

# COINTELPRO 101

## The Freedom Archives

COINTELPRO 101 exposes illegal surveillance, disruption, and outright murder committed by the U.S. government in the 1950s, '60s, and '70s. "COINTELPRO" refers to the official FBI COUNTER INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM carried out to surveil, imprison, and eliminate leaders of social justice movements and to disrupt, divide, and destroy the movements as well. Many of the government's crimes are still unknown. Through interviews with activists who experienced these abuses first-hand and with rare historical footage, the film provides an educational introduction to a period of intense repression and draws relevant lessons for present and future movements.

Interviews in the video include:

- Muhammad Ahmad (Max Stanford), Founder of Revolutionary Action Movement, author of *We Will Return In The Whirlwind: Black Radical Organizations 1960–1975*.
- Bob Boyle, Attorney representing many activists and political prisoners targeted by COINTELPRO.
- Kathleen Cleaver, former leader of the Black Panther Party, now professor of law at Emory and Yale Universities, and co-editor of *Liberation, Imagination, and the Black Panther Party: A New Look at the Panthers and Their Legacy*.
- Ward Churchill, co-author of *The COINTELPRO Papers and Agents of Repression*.
- Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, Native American activist and author of *Outlaw Woman: A Memoir of the War Years 1960–1975*.
- Priscilla Falcon, Mexicana activist and professor whose husband was assassinated for his leadership in the Chicano struggle.
- Geronimo Ji-Jaga Pratt, former leader of the Black Panther Party who was falsely imprisoned for 27 years in a COINTELPRO case.
- Jose Lopez, Director of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center in Chicago and long-time advocate of Puerto Rican independence.
- Francisco "Kiko" Martinez, Chicano/Mexicano activist and attorney.
- Lucy Rodriguez, Puerto Rican Independentista and former Political Prisoner
- Ricardo Romero, Chicano/Mexicano activist and Grand Jury resister
- Akinyele Umoja, African American History scholar at Georgia State University.
- Laura Whitehorn, radical activist and former political prisoner who was targeted by the federal government.

Subtitles in Spanish by Tlaxcala, the international network of translators for linguistic diversity.

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

The Freedom Archives contains over 10,000 hours of audio and video tapes. These recordings date from the late-'60s to the mid-'90s and chronicle the progressive history of the Bay Area, the United States, and international solidarity movements. The collection includes weekly news/poetry/music programs broadcast on several educational radio stations; in-depth interviews and reports on social and cultural issues; diverse activist voices; original and recorded music, poetry, original sound collages; and an extensive La Raza collection.



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