

# THE BLACK PANTHER

## INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

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MONDAY, JUNE 30, 1975

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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

# B.P.P. NAMES JOANN LITTLE "WOMAN OF THE YEAR"



LARRY LITTLE, coordinator of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party, and JOANN LITTLE, who is waging a determined struggle for her right to self-defense.

(Winston-Salem, N.C.) — Sister JoAnn Little has honored the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party by accepting its "Woman of the Year" award at the Chapter's annual dinner and awards ceremony celebrating the example of Black Panther Party Fallen Comrade Joseph "Joe-Dell" Waddell, assassinated on June 13, 1972, by guards at Central Prison in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Sister JoAnn, the 20-year-old Black woman charged with the August, 1974, murder of a White jail guard who attempted to rape her, was cited by the Winston-Salem Chapter for "her courageous act of self-defense and defense of Black Womanhood," at the gathering of more than 200 persons on June 13 held at the Schlitz Brown Bottle Room here. (See interview with Sister Little in Centerfold.)

Describing the Black Panther Party as the vanguard organization of the liberation struggle in America, Sister JoAnn challenged the audience to "follow the leadership of the Party and support the Party Survival Programs."

In addition to Ms. Little, the Winston-Salem Chapter honored several other community persons who through the year gave outstanding support to the Black Panther Party and its Survival Programs. Brothers Joe Miller, John Hayes and Sister Shirley Caldwell were presented gold plague awards for outstanding

CONTINUED ON CENTERFOLD

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# JoANN LITTLE TALKS WITH "THE BLACK PANTHER"

## "I Am Just One In A Million That Lived To Tell The Story"

JoAnn Little, the 20-year-old Black woman who goes to trial on July 14 for killing a White jailer who attempted to rape her last August, was in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, on June 13 to receive an award of "Woman of the Year" from the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party. While there she talked with THE BLACK PANTHER about her case, her relationship with the Black Panther Party and her future plans. The Golden Frinks referred to in the interview is a representative of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference whom Sister Little publicly criticized at an April 3 press conference and at an April 5 rally in Winston-Salem. At the rally JoAnn said Frinks had been raising funds in her name which she never saw, and told the crowd that the only legitimate fund raisers for her defense fund are the Southern Poverty Law Center in Atlanta, Georgia, her attorneys and the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party.

BP: JoAnn, much publicity has been centered around your plight and your case. You have received much national attention and I, understand, members of the foreign press are scheduled to cover your trial. Today you are in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Could you tell me why you are in Winston-Salem?

JOANN: One of the reasons I came to Winston-Salem was to help the Black Panther Party commemorate Comrade Joseph Waddell, and to demonstrate support for all political prisoners; to show that I was really concerned about this Brother. I did not know anything about Joseph Waddell until I came into contact with the Black Panther Party. But I wanted to show that I really thought a lot of this Brother because he stood for where he was coming from. I felt he must have been a very strong Brother by the fact that he gave his life for his community.

BP: The official prison report states that Joseph Waddell died of a heart attack. What is your opinion of this and what is your feeling about the official prison report of his death?

JOANN: The Brother was 20 years old and had no previous record of any kind of heart ailment. I actually feel that there was nothing

wrong with the Brother. From my own personal experience I know that anybody that is fighting against the system they will try to do everything they can to get rid of him, even if it means jailing for a long term or whatever. I really believe that Joseph Waddell was actually murdered in the Raleigh Prison.

BP: You mean you feel that the prison authorities prescribed some kind of a plan to actually murder him?

JOANN: I feel that if he had actually died of a heart attack I wouldn't think they would have performed an autopsy (removing his internal organs before returning the body to the family) without considering his parents or anybody from his family. I don't feel they would have done something like this unless they were trying to cover up. So, yes, I feel that he was murdered.

BP: JoAnn, we are something like a rock away from your trial. You will be going to trial on July 14. What is on your mind at this time while you are awaiting your court appearance?

JOANN: Since the trial time is so close, I am trying to really get myself together for the trial because I know how the prosecution is going to act. I know what kind of pressure they are going to put on me.

Since I am here and have had a chance to talk to members of the Party, I am trying to decide whether or not after the case is all over, I will come back around to serve the Party, because I have strong feelings towards the members of the Party. So, all of these things are on my mind.

BP: JoAnn, how long do you anticipate your trial will actually go on?

JOANN: Well, if it starts on July 14, and I think it will, probably it will last at least three months.

### ATTENTION

BP: I understand a lot of funds have been raised for your case, and I understand further that the SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference) has stated that they were trying to bring attention to your case. In *Jet* magazine it was written that you felt that demonstrations, boycotts and things of this sort were not the answer to your case. Could you explain your position on how you feel that mass mobilization does or does not play a part in your trial?

JOANN: The way the article was printed in *Jet* magazine took what I said out of context. What I was saying was that the kind of demonstration Golden Frinks and SCLC were organizing—demonstrating without permits resulting in people going to jail—would only cause problems as far as trying to bring about change. He knew that he could go to the courts and get a permit. I feel that if you are going to demonstrate or try to organize something, then it should be gone about in a way that causes as little trouble for people as possible.

BP: You are saying that you are not opposed to demonstrations. You just feel they should be organized in a certain manner, legal and lawful. What is your opinion of the demonstrations that have been held for you in North Carolina by the Black Panther Party? And, just how did the Black Panther Party become involved in your case?



Sister JOANN LITTLE has expressed her belief that the Black Panther Party is the vanguard of the people's struggle.

JOANN: One reason the Black Panther Party got involved was the personal contact Larry Little (Coordinator of the Winston-Salem Chapter BPP) has with Jerry Paul. Paul is one of the lawyers that has represented the Party for quite a while. Also, because of the things the Black Panther Party stands for.

The way the demonstrations were carried out by the Party helped to educate the people and brought a lot of people together. As far as I've seen these demonstrations were well organized and mostly peaceful. I think the people got more out of them by coming together, listening to different people speak and rap on ideas around me.

