

THANKSGIVING MEMORIAL CELEBRATION HOSTED BY SEATTLE B.P.P.

Dedicated To Black Persons Slain By Police

(Seattle, Wash.) — A Thanksgiving Memorial Celebration, dedicated to all those who have been killed by Seattle police and sponsored by the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party, was held here at the Langston Hughes Cultural Center on Sunday, November 23, and was packed by more than 250 residents of the central area community of Seattle.

Prior to the dinner, there were speeches and entertainment. The first predinner speaker was Mrs. Leola Bledsoe, mother of a 22-year-old Black man who was murdered by a Seattle police officer in February of this year.

Mrs. Bledsoe courageously reminded the audience that even though she's lost a son, "We must still fight for justice — justice for Joe and justice for all Black and poor people."

GARY GAYTON

The second speaker was famed Black Seattle attorney Gary Gayton. Brother Gayton elaborated on the recent police brutality case in which his two Black clients were awarded \$75,000 each by a jury of 12 Whites, only to have this decision revoked by the judge and a new trial ordered. (See THE BLACK PANTHER, November 29, 1975.)

Brother Gayton drew applause from the audience when he said, "We won, and we still lost playing by the system's rules. It seems to me we need some new rules."

Predinner entertainment was provided by the First A.M.E. Church's Young Adult Choir and Brother Joe Brazil and his jazz ensemble. The choir rocked the house with several enthusiastic spirituals. The jazz ensemble is from the Black Academy of Music, located in the central area here.

The closing address was presented by Brother Elmer Dixon, coordinator of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. Brother Dixon reminded the audience that the pressure we face today can be overcome by Black people unifying and helping each other in our daily struggle for survival.

Referring to the people murdered by police, Brother Dixon said, "We as Black people can survive because we've survived in the past, and now we



Thanksgiving Memorial Celebration sponsored by Seattle B.P.P. Chapter was attended by over 250 who came to honor Black people killed by police gunfire.

must understand that the brothers that were shot down and killed by murdering police died because they were doing something for our community. No matter what the police say they were doing when they shot them, they were only trying to survive."

After Brother Dixon's presentation, dinner was served and everyone settled down to enjoy turkey and all the trimmings. The event was a tremendous success and proved to be another step in the road towards unity in the face of Seattle police terrorism. □



Free Southern Theater Delights Oakland Community School

(Oakland, Calif.) - Following their superb performance on November 23 of *When Opportunity Scratches, Itch It*, the renowned **FREE SOUTHERN THEATER** returned to the Oakland Community Learning Center last Wednesday to do a special program for the children of the Oakland Community School. Above, members of the critically acclaimed Black drama troupe perform *Where is the Blood of Your Fathers?*, a documentary examination of the role that Black people played in their efforts to secure freedom from the oppression of slavery in the years between 1827 and 1860. The New Orleans-based group gave another fine performance which delighted the children of the Oakland Community School. **BPINS photos**



Panther captain murdered

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 30—Franko Diggs, a captain of the Los Angeles Black Panther Party, was murdered at 120 St. and Main St. on Dec. 19, according to a statement made today by Panther spokesman Mike Pennywell. The murder received no coverage in the local newspapers. A public funeral was planned for 1 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 2, at the Victory Baptist Church, 4802 McKinley Avenue.

In a statement to *The Militant*, Pennywell described the murder of Franko Diggs as "an attempt to liquidate the leadership of the Black Panther Party by the racist power structure. . . . Captain Franko had no real family—but he had a big family here in L.A. that loved him very deeply, the Black Panther Party. . . . We will intensify our struggle until there will be no more cold-blooded murders of our people."

Funds to help with the funeral expenses are needed and can be sent to the Captain Franko Diggs Fund, 8404 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, Calif.

ON THE ACQUITTAL OF THE NEW YORK TWENTY-ONE AND THE HARLEM FIVE

STATEMENT OF ATTORNEY GERALD LEFCOURT, ATTORNEY FOR THE NEW YORK TWENTY-ONE

A new morning has come. With it a new ideology has invaded New York City and perhaps elsewhere as well. The "21" Victory indicates that a cross section of people reject the tactics of secret police, the undefinable law of conspiracy used as a trap, biased judges and over-zealous prosecutors.

With thirteen defendants, each charged with twelve different crimes, the courtroom broke into hysteria when the Black jury foreman rose and said, "Not guilty, not guilty..." one hundred fifty-six times. With one fell swoop New York was ignited in a people's celebration. Not at the prospect that the "American system of justice" works, but rather at the prospect that when you fight hard enough and struggle long enough, your cause, if it is just and true, will be answered.

