



**STG, Good
Time, and
the Malicious
Demons of
Coercion**

Jonathan Summers

Introduction

The following zine features analysis submitted to *The Opening Statement* by comrade Jonathan “Prynce-G” Summers, currently held captive by the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC), or, as he refers to them, the “Malicious Demons of Coercion.” In this short essay, Jonathan lays out some analysis of one of the most pervasive instruments of repression in the MDOC (and, indeed, across state and federal prisons in the so-called US): “security threat group,” or STG. We have transcribed his words here, and included some references for additional reading on the tools of repression that prisons deploy against social prisoners, political prisoners, and prisoners of war. We also encourage anyone who reads Jonathan’s words to write to him.

With love and rage,
MAPS

Jonathan's words:

June 5, 2023

The Opening Statement,

It felt really good to finally receive your newsletter without the 'Malicious Demons of Coercion' fucking with it and attempting to silence the voices and shut the ears of the revolutionary minded! Thank you for standing up for the 'forgotten' and continuing to fight these bullies. I live in a situation where I get called a 'nigger' or monkey every day, at least twice a day! The Michigan Dept. of Corrections is probably the most corrupt, racist, and probably the most backwards state prison system in this country! I am here, in the Womb of Willie Lynch and Satan! Being of African and Latin descent, an ex-gang member with tattoos, automatically makes me suspicious or guilty of all sorts of invisible crimes not yet committed!

I am on STG 1 (Security Threat Group). Please pay attention as I explain to you how they play us. Because of my former affiliation and this documentation in the 'Nationwide Police Database,' we are labeled as low-level, domestic terrorists by the U.S. government. The MDOC claims that in order for STG inmates to be removed from this designation, we must comply with the rules of Policy Directive 'Security Threat Groups' 04.04.113, yet when we do this, they find something totally unrelated in order to keep us 'trapped' inside of a revolving door of redundancy and gross, erroneous bullshit! They say that we must not socialize with known or

'suspected' STGs but that is impossible, because with the constant influx of gang recruitment, that literally covers 90% of the population.

The MDOC is segregated, but not like other state prisons by race or affiliation. This system is segregated by those who fight the system and those who 'conform to it!' In Michigan, STG inmates cannot write our families on JPay (but we receive mail on this service), which doesn't make sense because just like phone calls, all incoming and outgoing e-messages are read and monitored. We can't order 'secure paks,' which also limits our ability to feed ourselves for those of us who owe restitution. We can't work to earn stability and we can't enroll into school so we can better ourselves and prepare for a successful return to society! Tell me when you find an incentive in there for me to relinquish ties to a gang/brotherhood who, since an early age, provided some of us with the love, loyalty, honor and respect we were missing in our broken homes. Some of these guys were saved from severely abusive situations... by these gangs that you're telling them to leave, but are providing us with no other alternatives. STG is a set up and this state is the only state who exercises and abuses their authority in such a disgusting manner! The same goes for 'Truth in Sentencing' that has never been interpreted according to the bill that was signed and passed. We're not supposed to see the Parole Board unless we're creating extreme chaos, yet they have 'normal civilians' repeatedly 're-sentencing' us, pushing us closer to a statutory maximum out date, for nothing! If you go your entire bid without one misconduct they'll flop you for 'manipulating

the system!' I've seen this done, but then let a convicted, serial pedophile out on their first release date. This is another reason why I'm not over enthusiastic about this 'Good Time' bill. For one, we've been hearing this same song sang for over a decade and nothing came of it. You can tell the 'Malicious Demons of Coercion' are nervous this time because they are pushing their staff to set-up and sabotage prisoners who have never been in trouble! They know what this good time means... drastic reduction in filled cages! Let's pray this is the real thing this time. Stay true and never satisfied with your circumstances, brothers and sisters!

In solidarity and honor,
Jonathan 'Prynce-G' Summers #459083
'Free the Voiceless Soldiers in All Cages!'

Epigraph:

“The question remains why prison officials would go to such lengths to prevent me from expressing my opinion that educational, vocational, and counseling programs would decrease violence and increase chances for successfully cutting into the nation’s 70 percent recidivism rate? STG designation is being used as a cover to shut down independent voices.

When someone is released from prison, officials notify local law enforcement in the community. This can result in my name being added to some homeland security threat lists, no-fly lists, and other lists I have no business being on for my belief that education can transform lives.

I’m not giving up (many have). I still believe that if people were aware of what is being done in the name of justice, in their name, they wouldn’t sit or stand for it. I believe they’d roll out with us. Will you help me share this with others? I really do believe in the power of people and the politics people address.” – Lacino Hamilton, “In Spite of the Consequences: Prison Letters on Exoneration, Abolition, and Freedom,” 2023

Additional Readings:

- Dan Berger (2015), *Captive Nation: Black Prison Organizing in the Civil Rights Era*, University of North Carolina Press.
- Orisanmi Burton (2023) “Targeting Revolutionaries: The Birth of the Carceral Warfare Project, 1970-78”, *Radical History Review*, 146, 11-31.
- Sohail Daulatzai (2007) “Protect Ya Neck: Muslims and the Carceral Imagination in the Age of Guantánamo”, *Souls*, 9:2, 132-147.
- The Final Straw Radio, “‘Interpreting Realities’: A Panel Discussion Supporting Jailhouse Lawyers Speak’s #ShutEmDown2021,” September 5, 2021, <https://thefinalstrawradio.noblogs.org/post/2021/09/05/interpreting-realities-a-panel-discussion-with-jailhouse-lawyers-speak/>.
- Lacino Hamilton (2023), *In Spite of the Consequences: Prison Letters on Exoneration, Abolition, and Freedom*, Broadleaf Books, 135-137.
- Bonnie Kerness (2008), “Close the Control Units,” *Turning the Tide*, 21:6, 2.
- Nancy Kurshan (2013), *Out of Control: A 15-Year Battle against Control Unit Prisons*. San Francisco, CA: Freedom Archives. [www.freedomarchives.org/Out_of_Control/...](http://www.freedomarchives.org/Out_of_Control/)
- Steve Martinot, “The Black Guerrilla Family and Human Freedom,” *San Francisco Bay View*, February 11, 2015, <https://sfbayview.com/2015/02/the-black-guerrilla-family-and-human-freedom/>.
- “A Month after a Hunger Strike, Some Texas Prisoners Say They Will Do It Again,” *Texas Standard*, April 4, 2023, <https://www.texasstandard.org/stories/texas-prison-hunger-strike-extended-solitary-confinement/>.
- Sean Swain, “THE FBI CAN GO F**K ITSELF: A History of the State Terror Organization and An Analysis of Its Political Repression of Me, Based on Its Own Declassified Documents,” November 9, 2022, <https://seanswain.noblogs.org/2022/11/the-fbi-can-go-fk-itself/>.
- Talib Williams, “They Came for Us in the Morning: What Prison Officials Don’t Want You to Know about the Raid on 200+ Incarcerated Black People at Soledad,” *San Francisco Bay View*, September 2, 2020, <https://sfbayview.com/2020/09/they-came-for-us-in-the-morning-what-prison-officials-dont-want-you-to-know-about-the-raid-on-200-incarcerated-black-people-at-soledad/>.



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