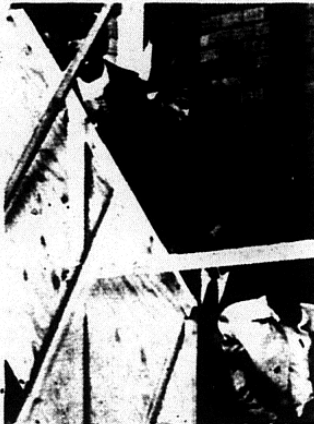


# MONROE PRISONERS STAGE WORK SLOWDOWN

## DEMAND RECOGNITION BY AUTHORITIES

(Seattle, Wash.) - Prison inmates at the Monroe facility of the Washington State Correction System are staging a work slowdown. The Washington State Prisoners Labor Union (WSPLU) called the slowdown to force the prison system to recognize the union. More than 85% of the 650 Monroe prisoners are members of the union.



Prison inmates, like these Attica defendant Brothers, continue to struggle.

Since the slowdown started on October 23, prison authorities have pursued several methods in attempting to break the union. Union literature is taken from the prisoners and union members are threatened with punishment. One prisoner lost his job because of a pro-union statement he made and all prisoners at Monroe lost partial use of the showers and the library when the slowdown began.

One ex-prisoner who is helping the union with its work outside Monroe's walls was threatened by the parole board with parole violations because he participated in picketing the prison.

The WSPLU is asking Warden Roger Maxwell for recognition as "the sole bargaining agent in all

### PROVEN INNOCENT

## BLACK MAN REMAINS IN JAIL

(Atmore, Alabama) - Herbert Moses Edwards, 24, is still serving a life sentence for murder in Atmore Prison near here even though another man has now confessed to the robbery-murder. Edwards was convicted of almost three years ago. Police, court and prison officials have made no move to release Edwards despite the fact that Vernon Johnson, charged in connection with several other robbery-murders, admitted during a court hearing two weeks ago that he had committed the 1971 robbery.

In a letter to THE BLACK PANTHER, Brother Edwards ur-

gently pleads for help from the people of Alabama and the entire country in order to gain his immediate release. He states that the police and court officials won't release him for fear that he will file suit for false imprisonment. Brother Edwards writes that his primary concern is his immediate release, not money.

Edwards pleaded innocent to charges of killing a woman clerk and wounding a store manager during a robbery in 1971. He was sentenced to life in prison in May, 1972, behind the testimony of the manager, who "positively identified" him as the murderer.

## NAPANOCH PRISONERS SECRETLY DRUGGED

### NEW PACIFICATION PROGRAM IN N.Y.

(New York, N.Y.) - Prisoners at the Eastern Correctional Facility at Napanoch, New York, insist that their food is secretly being spiked with tranquilizers. One prisoner became convinced of this after he conducted a test. He refused to eat any of the prison food.

"I started feeling better immediately. The drowsiness went away, and I felt stronger and more alert."

The suspicions of many Napanoch prisoners are not discounted by psychologists and lawyers who are familiar with the New York prison system. Experimentation with, and use of, drugs to retard prisoners activities has admittedly been long in existence at other New York prisons. The Dannemora State Hospital is the site of a program involving the use of tranquilizers such as Thorazine. One Napanoch prison inmate compared his physical symptoms to the sustained lethargy he felt while drugged at Dannemora, in New York.

In one day six prisoners became exhausted and perplexed

from prisoner-made items. The warden admits that at present the slowdown is effectively hurting the prison's production and cutting into its huge profits.

Prisoners who are on work-release programs are rented-out cheaply to outside companies. This cheap labor imperils the jobs and decreases the wages of other non-prisoner workers. The prison workers are also useful as tools for the state and big industry in breaking the power of outside, civilian unions. Cheap scab labor from the prison system provides a handy reserve labor pool. By demanding fair wages for prison inmate labor, the WSPLU will benefit civilian as well as prisoner workers.

for no apparent reason and then fainted. Many feel dizzy and tired all day long. All prisoners who were polled recently said they felt stranger and sleepier than they did before they were transferred to Napanoch.



Drugs secretly placed in food turn prisoners into vegetables.

One lawyer points out that almost all of the men in Napanoch were transferred there from other prisons earlier this year. The men were promised educational and vocational training at Napanoch, but no such training programs were ever established. A large percentage of the men are considered to be politically conscious or "agitators".

After the Attica rebellion was violently crushed in September of 1971, the prison system has increasingly sought to curtail protests by its incarcerated victims through the use of new experimental "pacification and control" methods, according to this lawyer.

Prisoners have noticed that they are not permitted to draw their own tap water in the mess hall. Guards do not use the sink in the mess hall to fill water cups for them. The guards always go to the concealed kitchen area for water which consistently tastes different from the tap water.

## INSIDE OUT

### D.C. WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT MARION BARRY

Concerned citizens of Washington, D.C., are keeping a watchful eye on Marion Barry, Jr., President of the D.C. School Board.

When he came to Washington in 1965, broke and unknown, he expressed a desire to serve the people of the nation's capital city. However, even then he usually didn't remember to consult and involve the masses of people before he acted.

First, Barry invented the "Free D.C. Movement", asking shop owners to pay him a given amount of money, the purpose of which is still unclear to the community. When asked such questions as, "who will spend the money and for what will it be spent", Barry, having no explanation he could make, was forced to abandon the plan.

Using the theme, "Save The Children", Barry was elected school board president. Since then he has done little to actually save anyone. Recently, Mrs. Dolores Pride, a school board member, was forced to resign by ill-health. Rather than following the established procedures of informing the community about the vacant seat and holding a hearing to discuss a replacement, Barry staged a semi-secret meeting and appointed whom he wanted.

Only when threatened with court action did Barry nullify his illegal meeting and re-schedule an open hearing for November 23. Black, poor and progressive people are seeking a few answers about Brother Marion Barry, his methods and his goals.

JUST PUBLISHED  
A MAJOR  
CONTROVERSIAL MOVIE

# EXECUTIVE ACTION

by  
DONALD FREED and MARK LANE

"EXECUTIVE ACTION MEANS ASSASSINATION OF A HEAD OF STATE"

A Novel About The Death Of John F. Kennedy By Two Authors That Know More About The Assassination Than Any Other Living Human Beings

"In The Three Year Period That Followed The Murder Of President Kennedy And Lee Harvey Oswald, Seventeen Witnesses Interviewed By The Dallas Police, The FBI, The Warren Commission, Etc."

AT YOUR BOOK STORE  
Dell Publishing Co., Inc., New York, N.Y. PAPERBACK \$1.25

V  
10101281  
NOVON  
24[4]73