One juror said he felt like running up to Judge Murtaugh and asking him where he thought he was "Mississippi?". Another said, "Conspiracy law is like a lasso that is turned into a hangman's noose that fits every collar size." Still another said, "This verdict of not guilty was necessary for everyone's freedom". All in all, twelve people with their four alternate jurors, unanimously agreed that the verdict was "Not guilty" on every charge. Without any disagreement at all, the jury ended the longest trial in the history of New York with a 90-minute deliberation.

Way back on April 2, 1969, the government launched its attacks with the indictment of the "21", following soon thereafter with the indictment of the "Chicago 8", then in May, 1969, the New Haven Chapter of the Black Panther Party was indicted for murder, and in a phony hunt for George Sams, the government attacked and destroyed offices of the Black Panther Party in several cities across the nation and finally indicted Bobby Seale also for murder in Connecticut. These attacks culminated in the murder of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark on December 4, 1969, in Chicago, Illinois. Besides Ericka and Bobby, Angela Davis and Ruchell Magee, the Berrigans, in Harlem, and countless others around the nation, the government has been attacking ever since.

The verdict in the New York 21 case is the first step in the fight back, hopefully to be followed quickly by a victory for Ericka and Bobby and on to victory in California for Angela and Ruchell. In each case, the fight back will continue to prove that through struggle and determination and the support of the people, freedom can be a reality for those who seek it hard enough.

STATEMENT OF ATTORNEY WILLIAM KUNTSLER, ATTORNEY FOR THE HARLEM FIVE

The acquittal of the New York 21 and the Harlem 5 on spurious conspiracy charges raises sharply the issue of the criminal conduct of public officials. Many Black and some White people have recognized for years that the judicial process has been illegally used, since the very foundation of the Republic, to punish political dissidents to crush liberation movements and to control the poor. Now, for virtually the first time in American History those who wanted so much to believe in the fairness of the system can see at close range that the concept of equity justice under law was merely a convenient smokescreen for the power structure's consistent and relentless destruction of human rights and liberties.

It would be ironic indeed if the New York acquittals were viewed as proof that the system does indeed work. Nothing could be further from the truth. It was the system that arrested, indicted and tried these Black defendants. It was the system that stripped from them years of their lives, unmercifully and unjustifiably punished their families and attempted to ostracize them from human society. It was the system which, in total disregard of all of its most vaunted principles of justice and fair play, tried to brutalize and destroy them.

That they were eventually saved is a triumph, not of a destructive system, but of two juries which, at last, could not bring themselves to legitimize the tyranny of the law. These verdicts represent, in a microcosm, the revolt of the powerless from the fearful commands of those who seek to control and direct the destinies of all of us. Twenty-four Americans decided, the face of a monstrous evil, to cry halt to those who attempt to equate court decrees with the hangman's noose and the headsman's blade.

These cases do not mark the beginning of the Gold Age of Universal Justice. But they do give heart to us and indicate that some fights can be won if we are together with ourselves and determine to resist oppression until we destroy it or die in the process. And, hopefully they will teach other juries in other places that there is truth to the cries of the persecuted and that the system will often stoop to the pavement in order to preserve itself and its mythology.

We must now go forward on every front in unity and comradeship. Our true enemies are not ourselves, but those who lie in wait for each of us - the power hungry, the avaricious, the hate mongers, the militarists, the imperialists, the racists, the despoilers of the dream. Our brothers and sisters may die, but they will not be destroyed - their hopes and dreams will be passed from willing hand to willing hand until the walls come down and the city is ours. Then, and only then, will the time have been seized and the power re-taken by the people.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!



A rally for the Detroit 15.

TRIAL OF DETROIT 15 COMES TO A CLOSE

On October 24, 1970, 15 members of the Black Panther Party were arrested and charged with the murder of a Detroit policeman, Glenn Smith. At the time of their arrest they were attacked by a police raiding party. There was firing into and around a house for 9 hours from which the fifteen brothers and sisters were finally driven out by tear gas. The last three being Erone De Soussure, Benjamin Fondrun and David Johnson, who were eventually found guilty of felonious assault on the raiding police officers,

In May of this year, all 15 of them were brought to trial not only for the murder of Glenn Smith, who was supposedly ambushed that same day, but also for conspiracy with the intent to commit murder of the 40 policemen that surrounded the Detroit Community Center, back in October.