## B.P.P. Names JoAnn Little

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service and dedication to the Black Panther Party Survival Programs.

The Joseph Waddell Award, given for the first time this year, went to John Hayes, who through his work with the Black Panther Party and its Survival Programs has followed the example set by Comrade Joe Dell.

Brother Larry Little (no relation to JoAnn Little), coordinator of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party, who closed the awards dinner, received a standing ovation and thunderous applause when he announced that by June 13, 1977, "we will have successfully elected three revolutionaries" to the Winston-Salem Board of Alderman. □



A recent rally in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, showing support for JoAnn Little.

**BP:** At the rally in Washington, D.C., on May 31, Larry Little, who is a member of the Black Panther Party was identified as the national spokesman for the JoAnn Little Defense Committee. How did he come to be chosen as the spokesman? What role does he play in your campaign for freedom? Do you think it hurts you to have a person who has been identified as being very militant and outspoken as official spokesman for the JoAnn Little Defense Committee?

**JOANN:** I feel there have been a lot of rumors about the Black Panther Party being violent and what have you. But, I actually feel that if they were so violent, just out for violence they wouldn't be sacrificing their time going out to get things together so that people can have food to eat, clothes to wear and a place to live decently. That is why I really feel very strongly about Larry Little working on my case. I feel better about him working on the case than I feel about a lot of other people working on the case. One such person in particular is Golden Frinks. I know that the Black Panther Party is sincere and they are not out there to rip off. So, I feel very good about the Black Panther Party working on my case.

**BP:** Two years ago did you anticipate you would be the center of attention with individuals, civil rights groups, women's organizations and other groups rallying around you and organizing the masses? When you first went to jail did you ever feel that you would get the support you are getting now?

**JOANN:** No, I didn't.

**BP:** Why do you think your case has been singled out? Do you think your case is unique or different from any other Black woman who tried to defend herself against rape by a White man? Why do you think your case has received the attention it has?

**JOANN:** For one reason, it is a thing we have been trying to bring out in the courts for a long time. I think for once we have a chance to go in there and fight and actually win; to see how this system works and see whether or not a woman does have the right to defend herself. So many people that were in the same situation



LARRY LITTLE,  
 coordinator of the  
 Winston-Salem  
 Chapter of the  
 B.P.P. with  
 JOANN LITTLE.

that I was in never even had a chance to ever reach the courts and never got a chance to tell what actually happened. I am just one out of a million that lived to tell the story, so I think that is the reason my case has received so much attention.

**BP:** A lot of people are trying to find out exactly where JoAnn is coming from, where she has been. Have you ever been involved in any movement work before with any type of civil rights organization before this case?

**JOANN:** No.

**BP:** So you are saying this endeavor is a totally new experience?

**JOANN:** That's right.

**BP:** If you are successful in winning your case in court, just what do you feel you will do? What aspirations do you have? What ambitions do you have?

**JOANN:** I want to continue to speak out about the prison system and what I experienced while I was in jail. I want to maintain daily contact with a lot of women that were at the prison while I was there, so they will keep me really informed about what is going on there. These are the types of things I could speak about because I know how they feel and I know that the people don't know what's happening there unless somebody tells them what is happening in there. When you are behind bars and you have a number and a ward, it is very hard to say what you have to say. But, once you are out dealing with society on an everyday basis, people hear you; they want to hear you and they want to know what is going on. So therefore, I feel that it is really important that I continue to speak out about the prison system and how the prisoners are treated.

**BP:** So, you plan to stay involved in the movement to help other political prisoners. Is that correct?

**JOANN:** That's right. I am most appreciative of the support that I am getting from organizations. I really appreciate everybody's support and concern. Julian Bond (Georgia state representative) was really helpful in raising funds around the case. He has sent lawyers down to help with the case and I think he should really be given some special attention for the money he raised, especially, the \$100,000 bond for the first degree murder

charge. But, in addition to Julian Bond, there were a lot of other people that helped to raise the money. Most of them were poor and didn't even have that much money, but still gave. These people are appreciated also.

**BP:** Last night the Black Panther Party gave out awards and you were the major speaker at the Black Panther Party's Awards Banquet. I understand you received the award "Woman of the Year." How do you feel about the Black Panther Party award?

**JOANN:** I was honored to receive the award, but really I felt that there were others that really deserved that medal more than I did. I didn't even feel that I had even reached the standard to receive an award from the Black Panther Party. I felt good about it. □



Shina, given by the Black Panther Party in Ann Little.



JOANN LITTLE, our example of Black womanhood.

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# JOANNE LITTLE TO ADDRESS OAKLAND VICTORY RALLY



*JoANNE LITTLE, whose struggle to defend her right to self-defense has resulted in a people's victory. To show her appreciation to the organizing efforts of the Black Panther Party, JoAnne will make her first public appearance since her trial Friday morning, August 22, at the Oakland Community Learning Center.*

(Oakland, Calif.) - JoAnne Little will make her first major public appearance since her victorious acquittal last week, in Oakland under the sponsorship of the Black Panther Party. JoAnne told THE BLACK PANTHER, in a telephone conversation from Raleigh, North Carolina: "I want to demonstrate physically my deep appreciation for the role played by the Black Panther Party in mobilizing the people's power in my defense."

JoAnne will be presented at an invitational press conference on Friday morning, August 22, at the Oakland Community Learning Center in East Oakland. A grand Victory Rally, at which JoAnne will be the keynote speaker, will be held in Oakland on the weekend, at a time and place to be announced.

JoAnne's acquittal of the charge of murdering White jailer, 62-year-old Clarence Alligood, who forcibly raped her at ice pick point in her cell in the Beaufort County Jail on August 27 last year, was reportedly described by Larry Little (no relation), national spokesperson for the JoAnne Little Defense Committee, and coordinator of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party, as the "first victory for the people in North Carolina."

