



# *It's About Time...*



Volume 5 Number 4

SPECIAL ISSUE

Fall-Winter 2001



## **CELEBRATING THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY 35th Anniversary of the Founding 1966-2001**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** In celebration of the 35<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the founding of the Black Panther Party (BPP) - 1966 to 2001, we changed our paper format. We are dedicated former BPP members and supporters whose aim is to educate and inform the community about the legacy and principles of the Black Panther Party. We have the opportunity and responsibility to place our own experiences into historical context. The history of the BPP cannot be told by one person or group, our experiences and work are so varied. Since the first issue of our newsletter, we have interviewed many former members and supporters from Oakland to New York, from Africa to France.

Inside this edition will be basic historical information about the BPP with photos, along with current news briefs and statements of support. Unless we former members do otherwise, the legacy of the Black Panther Party will be largely ignored, dismissed and distorted by today's commentators and tomorrow's historians. We need to tell our stories and the stories of those of us who we lost or who remain imprisoned.

Dare to Struggle, Dare to Win!

### **THE WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM Some Dangerous Political Thoughts**

*By Lorenzo Komboa Ervin*

#### **The Fight for Reparations**

The theme of reparations for the illegal trans-Atlantic slave trade and the enslavement of millions of Africans in the "New World", and for European colonialism of the African continent was a predominant theme at this conference. This demand for financial reparations, as well as a formal apology, was stated quite forcefully by the African and African Descendants NGO caucus, especially by Africans from America. The theme was picked up on by the African countries that had formed a bloc to demand reparations from the European Union, and countries active in the slave trade like Spain, England, Portugal, Holland and others. Slavery was described as a "crime against humanity," and demands were for development funds to rebuild Africa, since Europe as a technologically developed and industrial-based economy was built off the sweat and blood of the peoples of Africa. The European Union, however, was extremely resistant to this characterization of its oppression of the continent; realizing that this would open itself up to litigation if it admitted guilt, not to mention expose the historical crimes of developing white capitalist governments in their desire for markets, cheap labor and free material resources. The plunder by Europe was real, just as the enslavement, rape and murder of millions of Africans in the Americas has been docu-

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October 1966  
**Black Panther Party  
 Platform and Program**  
**What We Want  
 What We Believe**



*Huey P. Newton Minister of Defense  
 Black Panther Party*

**1. We want freedom. We want power to determine the destiny of our Black Community.**

We believe that black people will not be free until we are able to determine our destiny.

**2. We want full employment for our people.**

We believe that the federal government is responsible and obligated to give every man employment or a guaranteed income. We believe that if the white American businessmen will not give full employment, then the means of production should be taken from the businessmen and placed in the community so that the people of the community can organize and employ all of its people and give a high standard of living.

**3. We want an end to the robbery by the CAPITALIST of our Black Community.**

We believe that this racist government has robbed us and now we are demanding the overdue debt of forty acres and two mules. Forty acres and two mules was promised 100 years ago as restitution for slave labor and mass murder of black people. We will accept the payment in currency which will be distributed to our many communities. The Germans are now aiding the Jews in Israel for the genocide of the Jewish people. The Germans murdered six million Jews. The American racist has taken part in the slaughter of over fifty million black people; therefore, we feel that this is a modest demand that we make.

**4. We want decent housing, fit for shelter of human beings.**

We believe that if the white landlords will not give decent housing to our black community, then the housing and the land should be made into cooperatives so that our community, with government aid, can build and make decent housing for its people.

**5. We want education for our people that exposes the true nature of this decadent American society. We want education that teaches us our true history and our role in the present-day society.**

We believe in an educational system that will give to our people a knowledge of self. If a man does not have knowledge of himself and his position in society and the world, then he has little chance to relate to anything else.

**6. We want all black men to be exempt from military service.**

We believe that Black people should not be forced to fight in the military service to defend a racist government that does not protect us. We will not fight and kill other people of color in the world who, like black people, are being victimized by the white racist government of America. We will protect ourselves from the force and violence of the racist police and the racist military, by whatever means necessary.

**7. We want an immediate end to POLICE BRUTALITY and MURDER of black people.**

We believe we can end police brutality in our black community by organizing black self-defense groups that are dedicated to defending our black community from racist police oppression and brutality. The Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States gives a right to bear arms. We therefore believe that all black people should arm themselves for self-defense.

**8. We want freedom for all black men held in federal, state, county and city prisons and jails.**

We believe that all black people should be released from the many jails and prisons because they have not received a fair and impartial trial.

**9. We want all black people when brought to trial to be tried in court by a jury of their peer group or people from their black communities, as defined by the Constitution of the United States.**

We believe that the courts should follow the United States Constitution so that black people will receive fair trials. The 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution gives a man a right to be tried by his peer group. A peer is a person from a similar economic, social, religious, geographical, environmental, historical and racial background. To do this the court will be forced to select a jury from the black community from which the black defendant came. We have been, and are being tried by all-white juries that have an understanding of the "average reasoning man" of the black community.

**10. We want land, bread, housing, education, clothing, justice and peace. And as our major political objective, a United Nations-supervised plebiscite to be held throughout the black colony in which only black colonial subjects will be allowed to participate, for the purpose of determining the will of black people as to their national destiny.**

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitle them; a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.



**It's About Time...**

Publishing Committee

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**RACISM from Page 1**

mented. One thing that became readily apparent at this conference is that Europe and the West will not give up their stolen wealth without a fight, regardless of who knows their criminal history.

**Neocolonialism creates equivocation in African States**

The conference was further limited in what it could produce as far as progress in securing reparations because the African heads of state were proven to be so weak; because of a neo-colonial relationship with the West, especially American capitalist institutions like the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, WTO and others. This dependent financial status means that the economies of these African countries are subordinate to France, the US, Britain and others - the same as always, and shows us that they are not reliable allies in a struggle to challenge the capitalist world system about the living conditions for Black workers and the poor. They started out with demands for reparations, but before it was over they were down on their knees, begging for development aid and capitalist investments, thus condoning more robbery by the identical group of international exploiters and the continued domination of the South by the North. No doubt the irony of this dawned on others as well.

The two-day General Strike of millions of South African workers, and the demonstration by the Durban social Forum on Aug. 31, the first day of the conference, show a way forward. A movement against capitalism, and its exploitation in America, and a Black freedom movement with its mind on total liberation is where we should be going. Certainly we cannot accept financial reparations as a full settlement of our claims against the U.S. and European governments, but they must be part of a comprehensive liberation agenda. Reparations alone will not make us free or self-governing in either America or Africa. There is no easy path to freedom.

**Continuing Crimes of Genocide**

The biggest failing of the conference was its unwillingness to charge the Western powers (especially the US) with genocide, oppression and exploitation in the current period, and then building movements to fight racism and neo-colonialism. As the conference's focus was on historical forms of slavery and exploitation, there was virtually no real discussion about building a mass movement to fight racism and the capitalist system, which upholds it. The few discussions held didn't talk about building any form of grassroots cam-

## 35th Anniversary Reunion Rescheduled

The It's About Time Committee regrets any inconvenience that you might have endured due to the postponement of the October Reunion Conference in Washington DC. Due to the tragic events of Sept. 11, and the aftermath in Washington DC, we decided it was in the best interests of everyone to postpone this historic event. Conditions due to the war, biological warfare, and repression by the government did not lend themselves to this type of event.

We are now going ahead with plans to hold the 35-year Conference-Reunion on April 18-21. The conference will still take place at the University of the District of Columbia in Washington DC. More specific information will be forthcoming and will be posted on our website after December 1, 2001 - [www.itsabouttimebpp.com](http://www.itsabouttimebpp.com)

All prepaid conference registrations will be honored, as well as program ads.

Anyone who would like to volunteer to help with the organizing of this historical event, volunteer at the event, or be a regional contact person, contact us directly at

[itsabouttime3@juno.com](mailto:itsabouttime3@juno.com), phone (916) 455-0908, or write to It's About Time, PO Box 221100, Sacramento, CA 95822

Tax-deductible donations, which will be acknowledged in our program book, can be made to It's About Time and sent to the above address.

Thank you for your continued support. Dare to Struggle, Dare to Win!

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## MAJOR SCAM - BEWARE

Do not respond to e-mails, phone calls, or web pages which tell you to call an "809" phone number. This is a scam that is spreading extremely quickly and can easily cost you \$24,100 or more. Here's how it works: You will receive a message on your answering machine or your pager, which asks you to call a number beginning with area code 809. The reason you're asked to call varies. It can be to receive information about a family member who has been ill, to tell you someone has been arrested or died, or to let you know you have won a wonderful prize. In each case, you are told to call the 809 number right away. Since there are so many new area codes these days, people unknowingly return these calls. From the US, you will be charged \$2425 per minute. You will often get a

## NEWS BRIEFS

**Los Angeles** - A police officer pleaded no contest to a felony charge in connection with the shooting of an unarmed driver last year. Ronald Orosco, 31, entered the plea in Los Angeles Superior Court to shooting at an occupied car. He could face seven years in prison.

Orosco was accused of shooting Charles Beatty, 66, in the back during an argument following a traffic stop in June. Beatty admitted he was argumentative and verbally abusive to Orosco and the officer's partner. But Beatty also said he cooperated with them by providing requested information, including his driver's license, according to the county District Attorney's Office.

**Sacramento** - The California state assembly unanimously passed a resolution urging the U.S. Congress to study slave reparations, becoming the first state to back moves proponents hope will result in cash restitution for the nation's history of slavery. The assembly resolution will now be sent to Congress, according to its author, Democratic state Senator Kevin Murray of Los Angeles, who added that it was the first resolution of its kind passed by any state in America. Several municipalities, including Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit and Dallas have called for federal hearings on the reparations issue.

The resolution supports efforts in the U. S. Congress to pass legislation acknowledging the history of slavery in the United States. It also asks Congress to apologize to black Americans for the "fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality and inhumanity of slavery," and supports efforts to establish a committee to study reparation proposals for African Americans.

**Gatesville, TX** - On August 20, 2001, a US District Court in Houston found James "Andy" Collins, former Executive Director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ), guilty of bribery, fraud, money laundering and conspiracy. Collins and his co-conspirator, Yank Barry, former Vita-Pro CEO, face up to 70 years in prison and fines of \$2 million. The federal charges grew from a 1995 kickback scheme where Collins and Barry conspired to sell \$33.7 million of a soy-based meat substitute substance to TDCJ. They are free on bond until they are sentenced on November 19.

**New Mexico** - A new DNA statute became law in New Mexico in July 2001. It allows people convicted of crimes who claim that DNA evidence would establish actual innocence to ask for a new trial or to

See NEWS BRIEFS on Page 7



From left: Angela Davis, B.J. Jennings, Barbara Lee

## IN SUPPORT OF BARBARA LEE

Ever since Barbara Lee cast the sole vote in the House of Representatives against giving the president exclusive and unrestrained authority to carry out military action as he sees fit in response to the Sept. 11 attacks, she has been bombarded with vicious accusations of disloyalty and lack of respect for those who died. Barbara has received a number of death threats as a result of her stand, and now has to use security guards wherever she goes.

However, recently in Oakland, over 4,000 people came out to support her at a rally at City Hall. The crowd carried signs which read, "We support you Barbara Lee" and "Justice not Vengeance". The crowd was multiracial and multiethnic and reflected the diversity that makes up her constituency. Local leaders and elected officials were also on hand to show their support as well as Alice Walker, Danny Glover, and Davey D.

When her turn came to speak, she thanked everyone for their support and for being the type of constituency interested in justice, not revenge, and not the killing the more innocent victims.

Barbara went on to warn that we have to defend all civil liberties and our civil rights. She underscored the need to come together to oppose the war over peace and not to push important issues like housing, jobs, education and health care to the back burner.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** I have known Barbara Lee for about 30 years, since she was a student at Mills College. She worked on Bobby Seale's campaign for Mayor of Oakland in 1972-73. She worked out of my campaign office in East Oakland and has been a supporter of the Party and its programs throughout her career. She spoke at our 30-year Reunion and was the first elected official to agree to attend our 35<sup>th</sup> year Reunion Conference.

Get Up, Stand Up, for Barbara Lee

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## WIRETAPPING:

### Why is Congress Being Asked to Jettison Even the Most Basic Protections?

The wiretapping proposals Congress is considering share a common theme: they minimize the role of a judge in ensuring that law enforcement wiretapping is conducted legally and with justification.

The FBI already has broad authority to monitor telephone and Internet communications. Judicial review of its wiretap applications has not been an obstacle. In the last decade, in fact, judges have denied only 3 wiretap requests from federal and state law enforcement.

The FBI also has authority to intercept these communications without showing probable cause of crime for "intelligence" purposes under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Little is known about the extent of this type of wiretapping, other than that FISA wiretaps now exceed wiretapping for all criminal purposes.

Security and civil liberties do not have to be at odds. Law enforcement authorities - even if when they are required to obtain court orders - have great leeway under current law to investigate suspects in terrorist attacks. Current law already provides that wiretaps can be obtained for the crimes involved in attacks such as this, including destruction of aircraft and aircraft piracy.