Throughout the country the agents of the law always want us to believe that it is the people who are provoking the attacks on them. It seems to be a constant pattern that the police un-warrantedly harass and attack the People, particularly Black Panther Party members and then scream that they have been shot at, ambushed, that they are the victims of unprovoked attack. We know this to be untrue. As a matter of fact, we understand that the work we do in the communities of America is geared toward the survival of poor, Black people and therefore threatens

their existence. Our programs serve the people's interests by providing basic necessities, food, health care, clothing, etc. The government understands that through our own programs people will unify against oppression. They realize that if we work together to survive, we can organize to control our own lives. They fear unity in the communities because this means disunity within their crumbling structure and their eventual downfall.

It was not until the free breakfast for school children programs were established across the country that they began to openly attack our Community Centers and homes in full force. From the murder of Fred Hampton to the attack on the centers in L.A. to the raids and attacks on our community centers in New Orleans and elsewhere. No one ambushed them in Detroit, as they claim; they at-

tempted to ambush our Detroit Chapter and herd them off to the prison camps to be railroaded through the courts. The trial of members of the Detroit Branch of the Black Panther Party lasted for six weeks. Seven days were spent picking the jury, which consisted of ten Blacks and two whites. The prosecution built its whole case around one of the defendants, John Lee, whom they singled out as the only person who could place a weapon in the hand of one of the other defendants. They felt that if they dropped all charges against him, he would testify (lie) for the State. So they dropped the charges against him. When

John Lee was called to the stand, he refused to testify. He was the only one who could, according to the prosecution, prove that the shot that killed Officer Glenn Smith came from the community center. Lee refused to utter a word. The judge cited him with contempt of court. They sentenced him to 30 days in jail for refusing to testify. And still no word.

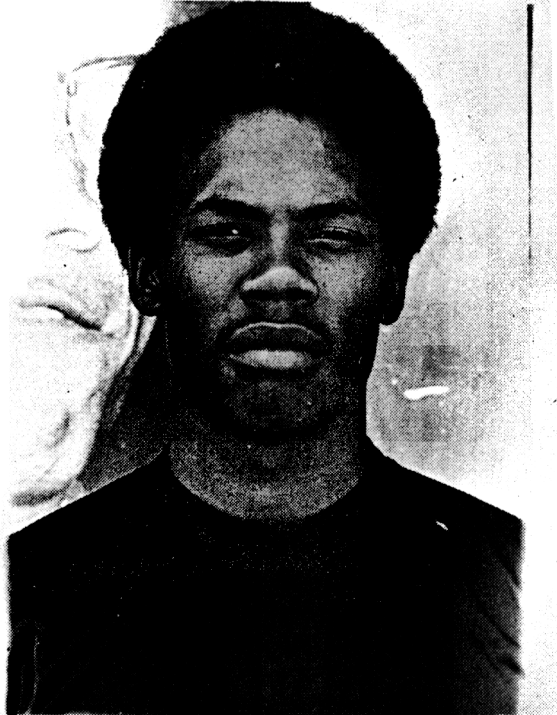
These trumped-up charges for this case were therefore left in the air again. So that when the jurors deliberated, for thirty hours over a five-day period, they felt that there was not enough evidence to convict the defendants of murder. However, because of the forcefully skillful manner in which the prosecution implicated Brothers De Soussure, Fondrun and Johnson, the jurors wished to convict them of something. Mrs. Angeline Buchanan was the only juror who held out, for 2 1/2 days, however, because she felt that there was no evidence to convict any of the defendants on any charges.

In an interview with Mrs. Buchanan, she stated that they (the other jurors) became hostile and threatened her if she did not make a decision. She finally did - guilty. However, if it had not been for her firm stand on an acquittal for all, the charges would never have been dropped down to felonious assault for those three brothers. The acquittal for nine and lesser charges for three was the jury's compromise.

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ple. He now awaits appeal, and does so with the knowledge that victory and liberation, in the final analysis, belong to the people.



Romaine Fitzgerald

ROGER 'BLUE' LEWIS...has been the victim of repeated attempts to kill or imprison him. Blue since joining the Party has had to fight six times for his life and was acquitted six times. He has been in the fascist pigpen of New County since being kidnapped last August, almost a year ago. During this time his probation was violated on the pretense that he didn't get permission to leave the State when he was called to visit his sick father. He may now have to serve one to ten years if an appeal is not granted.

