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NEXT WEEK: A CITY SUN PHOTO ESSAY

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CHARGE OF

HOLOCAUST

MEDICAL EXPERIMENT ON BLACK INMATE

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SCI-FACT — NOT FICTION: High-Tech Slavery Is Here

by Maitefa Angaza

It reads like a futuristic horror story: "Invasion of the brain snatchers"; "Black man vs. Yacub, the mad scientist in a battle for the last frontier — his own inner space."

The reality is a present-day horror story in which some medical professionals apparently feel subhuman violation is acceptable and basic human rights are negligible.

Brian Wronge, a 33-year-old Black Brooklyn resident originally from Guyana, charges that surgeons at Billy Seaton Hospital in Staten Island illegally, and without his knowledge, implanted paramagnetic computer chips in his head and body in October 1987.

He has filed a suit in Eastern District Court, charging the U.S. government with conspiracy to commit murder and invasion of privacy for including him in what he believes to be an experimental surveillance and behavioral study program victimizing inmates and, possibly, other members of the population.

Wronge's story starts in 1979, when he was arrested in connection with the armed robbery of the Ozone Layer, a Brooklyn disco — a crime he claims he did not commit. "Some people I was known to be affiliated with from the neighborhood were arrested and charged in connection with this incident," he said.

"A few days later, I heard the police were looking for me, so I went down to the 67th Precinct on my own to find out what they wanted." He was put into a lineup, arrested, convicted, offered to plea-bargain for 1-1/3 to 3-1/3 years. "Being that I had nothing to do with the crime, I refused. And at the time I was 2-1/2 years into a five-year probation for an armed robbery which I admitted I had done when I was 18 years old."

Wronge maintained his innocence and was convicted of armed robbery and assault in the third degree and sentenced to 7-1/2 to 15 years in prison. He was sent to Elmira Correctional Facility and remained there for four years, during which time he obtained an associate's degree at Corning Community College's Behind the Walls Program.

It was at Elmira that his scientific aptitude was first noticed. "In my first semester, I wrote a paper for Professor Aaronson's Psych 101 class illustrating how the human senses can be imitated using computer analog devices," Wronge recalled. "I received the highest grade on my paper and I let a few correction officers read it. The next thing you know, I'm having problems at the facility."

He was soon transferred to the Arthur Kill Correctional Facility, where he remained for three years. While there, he was involved in a dispute with a correction officer who later was rumored to have put a prison "contract" out on him. Wronge was again transferred, this time ostensibly for his own

protection, to Fishkill Correctional Facility, a high-security prison formerly called Matewan, when it was devoted to the incarceration of the criminally insane.

(Over the next four years, until his release, Wronge was shuffled back and forth to several prisons and psychiatric facilities in an attempt, he believes, to build a criminal and psychiatric "profile"

results were negative, with no indication of lung problems."

But, Wronge claims, Dr. Vincent Tarantola of the pulmonary clinic at Billy Seaton Hospital convinced him of the need for a bronchoscopy, a diagnostic procedure designed to detect problems in the lungs. Wronge decided to enter the hospital to undergo the procedure.

Though patients are usually given only a local anesthetic for this procedure, he was "knocked out completely" and awoke on a respirator and intravenous equipment. The pain at the back of his throat, he assumed, resulted from the bronchoscopy. The surgeons told him he had suffered cardiac arrest during the procedure, and that the equipment had been used to stabilize him.

Following the hospital incident, it quickly became apparent to Wronge that something was terribly amiss. He experienced a host of physical disturbances, including dizziness, nausea, incontinence and headaches, along with an inability to sleep. He was suspicious that his body had somehow been tampered with.

Some of his symptoms abated over the next few years, Wronge said, but he claims that curious things continue to happen sporadically. At times he would hear a mechanical-sounding voice in his ears repeatedly saying things like "Your mother doesn't love you" or "Your entire family will be killed." At other times he suddenly would begin to perspire profusely for no apparent reason.