On leaving the courtroom JoAnne told assembled newsmen that she owed her freedom to "the Power of the People" who rallied around her defense. In concrete expression of her appreciation for that support, JoAnne absented herself from the crash of

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## JoAnne Little To Address Oakland Victory Rally

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newspersons and others seeking her out for their own ends on the day following her acquittal and spent that day on the telephones at the Joseph Waddell Free Ambulance Program office, a Survival Program of the Black Panther Party in Winston-Salem.

Joseph "Joe-Dell" Waddell joined the Black Panther Party in 1970, while serving a 25-30 year sentence in the city jail of High Point, North Carolina, on a trumped-up robbery charge. Following his transfer to Central Prison in Raleigh, where he was frequently beaten and harassed by guards because of his revolutionary activities in educating and organizing the inmates, Joe-Dell was murdered by prison officials on June 13, 1972. Prison officials removed his internal organs before Joe-Dell's body was released to his family, and then claimed the 20-year-old youth died of a heart attack.

### SPEAKING TOUR

JoAnne announced in Raleigh after her release that she planned to open a speaking tour on prison conditions at the Oakland Community Learning Center, at the invitation of the Black Panther Party. However, not a single national news media carried this reference to the Party in the nationwide press, radio and TV coverage of her victory.

In an exclusive interview with JoAnne Little that appeared in the June 30, 1975, issue of THE BLACK PANTHER before her trial opened, JoAnne was asked what she planned to do if she was successful in winning her case. She replied:

"I want to continue to speak out about the prison system and what I experienced while I was in jail. I want to maintain daily contact with a lot of women that were at the prison while I was there so they will keep me really informed about what is going on there. . . I know that the people don't know what's happening there unless somebody tells them . . . I feel that it is really important that I continue to speak out about the prison system and how the prisoners are treated."

JoAnne's stay on the West Coast will be brief. She plans to return to Raleigh to aid in the defense of her chief counsel, attorney Jerry Paul.

In a desperate act of retribution and face saving for the racists, trial judge Hamilton Hobgood jailed Paul for alleged contempt of court because Paul righteously



JoANNE LITTLE, with LARRY LITTLE (no relation), coordinator of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party.

accused the court of showing bias toward the prosecution during the trial of JoAnne.

On July 11, attorney Jerry Paul addressed an overflow rally in support for JoAnne Little, held at the Oakland Community Learning Center in East Oakland, sponsored by the July 14th Committee to Free JoAnne Little.

Our Bay Area readers are urged to keep alert for the

announcement of the place and time of this weekend's JoAnne Little Victory Rally and plan to come out to demonstrate Oakland's and the Bay Area's heartfelt appreciation of this strong and beautiful sister, who, as Elaine Brown has said, "acted for all of us" when she defended herself against the vile, racist attack made on her by the late Clarence Alligood. □

## Treason Trial Collapses

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11 Black leaders are still scheduled for trial under charges Rees & Co. are presently concocting."

The report reminds its readers that there are scores of detainees from the September '74 swoop and later swoops who remain unaccounted for. There remain thousands on Robben Island (the Alcatraz of South Africa), other thousands under house arrest and other restrictions.

### FLIMSY CHARGES

Azania Combat writes that complimenting the skill of the defense lawyers in showing up the flimsy charges against the 13 "was the worldwide campaign for the release of the Treason Trial 13." Typical of the solidarity expressed by "justice loving people" from many parts of the world was the following cable to

South African Prime Minister Vorster:

"We, members of the faculty of Psychology and Education, Geneva University, Switzerland, demand immediate release of SASO (South African Students Organization) students as well as for all our Brothers and Sisters imprisoned for the crime of fighting for a better world."

The cable was signed by 150 professors and lecturers.

In conclusion, Azania Combat writes: "The dropping of the charges against two of the accused and forcing the prosecution to draw up a new charge sheet has exposed the abuse of the law courts by apartheid South Africa. World public opinion has therefore helped in the scoring of an important victory against the racist regime in Pretoria." □

## Samora Machel Address

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On the issue of church and state, President Machel stressed that Mozambique is not a religious state and that religion is a private matter. The Mozambican president said that those people who believe in religion "must not interfere in politics" and "must

not sabotage people's organizations."

Noting that "colonialism still exists in Africa," Comrade Machel told his audience that, "The Mozambican people must actively support the struggle of the Zimbabwean (Rhodesian) people." □

## Anti-Bias Plan "Strongly Urged"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

on a quarterly basis, beginning October 1, 1975, "a list, separated by department of all employees hired showing name, sex, race, or national origin, date of hire, job title, and salary," of the police, fire and public works departments.

Also, "a list, separated by department, of all employees promoted, showing name, sex, race or national origin, date of promotion, job promotion to, and salary."

Specifically, relative to the police and fire departments, the ORS has required Oakland to submit quarterly a list of "all applicants recruited, all applicants taking the written exam, all applicants taking the oral interview, all applicants passing the oral interview, and a copy of the final eligibility list. Each listing is to designate total number of applicants, total number of Blacks, total number of females, Spanish-surnamed, Asian-Americans and other minorities."

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

The fire department must provide "a list showing any trainee terminated during any point of the training program or the probationary year of employment, including the name, sex, race or national origin, date terminated and reason of each person so included."

The NAACP/Community Coalition letter to Mayor Reading reminded him that "several community organizations of the Oakland Community Coalition on Police Racism appeared before the City Council six months ago charging racial discrimination within the city's police department," and pointed out that the federal government has now "substantiated our charges."

The letter warned the mayor that the existence of racial discrimination in the city's vital departments "blatantly suggests that other departments may also be at fault," and consequently urged immediate publication of a list of all city personnel in all city departments according to ethnic composition, job classification, level and salary.