Under current law, an enforcement agent can get a pen register or trap and

trace order requiring the telephone company to reveal the numbers dialed to and from a particular phone. It must simply certify that the information to be obtained is "relevant to an ongoing criminal investigation." This is a very low level of proof, far less than probable cause. The judge must grant the order upon receiving the certification.

The Senate voted to extend this low threshold of proof to Internet communications that are far more revealing than numbers dialed on a phone. For example, it would apparently apply to law enforcement efforts to determine what websites a person had visited. This is like giving law enforcement the power - based only on its own certification - to require the librarian to report on the books you had perused while visiting the public library.

In voting to allow for "nationwide" pen register and trap and trace orders, the Senate also authorized the equivalent of a blank warrant in the physical world: the court issues the order, and the law enforcement agent fills in the places to be searched. This is not consistent with the Fourth Amendment privacy protection of requiring that warrants specify the place to be searched. Under the legislation adopted by the Senate on September 13, a judge would be unable to meaningfully monitor the extent to which her order was being used to access information about Internet communications.

The Senate also voted to allow "emergency" law enforcement to place pen registers and trap and trace devices without a prior court order in "national security" and computer fraud cases that are not true emergencies. Government officials have abused that notoriously vague term during Watergate, Iran-Contra, and other national scandals. Current law already allows law enforcement agents to place a pen register or trap and trace device when there is a true emergency, i.e., when there is an immediate danger of death or serious bodily injury.

During this time of crisis, lawmakers should be extra careful not to upset the careful balance between law enforcement and civil liberties.

These amendments were adopted with little debate in the middle of the night.

## FROM SECRET EVIDENCE TO NO EVIDENCE

Why is the Attorney General Asking Congress for the Power to Jail and Deport Immigrants Without a Trial or Any Other Way to Establish Their Innocence?

The Attorney General has proposed legislation that gives him the power to unilaterally and immediately detain and deport - based on suspicion alone and without presenting any evidence - suspected terrorists and others who "may pose a risk to the national security."

There would be no hearing whatsoever, and no opportunity to contest the Attorney General's decision, and no meaningful criteria for him to follow in making the decision. The provision would become a permanent part of our immigration laws.

The proposed legislation is unnecessary because the INS has such broad powers to detain and deport aliens already.

The INS can detain an immigrant who is "out of status," i.e., on an expired visa or otherwise unlawfully present. The INS also has authority to compel detention of immigrants who it is trying to remove because they may be terrorists.

The government also has the highly controversial power to use "secret evidence" - classified information not available to the defense - in the Alien Terrorist Removal Court to detain and deport immigrants suspected of terrorist activity. President Bush, on the campaign trail, objected to the use of secret evidence.

Recognizing the profound civil liberties concerns raised in conferring such powers, Congress included a number of safeguards when it authorized the use of secret evidence before the Alien

Terrorist Removal Court, and provided for judicial review. Now it considers legislation to reduce that disputed standard even further to one that can only fairly be termed "no evidence" and "no hearing."

When the government has invoked secret evidence in the past, innocent individuals - virtually all of them Arabs and/or Muslims - have been detained without a fair hearing, sometimes for years. After evidence was revealed in recent high-profile cases, many individuals established their innocence and obtained release.

Under the proposed legislation, lawful permanent residents, visitors, and undocumented immigrants alike would be denied a hearing or any way

*"The Attorney General has proposed legislation that gives him the power to unilaterally and immediately detain and deport..."*

to contest the accusations against them. This is an unprecedented move inconsistent with the pledge of our leaders not to re-


spond to the terrorist attacks in a way that degrades our system of justice.

The proposed legislation covers all categories of immigrants without distinction, including lawful permanent residents who have lived in the country for years, as well as those in the country on temporary visas, e.g., for work or education.

Compromises that balance national security and fairness to the accused are possible. One proposal - which currently has 101 sponsors from across the political spectrum - permits the government to use classified information in immigration proceedings, as long as it provides an unclassified summary of the information to the accused and his attorney. It would also allow for an adequate immigration hearing and for judicial review.

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**April 18-20, 2002**



**35th YEAR  
BLACK PANTHER PARTY  
REUNION AND CONFERENCE  
2002**

**It's About Time Committee & Black Panther Party Alumni Committee**  
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## A PANTHER'S CREED

Greetings comrades and fellow Black Panther Alumni! The Angola 3 reach out to you on this momentous occasion from the belly of the beast. When we were asked by comrades and friends to participate in this reunion, we were both honored and humbled. In asking this of us, our fellow Panther alumni recognize the merits of our actions, not our situations. It is not that we have been held captive for over 30 years in prison or that that is important; what is important is that we continue to hold high the principles of the Black Panther Party.

Time has changed our bodies but not our resolve; nor has it taken our strength. Gray hairs adorn our heads, but each grain is buried and cultivated by wisdom born of life's experiences. Our souls are battered and bruised—but we remain defiant. We have lost family members, friends and comrades—but our spirits still soar!

We, like all of you here today, at some time in our lives made a conscious decision to become social revolutionaries. Our humanity would not allow us to close our eyes to the horrors waged against the poor, the homeless, the sick, the workers and artists of this country in the name of the great lie called Democracy!

Armed with the platform and philosophy of the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense, we not only shook the world, but we changed America forever. For the Angola 3, the Black Panther Party Platform and Philosophy has proven to be many things. It has been a shield that has protected us; a weapon used to strike fear in the hearts of the People's enemy, and it has been a Dove, as a symbol of peace and unity among the People.

As you hear these words, we ask that you search deep within yourselves and feel the spirit of our fallen comrades, and continue the Panther creed. You possess the shovel, the dirt and the Power to eventually bury the capitalist mode of production. Realize that no matter how long it has been or how much time has changed you, you are still Black Panthers!

We ask that all of you see this 35th anniversary, not only as a celebration of our place in history, or our deeds of

the past—but also as a call to arms. Today is an opportunity to once again reaffirm your place in the battle against the enemy of the People. All it takes are choices made by all of you here today.

In closing, we ask that you hear the words of our beloved comrade and friend, Robert King Wilkerson, who was freed this year by the support of the people along with his own fighting spirit. It is this kind of spirit that has allowed us to survive so many years of darkness and despair. Power to the People!

Writing from the Louisiana State Prison at Angola: Herman Wallace and Albert Woodfox, aka Albert Shaka Cinque

## ANGOLA UPDATE

Dual Ruling: Comrades and friends; as you well know, Cinque (Albert Woodfox) and I continue to fight the ongoing conspiracy and frame-up launched against us 29 1/2 years ago. The force that led to our conviction is the same force that led to Mumia's conviction. I remind you of this primarily due to similarities in Mumia's case and our cases. Mumia has proof of his innocence, a man willing to give testimony that he, not Mumia, committed the killing, yet the court is taking an illegal approach to deny him this piece of evidence. The court also moved to deny Mumia to be present at his hearing of August 17. Most of you know that after hiding evidence (exculpatory evidence) from us for the past 29 1/2 years, the state filed a Motion to Dismiss new evidence my attorneys discovered and in conjunction with the court, denied me from participating in the hearing. But, like Mumia, we expect nothing less.

On Sept. 14, Cinque filed his Writ of Certorari before the U.S. Supreme Court. We now await a ruling. On that same day, I learned that Commissioner Rachel Morgan denied every single claim we filed

except one. I know all of you have been patiently awaiting this ruling and as dim as it may sound, I still have a strong claim to fight the state with. I do not want to travel too deep into the merits of the claim, but I will tell you that the commissioner's recommendation will go to the judge and it will be his job to reject or adopt Morgan's recommendation on all claims. Let's just say he adopts Morgan's recommendation as is; that one claim will be sent back to Morgan. She will set a hearing date on behalf of the state to show whether a new trial will prejudice them (state) as a result of the length of time of my discovery. The state must prove prejudice, and if they are successful, the court will dismiss my last and only claim left on newly discovered evidence. This may sound easy to overcome. The problem is that we are working against the state of Louisiana; a staff with unlimited funds, and a court that is bending over backwards to help them prevent me from achieving my objective.

Well, this is nothing new to Cinque and I, but what is new to us is that we've never made it to the level we are today. We would not have made it this far had it not been for all of you depriving so much of yourselves to get us where we are now. Cinque and I are very grateful to all of you for the support you have been pouring out and continue to pour out for our release. We also want to give thanks to our legal team with special emphasis on Scott Fleming and Robin Schulberg. Both Scott and Robin have worked without breaks on both Cinque and my cases. They have been doing this with very limited funds. They deserve praise, not only for their legal expertise, but for the manner in which they perfect it. These guys listen to us and value our opinions, opinions that are always incorporated in the strategies surrounding our separate cases. Our cases are separate only in the procedural sense. The great majority of your responsible lawyers, in this country, are groomed to become corporate lawyers. Very few turn out to represent the best interests of the people, and yet, Scott and Robin are in the class of the few. The National Coalition to Free the Angola 3 is very fortunate to have these two soldiers tirelessly working on our side. We are going to win this thing because of our determination, our vigilance, our stamina, and most of all our belief in you. For those who are not that familiar with Louisiana jurisprudence - when the government filed their motion to dismiss my claims and a hearing was conducted on 6/28, by law, the court had 30 days to make a finding. Instead the court declared it would need a little more time than 30 days. What the court was in fact saying was that it needed time, not because of the mountain of evidence filed in this case, but it needed time to find a way to circumvent whatever due process I'm entitled to. I was before the commissioner's court seeking relief as a result of the government violating Constitutional Rights that are due me - rights that were violated 29 1/2 years ago. As opposed to correcting that wrong, the commissioner joined ranks with the conspirators by probing into the merits of my claims. That is not what we were before the court for. The court's job was only to make a finding to determine whether I was procedurally barred, instead the court overstepped its boundaries taking 1 1/2 months to rule and ruling on issues that were not before the court. This is the type of garbage we are up against. Pursuant with the Louisiana Code of Criminal Procedure, the court was not able to find me procedurally time barred so it unfairly recommended all claims, except one, be dismissed. Now we wait again to see how the judge rules. One Move, Herman

## NEWSBRIEFS from Page 3

have the sentence set aside. To qualify for this, the person convicted must:

1) have DNA testing, 2) allow the DA use of the DNA test results to investigate that case and

3) allow the DA use of the DNA test results to investigate other cases. The convicted person must also be able to prove that: 1) s/he was convicted at a trial, 2) s/he has no pending appeal for this conviction, 3) her/his identity was an issue during the trial, 4) the evidence s/he wishes DNA testing done on was secured by law enforcement, 5) the chain of custody on it is intact, 6) DNA tests were not run on the evidence because of lack of technology, 7) the evidence would have been admissible at trial, and 8) the evidence would establish that a reasonable jury could not find him/her guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. You must file before July 1, 2002. The statute is 31-1A-1 in NM Statutes Annotated: Procedures for Consideration of DNA Evidence.

**Berkeley** - Students at the Boalt Hall School of Law at UC Berkeley will be investigating cases, interviewing witnesses and launching death row appeals in State and Federal Court. The Law School will be the first in Calif. To launch a Death Penalty Clinic, in

which faculty will supervise second and third year law students as they delve deep into capital cases to ensure that convicts received fair trials.

The program is sponsored by Silicon Valley entrepreneurs Nick McKcaii and Peter Davies, who donated more than \$1 million to fund the clinic for at least 5 years. Several universities across the U.S. have launched similar programs in the past few years. The most notable is Northwestern University in Chicago, where journalism and law students have won many exonerations, including that of Anthony Porter who was freed in 1999 after spending 15 years on death row. Their work, a newspaper investigation and pressure from the people forced the Governor of Illinois to declare a moratorium on executions. California has 584 people on death row.

**San Francisco** - Jeffrey Blankfort and Kiilu Nyasha have a new radio spot on KPOO, 89.5 fm, every Thursday afternoon from 1-2 pm. It is called "Connecting the Dots".

**Kano, Nigeria** - At least 200 people have been killed in two days of religious clashes in the northern Nigerian city of Kano triggered by protests against US led air strike in Afghanistan.

Thousands of people fleeing to safe havens in military barracks reported an orgy of killings overnight by gangs of militants.

One of the worst hit areas was Zangon, on the city's outskirts, a Muslim stronghold with a significant Christian minority. Those fleeing were Christians. The federal government of President Olusegun Obasanjo poured in reinforcements of soldiers and police from neighboring states who fanned across the city, where authorities enforced a curfew.

Although the recent violence was linked to the bombardment of Afghanistan, it followed a familiar pattern of deadly religious clashes that have rocked Nigeria over the past two years, killing thousands. Nigeria's population of over 110 million is divided almost evenly between Christians and Muslims. The introduction of Islamic sharia law in some northern states triggered Muslim-Christian fighting in some cities in the region.

