

FREE OUR SISTERS

On Nov. 22, over 5000 people told pig chief Ahern and the fascist court system--and the racist power structure of New Haven and Connecticut which controls them--to FREE THE NEW HAVEN PANTHERS. People from all over the northeast came together to protest particularly the cruel treatment of our imprisoned sisters, but also to demand the release of all 13 New Haven Panthers, and all political prisoners. Black Panther Party Chapters and Branches, and Women's Liberation groups from Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Washington D.C. participated in the march and rally. Organized by the New Haven Chapter of the Black Panther Party, and Women's Liberation groups mostly from New York, the action exposed the blatantly fascist acts of the Connecticut pigs (local, state, FBI and CIA) against the people's servants--the Black Panther Party.

We gathered at Beaver Pond Park and, shortly after 12:30 began to march toward downtown. The march, led by Welfare Mothers, followed by Black Panther women and Women's Liberation groups, with the men in the rear, had high spirits and was constantly chanting slogans such as "FREE OUR SISTERS, FREE OURSELVES, #111

POWER TO THE PEOPLE. Right On! We conducted an educational campaign all along the lines of the march, selling Panther papers, and handing out informational material on the trial, and moved into the shopping areas in downtown New Haven. We stopped at every intersection, chanting and singing all the time. Traffic was jammed up for almost 2 hours as we made our way to the last bastion of American Fascism -- the State Court House.

At the State Court House, Beth Mitchell, Communications Secretary of the Harlem Branch of the Black Panther Party ran down the situation of the seven Panther sisters (2 of whom are pregnant, --Francis Carter just had a baby boy--" Che Alprentice Carter") now imprisoned in Niantic State Women's Farm; the situation of the other 3 New Haven Panthers imprisoned and spread around the Connecticut State Prison system; and the situation of people in general here in racist, fascist, decadent Babylon. She also related how our sisters are:

isolated from other prisoners; kept awake by constant bright lights and noise outside their windows; denied their legal right to interview counsel; denied their civil right to choice of doctors; denied their phys-

ical right to exercise, fresh air, the people rallied, covering the rest, and proper clothing; denied steps and statues of the courthouse--their human right to their child- acts which would have been illegal ren; denied their constitutional 3 days before. The pig judge, right to prepare for their de- Palmer, Judge for the Panther fense - and read a list of de- case, several weeks ago laid down mands for the rally:

WE DEMAND immediate free- the following ground rules: No demonstrations of any kind within 500 ft. of the courthouse; no sketch- ing, note-taking, or other commun- ications equipment will be allowed in the courtroom--including still and movie cameras; Entry and exit from the courtroom permitted only before court is in session, after court is over, and during recesses. On Thursday, Nov. 20, the judge decided to revise the order to be effective only on days and during times when court is in session. So now we have forced the op- pressor to back up--to revise toward our favor, one of his own fascist, repressive rules for the court. And so that is our next step also--to force him to back against the wall and FREE OUR SISTERS, FREE THE NEW HAVEN PANTHERS, and FREE ALL POL- ITICAL PRISONERS!!!!

The acting Area Captain of the Black Panther Party in Boston, Audrea Jones, also rapped on the nature of fascism, its use of racism, and the necessity for proletarian internationalism. Other speakers included representatives of Women's Liberation and the Young Lords, and a former inmate at Niantic State Women's Farm. Slick and slimy pig chief Ahern kept his cool and kept his 7 panel truckloads of pigs in the back of the State Court House. Meanwhile

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE! SEIZE THE TIME! POW'S FOR PANTHERS!

Cappy Pinderhughes Lt. of Information New Haven Chapter Black Panther Party



BETH MITCHELL
Comm. Secretary,
Harlem Branch



THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING, "STOP THE WAR AND FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!"

NEW HAVEN PANTHER TRIAL

As the government steps up its efforts to silence radicals all over the country, it is trying to do so with increasing "smoothness." In New Haven, they are trying to destroy the Black Panther Party both locally and nationally by convicting 14 Party members, including na- tional Chairman Bobby Seale, for

the murder of Alex Rackley. Months before the trial is to start, the government, through Judge Aaron Palmer, has issued a court order designed to strip the defendants and their supporters of some of the few weapons they are left with to fight government suppression. The court order covers several

broads areas with devastating simplicity: No public statements can be made by anyone officially connected with the case on either the defense or prosecution side; no demonstrations can occur within 500 feet of the courthouse; no photography or sketching is allowed in the courtroom; no one can enter

the courtroom unless they are searched, and finally, no one, including the press, can enter or leave the courtroom while the trial is in session.

