



DEFEND THE RIGHT TO SURVIVE

CHAIRMAN BOBBY SEALE SPEAKS IN CHICAGO ON DECEMBER 4TH, THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF FRED HAMPTON AND MARK CLARK

Well, since Chicago (Chairman Bobby is referring here to the period in which, in Chicago, he was being falsely charged for conspiring to incite riots during the 1968 Chicago Democratic Convention), when I was here last, having gone through Connecticut, I guess the main thing I first want to say is right on, and thank all the Brothers and Sisters, and people, and human beings alike, because it was your pressure, your support that saw to it that we political prisoners were set free. All power to the people, the people! (Audience applauds, shouting All Power to the People! All Power to the People!)

Brothers and sisters, there's a revolutionary movement going on in this country, that the Black community, and other poor, oppressed people in this country are the spearhead of. They are the spearhead of this revolutionary movement. This revolutionary movement is manifested in the human being's desires and needs; it's manifested in the desire to rid this land called Ameri-KKK-a, this land called Ameri-KKK-a, of oppression. This revolution is manifested in our hearts, manifested in our souls, and our minds,

one with the oppressed people of the world. It is manifested in such a way that somehow or another a Black Sister and a Black Brother - if we talk about the Servant, Huey P. Newton, or if we talk about Sister Angela Davis, or if we talk about Brother Fred Hampton and Brother Mark Clark, and if we talk about Sister Ericka Huggins, and if we talk about all the people, if we talk about my mama, if we talk about your mama, your father, and your daddy, if we talk about Nat Turner and if we talk about Denmark Vesey and if we talk about Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, and Gabriel Prosser - (Somehow a Black Brother or Sister) can feel what's been going on 400 years, and we can understand what we've got to do now. We see we've got the right to survive as human beings on the face of this earth, (Applause)

Some people, some fascists, many racists and many capitalists, with their capitalistic press, will distort to you what the real objective goals and functions of the people are, and what the real objective goals and functions of the Black Panther Party are all about.

They have told you many, many lies

and many, many distortions. They have called the Black Panther Party a fraud, and everything. But I'm saying this, we're saying this, the community is saying this, that whenever (based on when the Party started, based on where we stand as a community) a racist, a low-lifed policeman or a jive politician comes down and sends down some guns and billy clubs to tear our flesh and to crush our skulls, and I say if we stand up and defend ourselves - No jive, don't be backing up - that's no fraud. (Applause)

That was only one basic survival program, when the Party hit the streets in 1966, and branches and chapters flourished across this country, North, East, West and South. When Party members realized it, community people had already realized it. It wasn't just the Party. We knew we were tired of it, tired of it, and tired of being sick and tired. That's what we were, right? You know it. After 400 years of it. And, it's still going on today, right in our midst, in our back yards, and up and down the streets, and around the corners. Well I think we're going to have to have some unity. You say we must have some

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"All we're saying is that we have got the right to have the guns to defend our right to pick up that hammer to nail up that wall to get that medical attention."

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unity. I'm not here to alienate my mother or my brothers. I'm talking about my sister, I want my sister, the older sisters, to understand what the real program is; so if I am out there, and if other brothers and other

sisters are out there, defending the people, I want that sister to say, "Lord, them police is chasing that boy there. Come on in here and hide in here, boy." Unity! (Applause) And he only wants to hide there long enough, long enough to be able to get right back out there and start implementing the

basic programs, one more time.

Start talking about being revolutionary and you start talking about relating to the basic, political desires and needs of the people. Well, we don't want to hear all that junk about what politics is: "The basic socio-economic structure and the adverse conditions to which we're subjected... blah... blah..."

(Applause) All we're saying is that our definition of politics is one basic thing, that of the basic desires and needs of the people, to survive and exist on the face of this earth like human beings. That's all. That's what we're looking for; and we are going to have to fight for that, and we are going to have to stand up for that. We don't implement this thing just by talk. It doesn't work like that anymore.

There was a time, there was a time that many of us, as Black Brothers and Sisters know, that we weren't even able to call ourselves Black people. We called ourselves negroes; we shunned the word "nigger"; and some of us called ourselves colored. Remember that? Remember those days? Without all the other revolutionary brothers and sisters in the past, even the NAACP, if it had not been for them, if it had not been for Denmark Vesey, if it had not been for DuBois, if it had not been for Marcus Garvey, if it had not been for Malcolm X, if it had not been for Martin Luther King, if it had not been for all the other revolutionary brothers, if it had not been for all the other nationalist organizations, the Black Panther Party would not even exist, because we are all together. We've come out of a history...

What happened was, historically, we started a spark of unity; we started on the basis of respecting ourselves

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"While we are Black and beautiful... All the Brothers and sisters that are hungry, the people living in the wretched conditions, their wretched conditions aren't so beautiful."