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'He Gave His Life,' Seale Says

Black Panther party chairman Bobby Seale said yesterday that slain San Quentin inmate George Jackson "gave his life in an attempt to free political prisoners and to preserve his own dignity and manhood."

"The first rule when a people's soldier is captured is to immediately start planning his escape," said Seale, reading from a statement prepared by Panther co-founder and Minister of Defense Huey P. Newton, during an interview on radio station KDIA.

"He took the only available action of redress against state murder. The state created the violent situation that exists in San Quentin today."

"The state had threatened to take brother George's life; the executioner already had a hood over his head," Seale said.

"A glass cage had been built and was euphemistically called a courtroom. The shackles were locked. George broke the shackles, spurned the glass cage and defended his manhood in the spirit of freedom."