**Mexico City** - Digna Ochoa, one of Mexico's most respected human rights lawyers was assassinated. Ms. Ochoa, who survived one previous assassination attempt, was a defender of the Zapatista rebels, peasant environmentalists and other activists. There were no signs of robbery and a note found near the body threatened the same fate for unnamed others "if they continue".

Digna Ochoa was awarded Amnesty International's "Enduring Spirit Award" last year, and a Latin American human rights group based in El Salvador also honored her with its annual medal in 2000.

**Washington DC** - On Sept. 17, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced a change in policy that amounts to one of the most expensive and unjustifiable grants of corporate welfare in our nation's history. It could set a precedent that will have a long-lasting and damaging effect on our pocketbooks and the U.S. economy. The FCC decision - virtually unreported in the aftermath of the Sept 11 attacks, gives 21 broadcast companies a green light to sell off a slice of the public airwaves and pocket billions of dollars that would otherwise go to the U.S Treasury. At a time when the federal government is borrowing from the Social Security trust funds, it is a costly mistake to give away billions of dollars in revenue that it usually receives from the public auction of such frequencies.

**Washington DC** - National and international civil and human rights communities are applauding United

Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan for being named this year's Nobel Peace Prize winner along with the U.N. Annan, who recently led the U.N.'s World Conference Against Racism, maintained his characteristic powerful composure and a drive for success even during the U.S. walkout, a style for which the soft-spoken Ghanaian has come to be known.

**Washington DC** - Thomas Ridge, governor of Pennsylvania, was named as head of the new Office of Homeland Security. As governor his priorities were welfare reform and fighting crime. He pushed through a three-strikes law and a faster death penalty process. Ridge has signed more than 200 execution warrants since becoming governor in 1995, including two warrants for Mumia Abu-Jamal.

**New York** - A statistical study of more than 300,000 car loans arranged through Nissan dealers from March 1993 to September 2000 - believed by experts to be the largest pool of car loan data ever analyzed for racial patterns - shows that black customers in 33 states consistently paid more than white customers, regardless of their credit histories.

**Washington DC** - In this time of national crisis, amid calls for sacrifice, the Republican Party's right-wing leadership has pushed through an economic stimulus package which provides for the greatest corporate welfare in history. The House voted to repeal the Alternative Minimum Tax on corporations, which required hugely profitable companies to pay at least some tax, no matter how many loopholes they can find. Its repeal would allow many companies to pay zero U.S. income tax in perpetuity - a loss of more than \$12 billion in revenue next year alone. The repeal is retroactive, so companies would get rebates of all the Alternative Minimum Tax they've paid for the last 15 years. Some examples are:

\$1.4 billion for IBM  
\$833 million for General Motors  
\$671 million for General Electric  
\$572 million for Chevron Texaco  
\$254 million for Enron

**Washington DC** - The \$15 billion bailout of the US airline industry passed by Congress and signed by President Bush, awards massive and immediate aid to a handful of giant corporations while providing not one penny to hundreds of thousands of workers whose jobs and livelihoods have been destroyed in the wake of the Sept. 11 attack on the World Trade Center and Pentagon.



### The National Conference of Black Lawyers (NCBL)

offers its heartfelt gratitude to all Black Panthers for their many sacrifices and selfless service to humanity. By having the privilege of providing assistance to: Geronimo Ji Jaga, Mumia Abu-Jamal, Ahmad Abdur-Rahman, and other Panther soldiers, we have been greatly honored. Accept our very best wishes for a successful and productive 35th Anniversary and Reunion Conference.

*"...the (National) Conference of Black Lawyers assigned a young Black Lawyer from Mississippi named Lewis Myers to work on [my] case. I was delighted."*

**Assata Shakur**

***As we have been there in the past -  
count on us to be there until, together,  
we win the war. All power to the people!***

For information about the National Conference of Black Lawyers,  
visit [www.ncbl.org](http://www.ncbl.org)

**Congratulations**  
on  
**35 years**  
of  
**Activism!**



**Best Wishes**  
for  
a  
**great**  
**Reunion!**

The RFC has made grants for dozens of children and grandchildren of Black Panthers and is proud to continue to support those who fall within our guidelines.

For information and applications:  
Rosenberg Fund for Children  
1145 Main St., Suite 408, Springfield, MA, 01103  
413-739-9020 rfc@rfc.org www.rfc.org

**"Providing for the children of targeted activists and for targeted activist youth"**

## HYPOCRISY AND IGNORANCE

By David Muhammad (from San Francisco Bay View)

The first casualty of war is the truth. This is evident when you talk to people and hear the commentary about the attack on America. The American people have an extreme ignorance of international relations. Like the government's fabrication of the Gulf of Tonkin incident that inspired America to enter the Vietnam War, the lack of accurate international reporting has stirred the American people to support war again.

During a town hall meeting aired by ABC with youth and clergy, a question was asked by one of the young people that is critical in this discussion: Why are they so angry with us? They, and that includes many people in many parts of the world, are not angry at the American people, but at an American foreign policy that is considered unjust and even deadly.

Thousands of Iraqi children die every year just because they cannot receive basic medical supplies due to sanctions imposed by America. Similar sanctions hurt the people, not the leadership, of Cuba, Libya, Syria, Iran, and North Korea - sanctions that have devastating effects and that are often unjust. When Libya gave up two of its nationals to be tried at an international court for the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, the United Nations and many foreign countries called for the ending of sanctions against the African country, but America refused.

In the Middle East, America provides Israel with arms and military training, in addition to the nearly \$6 billion in foreign aid Israel receives every year from America. Palestinians, who have had their land taken and nation destroyed since 1948, see America's support of Israel as an assault on their freedom. And while the tiny state of Israel is the largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid, the entire continent of Africa receives less than a billion annually from America. Certainly something is wrong with those numbers.

An improved, more humane and just American foreign policy would do more to stamp out terrorism than any military strike. But it is a foreign policy most Americans know nothing about, so when injustice produces insanity and a group of fanatics respond with terrorism, many Americans react out of ignorance.

In the immediate aftermath of the Oklahoma Fed-

eral Building bombing, the media induced a similar anti-Islamic frenzy as we see today. A Muslim woman who was pregnant was so harassed she lost her unborn child, like many who have been harassed and have even lost their lives in the past weeks. Much of America has become a bloodthirsty mob of nationalists. Ironically, or hypocritically, there was no harassing of young white men, or targeting of Christians, when Timothy McVeigh, who professed to being a Christian, committed his act of terror.

Terrorism is as much a part of Islam as lynchings were a part of Christianity. Muslims throughout the world have condemned the deplorable and inhumane actions taken by fanatics. Many have likened this attack to the bombing of Pearl Harbor. But it was then that Japanese Americans were placed in internment camps. Will Arab Americans or all Muslims be herded into camps as depicted in such movies as "Siege"?

While some American people have responded to this tragedy with ignorance, the government seems to be responding out of hypocrisy. The Wild West President has declared that he wants Osama bin Laden "dead or alive", while an ill-informed emotional citizenry seem to be egging him on. Certainly, if evidence proves Osama bin Laden is guilty of being involved in the Sept. 11 tragedy, then he must be brought to justice.

During the Cuban missile crisis, American spy planes took pictures of the missile buildup 90 miles off the coast of Florida. Those pictures were presented to the United Nations - and it was only then that military strikes were authorized. American officials claim there is overwhelming evidence linking bin Laden to the attack on America. Let the evidence be seen.

Whatever happened to the American model of the presumption of innocence before being proven guilty, or even international law that demands adjudication of even the worst war criminals? Slobodan Molosevic is accused of masterminding the killing of many more than 5-6,000 people, but he is being tried at the Hague, not hunted down and killed. Days before the attack on America, U.S. officials were condemning the unjust policy of assassination by the Israeli government,

## WARS WITHOUT END, AMEN

By Mumia Abu-Jamal  
- Oct. 3, 2001

"Everyone knows that politicians routinely exaggerate, distort, and make promises that they know full well they can never fulfill. Woodrow Wilson campaigned in 1912 promising to keep the United States out of World War I. Franklin Delano Roosevelt campaigned in 1940, very careful not to appear as if he wanted to take the nation into World War II on the side of the British. Lyndon Johnson promised in 1964 that American boys would not die in Vietnam. Once elected, each of these presidents did lead the nation into wars in which hundreds of thousands of young American soldiers died." - John Stockwell, the Praetorian Guard, p. 26



With Bush Administration officials announcing that the so-called "War on Terrorism" will be open-ended, we, in the United States, are entering a long, repressive war cycle. This opinion suggests that U.S. history may be seen as cyclical; periods of uneasy peace, followed by periods of raging war.

All wars, like other areas of human endeavor, have economic imperatives, reflected by interests of some segments of society, which profit from war. While soldiers and some citizens lose their lives, some businesses boom. For such businesses, especially in times of a war economy, war is simply, well, good business. Arms merchants love the winds of war. Rations (food) merchants love war. Many corporations view wars as harbingers of the 'good old days.'

At the risk of coining a phrase, "Money is the root of all war." When Japan invaded Manchuria, it wasn't because they were 'bad', it was because they were seeking raw materials that their homelands couldn't provide. When Iraq invaded Kuwait, it wasn't because they were 'bad', but because Kuwait would've automatically doubled their oil deposits. War often has economic underpinnings, but they are hidden. War is a tool of foreign and economic policy.

What is America's foreign policy? Researcher Jerry Fresia, in *Towards an American Revolution* (South End Pr.; 1988), tells us: In 1950, George Kennan, head of the State Department planning staff, gave a briefing to Latin American ambassadors in which he said that a major concern of foreign policy must be "The protection of our raw materials" - in fact, more broadly, the material and human resources that are "ours" by right, require that we combat a dangerous heresy which has been spreading through Latin America, namely "the idea that the government has direct responsibility for the welfare of the people." (p. 81)

When someone tells you that America's foreign policy is "spreading democracy", or "saving freedom", or some such, think of Kennan's revelations. That's the real deal.

War is but the ultimate instrument of foreign policy. War is indeed hell, for some. For others, it is big, and burgeoning business.



## The Case of David Rice (Mondo we Langa) and Ed Poindexter

On August 17, 1970, the police department of Omaha, Nebraska received a 911 call. The caller reported that a woman was screaming for help from a vacant house. The address given for the house was 2867 Ohio Street. The police arrived at the scene and started to investigate. No screaming woman was found. Near the doorway of the house was a suitcase. The officers stepped over the suitcase to get into the house. As a search of the house was being conducted, an explosion occurred. Officer Larry Minard who was near the suitcase, was killed instantly. Investigation showed that the suitcase contained dynamite and was set to explode when moved. Arrested for placing the bomb was Duane Peak, age 15. Peak was charged with first degree murder for planting the bomb. In a plea bargain to save his life, Peak implicated the only two people in the entire state who were targeted by COINTELPRO, David Rice and Edward Poindexter.

David Rice was a known member of the NCCF. (National Committee to Combat Fascism) This group consisted of Black Panther Party members who were working to protect the community from police brutality. David Rice was Minister of Information in the NCCF. Rice's political actions were a large part of why he was convicted. We have documents to show that the FBI helped to suppress evidence in this case that would have completely discredited the key witness against the convicted men. At the time of the bombing, the FBI was actively spying on U.S. citizens and working to subvert groups that were working to advance the rights of African Americans and Native Americans. These documents were obtained from the FBI using the FOI Act.

The goal of this advertisement is to get David Rice & Ed Poindexter released from prison. David Rice has sought redress through the courts but has

been unsuccessful. The problem with the courts is that after your trial, all the appeals courts can do is to determine if your trial was fair, not if the verdict was correct. Evidence that comes out after the trial, that indicates innocence, is very hard to get before an appeals court. The role of the Governor (who is on the Pardons Board) should be to correct mistakes that the court has made. In our system of government that has checks and balances, the executive branch (Governor) is a check on the court system. There is a great deal of evidence in this case that indicates that David Rice and Ed Poindexter were not involved in any way in the tragic death of Officer Minard, but, 30 years later, they remain convicted.

In Nebraska, the members of the Pardons Board include the Governor, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of State. Currently, the Governor and the Attorney General are using the Pardons Board as a political platform to show how tough they are on crime. Currently they refuse to hear many petitions. How can the Pardons Board be a check on the courts if it refuses to even hear cases? The Pardons Board needs to hear this evidence because the courts will not. In a country where the government is of the people, by the people and for the people, we are all responsible for the innocents that go to prison. Courts make mistakes, and the law is not perfect. It is our job as citizens to make sure that justice is done.

The FBI has admitted that they violated the Constitutional rights of citizens with their COINTELPRO program. However, many of its victims remain in prison today. Two of these innocents are David Rice (Mondo we Langa) and Edward Poindexter.

Contact: Nebraskans For Justice; P. O. Box 4307; Omaha, NE 68104; e-mail: tariq2x@home.com

## BASHIR HAMEED Black Liberation Army Political Prisoner

I was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey, in December of 1940, the second oldest in a family of six children. I grew up in a little town just southwest of Elizabeth and north of Rahway, New Jersey, home of the infamous Rahway State Prison.



