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Penal Disobedience
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A prisoner strike had been organized to take place the morning of September 10, 2016. It was to be a peaceful demonstration of solidarity, in opposition of the oppression and egregious nature of the prison industrial complex.

At the Hiawatha Facility, (the "new" Kinross) black mold escaped the institutional white, rust-proof paint intended to detain it. It loitered around the base of the toilets, seeped from under the floor tiles and scaled the walls of the showers. Eight men packed cubicles designed for six men to dwell. The food was indigestible, some of the staff were incompetent and verbally abusive. These and a long list of other grievances made Hiawatha a ripe atmosphere for resistance.

There had already been several demonstrations of unity amongst the prisoner population, a clear sign negating industrial control. For example, most of us prisoners would line up in front of the housing units at attention for twenty minutes in complete silence when yard was called, then simultaneously disperse to go about our usual routines. This was demonstrated three times, but the administration just brushed it off.

When the 10th, arrived, an announcement was made by staff that no prisoners were allowed to report to any job detail whatsoever. Of course one of their inmate pets informed them of the strike.

Breakfast came and we were expecting to see the staff serving hot meals that morning, but instead they handed out brown paper bags containing a cold cheese sandwich, milk, and six duplex cookies.