

# SHELLIE BURSEY AND BRENDA PRESLEY FACE FASCIST U.S. COURTS



Shellie Bursey, political prisoner

18 year old Shellie Bursey and 22 year old Brenda Presley, are both Panthers and members of the National Ministry of Information staff of the Black Panther Party. Shellie and Brenda have been going before the Grand Jury (In San Francisco) since the end of January of this year. This investigation was held for the purpose of intimidation and interrogation. This so called investigation first started with John Seale (brother of Chairman Bobby Seale), Sam Napier (The Black Panther Party's circulation manager) and Masai Hewitt who is the Minister of Education of the Black Panther Party. The court dropped their subpoenas and called Shellie Bursey and Brenda Presley to appear before the Grand Jury, Brenda has stated that "Just because they are sisters that the pigs think that they are weak and will submit to their repression."

Shellie and Brenda were declared by the U.S. fascist court as being reporters for the Black Panther Paper and subsequently are protected by the 1st and 5th amendments of the constitution of the United States. But the fascist U.S. Government showed proof that the use of Shellie and Brenda are an overridden nation interest, and so they were ordered to answer all of the questions. All of their so called constitutional rights were denied, but this is a very common occurrence since the oppressed have no rights that the oppressor is bound to respect.

In September Shellie and Brenda were sentenced to jail, because they would not answer the questions in court they finally took the 1st and 5th amendments of the constitution. Worthide who is the Assistant Attorney General who came from Washington, D.C. every-time Shellie and Brenda had to appear in court he as well as his assistant Heilbron, asked questions that

only related to the Panthers who work to produce the Black Panther paper. But mainly asked questions pertaining to our Chief of Staff, David Hilliard. Questions were asked such as: How many people work on the paper? Who edits the paper? Does David Hilliard decide what articles go into the paper?

Many other questions were asked relating to the finance of the party and many other things as these questions were asked. Shellie and Brenda, they took the 1st and 5th amendment. Then it was ruled that Shellie and Brenda answer the questions and disregard their constitutional rights. It was stated that these questions were important to the interest of the U.S. Government and therefore they should be answered. Shellie and Brenda still stood up for their rights and continued to take the 1st and 5th amendments of the constitution of the United States and they were ordered to jail for contempt of court for not answering the questions. Shellie surrendered to the authorities after the court procedures, but was released on a 10 day stay. On October 6th she was again called to go back to jail. Shellie Bursey is now a political prisoner being held in Santa Rita's women's prison. Brenda was 9 months pregnant at the time of the court procedures and has now had her baby. The pigs plan to railroad her within a matter of a few days.

Brenda has stated: "We understand that their attempts to make us answer questions about the paper are only a front. Because if we did, they would say that the whole Party is conspiring against the life of the President of this fascist country. As well as their false charge against us as being an internal threat to the American security."

The pigs are trying to stir up more trouble, and bring more false charges against our Chief of Staff; David Hilliard for his speech at the Anti-war moratorium on Nov. 15th, 1969. It is very clear that we are a threat to the oppressor because of our love for the people and our choice of revolutionary suicide rather than reactionary suicide to set correct examples and lead the people to liberation. Our road to liberation is the very destruction of the capitalism and fascism that the U.S. Government is the very perpetrators of. So we as revolutionaries have no regards for our lives as individuals, but give our very lives

to the struggle of liberation for our people whom we have dedicated our very lives to. We live for the purpose of fighting to retain freedom for the people and we will never forsake our goal. Even though Shellie is now in jail held as a political prisoner, and Brenda subject to go within any day. We will never stop, because of the interrogations, and murders that are waged upon us. Because we as Panthers, we as true revolutionaries have conquered the one greatest fear that the pigs have placed upon the people, and that is the fear of death, and fear of torture by the sadistic nature of the pigs. We will not give in to the enemy but only fight with all strength and determination that we have.

As Huey has stated: "The paper is the voice of the party and the voice of the party must be heard throughout the land, because the voice of the party is the voice of freedom!"

We will continue to educate the people by any means necessary. The Black Panther Party's community newspaper can never be destroyed because it is the voice of the oppressed and that voice will be heard until total liberation is obtained. We will do any and everything to obtain that freedom. Shellie is now in Santa Rita, the first day she was there the pigs took her tampons and underwear and gave her a sanitary napkin with no belt to hold it up. Shellie is a strong revolutionary with no feeling or self sorrow for herself. She is only interested in the people's struggle, and therefore cares for her people as a whole rather than herself.

We say to the pigs that our spirits can never be broken even face to face with death our spirits are strong and we gladly greet death and all that is brought before us with revolutionary courage, and determination to lead the people to revolution. So all power to the people for they are the force that gives life to the vanguard, and the Party. And the voice of the party is the voice of the oppressed people, the voice that will be heard until freedom is gained.

**FREE SHELLIE!  
FREE BRENDA!  
FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!**

Cand: Robinson  
Ministry of Information  
Black Panther Party  
Oakland, Calif.