The ORS civil rights team conducted its investigation in response to administrative complaints submitted to it by the Oakland Black Officers Association and the Oakland Black Firefighters Association. □

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**"A REVOLUTIONARY BORN IN JAIL"**

# OAKLAND WELCOMES JOANNE LITTLE



*The courageous and beautiful JoANNE LITTLE addressing the crowd who attended her Victory Rally at the Oakland Auditorium Sunday, August 24. Sister JoAnne called for Black people to unify against their oppression, and reminded everyone that she is not yet free nor will anyone be until Johnny Spain, the San Quentin Six, and all political prisoners are free. (For complete text of JoAnne's speech see Centerfold.)*

(Oakland, Calif.) - Some 1,200 Oakland and Bay Area residents came out to the Oakland Auditorium on Sunday evening to pay tribute to JoAnne Little at a rousing Victory Rally sponsored by the Black Panther Party.

JoAnne Little, recently acquitted of the ice-pick murder of White jailer/rapist Clarence Allgood in Beaufort County Jail in North Carolina came to Oakland to express her appreciation and thanks to the Black Panther Party for its role in mobilizing popular support for her defense.

She was accompanied to Oakland by Larry Little (no relation), who heads the JoAnne Little National Defense Committee and is also coordinator of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party.

Highlights of the evening included a powerful address by JoAnne Little, a message from exiled leader of the Black Panther Party Huey P. Newton, a rousing performance of "I Shall Not Be Moved" by 20 two, three and four-year old children of the Oakland Community School and the appearance of songstress Dee Dee Warwick. A local, teen, singing group, The Harmonistics, were especially warmly received by the enthusiastic crowd.

The program, emceed with fire by Larry Little, included among its chief speakers Mrs. Mattie Shepherd, mother of 14-year-old Tyrone Guyton, murdered in Oakland by White Emeryville policemen; Sandre Swanson, ad-

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# EDITORIAL

## JOANNE LITTLE IN OAKLAND

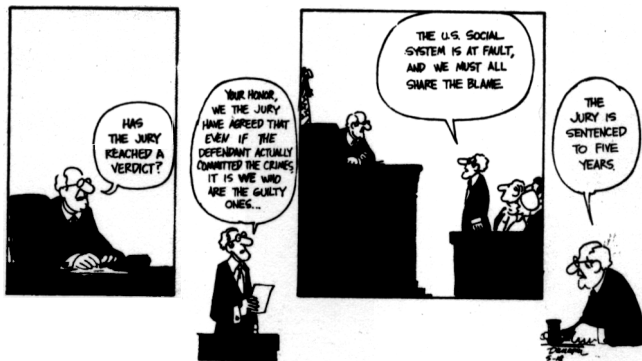
Oakland was honored last week with the seven-day visit of JoAnne Little. She came, she said repeatedly to the press, to demonstrate her appreciation to the Black Panther Party for its efforts in mobilizing the people's power in her defense. She repeatedly emphasized that it was the power of the people that set her free, not the judicial system.

There is an important lesson for all of us in that assertion. In the heartland of the racist, rural south, in the state with the highest number of convicted persons on death row, most of them Black people, Black people were mobilized to act in defense of JoAnne Little. They forced open the curtain of secrecy behind which injustices occur every day in this country — particularly in the South — bringing JoAnne Little's case to the attention of the entire country and the world.

JoAnne came to Oakland because the Black Panther Party is headquartered in Oakland. But it was the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party, under the leadership of Larry Little, that spearheaded the struggle and mobilized the power of Black people in towns and cities throughout North Carolina, long before the name JoAnne Little was known across this country. It was this Chapter's efforts, at grave danger to each of its members, all its friends, and particularly its leader, that made it possible for decent Americans across this country, Black and White to rally to JoAnne's defense.

The second day after her acquittal, when a constant flow of demands and requests were being made on her from across the country, JoAnne Little dramatically and physically demonstrated her appreciation of the gargantuan efforts made by the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party in her behalf by handling the telephones at its Joseph Waddell Free Ambulance Service survival program office from 11:00 p.m. through the night to 8:00 a.m. the following morning.

Such faith, in the people, such devotion, to the people such commitment to the people is the stuff from which true revolutionaries are made. [ ]



### JoAnne Little's Message To San Quentin Inmates

On Thursday, August 21, 1975, the fourth anniversary of the assassination of Black Panther Party Field Marshal George Jackson at San Quentin Prison, Ms. JoAnne Little went to San Quentin to visit Black Panther Party member Johnny Larry Spain, one of the six Black and Brown prison activists now on trial at the Marin County Courthouse in San Rafael, California, for their alleged participation in a conspiracy which led to the murder of Comrade George. On the following day, August 22, at a press conference held at the Oakland Community Learning Center, JoAnne emotionally described her visit to Comrade Johnny, commenting that the way he was "chained and shackled like a dog really got next to me." (See article, page 7.) Following a blistering statement in which she attacked the inhumane conditions at San Quentin, and in fact, at all prisons, JoAnne was asked to give a message to the Black prisoners at San Quentin. The following is her brief but unforgettable comment:

"Yesterday was the first time I've ever been to San Quentin, but when you've seen one prison, you've seen them all. I know what kind of hell you are going through. Hopefully you won't let the prison authorities break you down, and you'll keep your spirits and morale up. Ever since I went to jail, I've had this philosophy: They can always put a person in jail and confine him physically, but as long as they can't get control of their minds, they won't have control of their bodies. I know that on the whole Black people have always been strong. I know you brothers are going to hold out and you're going to make it."

### Notice From E.O.C.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES CORPORATION

Announces that the name of

The Community Learning Center has been changed to  
THE OAKLAND COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER  
and the name of the

Intercommunal Youth Institute has been changed to  
THE OAKLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL



## COMMENT

### People's China Praises Zimbabwean Struggle

Freedom-loving people everywhere have been inspired by the courageous struggle of the Zimbabwean (Rhodesian) people to obtain majority (Black) rule in their country and thereby end almost one century of oppressive European rule. The following statement reprinted from Hsin-hua news agency of the People's Republic of China pays tribute to the people of Zimbabwe for their persistent and intensified armed struggle against the racist Smith regime, which illegally rules Zimbabwe.