My father was a butcher, and though he wasn't an educated man, he stressed getting an education or developing a skill/trade to all of his children. He constantly used the newspapers to show me examples of racism in America. He also told me about the various achievements of Blacks and refused to allow us to act in deferring ways to whites. Both parents made great sacrifices to try to provide a decent life under the circumstances - and for that I shall be forever grateful to them.

After attending Seton Hall, a short stint in the U.S. Army, and a failed marriage, I moved to Berkeley, California, in 1968. While working and living there in the Bay Area, I began to earnestly follow the happenings with the Black Panther Party. Huey Newton's trial was taking place during this time and I followed it in the local papers. Towards the end of '68, I started going by the Party's headquarters. After attending classes and participating in the Party's new Free Breakfast Program at St. Augustine Church, I fell in love with the Party, its philosophy and people.

In early '69 I was sent back to New Jersey to try and help restructure the remnants of the New Jersey Chapter of the BPP which had already come under attack by the U.S. government and local police. The leadership of the Jersey City branch had been jailed for allegedly machine-gunning a local police precinct. The Newark branch office had been bombed and both branches were in a shambles.

The local police immediately started to harass me and my family. In no time at all I had been arrested numerous times while selling the Party's paper, driving, and participating in community issues. We were able to reestablish the Jersey City branch and developed several Free Breakfast Programs, Free Clothing Drives, Political Education classes, etc., in the community. The attacks and frame-ups on various charges continued against Party members.

By the fall of 1970, I was either doing time in one of the county jails or facing charges on several others, all for arrests while doing daily Party work. Facing over twenty years because of this, I left.

I was arrested a year later and sentenced to Trenton State Prison, where I ended up doing four years. While there, Sundiata Acoli, John "Andaliwa" Clark, Kwesi Balagoon, myself and others developed a study group. In September '75, I was released. In January '76, there was an attempted prison break in which Andaliwa was murdered and a prison captain shot. Having just been released I was a prime suspect as an outside source. Realizing my plight and not having much faith in the criminal justice system, I left the area.

In April '81, a van was stopped by two New York

## The Black Panther Party Still The People Body & Soul

In silent salute to your many comrades no longer amongst us, but in spirit.

Look around you to your left, now to your right, and behind you, this is history. Our history, our todays and tomorrows. Our teachers, our leaders, our brothas, our sistas.

I call on you all from this hellhole  
Continue to be a servant of our peoples  
We will lose a generation and our  
Communities without them knowing  
this history, for it is this history that  
will save our youths and whose better  
to teach it then those who live it

Paul Redd, 2001  
Pelican Bay State Prison, CA

## HYPOCRICY from Page 8

but now they are prepared to be guilty of the same.

Regardless of how justified those who perpetrated this act of terror on America felt their actions were due to American foreign policy, the inhumane act was nothing short of barbarism. But when America takes its retaliatory strike, innocent men, women, and children will be killed, as many officials have already warned. Then will America be any better than the very terrorists who killed innocent Americans for what they thought was the redress of grievance?



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See BASHIR on Page 17

## THE BLACK PANTHER NEWSPAPERS MIRROR OF THE PEOPLE

The Black Panther Black Community News Service, is not just a newspaper in the traditional sense of the word, it's more than that. The Black Panther Black Community News Service is a living contemporary history of our people's struggle for liberation at the grassroots level. It's something to be studied and grasped, and saved for future generations to read, learn and understand.

The Black Panther Black Community News Service tells the story of our people's struggle in the streets. Its story unfolds far from the perfumed parlors of the petty bourgeoisie. It tells the true story of what happens in the concrete inner-city jungles of Babylon when brothers and sisters off the block, workers, and members of the petty bourgeoisie decide to cast aside their petty personal goals and aspirations, and begin to work unselfishly together with a common goal in mind.

The Black Panther documents step by step the actions taken by, and programs instituted by the Black Panther Party in its unstoppable drive to serve the people; and documents before the whole world the repression and mur-



ders committed by Amerikkka's corrupt monopoly capital in its dastardly attempts to stop this move to institute people's power. The Black Panther teaches the people the strategic means for resisting the power structure.

The Black Panther Black Community News Service tells how the correct examples of the Party, led by Huey P. Newton, spread like wildfire throughout fascist Amerikkka. The Black Panther documents for all humanity to see how the wretched slaves of Amerikkka moved fearlessly to establish ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE. The weekly issues of The Black Panther also show how people who will be free refuse to be either cowed or intimidated by death, imprisonment or exile, and continue to develop and expand. It is a lesson in the objective truth, that the spirit of the people is indeed greater than the man's technology. The best that humanity possesses will never yield to any oppressor.



### CHAPTERS AND BRANCHES AND NCCFS OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY - 1970

#### National Headquarters

Ministry of Information  
35 Sylvan Ave.  
1048 West Peralta St.  
W. Oakland, CA

#### Berkeley

3106 Shattuck Ave.  
Berkeley, CA  
Stannage St.  
Berkeley, CA

#### San Francisco

National Distribution  
1336 Filmore St.  
San Francisco, CA

#### S. F. Community Centers

2777 Pine Street and  
135 Kiska Rd, Apt. 304  
San Francisco, CA

#### Oakland Community Centers

45-B East 3rd St.  
1321 99th Ave.  
E. Oakland, CA  
1690 Tenth St.  
West Oakland, CA

#### Richmond

520 Bissell St.  
Richmond, CA

#### Boston

23 Winthrop St.  
Roxbury, MA

#### Chicago Community Centers

2350 W. Madison  
Chicago, IL

#### Denver

1224 E. 22nd Ave.  
Denver, CO

Issue by issue, the people's revolutionary struggle for national salvation unfolds in the pages of The Black Panther Community News Service, free from the distortion, bias, and lies of the oppressor controlled mass media. The People's paper tells how starting out with nothing, the People's Party, The Black Panther Party, moved with the people to implement Free Breakfast Programs to feed our hungry children, Free Health Clinics to care for the sick, Free Clothing Programs to clothe our needy, Liberation Schools to educate our youth and Community Centers to keep the community informed. With each meal served, with each child clothed, and with each bandage applied, we were attacked wilder and wilder - Fred Hampton and Mark Clark murdered in their sleep by Chicago's thin blue line on December 4, 1969 and the L.A. office attacked by 400 crazed pigs on December 8, 1969 (VOL. IV, NO. 2).



The Black Panther Black Community News Service is not only a history of the people's growth, but also the pigs fanatical repression as they near total destruction. The Black Panther documents and indicts Amerikkka for the fascist police state that it is, attempting to crush all dissent by force.

The Black Panther Community News Service is a living breathing history that continues each and every day. It is not an ordinary newspaper. It is the flesh and blood, the sweat and tears of our people. The Black Panther Black Community News Service, is truly a mirror of the spirit of the people.

*(Adapted from The Black Panther Paper, by Landon Williams, 1970)*

#### Denver Community Center

3123 Franklin St.  
Denver, CO

#### Indianapolis

133 W. 30th St.  
Indianapolis, IN

#### Indianapolis Comm. Center

414 E. 23rd St.  
Indianapolis, IN

#### Jersey City

93 Summit Ave.  
Jersey City, NJ

#### Los Angeles

2043 Stockwell St.  
Los Angeles, CA

#### L.A. Community Centers

334 W. 55th St. and

### Wednesday Nights at Central Distribution

By Bill (Billy X) Jennings

The Black Panther Party Newspaper was an important vehicle for circulating the ideals, messages, and programs of the Black Panther Party (BPP). As the struggle grew, and the BPP grew, our newspaper circulation grew from less than 20,000 to 150,000 a week.

When I came into the Party in the summer of 1968, the newspaper was coming out biweekly. By early 1969, it was coming out weekly. The newspaper was put together by our newspaper staff in Oakland and was ready for printing on Wednesdays. Our San Francisco office on Fillmore and Eddy Streets including our Central Distribution Center.



Sam Napier was the Distribution Manager for the BPP, a dedicated and tireless worker, who was loved by all. He was the heart and soul of Central Distribution and the BPP Newspaper. Sam and his staff put together a system to get the paper out to the people as quickly as possible.

On Wednesday nights, all Party members in the Bay Area would report to Central Distribution to work on getting the papers out. Everyone loved working on the paper because it was a chance to see and talk with members from other offices (Richmond, Marin, Vallejo, East Oakland, West Oakland, Central Headquarters, West Berkeley, E. Palo Alto, San Jose, San Francisco, the Berkeley NCCF, and occasionally Sacramento). We also received help from



many Black Student Unions in the area, such as San Francisco State, Merritt College, UC Berkeley, Laney College and San Francisco City College.

## LEGACY OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

The Black Panther Party (BPP) captured the imagination of the oppressed people throughout the world. Its organizational life span lasted sixteen years - 1966 to 1982 - although the focus of the organiza-

United States. Feeding hungry schoolchildren, the BPP Breakfast Program was the cornerstone of the survival programs. The BPP adopted programs designed to satisfy the immediate needs of the people while raising their level of consciousness. Publication of the Black Panther Paper is on such example.

Each office and community center had up to 3 different locations for the Breakfast program, which served thousands of children across the country. The government's free breakfast program was patterned after our breakfast program, which was established first.

Our first program was the Community Police Patrols and Legal First Aid Program.

In 1969, the Harlem office started a housing advocacy program (tenants' rights). The Missouri branch under Pete and Charlotte O'Neal opened a drug counseling program.

Another program which developed into large community events was the Free Food Giveaways. The BPP distributed thousands of free bags of groceries. WE would give away as many as 10,000 bags in one day.

Our health programs consisted of Free Health Clinics, Sickle Cell Testing and a Free Ambulance Service. Missouri opened the Bobby Hutton Community Clinic in 1969. Soon after, Brooklyn, Boston, Washington DC, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Seattle, Chicago and Rockford, Illinois created Free Health Clinics. The Seattle clinic is still open.

The clinics offered a variety of services that included, first aid, physical examinations, prenatal care, and testing for high blood pressure, lead poisoning and sickle cell anemia. The Spurgeon Jack Winters Peoples' Medical Clinic in Chicago, established in 1970, served over 2,000 people within its first two months. The Clinic staffs included obstetrician-gynecologists, pediatricians and general practitioners. Medical teams went door-to-door assisting people with their health problems.

Sickle Cell Anemia testing was a major health



and community service program. The BPP was at the forefront of an educational and medical campaign to eradicate sickle cell anemia, a rare blood disease that primarily effects people of African descent. All of our medical clinics offered sickle cell testing, but the clinic in Chicago was the first to begin testing in 1971. In Houston, TX, the BPP trained students at Texas Southern University and community residents to perform testing for sickle cell disease, hypertension and diabetes. Through the George Jackson Free Medical Clinic in Berkeley, under the direction of Tolbert Small, MD, and Audrea Jones, we tested thousands of Black people in the Bay Area.

The Black Panther Paper featured an article entitled "Black Genocide, Sickle Cell Anemia", accusing the U.S. government of refusing to conduct re-

See LEGACY on Page 20



tion changed over the years. The BPP produced a rich and multifaceted legacy that significantly impacted the Black liberation struggle. The BPP community service programs were a model of People's Power and Serving the People Body and Soul.

Black Panther Party members and supporters implemented a variety of survival programs designed to meet the needs of the community. Survival programs served as an organizing tool with which to expose the inequities and contradictions within the

## IN MEMORY OF FALLEN COMRADES

Arthur Morris  
Bobby Hutton  
Tommy Lewis  
Robert Lawrence  
Steve Bartholemew  
Welton Armstead

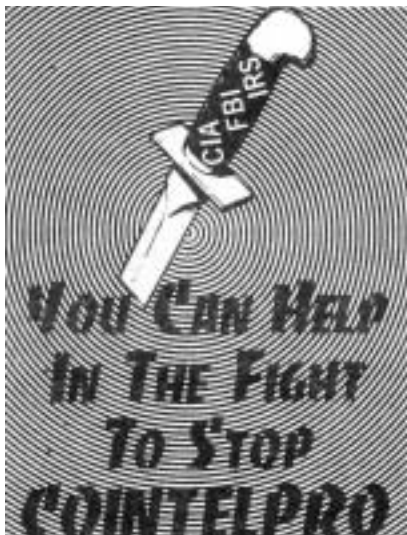
Sidney Miller  
Frank Diggs  
Alprentice Carter  
John Huggins  
Alex Rackley  
John Savage

Sylvester Bell  
Larry Roberson  
Nathaniel Clark  
Walter Pope  
Spurgeon Winters

Fred Hampton  
Mark Clark  
Sterling Jones  
Rory Hithe  
Zayd Shakur

Robert Webb  
Babatunde X Omarwali  
Jonathan Jackson  
Fred Bennett  
Samuel Napier

George Jackson  
Joseph Waddell  
Cindy Smallwood  
Carl Hampton  
Twymon Myers



## MINIMUM WAGE - IT JUST DOESN'T ADD UP!

By Holly Sklar

A job should keep you out of poverty, not keep you in it. Most Americans believe that. But as we celebrate Labor Day, hardworking Americans paid minimum wage earn just \$10,712 a year. That's a third less than their counterparts earned a third of a century ago - adjusting for inflation.

