should recognize its potential danger to our community, where every institution is under the control of the White race." (See *Black Suicide*, 1980, Bobby E. Wright, Ph.D.).

We want to emphasize that it would be very difficult for a Black psychologist or any other psychologist not to draw a parallel between Skinner's theory and Dr. Schein's objectives as it pertain to the agenda implemented against the Black Nation.

Nevertheless, in further discussion of the many tactics implemented under this behavior modification program, we should not overlook the fact that prison officials will use drugs as a method of control. In fact, we have discovered that most of the drugs used by prison officials today are far more detrimental in their relative potency than those used in earlier years.<sup>4</sup> It is not unusual inside the prisons today to see prisoners exhibiting "Zombie-like-behavior" as a result of the type of drugs administered to them against or with their consent. In many prisons it is a prerequisite for some prisoners to take certain prescribed drugs in order to be released from solitary confinement. There are several courts that support the forcible use of drugs by prison officials thus leaving the way open for the use of drugs as a hands on tactic.

In a recent tour of the Soviet mental institutions by the American Psychiatric Association, which included numerous interviews with detainees, it was found that most of those being detained were for political reasons and that they were being administered psychotropic drugs as part of a clear program to neutralize political dissent. Furthermore, it was reported that Soviet doctors still use the "broad brush diagnosis schizophrenic" to look people up.

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<sup>4</sup> The drug thiorazine (chlorpromazine) was the first anti-schizophrenia drug used in the United States and was generally given to prisoners in earlier years. This drug clearly produces a "Zombie-like-behavior" in the individual. Furthermore, it is used as the standard against which the newer drugs are compared. (See *Multimodal behavior therapy*, by Arnold A. Lazarus). Although, thiorazine is still being used by prison officials today, new drugs called prolixin (fluphenazine) and haldol (haloperidol) are more preferably prescribed. Prolixin has a relative milligram potency of 70:1 to thiorazine, and haldol at a potency of 100:1 to thiorazine. Both drugs produce drastic mental and physical side effect.

The "broad brush diagnosis schizophrenic," which is still commonly used in America, is a smoke screen appellation used in the government's political - military strategy to contain and isolate individuals perceived to be a potential threat to the status quo.

The A.P.A. specifically alleged that patients are treated with massive doses of pain-causing psychotropic drugs that western doctors consider to have no medical value. This position gives rise to the very serious question of the intent of the APA especially when the light is cast on the empirical investigation of the value and efficiency of the drugs. (See New York Times article, March 3, 1989, which is an exhibit in support of the above).

We submit that the APA tour to and reported findings about Soviet institutions clearly represents the height of hypocrisy on the part of the United States Government, because we make the same contentions about the practices in the United States penal system that the APA alleges with respect to the Soviet Union. If the past and present tactics implemented in the United States penal system are not acknowledged, and the objectives clearly recognized and understood, then we simply make way for these abuses to continue in the future, thereby, furthering the program of genocide.

It is our position that whether or not one's response is a shocked conscience on learning of the behavior modification experiments, one should not consider the measure of one's feelings the acid test<sup>5</sup> in deciding that the experimenters have exceeded the legal criterion of what constitutes violative practices. One should merely bare in mind that the behavior modification experiments are conducted to achieve nefarious counterinsurgency and low intensity warfare objectives. Nevertheless, the judicial branch of government continues

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<sup>5</sup> According to the Webster Third New International Dictionary, the definition of "acid test" is a severe or crucial test, as of value authenticity or effectiveness.

to support the daily abuses arising out of the behavior modification program carried out in the United States penal system by not intervening to order the executive branch to cease their deleterious program and practices.

Moreover, many of the programs carried out by the Reagan administration and continued by the Bush administration that focus on the suppression of the Black Nation would immediately be condemned were they exposed to public scrutiny. Of course, one such program that would meet with public condemnation if it were given wide public exposure is the behavior modification program under discussion.

#### THE USE OF BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION TO ACHIEVE COUNTERINSURGENCY AND LOW INTENSITY WARFARE OBJECTIVES

Counterinsurgency tactics are the political military actions undertaken to forestall the inevitable fire of resistance before it is strikingly manifested. Of course, the use of such tactics demonstrates a clear recognition on the part of those governing the state that unjust conditions exist and will continue to exist into the foreseeable future. Additionally, once resistance has been manifested, counterinsurgency tactics are used to effectively destroy it.