Anyone who has followed a political trial, most notably the current Chicago conspiracy trial, will realize immediately the damaging effect this court order will have on the defense effort if it is allowed to stand. The government is trying in the New Haven trial to avoid

the "complications" and embarrassments they have suffered in Chicago by gagging the New Haven defense effort months before the trial even takes place.

It has apparently not been enough to deny Seale and the other conspiracy defendants their rights during the trial. The government now feels it must in future political trials deny the defendants.

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FREE THE N.Y. PANTHER 21!

If there is any talk at all about conspiracy in connection with the case of 21 members of the Black Panther Party, that talk should be centered around DA Frank Hogan's and the New York City power structure's conspiracy to frame the Panthers.

Certain points must be brought to light before the people of New York and the world:

1) The Black Panther Party, since its inception, has been fighting in the interests of black people for food, clothing, housing, jobs, justice, and peace -- all the rights which have been denied blacks on this continent for over 340 years. In fighting in defense of black people, and for their freedom, the Black Panther Party understands that the enemy is not the great

mass of white people, but rather, the small group of men who control the economic and political power in this country. PANTHERS ARE REVOLUTIONARIES, NOT TERRORISTS -- they would not attack common people, those who shop in Alexander's and Bloomingdale's or visit the Bronx Botanical Gardens. That fabrication could only come from the Police Dept. and the District Attorney's office in an attempt to slander the Black Panther Party and generate white racism.

2) In recent months, it has become obvious to every New Yorker that our schools are deteriorating, that our public hospitals are slaughter houses, that unemployment is on the rise, while welfare payments are going down and

taxes are going up. The City University may not open in the fall, while the high schools and junior highs are being patrolled by armed cops to keep them open. All in all, the city is in crisis, and John Lindsay and those behind him want to blame the crisis on the Panthers. Race hatred would work very well to keep both blacks and whites fighting each other, while keeping them blind to who is really responsible for their problems.

3) D.A. Frank Hogan and the newspapers have entered into a conspiracy to convict Panthers before trial. In the last week, the people of New York have seen headlines like "COPS: CUBA HELPS PANTHERS PROWL" and "SEEK PANTHER LINK TO STOLEN YOUTH FUNDS" -- all

allegations without even one shred of evidence. Who are the real conspirators -- the Panthers or Hogan and his powerful friends? 4) All over the country, dozens of Panthers are in jail, 15 HAVE BEEN MURDERED BY THE POLICE. Almost all Panther leaders are in prison, under indictment, or have fled, all as a result of trumped-up charges. The 21 arrested in New York are being held on \$100,000 bail (ransom) each, which effectively keeps them from working in their communities to serve their people. IF THERE IS ANY CONSPIRACY AT ALL, THERE IS A NATION-WIDE CONSPIRACY TO SMASH THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY.

Students for a Democratic Society is an organization of young

people who are committed to revolution benefiting all the working people of the world. We support 100% the fight of the black colony in this country for freedom and basic human rights. Without the victory of the black people, none of us can ever achieve freedom. We recognize that the Black Panther Party, with its program of self-defense of the black people under attack, is leading the black nation within the United States.

We support the 21 Panthers now being framed and will do everything in our power to build a mass defense for these victims of D.A. Hogan's conspiracy.

SDS also calls on all groups and individuals who are committed to human rights and freedom to join with us in raising the demand:

**FREE THE
N.Y. 21
BAIL MONEY
NEEDED**

**SEND TO
BLACK PANTHER PARTY**

**BOX 1224
BROOKLYN 11202
NEW YORK N.Y.**

HISTORICALLY, ALL REACTIONARY FORCES ON THE VERGE OF EXTINCTION INVARIABLY CONDUCT A LAST DESPERATE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE REVOLUTIONARY FORCES





N.Y. PANTHER 21 TRIAL MAKES FALSE START

New York—"We plead guilty to being Black in racist America, that's what we plead guilty to..." protested one defendant amid the uproar inspired by Justice M. Murtaugh of the New York Supreme Court when he asked 14 Black Panther defendants to come forward to make their pleas. They had just been handed a new and somewhat heavier indictment in the bombing conspiracy case cooked up last April by Manhattan D.A. Frank Hogan to eliminate the New York Branch of the Black Panther Party.

