

SUPPORT FOR ANTI-IMPERIALIST PRISONER JAAN KARL LAAMAN

BACKGROUND:

Jaam Laaman grew up in Roxbury and Buffalo NY. His family emigrated to the U.S. from Estonia when he was a child. He has a son now in his twenties. Jaan has been in the freedom struggle since the 1960s. He has been an active member of the United Steelworkers of America a Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) organizer and an anti-war, anti-imperialist activist. In 1972 he was charged with bombing an unoccupied Nixon reelection headquarters. He was sentenced to 20 years, but after winning an appeal, he was released in 1978.

In 1979, he helped to organize the Amandla Festival of Unity in Cambridge to support liberation movements in Southern

Africa, which featured Bob Marley & the Wailers.



This activity, along with the anti-racist, community security and Human Rights work he was doing, led to death threats and

increased police harassment, so Jaan went underground.

Jaam was captured in 1984, in Cleveland, Ohio, with several comrades after what the U.S. government labeled the largest fugitive hunt it ever conducted. Jaan and his comrades, who became known as the "Ohio 7" were accused of being members of the United Freedom Front (UFF), a group that took responsibility for targeting the offices of the South African apartheid regime, U.S. military bases, and corporations profiting from war and apartheid. Jaan is close to completing his Massachusetts state sentences. In the next three to five years he will be returned to the federal system to begin a 53 year consecutive sentence for seditious conspiracy.

AN APPEAL FROM OHIO 7 ANTI-IMPERIALIST POLITICAL PRISONER JAAN LAAMAN

"My friends and fellow activists for a liberated, just, peaceful and healthy planet, let me share some hopeful information and ask for your support and assistance.

"I have been locked up for over 21 years now. Soon I will complete my Massachusetts sentence and then I have to begin a 53 year federal sentence. Because of my two separate sentences, I am the last Ohio 7 person, with a release date, who is still in captivity. I do have one other Ohio 7 comrade, Tom Manning, still in prison, but he has a life sentence with no real release date. [Jaan's comrade Richard Williams died in federal prison on December 7, 2005.]

"Years ago I exhausted all normal appeals. Because of new developments this year I now have a possibility of reopening and challenging my entire Mass. conviction. I have always maintained my innocence in this case and now I may finally be able to prove it.

"Of course any legal effort is an uphill battle, especially for political prisoners. But this is a real possibility. Actually this is the first appeal I am hopeful about and I am determined to win. But I can only do it with your help. I need to raise thousands of dollars to mount a multilayered appeal now.

"My hope and intention is overturn my conviction, prove my innocence, and finally rejoin my family and all of you outside once again." - Jaan Laaman, 2005

WE NEED TO SUPPORT JAAN'S LEGAL STRUGGLE BY RAISING FUNDS AND DONATING!

DONATE:

Jaam Laaman Legal Freedom Fund
P.O. Box 681
East Boston, MA 02128
(checks can be made out to
"Jaam Laaman Legal Freedom Fund")

WRITE TO JAAN:

Jaam K. Laaman
#W87237
Box 100
MCI Cedar Junction
South Walpole, MA 02071

ON THE WEB:

www.4struggle.org
an online 'zine written by
political prisoners