A couple with two children would have to work a combined 3.3 full-time minimum wage jobs to make ends meet. That's 132 hours a week. It just doesn't add up. We're in the year 2001 in the richest nation on earth and yet millions of Americans make wages so low they have to choose between eating or heating, health care or childcare.

They are health care aides who can't afford health insurance. They work in the food industry, but depend on food banks to help feed their children. They are childcare teachers who don't make enough to save for their own children's education. They care for the elderly, but they have no pensions.

Today's minimum wage and other public policies are not working for many working Americans. Families

need more than double the official poverty level to make ends meet.

The federal minimum wage, first enacted in 1938, was meant to put a firm floor under workers and their families, strengthen the depressed economy by increasing consumer purchasing power, create new jobs to meet rising demand and stop a "race to the bottom" or employers moving to cheaper labor states. President Bush's proposal to let states "opt out" of the federal minimum wage would destroy it, taking us back to the pre-New Deal era.

In recent decades, the minimum wage floor has fallen, dragging down average real wages as well. The real value of the minimum wage peaked in 1968 at \$7.92 per hour (in 2000 dollars). Since then, worker productivity went up, but wages went down. Productivity grew 74.2 percent between 1968 and 2000, but hourly wages for average workers fell 3 percent, adjusting for inflation. Real wages for minimum wage workers - two thirds of who are adults - fell 35 percent.

If wages had kept pace with productivity since 1968, the average hourly

wage would have been \$24.56 in 2000, rather than \$13.74. The minimum wage would be \$13.80 - not \$5.15. Profits also went up, but wages went down. Domestic corporate profits rose 64 percent since 1968, adjusting for inflation. The retail trade industry employs more than half the nation's hourly employees paid at or below minimum wage. Retail profits jumped even higher than profits generally, skyrocketing 158 percent since 1968. The minimum wage would be \$13.02 if it had kept pace with domestic profits and \$20.46 if it had risen with retail profits.

CEO pay went up, but workers' wages went down. In 1980, the average CEO at a major corporation made as much as 97 minimum wage workers. In 2000, they made as much as 1,223 minimum wage workers.

The federal minimum wage can and should be increased to \$8 per hour and indexed to inflation. That's the average amount needed for a single full-time worker to meet basic needs such as food, housing, utilities and health care. It matches the 1968 minimum wage peak, adjusting for inflation. To assure that all working families can meet their basic needs we should supplement a higher minimum wage with improved childcare, health care and Earned Income Tax Credit policies, for example.

Certainly, employers can pay a minimum wage equivalent to what their

counterparts paid more than three decades ago. After the last minimum wage increases in 1996-97, the economy boomed with extraordinarily high growth, low inflation, low unemployment and declining poverty rates - until the Federal Reserve purposefully slowed economic growth by raising interest rates, a mistaken course it has since reversed.

Successful businesses-large and small-have shown that good wages are good business. Higher wages reduce turnover, improve productivity and increase purchasing power. In-N-Out Burger, for example, ranks first among fast food chains in food quality, value and customer service. There are more than 150 In-N-Out Burgers in California, Nevada and Arizona. The starting wage of a part-time worker is \$8 an hour.

In the words of Philadelphia small business owners Tm Styer, Judy Wicks and Hal Taussig, "All our businesses pay well above the federal minimum wage. We know that today's minimum wage shortchanges workers and undermines the long-term health of businesses, communities and the economy."

Let's stop shortchanging workers with the minimum wage. Let's make it a living.

Holly Sklar is coauthor of the new book, "Raise The Floor: Wages and Policies That Work For All Of Us"

## CAPTIVE VOICES

### "Prisons and the Prison Industrial Complex"

By Robert X. Holbrook #BL5140

Welcome to Huntington State Prison, Apartheid U.S.A. The best word to describe the Pennsylvania State Correctional Institution Huntington, as it is euphemistically called, is absolute misery. Everything about the prison is miserable. It is an old damp and cold fortress built in 1897 surrounded by a 40 foot wall that conveys the message to abandon all hope to those that enter.

It is located in central Pennsylvania and is run by white men that would be more at home in the southern backwaters of Alabama or Mississippi. Every morning I awake to a manufactured environment of oppression and breathe in an atmosphere of tension so present I can feel it in my lungs and pulsing through my blood. The only exchanges between the prisoners and guards is hostility and contempt punctuated occasionally by doses of humor. Everyone, both prisoner and guard, exist in a constant state of tension. The guards cannot and refuse to understand the mentality and culture of urban Blacks and Black prisoners cannot understand the mentality and culture of hillbilly rural white culture. Behind these 40 foot walls a continuing clash of cultures is being waged.

When a prison population is 70% Black and prison administration is over 95% White and located in a region of the state where Black people account

for less than 3% of the population, the result is a prison administration that is indifferent to the lives and interests of Black prisoners and the communities we come from. The quality of Black prisoners released does not matter to the state because the prisoner will not return to white communities and release the aggression and frustration built up within him from years of serving time in a racist prison. The Black prisoner released without rehabilitation will return to the Black community and terrorize his own community. All prisoners, Black, White, Latino should be provided the means and opportunity to better himself throughout his/her imprisonment.

This is the type of prison I exist in, a factory of oppression and hate that turns a man against himself, his community and society in the name of prison corrections. This is where the Black communities and society's taxes are going, into the creation of men that will have difficulty functioning in a family or social unit. Such prisons should not exist and it illustrates the fact that the criminal justice system is not designed to address the problem of crime within the Black community. In the state's mad rush to punish more prisoners are being built in rural white

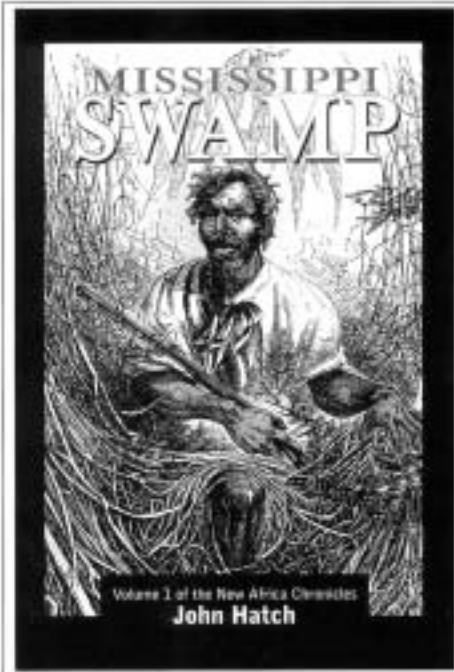
See VOICE on Page 20

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Editor*

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and Prisoners of War!**



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## Letters to the Editor

Just a note to say thank you for the books you sent us, they are a welcome change from the standard drivel that the library offers us. Fortunately, the powers that be in our mail room allowed them to be delivered unmolested.

The first evening that they arrived, I spent the entire night, well into the early hours of the morn, reading the words, soaking up the text and meanings as though I was a dry sponge. Please be assured that once I finish them, they will be shared with others, and eventually placed in our library for all to enjoy. Finally, books with meaning!

Your concern and thoughtfulness means more to us than free books, it

shows us that there are still people out there that are concerned enough to reach out and treat us as people, not just as a number in a census count. Your acts of kindness give to us the strength to continue to hope for a better tomorrow, and the courage to have thoughts of our own, not just thoughts that the system tries to program in our brains.

Again, thank you for answering our plea for sanity in this an insane injustice system. We all appreciate what you've done to reach out to make life for us behind the razor wire a little better.

In Struggle & Solidarity,  
Glenn Wright  
Greenville, IL

## WHO IS VERONZA BOWER?

Veronza Bower, 55, is a father, grandfather and one of over a hundred political prisoners currently held captive under brutal conditions in the United States prison system. His incarceration is the sole result of his political beliefs and actions in the struggle for freedom in America.

During the late 1960's, Veronza was one of countless African Americans who joined the Black Panther Party (BPP) to fight for social, political and economic freedom for all people. He was active in both the Omaha, Nebraska and Richmond, California branches of the BPP.

Through COINTELPRO, the FBI targeted the Black Panthers for destruction. Veronza is a victim of the FBI's was against Black America.

### WHAT IS COINTELPRO?

COINTELPRO (Counter Intelligence Program) was developed by the FBI to destroy radical political movements in the US by any means necessary.

The Black Panther Party - and other Black radical organizations - were the primary targets of COINTELPRO until the early 1970's when many Black radicals were either dead, in prison or underground. COINTELPRO then went after the American Indian Movement.

In its own word, COINTELPRO's mission was to "disrupt, misdirect, discredit or otherwise neutralize" organizations "politically dangerous" to the national security of the United States. In practice, this program was used to silence and destroy predominantly progressive organizations of color within the United States.

With the Black Panther Party, this was done in the form of phone taps, infiltrators and agent provocateurs, frame-ups and murder.

In 1973, Veronza was wrongfully convicted in the death of a National Park Service Ranger in California. Although there were no eyewitnesses to the killing, Veronza was convicted on the testimony of two paid informants who also had charges against them reduced or dropped in exchange for their false testimony. His alibi and the testimony of others refuting that of the paid informants were ignored, and he was convicted.

Veronza has maintained his innocence throughout his imprisonment. In the past, he has refused parole if it means saying that he is guilty. Despite being a model prisoner, Veronza remains in prison. In September, 2000, the parole board recommended he be released, but the decision was overturned.

Veronza remains in prison, buried alive as another victim of the United States government's racist campaign of terror: COINTELPRO.

See BOWER on Page 15

## NO to US-Demanded Crackdown on Free Media

By Ali Abunimah, Oct. 4, 2001

There can be no more shocking and disgusting demonstration of US double standards than the demand delivered by US Secretary of State Colin Powell that Qatar crack down on the independent satellite TV network Al-Jazira. According to the BBC, Powell asked Qatar to reign in the influential and editorially independent television station, which gives airtime to anti-American opinions among many others. The emir of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad Khalifa al-Thani, confirmed after a meeting with Powell in Washington that he had been asked to exert influence on the Qatari-based channel, which can be received almost worldwide.

Al-Jazira is one of the few sources of reliable and comprehensive news reporting and debate about the Arab and wider worlds. As someone who watches Al-Jazira daily, I can say that there is nothing on this network that matches the shameless nationalism, open hostility to Arabs and Muslims and occasionally outright incitement that often passes for "news" and "analysis" in the United States media, both electronic and print.

How would the United States government react if Arab countries demanded it crack down on the semi-official daily - The Washington Post, which in August published a series of articles demanding that Israel launch a war of annihilation against the Palestinians? Or would the US government be prepared to crack down on CNN which for hours after the September 11 atrocity repeatedly played a clip of a small handful of celebrating Palestinians, inviting viewers to take that as an indication that Palestinians were either responsible or universally pleased with the attack? Or how about the major US TV networks which rely for most of their analysis on former government and military officials who are often hostile to Palestinians, Iraqis and others?

I hope the United States government would never crack down on any media, and that no government will heed hypocritical demands to do the same. Here in the US, where what passes for television news is largely nothing more than advertisements, diet tips and mawkish sentiment; independent news beamed in from the outside world has never been more vital. Here, where no person is permitted to speak on any issue for more than eight seconds at a time, the kind of free, in-depth debate provided by Al-Jazira should serve as an example and a reminder to the American media as to what their job

See CRACKDOWN on Page 20

## RACISM from Page 2

paigns, but instead counseled us to rely on the South African Human Rights Commission, the UN, or other governmental bodies in our host countries. They proposed strategies of legal complaints, lobbying, and the "proper way" of appealing to heads of state. What they intentionally didn't mention was how the poor and racially oppressed can build an international direct action protest movement to destabilize the international capitalist system and really win concessions on reparations from host governments and multinational corporations, beat back privatization, police brutality, poverty and other social ills. We clearly need a new fight back movement worldwide, not just another group of slick lawyers among the oppressed peoples who will then rise up to oppress their own as agents of the rich themselves. We cannot fight for partial gains and then leave these capitalist blood-suckers alive with their system intact.

### Powerlessness of the NGO and the Need for a New International Movement

This conference showed how weak NGO's are and how subordinate they are to governments (although some argument can be made about Africans from America continuing to organize after the U.S. withdrawal). Neither the UN bureaucrats or government officials showed any respect for us, treating us

like children or cattle, including dumping us in a huge cricket stadium to meet in tents, while the bureaucrats and government officials met in air conditioned comfort inside the International Convention Center, normally a meeting site for business trade shows.