The Nov. 17 hearing was originally expected to mark the beginning of the New York Panther 21 trial. A militant Panther-led picket line with about 700 participants marched all morning back and forth in front of the courthouse.

But Monday afternoon proved to be just one more exhibition of the court's racist arrogance and readiness to crush political opponents by any means necessary. The defendants followed the pattern set at previous hearings by containing their anger as the judge handed down the new indictment.

But when the patient and well-precedented arguments of defense lawyers Gerald B. Lefcourt, William Crain and Sanford Katz for an immediate and vast reduction of the astronomical bail (under which the defendants have been jailed for the last eight months) failed to make any impression whatsoever on the bland authoritarian behind the bench, the Panther defendants rose from their seats and shouted impassioned denunciations of the court's racism.

When many of the 100 spectators in Murtaugh's courtroom, which was chosen for the Panther trial because it is just about the smallest courtroom in New York City, joined the defendants in clenching fists and chanting, "POWER TO THE PEOPLE!", Murtaugh ordered the squadron of 21 uniformed marshals on duty to empty the court of the spectators.

"You don't respect us. How do you expect us to respect you?" Asked one defendant again and again while the courtroom was being cleared.

A couple of minutes later, the spectators gone, the judge tried to gavel the court back to order, but the Panthers continued to defy his pretense of authority with remarks that challenged the legitimacy of the court. The defense lawyers continued to raise points that the judge was unable to contest. He ignored them instead.

When the defense asked the court to set reasonable bail for a defendant who was originally arrested while being treated for an epileptic seizure and who has since had 15 fits, without treatment, several of which took him near death, the judge merely looked the other way.

The defense argued for reduction of bail, which in most cases is set at the impossible fee of \$100,000 (doubly impossible because no bondsman would write the bond for fear of losing his license), on the ground that a week before Federal Judge Mar-

vin E. Frankel had reduced to between \$20,000 and \$50,000 the bail of four Whites arrested and accused of having set off bombs in eight corporate and government buildings. Each had been held on \$500,000 bail at first, but as Judge Frankel ruled, astronomical bail is no bail at all, a "patently obvious deception" in direct conflict with the Constitution.

The defense insisted that the court take note of a New York statute that guarantees every defendant a trial within 180 days except in extreme cases, that the defendants were being held under maximum security in seven different prisons, that the defense was being obstructed from preparing its case because prison authorities did not allow the lawyers and the defendants to meet as a group, and that the impossible bail was clearly nothing but punishment without a trial.

Murtaugh sat like a stone. Even when he spoke, he sat like a stone. He blamed all delay on the defense and hinted that the defense could expedite the trial if it wanted to by simply refraining from defense (by not making motions or conferring with clients, etc.).

The defense counsel noted that there is in reality a "dual system of justice"; he reflected on the searching of spectators before the hearing began, which skipped some Whites but touched every Black. One defendant called Murtaugh "a white-haired racist pig" and another shouted: "You are sitting so calm and cool and collected because you don't have to stay in jail eating that slop

for eight months."

But the judge's decision was final: grant no defense motions. Give no explanations. Just turn them down.

The judge reread the original bail figures without comment. He then asked the defendants to plead guilty or not guilty to the charges of the new indictment. Another commotion. The epileptic Panther pleaded guilty to his epilepsy. Others pleaded guilty to being Black. One pleaded guilty to having dignified a kangaroo court by remaining silent in all the other hearings since the original conspiracy indictment in April.

The judge rose to his feet and glared at his accusers. He gavelled and scowled and ordered the marshals to escort the Panthers back to their cells. One defendant whipped around to confront a marshal: "Don't you touch me you motherf---ing racist pig!" The marshal lowered his arm.

As soon as the Panthers were gone, Justice Murtaugh gave the defense attorneys a lecture. He called their remarks "inflammatory" and blamed the outbursts from the defendants on the words of the defense.

"Those words were facts," observed the defense.

"You have an obligation to defend your clients," the court admitted with Agnew-like temperance, "but you have an equal obligation not to insult the court and your society." The judge set Dec. 15 as the date of the trial.

While the Nov. 17 indictment has yet to be fully analysed,

it looks very much like one returned last April. The original accused 21 members of the New York Black Panther Party of conspiring to destroy the "power structure" and specifically, the New York Botanical Gardens, a stretch of Long Island Railroad track, and midtown stores of Macy's, Alexander's, Bloomingdale's, Korvette, and Abercrombie & Fitch at the height of the Easter shopping season.

The new indictment expands the D.A.'s hoax to include a 22nd Panther defendant and to add a subway switching-control room to the list of alleged targets. All 22 are charged with first-degree conspiracy, arson, attempted murder, reckless endangerment, possession of illegal weapons, and criminal mischief. Enough to lock them up for life.

Anyone familiar with the Black Panthers knows that terrorism is completely contradictory to the Party's programs and methods, which are based on serving the people, not killing them, and that the "conspiracy" is a fabrication, a big lie, a classical tactic of fascism. D.A. Hogan made a number of announcements in April calculated to play on the absurd but widespread fantasies in the public mind. More than once, headlines screamed from the cover of the New York Daily News, which has the largest circulation of any American daily, totally unsubstantiated charges against the Panthers.

It's hard to guess what sort of jury that will turn up in December.

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FREE THE PANTHER 21

On April 2, 1969, 21 members of the Black Panther Party were vamped on by all the "law enforcement" agencies of the racist U.S. government and indicted for "conspiracy" to blow up department stores, railroad tracks and the Botanical Gardens. Law enforcement lunatics representing the CIA, FBI and state and local pigs staged coordinated assaults on the homes of more than 30 Panthers in the New York City area. We do not blow up facilities where our own people work, for we are here to serve the needs and demands of the people.

On looking at how this government is run and studying all the foul and deceitful things it has done, it should be no problem to the people in figuring out how ridiculous a conspiracy charge is. The 21 Black Panthers who were indicted for conspiracy to blow up department stores, can rightfully be indicted on conspiracy to serve the people and expose this gov-

ernment for all the foul things it has done and continues to do daily in other countries and right here in our Black communities. The Black Panther Party serves the people through programs such as our Free Breakfast Program for Children, Free Health Clinics, Liberation Schools and other Programs which we are implementing throughout our many Black communities.

The 21 Black Panthers who were indicted and who have been indicted again on new charges are servants of the people. In fact, they were in the process of serving the people when they were kidnapped from their homes at 5:00 am. During the weeks before they were put in preventive detention, the Panther 21 were working very hard in many areas of the community, particularly in dealing with setting up the Free Breakfast for Children Program. The Power Structure thought that taking these beautiful brothers and

sisters away, that they could take the idea of the Free Breakfast Program away from the people. The spirit of the people is greater than the man's systematic repression. We laugh at the pigs in their blind attempts of trying to blacken the name of the Vanguard and the people's revolution. There are now two Free Breakfast Programs in Harlem and we are now in the process of establishing one in the Bronx community.

So we say Free The Panther 21 because they have been treated in an unconstitutional and inhuman way. Free The Panther 21 because they truly love the people. Free The Panther 21, because they serve the people. Free The Panther 21, because they are truly makers of the revolution.

The last court date of the 21 was on November 17th, the courtroom was packed and the area outside of the court building was packed with people chanting "FREE THE PANTHER 21 AND ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS" "We don't recognize this court." "This court has no authority over us." Richard (Anatye Dahruba) Moore

New York PRESS RELEASE

Thirteen brothers and sisters have been held in "preventive detention" for a ransom of \$100,000.00 each on trumped-up charges of conspiracy to blow up department stores, railroad facilities and the Bronx Botanical Gardens.

White people who are charged with the same types of alleged crimes as the Panther 21 are granted reasonable balls. The four defendants charged with the actual bombings of eight buildings downtown had their bail reduced from \$500,000.00 to \$25,000.00 and \$15,000.00. When the four White defendants appeared in Federal Court before Judge Marvin Frankel, he stated that, "It is apparent that in this instance, as in many others familiar to all of us, the statement of the astronomical numbers is not meant to be

literally significant, it is a mildly cynical but wholly untruthful fiction, meaning to everyone "No Bail."

But 14 Panthers, who have not committed any crimes, have been held in preventive detention for eight months and the racist courts of the ruling class have systematically denied these brothers and sisters a reasonable bail.

These 14 political prisoners will appear before Judge Frankel on a show cause order on Tuesday, November 25, 1969. The racist courts of N.Y.C. will have to show cause as to why these brothers and sisters have been constantly denied their constitutional rights.

We are asking all people who are concerned with constitutional justice to come to the federal courthouse in support of the Panther 21. POW'S FOR PANTHERS!