

# POLITICAL PRISONERS' BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST

## **Fernando González** (Rubén Campa)

#58733-004  
FCl Terre Haute  
P.O. BOX 33  
Terre Haute, IN 47808  
August 18, 1963

(NOTE: the envelope should be addressed to "Rubén Campa," but address the letter inside to Fernando) Fernando is one of the Cuban Five who are in U.S. prison, serving four life sentences and 75 years collectively, after being wrongly convicted. The Five were falsely accused by the U.S. government of committing espionage conspiracy against the United States, and other related charges. The Five were involved in monitoring the actions of Miami-based right wing terrorist groups, in order to prevent terrorist attacks on their country of Cuba. The Five's actions were never directed at the U.S. government. They never harmed anyone nor ever possessed nor used any weapons while in the United States. [www.freethethefive.org](http://www.freethethefive.org)

## **Hanif Shabazz Bey** (Beaumont Gereau)

RR 1 Box 9955  
Kingshill, St Croix, VI 00850  
August 16, 1950

During the 1970's a movement to resist colonial rule began to grow in the U.S. occupied Virgin Islands. From 1971 to 1973, there was a small scale Mau Mau rebellion taking place on the islands. On September 6th, 1972, eight American tourists were gunned down at the Rockefeller-owned golf course on the island of St. Croix. Quickly the colonial authorities picked up over 100 blacks for interrogations, and the U.S. colonial troops carried out a series of repressive acts of violence against the black community. The F.B.I. and the United States Army led a 300-man invasion force into the islands and used strong armed tactics to conduct house to house searches of the low income areas. The island was put under virtual martial law, and eventually 5 known supporters of the Virgin Island independence movement were apprehended and then charged with the attack. Using extreme torture and then a Kangaroo Court and in 1973 the 5 were sentenced to 8 consecutive life terms. Bey was one of those 5. More info can be found at [www.denverabc.wordpress.com](http://www.denverabc.wordpress.com)

## **Maliki Latine**

#81-A-4469  
Clinton Correctional Facility  
P.O. Box 2001  
Dannemora, New York 12929  
August 23, 1949

Maliki Shakur Latine was a member of the Black Panther Party, and due to government repression spent 8 years in the underground working for black liberation. On October 1, 1981, he was sentenced to 25 to life in connection with a series of bank expropriations. He is currently doing time in Clinton Correctional. He continues to suffer medical neglect of his food allergies at the hands of NY Department of Corrections. He is a devout Muslim (Shia Sufi), is learned in philosophy, community building and organizing, communalistic living, martial arts, self-discipline, and resistance. [www.thejerichomovement.com](http://www.thejerichomovement.com)