Low Intensity Warfare involves the use of political - military strategy to achieve political, social, economic, and psychological objectives. Such wars are often of a protracted nature and many of the major battles are fought in the diplomatic, economic, and social arenas in an effort to apply psycho-biological pressure on the resisters. Equally important is the fact that low intensity wars have as their main features the constraint on weaponry used and the intermittent eruptions of violence. Accordingly, low intensity warfare

is suited for the use of subtle and sophisticated techniques. The use of such techniques is aimed at keeping the conflict disguised (e.g., using such techniques enables the state authorities to label a military action a police action), preventing scrutiny by relevant in-country and out-of-country parties, and preventing the introduction into the conflict of international standards governing warfare and/or acts of genocide.

During our research we discovered that the application of counterinsurgency and low intensity warfare techniques in the United States is derived from the strategies formulated by Frank Kitson and Robin Eveleigh.<sup>8</sup> The government has effectively managed to pursue this two-track strategy through the military, law enforcement agencies, and prison officials.

It is our contention that judging by all the standards of what constitutes a low intensity war, we, the rising Black Nation, are in fact the targeted insurgents in the United States, because our people have not been standing still in response to the permanent oppression perpetrated against us by the government. Moreover, we should not forget the infamous J.E. Hoover's cointelpro of the 60s era during which time he directed counterinsurgency measures against the "Black Nationalist Movement" to prevent the rise of a

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<sup>8</sup> Frank Kitson was the commander of the British counterinsurgency force in Northern Ireland for many years, and before that he was an officer in many of Britain's lost colonial wars, e.g., Kenya, Aden and Cyprus. Most of his examples of low intensity operations are drawn from Britain's war in Ireland and the United States war in Indochina. One of his strategic techniques was the use of gangs. The rise of gangs in the oppressed communities in America partially reflects the successful use of his strategy by past administrations. The corollary to the use of gangs is the emergence of an increasing clamor for law and order. Kitson's book, which is entitled "Low Intensity Operations" (1971), is the basic manual of counterinsurgency methods used in Western Europe and North America.

Robin Eveleigh has written a book that forms the basis of the revised British strategy used in Ireland. His approach to suppressing insurrections is also widely favored by the secret police in the United States. However, Eveleigh's suggested methods for smothering an insurrection are presently being hotly debated in ruling class circles. (See *Peace keeping in a Democratic Society: Lessons of Northern Ireland* (1973) by Robin Eveleigh).

"Mau Mau" like group and to prevent the ascent of a "Black Messiah." The diction contained in the above-quoted passages were taken from documents detailing Hoover's plan and serves as unequivocal testimony that the government formed its strategy against the Black Nation after having read about Kitson's experience, particularly in Kenya, fighting the "Mau Mau" and after having read about Kitson's use of gangs and counter gangs. Specifically, Hoover's intel program contained the following five objectives:

1. TO PREVENT THE COALITION OF MILITANT BLACK NATIONALIST GROUPS, WHICH MIGHT BE THE FIRST STEP TOWARD A REAL "MAU MAU" IN AMERICA.
2. TO PREVENT THE RISE OF A "MESSIAH" WHO COULD UNIFY AND ELECTRIFY THE MOVEMENT.
3. TO PREVENT VIOLENCE ON THE PART OF BLACK NATIONALIST GROUPS BY PINPOINTING POTENTIAL TROUBLE MAKERS AND NEUTRALIZING THEM BEFORE THEY EXERCISE THEIR POTENTIAL VIOLENCE.
4. TO PREVENT GROUPS AND LEADERS FROM GAINING RESPECTABILITY BY DISCREDITING THEM TO THE RESPONSIBLE NEGRO COMMUNITY, TO THE WHITE COMMUNITY (BOTH THE RESPONSIBLE COMMUNITY AND THE LIBERALS - THE DISTINCTION IS THE BUREAU'S), AND TO NEGRO RADICALS.
5. TO PREVENT THE LONG-RANGE GROWTH OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS, ESPECIALLY AMONG THE YOUTH, BY DEVELOPING SPECIFIC TACTICS TO PREVENT THOSE GROUPS FROM RECRUITING YOUNG PEOPLE. (See Political Legacy of Malcolm X, p.225-226, by Oba T. Shaka).