In addition, the brother still faces three major charges. He now awaits trial in a bomb case where he supposedly was riding around the city of Los Angeles (along with the Southern California Chapter Deputy Minister of Defense, Geronimo) with 'pipe bombs' in the car...The pigs are moving full steam ahead to attempt to file charge after charge to make sure he along with our other political prisoners is behind bars for life...The second major case is

an attempt to frame Blue along with three other members of the So. Calif. Chapter in a 'bizarre conspiracy' to kidnap and beat a 16 year old boy. The ridiculous nature of the charge is indicative of the desperateness of the LAPD to jail the Panthers here.

Blue is a prime example of the pigs attempt of 'legal genocide'. Although he's been acquitted at least six times in attempts to put him back in their pig pen, Blue is still harassed by his 'so-called' record. He along with the other Panthers in New County face the day to day harassment inflicted on them by the demented pigs acting as their keepers. The constant harassment hasn't stopped them from setting revolutionary examples by teaching and exposing the decadence of this fascist government to the black, brown, and poor oppressed whites concentrated in that pig pen.



Roger Lewis

Blue has a charisma that acts as a catalyst to bolster the spirits of the brothers in jail in the face of constant harassment by the pigs there. He keeps them headed in the right political direction and always with a revolutionary respective.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE
SOUTHERN CALIF. CHAPTER

POLITICAL PRISONERS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

ARTHUR LEAGUE...recently convicted in racist Orange County, Santa Ana California. Now facing a five to life sentence for allegedly killing the "Rookie Pig of the Year". He was charged originally with first degree murder. But after nine days of deliberation an 'all-white' jury 'compromised' on a second-degree verdict. His case is currently being appealed in the state supreme court. Arthur who organized in Santa Ana before being kidnapped by the pigs there, was remanded to Chino Prison to await final placing in a state institution.



Arthur League

LUXEY IRVIN AND ROBERT WILLIAMS... were convicted by an 'all white' jury in the lily-white suburb of Torrance. Attempts by their attorneys for a change of venue were denied. The brothers were convicted (along with Romaine 'Chip' Fitzgerald) of several counts of assault on a pig, kidnap and other trumped-up charges. Several consecutive sentences have it certain they'll have to face life in prison. Chip, the third brother, because he had been given the death sentence in another frame-up, was given a sentence of one to ten years...Robert and Luxey



Robert Williams

Luxey Irvin

are also in Chino Prison, awaiting shipment to state pig pens. They must endure 24-hour lock up (they refuse to work) and are only allowed two or three hours of exercise per day. The constant harassment hasn't daunted their revolutionary spirits, and they continue to make known the political ideology of the Vanguard Party through classes held with other brothers in this pig pen.

ROMAINE FITZGERALD...known affectionately as 'Chip' is now on death row in San Quentin State Prison. This brother was railroaded by a racist lawyer and jury who all agreed this Panther should be sentenced to the gas chamber after a 'mock' four day trial. Chip was sent to San Quentin immediately to make it difficult for his family to visit and communicate with him. Proving again the spirit is truly greater than the contempt of pigs, the Party moved to send Chip's mother and family, as often as they can make the trip to see the brother in order to keep his spirits high. Chip is just one of the many strong brothers who have faced repeated attempts of genocide by the fascist pigs here in L.A. Before being arrested on this trumped up charge, Chip was constantly stopped and harassed by the pigs in L.A. for no other reason than serving the peo-

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WASHINGTON STATE FREE BUSSING PROGRAM

ATTEMPT TO RAILROAD PEOPLE'S SERVANTS

The demagogic elements of the Cleveland power structure, working in conjunction with the lower echelon Cleveland College system, are out to railroad two revolutionary brothers in the Cleveland N.C.C.F. who are students at the pigs' indoctrination camps, sometimes called colleges. One of the brothers, Al Hayes, is a student at Cuyahoga Community College. He has put in long hours helping with the liberation schools, free lunch programs as well as selling Panther papers at school.

There exists at the school a make-believe security department, headed by a drop-out from the fag-got bureau of intimidation (FBI). This fat-bellied buffoon has at his disposal, nigger lackeys that harassed Al and tried to keep him from boosting papers on campus. Falling in this covert attempt, chief lackey bootlicker, Maurice Presley, who is the most simple nigger lackey on this planet, threatened to kick Al and two more brothers out of school. Obviously this foot shuffling nigger doesn't have that authority. Recently someone or some pig set afire one of the buildings and pig Maurice in true lying form, tried to place it on Al. He arrested him on an obvious trumped up charge of arson. This was a smokescreen to keep Al off campus and to keep the voice of the Panther from being heard on campus, and to keep the brother from educating the students to the Party's Platform and social Programs. Nigger Presley later oinked in court that he really didn't see anyone light a fire, but meanwhile Al's case is being continued. As for the little fag-got Presley, he gets an extra bowl of slop for his hoggish deed

of the day.

