

Who is Marilyn Buck?

Marilyn Buck is an anti-imperialist political prisoner. Her involvement in the liberation movement has spanned over nearly five decades. Her activities in the anti-colonial movement has resulted in the US labeling her as a threat to national security

She began her anti-racist activism as a teenager in Texas, participating in protests against racism and the Vietnam war. In 1967 she became part of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) and worked with SF Newsreel, a radical filmmaking and propaganda collective, showing films as an organizing aid at community meetings, high school groups, workers' committees and in the streets. She also participated in international solidarity groups supporting the Vietnamese, Palestinians, and the Iranian struggle against the Shah. She worked in solidarity with Native Americans, Mexicano and Black liberation struggles.

Because of her consistent support for national liberation struggles worldwide and particularly her support for the Black Liberation Army (BLA), she was targeted by COINTELPRO, a program designed by the FBI to neutralize and destroy liberation movements. In 1973, she received a 10-year sentence for buying two boxes of ammunition with false identification. After serving four years in Federal prison in Alderson, West Virginia, she was granted a furlough and did not return. The following eight years she was underground. Although she was a fugitive, she continued to support the Black liberation struggle as well as Puerto Rican independence and other international struggles.

R.I.C.O. Case

In March 1982, Marilyn Buck and 10 others were indicted by a federal grand jury under a set of U.S. conspiracy laws called "Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization" (RICO) laws. These conspiracy laws were ostensibly developed to aid the government in its prosecution of organized crime figures; however, they have been used with varying degrees of success against revolutionary organizations.

Marilyn Buck was charged with conspiracy and participation in a clandestine paramilitary unit that carried out actual and attempted expropriations from several banks. Eight (8) incidents were alleged to have occurred between December 1976 to October 1981. In addition she was charged with participation in the 1979 prison escape of Assata Shakur, a member of the Black Liberation Army (BLA) who is now in living in Cuba. Despite the indictments, Marilyn was able to avoid arrest.

In May 1985, however, she was recaptured after a concerted hunt by the Joint Terrorist Task Force and faced 4 separate court trials. She was sentenced to 70 years in prison for her actions.



Resistance Conspiracy Case

In 1988, Marilyn Buck was also indicted along with six other North American anti-imperialists (Linda Evans, Laura Whitehorn, Susan Rosenberg, Timothy Blunk, Dr. Alan Berkman and Elizabeth Duke) in the Resistance Conspiracy case. The seven were identified as being members of a group that variously called itself the Revolutionary Fighting Group, the Armed Resistance Unit, and the Red Guerrilla Resistance.

The Armed Resistance Unit had previously claimed responsibility for the Nov. 7, 1983 Capitol bombing in protest of the U.S. invasion of Grenada and involvement of Marines in Lebanon. They were accused of conspiring to bomb the Capitol and seven other buildings in Washington and New York City as part of a campaign of "armed propaganda" waged by a secret "communist politico-military organization" from 1983 to 1985.

The seven were tried and sentenced for conspiracy to protest and alter the U.S. government policies (i.e., the invasion of Grenada and intervention in Central America) by attacking U.S. military institutions and the Capital. Marilyn Buck received an additional 10 years, making her total to 80 years in prison.

Marilyn continues her activism inside the Federal women's prison in Dublin, California. She has continued to work in AIDS/HIV peer education despite new limitations by Bureau of Prisons (BOP) policies at FCI Dublin that diminishes AIDS education to a bare minimum. Joining with other political prisoners internationally, she issued one of the early calls

to organize for Mumia Abu-Jamal's life.

She is deeply involved in cultural and educational activities for all prisoners, and translates for Spanish-speaking women inside. She has lifted her own voice through poetry for the whole time she has been incarcerated, and has participated in Poetry for the People workshops inside. She also writes a column, "Notes from the Unrepententiary," for Prison Legal News.

Marilyn has recently completed her work for a bachelor's degree in psychology. *"I am deeply interested in the psychology of repression and resistance, and the psychological results of both state and self censorship. I see psychology as a useful field to support other women prisoners as well as to maintain my own personal integrity and well-being. I intend to use my skills to help explain and transform prison conditions and existence. I see my poetry and writing as vehicles in accomplishing this."*

Marilyn believes that peace, social justice, and women's liberation can be realized only through victories of national liberation and socialism.

Her dedication for the freedom and liberation of all people has resulted in her own liberty being taken from her. Despite her imprisonment she has continued to inspire others to act in solidarity and engage in act of self-liberation.

"I am not a criminal, I am a political prisoner."

- Marilyn Buck

Free Marilyn Buck

Marilyn Buck

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For more information regarding
Marilyn Buck, please contact:

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Marilyn Buck



**SERVING EIGHTY YEARS IN
PRISON FOR HER SUPPORT
OF BLACK LIBERATION**