Again the United States has violated the most basic principles of a people. The United States is cognizant of its wrongfulness and it is aware that people of the world, airing their views through their representatives in the United Nation General Assembly, side with the struggling Puerto Rican people. In fact, "The General Assembly ... reaffirms the legitimacy of the people's struggle for liberation from colonial and foreign domination and alien subjugation by all available means, including armed struggle." (See U.N. General Assembly Resolution 3030 (XXVIII)).

The American Government has assassinated certain members of the Puerto Rican Movement; it has tortured and maimed political prisoners; it has used frame-ups resulting in imprisonment; it has transferred the Puerto Rican leadership from the Island of Puerto Rico to prisons deep inside the continent of the United States. Thus, denying the leadership the opportunity to community with persons in the ongoing movement.\*

An example of United States' imperialism and the United States' efforts to control and alter the behavior of people resisting oppression becomes startlingly clear when we observe the handling of Black and Latin freedom fighters from the Caribbean Islands who are incarcerated inside the U.S. penal system. Many of these prisoners are politically opposed to the "puppet regimes in their Caribbean Islands that America controls."

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\* Again the U.S. Government is clearly violating international standards by transferring Puerto Rican and Caribbean political prisoners into prisons deep inside the United States. The United Nations has established clear provisions against this sort of practice. On March 3, 1989, the U.N. General Assembly passed into effect resolution 43/173 which is called, "Body of principles for the protection of all persons under any form of detention or imprisonment." Under its listing of principles, specifically U.N. resolution 43/173, principle 20, the following is stated: "If a detained or imprisoned person so requests, he shall if possible, be kept in a place of detention or imprisonment reasonably near his usual place of residence."

Consequently, these dissident prisoners also become targets of the government's counterinsurgency and low intensity warfare.

It should also be understood that because of the geo-political and economic objectives the United States is carrying out in these underdeveloped and developing nations many social crimes are committed on these islands and these crimes are a direct result of America's intervention. After arriving on United States soil, though, the prisoners from the Caribbean Islands become socially, politically and culturally active in the United States prison system and their experiences incline them to create unbreakable bonds between themselves and the other Black freedom fighters inside the United States.

To fully appreciate the overall effect of behavior modification and low intensity warfare on those prisoners subjected to it more research will have to be done. But we feel that it is safe to say, in view of the incarceration of freedom fighters from the Caribbean in the United States prison system, which results in their political and cultural isolation, that they are very, very much enmeshed in the United States Government's counterinsurgency, low intensity warfare and behavior modification programs."

#### WHEN WHITE ANTI-IMPERIALISTS PARTICIPATE IN THE RESISTANCE

The mentioning of Blacks from the United States continent and the Caribbean Islands, the mentioning of Puerto Ricans from the United States and from the Island of Puerto

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<sup>11</sup> *The exploitative and brutal control the United States wields over the Caribbean Islands is evinced by the cowardly attack on Grenada, the intervention in Manley's government during the election in Jamaica, and the continual colonization of the Virgin Islands. One salient consequence of the U.S. exploitative and brutal control over the Caribbean is the major influx of Rastafarian and progressive prisoners from the Islands into the United States penal system.*

Rico - all of whom are freedom fighters of color, gives rise to the question: are White anti-imperialists prisoners also targeted by the government's programs?

When White anti-imperialists are charged and brought before judicial tribunals, many American judicial members suggest that because the White anti-imperialists are not victims of oppression, they have no justification for participating in the resistance. This position is clearly a nullification of the "Nuremberg principle."

Furthermore, we submit that it is natural for a caring human being to sympathize with, support, or align with those who resist being oppressed. However, when the White anti-imperialists do get involved in the resistance and are thereafter placed in prison because this government is deeply rooted in racism and feels compelled to discourage Whites from aligning themselves with Blacks, the treatment inflicted on anti-imperialists are just as severe as that meted out to Blacks and the treatment is sometimes exceptionally cruel. These tactics are aimed at sending the message to North American Whites to stay clear of the struggle.