Billy Brock, also working with the liberation schools is a student at Cleveland State University. At the time, he was kidnapped for so-called malicious destruction of property. Billy had organized a 'FREE BOBBY RALLY' on campus. After the rally a few brothers and mother country radicals, broke some windows and turned over chairs. Without any evidence or witnesses, the fascist pigs and some hard core racists threatened Billy's life, yet none of these scum were arrested. The next day 22 pigs from the Cleveland hog farm vamped on Billy in the student lounge. Although he was vividly unarmed, the pigs approached him with the fascist over-kill weapons, 357's, carbines, and 12 gauge shotguns. After kicking him in the ribs and handcuffing him, the pigs then breathed a little easier.

One cowardly swine, badge #261, held a gun at Billy's head all the way to the Cleveland city dungeon, which like most stys in Babylon, has a 90% Black population. Badge #261 oinked that "You're a Panther huh?" "We pigs are going to have our fun when the mess jumps off too." This fool in pigs' clothes also had a hand grenade which he tried to intimidate the brother with. After two days, Billy was returned to the people after posting \$1,000 ransom. Both Al and Billy are back on the streets working in our liberation schools and free lunch program.

The stupid pigs in Cleveland better realize that this is the year of the people. We've seen many of our comrades and offices across the nation ripped off by

blood thirsty animals masquerading as protectors of the people. We will not relinquish our demand to free Chairman Bobby and all political prisoners. Nor will we quit feeding hungry children. And will not discontinue serving and educating the masses. We're going to keep on exposing the duality in this jive judicial system and all the atrocious injustices that are being practiced locally, nationally, and internationally by the mad dogs that are in power.

The Pentagon is the bastion of fascism and the incorporators of countless numbers of mad scientists running amuck and planning genocide for Black people and all progressive people over the world. So later for all of them. Later for this jive piece of toilet paper called the constitution, it didn't include Black people anyway, we're making our own. Meanwhile, the beat goes on so put your ear to the ground all you chumps that call yourselves ruling Babylon and you will hear the people marching on to liberation. And when you raise up you will see the vanguard party leading the people down that bloody path of revolution and after we're through there will be no pigs for days, only people, because we will fight from one generation to the next. While you cowards in the Pentagon plan to wipe us out, making plans twenty four hours a day (with the people's taxes), we're making counter plans for survival. The people are hip to you and the will of the people is stronger than your technology.

COUNTER-ATTACK

Cleveland, Ohio, N.C.C.F. Curt

The Black Panther Party has established the free bussing program throughout the state of Washington. The purpose for this is to visit the brothers and sisters in prisons, state and federal institutions to establish a close relationship between the community and the prisoners. Then the community can find out the specific case of these brothers and check out the parole board and see how racist it is. We found out that many families and friends cannot afford transportation to these prisons. So the families can't visit their loved ones. The result is that the prisoners feel that no one even cares about them thus leaving them at the mercy of those sadistic pigs in prison.

Saturday July 11, 1970, The Black Panther Party along with members of the community gathered in front of the Community Information Center to go to Monroe Prison. The people were very happy with the bussing program because it provided free transportation, enabling them to visit their relatives being held in the prison. It also gives a chance to establish some type of communication between the community and the prisoners. Some of the women helped prepare the food for lunch. We talked on the way there about the prisons and what type of treatment the brothers are receiving.

Many of the brothers that are railroaded to prison don't even have hearings. The trials are brief and one sided. These cases are exactly what the Black Panther Party's 10 Point Platform states; we want all Black people when brought to trial to be tried by a jury of their peer group or someone from their community as defined in the Constitution of the United States. All of the brothers and sisters who have been brought to trial, were not judged by a jury of their peer group. In fact we are usually at the mercy of racists and bigots who have no understanding of the average Black man in the Black community; the two situations are different as

day and night. After the brothers' trials they are sent to prisons with ridiculous sentences. For example, a brother we know is serving a 6 year prison term for allegedly carrying an illegal weapon. He didn't kill anybody, he wasn't threatening anybody, and he didn't rob anybody. The brother didn't even have a gun in his possession when he was snatched off the streets. A case such as this brother's is only one in a thousand. He didn't have a jury of his peer group. His case shows just how corrupt this country's judicial system is. It is not only a very racist system but very corrupt and unbalanced. About six years ago a young Black man by the name of Bonnie Dinsh was murdered. The man who did it only got a year and a half for his crime. Now how in the hell is somebody going to get away with killing a man serving only a year and a half. When a Black man gets six years for supposedly carrying a fire arm. You can get more time robbing bank than you can for taking a human life. So that just shows the people that this government puts more value on money and materials than on human life. Oppressed people have no rights that the oppressor is bound to respect.

