

THE BLACK PANTHER

INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE

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The Intercommunal Survival Committee, responsible for **KEEP STRONG**, has been selling **THE BLACK PANTHER**, primarily to White people, for over 7 years now. Thousands are sold on the street, thousands more are delivered regularly to home subscribers. Articles from **THE BLACK PANTHER** are also frequently reprinted in **KEEP STRONG**. The many regular readers among poor and progressive Whites is testimony to the relevance of this fine weekly paper to all oppressed people.

Of all the many contradictions and confusions that divide poor and oppressed people, racism is probably the most vicious and most destructive to unity and power. So much of the society we live in is shaped by the way it oppresses Black and Third World people, that to understand our own situation as Whites, it is necessary also to understand the situation of Black people.

The Intercommunal Survival Committee also believes that the concrete example of the Black Panther Party, the methods of successful struggle, the implementation of many survival programs serving the community, are models from which we can learn in defending ourselves, our families and our communities from those who would use and abuse us for their own profit.

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Press conference held by Milwaukee Chapter of the Black Panther Party announcing its reopening and taking the opportunity to support the community struggle to remove Ted Seaver.

As director of the Southside ICDP, his major concern has been to get a large "body count" on how many residents are seen each day regardless of whether or not they have been served by the program.

Armed with nearly a hundred Southside members, many with signs demanding Seaver's removal, the council brought to the August board meeting their demands that Seaver be fired.

Using what one community organizer called "some of the most intricate double-dealing seen in a long time," the Board chairperson, Lena Talbert, ruled out of order the motion to direct Ms. Rose Marie Holley (overall ICDP director) to fire Seaver. Instead, a motion was made to accept Ms. Holley's report on the investigation of charges into Seaver. This report stated that she could find no reason to dismiss Seaver.

Heated discussion followed until a ten minute recess was called. The Northside board used this opportunity to caucus. Unfortunately, the caucus ended with most of its members voting against community control when the vote was finally taken. At a crucial moment, one member of the Southside board was ruled ineligible to vote because of a technicality. The remainder of the Southside members, mainly Latino, showed their demand for community control over poverty programs. Howev-

er, the end result was that the motion to keep Seaver passed by one vote.

Leading a city-wide response, the Black Panther Party denounced the vote. The Party made a statement in support of the community struggle to remove Ted Seaver as Director of the Southside ICDP. This support was voiced during a press conference called to announce the reopening of the Milwaukee Chapter of the Black Panther Party and the formation of the Justice for Huey P. Newton Committee.

Meanwhile, the United Black Community Council (UBCC), which has many of its members on the Northside Board of Governors, issued a press release publicly criticizing its members for failure to support their own stated goal of community control. They charged that a serious misunderstanding of the relationship between poor people in general, and the Latino community in particular, exists.

The future of the ICDP and its parent group, the Social Development Commission, remains shaky, according to community activists. These organizations, they say, must begin to direct their efforts in the interest of the people they were designed to serve. "If they can't," one observer noted, "then Ted Seaver's future, as well as that of the ICDP, is not here. They will be forced to fold, pack up and leave the oppressed community." □