But the strategy goes further than merely preventing Whites from entering the struggle. The government is concerned with determining why this phenomenon exists, and in altering the behavior patterns of captured White anti-imperialists. The government seeks thereby to achieve one prong of their multi-prong objectives by preventing the growth of the ranks of White people who fight against oppression.

Persons arrested as grand jury resisters are in fact victims of counterinsurgency tactics, and in prison, they are the target of the government's behavior modification program.



Another tactic used by this government that we must not overlook and that we have seen used in most of the liberation movements, is the imprisonment and the inflicting of harsh treatment on grand jury resisters. These comrades are clearly not guilty of or even charged with any crime. These comrades are incarcerated because they refuse to violate their principles that prohibit them from collaborating with the government. On this issue, like we have done at the close of other issues discussed in this paper, we charge the United States Government with violating accepted international standards.<sup>11</sup>

Many times grand jury resisters are not members of a particular movement. They are usually the friends or relatives of the revolutionary who is being inquired about or they are sympathizers of the cause. So their imprisonment is clearly a tactic designed to intimidate. Moreover, what we see here is another aspect of the counterinsurgency strategy that encompasses the objectives of determining the resisters' leadership capabilities and level of political development and dedication. All the obtained information is essential to the government for use in conducting counterinsurgency operations.

In short, grand jury resisters are given a subpoena; are thrown into jails and prisons, and are subjected to psychological and emotional distress ... all this is done in order to facilitate the breaking of the mind of the revolutionary inquired about and to suppress the movement. For the government to execute all the above-mentioned measures actually

<sup>11</sup> By the American government taking punitive measures against grand jury resisters it violates accepted standards that were enacted prohibiting the use of such measures. On March 19, 1989, the United Nations General Assembly passed into effect resolution 43/173, entitled: "Body of Principles" for the protection of all persons under any form of detention or imprisonment. Under its listing of principles, U.N. resolution (A/Res/43/173) principle 21, number 1, the following is stated: It shall be prohibited to take undue advantage of the situation of a detained or imprisoned person for the purpose of compelling him to confess, to incriminate himself otherwise or to testify against any other person.

consummates the marriage between behavior modification and counterinsurgency low intensity warfare.

"Isolation and sensory deprivation in the prison context and the larger attack on the Black community."

What really needs to be considered and is truly of paramount importance, is the totally licentious fashion the United States Government officials so effectively utilize their penal system as the primary tool in repressing and crushing all dissent, mercilessly destroying the minds of countless people, and, their souls, after a slow death are offered on the altar of "real politic."

To examine this question in its proper context we must first of all endeavor to understand the actual mechanism that the state employs to achieve its nefarious ends.

We submit that, first of all, the science of politics is not truly grounded in morality. Political scientists and politicians in general simply utilize a lot of false laudatory moralizing to build a convenient facade behind which to cleverly conceal their real designs.

In the politician - oppressor dealings with the oppressed, when the question is raised regarding what guiding precept to embrace, morality looses out to expediency, doing that which, not surprisingly, conforms to the cynical spirit of Machiavelli. History speaks all too clearly in confirmation of this.

So, it is against the backdrop of these brutal realities that we examine the question of imprisonment in general and isolation and sensory deprivation in particular. What is isolation and sensory deprivation, and how does it impact upon its victimized subjects?

This is a deep question that encompasses very subtle and deep emotional, psychological, and physiological realities.

We charge that at present, and for some time now, there is and has been a very clear and systematic program of low-intensity warfare perpetually in-motion in the prisons across America. Also, this program, brutally alive and well, is no mere accident, no loosely controlled haphazard affair. No, it is part of a precise, coordinated, careful, well-thought-out program that embraces the most scientific and subtle techniques of brainwashing, of psychological infiltration, of mendicide. It is a program for the ruthless manipulation of people's minds for forcing them to conform with scientific and archetypal patterns of broken subjects.<sup>19</sup> Their scientists have very meticulously worked out the intricate details of this practice through experimentation, deduction and inference.

They have worked out the details on how to create a controlled environment, on how to impregnate the environment with certain subtle messages in order to trigger certain thoughts and behavior patterns in their controlled subjects - all based upon their knowledge of the laws of the workings of the mind.