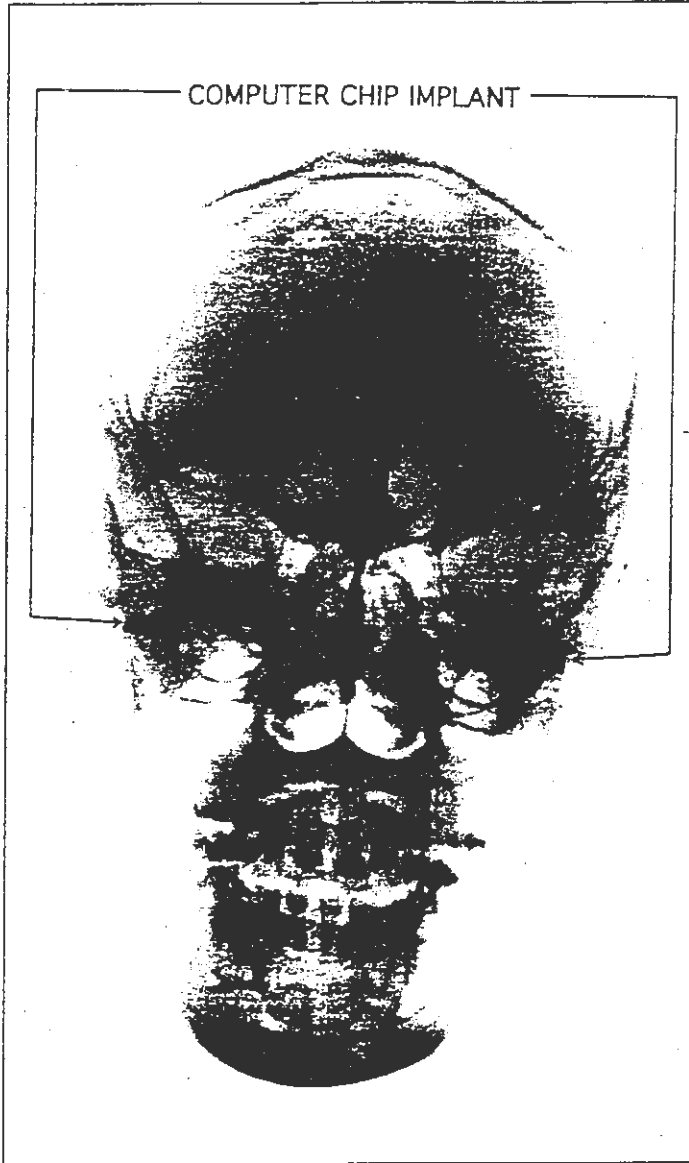
Wronge said he began to suspect that whatever had been done to him was for the purpose of experimentation and observation. And because he wasn't reacting in quite the way he suspects they anticipated, Wronge became fearful that they would harm him to prevent him from exposing what had been done to him.

"I was trying to get out of there. I knew I was truly in the belly of the beast. I started calling my family up to tell them to get me out of there." He was released from prison in May 1989.

According to Wronge, a side effect of the implantation at that time was short-term memory loss. Because he had difficulty in remembering things like dates and appointments, he found himself back in prison in September, serving nine months for violation of parole — 30 days at Rikers Island, and back to Elmira for the remaining time.

The Search Begins

Wronge took the opportunity of being back at Elmira to do some investigating. "Because I worked as an inmate liaison, I had access to the grievance committee files," he said. "I saw several documents detailing complaints from inmates about the discomfort they were experiencing in their ears and oral pharynx — that is, the area at the back of the throat. They had sense enough to know that something had been done to them, but almost uniformly, they were sent to the 'satellite unit,' an area of isolation suppos-



Arrows point to implants in Brian Wronge's head. (X-rays also reveal metal dental fillings.)

on him and discredit any charges he might make in the future.)

Short Hospital Stay Begins Long Nightmare

While at Fishkill, Wronge suddenly began experiencing breathing difficulty. He suspects that because he was isolated from the rest of the prison population at the time, his food may have been tampered with to induce his symptoms. "I was in good health," he said. "I used to work out with weights and I had no problems with breathing. A chest X-ray was done and the

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edly for mentally unstable inmates."

