

I Was There
By Billy X Jennings

Dressed in black, leather coat, black beret
Rallies at the Alameda Courthouse in 1968 to free Huey
by any means necessary, I was there

White mother country radicals rioting in Berkeley over Peoples' Park
I was there

Selling Panther papers door to door, from every corner to every pool
hall, salon, from San Francisco to Monterey Jazz Festival
I was there

Supporting students and the BSU at San Francisco State for Black
Studies. I was there

First Free Breakfast Program, Jan. 1969 at St. Augustine's Church, 27th
and West in West Oakland, serving the people body and soul.
I was there

Pigs trying to raid our office in East Oakland and Central
Headquarters, basic daily harassment, met a young Wes Cook (Mumia)
I was there

Elrage and Kathleen leave for the underground, Panthers hold vigil on
Pine St, I was there

Huey gets out of prison in 1970, at the courthouse 5000 people charge
us. Huey, Gee, David stand on a car to speak to the people.
I was there

D.A. wants Huey Newton bad, sitting through two trials with Huey, had
lunch daily with Huey, Atty. Charles Garry, Big Rob and Santa Rita.
I was there

Chosen Honor Guard for Jonathan Jackson's funeral in 1970 and also
buried William Christmas, James McClain
I was there

**George Jackson's funeral in 1971, chosen Honor Guard, I cried with Mrs. Jackson
I was there**

**Pepper gas sprayed on protesting students, anti-Vietnam war on the Berkeley campus
I was there**

**Boycotting MayFair, Safeway, Bill Boyette to get them to support 10,000 Free Bags of Groceries Giveaway in West Oakland, 10,000 in East Oakland, serving the people
I was there**

**Bobby Seale for Mayor of Oakland, campaign manager area 7, campaign headquarters
I was there**