The NGO's and various oppressed peoples need to organize independently of the governments and the UN system and in their own interest. They must build a more powerful movement inside and outside the United Nations system. They must and should preserve the international platform at the United Nations, but should demand dual power; that is, some form of power sharing, rather than being mere subjects of a national government or human rights lobby like the UN. We need a mass international organization against racism, colonialism, caste oppression, gender/sexual oppression, and various other forms of oppression that were exposed at the WCAR. We need some basis of unity to fight for each other's agenda. We need a broad-based movement that can unite with anti-globalization and liberation forces, Black community organizations, student groups, workers and others to transform society, not just reform the UN system.

We saw the beginning of this new movement with the Durban Social Forum demonstration on the first day of the World Conference Against Racism,

when 20,000 rank-and-file union organizers, land reformers, anti-capitalists, supporters of the liberation of Palestine and anti-racists from various countries came together for a mass anti-government/anti-capitalist protest at the International Convention Center, where the WCAR was being held. A new grassroots movement has been created, which many believe will reshape South African politics forever. To keep it from descending into the pit of opportunism and sectarianism, it must be a primarily anti-authoritarian movement, rather than a political party of would-be and professional politicians, or members of the upper classes.

Such a direct action movement on an international level could more effectively deal with UN officials and national governments, and not only compel respect for a radical agenda, but lead to actual power-sharing for the NGO's. Only a few well-connected NGO's who served on the International Steering Committee even knew what was happening at the conference, and they kept

that knowledge largely to themselves. The ISC and the host NGO abruptly changed the agenda without notification or explanation. An international NGO federation could bring an end to the kind of abuses we witnessed at the WCAR and open the process to the masses of affected peoples all over the world. It could also make sure that we are never disrespected again by UN bureaucrats, and that the government officials will not be able to sell us out. We have to use the UN just like we do any other institution; to fight for our rights to survive and live in freedom, to build international alliances and to let the world know of the crimes of government and capitalism.

*JoNina M. Abron and Lorenzo Komboa Ervin were delegates from the Southwest Michigan Coalition Against Racism and Police Brutality based in Kalamazoo, Michigan at the Non-Governmental Forum of the WCAR where they were accredited journalists.*

## WEDNESDAY from Page 10

After working in the field (community) people would start arriving at Central Distribution by 6:00 or 7:00pm. Anywhere between 75 and 100 people were needed to sort and bundle papers for our bulk mailing. Earlier in the day, bags were picked up at the post office, labels for subscriptions were printed, food was brought and cooked for the comrades who came straight from their community work.

Our main Distribution Staff included Sam Napier, Andrew Austin, Naomi Williams, Pauline Napier, Pat Brown, Karen Williams, Cindy Smallwood, Kathy Campbell, Carol Rucker, Andy, Ellis White and James Burford who deserve tremendous credit for coordinating the BPP Newspaper distribution to over 40 chapters, branches, BSU's, Bookstores and individual subscribers.


As the Party and the newspaper grew, so did the intensity of the attacks against us by the FBI and San Francisco Police trying to stop the growth and distribution of our paper. The FBI had previously set fire to a storage spot housing older editions of the paper. We had two large 2-ton trucks that were used to bring the papers from the printer to Central Distribution and then after sorting and bundling, to take them to San Francisco Airport. The street in front of the office only had two lanes. Every time a truck arrived to load or unload, the San Francisco Tactical Squad would arrive with lights on and harass the drivers for double parking.

They forced us to park the trucks around the corner or a block from the office. This is when Sam would call on People Power, which was a line of Panthers and people from the community throwing bundles of papers (100 papers per bundle) down the line as far away as a block. People in the community would come out and lend a hand and the process would be repeated from the office to the truck after the papers were boxed up, 300 papers per box. After the boxes were loaded onto the trucks, they would make a run to the airport to be shipped out. Some of the drivers were Ellis White and Lucky Jenkins.

Wednesday nights grew into one of the Party's biggest operations. It was a great recruitment tool because volunteers who came would see all the comrades working together and wanted to be part of such a positive experience. Sam called it "showing revolutionary enthusiasm". During the down times between loading trucks, people would eat, talk, study, drink (bitter dog) and sing. This is where the Party's singing group, the Lumpen, was started. Although this was a long process, especially sorting all the subscriptions, and we rarely left before 1:00am, everyone loved it.

Circulate to Educate! talk, study, drink (Bitter Dog), and sing. This is how the BPP's singing group came about - the Lumpen. This was a major operation and we rarely left before 1:00am.

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## DRESSED IN BLACK

yeah we had guns but wasn't trippin  
wasn't stuck in no death groove  
with visions of blood drippin  
and bullet-wound fatalities stackin up  
like modern-day echoes the the "nigger" word eruptin  
from contorted mouths of Africans lost  
left to find themselves  
by themselves on city streets  
by communities of us that traded in  
black power for government jobs  
and mid-level-management window-dressin  
positions under glass ceilings  
with buckets and squeegees in hand  
as some of us searched not no mountains  
but suburbantracts for our promised land

we had guns but wasn't trippin  
picked up them pieces cuz justice was locked  
in a box and was screamin  
by politicians and cops  
who held the keys and was scheming  
to muzzle the screamin sounds with deception  
or outright force when that didn't work  
as gangs dressed in blue  
(but they wasn't no crips  
but cops on the beat with guns on their hips)  
hunted for bloods who was not dressed in red  
'cept we bled all the same from the lead  
and the dead that we carried to be dropped in the diort  
got too heavy in time for us to stay scared  
and be restin in peace like corpses in earth  
while the every -day hurt of our people in pain  
throbbled like an ache in the knees you be feelin  
from too much time kneelin in prayer to a god  
who resembles the cops and the mayor of the city  
and big shots on school boards who was feedin our children  
with food for their heads that waas makin 'em sick  
and landlords who was greedy and a part of all this  
waas collectin the rent from the slums where we fought  
with roaches and rats  
and ceilings that leaked when it rained  
into buckets arranged on the floor  
fillin with water 'til they couldn't hols more  
so we couldn't stand still  
after getting our fill of abuse that our people was facin

we had guns but wasn't trippin  
wasn't throwin no sign but the black power fist  
we flashed in salute to our sistas and brothas  
who had nothing to fear from us bein strapped  
didn't have to sweat getting capped  
cuz we wasn't out to collect no stripes  
by reliving the hype of some thug life we learned  
watchin mafia dons on t.v. takin turns  
usin thugs to spill blood for cold cash

we had guns but wasn't getting down like that  
we had guns but wasn't trippin  
police was thinking deat and whippin  
was set I stone as a one-way deal  
and how else was they supposed to feel  
when they could get down wrong and get away clean  
doin dirt for the political machine  
prowlin our streets under its direction  
enforcing unwritten rules of oppression  
on our people who were needin defense and protection  
and relief from attacks that came so frequent and hard  
some of had to put our lives on the line and stand guard.  
*Wopashitwe Mondo Eyen we Langa*

## REBEL YELL: DECLARATIONS OF THE PANTHERS

They saw the death of silence, through the barrel of a gun.  
"Who wants to stand, and who wants to run Ö?"  
"Who can sing freedom songs without shells Ö?"

(They saw the death of silence, when they heard a rebel yell

They "Held these truths to be" in the community  
That police could no longer attack blacks, without impunity.  
In assertion of rights as humans, and men  
The Panthers breathed life into the Declaration of Independence.

The personification of Malcolm X's dreams  
Of freedom and justice brought forth by any means.  
"Who can sing freedom songs without shells Ö?"

(They saw the death of silence, when they heard a rebel yell

With Constitution righting "New guards for security Ö"  
Of people subjected to "Trains of abuses Ö"  
Who can claim the Panthers any less than patriots  
Than "forefathers" of 1776, July 4<sup>th</sup>?

Endowed by Creator, with unalienable rights  
Of liberty, happiness, pursuits of life  
The call was taken up, in arms of defense;  
To stand face to face with the U.S. government.

Sacrificing self, for a people in plight  
With full undertakings of prison, or loss of life.  
Who can comprehend the Declaration of Independence  
And declare the Black Panthers any lesser an amendment?

When Black Panthers dared to bring oppression to its knees  
With self-defense as a necessary means  
They stood as reminders that we, as human beings  
Are endowed with the right to protect our security.  
To bow in submission, is no just answer.  
We saw the death of silence - in Declarations of the Panthers

*Adrian Jasper*



## WILD POPPIES

I remember red poppies, wild behind the school house  
I didn't want to be there, but I loved to watch the poppies

I used to sit in the window of my room, sketching charcoal  
trees  
what happened to those magnolia trees, to that girl?

I went off to college, escaped my father's thunderstorms  
Berkeley. Rebellion. Exhilaration!

The Vietnam war, Black Power, Che took me to Chicago  
Midnight lights under Wacker Dr. Uptown. South Side.

Slapped  
by self-determination for taking Freedom Wall photos  
without asking.

on to California, driving at 3:00 in the morning in the moun-  
tains

I got it: what self-determination means  
a daunting task for a young white woman, I was humbled  
practice is concrete Ö harder than crystal-dream concepts

San Francisco, on the front steps at Fulton St.  
smoking reefer, drinking "bitterdog" with Black Panthers  
and whitehippie radicals, talking about when the revolution comes

## BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO STRUGGLE

Blessed are those who struggle  
Oppression is worse than the grave  
Better to die for a noble cause  
than to live and die a slave

Blessed are those who courted death  
Who offered their lives to give  
Who dared to rebel, rather than serve  
to die so that we might live

Blessed are those who took up arms  
and dared to face our foes  
Nat Turner, Vesey, Gabriel, Cinque  
to mention a few names we know

Blessed are the memories of those who were there  
at the Harper's Ferry Raid  
Strong were their hearts, noble their cause  
and great was the price they paid

Blessed are the voices of those who stood up  
and cried out, LET US BE FREE!  
Douglass, and Garvey and Sojourner Truth  
Dubois and noble Drew Ali

Blessed are the giants that we have loved  
and lost to the bullets sting  
like Malcolm, and Medgar, and the Panthers who fell  
and Dr. Martin Luther King

And blessed are the bodies of those who were hung  
from the limbs of the sycamore tree  
Who found end to their hope at the end of a rope  
'cause they dared to attempt to be free

Up through the years we've continued this fight  
of our liberty to attain  
and though we have faced insurmountable odds  
yet the will to resist remains

Blessed are the spirits of those who have died  
in the prisons all over this land  
who committed one sin, they stood up like men  
and got iced for just being a man

Blessed all you who will join with us now  
in this struggle of life and death  
so that freedom and peace will be more than a word  
to the offspring that we have left

*THE LAST POETS*

the revolution did not come. Fred Bennett was missing  
we learned he'd been found: ashes, bones, a wedding ring  
but later there was Assata's freedom smile

then I was captured, locked into a cell of sewer water  
spirit deflated. I survived, carried on, glad to be  
like a weed, a wild red poppy,  
rooted in life

Marilyn Buck  
October 2000

## BOWER from page 13

Contact Veronza at:  
Veronza Bower, Jr. #35316-136  
FCC, Medium A-1  
P.O. Box 879  
Coleman, FL 33521-0879

For more information:  
[www.geocities.com/veronzab](http://www.geocities.com/veronzab)  
[www.abcf.net](http://www.abcf.net)  
[www.thejerichomovement.com](http://www.thejerichomovement.com)

## BLACK PANTHER PARTY—Pieces of History - 1966 -1968



### 1966

**October 15** - Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale write the first draft of the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense (BPP) 10-Point Program.

**December** - Sixteen-year-old Bobby Hutton becomes the first male recruit of the BPP.

### 1967

**January** - First BPP office opens at 5624 Grove Street, Oakland, CA. Panthers patrol the street of Oakland.

**February 21** - The Panthers escort Betty Shabazz from the San Francisco airport to *Ramparts* for an interview with Eldridge Cleaver.

**April 1** - In Richmond, CA, Denzil Dowell is shot and killed by sheriff's deputies at Third and Chestly, an unincorporated area of North Richmond. Panthers respond to a request from the Dowell family for protection from police harassment.

**April 25** - The first issue of the *Black Panther Party Black Community News Service* is published. This four-page mimeograph newspaper headlines "Why Was Denzil Dowell Killed?"

**May 2** - Thirty armed Panthers and their supporters go to the California State Capitol at Sacramento to protest the Mulford Act, a bill aimed at banning the display of loaded weapons.

**June** - Riots explode in major cities, including Newark, Cleveland and Detroit. October 28 - At 4:56am, Oakland officer John Frey is killed and officer Herbert Haines wounded in a predawn altercation after stopping Huey Newton and Gene McKinney. Newton is also critically wounded.

**December** - *The Black Panther* increases its circulation tenfold.

### 1968

**January** - The Southern California branch of the BPP is organized by Alprentice "Bunchy" Carter, deputy minister of defense for Southern California. The BPP office is at Central Ave. and 43<sup>rd</sup> Street.

**January 16** - At 3:30am, San Francisco police officers break down the apartment door of Eldridge and Kathleen Cleaver. The officers ransack the apartment with-

out a search warrant. Emory Douglas is also present.