In the past few months, the military budget of the Smith regime has soared, its counter-revolutionary armed forces have been expanded and fascist suppressive operations stepped up. The regime's 1975-76 budget announced on July 10, it was reported, provides for big boosts in the "defense and police" spending. The "defense" budget has risen to 57 million Rhodesian dollars — an almost 30 per cent increase as compared with the last two years on the average. The police spending will be three million more than the last fiscal year, reaching 40 million Rhodesian dollars.

To make up for the losses caused by the military expenditure boosts, the Smith authorities have decided on a 10 per cent "war tax" on individual and company incomes to further fleece the people. All 18-year-olds are announced to be called up to the special police reserves, and women are also being called up to take administrative posts in the armed forces so that more men soldiers will be sent to the border areas to suppress the guerrillas.

In addition to the criminal mass arrest of freedom fighters started in December last year, a curfew in areas near the Rhodesia-Mozambique and Rhodesia-Botswana borders was announced by the Smith authorities recently to prohibit travel. To tighten up its fascist dictatorship, the Smith

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### THE BLACK PANTHER

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# JoANNE LITTLE INSPIRES BLACK CALIFORNIA POLITICIANS

## Speaks To Over 400 At Conference Luncheon In Sacramento

(Sacramento, Calif.) - Addressing a luncheon here at the prestigious Black political education conference, "Focus '76," Ms. JoAnne Little captured the spirit of the moment with a stirring message of freedom and dignity.

"We can have a say so," Ms. Little asserted, to the applause of an audience of close to 400, dining in the Cosmo Room at the top of the Cosmopolitan Hotel, located almost within the shadows of the state capital building.

"Just seeing all of these Black people here, knowing what you represent, knowing the kind of power that you have, the things that you can do, is beautiful. If all the Black people here unite together, we can take over this whole country," JoAnne said, beginning her message.

Slightly later, speaking within the context of being controlled by others, JoAnne said, "Regardless of what the police do to me, regardless of what they say about me, regardless of what they say about the lieutenant governor (referring to Mervyn Dymally, who just prior to JoAnne's speech addressed the luncheon crowd on the new wave of repression faced by elected Black officials), regardless of what they say about Black people as a whole, we have our dignity, we've always had our dignity.

"If we don't stand up for it now, they will take it away from us. That's something they've been trying to do to us for 300 years."

### BLACK UNITY

Brother Larry Little, national spokesperson for the JoAnne Little Defense Committee and coordinator of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party, had introduced JoAnne as a "symbol of Black women and Black unity" in his enthusiastically received opening remarks. It was easy to see why, as JoAnne consistently pointed out the contradictions in the American social justice system raised by her case, and spoke of the need for togetherness and unity to resolve these glaring faults in the interests of Black people.

"The system did not give me my freedom. They tried not only to take my freedom, they tried to take my life. They spent millions of dollars trying to send me to the gas chamber.

"They have a brother down there in North Carolina right now



At a luncheon following her speech at recent "Focus '76" Black political conference in Sacramento, JoANNE LITTLE shook hands and signed autographs for over 45 minutes. She obviously won the hearts of the prestigious assembly there.

for raping a one-armed White woman. They're going to spend millions trying to prove that he raped that White woman, that he took advantage of her.

\$1,000,000

"They spent a million dollars trying to prove that a White woman didn't take advantage of me," JoAnne said, her voice uncharacteristically raised from its usual soft tone.

"Then they try to discredit Black people," JoAnne told the crowd, "and you should know for yourselves why: because they feel that they're losing control of this

country. They feel that Black people are moving in and that sooner or later, California is going to be run by progressive Blacks. Some are sitting in here this very minute.

"Therefore, the only thing that they can do is say, 'Hey, the lieutenant governor is a drug pusher. Congresswoman Burke (Yvonne Braithwaite Burke, who was present at the luncheon) is a prostitute...'

"...They're not only doing it to them. They did it to Huey P. Newton. They ran him out of the

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



## Allen Temple Baptists Honor JoAnne Little

(Oakland, Calif.) - Her eyes moist with tears, Ms. JoANNE LITTLE (right) was honored by the congregation of Allen Temple Baptist Church last Sunday, receiving a special award from the Social Concerns Committee.

"As I entered the church, and as I walked down here, seeing Black people like you who really want to come together and love each other, it really made me feel good," Sister JoAnne said softly in her brief address before the large Allen Temple congregation, the largest Baptist church in East Oakland, led by Pastor J. ALFRED SMITH (center). JoAnne also told of her early childhood experiences in the church.

Sister ELAINE BROWN (left) and Brother Larry Little who accompanied JoAnne were also warmly received by the audience. "She defended me and all of us here," Elaine said in introducing Sister JoAnne.



# JoANNE LITTLE: "THE TIME FOR US TO SEIZE FREEDOM IS NOW"

Addresses Crowded Press Conference At Oakland Community Learning Center

(Oakland, Calif.) - Ms. JoAnne Little, recently acquitted in the celebrated North Carolina trial of the murder of White jail guard Clarence Alligood who forcibly raped her, told a crowded press conference at the Oakland Community Learning Center on August 22 that she is committed to

also is coordinator of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party.

Ms. Brown thanked the press for coming and expressed her hope that "we will have a pleasant exchange here today." Brother Du Bois, noting that "Ms. Little has been treated very

badly by the press," firmly warned the reporters at the press conference, "We will not tolerate any disrespect for Ms. Little."

Larry Little sat by JoAnne's side throughout the 25-minute press conference. He explained that the Black Panther Party has been involved in JoAnne's defense since the beginning of her case and has been responsible for organizing mass rallies held in her support throughout the state of North Carolina and on the East Coast.

Brother Little criticized the press for failing to report JoAnne's statement made immediately following her acquittal that she would make her first major appearance at the Oakland Community Learning Center, a multi-purpose educational and cultural center founded by the Black Panther Party and operated by the community.