Isolation and sensory deprivation as it is practiced in the Auschwitz and Dachaus scattered across America is a definite aspect of the oppressor's controlled environment. They know that through isolation, through the systematic removal, inclusion, or manipulation of key sensory stimuli they can attack a prisoner's mind and reduce him or

<sup>19</sup> Through experimentation, deduction, and inference all of which is empirically verifiable through repeated experimentation and arriving at the same results in conformance with the projected model or worked out archetype their scientists are able to work out and develop the precise formula that will enable them to direct and control people's behavior with mathematical precision.

her to a warped, subservient state characterized by feelings of lethargy, listlessness and hopelessness ... in short, a prisoner develops the feeling of being more dead than alive.<sup>20</sup>

They combine the practice of tampering with sensory stimuli with a deficient diet, a diet lacking key nutrients indispensable to the proper functioning of a well-integrated personality. The diet consists of meals that have acceptable appearances, but are nutritiously deficient, and after having eaten a few meals one finds oneself getting hungrier and feeling lethargic. Being on such a diet promotes depression and ultimately gives rise to thoughts of self-destruction. All of this is intentional and all of this is based upon a very clear, scientific program, one of the best programs their "think tanks" could devise. On this, as in all other areas, they know exactly what they are doing; they know precisely what their experiments, their scientific applications, will entail. In this, as in other areas, they are again in violation of international standards.<sup>21</sup>

It is clear, unequivocally clear, that this is a most cruel brand of psychological and emotional torture that is a violation of human rights and violates the U.S. Constitution prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment. These measures rival even the methods used by Nazi Germany. Right now there are literally thousands of people being subjected to this program. It is an essential feature of the American penal system.

<sup>20</sup> See *Cover Action Information Bulletin*, issue number 31, wherein Susan Rosenberg speaks about the horrendous conditions she, Silvia Baraldini and Alejandrina Torres were confined under the Lexington High Security Unit.

<sup>21</sup> U.S. Resolution 43/173, Principle 22, passed into effect on March 19, 1989, states the following: No detained or imprisoned person shall, even with his consent, be subjected to any medical or scientific experimentation which may be detrimental to his health.

The penal system is designed to break minds, to create warped and aberrated personalities, and isolation and sensory deprivation play a most singular and unique role in this.<sup>14</sup>

In general, all prisoners are targeted. Even the staff themselves become victimized by the same system they blindly seek to uphold. You cannot dehumanize people without yourself becoming dehumanized in the process. Yes, all prisoners are targeted and the harshness of their treatment varies only in degree with the most severe treatment being meted out to those with some political consciousness or to those who are in prison for political offenses.

They concentrate extra hard on the political prisoner because the political prisoner has the clearest understanding about the true nature of things, about the exploitative relationships that prevail. Accordingly, they concentrate extra hard on the political prisoner because she or he has the greatest potential for awakening and organizing the rest of the prisoners.

So, isolation and sensory deprivation has always played a unique role in the government's perennial war on the political prisoner. Through isolation and sensory deprivation, through being confined within a limited space, through the denial of privacy, lack of natural light and fresh air, through the lack of intellectual stimulation, lack of comradeship, through the lack of undisturbed sleep, lack of proper health care, lack of

<sup>14</sup> See "The Mind Manipulators" by Alan Scheflin. It contains information on some of the techniques used on prisoners. Here is a telling list of the chapters: Assaulting the Mind; Tampering with the Mind (I); Ruling the Mind; Amputating the Mind; Pruning the Mind; Rewiring the Mind; Blowing the Mind; Controlling the Mind; Robotizing the Mind.

educational and recreational outlets - the lack of these things that contribute to fueling life reduces one to an existence of lifelessness.

This is war. This is a war of attrition and it is designed to reduce prisoners to a state of submission essential for their ideological conversion. That failing, the next option, in deadly sequence, is to reduce the prisoners to a state of psychological incompetence sufficient to neutralize them as efficient, self-directing antagonists. That failing, the only option left is to destroy the prisoners, preferably by making them desperate enough to destroy themselves.

The purpose of this isolation and sensory deprivation is to disrupt one's balance, one's inner equilibrium, to dehumanize the prisoner, to depersonalize him, to strip him of his unique individuality, plant in the hands of his vicious captors.