Armed with the knowledge that he was not alone in his suspicions, Wronge began looking into his own case immediately upon his release. He went to see Dr. Albert O. Duncan, a physician acquainted with his brother, who wrote him a prescription for MRI — a type of X-ray.

Diagnostic Imaging Associates, a Brooklyn lab, reported back: "MRI of the chest was performed. ... These images reveal the presence of a paramagnetic foreign body artifact noted in the region of the left anterior chest wall at the level of the axilla ..."

Wronge also consulted a neurologist who had worked with his mother, Dr. Jayesh Kamdar. After relating his story, Kamdar referred him to a Manhattan diagnostic lab for a CAT scan.

The resulting report from MRI-CT Scanning Inc. revealed: "The bilateral external auditory canals demonstrate dense rectangular shaped metal foreign objects. The etiology of this finding is uncertain. Clinical correlation is suggested."

After reviewing the lab reports, Wronge says, Duncan offered to refer him to a few physicians who could remove the implants for him, but Wronge did not have sufficient funds to cover such an operation at the time. He was relieved, however, to have his X-rays and lab reports in hand, proof that he was not delusional, as he believes prison authorities had attempted to set him up to appear.

Ironically, it was Wronge's poor financial status that led him to another discovery. He had been frustrated by his seeming inability to secure employment, a fact he attributed to the record of prison transfers and psychiatric evaluations that traveled with him after his release from prison.

"So I figured, what the hell? I wasn't working and they were playing games, so I decided to file for disability through SSI [Supplemental Security Income]. I got a letter back from the federal government saying that I did not qualify because they had contacted the psychiatric facilities in which I had stayed and my claims that I had been found incompetent could not be corroborated."

This startling piece of information made it clear to Wronge that prison officials and medical personnel had, in fact, sent him to these facilities solely for the purposes he had suspected. "They tried to destroy my head and then make it look like I was the one who was crazy if I attempted to expose them," he said. "We all know if you go around saying you hear voices — immediately you're a nut. It's set up that way."

A Physician Verifies Wronge's Suspicions

In his quest to find someone who would listen and try to help him, Wronge was referred to the Rev. Phil Valentine, director of the Institute for Self-Mastery and a "nature healing" consultant and fasting therapist. Valentine was touched and angered by Wronge's story, though, like most who hear it, his first reaction was not to want to believe that such a bestial thing had been done.

"Brian seems to be the 'spook who sat by the door,' the one who slipped away and kept his sanity. He is completely articulate, he's documented his case and his credibility earns him the right to be heard," Valentine said.

Valentine invited Wronge to share his story with a few members of the community and Wronge accepted. "He came in and sat down with his proof and for an hour he had us frozen with shock and foreboding. We always believed they were capable of this type of thing and were probably gearing up for it, but to see it before you is quite chilling," he said.

An anatomist (a physician specializing in the study of the body) was asked by Valentine to meet and

examine Wronge. A videotaped interview with Wronge also was prepared the same day.

The physician, who wishes to remain anonymous at this time, looked into Wronge's ears with an otoscope and allowed Valentine to look also.

The doctor reports seeing "a flat metallic object, like a computer chip, covering a portion of his eardrum. Where I should have been able to see straight through to his entire eardrum, this object was obstructing my view. It was a little off to the side like a snare drum."

Valentine described what he saw as "a prosthetic material, which appeared both metallic and translucent. When the light hit it you could see spots of pink and other faint colors. It was a round, shiny little thing embedded in the membrane of his eardrum, with a little thing sticking out like an antenna. My heart sank and I became cold."

When asked what the purpose of positioning a computer chip in that location would be, the doctor replied, "To pick up and transmit sound. With a device in that location one could hear what is said to a person and have them hear what you might say to them."

'When I passed the microphone
over his body, it picked up vibration
and "white noise" — sound waves
that would be emitted by computer
'chips.'