So Black people had better wake up to all of the fascism that is running rampant throughout Babylon. In many cases a lot of prisoners are tortured because they refuse to accept the inhumane conditions that are thrown upon them. They are ill fed; the food is infested with worms; it is spoiled and no good. It is a daily experience for brothers to be thrown in the hole for days, weeks at a time. Some of the people are becoming community workers to help establish a strong firm bussing program. So within a short while we will have drawn up a weekly bussing schedule to present to the community

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

SEIZE THE BUSES, FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!

Seattle Pigs Murder Panther

On the afternoon of October 5, 1968 at 4:25 p.m. another life was taken in fight for Black liberation. Another Panther warrior was violently taken from our midst. The cold-blooded, murdering, racist, dog, pigs took it upon themselves to take the life of another one of our black brothers. We knew him as a warrior, but all you need to know is that he was a young man. A young black man made to mature faster than he would have if he had chosen to live his life for himself. But he didn't. This black warrior chose to fight for liberation of all black and oppressed people everywhere. And for this he died. His name was Welton Armstead.

Welton Armstead. Known to all who loved him as 'Butch'. Welton, like another black young warrior who also gave his life for the black liberation struggle, was only 17 years old. The other warrior, also a member of the Black Panther Party, I am sure you have heard of; his name was Bobby Hutton. Both these brothers were murdered unnecessarily by cold-blooded pigs.

Butch was shot down right before the eyes of his mother and sister. They stood by and pleaded, helplessly as the racist pig took the life of their brother and son. Butch was taken to the hospital (more than likely already dead) while his mother and sister were taken to jail and jailed for 'interfering with an arrest.' All they did was plead for Butch's life.

Butch's life could have been spared, for the pigs were in arm distance of him when they willfully murdered him. But they chose to kill him because it was, just another case of where they showed their true feelings for all the black people in the racist country.

Will Butch's life, as well as Bob-

PRESS RELEASE

NO JUSTICE TO THE BALTIMORE PANTHERS

THE FASCISTS ATTACK PEOPLE'S WARRIORS

Looking at the recent attacks on the Black Panther Party in Philadelphia and Baltimore and the recent convictions of Lonnie McCaskey it is quite clear the pigs of the power structure has genocide planned for the Black Panther Party and its organizing bureau the N.C.C.F.

We see that these raids are not confined to any one city or region. Even in Seattle the swines have blood dripping down their mouths looking for an excuse to raid our community center. On September 2, 1970, Comrade Valentine Hobbs was walking from Geyen's Furniture Store when he noticed a pig car following him. When he reached the community center the pigs pulled alongside and jumped out with their weapons drawn. Comrade Hobbs knows how sadistic these pigs are and knowing that human life means nothing to these insidious beasts Hobbs got in the door just in time. The pigs began to follow but quickly retreated to their cars with shotguns hanging out of their windows. The pigs were openly provoking an incident. Members of the community hearing that their warriors were being threatened,

began to arrive in numbers. A pig captain saw it necessary to negotiate and came up to the office to talk. After finding that the pigs' excuse was that they were looking for a robbery suspect, it was evident that it was another fascist frame-up. Comrade Valentine agreed to stand in a line-up which was to take place at pig headquarters. When we arrived there the pigs asked that a line-up wasn't necessary because they realized that their tricky action wouldn't work.

To the community people who showed for our defense we say Right On, because the spirit of the people is greater than the man's technology and the people are the making force of any revolution. We know that the community is behind us and we as always will defend them at the cost of our lives. We will defend our center and community with righteous guns and force. "For the Freedom, Salvation and Liberty of our People, we will not hesitate to either kill or die."

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE
N.C.C.F., Seattle Branch

BROTHERS SENTENCED TO SIXTY DAYS FOR SELLING NEWSPAPERS

Friday, September 11, marked a new epoch in political repression. The pigs have repeatedly attempted to squash our political organ, the Black Panther Community News Service. Their methods on a national level is to subpoena Panthers who are known to work on the Black Panther, the nationwide Black Community News Service to testify before the Grand Jury.