**February 8** - In Orangeburg, South Carolina, on the campus of South Carolina State College, local police backed by the National Guard fire on a crowd of unarmed students; 33 black activists

are shot, and three die.

**February 17** - A "Free Huey" rally is held at the Oakland Auditorium on Newton's birthday. More than 5,000 supporters attend including Stokeley Carmichael, H. Rap Brown, James Forman, Ron Dellums, and Peace and Freedom Party representatives.

**February 25** - At 2:00am, Berkeley police officers break down the door and ransack the home of Bobby and Artie Seale. The Seales are charged with conspiracy to commit murder. Charges are later dropped for lack of evidence.

**March** - Arthur (Glen) Morris, brother of Bunchy Carter, is shot and killed by "agents" of the U.S. government. He is the first member of the BPP to be killed. Anthony Coltrane is killed in Watts by a local police officer.

The Kansas City BPP office is raided by police and 5 Panthers are arrested.

**March 4** - An FBI memo from J. Edgar Hoover outlines goals to his staff to "Prevent the coalition of militant black nationalist groups."

**April** - The New York BPP chapter is organized.

**April 3** - The Oakland police department raids Father Neil's church, where Party members are holding a meeting.

**April 4** - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is assassinated at the Lorraine Motel, Memphis, TN. Riots occur in major cities across the country, but Oakland remains calm due to the efforts of the BPP.

**April 6** - An Oakland police shoot-out results in the murder of Bobby Hutton; Eldridge Cleaver is wounded. Seven other

Panthers are arrested.

**April 7** - Three Panthers are arrested in Seattle, Washington.

**April 9** - Panther volunteers register, is assassinated at the Lorraine Motel, Memphis, TN. Riots occur in major cities across the country, but Oakland remains calm due to the efforts of the BPP.

**April 6** - An Oakland police shoot-out results in the murder of Bobby Hutton; Eldridge Cleaver is wounded. Seven other Panthers are arrested.

**April 7** - Three Panthers are arrested in Seattle, Washington.

**April 9** - Panther volunteers register Oakland citizens to vote.

**April 13** - Funeral services for Bobby Hutton held at Ephesians Church of God in Christ on Alcatraz Avenue in Berkeley. More than 2,500 attend the funeral.

**June** - San Francisco Party captain Dexter Woods arrested for curfew violation and given 5 days in jail.

**June 25** - Eldridge Cleaver takes Panther case to the United Nations.

**July** - The West Oakland Panther office opened by Tommy Jones, Glen Stafford, and other dedicated Panther volunteers. The Seattle BPP office is raided by local police. Captain Aaron Dixon of the Seattle BPP and Panther Curtis Harris are arrested for grand larceny. Both are eventually found not guilty. Captain Dexter Woods of the San Francisco BPP arrested for interference with police.

**July 15-16** - More than 6,000 protestors come out in support of Huey Newton on the steps of the Alameda County Courthouse in Oakland. The national and international press is present as well as the National Guard. The newly formed Brown Berets make their appearance on the courthouse steps in support of Huey.

**August** - The West Oakland Party office is raided and ransacked by police. In Newark, the Panther office is firebombed.

In Detroit, Panthers and police have a shoot-out; however,

there are no injuries. Five Seattle Panthers are harassed in their car by local police.

**August 5** - A Los Angeles shoot-out between police and Panthers leaves 2 Panthers killed.

**August 16** - Chairman Bobby Seale and Captain David Hilliard speak to a crowd of 5,000 across the street from the Democratic National Convention.

**August 17** - Communications Secretary Kathleen Cleaver, in Hawaii at the Peace and Freedom Party convention, is refused the right to enter Japan.

**August 25** - Three Panthers — Robert Lawrence, Steve Bartholomew, and Tommy Lewis - are murdered by Los Angeles police at a service station.

**September** - *The San Francisco Examiner* prints an article exposing Panther George Murray's employ-

ment as a teacher at San Francisco State. Chancellor Dumke orders Murray's termination. The Black Student Union immediately goes on strike in support of Murray.

**September 8** - Newton's jury deliberates for four days and in the end come up with a compromise verdict, convicting Huey of voluntary manslaughter. He is acquitted of the assault charge and the kidnap charges are dropped. *J. Edgar Hoover declares the BPP the "greatest threat to the internal security of the country"*.

**September 28** - Huey P. Newton is sentenced to 2 to 15 years in state prison and removed from Oakland in five minutes. Judge Friedman refuses all meetings for granting a mistrial. Four hours after Huey's conviction, two (admittedly drunk) on-duty Oakland police officers commit a drive-by shooting of the BPP office on Grove Street. Eldridge Cleaver's parole is revoked and he is sent back to prison.

See HISTORY on Page 17



From Left: Sam Napier, June Hilliard, David Hilliard, Don Cox, Dexter Woods



## Dallas and North Texas Black Panther Party History

By Skip Shockley

The North Texas Charter had three phases during the struggle for liberation. The first phase was the establishment of the NCCF - National Committee to Combat Fascism.

In the summer of 1970, a cadre of former members of SNCC and the Black Student Union at El Centro College traveled to Los Angeles, California, to acquire authorization in establishing a Black Panther Chapter.

During the visit, a political rally was held in the name of Comrade George Jackson and all political prisoners in the gut of the empire's belly. Members of the North Texas delegation had the opportunity to meet with the leading members of the Central Committee; David Hilliard, Raymond "Masai" Hewitt and Elmer "Geronimo" Pratt.

Brother David Hilliard and the other members of the Central Committee granted us a chapter under the name of NCCF, Dallas Chapter of the Black Panther Party. The Central Committee directed Comrade "G" to supervise the new chapter.

The Dallas chapter office was housed on Second Ave. in South Dallas. The comrades set up a Free Breakfast Program in West Dallas, a Free Pest Control Program in Oak Cliff and a Police Citizen Patrol in Dallas, all of these Survival Programs were organized to serve the people pending revolution.

Our comrades during the birth of the chapter were Charlie Paul Henderson (Kalif), LeRoy Haynes, John "DoDo" Woods, Curtis Gaines, Donald "Red Dog" Lister, James "Skip" Shockley, Clark Johnson, Eddie "Black" Harris, Marvin "Odinga"

Walton, Phoebe, Brenda Edwards, Ginger, Norris Bates, and Roscoe.

The Dallas Chapter was infiltrated by the FBI during the leadership of Curtis Gaines. Later during the year of 1972, after the capture of comrade "Geronimo" Pratt in Dallas, the Dallas chapter was expelled by the Central Committee. In 1972, Charlie Paul Henderson moved to Oakland, LeRoy Haynes organized a cadre in Denton, Texas, twenty miles from Dallas and James "Skip" Shockley recruited students at El Centro College to establish Survival Programs in the black colonies of Dallas. Thanks to our unsung comrades, our programs were respected by brothers and sisters in the oppressed communities. Let me take this time to name some of those comrades. Thank You! To Anice Lewis, Janice Lewis, Malik, Paula Ranson, and Carl Austin.

In 1973, most of the Dallas cadre moved to Denton and merged, calling ourselves the Black Intercommunal Party. With the help of Charlie Paul, we were recognized by the Central Committee in Oakland. The leadership consisted of LeRoy Haynes, Burnice Smith, and "Skip" Shockley. Our programs included a Liberation School, Free Breakfast Program, Tenant Information Service and dealing with elections and Political office. We recruited more comrades; Sonceria Messiah, U.S Williams, Anquette, Irene May, Jackie Jones, Akintunde Funsu, Pat Rabon, Charles Simeon, Gwen, Sue and Wilbur. After the release of Fred "Fahim Mikah" Bell from prison, he organized Marvin Crenshaw and Charles Hillman to set up a chapter in Dallas in 1974.

### HISTORY from Page 16

**October** - Denver police shoot up Panther office during racial disturbance. Panther Lauren Watson is charged with con-



spiracy to commit arson. New York police department harasses Panthers over use of a bullhorn at Panther headquarters. **November 6** - San Francisco State college begins major strike. **November 7** - Seattle Panther Sidney Miller is murdered. **November 13** - Panther Reginald Forte's car is stopped by Berkeley police. After

an altercation, Forte and Officer Wolke are wounded.

**November 25** - FBI memo details plans to cause dissension between Los Angeles Panthers and United Slaves (US) under the leadership of Ron Karenga.

**December 1** - Forty-three Denver police raid Panther office, cause \$9,000 in damage, and steal \$150 in cash.

**December 7** - Newark Panther office is bombed by local police.

**December 12** - Twelve Chicago Panthers are arrested on weapons charges.

**December 18** - Indianapolis Panther office is raided by FBI and local police, who fire three cans of tear gas and ransack the

## Global AIDS Fund on Verge of Failure

(excerpts from John Iverson, S.F. Bay View, Oct. 17, 2001)

The Senate is set to deflate the Global AIDS Fund during budget deliberations in the upcoming weeks. Present Senate recommendations are less than the paltry \$200 million sum proposed by George Bush. This should be a matter of great concern to everyone on the planet.

Every day, 10,000 people, mostly Africans, die of AIDS. There are 16,000 new HIV infections daily. This is a global cataclysm on the scale of the Holocaust, major plagues, and world wars. With the death toll approaching 23 million, Africa is facing its own Hiroshima on a weekly basis. As a solution, United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan and scientific experts have called for a \$9.2 billion annual Global Health Fund to seriously treat AIDS, malaria and TB. To date, only \$1.6 billion has been pledged. Ironically, \$1.6 billion is Africa's debt service to developing countries in seven weeks. The rock group U2, a major champion of the "drop the debt" movement, has also organized a global AIDS fundraiser CD due out soon.

According to Kofi Annan, the U.S.

### BASHIR from Page 9

City cops in St. Albans, Queens. Two Black men exited the van, advanced on the police car, and fired into it 27 times. One cop died, the other was wounded. A week later, another BPP member, Abdul Majid/Anthony La Borde, and I were suspected of it. I was subsequently arrested in Sumter, S.C., four months later. Abdul the following year.

The first trial in '82 ended in a hung jury on the murder charge, two not-guilty charges for assault, and a guilty charge of 2<sup>nd</sup> degree attempted murder. The second trial was hung again after being declared a mistrial with the jury 8 to 4

contribution to the Fund should be \$2.3 billion, as we account for 30 percent of the global economy. George Bush surprised everyone when he set the bar so low, \$0.67 per American compared to a pledge of \$25 per person from Norway and Sweden the hoped for average of \$7 per person.

Call or write your Congresspeople and urge them to support the \$2 billion donation to the Global AIDS Fund and tell them you want the Fund to buy generic drugs at the lowest world price. This would treat four to 40 times more people than would be served buying at U.S. pharmaceutical market prices. Global public health emergencies should take precedence over patent rights. Fifty-one developing countries, plus Norway, have endorsed this idea, yet the United States and Switzerland are actively proposing support for pharmaceutical manufacturers' patent rights and obscene profit margins. During the past 20 years, the pharmaceutical industry has been the most profitable industry in the world.

for not guilty. The state realizing its plight, instituted a reign of terror in '86 against family and friends. Three people, none of whom were in the state of N.Y. during the time of the incident, were brought to trial and stated that we admitted while in their company months later having been participants or in the area during the time of this act.

We were sentenced to 30+ years-to-life with the recommendation that we never be paroled.

Address: Bashir Hameed  
82A6313/Box AG  
Fallsburg, NY 12733

place; \$600 in cash is taken from the Party's treasury.

**December 21** - Denver police raid Panther office looking for weapons, but none are found. Out of frustration officers burn food and clothing that were to be given to community poor for the holidays.

**December 23** - A demonstration is held by the Indiana committee to Defend the BPP in front of the local police station. Clergy members, Citizen's Defense League, Purdue Peace League, and other community organizations are in attendance.

**December 27** - Des Moines Panther office is raided by 100 police officers and

FBI agents. Mrs. Joanna Cheatom, president of the Des Moines Welfare Rights Organization, is arrested along with several Panthers.

**December 28** - San Francisco Panther office is raided by police.

Sacramento Panthers exchange gunfire in



Political Prisoners, NY 21

a 6-hour shoot-out with police; 13 officers are wounded and 37 persons are jailed.

**December 30** - Los Angeles Panther Frank Diggs is shot in the head and killed by police agents.

To be continued in the next issue

## Chickens Always Come Home to Roost!

By Malik Ismail - New Panther Vanguard Movement-East, Minister of Information

In the aftermath of the Sept. 11 tragic events at the world trade centers in New York and the innocent people killed on the plane at the Pentagon in Washington DC, I immediately thought of Brother Malcolm X and his statement on the John F. Kennedy assassination in 1963, "THE CHICKENS HAVE COME HOME TO ROOST". What America has delighted in doing on distant shores has returned to its own shores. What goes around comes around! As you've done so shall it be done; if you live by the sword, you will perish by the sword - this is Karma Baby! The wave of patriotism, especially among black people, is reactionary but understandable in light of the events on September 11. The misinformed masses of American people are not hated by the world as individuals, but they are the collateral victims because of America's foreign policies that are adverse to sovereign nations.