"We should be clear," Larry said, "that Ms. Little is here to express her solidarity with the Black Panther Party and all community people who worked together to free her."

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Sister JoANNE LITTLE and LARRY LITTLE (no relation), Black Panther Party member and national spokesman for JoAnne Little Defense Committee (inset) at the Oakland Community Learning Center for her first major press conference since her recent acquittal.

the Black liberation struggle, and that Black people "need to come together and get off those pedestals. . . because the time for us to seize our freedom is now."

Over 75 representatives of Bay Area and national news media, along with leaders of numerous Oakland and Bay Area community organizations and churches, heard Ms. Little in her first major press conference since her August 15 acquittal. She chose Oakland for her first major public appearance, she said, to "express my solidarity with the Black Panther Party and to give my support to the San Quentin 6." (Black Panther Party member Johnny Larry Spain is among the six Black and Brown prison activists now on trial at the Marin County Civic Center for their alleged involvement in a conspiracy which led to the assassination of Black Panther Party Field Marshal George Jackson on August 21, 1971.)

Prior to Ms. Little's statement to the press, statements were made by Black Panther Party spokesperson David G. Du Bois, Ms. Elaine Brown, leading member of the Black Panther Party, and Larry Little (no relation to JoAnne), who heads the JoAnne Little Defense Committee and



## Learning Center Martial Arts Team Performs At Black Expo

(Oakland, Calif.) - Fourteen students of the Oakland Community Learning Center's Martial Arts Team demonstrated during a two-day Black Expo on August 16 and 17 at Mosswood Park.

Lead by 14-year-old Billy Owens and 15-year-old Fred Moorehead, the students performed before over 1,000 onlookers, demonstrating patterns and movements from Tae Kwon Do/Jeet Kune Do. While at the Black Expo, the Learning Center's team was invited to the National Day Celebration for the People's Republic of China, to take place September 27, 1975, in San Francisco.

# “WE HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO BEFORE

## JoAnne Little's Address To Oakland Victory Rally

*For almost two hours, the crowd at the Oakland Auditorium on Sunday, August 24, waited patiently to hear the young Black woman who has become a source of inspiration to women and to Black and oppressed people everywhere, Ms. JoAnne Little. JoAnne did not disappoint her audience. In her first major address since her acquittal on August 15, JoAnne emphasized the need for Black people to come together in order to change the conditions that keep us virtual slaves in American society and reminded us that “we have a long way to go before we will be free.”*

*The following is the complete text of JoAnne's stirring speech:*

“Power to the People, brothers and sisters. First of all, I'd like to thank each and everyone of you for being out here and showing your support and concern. As I look down into the audience, the first person I see is Charles Garry. I'm glad that he's here. I would ask Mr. Garry to stand up so that you may acknowledge his presence.

“I've been standing here for a long time waiting to speak to you. The main thing I want to deal with right now is the kind of injustices that Black people have to go through throughout this country. These things have been going on for over 300 years — making examples out of Black people. If you pick up the newspapers, listen to the radio or TV — every time you pick up some type of news material, you see where Black sisters and brothers are being jailed, sent to prison and shot down every day.

“One thing that shows that Black people do have power in this country is that I am standing here before you tonight talking to all of you. If it hadn't been for the power of the people, I wouldn't have been able to have made that massive bond of \$115,000. Nobody can tell me that we can't do anything, that we don't have some power in this country. If we stand together, we can take over this entire country.

“While I was waiting in the back, I met a lady by the name of Mrs. Sheperd. She told me about her son, Tyrone Guyton, and how the pigs had shot him down, shot him in the back. This is only one of the brothers who has been shot down. You take Anthony Smoke of

Winston-Salem. He was only out after a party, and the pigs came up with their guns and shot him. They said it was justifiable homicide. Take Fred Hampton. They shot him in his bed while he was asleep. They called that justifiable homicide. They shot Joseph Waddell (a member of the Black Panther Party who was assassinated by officials at Central State Prison in Raleigh, North Carolina, in June 1971), and they said they didn't know how he died. They called this justifiable homicide.

“Let me tell you this: All these pigs know is justifiable homicide. But if this is justifiable homicide, then we should do just like Huey P. Newton did and take up our guns and pay Nixon a visit at San Clemente.

### JUSTICE AND FREEDOM

“They say that everybody is entitled to justice and freedom. This is what the Constitution says, but the laws and the courts change if you're Black because the odds are against you, if you're born Black.

“When the White man came to my cell and tried to take advantage of me, I stood up and said, ‘no.’ Black women are not going to take this anymore. We're going to stop it now.’ And so when I stood up and we won that case in Raleigh and those 12 people set me free, that was the turning point right there. That meant that we as people, if we stand together, can do something. On August 15, we proved those pigs to be wrong, and we can do it again. If that means that we have to stand up with guns in our hands and lose our lives — we've lost our lives for a cause, for a good reason.

“I went to San Quentin Prison on Thursday afternoon. Charles Garry was there. They made it very clear to me that even though those 12 people set me free, I was still considered a criminal and that in no way would I be able to touch Johnny Spain or come in close contact with him. I knew that policemen hated me in the state of North Carolina. I knew that the system not only tried to send me to jail for 20 years or a possible life sentence but it also tried to take my life. But until I came to California, I didn't know that the hatred for me had spread throughout the country.

“When I was in prison for six months, I saw the kinds of conditions human beings are living under: sleeping on cement floors called strip



Sister JoANNE LITTLE addressing a crowd at the Oakland Victory Rally. She and the courageous and righteous crowd are to self-c

cells, sleeping on mattresses with no sheets at all; in cold weather they don't have the kind of adequate clothing they need; they don't have the kind of medicine they need. If you ask for medical treatment or to go to the hospital, they say, ‘You don't have a right to ask what kind of medicine you're taking. You take what we give you, and if you don't take it, then you can just lay there and suffer.’

