

WEEK SIX: **THE CRISIS AT THE WHITNEY CONTINUES**

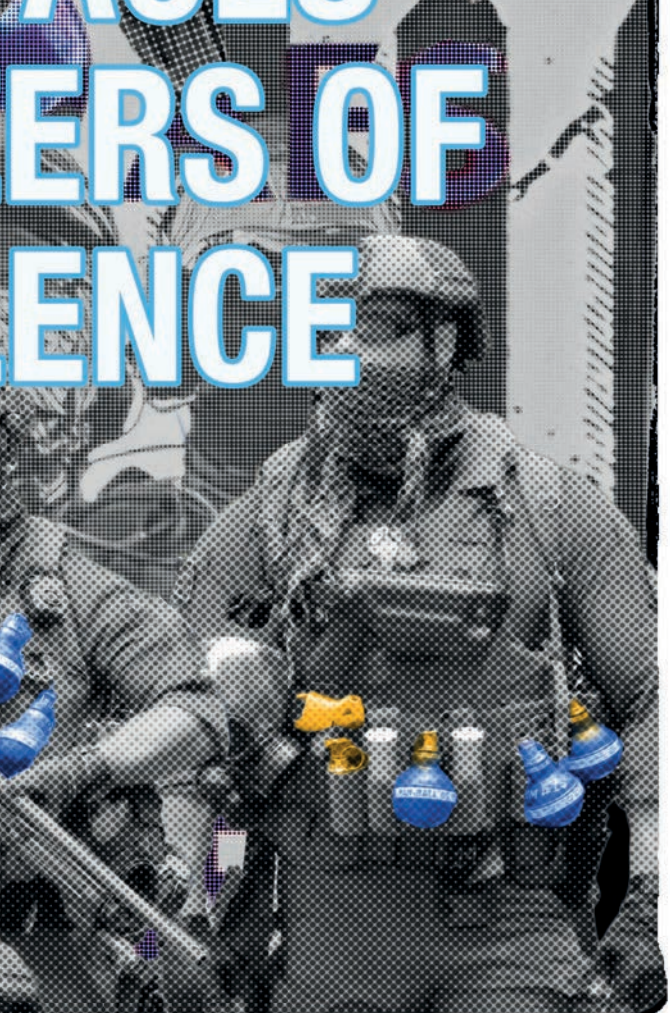
# col-o-ny

1. a country or area under the full or partial political control of another country, typically a distant one, and occupied by settlers from that country.



## 1 DE MAYO FREE NINA

### WARREN B. KANDERS MUST GO! NO SAFE SPACES FOR PROFITEERS OF STATE VIOLENCE



#vivapuertoricolibre  
#freepuertorico  
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# ON OUR POLITICAL PRISONERS

Since the illegal occupation of Puerto Rico, colonialism has always been met with resistance by the Boricua people, creating a class of political prisoners that has been historically overlooked, and made to feel the same manner in which the US treats Puerto Rico, like prizes of war. They have placed our people behind bars like fine china in a chinero. Throughout the tumultuous relationship between the United States and Puerto Rico, dozens upon dozens of our people have been incarcerated and tortured for their belief in the independence of Puerto Rico. There are three Puerto Rican prisoners we would like to highlight; Ana Belén Montes, Noel Cruz, and most recently Nina Droz Franco, all of whom rose up against the tyranny and oppression that continue to be inflicted on our nation.

**ANA BELÉN MONTES** is now 62 years old and has spent the last 17 years of her life in jail for following her conscience and not the law. She chose to safeguard Cuba's right to self-determination and autonomy. She has been confined to her cell and is isolated from the general prison population. Prison regulations prohibit her from receiving emails, packages, and telephone calls. Once a week she is allowed to call her mother. In 2016 Ana Belén Montes was diagnosed with breast cancer and in 2017 surgery took place, but little information about her condition and treatment has been made available.

**NOEL CRUZ TORRES** was found guilty in a federal court, sentenced to five years in prison, along with three years of supervised probation upon his release for his act of protest against Monsanto, a company that is considered to be one of the biggest causes of cancer and environmental imperialism on a global scale. With his actions against Monsanto, Noel contextualized the struggle for Puerto Rico's independence, linking the United States government and their perpetuation of Puerto Rico's colonial status through the implementation of these institutions within Puerto Rico. Noel is ultimately a prisoner for fighting against 2 forms of cancer, one being colonialism and the other capitalism!

**NINA DROZ** was one of several demonstrators arrested by the Police of Puerto Rico during International Workers' Day, aka May Day, on May 1st, 2017. That afternoon, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (BATF) took over the investigation. On May 2nd, Nina was transferred over to federal custody and was charged with damaging or attempting to damage by means of a fire, a building engaged in activity affecting interstate commerce. Specifically, she was accused of trying to set fire to the Banco Popular building, which was the target of rage for hundreds of protesters who smashed its glass windows and wrote on its walls. Banco Popular is one of the main actors in the illegal debt of Puerto Rico. Nina initially pled not guilty, but on July 12 changed her plea after reaching a non-cooperating agreement with the prosecution that recommended a sentence of three years and one month in prison, while her attorney argued for two years. On June 12th, 2018, she was sentenced to 37 months in prison and three years of probation

**FREE NINA!  
FREE NOEL!  
FREE ANA BELÉN!  
FREE THEM ALL!**

## A MESSAGE FROM A COMRADE

“Every year our Puertorican brothers and sisters are subject to Warren Kanders' poison by the hand of the repressive police force of Puerto Rico. This does not limit itself to May 1st protests. This goes far and beyond to every other protest from any sector of the populace that chooses to take the streets and use their voice, including but not limiting to: the toxic ash protests to AES, our UPR students, our teachers, senior citizens, and even kids and babies have been affected by Kanders' gases. La junta promotes austerity and displacement and Kanders provides the armament to silence our voices while he profits from our pain and suffering.”

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