Yes, we should feel for every victim of those tragedies, but remember that truth crushed to the ground will rise. To see black people waving the American flag is like seeing a white Jew in Germany waving a Swastika flag from Hitler's Germany. Black people forget that black soldiers were in segregated units losing their lives on foreign soil, yet the survivors would come back to America and be denied a bit to eat, voting rights and had to use the side of the road as a toilet! Black service men like Brother Arthur McDuffie who was murdered by the Miami Police Department in the early eighties. Brothers like Abner Louima from Haiti, who was victimized by the NYPD by having a night stick jammed up his rectum and then inserted in his mouth and another brother named Amadou Diallo, an unarmed black man killed by 19 of 41 shots fired by the NYPD, the Police Dept. people are crying crocodile tears over. Malice Green in Detroit who was beaten to death with a flashlight by Detroit pigs, and sisters like Eleanor Bumpers in New York and Tyeisha Miller in California, who were unarmed black women murdered by white racist pigs. The murder of civil right leaders and activists that were trying to exercise the rights this government says is supposed to be theirs. Black Panthers who were murdered and framed by the system. The wave of black patriotism is equivalent to an old scrubwoman in the master's house who starts to say "Our House" or "our Yard". Like when black people say, "We dropped the bomb on Hiroshima", black people didn't drop any bomb on Hiroshima; the U.S. government dropped the damn bomb.

We have been in the master's house a Long Time! We all need to remember

the thousands that lost their lives as a result of America's Covert Activities of the CIA and the domestic FBI operatives. Sometimes, hundreds and thousands have been killed just to put a puppet leader in office who would let America pull their strings. Influencing a foreign country's own power by creating a colonized or more correctly, neo-colonial government to help carry out America's foreign policy objectives in other lands. Remember Iraq? What in the hell did America have to do with Iraq and Kuwait? Some oil or money was the reason, hiding under Altruism. America setting up fly zones in Iraq, telling the government no one can go past this area or that area. America would never tolerate someone coming to America and telling the government they can't fly past Denver. America had ships off the coast of Libya provoking Khadafi. Would America allow foreign ships and planes in the Chesapeake Bay? In the most expensive assassination attempt in history, the U.S. tried to kill him and killed his baby girl instead; smart bombs killing innocent women and children housed in bunkers in Iraq. Remember Brother Maurice Bishop in Grenada being hunted down by the U.S. Government and eventually assassinated, like Patrice Lamumba in Zaire (The Congo at the time). Like Grenada, the Vietcong people being attacked by America because of the Political vision of Ho Chi Mihn guiding his people toward Socialism, yet American never attacked Russia, at that time, the Capital of Communism. America and Russia making trade agreements, under the covers together. Yet America attacks Vietcong and Grenada that are small by comparison. The body of Maurice Bishop may have been found in a U.S. Army bag in the hills of Grenada, as reported by his daughter in some Caribbean Papers.

For Native people or our Red Brothers and Sisters in America, every law that this government has set up, the "Pilgrims" broke everyone of those laws to establish this country, the United States of America. Now the original inhabitants are selling blankets and moccasins on reservations. Then this government sets up a court and "criminal" criminal justice system to protect what it stole. If America wants a non-violent world, it must be the first example by withdrawing its occupation of foreign lands and respecting sovereign nation's right to self-determination. The interest of the political parties in this country must not supercede the interest and welfare of the people, making the American people targets all over the world because of America's foreign policies in other lands.

The Democratic "PIG" Party and

the Republican "PIG" Party are only interested in their own perpetuation; neither party has the true interest of the people at heart. The American public is constantly bombarded with reactionary propaganda or misinformation by the American media that con determine how the masses will side with whatever position the government takes on issues relating to who is bad and who is good. The media's job is to maintain the status quo and it interprets views in light of how the status quo can be maintained.

The New Panther Vanguard Movement knows that information is the raw material for new ideas and if you get wrong information, you come up with wrong ideas. Remember what America did in Panama when this government went after Manuel Noriega, who was a client of this government at one time, supposedly because of drug cartel issues and nearly destroyed the Panamanian people by murdering hundreds and thousands of innocent civilians using highly destructive instruments of warfare. "New Weapons" were used on the people like lasers which disintegrated the flesh of humans, which made them look like shredded beef and families were machine-gunned in the street for being in the wrong area. Mass graves were found all over Panama to hide this murder, yet the U.S. State Dept. indi-

cated minimal civilian casualties. The surviving masses were housed in airplane hangers under the U.S. direction. These events did not occur because of Noriega, but because of the importance of the Panama Canal and the U.S. wanting to continue control over the canal. The film "The Panama Deception" shows what this government did to the Panamanian people. (Editor's note: Noriega fell out of favor with the U.S. for refusing to support the U.S. illegal war against Nicaragua.)

Black People should not be flag wavers or flag saluters, nor can we really be looking at ourselves as Americans. We are the victims of America. Remember that true Americans have Civil Rights, yet we don't have that. The NAACP is a Civil Rights Organization, fighting for the Civil Rights of Black People. The Urban League and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference all fight for the civil rights of black people. If we already had civil rights, we would not need anyone to fight for our civil rights. When you have to fight for it, that means you are not regarded as American Citizens. Weep for the innocent, but remember this is just a case of the "Chickens Coming Home to Roost"! All Power to the People! Reparations or Revolution! Welcome Home, Fred Jr.!



## Join the Zapatista Coalition!

The Zapatista Solidarity Coalition actively supports the Zapatista communities in Chiapas which continue to resist the Mexican military and paramilitary efforts to divide and destroy their communities. We raise money for Chiapas to fund creative economic development, education, and health projects. We have sent thousands of dollars to help people pushed out of their communities, to build the only secondary school in the region, and to develop cooperative stores and health clinics.

We hold fundraisers, and sell t-shirts, sweatshirts, and other items. We have just replenished our supply of arts and crafts from Chiapas. We have huipiles, purses, belts, bracelets, wall hangings, beautiful T-shirts with messages of resistance. Call 443-3424 or email us at [zapa@zsc.org](mailto:zapa@zsc.org) for more information.

We also work to educate people in the U.S. about what is happening in Mexico, showing slides, presenting videos, and speaking to schools, universities, church and community groups and appearing on radio and television shows.

We strive to put Zapatista principles into practice here in our own community. We sponsor cultural programs, work with students, and support the efforts of workers to organize.

We meet on the first and third Sundays of every month at 10am at our office at 909 12th St. in Sacramento. Give us a call at 443-3424 or email us at [zapa@zsc.org](mailto:zapa@zsc.org) to see how you can help!

# SOS—Save Our Soldiers—Political Prisoners



## BRANCHES from Page 10

2136 113th St.  
**Los Angeles, CA**  
 Washington DC  
 2327 18th St. NW  
 Washington, DC  
**New York**  
 Ministry of Information  
 1370 Boston Rd.  
 Bronx, NY  
**Harlem Branch**  
 2026 Seventh Ave.  
 New York, NY  
**Brooklyn Branch**  
 180 Sutter Ave.  
 Brooklyn, NY  
**N.Y. Community Centers**  
 2662 Western Ave.  
 Mt. Vernon, NY  
 101-16 Northern Blvd.  
 Corona, NY  
**Jamaica**  
 E. Coast Distribution  
 108-60 New York Blvd.

Queens, NY  
**Winston-Salem**  
 1602 E. 14th St.  
 Winston-Salem, NC  
**Atlantic City Comm. Center**  
 915 Virginia Pl.  
 Atlantic City, NJ  
**Cambridge**  
 Cambridge, MA  
**Bridgeport**  
 470 Broad St.  
 Bridgeport, CN  
**Hartford**  
 135 Barbour St.  
 Hartford, CN  
**Philadelphia**  
 2935 W. Columbia Ave.  
 Philadelphia, PA  
 Toure Comm. Center  
 1511 153rd St.  
 Compton, CA  
**Seattle**  
 173 20th Ave.

Seattle, WA  
**Riverside People's Center**  
 4046 Dwight Ave.  
 Riverside, CA  
**Baltimore**  
 1202 N. Gay St.  
 Baltimore, MD  
**Cleveland**  
 2783 E. 79th St.  
 Rear South Upper  
 Cleveland, OH  
**Detroit**  
 2219 Indiandale  
 Detroit, MI  
**Milwaukee**  
 2121 North 1st St.  
 Milwaukee, WI  
**Omaha**  
 3508 N. 24th St.  
 Omaha, NE  
**Portland**  
 3619 N.E. Union  
 Portland, OR

Editor's Note: This is only a sample of the offices existing in 1970. This does not take into account our International Support Committees, including The International Section in Algeria, Africa; the Japanese Support Committee, the Scandinavian Support Groups and Paris.

NCCF stands for National Committees to Combat Fascism which came into being after the 1969 United Front Against Fascism Conference in Oakland, CA. At that time, the ranks of the BPP membership was closed, so the NCCF's were developed as an adjunct.

## Where Are They Now?

**Aaron Dixon**, former Black Panther Party member, learned to take action. He helped to start Free Breakfast programs, Washington State's first Free Medical Clinic, and Seattle's first Food Bank. The Carroll Downs Medical Clinic was named after a Party member who helped establish the clinic and later died of cancer. The clinic is still functioning to this day. Thirty years later, he continues to reach out to his community. Aaron will assist at risk youth through a program called Central House.

### CENTRAL HOUSE

A Program Sponsored by The Fred Hampton Center for Human Development

Central House is a new asset introduced to the Seattle community by committed local advocates who support youth. A grass roots organization, Central House is dedicated to improving the conditions of young people by providing necessary support, training, and guidance. The goal is to develop leadership skills in young people that enhance both their personal outlook and the lives of their family members and neighbors.

Four unique programs for youth have been announced by Central House leaders:

Σ A Transitional Housing Program designed to provide a structured living environment for homeless youth ages 14-24. The program will energize two subsets of youth (14-17 and 18-24-year-olds).

Σ The Central House Young People's Center will provide space for young adults to congregate, engage in music, leadership, workshops, resources, networking, and serve as a place to rest and contemplate. A youth café will be a key element of the program.



*Aaron and Michael Dixon*

Σ Youth of Color Urban Civic Core - Fueled by a community-supported stipend program, Central House will sponsor trained experts willing to provide leadership, training, and civic and environmental opportunities for youth. Young people on probation or parole, or those individuals with community service hours to fulfill, will be encouraged to participate.

Σ Project Intercept will begin at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School and provide trained male counselors (1 middle-aged adult and 1 young adult working with identifiably at-risk males). This program will serve the needs of these children throughout their educational lives.

For further information, contact Aaron Dixon at 206-325-8354.

## CRACKDOWN from page 13

is supposed to be. Is it this very freedom that the United States government hates and wants to destroy even as it accuses others of wanting to destroy the freedoms we enjoy here in America?

The greatest service Al-Jazira could do is to continue its mission undaunted by these unconscionable demands, and to start broadcasting in English so that Americans too can begin to comprehend at long last some of

the issues and problems their government has mired them in.

The United States is justified in seeking the cooperation of every country to track down the perpetrators of the Sept. 11 atrocities and bring them to justice. But stifling the freedoms of others in the name of protecting your own is a formula that the US has tried before. It didn't work then and it will not work now.

## LEGACY from Page 11

search on the disease. The publicity and education was so successful that President Nixon mentioned sickle cell in his 1971 Health Message to Congress. The funding for sickle cell research then went from less than \$10,000 a year to almost a million dollars.

The Joseph Waddell People's Free Ambulance Service, established in 1974 by the Winston-Salem, NC, branch was granted a franchise by the County Commissioners and partially financed with a grant by the National Episcopal Church. It included 24-hour service with a voluntary staff of twenty certified emergency medical technicians.

### SELECTED SURVIVAL PROGRAMS OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

1. Intercommunal News Service (The Black Panther Paper)
2. Free Breakfast for Schoolchildren
3. Petition Campaign - Referendum for Community Control of the Police
4. Liberation School/Intercommunal Youth Institute
5. People's Free Medical Research Health Clinic
6. Free Clothing Program
7. Free Busing to Prisons Program
8. Seniors Against a Fearful Environment (SAFE)
9. Sickle Cell Anemia Research Foundation
10. Free Housing Cooperative Program
11. Free Shoe Program
12. Free Pest Control Program
13. Free Plumbing and Maintenance Program
14. Free Food Program
15. Child Development Center
16. Free Ambulance Program

## VOICE from page 12

communities costing tens of millions of dollars at the expense of programs and schools that could be built in the community. Such measures would prevent Black youth from going to prison and would concentrate on the social condi-

tions that breed crime. As long as we as a people and society at large remain indifferent to the operation of the criminal justice system we will always be abused by it and prisons such as Huntington will be allowed to exist and prosper.

### *It's About Time...*

*P.O. Box 221100*

*Sacramento, CA 95822*

*E-mail: itsabouttime3@juno.com*

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