In Los Angeles this repression has been and continues to be manifested in repeated arrests of Panthers and community workers while selling our paper throughout the community. In the past months, the majority of our misdemeanor cases involved Panthers and community workers selling papers. In all cases, pigs have charged them not with selling our paper, but violations like disturbing the peace, interfering, and occasionally, when a pig moves physically on a brother, misdemeanor batter.

In our attempts to exhaust all legal means to expose the contradictions in the antiquated laws and the racism inherent in the due process syndrome, we've taken all such cases to court, always mindful of the consequences in the event of a guilty verdict. Friday was such a day...the pigs gloatingly participated in the sentencing of three brothers for "interfering". They were found guilty of interfering with each other's arrest while selling papers. Their attorney Dan Lund, argued fifteen minutes to no avail to have approximately 15-20 pigs removed from the courtroom and to refrain them from disrupting his attempts to argue for an appeal. The fascist judge denied his motion. Bernard Smith and Ronnie Hawkins (arrested several times previously) were sentenced to sixty days in the county jail and placed on a three year probation. "Omar", William Gordon, because he's a brother from the community and was employed...was sentenced to

30 days and also placed on three years probation. The terms of the probation expose the true intentions of the court not to administer justice or any of that euphemistic idealism of justice and fair play in the courts that people are constantly being insulted with, but to repress, both physically and politically anyone who attempts to expose the decadence of this corroding society. Each of the brothers is to find employment and maintain a job...obey all laws...is not to be affiliated with any organization or group advocating the violent overthrow of the government...and lastly, not to be caught selling papers, magazines, or the like within a hundred feet of anyone else. Nothing else really needs to be said, it's clear the intentions of the pigs are to wipe out all traces of political activity, no matter what it takes. If they can harass anyone affiliated with the Party they mistakenly assume the organization is weakened. It should be clear after many such attempts that just the opposite is in fact true. Each act of harassment, each attempt to violate and nullify the works of a Panther by arrest and jailing increases the determination of their comrades to hasten the efforts being made to deal with the corruptness and decadence of this seat of imperialism. To be a political prisoner is merely a testimony of an individual's attempts to take part in the overall struggle of our people against the forces that oppress us.

The education and practice of brothers like Bernard, Ronnie, and Omar will prove that you can jail a revolutionary but not his ideas or the ideas of a people who must bring about this change. "You can jail a revolutionary but you can't jail a revolution."

DARE TO STRUGGLE...DARE TO WIN!
BLACK PANTHER PARTY
Southern California Chapter

With the people as their endorsers, the presently jailed Baltimore Panthers will ultimately from the grasping clutches of the racist courts and returned to the outstretched arms of the people.

The racist courts of Baltimore have a known habit for absolute state of fascism. Through their condition promoted racist attitudes, the Baltimore courts serve as a red light which wholeheartedly is trying to stop the peoples' just struggle for liberation. Those who fail to stop at this red light of oppression automatically draw a clear line of demarcation between themselves and the fascist judicial system. With this clear separation made, the courts elevate their feelings of hate, sadism and fear of a peoples' struggle. All of these pig emotions are manifested through their sardonic practices. The junkie courts have a habit of giving oppressed people life sentences in jail, legal tree lynchings, and other types of fascist tactics which are done because their sadistic minds fear the fact that people are realizing their slave conditions and are moving to vanish these conditions from the face of the earth. With every progressing move of the people, the moronic feelings and oppressive tactics are elevated, and as a result, more deaths, and more life sentences, are imposed upon the people.

As enemies of the people, the courts have declared war. The Baltimore judicial system came up with all sorts of tricky, sneaky, ways to enlist more pig police into their armed vigilantes. Because they are enemies of the people, the courts, to win their war, will kill, torture, and attempt to destroy any force that attempts to stop them on this diabolically mad situation.

Larry Wallace, Marshall Conaway, Irving Young and James Powell are four of the progressive forces that have been victimized by the dog law enforcers of Baltimore.