— An anatomist who examined
Wronge

The anatomist, at the suggestion of Valentine, then asked the videographer for use of a hand-held microphone. "When I passed the microphone over his body, it picked up vibration and 'white noise' — sound waves that would be emitted by computer chips," the doctor said. "This happened in the area under his arm, near his forehead and in some places along the vertebral column."

"When we had been doing this for a minute or so, the sound suddenly dropped as though someone had turned down the frequency somewhere. These chips are probably operated by some transmitter station that the body sends sound waves out to."

The doctor feels it is, of course, obvious that a medically trained person did this. "They know where the rootlets come out of the spinal cord, and the underarm was chosen because it is located along the channel where the nerves come out of the tracheal plexus and go into the arm. There is a heavy enervation there with electrical impulses and neuronal transport impulses. Something artificial could easily interfere with the current, producing a human radio."

About Wronge's X-rays, the doctor said, "There are certain sinuses in the bone, grooves where something is implanted in the maxillary area."

The City Sun inquired about Wronge's assertion that a disk of some type appeared to be lodged in the back of his throat. Our anonymous physician said, "I was not able to examine his throat with the equipment I had at the time, but that is certainly a plausible theory. The larynx is a tube that opens and closes depending on pitch. I suspect they can open the membrane and insert a chip right there where the voice box is located."

This would enable someone on the other end of a microwave transmission to monitor Wronge's speech and even thoughts, said the doctor. Our thoughts are registered in very high-pitched frequency on the voice box. "Remember that saying, 'You can't go to jail for what you think'? Well, not anymore," said the doctor.

Valentine agrees, and feels that people of African

descent must remain awake and willing to examine painful possibilities. Considering the makeup of the prison population and plans for more prison barges and facilities of all types, this is imperative, he asserts.

"We can't wait for the white man to tell us whether or not we have a suspicion," he said. "That second-class mentality that feels that nothing is legitimate until it has been validated by the government or the mainstream media is suicidal. They prepare us for these types of things by putting them in movies like *Total Recall*, where Arnold Schwarzenegger discovers he's been implanted and removes the device through his nose. Then, when they gradually make the public aware that these things exist, we are supposed to think, 'Oh, that's OK. That's a technological advance. I saw it in the movies.'

"We must stop reacting and gain the courage to act. African scientists, medical professionals and researchers of integrity must come forth to help this brother for all our sakes."

Wronge's Case Is Our Case

Brian Wronge is attempting to bring his violators to justice. He says a New York state Supreme Court judge has agreed to hear the case. However, the judge has Wronge's case on hold and has instructed him to find a surgeon to remove one of the chips and an independent scientific researcher who will identify it and what functions it performs.

Wronge consulted with a surgeon who prefers to be identified only as "a well-trained surgeon at one of the reputable institutions in New York City." This surgeon, recommended to Wronge by a friend, was helpful but turned out not to be able to provide the assistance he most immediately was seeking.

Wronge had decided to try to have one of the chips in his ear removed, as they would be most accessible. But the doctor he consulted was not an ear, nose and throat surgeon. He did examine Wronge's X-rays and agreed to speak briefly with *The City Sun* about his opinion of them.

"My impression is that there is a foreign object in his ear. I'm not sure what it is. ... It's very unusual in appearance but definitely appears to be either metallic or made of some sort of alloy. I can only conjecture from seeing it only on X-ray, and from what Mr. Wronge has told me, that it may be some sort of electrical instrument or prosthetic device. A prosthetic device, however, is usually employed to replace a damaged element of the body. If he's never had a need for such a device, it should not be there, and certainly not without his knowledge."

Wronge intends to persevere with his case. He believes he knows what has been done to him and how and why. He has always been science- and technology-literate, and after his release from prison, he read voraciously on biology, psychological studies and the applications of microwave technology.

He said, "I believe they are experimenting with people in prisons and mental institutions to see how they react to psychological trauma. Young Black males particularly are targeted and brought into the penal system for political and other reasons. Once they have you in the government's custody, they can do these biological and psychological studies."

He believes some of the implantation was done through an incision made at the back of his throat, causing the pain he experienced after he awoke in the hospital. "Through the throat they can pass objects down to your chest cavity, and further."