“These are the kinds of things that happen to people in prison. That's why as I sat there with Charles Garry and his associate and watched Johnny Spain shackled down, they said, ‘Here's a criminal come to see another criminal. We have to shackle one of them down.’ Like they knew that I, JoAnne Little, was going to go in and rush San Quentin Prison by myself. I had no other choice but to sit there and look at the brother and talk to him. It hurt me very much, but these are the kinds of things that I've been used to seeing. He (Johnny Spain) is going through the kind of injustices that Black people have been going through for years. When they can't murder us and call it justifiable homicide, they give us life sentences and send us to the gas chamber because that's the only way they can get rid of us ‘niggers.’

“Just seeing the kind of congregation that is here tonight lets you know that if we stand together, they won't railroad another JoAnne Little to the gas chamber. They won't kill another George Jackson. They won't kill another Tyrone Guyton. They won't get rid of another Anthony Smoke. But, if we stand back and wait until some of our relatives get in that position, our sisters get in my situation, then we are the ones that are creating the situation ourselves because we're not doing anything when we can do it.

## Oakland Welcomes JoAnne Little

### CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

ministrative aide to California Congressman Congressman Ronald V. Dellums, appearing in place of the Congressman who was unable to attend; Bill Toliver, of the “ex-con” organization, Delancey Street Foundation; and Pastor J. Alfred Smith of the Allen Temple Baptist Church and spokesperson of the Community Coalition Against Racism in Oakland.

David G. Du Bois, official spokesperson of the Black Panther Party, read the message to the rally from Party leader Huey P. Newton (see page 3) and Elaine Brown, chairperson of the Black Panther Party, introduced JoAnne

Little to a standing and sustained ovation. (See text of JoAnne Little's address in Centerfold.)

Messages of solidarity with JoAnne Little were given by representatives of several respected community organizations, including the Sisters of Motivation, a prisoner aid group, the Black Women Organized for Action, the Charles Houston Law Club and the NAACP, Oakland Chapter.

Dee Dee Warwick and the Harmonics were backed up by Gemini, Inc. band.

A sister from the Oakland Ensemble drama group did a moving monologue that was well received. □



# WE'RE FREE''



JoAnne Little came to show their support for JoAnne Little; she took to insure women's rights.

"I went to a conference the other day in Sacramento (the California Black Political Education Conference). They had all kinds of big people there who have the power to do something. But half of them aren't doing anything. They're just sitting there. We need Black people who, out of humility, do what is best for Black people because Black people know what is best for our people. When we let the White man stand behind us and dictate over our shoulders about what we should do, then we don't need that position at all.

"When I see a Black person who has a position as a governor or a congressman get kicked out of their jobs — when they had that position they didn't do anything and when they get kicked out, they want to say all kinds of things against the government — I don't have any respect for them. Sure, they can do something good. They can talk against the government, but they still don't have my respect because they didn't do anything while they were there.

### STAND TOGETHER

"That just goes to show that if we stand together, as I said before, we can do something because we have always done the impossible. When I got the \$115,000 bond, I did something that has never been done before in the state of North Carolina. You don't get a bond on first degree murder. You don't get a change of venue in the state of North Carolina. You get a change to the next town, not 150 miles away.

"We had a victory when we won that case. We Black women proved that a Black woman can be sexually assaulted in North Carolina by a White man. Statistics in North Carolina say that there are far more rapes in the Black community than there are in the White

(1) Welcome sign at Oakland Auditorium; (2) JoAnne Little and Larry Little, national spokesperson for JoAnne Little Defense Committee; (3) Sister Elaine Brown; (4) Sandre Swanson, administrative aide to Congressman Ron Dellums; (5) Pastor J. Alfred Smith of Allen Temple Baptist Church; (6) youth from the Oakland Community School; (7) Mrs. Mattie Shepherd, mother of murdered Tyrone Guyton; and (8) Bill Toliver, Delancey Street Foundation.

BPINS photos

community. That's not true. Half of them are not reported and you know for yourself that the first rapes that were ever committed were by White men. Why do you think that we have so many different colors in our race? Because we've been taken advantage of for years.

"I'm just trying to tell you that people like the San Quentin 6 need your support. I need your support. They ask me now, 'JoAnne, how does it feel to be free?' I'm not free. None of us are free. As long as they shackle Johnny Spain, we will never be free. As long as they shoot down 14-year-old kids, as long as they take half of our pay checks, as long as they kick 72-year-old women out of their houses, out of shacks, we're not free. So, even though that jury said, 'JoAnne, you're innocent. You may walk out free,' I walked out into an invisible prison. I'm still in prison. You are still in prison, and therefore, we have to stand together.

### "IT'S UP TO YOU"

"I could talk to you and talk to you all night. It's up to you. It's up to you to do something, and if you don't do anything, Nixon is going to continue to pass down the laws. Ford is going to continue to do what he wants to do. Rockefeller is going to continue to create more Atticas. It's going to affect only one person — small people like you and me. Whenever they (Ford and Rockefeller) get ready to go to court, all they have to do is pull out a couple of grand and give it to the prosecution. But people like me who don't have money to pay for lawyers, they send me up for 20 years, 15 years and throw away the key.

"People, I'm telling you now that we should come together and support organizations like the Black Panther Party, who have a lot of Survival Programs to help our people and other organizations who are for our people. The way this country is now, we have a long way to go and we have a long time to go before we will be free." □



Photo by Sam Silver

## JoAnne Little

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

In her opening statement, JoAnne said: "I didn't know the system had such a hatred for me. I knew they hated me in the state of North Carolina, but I didn't know they had such a hatred for me throughout the country." She added that even though she was acquitted, she is still considered a criminal.

JoAnne then went on to blast Angela Davis and the Communist Party for trying to exploit her case and "con" her into joining the Communist Party. "The night before I surrendered," JoAnne said, "I called Angela and asked her to come down (to North Carolina). She (Angela) said my case wasn't important enough. I've seen a lot of people who weren't sincere. The only sincere people who offered to help me were the Black Panther Party," JoAnne emphasized.