We note that amongst the many effects of the process is the disruption of the biological time clock, neuropathic disorders, bio-chemical degeneration, depression, apathy, chronic rage reaction, defensive psychological withdrawal, loss of appetite (or the opposite extreme), weight loss, and the exacerbation of pre-existing medical problems.

These things are real, frighteningly real, as many, many documented cases prove. All of these things are part of a very clear, scientific program operated by the government and it is designed to crush, dehumanize, and decimate those held captive.

This implacable, relentless attack by the United States Government is a very clear violation of fundamental human rights. These violations constitute an issue we must all hasten to confront. This terrible malady is already in its most advanced state and everyone is

affected by it. In addition, it is to the peril of the whole nation the longer people procrastinate on taking a just stand on this issue.

There are relevant international bodies that exist to uncover and redress human rights violations ... all of which are highly salutatory.<sup>17</sup> But what we ask, those of us who have been victimized, is where are the stringent voices of those international bodies as day in and day out, our rights, our dignity, are offended and trampled on over and over again? Is everyone so inexorably chained to partisan politics that they refrain from applying their conscience until given the nod by party bigwigs? The world can see what goes on in the tomb of America as Black people are being slowly strangled and suffocated to death and are reeling drunkenly under the tyrannical whip of oppression.

Yes, the world can see what goes on. yet there remains a deadly chorus of silence, a conspiracy of silence.

We charge the American Government with genocide. In clear, unequivocal terms, we charge the American government with genocide against the captive Black people in America who are perpetually under siege. We charge genocide, infanticide, and mendicide, which is perpetrated via institutionalized racism.

The voracious jaws of oppression and exploitation constantly feast upon our people. Additionally, every aspect of our existence is determined and controlled by another people, by a brutal enemy intent upon our total annihilation. We see the emissaries of death

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<sup>17</sup> We do not mean to imply that these international bodies have not done some outstanding work. We acknowledge that these bodies have monitored certain regions and countries and they have called attention to human rights abuses occurring in those areas. What we do charge, however, and feel most strongly about, is that these same international bodies have been virtually silent with regard to the brutal treatment of Blacks in America, a people who have never had any real rights in America. We are calling attention to this neglect.

wreaking havoc in our ravaged communities by further eroding the quality of life (already at a subhuman level) and by further contributing to the horrendous deficiency of life-supporting stimuli.

The funeral pyre burns on and on. Our youth stumble through the wilderness of confusion, hopelessness and feelings of insignificance. Their young and vulnerable bellies are bloated with the plague of self-destruction, miseducation, rejection, feelings of worthlessness. Our youths are the denizens of a defective social system that was not designed with the best interest of our people at heart.

The government of America knows exactly what it is doing; it has mastered the techniques of mass control. It knows how to build into an environment certain stimuli that will set into motion a desired process that takes on a life of its own, with the hand that originated the process becoming less and less visible. The withdrawing of the hand results in the people mistaking the effect for the cause.

Before this process can be properly cultivated to fruition, it first of all becomes necessary for the oppressor to develop ways to determine what the oppressed will think and when they will act. The first step in determining these things is to systematically destroy anything and anybody which or who might provide an alternate frame of reference, which means first of all attacking and destroying that people's history and culture, and second, given the oppressed something warped and twisted in place of that which has been destroyed. Keep in mind that the oppressor knows what negative experiences the oppressed are subjected to and the oppressor knows what trashy ideas are stuffed into the heads of the oppressed.

In connection with this, brother, Amílcar Cabral, noted "that oppression or domination of a people is only secured when the cultural life of a people is destroyed, paralyzed, or at least neutralized." Parenthetically, it may, in fact, be the case that the different forms of oppression experienced by African peoples are determined by the emphasis placed on destroying, paralyzing, or neutralizing the culture of the people under domination.

We hold this government responsible for the conditions of our people. In places like Chile, Argentina, Paraguay and South Africa, they have done it blatantly (and we must not forget that it was, and is, the United States Government which finances and trains practically all of these oppressive regimes); they do it crudely, and blatantly with gun and truncheon.

In America, they do it through psychology, theology, philosophy, biology, through the refinement of sophisticated behavioral sciences, and we see the evidence of its effectiveness. All of the institutions of America serve to further uphold and perpetuate this oppressive order; all of their sciences are drawn into this nefarious enterprise and are subordinated to it.