## **Russell Maroon Shoats**

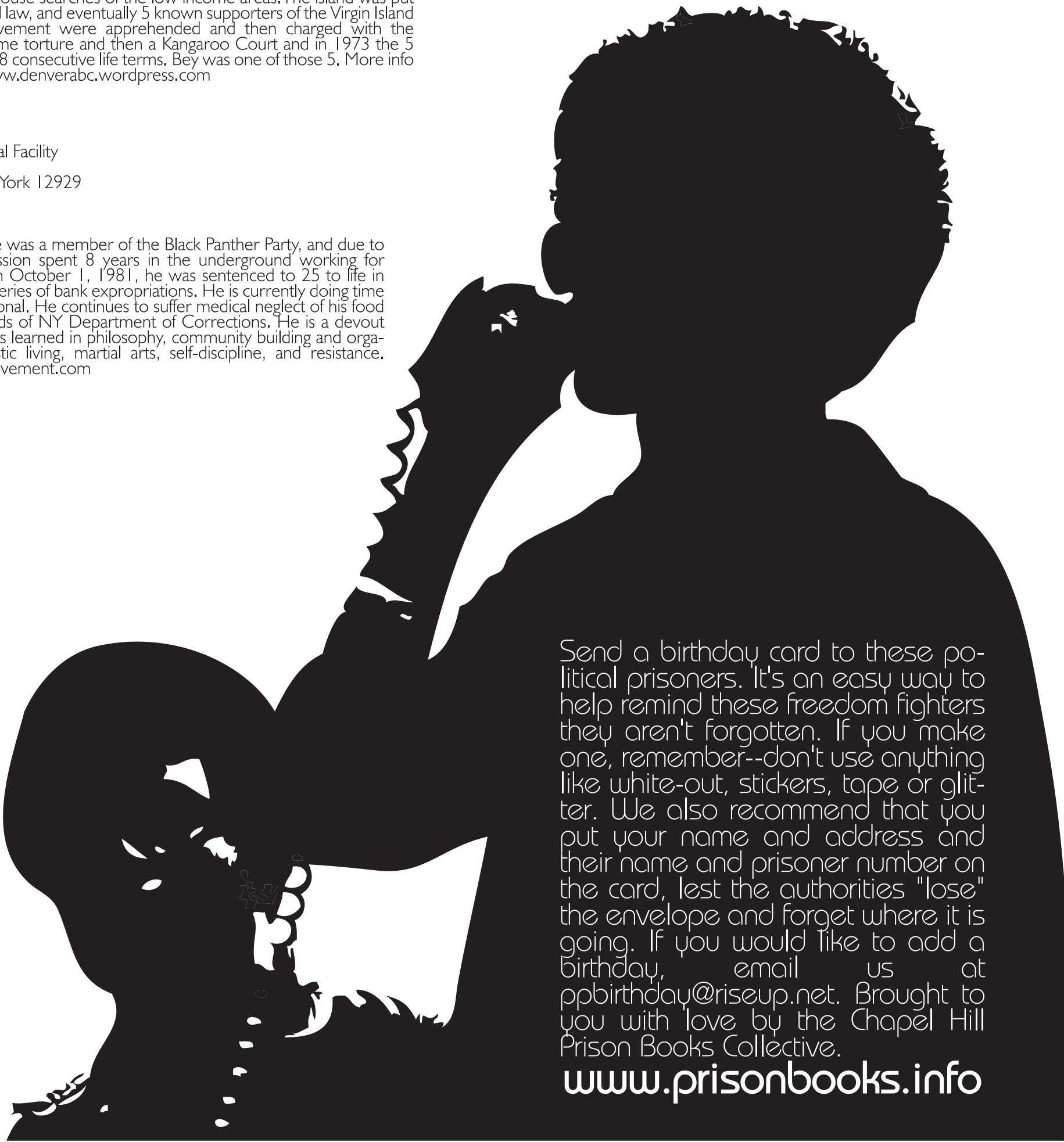
AF-3855  
175 Progress Dr.  
Waynesburg, PA 15370  
August 23, 1943

Russell Maroon Shoats is a dedicated community activist, a founding member of the Philadelphia based organization Black Unity Council, and was a member of the Black Panther Party. In 1970, along with 5 others, Maroon was accused of attacking a police station, which resulted in an officer being killed. For 18 months Maroon functioned underground as a soldier in the Black Liberation Army. In 1972 he was captured. Twice he escaped — once in 1977 and again 1980, but both times he was recaptured and today he is held in a control unit in Pennsylvania where he is serving multiple life sentences. Right now Russell is suffering from chest pains and is still not receiving all the medical care he needs, but is in the medical wing thanks to pressure from his family and supporters. [www.myspace.com/freerussellshoatz](http://www.myspace.com/freerussellshoatz)

## **Ronald Reed**

5329 Osgood Avenue North  
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082-1117  
August 31, 1950

Ronald Reed is a former 60's civil rights activist, and was among the students at St. Paul Central High School who demanded black history courses and organized actions against racist teachers. He was also instrumental in helping to integrate college campuses in Minnesota. During this period, Reed began to look toward revolutionary theory, and ultimately went on to join the Black United Front. Twenty-five years after the killing of a St. Paul police officer in 1970, Reed was arrested and convicted of first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit first degree-murder. He is serving life in prison. More info available at [www.denverabc.wordpress.com](http://www.denverabc.wordpress.com).



Send a birthday card to these political prisoners. It's an easy way to help remind these freedom fighters they aren't forgotten. If you make one, remember--don't use anything like white-out, stickers, tape or glitter. We also recommend that you put your name and address and their name and prisoner number on the card, lest the authorities "lose" the envelope and forget where it is going. If you would like to add a birthday, email us at [ppbirthday@riseup.net](mailto:ppbirthday@riseup.net). Brought to you with love by the Chapel Hill Prison Books Collective.

[www.prisonbooks.info](http://www.prisonbooks.info)