Describing her visit to Johnny Spain at San Quentin Prison on the previous day — the fourth anniversary of the assassination of George Jackson — JoAnne, her voice filled with emotion, said, "The way I saw him (Johnny) chained and shackled . . . really got next to me."

The atmosphere in the auditorium of the Oakland Community Learning Center was one of awe and respect as JoAnne, in response to questions from the

press, clearly and emphatically discussed the impact of her case and her position on prison and judicial reform. She said that before she went to jail, ". . . I was like any average 21-year-old girl — I wanted to go out and party. But that's behind me."

Commenting on the relationship between her case and the women's movement, JoAnne said:

"Women's groups came out to support me because they knew it was very important that we win the case. . . Black women have been raped for over 300 years. . . Women are raped every day. . . We as women now have a better chance of getting laws and statutes written down that we have a right to defend our bodies."

JoAnne explained that she plans to speak out against prison conditions in the U.S. "A lot of people don't have knowledge about prisons. People who haven't been to prison don't know what it's like. They don't know the kind of hell human beings are going through. . ."

"Society doesn't have the right to put people behind bars and literally forget about them and treat them like they're less than humans. . . They send you to prison for reform and rehabilitation. Rehabilitation is only a word that the pigs have put together to say that you have reformed to what they say is acceptable. And if you don't, you stay there until

Sister JoANNE LITTLE greeting some of her young supporters at a reception following Thursday press conference.



they say you're ready to leave," JoAnne said.

The appeal on JoAnne's original conviction for breaking and entering will be heard in North Carolina on September 23. When asked how her plans for public speaking would be affected by the appeal, JoAnne said it didn't affect her "in any way." She noted that such people as George Jackson and Joseph Waddell (a member of the Black Panther Party who was assassinated by officials at Central State Prison in Raleigh, North Carolina, in June, 1971) "gave their lives for the cause" and were a source of inspiration for her.

She added that if she has to, she will willingly serve the seven to 10-year prison sentence given her for the breaking and entering conviction. "I can do that (the seven to 10 years) standing on top of my head," she said.

Going into more detail about the national hatred which exists against her, JoAnne said, "We

proved that the pigs can be wrong. They're at the point now where they would do anything to get me out of the way. There are people out there right now who would like to put a knife in my back or a gun to my head so they could say they are the ones who killed JoAnne Little." She added that she is hated so much by Whites that the Black people in her hometown of Washington, North Carolina, are afraid to comment on her victory.

However, JoAnne made it clear that the threats made against her life have in no way affected her determination to speak out against injustice in America. "When they try to take your pride and dignity away from you and you let them strip you of that, then your life isn't worth anything. I have more pride about myself than to let them threaten me and scare me," JoAnne declared.

### JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Asked if her feelings have changed about the U.S. judicial system, JoAnne replied, "The only way my feelings would change would be when we make the people judges and put the judges in jail." Community people in the audience clearly agreed with JoAnne on that point by their audible comments of "Right on" and "I heard that."

On the issue of prison reform JoAnne drew an enthusiastic round of applause when she said "I'd like us to get some guns and go in and tear those prisons down."

JoAnne revealed that during the next academic semester she plans to return to school to study journalism and contribute to the struggle through writing.

It was evident on the expressions on everyone's face who attended the press conference that they were very impressed by JoAnne Little and convinced that her traumatic experience in Beauport County Jail has turned her into a young woman dedicated to the Black liberation struggle. As one person put it, "She's sharp. She's real sharp." □

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## Eritrean Liberation Front

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

its struggle to regain independence from Ethiopia.

Osman Saleh Sabbe, leader of the ELF, as reported in *Il Manifesto*, daily newspaper of the Italian Proletarian Unity Party for Communism, said that Ethiopian troops have abandoned the rural areas of Eritrea, retreating to the outskirts of the cities.

### FINAL ATTACK

Sabbe stated that the ELF is now preparing for a "final attack" with the support of the entire population. Eritrean soldiers enrolled in the Ethiopian army are joining the ELF, Sabbe added.

He went on to talk about the Ethiopian government's claim that it is socialist. "Are they socialists when they state on the radio that they want to get rid of the Eritreans and replace them with six million Ethiopians?" Sabbe asked. He likened the Ethiopian government's state-

ment to Israel's actions against the Palestinian people.

Sabbe then pointed out that little news reaches the outside world about the Ethiopian massacres of Eritrean civilians. These massacres are caused by indiscriminate bombings in which the Ethiopian military bombs anything that is moving.

The Ethiopian government has undertaken agrarian reform, which has been judged as progressive by many, in an attempt to bring Ethiopia out of feudalism. However, Sabbe pointed out, financial support of the peasants of Ethiopia is necessary in order to make agrarian reform successful. The Ethiopian government has chosen to finance an unjust war against Eritrea instead of helping the peasants, Sabbe said.

The near future will determine whether the ELF will fight for the total control of Eritrea or whether independence can be negotiated. □

# WELCOME JOANNE



(A) JOANNE LITTLE being greeted upon her arrival at San Francisco International Airport by comrades of the Black Panther Party. (B) JOANNE and LARRY LITTLE (no relation) national spokesman for JoAnne Little Defense Committee, at press conference at Oakland Community Learning Center. (C) JOANNE greeting her supporters at a reception following the widely attended press conference. (D) JOANNE addressing Black political conference in Sacramento, Calif. (E) JOANNE (left) with CHARLES GARRY (center), famed attorney for Black Panther Party member Johnny Spain of the San Quentin Six. (F) JoAnne's supporters at Victory Rally at Oakland Auditorium. (G) Sickle Cell Anemia testing at rally. (H) JOANNE with LARRY LITTLE (seated) and MERVYN DYMALLY, California Lt. Governor (left, standing), California Congresswoman YVONNE BRAITHWAITE BURKE (center, standing), and ELAINE BROWN, chairperson, Black Panther Party at Sacramento conference. (I) JOANNE delivering stirring speech at her Victory Rally.

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