Brother Wade Nobles has expounded on this saying: "The ideas of science do not develop in empty space, or even abstract space where there is supposedly nothing but ideas. The ideas, interests, application and definition of science goes on in a human world, and human life is social. There is, therefore, no science which is not some part of a social science. Similarly, when the social reality is defined by racism and oppression, there can be no science which is not, in part, oppressive and racist. Just as science and technology have gone hand-and-hand in the last three hundred years to assist in the development of the

Western World, so, too, does it seem apparent that social science, as a political institution, now serves to maintain the advantages obtained by technological superiority of the Western World. Where the connection between science and society once was in science's devotion to the creation and use of technical and industrial power, science now serves Western society in the creation and use of theories and ideas designed to control the use of power in general by oppressed people. In fact, where power before was defined by the creation of ideas and the ability to have people respond to one's ideas as if they represented the respondent's reality."<sup>11</sup>

The allegations we make are very clear; even many of their own establishment figures admit as much. Statistics always fall short of fully conveying the entire picture but even the ones that are out present a most bleak and shocking picture of what is happening to our people. Cited here are just a few of these statistics.

It is estimated that one-third to one-half of Black men up to the age 24 are unemployed; many are caught in a cycle of drugs, homicide and suicide. They say that employment among Black men were 84 percent in 1940, but only 67 percent in 1980. Today one-third of all Black men are either unemployed, or completely out of the labor market. This is more serious than during the great depression. In the past 25 years, the employment rate of young White men has remained constant while Blacks dropped from 52 to 26 percent in the 16 to 19 age group and from 77 to 55 percent in the 20 to 24 age group.

It is estimated that a young Black man has one chance in 21 of dying from homicide while the typical American has a 1 in 133 chance. More Black men died from

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<sup>11</sup> Wade Nobles, "African Consciousness and Liberation Struggles: Implications for the Development and Construction of Scientific Paradigms."

homicide in the single year 1977, for instance, than died in the entire Vietnam War, and we believe there has been many such years.

In 1987, the Bureau of Justice estimated that the number of prisoners in this country reached 546,659 - over one half-million people. It has been estimated that from 1975 to the year 2000 the total prison population will quadruple and the number of Black prisoners is expected to increase tenfold.

Moreover, on closer inspection of the statistics one clearly sees that the rates of imprisonment began accelerating after the social upheavals of the late 1960s era. In 1969, 120 cities burned during the Black rebellion. In 1983, the imprisonment rate per one hundred thousand people was 713 for Black people (even greater now); compared to 114 for White people, and it goes on and on ad infinitum.

#### THE FURTHER EROSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTION

We submit that it would be a meaningless exercise to litigate the charge of human rights violations in the United States Courts, especially in view of the fact that the executive branch has virtually usurped the discretionary powers of the judicial branch thus making it impossible for us to receive relief.

Even the Supreme Court of the United States has closed its eyes and ears to these human rights violations. As Alvin J. Bronstein states in his introduction to Prisoner's Litigation Manual "The courts have returned to the handoff doctrine."

Over the years, prisoners have put forth the effort to engage in legal battles regarding constitutional violations and prison conditions and treatment. (Moreover, it was

hoped that the occasion of being in court could be used to expose the United States penal system to the international community).

The courts, for a brief period listened to the prisoners' complaints and at times sustained their allegations of constitutional rights violations. However, as the result of the pressure applied on the courts by the executive branch, the independence of the judicial branch was erased and consequently, prisoners were left deprived of the institutional guarantor of the protection of their constitutional rights which really means prisoners exist in a constitutional void.

#### CONCLUSION

In every stage of these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms. Our repeated petitions have been answered mainly by repeated injury. A nation, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a racially oppressive regime, is unfit to receive the respect of a free people.

America's national mentality demonstrates poor judgment and irresponsibility in dealing with people at both a domestic and foreign level. America appears self-centered in her search for immediate gratification and failure to make long-range goals that benefit humanity.

As we note the 1962 meeting with Dr. Schein and his objectives, and recall the infamous J.E. Hoover's memo, therein directing counterinsurgency against the Black Nationalist Liberation movement, it is evident that Kitson's experience in Kenya, fighting against the "Mau Mau," emerged as a strategy of the U.S. government's counterinsurgency objectives....