

Speaker is Phil Ryan, lawyer representing Earl Gibson.

I saw two inmates today. I saw Ruchell McGee. He has given me a message to bring to you, as well as to convey what I observed.

I have to be really very, very candid. Ruchell McGee is in very, very bad condition. He has been badly beaten, he has a five-inch lump on his head. He has marks on his ribs, his shoulders and his arms. His lip is cut. When I talked to him he was in a state of complete shock. He is dehydrated, he hasn't had any water in about four days.

I've seen Ruchell McGee on many times and we've had a highly volatile relationship, to say the least. I have never seen him where his revolutionary spirit wasn't together, and in all candor to this audience I can say that his spirit is pretty well broken in one sense right now. Yet somehow he manages to continue to function and continue to resist what they're trying to do to him.

He told me, and it's consistent with what all of the people interviewed found out, that there was no escape attempt on Saturday, that George Jackson was in fact murdered, that it was an attempt planned by prison officials and executed by prison guards, to kill specifically the Soledad brothers and Ruchell McGee. That George discovered this plan and acted in the most revolutionary fashion possible - he gave his life to save those brothers and to save all of the people in San Quentin from a massacre. And he was successful in that.

In addition to that, we have learned that the alleged escape attempt did not have any inmates whatsoever opening the doors/^{in the cells} in the adjustment center, but those in fact were opened by guards. There was no weapon smuggled into San Quentin on August 21st by any lawyer or supporter of the Soledad brothers or any other political prisoner. The gun in question - the gun that was pulled on George Jackson - belongs to a prison guard, was carried secretly by that prison guard (as most all prison guards in San Quentin do carry secret weapons). He pulled it on the wrong man, and now that guard is dead, and so is George Jackson.

And that's what happened on Saturday.