

After Math

Police, and People's Party II in warmup for 2nd showdown?

Voice of Hope

Feb 20, 1974 Vol 4, No 8 page 2

Daught

by Windel E. Culbreath

People's Party II spokesmen vehemently claim that their organization is being needlessly harassed by Houston's police department. Early Wednesday morning a contingent of police officers started early risers when they were seen confronting People's Party II Headquarters on Dowling and ordering the occupants of that organization's headquarters outside. Members of People's Party II refused to budge from the building.

In July of 1970, Carl Hampton, who was chairman of People's Party II, was killed by policemen when an armed confrontation developed between the youthful organization and officers who had acquired hidden positions on top of St. John's Baptist Church on Dowling.

Last week, Charles Freeman, People's Party II Minister of Culture, was arrested and charged for possession of marijuana. He is being held in the county jail. At this date no bail has been set for Freeman. Freeman was recently active in trying

the youthful organization and the police department centers around a reported incident involving a white male who was allegedly jumped and beaten while trying to buy the wares of a Black prostitute in the area. A citizen in the vicinity of all the activity revealed that apparently it was suspected that the assailant who jumped the white love seeker took refuge in People's Party II Headquarters.

People's Party II members feel that the police are pressing them and their disdain indicates they are tired of the harassing they undergo at the hands of police officials.

Trouble has been brewing off and on between police officials and members of the organization since the incident involving the shootout last year. Once again tension has eased into the midst of a community that would like to see new areas of communication between officials,

Black and white leaders and others who are able to communicate with people in waging solutions to problems rather than resorting to the use of open confrontations as in that situation which took the life of young Hampton last year.

"Genocide is being waged against the Black community," is a sentence often used by People's Party II members time and time again. Once again, this sentence was thrust upon a local newsman when James Aaron, chairman of People's Party II, asserted "we know that genocide is being practiced against Black people."

Whatever the answers are to the problems of this country, the problems of this city, the problems of Black and white youth who cry out that they have had enough of something or the other, the question remains like, "was it necessary for all the shooting?"—"did they have to do that?" or "can you dig what's going down, man?"



James Aaron, Chairman of People's Party II. "We're being



Charles Freeman, People's Party II Minister of Culture.