In his studies Wronge claims to have gained knowledge of "a gallium scan that can map the centers of the brain and, along with a transmitter attached to your nervous system, can transmit signals from the brain that go from analog to satellite."

At this point, Wronge is representing himself, though he does realize he will need to find an attorney.

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Clinton Commits To Ending Bias Against Minority Loans

Seventeen years after the establishment of the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) and fair-lending legislation, the federal government stated that many urban, rural and suburban residents with low and moderate incomes are still untouched by banks and their community reinvestment activities.

The U.S. Justice Department and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will begin investigations into discriminatory loaning irregularities resulting from 1992 Home Mortgage Disclosure Act statistics released earlier this year.

The report said African Americans and Hispanic Americans "are still being denied loans twice as often as European Americans, even after all financial fac-

tors considered in an application are taken into account."

After a Nov. 4 Home Mortgage Disclosure Act hearing before the U.S. Senate Banking Committee, U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno stated, "We will use our full authority under the law to challenge them [banks] and to obtain appropriate punitive sanctions."

In response to the government charges of discrimination, community groups called for a CRA meeting. Speakers from lending institutions, federal banking regulatory agencies and elected government officials met with these groups and churches from around the metropolitan New York area to discuss the current

and future status of CRA and proposed changes in community reinvestment legislation.

New CRA Legislation Considered

On Friday, Dec. 10, a conference was held at Brooklyn's New York City Technical College and Polytech University to highlight successful reinvestment activities and to recognize those banks and community groups that have endeavored to expand and improve these activities.

One of the main topics of discussion during the conference was proposed federal amendments to national CRA legislation. Also discussed were New York State Banking Department proposals to restructure New York state's Community Reinvestment Act to keep the delivery of related services up to date.

Several topics discussed were:

- Essential techniques to meet CRA/fair-lending requirements
- Successful strategies for participation in local real-estate development through low-income-housing tax credits
- How banks and community-based groups can work together to avoid Pattern Practice Race Discrimination.

Many financial institutions who already have active and successful CRA programs had their representatives attend the conference. These included J.P. Morgan, Chemical Bank, Citibank, National Westminster Bank, Home Savings of America, East New York Savings Bank, Dime Savings Bank, Fleet Bank, European American Bank and Chase Manhattan Bank. The Bank of Tokyo and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, among others, were invited.

Also in attendance was the civil rights division of the Justice Department, the Federal Deposit Insurance Company, Office of Thrift Supervision, and Rep. Floyd Flake, who is sponsoring federal legislation to change several CRA requirements.

Other speakers scheduled were New York State Banking Department Superintendent Derrick Cephas; Assemblyman Herman D. Farrell Jr., chairman of the New York state Assembly's Banking Committee; Rep. Major Owens; Rep. Ed Towns, as well as Massachusetts Rep. Joseph Kennedy.

The conference was organized and facilitated by the Brooklyn-based East Fulton Street Group/21st Century Partnership Community Initiative, which has a primary focus of education for community development. Conference co-sponsors included the National Community Reinvestment Coalition of Washington, D.C., the 21st Century Ministerial Alliance and the Church of God in Christ, 2nd Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction for Eastern New York.

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ney willing to represent him before his case proceeds. He says that he has spoken to a few attorneys, but "they look at it initially because they see financial potential in it, but they don't want to touch it because it's too controversial."

When asked about his concerns for his personal safety, Wronge said, "They have disrespected my temple and, for all I know, may have tried to kill me. I'm a soldier at war." He said that his family has been notified of his suspicions and knows what to do should some harm come to him.

"A person's family automatically has rights to the body of the deceased, and no medical examiner has the right to touch a body without the permission of the family. Whoever does something to me has to take my body also, because it contains evidence. If my family were to say, 'Don't touch that body; we want an autopsy done to examine his brain,' they're going to find what's there. Believe me, the government doesn't want that."

Valentine feels, "If they try to do anything to Brian, it would validate what he is saying. They would prefer for him to look unstable. We have to protect Brian. If we do, we're only protecting ourselves."