In April, 1970, these four servants of the people were captured by the local reactionary forces who are composed of police commissioner Donald "Duck" Pomerleau and his armed troops. On orders handed down from a higher level, Pomerleau commanded his troops to invade the Black community and take prisoners by any means necessary. Certain pre-designated people who because of their myriad knowledge of the oppressive forces, stood as vanguards to the peoples just struggle for liberation and total freedom. Larry, Ir-

ving, Marshall and James are positioned to face the barbaric roman type courts on charges ranging from assault to kidnapping and murder. We know by examining the historical practices of the Babylonian court systems that justice is only present in pig murders, government suiters and any other repressive forces that stand as the officers in the doldrum court halls. Any case paralleling the oppressor, enslaving and murdering of nationwide oppressed people, inevitably result in a predetermined victory for the oppressive forces. Because we know the tricks and fascist ways of Babylonian courts in general we know that the Baltimore courts in particular will administer no justice to the Baltimore. Taking away all human rights of justice the courts will leave Larry, Irving, Marshall and James defenseless before an armed vigilante of racist judges and jurors forced to remain silent and wordless, the Baltimore Panthers will sit through a living nightmare, which stands ready and willing to kill when called upon by racist Babylon to do so. The courts shall surely be stopped in their hard planned attempt to regress the revolutionary movement in Baltimore. The face of the dogmatic judges will display a true feeling of confusion and stupidity when they see the revolutionary forces deal with the racist courts in a way which denotes the characteristics of true, loyal, strong, freedom fighters.

It is no doubt that the courts will intensify and elevate their fascist tactics, when they find the struggle moving forward instead of back. After Larry, Irving, Marshall, and James let it be known that no reactionary, not even death can regress the peoples struggle. Conviction of these brothers will only serve as a stimulus for a time bomb consisting guns, revolutionary people and revolutionary actions. All moving to destroy the slave conditions of racist Babylon and its puppet courts.

FREE LARRY, FREE MARSHALL, FREE IRVING, FREE JAMES AND FREE ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLE, are the cries heard throughout the colonies of Baltimore. When the people see the courts actively repressing their just struggle they will arm themselves to stop all reactionary forces that stand as uncrossable bridges to freedom valley!

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!
FREE THE BALTIMORE PANTHERS!
DEATH TO THE PIGS!

Doug

On Friday, Sept. 11, at about 2p.m., comrade Bill Green had been assigned to sell papers on a busy intersection, on 23rd & Union located in the heart of the Black colony, with a right-on community worker Robert Reiggs. While talking and selling papers to the people, the brother noticed that a couple of pigs were checking them out. A little later, the same two pigs got out of their car, approached Robert and asked him if he would get in the car so they could give him a ticket for stepping in the street. Robert said that he would consider accepting a ticket but he didn't think it was necessary to step in their car, which would be giving them the opportunity to wisk him quietly off to the dungeon. The pigs then proceeded to grab Robert and attempted to handcuff him. While one pig grabbed one arm the other pig attempted to grab his other arm and was knocked down by Robert who realized it was time for him to defend himself. When Bill Green attempted to come to Robert's aid, ten more sadistic pigs led by a black bootlicking lacy pig jumped on both of the brothers, handcuffed them and took them off to jail, as yet there were no charges.

By this time members of the community had informed our office and we headed for the city dungeon. Our lawyer, John Coughlin, met us there and he went inside to talk to Bill and Robert. Inside a pig guard told John that he had better talk to his clients and tell them to answer some questions or else he would see to it that neither of them got out even if bail was posted. John replied that his clients constitutional rights under the fifth amendment would not be denied and that Robert and Bill would be set free. We then found out that Robert had been charged with 1) soliciting business in a prohibited area 2) resisting arrest 3) concealed weapon. Bill was charged with interfering with an officer. These charges show that it was clearly harrassment of the people's servants.

Where is the right to freedom of press when our comrades are snatched from the streets while selling the Panther Paper. It is also interesting to note that this particular issue which Bill and Robert were selling contained Huey's message to the Revolutionary Peoples Constitutional Convention. The rights of the people are continuously violated everyday. The need for a new constitution is urgent and with the people responding readily to this, the pigs will go to any lengths to stop us from getting this information to the people by any means necessary. We realize that these sadistic pigs are escalating their attacks against the vanguard to keep us from educating the masses, but this will make us continue to struggle even harder to destroy this evil corrupt government which perpetuates this sick society of capitalism and racism.

In the future we expect wild suicidal attempts to silence our voices but they shall fail and bite the dust as the people pick up the gun and move to decapitate the head of U.S. Imperialism. The Voice of the Panther shall be heard throughout the land and the people will be victorious!

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE
DEATH TO THE FASCIST PIGS
Elmer Dixon
Seattle, Washington Chapter

TEXAS CONFERENCE TO FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS IN AMERICA OCT. 29,30,31, NOV. 1

NOTICE:

We would like to make it very clear to the people that the Black Panther Party is NOT taking part in this conference. Also, the Minister of Defense, Huey P. Newton, will not be making any speaking engagements outside of California until after January, 1971.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE